

Continuing Education Options for SOPA Level 2 Coach Certification

Completion of courses listed in this section or the completion of Level 3 or Level 4 certification satisfies the requirements of continuing education for Level 2 coaches.

- No Practicum hours are required for continuing education courses.
- A Special Olympics Pennsylvania Sports Training Application must be completed and submitted to request credit for continuing education coursework.
- Continuing Education Courses must be taken every 3 years in order to maintain SOPA Level 2 Coach Certification. Some courses satisfy the continuing education requirement for only a specific sport while others satisfy the requirement for all sports in which a coach is currently certified. For more information see the Continuing Education section on the Training School page of the SOPA Website at <http://www.specialolympicspa.org/coach/training-schools>
- Submission of a certificate of completion required upon completion of these courses, when provided, to receive credit for course.

Coaching Special Olympics Athletes

(May only be taken by coaches who obtained their Level 2 certification through Track One)

Offered through American Sports Education Program at www.asep.com

Principles of Coaching

Offered in person or online through West Virginia University at

http://elearn.wvu.edu/Continuing/Career_Training/principlesCoaching.php

National Federation of State High School Associations** online courses at www.nfhslearn.com

List of approved courses

- Fundamentals of Coaching Basketball, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Track & Field, or Volleyball.
- Fundamentals of Coaching
- First Aid for Coaches
- Teaching and Modeling Behavior
- Teaching Sports Skills
- Engaging Effectively with Parents
- Concussion in Sports - What You Need to Know
- Coaching Unified Sports (Special Olympics specific course)
- Guide to Heat Acclimation and Heat Illness Prevention
- Creating a Safe and Respectful Environment

American Sports Education Program (ASEP)** online courses at www.asep.com

List of approved courses

- Technical and Tactical Skills Coaching Courses for Basketball, Softball or Tennis
- Coaching Youth Basketball, Soccer, Softball, Tennis or Volleyball
- Coaching Principles
- Sports First Aid
- Officiating Principles
- Coaching Principles for Aquatics, Golf, Track & Field and Volleyball
- Coaching Strength and Conditioning Principles
- Coaching Special Olympics Athletes (May only be taken by coaches who obtained their Level 2 certification through Track One)

Continuing Education Clinics*

offered at State Competitions (sports specific)

Games Management Training

Officials Training

(Special Olympics or other recognized sports organizations)

Coaching Unified Sports

Offered through National Federation of State High School Associations

First Aid or CPR*

American Red Cross or American Heart Association
(can be taken used once every 9 years)

Special Olympics Pennsylvania Leadership Conference*

Attendance at designated sessions

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Courses Taken to Maintain Professional Sports Certifications*

- Example: PSA - Professional Skaters Association for Figure Skating

Positive Coaching Alliance

www.postivecoach.org

Double Goal Coach Course or Second Goal Parents Course

Courses Taken to Maintain other Professional Certifications***

- Courses must be pre-approved by Senior Sports Director and relevant to role as a Special Olympics Coach
- Examples include: Conflict Management, American Sign Language, Time Management, Meds Training, Behavior Management, Sports Rules Course

Protective Behaviors Training*

resources.specialolympics.org/protective_behaviors_training.aspx

(can be used one every 9 years)

● Coaches may no longer take the sports specific training course in the sport in which they are certified in order to satisfy the continuing education requirement of Level 2 certification.

* These options may be used more than once to satisfy the continuing education requirement.

** Offers multiple course options, but each course may be taken only one time for continuing education credit.

*** Pre-approval of these or similar courses must be obtained from the SOPA Senior Sports Director.