



## Sportsmanship and Code of Conduct for All

In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities that are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The ideals of sportsmanship should always be exemplified in Special Olympics Unified Sports competition. Individuals, regardless of their role in activities, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of others and model good sportsmanship.

### Expectations of Coaches

- Always set a good example for participants and fans to follow.
- Instruct participants in proper sportsmanship responsibilities and demand that they make sportsmanship and ethics the top priorities.
- Respect judgment of contest officials, abide by rules of the event and display no behavior that could incite fans.
- Treat opposing coaches, directors, participants and fans with respect.
- Shake hands with officials and the opposing coach in public.
- Develop and enforce penalties for participants who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.

### Expectations of Athletes and Partners

- Treat teammates with respect.
- Encourage teammates when they make a mistake.
- Treat opponents with respect: shake hands prior to and after contests.
- Respect judgment of contest officials, abide by rules of the contest and display no behavior that could incite fans.
- Cooperate with officials, coaches or directors and fellow participants to conduct a fair contest.
- Do not retaliate (verbally or physically) if the other team demonstrates poor behavior.
- Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing Special Olympics.
- Define winning as doing your personal best.
- Live up to the high standard of sportsmanship established by your coach.

*"I'm playing on the Unified Sports team. You should go out for a team if you love to play." – Matt Boone, Unified Sports Athlete*