



One on one Assistants at Practice

Special Olympics Maryland – Montgomery County (SOMO)

One-on-One Assistants at Practice:

Our policy states that families must provide a person to assist at practice and or competition for athletes with behavior or attention issues. Coaches and other volunteers are not able, nor have they been trained to give one on one support. Typically, this support is provided by a family member, but we see an increase in trained 1:1 Direct Support Professionals (DSP). These trained DSPs have liability insurance through the service providers. They are not required to attend a SO Volunteer orientation if their only responsibility during practice is to manage behaviors for the one athlete under their charge. If they are interacting with other athletes, they will need to complete the volunteer process. All family members who take on a 1:1 role must attend a volunteer orientation if they have access to other athletes to be covered if a liability issue would arise.