



**Sport: Unified Soccer**  
**Hometown: Vernon Hills, IL**  
**Age: 18**

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

Chase has participated in Special Olympics since he was a sophomore in high school. He started with Libertyville/Vernon Hills Special Olympics back in Fall 2017.

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

Special Olympics gave me the opportunity to get involved with sports, to meet some really great people and friends, and to go and see some cool places. I feel like I have a family with my Special Olympics team.

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

I have had a hard time with staying motivated and pushing myself. Special Olympics makes me want to try harder and it gives me structure that I need with some good friends.

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

I am most proud of my family, my friends, my girlfriend, my teammates, and my dogs.

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

Even though I have an intellectual disability, I made the honor roll in high school. I have also received my letter in numerous Special Olympics sports including basketball, soccer, and floor hockey. I was also on prom court my senior year.

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

I am involved in Young Life Capernaum, which is a friends in faith based program where I go to hang out with my friends and learn about religion. We also get to go camping to places around the country and help out with various community projects.

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

I most admire my mom. She recently got divorced and my dad left us. My mom has taken over everything and taken care of me - she has always been there for me. She and my stepdad are the main ones who take care of me - they get me to practice and come out and watch my games. I don't know how my mom does everything for me but she does and I love her for it!



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

I feel very happy to have this opportunity. It makes me feel very honored that I was picked to represent my state in USA Games. I can't wait to go and play hard and win. I am also excited to meet other people from all over and from different states.

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

I continue to go to practice and play hard. I have also been working with my stepdad who played soccer before internationally - he has been training me and working with me to be a better goalie. I have also been trying to improve my eating by eating healthy meals with vegetables and limiting fats.

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

I have not been in any World or USA Games before. This is all very new and very, very exciting for me!

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

I currently attend transitions school where I learn about how to take care of myself as an adult and how to work at a job. I do work for part of the day through the programs.

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

As mentioned, I attend the Transitions program through the SEDOL program in Vernon Hills.

