

Athlete/Family Expectations

(please read and review with your athlete)

- Please arrive 15 min before practice to be on time and ready for practices and competitions. Let both the team email and the coach know if you will be absent. Athletes with 2 or more missed practices may not be allowed to compete.
- Make attendance a priority. Each athlete is required to have a certain number of practice hours before competition. Let head coach know if you will be gone and reason for absence **prior** to practice. **PLEASE** do not sign up for a season if you know the athlete will miss numerous practices.
- Parents/Caregivers/Drivers should remain at practices. If you must leave, make sure a coach has contact info for the athlete's ride in case your athlete becomes ill, injured, or if we need to end practice early due to weather. Make sure anyone bringing your athlete to practice is aware of this.
- We will send an email if there are any practice changes or cancellations.
- Athletes with overdue Wild West equipment or jerseys are unable to register or attend practice until the issue is resolved.
- Practices are for registered participants only. We love our siblings/friends/parents/PCAs, but SOMN does not cover them under insurance, and they may not be on court/field/lane with registered athletes & coaches.
- Don't start practicing until a coach is present.
- Please follow the practice facilities guidelines.
- Stay in the area we are renting and supervise any children in your care. We cannot have a facility asking us not to return because of unsupervised children.
- Spirit wear is available throughout the year. Email wildwest@somn.org if you have questions. Athletes, coaches & families may not create their own Wild West spirit wear without getting approval from Wild West leadership and SOMN office.
- We have a private Wild West Facebook page. If you would like to be added or have questions, email wildwest@somn.org. This page is for athletes & caregivers/guardians/parents ONLY
- There is an athlete fee per sport. Athletes who participated in certain Wild West fundraisers will have their fees reduced or waived. Families will be notified if this includes them. Fees partially cover each sport's expenses.
- SOMN policy includes no alcohol, smoking or vaping at practices, competitions or tournaments. This is for athletes, coaches, unified partners, and parents/caregivers in attendance
- It is SOMN policy that everyone has up-to-date date paperwork at practices and competitions/tournaments. Please take care of expiring paperwork promptly to avoid missing any practices.
- Caregivers, plan to provide support if your athlete needs extra assistance during practice. We are unable to provide 1-1 support. 1-1 assistants can be a parent/PCA/friend and must adhere to 1-1 standards set by SOMN. Level 1 Special Olympics training must be completed

- **All** coaches, unified partners, and one-on-one assistants do a brief online training (takes less than 30min) in the Special Olympics Registration Portal.
- We ask that everyone show good sportsmanship and follow the SOMN code of conduct