# **Code of Conduct for Volunteers**

**By signing below I agree to:**

* Comply fully with the Volunteer Registration process and receive clearance to work as a volunteer.
* Ensure that the facilities used are safe, secure and that appropriate supervision is in place.
* Request any relevant information concerning the athlete that I might need for my role.
* Abide by all necessary policies and procedures.
* Ensure the welfare and well-being of athletes is paramount and activities are run in a safe and fun environment.
* Not engage in inappropriate physical contact in any form. This should not prevent appropriate contact where necessary to comfort athletes and ensure their safety and well-being; neither should it preclude normal expressions of warmth or happiness.
* Maintain appropriate boundaries and respect the privacy of athletes. Particular care must be taken with respect to places such as changing areas, swimming pools, showers and toilets. Adequate and gender-appropriate supervision must be made for athletes and more than one volunteer should be supervising in these situations.
* Not take photographs of athletes that are in breach of the Filming and Photography Policy. Taking of photographs and video recording is prohibited inside changing areas, dormitories, showers and toilets.
* Be sensitive to the possibility of becoming overly involved or spending a disproportionate amount of time with a particular athlete. In the event where circumstances arise where it is unavoidable to be alone with an athlete (a) immediately inform another responsible adult, by telephone if necessary, (b) make a diary note that the meeting/pick up/drop off etc. of the athlete took place (c) agree a plan with family/clubs etc. to avoid reoccurrence of the situation.
* Support and promote the ethos of your club, region and Special Olympics Ireland; you are a role model.
* Adhere to medical advice received from practitioners concerning the health and well-being of an athlete.
* Treat all athletes, volunteers, spectators, officials and Special Olympics Ireland staff with respect. Remember everyone has their part to play and is entitled to a safe environment to do so.

**Volunteer Rights**

As a Volunteer you have the right to

* Be treated with dignity, respect and be given information about the organisation and the athletes.
* Have adequate training and volunteer in a place that complies with health & safety regulations.
* Have the freedom to make suggestions, receive constructive feedback and have access to a complaints procedure.
* Be assigned to a role (if possible) that recognises your personal preference, life experience, education and employment background as well as recognising the needs of the organisation.



**I have read Special Olympics Ireland’s Code of Conduct above and agree to abide by the guidelines**

Name of Club: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of volunteer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name of volunteer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_ \_ / \_ \_ / \_ \_ \_ \_

Insert photograph of club safeguarding officer

**The Club Safeguarding Officer / Chairperson can be contacted if you have a concern regarding poor practice, health and safety or an allegation of abuse.**

**Club Safeguarding Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Chairperson:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_