

Special Olympics Tennessee Young Professionals Board

2025 Member Expectations

About Special Olympics Tennessee Young Professionals Board (SOTN YPB)

Special Olympics Tennessee's Young Professionals Board (YPB) is made up of passionate individuals under the age of 40 who are dedicated to raising awareness, funds, and volunteering to support the organization's mission. The YPB works to increase the visibility of Special Olympics Tennessee by leveraging personal and professional expertise. In addition to supporting existing SOTN programs, the board plays a key role in creating innovative initiatives that further advance the organization's impact in the community.

Special Olympics Tennessee Mission

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Our Focus Areas

- Volunteering
- Advocating
- Networking
- Fundraising

Benefits of Joining the Young Professionals Board

- Make a meaningful contribution to and enhance the Special Olympics Tennessee community
- Ongoing opportunities for volunteering and community engagement, including athlete involvement
- Opportunity to connect with like-minded young professionals
- Engage with members of Special Olympics Tennessee's Board of Directors
- Access valuable professional development opportunities
- Strengthen and develop leadership and volunteer skills

Young Professionals Board Responsibilities

- Attend monthly board meetings, held on weekday evenings, with the time, date, and location determined by the Chairs.
 - o Members are expected to attend a minimum of **6 board meetings** throughout the calendar year unless an excused absence is applicable (work, family). Excused absences should be communicated to the Chair **before** each meeting.
- Participate in athletic competitions and fundraising events.
 - o Members are expected to attend a minimum of **3 athletic events** (state or local) during the calendar year.
 - o Members are expected to attend a minimum of **2 fundraising events** (state or YPB) during the calendar year.
- Serve on a minimum of one committee.
 - o Members are expected to serve on at least one YPB committee, SOTN committee, or event subcommittee.
- Pay dues of \$125.
 - o \$100 goes directly to SOTN as a donation and \$25 is contributed to a YPB fund to host fundraising events or athlete engagement events.
 - o Dues are prorated for new members based on the quarter they join in. (See *first-year membership dues below*)
- Promote SOTN initiatives via social media, word of mouth, email, etc. to increase awareness, fundraising and involvement within the community.

Becoming a YPB Member

Membership Process

1. Complete the membership application
2. Review membership expectations
3. Speak with 2 YPB members over the phone or in person
4. Attend a meeting or event
5. Pay membership dues
6. Begin attending ongoing meetings and events

First-Year Membership Dues & Expectations

First-Year Dues:

- Q1 - \$125
- Q2 - \$100

- Q3 - \$75
- Q4 - \$50

Event Expectations for First-Year Members:

- Q1: 3 athletic events, 2 fundraising events
- Q2: 2 athletic events, 1 fundraising event
- Q3: 1 fundraising event, 1 athletic event
- Q4: 1 event (fundraising or athletic)

2025 YPB Committees & Chairs

Chair Positions

- Finance Chair
 - o Oversees budget development, tracking, and reporting to YPB and SOTN staff
- Secretary
 - o Manages meeting attendance, takes meeting notes, and tracks volunteer participation
- Membership Chair
 - o Guides new members, outlines membership expectations, and ensures a smooth onboarding process
- Volunteer Chair
 - o Coordinates volunteer needs with SOTN staff and communicates opportunities to the YPB
- Networking Chair
 - o Organizes and leads networking events and opportunities for YPB members
- Internal Affairs Chair
 - o Plans and manages YPB social events and coordinates any collaboration opportunities with SOTN staff and the Board of Directors

Committees

- Volunteer Committee
- Networking Committee
- Internal Affairs Committee

Event subcommittees will be determined throughout the year.

Special Olympics Tennessee Event Schedule:

<https://www.specialolympicstn.org/events-around-the-state?locale=en>