**Special Olympics Online Coaching Courses**

**Suggested Copy for Web, Newsletters, Communications**

**Direct Links**

ASEP: <http://www.ASEP.com/SpecialOlympics>

NFHS: <http://www.nfhslearn.com/electiveDetail.aspx?courseID=36000>

**Both Courses - Suggested Copy**

Special Olympics is offering two break-through online education resources for its coaches, aimed at improving the quality and consistency of Special Olympics’ coaches training worldwide. Special Olympics partnered with two leading sport coaching education providers: American Sport Education Program (ASEP) and the National Federation of State High Schools (NFHS) to develop and deliver Special Olympics-customized online courses that meet entry-level certification requirements for Special Olympics coaches.

Through the ASEP-offered [*Coaching Special Olympics Athletes*](http://www.ASEP.com/SpecialOlympics) online course, coaches will develop a better understanding of how people with intellectual disabilities learn and how they participate in sports. The course offers an overview of the coaching principles and successful techniques involved in working with Special Olympics athletes, as well as practical ideas that can be used during coaching.

The NFHS-offered [*Coaching Special Olympics Unified Sports®*](http://www.nfhslearn.com/electiveDetail.aspx?courseID=36000) course helps coaches understand and implement the most successful coaching strategies for this very special mix of teammates. The course features an introduction by former NFL quarterback, and Special Olympics supporter, Kurt Warner.

These courses represent much-needed web-based alternatives to traditional in-person trainings. Special Olympics PDF resources are referenced throughout the course, along with photos, audio, video, and narrated presentations.

**ASEP Coaching Special Olympics Athletes Suggested Copy**

Special Olympics has partnered with leading sport coaching education provider American Sport Education Program (ASEP) to develop and deliver a Special Olympics-customized online course that meets entry-level certification requirements for Special Olympics coaches.

Through the *Coaching Special Olympics Athletes* online course, coaches will develop a better understanding of how people with intellectual disabilities learn and how they participate in sports. The course offers an overview of the coaching principles and successful techniques involved in working with Special Olympics athletes, as well as practical ideas that can be used during coaching.

The course represents a much-needed web-based alternative to the traditional in-person trainings. Special Olympics PDF resources are referenced throughout the course, along with photos, audio, video, and narrated presentations.

The course is priced at $16.95. Coaches can purchase courses individually on the ASEP website at [www.ASEP.com/SpecialOlympics](http://www.ASEP.com/SpecialOlympics). Alternatively, coaching education administrators can order courses in bulk; contact Jennifer Mulcahey, ASEP youth sports sales manager, at 800-747-5698, ext. 2304 or JenniferM@hkusa.com for more information.

**NFHS Special Olympics Unified Sports® Course for Coaches Suggested Copy**

The National Federation of State High Schools (NFHS) is offering a FREE course, built exclusively for Special Olympics: the [*Special Olympics Unified Sports® Course for Coaches*](http://www.nfhslearn.com/electiveDetail.aspx?courseID=36000). Unified Sports is an inclusive sports program that unites Special Olympics athletes (individuals with intellectual disabilities) and partners (individuals without intellectual disabilities) as teammates for training and competition.

While many of the coaching challenges are similar – defining roles in line with ability and fostering teamwork - coaching a Unified Sports team is unlike any other coaching position. Goals, motivations and even the meaning of winning are different. With an introduction by Brenda and Kurt Warner, this course will help you understand and implement the most successful coaching strategies for this very special mix of teammates.

The NFHS received assistance from the Arizona Interscholastic Association, Special Olympics Arizona, Special Olympics North America, and Special Olympics Inc. in developing this new online course for Unified Sports coaches.