

Q: When is the Special Olympics?

A: Special Olympics is a **year-round** sports training and competition organization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. We have teams that practice throughout the Area in the Spring, Summer and Fall, and competitions for each of our sports at the end of their season. It is not a one-time event.

Q: What is "Area 6"?

A: Special Olympics South Carolina organizes its programs by "Area" - typically a group of 2-4 counties. Area 6 consists of Charleston, Dorchester, and Berkeley counties, and is run by a leadership team of volunteers.

Q: What is required to participate?

A: "Traditional" Special Olympics sports are programs designed for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, or related disabilities/cognitive delays. Sports begin at age 8, but there is a Young Athletes program for children ages 2-7. Required paperwork includes a sports physical, and release form - please turn a copy in to the coach of each of the sports that you will be participating in.

Q: What is the cost to participate?

A: We do our best to make the cost of participation in Special Olympics programs **FREE** for all athletes. This includes all practices, travel, uniforms, and meals during away competitions. Occasionally, venues require a fee for reservation, in which case, we may ask that the athlete pay \$5-10 for the season. Other costs are optional, and include souvenirs from away competitions, personalized gear, or snacks.

Q: What are the sports offered?

A: Area 6 offers eleven programs across Charleston, Dorchester and Berkeley counties. These include: basketball, swimming, track and field, cheerleading, and tennis in the Spring, kayaking and sailing in the Summer, and bowling, soccer, and golf in the Fall. Young Athletes, as well as Unified Champion School programs are held during the school year.

Q: How can I get involved?

A: Volunteers typically are present in one of three ways: Coaching, Regular Season Volunteers, and Day of Event Volunteers. If you have knowledge of/skill in a particular sport, and would like to **coach** with us, please email tjtrimeloni@gmail.com. Regular Season Volunteers commit to a season with a particular team, as a volunteer at each of their 8-10 practices. **Regular Season Volunteers** on teams that compete in “Unified” or “Partner” events may choose to play the sport with the athlete(s) in tournaments, as that athlete’s teammate. Both Coaches and Regular Season Volunteers may have the opportunity to travel to Columbia or Greenville for State Competitions with their team at the end of the season. Please email the coach noted on the Sports Offered List to get involved with their team. Most of our volunteers are **Day of Event Volunteers**, meaning that they’ll come out to a competition or fundraising event, and help run a station, hand out water or awards, set up, or cheer on the athletes. A signup.com link will be posted on our Facebook (www.facebook.com/SOLowcountry) and sent out through our email blast. You can also contact our Area Director, Megan Reynolds, at area6@so-sc.org.

Email: area6@so-sc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SOLowcountry

Website: so-sc.org/locals/area-6