



# ***Special Olympics*** ***Ohio***

## SPECTATOR GUIDELINES

As fans (family, friends and supporters) of Special Olympics athletes, it is expected that you will play a positive role at SOOH events by following these guidelines:

1. Please refrain from using abusive or offensive language towards anyone; officials, coaches, opponents and fellow spectators.
2. Keep your emotions under control - Remember that the athletes are amateur athletes and the coaches and officials are all volunteers.
3. It may help if you understand the rules of the sport/event. If you need further information or clarification, ask your home program for a copy of the rules.
4. De-emphasize winning and losing!
5. Let the coaches coach the players - PLEASE refrain from shouting instructions.
6. Spectators and fans are prohibited in the competition areas. Only registered/approved coaches and athletes should be on the official playing field/area.
7. ALL CHEERS should stress the spirit of good sportsmanship. Derogatory comments directed to players, coaches or officials will not be tolerated.

Any spectator who fails to follow the above guidelines will be reprimanded. A reprimand could be one of the following:

- a. You will be escorted from the venue.
- b. You will be banned from attending future events for the remainder of a season.
- c. You will be banned from attending any SOOH event for lifetime.

**BE A FAN!**

**BE A GREAT FAN!**