



**ATHLETE RELEASE FORM**

**RELEASE TO BE COMPLETED BY ADULT ATHLETE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ am at least 18 years old and have submitted the attached application for participation in Special Olympics.

I represent and warrant that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, I am physically and mentally able to participate in Special Olympics activities. I also represent that a licensed medical professional has reviewed the health information contained in my application and has certified, based on an independent medical examination, that there is no medical evidence that would preclude me from participating in Special Olympics. I understand that if I have Down Syndrome, I cannot participate in sports or events which, by their nature, result in hyper-extension, radical flexion or direct pressure on my neck or upper spine unless I and two physicians have completed the official "Special Release for Athletes with Atlanto-Axial Instability," available from the Special Olympics Program in my jurisdiction, or I have had a full radiological examination that establishes the absence of Atlanto-axial Instability. I am aware that if I choose not to complete the "Special Release for Athletes with Atlanto-Axial Instability" form, which establishes the absence of Atlanto-axial Instability, I the must have the radiological examination before he/she can participate in judo, equestrian sports, gymnastics, diving, pentathlon, butterfly stroke, diving starts in swimming, high jump, alpine skiing, snowboarding, squat lift and football team competition (soccer).

Special Olympics has my permission forever to use my likeness, name, voice or words in either television, radio, film, newspapers, magazines, and other media, and in any form, for the purpose of publicizing, promoting or communicating the purposes and activities of Special Olympics and/or applying for funds to support these purposes and activities.

I understand that by signing below I consent to participate in the Special Olympics Healthy Athletes Program, which provides individual screening assessments of health status and health care needs in the areas of: vision; oral health; hearing; physical therapy; and a variety of health promotion areas (height, weight, sun protection, etc.). I understand that information gathered as part of the Healthy Athletes Program screening process may be used in group form (anonymously) to assess and communicate the overall health needs of athletes and to develop programs to address those needs. I understand there is no obligation for me to participate in the Healthy Athletes Program and that I may decide not to participate. Provision of these health services is not intended as a substitute for regular care. I also understand that I should seek my own independent medical advice and assistance irrespective of the provisions of these services and that Special Olympics is not through the provision of these provisions responsible for my health.

I acknowledge that Special Olympics events may involve overnight activities and that the housing arrangements for each event may differ. I understand that I should contact the Special Olympics Program in my jurisdiction if I have any questions about housing arrangements for a specific event or the housing policy in general.

If, during my participation in Special Olympics activities, I should need emergency medical treatment, and I am not able to give my consent or make my own arrangements for that treatment for any reason, I authorize Special Olympics to take whatever measures it deems necessary to protect my health and well-being, including, if necessary, hospitalization. **(IF YOU HAVE RELIGIOUS OBJECTIONS TO RECEIVING SUCH MEDICAL TREATMENT, PLEASE CROSS OUT THIS PARAGRAPH, INITIAL IT AND SIGN AND ATTACH THE SPECIAL PROVISIONS REGARDING MEDICAL TREATMENT FORM)**

I, the Athlete named above, have read this paper and fully understand the provisions of the release that I am signing. I understand that by signing this paper, I am saying that I agree to the provisions of this release.

Signature of Adult Athlete: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that I have reviewed this release with the Athlete whose signature appears above. I am satisfied based on that review that the Athlete understands this release and has agreed to its terms.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Athlete: \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. family member, teacher, coach, etc.)