

## Uniform Update

Athletes will need to purchase their uniforms before the season starts and will be able to keep them when the season ends. NISRA will be working with a printing company to order uniforms that are necessary to participate in games. We will plan to have athletes keep the same jersey for each individual team and sport for 2-3 years.

For sports such as Tennis, Golf and Bocce, there will be a new polo option for athletes to purchase or the option to wear what they already have. Once registered for a sport, you will receive an email from the Manager of Special Olympics informing you of the process to purchase a new jersey.

## Special Olympics Competition

Special Olympics provides quality training and competition, stresses athletic excellence, rewards determination, emphasizes health and celebrates achievements.

We want athletes to do their best and at the same time, develop physical fitness, experience joy, develop skills and friendships.

Sports is naturally competitive for athletes and parents. Your loved one may not understand competition and may struggle with rules and regulations of competition and the sport.

**If that is the case, Special Olympics may not be appropriate and there are other programs that may be more enjoyable and suitable.**

*Please call the NISRA Office to speak with Emily Eliscu to assess which type of program would be the best match for the participant's interests, abilities, and time.*

## Important Notes for Parents, Guardians and Athletes:

NISRA has a Code of Conduct for all Special Olympics programs to encourage athletes, coaches and parents/ guardians to embrace the values of competition and sportsmanship. A copy of the form will be provided at the start of each sport season. By registering for any individual or team sport, you are agreeing to adhere to the Code of Conduct before participating. The athlete must attend & actively participate in 75% of all practices prior to the competition in order to be eligible to compete. Athletes who do not compete in the Special Olympics competition will not be allowed to compete at the state level.

### Special Olympics Illinois (SOILL) Required Forms: Visit [www.nisra.org](http://www.nisra.org) for forms

#### Consent Form:

- Separates athlete/parent/guardian consent from the health information
- This form will only need to be submitted one time throughout an athlete's lifetime, barring any change in guardianship
- All athletes must submit the Consent Form prior to participation in order to be eligible

#### Medical Form:

- Will be valid for three years
- Special Olympics Illinois strongly suggests that all athletes update their Medical Form after having their annual physical exam, in order to be certain, they are able to participate in all SOILL programs

***\*Not providing all of the required information described above will result in a delay in processing paperwork and affect an athlete's eligibility for upcoming events.***



**Special Olympics**