



**Special Olympics**  
Massachusetts

"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." - Special Olympics Oath

## **Canton Special Olympics Soccer Program**

In September, Special Olympics MA plans to start its fifteenth **Soccer** season in Canton. This program is open to all students in grades 2-12. Soccer is part of the program created by the partnership of Canton Public Schools, Canton parents, Canton Recreational Dept. and Special Olympics Massachusetts to provide year-round athletic training and competition. In the winter we offer **Basketball** and in the spring we offer **Track & Field**.

Special Olympics Massachusetts provides quality, year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for individuals with cognitive delays and other types of intellectual impairment. The **Special Olympics Unified<sup>®</sup> Program**, which is operating in Canton, is a very inclusive program that matches intellectually impaired student-athletes with similar-age volunteers to train and compete together as teammates. These volunteers, called Unified Partners, can be other special needs students or non-special needs students. The Unified Program provides these volunteers with an opportunity to help their classmates, compete athletically, have fun and grow as individuals.

We are very fortunate that our great coach, **Jeff Erickson**, has again agreed to coach this year's soccer program. The training sessions for Soccer will be held on **Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 PM**. The location will be **Devol Field**. **The first session will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 18th**. There will be 10 practice sessions.

**There are no fees for this program.**

Please let me know if your student plans to enroll in the Soccer program by e-mailing me at [wrsilvia@aol.com](mailto:wrsilvia@aol.com) or calling 781-828-1466. Also tell other parents and students about this program and encourage them to join us.

Sincerely,  
Walter Silvia