



Special Olympics Kansas is constantly looking to improve our policies and procedures to better serve our constituents. We have listened to the concerns and questions posed by our Local Programs, coaches and athletes regarding the coaches training policy. To that end, we have revised what we are now calling the Coaches Training System to make it more flexible, accessible and sustainable given the realities of our organization.

Below are the major changes to the new Coaches Training System that is attached. Please note: The Coach Training is now the General Orientation which includes a box to check acknowledging your acceptance of the Code of Conduct.

	<u>Old Policy</u>	<u>New System</u>
Certified Coach Requirement	Each program must have one certified coach per team for team sports and one certified coach per program for individual sports	Programs are not required to have a certified coach
In-Person Training Requirement	Required for Certified Coaches to attend an SOKS hosted in-person training	In-Person trainings hosted by SOKS are now one of three options for obtaining and renewing Certified Coach status
Requirement Renewals	Renewal date varied	Everything is renewed every 3 years
Sanctions	Programs received sanctions after events for not being in compliance with the Certified Coach requirements	Coaches will not be allowed to be on the team bench/sideline without meeting the lowest requirements (Class A, Protective Behaviors and Concussion Training)

Special Olympics Kansas is dedicated to providing potential coaches with quality trainings and information that will allow them to become successful Special Olympics coaches. We believe the key to improving athletic performance and maintaining the well-being of our athletes is to have trained coaches. We strongly encourage coaches to become certified through face-to-face trainings but now instead of requiring it and having punishments, we will be providing recognition and incentives to coaches who obtain and maintain their certified status.

For liability reasons and the safety of our athletes we will continue to strictly enforce the fact that coaches must be current on their Class A, Protective Behaviors and Concussion Training. We will be implementing new monitoring procedures prior to and during regional and state events to make sure that all coaches have met all requirements. Any questions or comments please contact Vice President of Health and Community Outreach, Chris Burt at [burtc@kso.org](mailto:burtc@kso.org) or (913) 236-9290x107

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