



Don Conklin joined Special Olympics Connecticut in March of 2014 as Coordinator, Unified Sports® Fitness Club. In this role, he used his tactical and organizational skills to grow the Club from a few programs to thirty-five programs. Over the years, this program has touched more than nine hundred individuals with and without disabilities. Members who tracked the steps they walked throughout the years surpassed the one-million mile mark by April of 2019. The Unified Sports® Fitness Club model has been adopted by many other state and international programs.

Don and his wife Deborah have volunteered with Special Olympics Connecticut for over twenty-five years prior to him joining the staff. Though they have been a part of almost all sports activities offered, they have most often been seen managing outdoor track staging. They are both USA Track and Field Master level officials. Along with working Time Trials and Special Olympics Connecticut State Games, they have managed staging at every Special Olympics National Game and many World Games.

Don has over forty years of experience managing large operational units within the “for-profit” business world. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Education and a Master’s degree in Business Management.

Fun Facts:

Favorite sports memory: Watching Deborah finish any of her incredible fifteen marathons. The only running trophies in our home belong to her.

Sports hero: My wife, Deborah Conklin.

What does inclusion mean to you? Inclusion means meeting a couple of athletes almost every Sunday morning to buy them breakfast. They never remember to bring their wallets.