

**Using the Special Olympics North America “Boards of Directors**

**Frequently Asked Questions About Special Olympics” Resource**

Building a quality Special Olympics Program board of directors doesn’t stop with strategically recruiting the right individuals on to your board. For board members to be successful in their roles, we must ensure they are properly onboarded and oriented to our movement, mission, our expectations of them as part of their service, and to your specific Program.

Special Olympics North America (SONA) Organizational Development has created a “Boards of Directors

Frequently Asked Questions About Special Olympics” resource to assist Programs with their board education efforts.

A few items of note regarding the document:

* The resource intentionally does not include the kinds of items typically found in a Program fact sheet or onboarding packet (e.g., number of athletes, number of competitions, sports offered, etc.), to not duplicate information in other documents provided to board members. However, these FAQs can certainly be expanded to incorporate such information, if the Program so chooses.
* At the time of this document’s distribution (January 2023), it is in alignment with the updated SOI General Rules and Sports Rules, Article 1. Going forward, we strongly encourage Programs to ensure any SOI/SONA data, rules, or information referenced is current, as part of any Program-specific customization. If SONA updates the generic/base resource, we will notify all Programs.
* For those using the SONA Onboard for Boards resource, we have included a generic version of this document, but are happy to customize your Onboard sheets to link to your Program’s customized version of this document.
* Feel free to keep the logo as-is or insert your Accredited Program logo.

This guidance and the FAQs document can both be found on the [SONA Resources page, under “Boards of Directors”.](https://resources.specialolympics.org/regions/north-america#boards-of-directors)

Questions? Feedback? Please contact Amie Dugan, VP, Organizational Development, Special Olympics North America, adugan@specialoympics.org