



**MISSION:**

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, 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 1990

**PARTICIPANTS (per the 2021 census):**

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners: **1,547**  
 Coaches: **696**  
 Competition opportunities: **25**

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:**

- 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games, UAE (290 athletes)
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Austria (23 athletes)
- 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Los Angeles, USA (55 athletes)
- 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Shanghai, China
- 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Idaho, USA
- 2003 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Dublin, Ireland
- 1995 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Connecticut, USA

**REGIONAL EVENTS:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> MENA Regional Games in Beirut, Lebanon, 2002
- 4<sup>th</sup> MENA Regional Games in Tunis, Tunisia, 2004
- 5<sup>th</sup> MENA Regional Games in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 2006
- 6<sup>th</sup> MENA Regional games in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, 2008
- 7<sup>th</sup> MENA Regional Games in Damascus, Syria, 2010
- 7<sup>th</sup> MENA Regional Games in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, 2018

**OFFICIAL SPORTS:**

Aquatics	Athletics	Badminton	Basketball	Bocce
Bowling	Dance	Equestrian	Floorball	Football (Soccer)
Powerlifting	Table Tennis	Cross Country Skiing	Figure Skating	Alpine Skiing
Snow Showing	Floor Hockey	Volleyball	Handball	Judo
Sailing	Kayaking	Cycling	Golf	Gymnastics
Roller skating	Tennis	MATP	Beach Volleyball	

**OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:**

Athlete Leadership - Unified Champion Schools - Healthy Athletes - Healthy Community - Young Athletes Program

**EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

HE. Shamma Suhail Faris Al Mazrui - Chairwoman  
 HE. Talal Al Hashemi - National Director

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

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