



INTRODUCTION

The policies and standards of Special Olympics Virginia (SOVA) have been gathered from many sources and have been compiled into one document. The document, approved by the Board of Directors, becomes the operative policy document of SOVA and may be amended only by Board action.

To clarify the meaning of the words policy and standard, the following definitions should be used.

POLICY – A prudent and wise principle that governs the management of Special Olympics Virginia. Policy is set by the Board of Directors of Special Olympics Virginia.

STANDARD – A rule or criterion established to protect participants, enhance the quality of program, and define a minimum level of excellence.

The policies set forth in this document replace policies previously approved by the Special Olympics Virginia Board of Directors or Special Olympics, Inc.

Adopted September 20, 2024

SPECIAL OLYMPICS VIRGINIA POLICY MANUAL

PROGRAM

POLICY: The mission, philosophy and official rules of Special Olympics, Inc. shall guide all program activities of Special Olympics Virginia.

Standard 1: Athlete Eligibility

Special Olympics training and competition is open to every person with an intellectual disability (or closely related cognitive delay) who is at least eight years of age. Children ages 6 – 7 may participate in training and other non-competition activities. Children ages 2 – 7 may participate in the Young Athletes Program. There is no maximum age limit for participation in Special Olympics.

- The program is open to all eligible participants without fee.
- Every athlete training and competing in Special Olympics must have a valid and current Special Olympics Virginia Athlete Registration Form on file in the SOVA office. Every athlete in Young Athletes must have a Young Athletes Registration Form on file in the SOVA office. Athletes participating in a school-based program may submit the Virginia High School League's Athletic Participation/Parental Consent/Physical Examination Form with the official SOVA Release Form if they wish to participate in Special Olympics Virginia's community-based programs. Athletes training and competing under the umbrella of a school district or other agency that are not participating outside of their school or agency do not need to have Special Olympics Virginia Registration Forms on file. They must, however, be registered with SOVA via a Registered Training Program (RTP) Form.
- No Special Olympics Virginia program may exclude or isolate from training or competition any athlete who is known to be a carrier of a blood-borne contagious infection or virus, or otherwise discriminate against such athletes solely because of an existing medical condition.
- Participation is open to all eligible athletes regardless of race, color, religion, creed, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, ancestry or national origin.
- Athletes charged or convicted of a criminal offense are subject to SOVA's Participation Policy.

Crimes Not Against Another Person (Actions that do not injure or intend to injure another person)

- An athlete charged with or convicted of a misdemeanor crime that is not against another person may participate in Special Olympics Virginia. However, an athlete may be placed on probation or suspended if he/she constitutes a threat to the property or wellbeing of others in the program.

- An athlete charged with a felony crime not against another person may participate in Special Olympics Virginia pending court action. However, an athlete may be placed on probation or suspended if he/she constitutes a threat to the property or wellbeing of others in the program.
- An athlete convicted of a felony crime not against another person will be suspended from Special Olympics Virginia for five years.

Crimes Against Another Person (Actions that injure or intend to injure another person)

- An athlete charged with a misdemeanor crime against another person may participate in the program on probationary status pending court action. However, an athlete may be suspended if he/she constitutes a threat to the property or wellbeing of others in the program. During the probationary period, the athlete must be accompanied by a one-on-one volunteer and cannot attend overnight events.
- An athlete convicted of a misdemeanor crime against another person will be suspended from participating in Special Olympics Virginia for two years. After the two-year suspension period, the athlete may resume participation on probationary status for two years. While on probationary status:
 - The athlete must be accompanied by a one-on-one volunteer at all times.
 - The athlete may not attend overnight events.
 - The athlete may be expelled if the criminal behavior is replicated.
- If, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, the athlete poses a threat to others, he/she may be expelled.
- An athlete charged with a felony crime against another person shall be suspended from Special Olympics Virginia until the court rules on his/her guilt or until charges are dismissed.
- An athlete convicted of a felony crime against another person shall be expelled from Special Olympics Virginia and may not rejoin.
- An athlete listed on a State Sex Offender Registry shall be expelled from Special Olympics Virginia and may not rejoin.

Standard 2: Volunteer Eligibility

Any person who has completed a Special Olympics Virginia Class A or Class B Volunteer Form and has been screened and accepted as a volunteer by an authorized individual is eligible to volunteer. Volunteer opportunities are open to all persons who have been accepted regardless of race, color, religion, creed, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, ancestry or national origin.

Volunteer Registration Process

- All volunteers must complete the appropriate Volunteer Application Form, present a photo ID (if available for minors) and meet eligibility requirements in order to be accepted as a SOVA volunteer.
- Providing false information on a Volunteer Application Form may automatically disqualify an individual from serving as a SOVA volunteer.
- Approved volunteers must notify SOVA staff within thirty days if they are charged with or convicted of a criminal offense. If SOVA becomes aware that a current or potential volunteer was charged with a criminal offense, SOVA reserves the right to suspend the volunteer pending the outcome of the criminal charge.
- Special Olympics athletes are welcomed and encouraged to volunteer in various roles within the organization. Athlete volunteers must meet the same eligibility and age requirements as other volunteers.

Volunteers are divided into two classes based on their contact with athletes in the program.

Class A – Volunteers who have regular, close physical contact with athletes; volunteers in positions of authority or supervision; volunteers in a position of trust with athletes; and volunteers that handle substantial amounts of cash or other assets. Class A Volunteers include:

- Coaches
- Unified partners
- Trip coordinators or heads of delegations
- Chaperones
- ALP and global messenger mentors
- Non-hired drivers of athletes
- Area/local council members
- Volunteers who will handle over \$5,000

Class B – Volunteers who only have limited contact with athletes who are accompanied by coaches and chaperones. Class B Volunteers include:

- Single day or single event or fundraiser volunteers
- Healthy Athlete volunteers
- Volunteers who drive vehicles on behalf of Special Olympics not transporting athletes

Age Requirements

- The minimum age to volunteer as a Class A Volunteer (with the exception of unified partners) is 14 years of age. Unified partners must be at least 8 years of age.
- Head coaches, trip coordinators, heads of delegations, drivers and chaperones must be at least 18 years old.
- Class B Volunteers who are at least 14 years old may volunteer by themselves.

- Class B Volunteers who are ages 8 – 13 must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or chaperone. There must be at least one chaperone for every four volunteers.
- Children 7 years old and younger are not given volunteer assignments, but are welcomed and encouraged to be cheerleaders or spectators at competitions.

Volunteer Application Process for Class A Volunteers (Adults 18 and Over)

- All volunteers must complete SOVA's Class A Adult Volunteer Application Form, SOI's Communicable Disease Waiver Form and present a photo ID.
- All Class A Adult Volunteers are required to undergo criminal history records and sex offender registry checks before they can volunteer. Automatic disqualifiers for participating as a SOVA volunteer include:
 - Conviction of a felony (Individuals convicted of a felony crime not against another person whose civil rights were restored by a state's governor may be eligible to volunteer. Eligibility will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors and will require full documentation of the volunteer's restoration of rights by the governor. Determination of eligibility will be made by majority vote.)
 - Conviction of identity theft
 - Conviction of a Class 1 misdemeanor crime against another person or similar crime with a special penalty structure (excluding traffic offenses) within the past ten years
 - Conviction of a Class 1 misdemeanor crime not against another person or similar crime with a special penalty structure of moral turpitude (lying, cheating, stealing) within the past five years
 - Conviction of multiple Class 1 misdemeanor crimes not against another person or similar crime with a special penalty structure within the past five years (excluding traffic offenses)
 - Conviction of a Class 1 misdemeanor crime not against another person or similar crime with a special penalty structure within the past year (excluding traffic offenses)
 - Standing or active protective orders
 - Adverse judgment for damages or civil penalty involving sexual or physical abuse
- All Class A Adult Volunteers are required to undergo criminal history records and sex offender registry checks once every three years in order to continue as a SOVA volunteer.
- If an applicant answers "yes" to the question, "Do you use illegal drugs?" the applicant is disqualified from serving as a Special Olympics Virginia volunteer.
- If an applicant answers "yes" to the question, "Have you ever been charged with any criminal offense?" or "Have you ever been charged with neglect, abuse or assault?" a Special Olympics Virginia staff member must conduct an interview with the applicant to determine their eligibility as a SOVA volunteer. The list of disqualifiers outlined above will be used to determine the applicant's suitability as a SOVA volunteer.
- If an applicant answers "yes" to the question regarding their driving record on the Volunteer Application Form, the applicant will not be allowed to drive on behalf of SOVA until he/she supplies SOVA with a copy of their Motor Vehicle Records check. If SOVA

receives information through the background check process or through a submitted Motor Vehicle Record that the applicant has a suspended license, a DUI/DWI within the past seven years or three moving violations within the past three years, the applicant will not be allowed to drive vehicles or transport athletes/volunteers on behalf of SOVA. The applicant may volunteer in other capacities if all other eligibility requirements are met.

- All Class A Adult Volunteers must take the Protective Behaviors training before they can volunteer, and must complete this training every three years.
- All Class A Adult Volunteers serving as coaches must take the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) concussion training before they can coach, and must complete this training every three years.
- All Class A Adult Volunteers serving as coaches must take SOVA's General Orientation.
- SOVA reserves the right to disqualify a potential or approved volunteer with or without cause.

Volunteer Application Process for Class A Volunteers (Minors 17 and Under)

- All volunteers must complete SOVA's Class A Minor Volunteer Application Form, SOI's Communicable Disease Waiver Form and present a photo ID, if available.
- When a volunteer turns 18 years of age, the volunteer must undergo the application process for Class A Adult Volunteers.
- If an applicant answers "yes" to the question, "Do you use illegal drugs?" the applicant is disqualified from serving as a Special Olympics Virginia volunteer.

Volunteer Application Process for Class B Volunteers (Adults and Minors)

- All volunteers must complete SOVA's Class B Volunteer Application Form and SOI's Communicable Disease Waiver Form.
- All volunteers will be required to check-in with a photo ID (if available for minors) or have their identity verified by an approved volunteer attending the event.
- If an applicant answers "yes" to the first three questions on the Volunteer Registration Form, the applicant will not be allowed to volunteer.
- If an applicant answers "yes" to the question regarding their driving record on the Volunteer Application Form, the applicant will not be allowed to drive vehicles on behalf of SOVA.

Standard 3: Sports Training

Special Olympics athletes shall train in their sport under the direction of a coach in order to become a proficient athlete within the capabilities of their age and ability.

- Athletes must train for a minimum of eight weeks prior to each statewide competition.
- All sport training programs must be registered by submitting a Registered Training Program (RTP) Form or similar roster.
- Copies of the athlete's Special Olympics Virginia Athlete Registration Forms must be at every training site unless the athletes are training under the auspices of a school district or agency and not competing outside of the school district or agency. These forms can be kept and/or accessed electronically if the coach or chaperone has the capability to access records in this manner.

Standard 4: Competitions

Competitions shall be offered in all sports conducted by Special Olympics Virginia.

- The Special Olympics, Inc. "Official Special Olympics Sports Rules" shall serve as the official rules for all competitions, in conjunction with the rules of the governing body of each sport.
- Athletes must compete in area, region or other legitimate competition in order to compete in statewide competitions (unless the sport is exempt). Participation in region events is required for some sports. Exceptions to this participation requirement must be approved by SOVA staff.
- Athletes advancing to statewide, USA Games or World Games competitions shall be selected using the advancement criteria specified in the "Official Special Olympics Sports Rules."
- Rule modifications not specifically covered in the "Official Special Olympics Sports Rules" must be approved by SOVA staff.
- Copies of each athlete's Special Olympics Virginia Athlete Registration Form must be at all competition sites and travel with the athletes on organized trips.
- All eligible participants should have the opportunity to participate in Special Olympics Virginia sports/activities in a manner that is consistent with their gender identity, irrespective of the gender listed on the participants' medical or registration records and without subsequent medical or mental health care consultation.

PARTICIPATION

POLICY: Participation in Special Olympics Virginia, as an athlete or volunteer, shall be contingent upon behavior that promotes and protects the safety, health and well-being of all participants in its program.

A person's participation in Special Olympics, as an athlete or volunteer, is an opportunity and a privilege; it is not an entitlement. Special Olympics Virginia reserves the right to limit, or exclude, an individual's participation in an activity and/or the program for behavior that is deemed to be inappropriate, illegal and/or potentially harmful. If in the opinion of the Board of Directors, any athlete or volunteer in the program poses a threat to others, he/she may be expelled.

Standard 1: Code of Conduct

Athletes, volunteers and staff are expected to maintain high standards of moral and ethical conduct.

- All athletes and volunteers must adhere to Special Olympics Virginia's Code of Conducts.
- All athletes, volunteers and staff must comply with the policies and rules of Special Olympics Virginia and Special Olympics, Inc.
- All athletes, volunteers and staff must comply with all laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Standard 2: Violation of Special Olympics Virginia and/or Special Olympics, Inc. Policies

The penalties outlined below deal with situations in which the health, safety and well-being of athletes, volunteers, staff or others may be at risk, whether or not a criminal charge has been made or could result.

Actions taken will be predicated on a good faith belief that the disciplinary action is appropriate and corresponds to the seriousness of the infraction. Actions that may be taken include: warning, probation, suspension or expulsion from Special Olympics Virginia. Any of these disciplinary actions may be reconsidered at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Definitions

Warning: A cease and desist warning for perceived inappropriate behavior which, if ignored, could lead to a more severe course of disciplinary action. Decision to be made and notification to be given by supervising personnel.

Probation: A flexible, but defined period of time (which may contain temporary participation restrictions in an activity), during which the probationer must demonstrate the corrective behavior required. Decision to be made and notification to be given by supervising personnel.

Suspension: A temporary period of time in which a person is barred from participating in Special Olympics Virginia . Suspensions of one year or less to be made and notification to be

given by supervising personnel. Suspensions greater than one year to be made and notification to be given by the President.

Expulsion: Permanent dismissal from Special Olympics Virginia. Decision to be made by the Board of Directors (or Executive Committee) and notification to be given by the President.

Enforcement of Violations

A **warning, probation or suspension of one year or less** may be levied as appropriate by the supervising personnel.

The President has sole discretion to **suspend** an athlete or volunteer for more than one year from Special Olympics Virginia based upon available information and a determination that the conduct or the alleged conduct is so inherently harmful or egregious as to warrant immediate action, whether or not a criminal charge has been made or could result. The President will report the suspension to the Chair of the Board and will submit a report to the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors (or Executive Committee) has sole discretion to **expel** an athlete or volunteer from Special Olympics Virginia. Action will be taken if the circumstances are so inherently harmful or egregious as to warrant expulsion, whether or not a criminal charge has been made or could result.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

POLICY: Personnel, both paid and volunteer, shall be responsible for ensuring that all activities are planned and carried out so as to safeguard the health, safety, and general well-being of all athletes, coaches and volunteers.

Standard 1: Supervision

Coaches, chaperones and other volunteers must be in sufficient numbers to safeguard the health, safety and well-being of Special Olympics athletes throughout all phases of the program.

- There should be a minimum of one adult for every four athletes for all travel situations, and adequate volunteer/coach to athlete ratios for all other situations including, but not limited to, practices, games and social situations.
- Volunteers supervising athletes should be oriented in their duties and responsibilities.

Standard 2: Medical Requirements

Precautions should be taken at all Special Olympics training and competition sites to ensure the safety of all athletes and volunteers.

- Adequate, trained medical personnel shall be present as available and appropriate for Special Olympics competitions.

- Areas should develop and implement an Emergency Action Plan (EAP).
- “Universal Precautions,” or “Universal Blood and Body Fluid Precautions” should be followed for every exposure to any person’s blood, saliva or other bodily fluid.
- An athlete that suffers a concussion must submit the Concussion Clearance Form or a medical record signed by a medical professional prior to resuming sports training and competition.

Standard 3: Program Event Housing

Special Olympics has the responsibility and obligation to protect the safety and well-being of all athletes and volunteers at overnight events.

- Areas may elect to commute to Special Olympics Virginia events as day participants. Athletes, partners and coaches should attend all special events such as opening and closing ceremonies, the dance and other activities in order to provide the full Olympic experience. Areas may have all or a part of their delegation participate as day participants. The athlete/coach ratio minimum of 4 to 1 still applies to day participants.
- All coaches, chaperones, partners and athletes must be registered as part of the delegation and considered eligible in accordance with Special Olympics Virginia’s eligibility policies in order to stay in overnight housing.
- Areas may not exceed two people per room for any overnight housing related to Special Olympics events. An exception is made for immediate family members or guardians who are registered members of the delegation and are staying in a room with only other family members.
- Male athletes and partners age 14 and under must be housed only with male athletes and partners age 14 and under, chaperones or coaches. An exception is made for immediate family members or guardians who are registered members of the delegation and are staying in a room with only other family members.
- Female athletes and partners age 14 and under must be housed only with female athletes and partners age 14 and under, chaperones or coaches. An exception is made for immediate family members or guardians who are registered members of the delegation and are staying in a room with only other family members.
- Male athletes and partners age 15 and older must be housed only with male athletes and partners age 15 and older, chaperones or coaches. An exception is made for immediate family members or guardians who are registered members of the delegation and are staying in a room with only other family members.
- Female athletes and partners age 15 and older must be housed only with female athletes and partners age 15 and older, chaperones or coaches. An exception is made for immediate family members or guardians who are registered members of the delegation and are staying in a room with only other family members.

- The minimum chaperone ratio of one chaperone to four athletes must be maintained for all overnight events.
- Unregistered family members and friends are not permitted to stay with the delegation.
- Recreational swimming, which is any swimming or swimming-like activities that occur outside of sanctioned Special Olympics swimming or water-based sports (sailing, kayaking, canoeing, stand up paddle boarding) training or competition, is prohibited at Special Olympics Virginia events.

Standard 4: Use of Alcohol and/or Illegal Substances

An individual having direct responsibility for any Special Olympics athlete shall not use alcohol and/or illegal substances while the Special Olympics athlete is under their immediate care. The use of alcohol and/or illegal substances by an athlete is strictly prohibited at Special Olympics practices and competitions.

Standard 5: Use of Tobacco, Cannabis and Vaping Products

The use of tobacco, cannabis products, and/or vaping products are strictly prohibited at all Special Olympics Virginia training and competition venues. It is strongly recommended and requested that at all other times the use of these products be avoided in the proximity of athletes. The SOVA position applies to all coaches, chaperones, volunteers, athletes, spectators and staff and is applicable at all levels of the organization.

Standard 6: Discrimination and Harassment

All Special Olympics Virginia athletes, volunteers and staff have the right to be free from racial or ethnic slurs, unwelcome sexual advances, other unwelcome verbal or physical contact or any other conduct that substantially interferes with a person's performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment. All persons are expected to treat each other with respect and courtesy. Special Olympics Virginia will not tolerate discrimination or harassment.

Standard 7: Volunteers and Staff Dating Special Olympics Athletes

Special Olympics Virginia staff members and volunteers (excluding spouses of athletes and athletes who are Class B volunteers) are prohibited from dating or having sexual relationships with any Special Olympics athlete.

- In the event that SOVA learns of any dating or sexual relations, the staff member or volunteer must immediately end his or her association with the Special Olympics Virginia athlete or the association between the staff member or volunteer and SOVA will be terminated.
- In the case of a Special Olympics Virginia athlete who is also a staff member or a Class A volunteer, the President of SOVA will evaluate the circumstances on a case-by-case basis and determine if an authority relationship exists between the staff/volunteer athlete and the competing athlete.

Standard 8: Transportation

Individuals driving on behalf of Special Olympics Virginia will operate their vehicles in a safe manner and obey all traffic regulations.

- Programs may not use 15-passenger vans to transport athletes, volunteers or staff.
- Individuals driving on behalf of Special Olympics Virginia must be at least 18 years old.
- Vehicles owned by Special Olympics Virginia at all levels of the organization must adhere to SOVA's Owned Vehicle Guidelines.
- If an applicant answers "yes" to the question regarding their driving record on the Volunteer Registration Form, the applicant will not be allowed to drive on behalf of SOVA until he/she supplies SOVA with a copy of their Motor Vehicle Records check. If SOVA receives information through the background check process or through a submitted Motor Vehicle Record that the applicant has a suspended license, a DUI/DWI within the past seven years or three moving violations within the past three years, the applicant will not be allowed to drive vehicles or transport athletes/volunteers on behalf of SOVA. The applicant may volunteer in other capacities if all other eligibility requirements are met.

RELIGION IN THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS PROGRAM

POLICY: Special Olympics recognizes that religious instruction is the responsibility of parents and religious leaders.

Standard 1: Spiritual Portions of a Special Olympics Ceremony or Welcome

Religious activities, such as an invocation and/or benediction, are an appropriate part of an Olympic type ceremony or welcome.

- All religious or spiritual events in a ceremony or welcome shall be of a non-sectarian nature so as to include Special Olympics athletes and volunteers of all religious faiths.

POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

POLICY: Neither paid or unpaid personnel shall use the name, logo, seal, or any other proprietary symbol of Special Olympics in connection with any political campaign; nor shall any person participate in a political campaign of any candidate for public office in the name of Special Olympics, or participate in any legislative activity which contravenes the laws governing tax exempt organizations in the name of Special Olympics.

AREA AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

POLICY: An Area shall have the authority and responsibility, within the terms of its accreditation, to provide and safeguard the Special Olympics name and program; to build an organization to serve its athletes; to recruit and direct Area volunteer personnel; to use the name and proprietary symbols of Special Olympics to recruit athletes, volunteers, and raise

funds; and to ensure that all policies, standards, guidelines and procedures of the organization are followed.

An Area Council shall be accountable to the Special Olympics Virginia Board of Directors for the proper exercise of its responsibility and authority.

Standard 1: Area Accreditation

The “Area Accreditation Standards” document shall be adopted as the official Special Olympics Virginia standards by which Areas are sanctioned.

- An Area shall make every effort to meet the minimum standards for accreditation.
- An Area shall accept the responsibilities set forth in the Accreditation Standards document.

Standard 2: Financial Obligations

Areas must remain current in their expenses and must in good faith meet all financial obligations to SOVA.

- Areas are expected to pay for statewide competitions within 30 days of receiving the event invoice.
- Areas that do not pay for an event will not be allowed to register athletes for that event the following year until the balance is paid.

FUNDRAISING

POLICY: Special Olympics Virginia shall utilize diversified fundraising methods that are consistent with legal and ethical standards.

Standard 1: Compliance

All fundraising activities shall adhere to the established fundraising guidelines of Special Olympics, Inc., Special Olympics Virginia, and regulatory agencies and law.

- Special Olympics Virginia shall adhere to the established standards of the Council of Better Business Bureaus and the National Charities Information Bureau.
- Special Olympics Virginia shall adhere to the Solicitation of Contributions Law of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Office of Consumer Affairs.
- Special Olympics Virginia shall adhere to the fundraising policies of Special Olympics, Inc.

Standard 2: Acceptance of Funds from Government and Combined Campaigns

- No Special Olympics Virginia Area or Local program may affiliate with any workplace giving program, the United Way of America or any of its local units.

- Special Olympics Virginia will affiliate with workplace giving programs, including but not limited to, United Way local affiliates throughout the state and receive funds that were designated by individual donors to benefit the Special Olympics program.
- Special Olympics Virginia may seek and accept funding from government authorities within its jurisdiction.
- Special Olympics Virginia will participate in state and county government combined payroll deduction campaigns.
- Special Olympics Virginia will participate in all Combined Federal Campaigns throughout the state.

Standard 3: Distribution of Funding Resources

In order to maximize the benefit to the organization and the contributor, resources should be solicited at the organizational level(s) best suited for a mutually beneficial relationship.

- Special Olympics, Inc. reserves the right to solicit national corporations.
- Special Olympics Virginia solicits funding from large corporations and businesses, foundations, service clubs and organizations, and individual contributors. SOVA also conducts cause-related marketing projects and special events.
- Areas solicit funding from branch offices of corporations only if the office has community-based funds. Areas also solicit local businesses, foundations, service clubs and organizations within the Area's boundaries and serving the Area's residents. The Area also can accept individual contributions made to them and can conduct special events within the boundaries of the Area.
- The President is authorized to negotiate revenue sharing for fundraising events and corporate contributions initiated by SOVA as appropriate.

Standard 4: Alcohol, Tobacco and Cannabis Restrictions

The association of the Special Olympics name or logo with alcoholic beverages, tobacco or cannabis products with any training and competition is inconsistent with the mission of Special Olympics.

- No Special Olympics program shall permit the name Special Olympics, the Special Olympics logo or any other Special Olympics trademark to be publicly or visibly connected or associated with the name or trademark of any tobacco product, alcoholic beverage or cannabis product.
- SOVA and Areas may allow the manufacturer or distributor of such products to publicly or visibly connect the trademarks of their corporation or other products with Special Olympics.

Standard 5: Board Responsibility for Fundraising

The Special Olympics Virginia Board of Directors carries a responsibility for the financial development efforts of Special Olympics Virginia.

- Each Board member shall make a **personal** financial contribution to Special Olympics Virginia.
- Each Board member shall assist in the cultivation and solicitation of individuals, corporations, civic organizations and/or other potential donors.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

POLICY: Funds raised in the name of Special Olympics Virginia shall be used for their intended purpose and shall be accounted for according to the stewardship obligations of the organization.

Standard 1: Accounting

- Funds will be accounted for in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).
- Funds will be deposited into approved Special Olympics Virginia accounts.

Standard 2: Audit

An annual audit of SOVA shall be conducted by an independent certified public accounting firm appointed by the Board of Directors.

PERSONNEL

POLICY: All personnel, paid and unpaid, shall work together to fulfill the Mission of Special Olympics.

Standard 1: Image of Special Olympics

All persons working under the auspices of Special Olympics Virginia shall remain cognizant of the image of Special Olympics and make every effort to maintain the high standards it represents while working for the organization.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS, INC.

POLICY: All policies set forth by Special Olympics, Inc. shall be adopted as the minimum standard for policies of Special Olympics Virginia.