Purpose:

To ensure a safe and appropriate environment for sport training, a number of minimum standards are required for all Special Olympics Manitoba programs. These programs include all athletic clubs, sport specific clubs and Bridge the Gap clubs.

Special Olympics Manitoba programs must:

1. Run a minimum of once per week;
2. Operate a minimum of 12 weeks or the appropriate sport season;
3. Run a minimum of 1 hour for each training session;
4. Operate in an appropriate and well maintained facility, with access to washrooms;
5. Have access to safe equipment;
6. Have an appropriate and safe ratio of athletes to coaches/program volunteers (summer sport 4:1, Winter 3:1, Team sports and 5 pin Bowling 5:1);
7. Develop and implement a seasonal practice plan;
8. Develop and implement weekly practice plans;
9. Conduct weekly training sessions focused on sport training;
10. Train in sports recognized by Special Olympics Manitoba;
11. Attend all relevant competitions;
12. Have access to a phone;
13. Develop an emergency action plan;
14. Possess a first aid kit;
15. Have appropriately trained coaches & program volunteers (policy 6000-7);
16. Maintain accurate records regarding the program; and
17. Complete all administrative requirements of Regional Leadership Teams and Special Olympics Manitoba.

These standards are minimum requirements. Special Olympics Manitoba will provide all relevant support, training and materials. The Sport Program Staff of Special Olympics Manitoba, in conjunction with the Regional Leader, will monitor maintenance of these standards.