

SPECIAL OLYMPICS BC POLICY MANUAL

Section: **SPORT**
 Policy: **Coach Certification Requirements**
 Effective Date: August 1997
 Revised: June 2023
 Page: 1 of 2

To provide quality and enjoyable sport training and competitive experiences and opportunities for Special Olympics BC athletes and volunteers, and for safety reasons, it is important that coaches meet or exceed the minimum training requirements established in these regulations within the first two years of coaching. Note: The Special Olympics Canada Online Volunteer Orientation must be completed within the first year of coaching.

REGULATIONS

PROGRAM	COACH REQUIREMENTS	ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED
Active Start/ Fundamentals	Special Olympics Canada Online Volunteer Orientation Special Olympics Canada Coaching Young Athletes (CYA)	Make Ethical Decisions Module (MED) Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation: Train to Compete version NCCP Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS)
Sport Start – All Sports	Special Olympics Canada Online Volunteer Orientation NCCP Special Olympics Canada – Competition Sport Workshop (SOC-CSW) Make Ethical Decisions Module (MED) Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation: Competition Introduction Version Safe Sport Training – Direct Athlete Contact	National Sport Organizations' sport-specific courses as designated by SOC
Traditional Sport Programs	Special Olympics Canada Online Volunteer Orientation NCCP Special Olympics Canada – Competition Sport Workshop Make Ethical Decisions Module Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation: Competition Introduction version	National Sport Organizations' sport-specific courses as designated by SOC

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 Page: 2 of 2

	Safe Sport Training – Direct Athlete Contact	
COMPETITION LEVEL		
Local and Provincial	Special Olympics Canada Online Volunteer Orientation NCCP Special Olympics Canada – Competition Sport Workshop Make Ethical Decisions Module Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation: Competition Introduction version Safe Sport Training – Direct Athlete Contact	
National	Special Olympics Canada Online Volunteer Orientation NCCP Special Olympics Canada – Competition Sport Workshop Make Ethical Decisions Module Make Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation: Competition Introduction version NCCP sport-specific courses (in the sport they coach) Safe Sport Training – Direct Athlete Contact	

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Coaches are required to obtain Professional Development (PD) points in order to maintain their certification. PD points can be earned through a variety of activities: national and provincial sport conferences and workshops, eLearning modules, NCCP workshops, coach mentorship programs, and active coaching. When attending one of the above-mentioned activities, ask the organizers if PD points can be earned by attending the activity to ensure you get credit.

Active Coaching: For every year of coaching, a coach can receive 1 point. To earn this point, you must access your coaching transcript and you can self-report your coaching hours.

The number of required PD points and the timeframe in which to earn these PD points will be listed on the coach’s transcript for any sport-specific certification they may have. Special Olympics BC coaches at this time only achieve “trained status,” but will also require coaches to earn PD points. We will require coaches to earn 12 PD points over five years.