



***Special
Olympics
Massachusetts***

Spring Season Volunteer Roles

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Please note:

Each event is different and has its own needs, so not all of these jobs will be available at every event offered during the spring season. These are potential volunteer jobs that are offered at all of the events throughout the spring and at our season ending state tournament, Summer Games.

At each event, volunteers will assist with event set up, clean up, and other event logistics as needed. Most importantly, every volunteer is a fan to cheer and help create an inclusive and supportive environment where each athlete feels confident to try his or her best.

If you have any questions, would like more information about an event, or would like to get involved in other volunteer roles, please contact the Special Olympics Massachusetts Volunteer Engagement Manager at 508-485-0986 ext. 219 or volunteer@specialolympicsma.org

"It was one of the most fulfilling and rewarding experiences of my life."
–Special Olympics MA Volunteer

Swimming Job Descriptions

Race Guide: Do you want to work directly with athletes? Try being a race guide! The purpose of this job is to bring athletes from the staging area to the correct start for the event. After the event is completed, the guide stays with their assigned heat and brings athletes and the heat sheet to the awards area.

Timer: Athletes will be racing to reach new personal bests, and they need timers to help make that possible. Stay focused and time an individual athlete's performance and accurately record the time.

Staging Assistant: Dive into action and help out as the 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 to assign guides to each group in order for them to be brought to the pool.

**Please note, volunteer positions will be on the pool deck, but not in the water. For safety, volunteers 14 years and older are recommended.*

Track & Field Job Descriptions

Start Line: On your mark, get set, GO! Get athletes going on the track as a start line assistant. Help make sure athletes are lined up in the correct lanes and that no one starts before the start gun goes off. Volunteers 16 years and older preferred.

Finish Line: No checkered flag needed for this finish line! Stay focused and keep time to determine the finish order of each race. Volunteers 16 years and older preferred.

Track Guide & Field Guide: Looking for a role that will have you socializing with athletes all day long? Try being a track guide or field guide! Help by bringing athletes to their track event or field event when it's their turn to run and throw and making sure they stay in the correct order. You will also cheer on athletes during competition, bring them to the awards tent, and make sure they reconnect with their team after they receive their awards. Great roles for families and youth volunteers.

Field Vector: Get a front row seat of the action as a field vector volunteer! Help measure the distance of softball throws, javelin throws, or shotput throws and accurately record the score. Great role for groups and families!

Assisted Race & Assisted Field: Work with athletes who have an intellectual disability and limited mobility. Support them in their competitions by keeping time during track races, measuring the distance of their throws in field events, interact with them as you guide them to each event, and cheer and congratulate them during their awards ceremony.

Long Jump: Spring into action as a long jump assistant! Help measure the distance of jumps, rake the sand pit after each jump, accurately record the score, and enforce the long jump rules.

Pentathlon Chaperone: Spend the day cheering elite athletes in five track and field events! The pentathlon chaperone will bring athletes to their correct event for the pentathlon and encourage them throughout their competitions.

Volleyball Job Descriptions

Timer: Interact with athletes and officials all game long as the game timer! Time the match and notify officials and teams of remaining time left in allocated time block.

Scorekeeper: Stay focused throughout the match as the volleyball scorekeeper! The purpose of this job is to keep official score of match both on flip chart and in book.

Announcer: Are you ready to embrace your inner sportscaster? Take on the announcer role! Announce teams prior to the match and keep a running play-by-play of each game.

Lines person: Stay involved in the action as the lines person! Watch the court and work with the official to call if a ball is in bounds or out of bounds.

Tennis Job Descriptions

Scorekeepers and Timers: Are you organized and schedule-oriented? Try being a scorekeeper and timer! Write down and record the score of the match, as well as keep track of the length of the game to make sure the next match starts at the correct time to stay on schedule.

Ball Retrievers: Stay involved all match long as the ball retriever! Stay by the net and pick up any dead balls that have hit the net during play. Also ensure that balls don't interfere with the match on the adjacent court.

Lines person: Interact with athletes and officials all day long as the tennis lines person. Watch and identify if a returning ball is inside or outside the line, making the ball fair or dead.

Power Lifting Job Descriptions

Spotters and Rackers: 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. Experience is required.

Additional Roles Needed at Each Event

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 let the volunteer registration table know when you check in at the event.

Awards

- Do you have an eye for design and organization? We need you to help set up the award station in a fun festive way, have awards ready for presentations, and make sure the speaker system works. This role also includes working with civil servants, law enforcement, and honored guests for awards distribution. Interact with athletes and help pass out awards in a fun, exciting manner.

Non-Athletic Support Roles

- **Registration:** Stay cool under the tent as a registration volunteer! Check in volunteers, distribute t-shirts, and help out with logistic roles as needed.
- **Olympic Town:** Looking to have some fun with athletes and socialize outside of their games and competition? You can help assist in Olympic Town, where you could be running games and 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. High energy and enthusiasm are a must!
- **Social Media:** Looking for a fun way to get involved at events and meet athletes, families and fellow volunteers? Social media volunteers will walk around the events and conduct interviews, gather quotes, and take pictures that will be uploaded to social media platforms.
- **Water Table:** Help keep athletes cool at the water table! Hand out water to athletes throughout the competition in an organized manner. Great role for youth groups!

Medical Volunteers

- The safety of athletes, volunteers, and all event attendees is extremely important, and certified medical volunteers are vital for each event to ensure everyone remains safe and healthy. Please contact the Volunteer Engagement Manager for volunteer opportunities: volunteer@specialolympicsma.org or at 508-485-0986.

Photographers

- We love to capture the joy and athletic accomplishments at each event, and photographers help us do that! Please contact the Volunteer Engagement Manager for volunteer opportunities at additional events: volunteer@specialolympicsma.org or at 508-485-0986.

"Thank you volunteers. You are all amazing. We are the Special Olympics Athletes and you are the SPECIAL people behind our success. A million thanks to all the great volunteers."

-Melissa Reilly, Special Olympics MA Athlete