



TEAM BC 2024

SPECIAL OLYMPICS
BRITISH COLUMBIA



A team of 142 athletes and 50 coaches, and 14 mission staff from BC will compete in the 2024 Special Olympics Winter Games in Calgary. These individuals have worked hard, made sacrifices, and prepared well so that they could perform to their best at these Games. Coaches have given up time with their families and friends, given up weekends to take courses that will make them better coaches, taken holidays to attend events and the Games, and dedicated themselves to the athletes that they will work with. We couldn't be more proud of Team BC and know that they will inspire and impress all they meet.

We understand that we are also going to have a wonderful contingent of family members, caregivers, friends, and fans from BC to bring the BC spirit to the Games. By attending these Games to support your loved one, you play an incredibly important role. We want all athletes to feel the rush of people cheering for them. We want all athletes to see the stands full of supporters. And we want all athletes to be the centre of attention when they give their all. Please be loud and proud in your support of all athletes, especially those from BC.

While we know that this is an exciting time for all, we would like to ask everyone to make the job of our coaches and mission staff as easy as possible. They are volunteers and have given up a great deal to be at the Games. Their days will be long, and they will have to deal with some interesting and at times difficult situations. Please thank them and let them know how much you appreciate the dedication they have shown to Special Olympics. Those attending have given years to this organization.

Below is the Supporters Competition Expectations that we ask every supporter to abide by. Most of it is common sense but we know in the heat of competition, sometimes emotion overrules common sense!

Supporters Competition Guide

Supporters are expected to:

1. Encourage good sportsmanship by being a positive role model.
2. Try to make sports a positive experience for everyone involved, i.e., participants, coaches, officials, and spectators.
3. Do not coach your athlete from the bleachers and/or sidelines.
4. Insist your athlete treats other players, coaches, officials, and fans with respect.
5. Don't embarrass your athlete by yelling at players, coaches, or officials.
6. Show a positive attitude towards the games and all its participants.
7. Encourage your athlete to compete by the rules.
8. Encourage fair play and applaud outstanding play by either team.
9. Help your athlete learn that success is measured by the development of skills, not winning and losing.
10. Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches and others- they are extremely important to the development of your athlete and to the sport. Parents should communicate with them, as required, and support them.
11. Talk to the Mission staff assigned to your sport about concerns at the appropriate time and place, i.e., NEVER before, during, or immediately after a game/event.
12. Support the policies and guidelines of the team /organization they represent.
13. Address any concerns in writing to the SOBC Mission Staff and allow for a reasonable response time, depending on the situation (i.e. 24-48 hours).
14. Abide by the coach/team rule on contact with athletes at Games. The athletes are NOT to leave the team to go anywhere with anyone except a Mission Staff or Coaches. No Exceptions! The contact between supporters and athletes will be decided by the coach and communicated to the supporters either before, or at Games. The athletes are our responsibility from the time they leave home to the time they get home, unless are signed out at the end of the Games.

We have our general Code of Conduct (SOBC/SOC policy) that must be adhered to. Any disciplinary action that might need to be taken would follow this policy.

