

Special Olympics Minnesota Unified Clubs

A Unified Club is an exciting program which combines students with and without intellectual disabilities to develop meaningful relationships, help spread acceptance and ensure everyone feels included and welcome in their school.

Who can Participate?

Any student who is interested in playing sports in an inclusive setting may participate. Teachers, school coaches, faculty, family members or individuals from the community can serve as coaches and volunteers.

Who do Unified Clubs do?

Unified Clubs are unique school-based clubs designed around empowering youth with and without intellectual disabilities to promote social justice through a variety of athletic, social, and recreational projects and activities. Your club is encouraged to design your own projects involving Unified Sports, Spread the Word to End the Word activities, Be a Fan campaigns, Fans in the Stands, volunteering, Polar Plunge teams, Special Olympics sports events in schools, etc.

Special Olympics Minnesota is a resource to your club and sports teams. While some clubs are specifically sports oriented (Unified Sports), others include activities that are social and recreational. Over time, clubs should develop the program to offer opportunities in both areas. The support of faculty and administration in both general and special education departments is crucial in ensuring the success of students in the program.

Clubs must meet all requirements of their school policies and procedures, as the club is covered under the auspices of the school. Each member is required to meet the guidelines for participation in a school club. The club coordinator should contact the administrator within the school to identify any criteria that must be met in order to be sanctioned.



STUDENT RECRUITMENT

- Utilize existing systems (announcements, flyers, school news paper, word of mouth)
- Enlist the assistance of the Special Education Department faculty
- Enlist the assistance of school based clubs
- Ask students to determine ways to recruit others. How have students been successfully “recruited” in the past?

CONTACT

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