

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: __/__/____

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: _____

Insert
photograph of
club
safeguarding
officer