

**2016 Chicago Fire Unified Soccer Coach
Job Description**

**Special
Olympics**
Illinois



Volunteer Position Title: Chicago Fire Unified Soccer Coach Head or Assistant

Location: Various

Date: Monthly practices, February 20 tryouts, July 13 – 17 (Dallas), and August 12-15 (Chicago)

Reports to: Special Olympics Illinois /Chicago Fire Staff

Position Summary

- Assist SOILL staff helping team members to engage their district administration and/or school board by presenting to them on Unified Soccer / Project UNIFY
- Assist SOILL staff in organizing a send-off rally for schools represented.
- Assist SOILL and Chicago Fire staff in coordinating the social media aspect of the Unified Soccer team including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter and the blog helping the athletes to share their experiences.
- Provide technical assistance and chaperoning support to the athletes from the time of selection to the team (February 2016) through post-Game evaluations (August 2016).
- Coaches are responsible for communication of all information to your assigned athletes, their family members and local coaches. In addition, coaches are also responsible for ensuring that all of their athletes are training with appropriate supervision.

Qualifications

- Completed Coach Application Form, Resume, and reference letter.
- Certification in coaching Unified Soccer
- Social Media knowledge and expertise
- Excellent communication and organizational skills
- Exceptional leadership abilities and a willingness to see the needs of the team above the needs of the individual
- An ability to work as a functional team member within the guidelines of the Team Illinois management structure
- The ability to work with athletes of all ability levels
- Experience working with and chaperoning individuals with intellectual disabilities
- Have an approved Class A Volunteer Form on file with Special Olympics Illinois
- Complete a national criminal background check
- Complete Protective Behaviors training
- Complete Concussion training
- Be in good physical condition

Essential Responsibilities (include but are not limited to the following):

Pre-games

- Work within the lines of communication set by Chicago Fire Unified Soccer management directors.
- Communicate regularly with coaches, local coaches, athletes and their families information regarding all aspects of team especially if it pertains to training and competition
- Ensure that all athletes are training and being trained appropriately.
- Work with athletes and partners to document the journey and training sessions in various social media aspects

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- Assist with compliance of registration and uniform procedures as needed
- Actively participate in monthly team trainings.
- Actively participate in all scheduled meetings and conference calls as required by Chicago Fire and SOILL staff.
- Act as a role model and conduct yourself within the Special Olympics Illinois Code of Conduct.
- Help all schools involved with coordination of leadership opportunities and send off activities.

During Game:

- Chaperone athletes/partners to ensure the appropriate supervision of all athletes 24 hours a day. This includes travel times as well as on site in Chicago / Dallas.
- To ensure athletes assemble on time for all activities (competitions, special events, etc.).
- To ensure that athletes have the opportunity to participate in activities outside of the sport. Additional entertainment will be planned.
- Act as a role model and conduct yourself within the Team Illinois Code of Conduct.
- Document the activities of the team in social media

Post Games:

- Participate in an evaluation process
- Help with any fulfillment of information for sponsors and additional funding.

Time Commitment

- Serve and fulfill responsibilities from the time of their appointment as a coach, through the completion of evaluation. Approx February – September 2016.
- Attend, plan and participate in monthly trainings held at Chicago Fire facilities.
- Travel to and from the game site with the Delegation
- Be available/on call 24 hours a day for the length of Game travel.
- Be able to put 2-3 hours per week from time of appointment through Post Games toward Games related tasks. This includes communicating with athletes, family members and local coaches.
- Actively participate in meetings and conference calls as required SOILL and Chicago Fire staff.