



School Based Volunteer Screening Policy

Special Olympics Colorado (SOCO) has the right and responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants: athletes, coaches, volunteers and staff. Although Special Olympics cannot guarantee the safety of all participants, we recognize the responsibility to take all reasonable steps to promote and ensure a safe environment for everyone involved.

Special Olympics Incorporated and American Specialty Insurance (SOI's Policy Holder) have developed a mandatory volunteer screening policy which sets strict standards for each of the U.S. Programs in order to maintain the accreditation, insurance coverage, and long-term viability of the Special Olympics movement. This mandatory policy took effect across the United States in 2006.

In the past, this volunteer screening policy did not apply to teachers attending school based events during the school day. In 2008 this policy changed to include school teachers acting in the course of volunteer coaches. The current amendment to the policy will take effect on 7/1/08. As part of the volunteer screening process, SOCO will be collecting personal information and reviewing reports from a national background screening vendor that may reveal that a volunteer applicant has a criminal record on file.

Please help us to ensure the safety and well being of our athletes. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mandi DeWitt, Volunteer Coordinator or Chaka Sutton, Vice President of Programs. Mandi can be reached at 800.777.5767 x 117 or 720. 359.3117 or via e-mail at mmd@specialolympicsco.org and Chaka can be reached at 800.777.5767 x 102 or 720.359.3102 or via e-mail at css@specialolympicsco.org.

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