

**MISSION:**

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with an intellectual disability, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

**HISTORY:**

Founded in 1993

**PARTICIPANTS (per the 2015 census):**

Registered athletes and Unified partners:	25,302
Coaches:	2,672
Competitions:	8,000

**GOAL:**

Special Olympics the Netherlands vision is to establish Special Olympics as a leading, well-recognised movement, financially strong and capable of using its influence to change attitudes and access resources that make a positive impact on the lives of people with intellectual disabilities in the Netherlands

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:**

- 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Los Angeles, USA (64 athletes)
- 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games, PyeongChang, South Korea (21 athletes)
- 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Athens, Greece (86 athletes)
- 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Nagano, Japan (24 athletes)
- 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Shanghai, China (62 athlete)

**25 OFFICIAL SPORTS:**

Alpine Skiing	Aquatics	Athletics	Badminton
Basketball	Beach Volleyball	Bowling	Cross Country Skiing
Cycling	Equestrian	Football (Soccer)	Golf
Gymnastics (Artistic)	Handball	Hockey	Judo
Open Water Skiing	Roller Skating	Sailing	Short Track Speed Skating
Softball	Table Tennis	Tennis	Tennis
Volleyball			

**OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:**

Athlete Leadership, Young Athletes, Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR)

**EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

Mr. Ruud Verbunt, Board Chair

Mr. Erik de Winter

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Mr. Matthijs van Doorn, Athlete on the Board of Directors

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEDERLAND**

Special Olympics Netherlands

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