



8.3.2 - ATHLETES RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This is a guide to assist athletes in knowing their rights and responsibilities.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS ONTARIO ATHLETES RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES

1. I have the **RIGHT** to belong to Special Olympics Ontario (SOO).
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to uphold its Oath and be dedicated to my sport and my team.
2. I have the **RIGHT** to be treated fairly and equally.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to know the rules, follow the rules and accept the consequences of ALL my actions.
3. I have the **RIGHT** to speak and be heard.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to communicate with others respectfully, and not to use any foul language or unkind words, or unkind gestures.
4. I have the **RIGHT** to a qualified and dedicated coach who will respect my rights as an athlete.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to work together with my coach, and respect his or her rights as a coach.
5. I have the **RIGHT** to enjoy my sport in a safe place and in a safe way.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to tell my coach, or another person I trust, if I feel unsafe.
6. I have the **RIGHT** to be united in sportsmanship and fair play.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to treat others fairly, encourage sportsmanship and fair play.
7. I have the **RIGHT** to bring to events my personal items and my sports equipment.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to look after my sports equipment and report any theft or damage of my sports equipment to someone I trust. I will not take another person's property.
8. I have the **RIGHT** to be respected on and off the field, or wherever I play my sport.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to respect others on and off the field.
9. I have the **RIGHT** to be the best I can be and to receive recognition for my successes.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to encourage and support others to do their best.
10. I have the **RIGHT** to win, and if I cannot win, be brave in the attempt.
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to have fun and participate in the sport of my choice in a safe and positive way.