



**About Volunteer Gear:**

Volunteer Gear is part of the Special Olympics Manitoba (SOM) volunteer recognition program. It allows volunteers to select their own recognition gifts from a catalog of merchandise. The Volunteer Gear program was developed so that all volunteers of SOM could be recognized, regardless of volunteer position or location in Manitoba.

**Here's how it works:**

1) Volunteers receive points for different volunteer activities.

Volunteer Activity	Definition	Term	Points acquired
Event Volunteers	Volunteering for an event, including competitions, fund raisers, bingo and other single day activities	Half Day (four hours or less)	100
		Full Day (more than four hours)	200
Program Volunteers/ Coaches	Volunteering with a weekly program on a regular basis	Half – Year (five months or less)	1000
		Full Year (more than five months)	2000
Committee Member	Volunteering with a committee for a competition, fund raising event, task force, regional leadership team, board committee, etc.	One Year or One event	1000
Committee Chair	Volunteering as a committee chair for a competition, fund raising event, task force, regional leadership team, board committee, etc.	One Year or One event	1500
Board Members	Volunteering as a member of the board of Special Olympics Manitoba	One Year	2000

2) Volunteers can select a recognition gift based on volunteer points.

- Bronze Level: minimum of 200 points
- Silver Level: minimum of 2000 points
- Gold Level: minimum of 4000 points
- Platinum Level: minimum of 6000 points

3) Volunteers can order recognition gifts once their points are verified.

**Program volunteers/coaches** - Special Olympics will use the confirmed club accreditation forms returned by head coaches to verify Volunteer Gear points. Program volunteers & coaches submit order forms as a club and orders will be sent back to the head coach for distribution.

**Event volunteers** - can choose to redeem points at an event if Volunteer Gear is available. Volunteers may also choose to save points and order Gear at a later date.

**Committee Members/Board Members** - Special Olympics will use the confirmed committee rosters returned by committee chairs to verify Volunteer Gear points and orders will be sent back to the chair for distribution.

Program volunteers/coaches accumulate Volunteer Gear points for their activities starting in the **2006/2007 program year**. Please note that Volunteer Gear points for all other activities (events, committee work) began accumulating on July 1, 2007.

Volunteer Gear is currently a pilot program. All points will expire on June 30, 2009. The Volunteer Gear catalog will be updated as inventory is depleted. Volunteer Gear items are subject to change.

For more information, please contact Kelly at 925-5625 or [kquigley@specialolympics.mb.ca](mailto:kquigley@specialolympics.mb.ca).