

# Lexie Cuppett

*Special  
Olympics  
Illinois*



**Coach - Athletics**  
**Hometown: Troy, IL**

## **1. How long have you been with Special Olympics?**

I have been a part of the Special Olympics for 12 years. I also worked with Project Unify and now Unified Champion Schools since the start of that too.

## **2. How has Special Olympics changed your life?**

I get to watch athletes develop and grow throughout the years. Oftentimes, I work to get athletes and families onboard right away from Young Athletes. I teach at the elementary level so it is wonderful to see the athletes as they get older and still attend practices, etc. I started with one athlete and it continued to grow over the years. I just wanted to create something that the students could be a part of and feel like a valued member to our agency!

## **3. What has been your biggest obstacle to overcome?**

The biggest obstacle I have overcome as a coach is making sure I have enough practices scheduled for athletes to continue to develop their skills through training. I work hard to get the word out about Special Olympics so athletes can be a part of the organization.

## **4. What makes you most proud?**

I love when the athletes are excited to be a part of the Special Olympics and just thrilled to be together, whether it be for a competition, event, or for fun!

## **5. What are some other accomplishments you are proud of?**

I love training and running marathons! I am a goal-oriented person and teach goals to my athletes also. I am not winning big races but it is all about getting to the start line for me. That is where the work is at!

## **6. What other interests or hobbies do you have?**

I am an avid runner and hiker so I love to explore my community through those activities. I also like to read about the history of the town I live in to understand where we came from.

## **7. Who do you admire most and why?**

I admire my mother-in-law, Sherry, so much! She has always worked hard and balanced a career with her family. She always encourages us and continues to do so with her grandchildren. Her heart and love are BIG!



**SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
USA GAMES  
ORLANDO 2022**

**8. What does attending USA Games mean to you?**

I am very excited to coach athletics at the USA Games for the first time and soak up all the excitement that all the athletes bring to all events.

**9. How are you preparing/training for USA Games?**

I am reading up on materials for the USA Games and continuing to coach my athletes for upcoming competitions.

**10. Have you been to a World Games or USA Games before?**

None

**11. Are you employed? If so, where at and what's your role?**

I am employed at the Triad CUSD #2 school district as a Special Education teacher.

**12. Are you a currently a student? If so, where and is it a Unified Champion School?**

No, I am not a student. We are a Unified Champion School at Silver Creek Elementary!

