



Special Olympics Volunteers & Unified Partners Code of Conduct

I agree that while serving as a Special Olympics New Zealand Volunteer or Unified Partner, I will:

- Treat everyone involved with courtesy and respect, and aim to make Special Olympics a safe, welcoming and positive environment.
- Act in a responsible manner, set a good example for Athletes and be an ambassador for Special Olympics in the wider community.
- Work to understand my Volunteer or Unified Partner role and responsibilities and endeavour to deliver on these.
- Follow the established rules and guidelines of Special Olympics New Zealand and Special Olympics International.
- Act with consideration and good judgement in all interpersonal relationships, and act in accordance with the guidelines outlined in the [Special Olympics New Zealand Participant Protection Framework](#) and [Athlete Dating Policy](#).
- Comply with the Code of Conduct for People Working or Volunteering with Vulnerable Athletes outlined in Section 5 of the [Special Olympics New Zealand Participant Protection Framework](#).
- Refrain from the use of alcohol, tobacco and illegal substances while involved in any Special Olympics training, competition or event.
- Be a responsible guardian of any confidential information I may have access to, and respect others' right to privacy.
- Address any concerns or complaints to the Special Olympics volunteer in charge, a Special Olympics New Zealand staff member, or to the Chief Executive Officer of Special Olympics New Zealand, using the SONZ Complaints Process as appropriate.
- Respect the physical integrity of Athletes. This should not preclude any reasonable or spontaneous expressions of warmth or celebration, but expressions must be acceptable to all parties.
- Not use my Volunteer and/or Unified Partner role to promote personal beliefs if these are incompatible with Special Olympics principles.
- Report any emergency or any situation likely to cause harm to any individual or property to the Special Olympics volunteer in charge (after taking any immediate action to ensure the health and safety of others). If further support is needed, report concerns to a Special Olympics New Zealand staff member.
- Abide by Special Olympics New Zealand policies as they relate to Athletes, Volunteers and Unified Partners.