

January 2017 Training Coordinators Conference Call

Special Olympics
Pennsylvania



Coach Education Program

Agenda



1. Welcome
2. Ages
3. PB, GO, CCT and BC
4. Training Schools registration
5. Athlete/Coach
6. Partnership Agreement
7. Rules
8. Track 2- Experienced Coaches
9. Coaching Special Olympics Athletes
10. 7-a-side Soccer
11. Unified Sports
12. Questions for the good of all Teams

Ages



Age	Training School	PB, CCT, BC and GO	Assistant Coach at Sectional	Head Coach at Sectionals	Assistant Coach at State	Head Coach at States
14/ 15	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
16/ 17	Yes	Yes – PB, GO & CCT No – BC	Yes	No	No	No
18	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Who Needs PB, GO, CCT and BC



	HOD	Head Coach	Assistant Coach & Unified Partner	Delegation Volunteer	1:1	Group Home Staff	YAC	Athlete/Coach	Bus Driver	Horse Handlers & Side Walkers
Protective Behaviors	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
General Orientation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Concussion Training	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Background Check	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Certified	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes/No	No	No

PB, GO and CCT



Protective Behaviors –

- Good for Three Years
- Sportstraining@specialolympicspa.org Receives a listing of confirmations

General Orientation –

- Never Expires
- Sportstraining@specialolympicspa.org Receives a copy of confirmation immediately after taken

Concussion Training –

- Good for Three Years
- You must send Sportstraining@specialolympicspa.org a copy of the certificate

CCT and Coaching Special Olympics Athletes



What is not acceptable

- A receipt for taking the training, I must have the certificate
- A Special Olympics list of questions and the answers stating you past.
 - This is a pre-test found on the Special Olympics Website. It is one of those documents you take before and after the training to see what you learned.

Background Checks – How to Begin the Process



New Coaches

- Coach makes Vsys Record
- Program Vets Volunteer
- Disclosure Statement is sent to New Volunteer

Seasoned Coaches

- Submit A Disclosure Statement

BIGGEST ISSUES

- **Birth date, Email and Address must be complete in order to process.**
- **DO NOT make a second Vsys record.**

Training School Registration



- Complete given link - Google Doc
- Registration fee \$10.00, if you assist in the set-up \$5.00 for your program
- If you do not register, I can not guarantee the training will take place.
- If your program is hosting a training, please have them register.

Training Schools – How to tell us what you need



[SOPA Website:](http://specialolympicspa.org/ways-to-help/volunteer/training-schools)

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Are you looking for a sport that is not being offered at this time?

Let us know – [Click here](#) to complete the requested information, and when training is being held near you, you will receive a notification by email.

Training Schools – After!



The Sports Training Application (STA) must be submitted 1 year of taking the training or it is not valid.

- I have a list of everyone who took training last year and if I received an STA Form. It is used for invoicing.
- Email me if you would like your list.



Track 2 – Experienced Coaches!

When submitting their application – Please review before you sign off.

They must have experience playing as well as coaching.

If they only have special Olympics experience they will not be approved.

Ask yourself – this person wants to skip the skills basic training, will they be the best coach for our athletes?

Athlete/Coach



- **May** attend Training Schools
- **May** attend Athlete Leadership University which includes as session Athlete to Coach
- Athlete/Coach may not Chaperone other Athletes
- They may be the 2 in the 2:4 but not the 1 in the 1:4
- When attending Overnight Events as an Athlete/Coach they must
 - Be listed on the coaches page as an Athlete/Coach (ATHC)
 - Housed with athletes from a sport the athlete/coach is not coaching.

Partnership Agreement



- Based on Strategic Plan - 500 **New Coaches** by 2020
- Each Program has a requirement to meet each year.

New Coach is considered:

- PB, GO, CCT, and Currant BC
- Took a Skills Training School
- Submitted Sports Training Application

Or

- Submitted and was Approved for Track 2
- Complete requirements and submitted Sports Training Application

Coaching Special Olympics Athletes (CSOA)



- In 2017 this course will be presented at 6 different locations across Pennsylvania.
- This is a continuing education.
- This session is the fundamentals of coaching and should be completed by all coaches within their first 3 years of coaching Special Olympics athletes.
 - West Chester University
 - Lycoming County
 - South Central, North & South West and North East are being scheduled

7-A - Side Soccer



SOPA Qualifier: Beginning in 2017, 7-A-Side Soccer (both traditional and Unified) will become a qualification sport. This means all 7-a-side teams must attend their respective Fall Sectional in order to qualify for Fall Festival. Similar to 5-A-Side the numbers of teams eligible to qualify for Fall Fest from each Fall Sectional will be based on the number of teams training in that section of the state. This information will be available in the Fall Sectional registration materials.



2018 USA Games: Special Olympics Pennsylvania has received a 7-A-Side Unified Soccer Team for the 2018 USA Games to be held in Seattle, WA, July 1-6, 2018.

All interested teams must complete the following tasks in order to qualify for USA Games:

Attend their respective 2017 Fall Sectional

Attend 2017 Fall Festival, which will be the qualifier for USA Games



The team must meet the following qualifications:

Team must meet definition of Competitive Unified Team, where all players are similar age and ability (all participants must be at least 14 years of age)

Minimum of 9 players (5 athletes/4 partners), Maximum of 12 players (6/6, 7/5 or 5/7)

Coaches

- ▶ One certified Head Coach & Two assistant coaches

All teammates must have current medicals

Partners must also have:

- ▶ Complete background clearances if over the age of 18
- ▶ Protective Behaviors , Concussion Training and General Orientation if over 16

The lowest ability athletes and partners must be able to participate on the team safely.

SOPA Unified Sports® Procedures



These procedures were established by the SOPA Unified Advisory Committee, August 2016.

Unified Roster size/composition

All Unified teams must meet the roster size and composition requirements listed below for the respective team sport. After the minimum requirement is met, a variance of two (2) will be allowed for either partners or athletes.

Minimum/Maximum Players



Sport	Minimum numbers* (athlete/partners)	Maximum numbers* (athlete/partners)
Floor Hockey	12 Players (6/6)	16 Players (8/8, 9/7, 7/9)
Volleyball	8 Players (4/4)	10 Players (5/5, 6/4, 4/6)
Soccer 5v5	7 Players (4/3)	10 Players (5/5, 6/4, 4/6)
Soccer 7v7	9 Players (5/4)	12 Players (6/6, 7/5, 5/7)
Soccer 11v11	13 Players (7/6)	16 Players (8/8, 9/7, 7/9)
Softball	12 Players (6/6)	16 Players (8/8, 9/7, 7/9)



*These numbers are for the start of competition. If anytime during the competition an athlete/partner is unable to play due to injury or illness (confirmed by the medical team). Teams may play down a player. If not in the SO Rules, the Games Committee has the right to declare a team ineligible if they drop 2 or more players during competition

Divisioning



Until there are enough teams to create separate competitive and similar ability level Unified Sports divisions, Unified and Traditional teams will be combined in divisions based on the Special Olympics Divisioning criteria of ABILITY, AGE and GENDER

When divisions are combined, all teams will play following National Governing Body rules. All team members will be allowed to fully participate in all aspects of the game, which includes scoring points.

The Unified Sports rules for (1) roster composition, (2) playing lineup (number of athletes and partners required on the field of play), and (3) other areas must be abided to at all times. Unified Sports teams need to follow the requirements of the Competitive Model, where athletes and partners are of similar age and ability.

Awarding



When Unified and Traditional teams are combined in one division, teams will be awarded by place of finish.

The Traditional teams will receive Traditional medals/ribbons

Unified teams will receive Unified medals/ribbons.

For example if a division is composed of 3 Traditional teams and one Unified team and the Unified team finishes in 2nd place, teams will be awarded as follows:
Gold – Traditional, Silver – Unified, Bronze – Traditional, 4th place – Traditional.

Eligibility for selection to higher level competitions (Qualifiers):



In the case where events are a qualifier and specific Unified slots are offered at the next level (SOPA state events currently are bocce and bowling), at the completion of team competition and awards, Unified and Traditional teams will be separated for their respective advancement drawings. For example if a Traditional team finishes in 2nd place behind a Unified team (in a combined division), they will be placed into their respective drawing as a gold medalist.

In the case where an event is a qualifier and specific Unified slots are **not** offered at the next level (SOPA state events are 5v5 soccer, basketball, volleyball) teams will advance based on place of finish in the qualifier event. Unified and Traditional teams will not be separated

Questions?

