



SPECIAL OLYMPICS CANADA AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

COACH AND SUPPORT STAFF ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL AND WORLD GAMES POLICY

This Policy has been prepared by Special Olympics Canada and is a Pan-Canadian Policy applicable to Special Olympics Canada and its Chapters. This document cannot be modified by a Chapter without consultation and approval from Special Olympics Canada.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

LAST REVISED: OCTOBER 25, 2022

Definitions

1. The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:
 - a) *“Coach”* – an individual registered as a Volunteer with Special Olympics Canada or a Chapter
 - b) *“Support Staff”* – an individual registered as a Volunteer with Special Olympics Canada or a Chapter who wishes to fulfill one of the following roles at Games or competitions; Mission Staff, Chef or Assistant Chef de Mission, Team Manager, Caddie, or Additional Support Staff (AS-Staff) which includes Communications Liaison, Team Doctor, Mental Performance Specialist and 1 on 1 Support
 - c) *“Chapter”* – means the Provincial or Territorial Special Olympics organization recognized by Special Olympics Canada as a provincial or territorial governing body of Special Olympics
 - d) *“Organization-sanctioned event or activity”* – means any national or international games, competitions, events, programs, or activities sanctioned by Special Olympics Canada, Special Olympics Accredited programs, Special Olympics North America (SONA) or Special Olympics International (SOI)
 - e) *“National Team Program (NTP)”* - program developed by Special Olympics Canada (SOC) to prepare and support the athletes, coaches and mission staff attending World Games. The program strives to ensure that Special Olympics athletes in Canada have access to quality training, coaching and competitive opportunities to ensure optimal performance and a positive experience as a member of the National Team.
 - f) *“National Team Program Committee (NTP-C)”* - provides guidance, support and recommendations on the development and implementation of the National Team Program (NTP)

Purpose

2. This Policy describes the criteria a Coach or Support Staff require to be eligible to participate in an Organization-sanctioned event or activity with Special Olympics.

Eligibility

3. The following are minimum requirements for Coaches and Support staff wishing to participate in an Organization-sanctioned event or activity.

a) *All Coach Training Requirements*

- Special Olympics Canada Competition Introduction (Comp-Intro) – **TRAINED**
- Sport Specific – **TRAINED**
- Make Ethical Decisions (NCCP) – **EVALUATED**
- Safe Sport Training (CAC)
- Current Criminal Record Check
- Attend Qualifying Event

b) *Chef de Mission/Assistant Chef de Mission/Mission Staff/Team Manager Training Requirements*

- Special Olympics Canada Competition Introduction (Comp-Intro) – **TRAINED**
- Make Ethical Decisions (NCCP) – **EVALUATED**
- Safe Sport Training (CAC)
- Current Criminal Record Check
- Attend National Games to be eligible to attend World Games (for mission staff)

c) *AS-Staff Training Requirements (Communications Liaison, Medical Staff, Mental Performance Specialist and 1 on 1 Support)*

- Special Olympics Canada Orientation Course - **TRAINED**
- Make Ethical Decisions (NCCP) - **EVALUATED**
- Safe Sport Training (CAC)
- Current Criminal Record Check

Note: 1:1 supports do not extend to the NTP going to World Games

d) *Caddies*

- Special Olympics Canada Competition Introduction (Comp-Intro) – **TRAINED**
- Sport Specific: SOC Caddie Course AND Golf Canada Level 1 Rules – **CERTIFIED**
- Make Ethical Decisions (NCCP) – **EVALUATED**
- Safe Sport Training (CAC)
- Current Criminal Record Check
- Attend National Games to be eligible to attend World Games

4. For any Organization-sanctioned event or activity, any Coaches or Support Staff listed on the official registration form must obtain the minimum requirements identified in section 3 no later than 90 days prior to the first day of competition.
5. Individuals interested in participating as Coaches or Support Staff in Special Olympics must register with the applicable Chapter, which effectively registers them with Special Olympics Canada, and agree to abide by the policies, procedures, rules and regulations of Special Olympics Canada and its applicable Chapter.

Selection Criteria for World Games

6. The NTP-C will act as the Selection Committee for Coaches and Support Staff selected to the National Team Program. Caddies, if applicable, will be selected by the Provincial/Territorial Chapter.

PAN-CANADIAN POLICY

7. Interested Coaches and Support Staff will be required to follow the application process outlined by the NTP-C and obtain all minimum requirements outlined in Section 3.
8. The NTP-C will decide on whether alternates will be selected and identified for each set of Games.
9. Successful candidates will be required to sign a Coach or Support Staff agreement which sets out the terms and conditions of their participation with the National Team Program.

Appeals

10. Decisions made by Special Olympics Canada or a Chapter related to the eligibility of a Coach or Support Staff can be appealed per the terms of the *Appeal Policy*.
