



***Special
Olympics***
Massachusetts

**Spring Season Volunteer Roles at
Competition Venues**

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Please note:

Not all of these jobs are available at every event offered during our Spring Season. Each event is different and has its own needs, also some roles may not be listed. This is a list of the potential volunteer jobs that are offered at all of the events throughout the spring and at our season ending State Tournament (*Summer Games*).

If you have any questions, would like more information on an event or would like to get involved in another way please contact Special Olympics MA Volunteer Engagement Manager, Jennifer Dowdy at 508-485-0986 ext. 219 or Jennifer.dowdy@specialolympicsma.org

Aquatics Job Descriptions

Race Guide: The purpose of this job is to bring the athletes from the staging area to the correct start for the event. After the event is completed, the escort stays with their assigned heat and brings them and the heat sheet to the awards area.

Staging Assistant: The purpose of this job is to help with the staging of the events by keeping athletes in the correct heat and lane order and assigns escorts to each group in order for them to be brought to the pool

Presenters: The purpose of this job is to present the athletes their awards after they finish their event.

High Five Tunnel: The purpose of this job is to high five the athlete as they head to the awards area after they have finished their event, to congratulate them on their performance in the pool.

Timer: The purpose of this job is to time an individual athlete's performance, and record it.

Bouncer: The purpose of this job is to keep spectators from interfering with the start and finish area when events are going off.

Water Distributer: The purpose of this job is to give out water to the athletes.

Equipment Porter: The purpose of this job is to collect items from the athlete before they start their race (i.e. towels, shirts, glasses). The items will then be handed off to another volunteer to return those items to the athlete, once they are out of the pool, at the other end of the pool deck.

Power Lifting Job Descriptions

Spotters and Rackers: The purpose of this job is to support an athlete as they lift and help return the weight safely to the rack. If an athlete looks like they are in need of assistance while lifting, help guide the weight down to the rack safely.

Tennis Job Descriptions

Scorekeepers and Timers: The purpose of this job is to write down and record the score of the match as it goes, as well as keep track of the length of the game to make sure the next match goes off at the correct time to follow the schedule.

Ball Retrievers at Net: The purpose of this job is to stay by the net and pick up any dead balls that have hit the net during play.

Linesmen: The purpose of this job is to watch and see if a returning ball is inside or outside the line, making the ball fair or dead.

Skills: The purpose of this job is to be in the skills area and practice with athletes on different aspects of the game of tennis (*serving the ball, returning the ball, etc.*). Must have basic tennis knowledge

Track & Field Job Descriptions

Race Guide: The purpose of this job is to bring the athletes and the heat sheet to where they need to be for either a race or awards. The escort must stay with their group of athletes from the staging tent to the awards area. Once the group receives their awards return to staging tent to pick up another group.

Pentathlon Chaperone: The purpose of this job is to bring the athletes to the correct event for the pentathlon.

Staging Assistant: The purpose of this job is to assist the staging director in the process of staging athletes for events. This individual keeps athletes in correct order of heat, and assigns escorts to each group in order for them to be brought to the start line or field event

Presenters: The purpose of this job is to give out awards to the athletes as they go through the awards area.

Timer: The purpose of this job is to keep track of timed events on the track, of individual athletes.

Place Picker: Works with the finish line official to determine the order of finish of all athletes in race. This job may also be combined with the timer.

Bouncer: The purpose of this job is to make sure spectators stay off the track or throwing area, while an event is going on. The main area of focus is the main gate to the track, non-credentialed individuals must stay outside the gate so not to interfere with the ongoing competition.

Water Distributer: The purpose of this job is to give water to the athletes.

High Five Tunnel: The purpose of this job is to high five the athletes after they have left the track and are making their way to the awards area.

Marker: The purpose of this job is to correctly mark where a softball, shot put, or turbo jav has landed on the ground for correct measurement; or where an athlete has jumped. When marking long jump, the marker should be placed on the impression in the sand closest to the take-off board.

Reader: The purpose of this job is to correctly measure the distance that an athlete has thrown (softball, shot put, or turbo jav) or jumped from where the marker and record the distance.

Announcer: The purpose of this job is to announce the upcoming events on the track or throwing areas, as well as any other announcements for that area.

Clerk: The purpose of this job is to write down and record the distance or time of the athletes attempt at an event.

Raker: The purpose of this job is to rake in the sand pit where an athlete previously landed, so that way the next athlete's jump will be visible and easy to measure.

Volleyball Job Descriptions

Referee: Officiates match and make sure all rules of the game are followed.

Lines person: Watches line and notifies Referee if ball lands in play or is out of bounds

Timer: Keeps time of match and notifies official and teams of time left in allocated time block

Scorekeeper: Keeps official score of match both on public flip chart and in book.

Announcer: Announces teams prior to match and during match keeps a running play by play of match

Non Athletic Support Roles

Please note that these jobs will be assigned at volunteer registration and will be on an as needed basis. If you have volunteered in this role before, please make a note when you register through our website so we can do our best to make sure you are assigned this job once you arrive onsite.

Logistics

- Water Team: Makes sure that water, ice & cups are distributed and full at all water stations throughout the venue
- General Logistics: assist with all logistical needs such as, equipment delivery, venue set up needs, equipment pick up, venue break down, trash removal, etc.

Meals

- Assist in the distribution of meals to credentialed athletes, coaches and volunteers

Olympic Town

- Assist in the running of games, activities for athletes to participate in while they are not competing. Some examples are: basketball pop a shot, arts & crafts, mini golf, board games, etc.

Safety / Parking

- Assist in creating a safe atmosphere for all individuals attending the event. Roles may include, directing vehicles where to park, monitoring busy intersections and cross walks and directing individuals when it is safe to cross active road ways, working a bus stop and assisting athletes on and off the buses

Volunteer Registration

- Registration: Assist the registration team in checking in all volunteers, distribution of volunteer t-shirts and any welcome pack and directing them to the proper venue during the event.
- Volunteer Guide: Individual in this role will guide a volunteer of volunteer group to their schedule venue and job at the venue. This role assists the volunteer reaching their job and to introducing the volunteer(s) to the venue contact that they will be working with.