



**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 1979

**PARTICIPANTS (per the 2019 census):**

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners:	19,830
Coaches:	2,600
Competitions:	67

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:**

- 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Abu Dhabi, UAE (81 athletes and partners )
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Schladming, Austria (26 athletes)
- 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Los Angeles, USA (68 athletes)
- 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games, PyeongChang, South Korea (20 athletes)
- 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Athens, Greece (64 athletes)
- 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Nagano, Japan (15 athletes)
- 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Shanghai, China (68 athletes)

**OFFICIAL SPORTS:**

Alpine Skiing	Aquatics	Athletics	Badminton
Basketball	Bocce	Bowling	Cross Country Skiing
Cycling	Equestrian	Floor Hockey	Floorball
Football (Soccer)	Gymnastics (Artistic)	Gymnastics (Rhythmic)	Hockey
Judo	Kayaking	Netball	Rugby
Sailing	Snowboarding	Snowshoeing	Table Tennis
Tennis	Triathlon	Volleyball	

**OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:**

Athlete Leadership, Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), Motor Activities Training Program (MATP), Unified Sports, Unified Schools, Healthy Communities

**EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

**Mr. Piet Steel**, President

**Ms. Zehra Sayin**, CEO

**Ms. Micheline Van Hees**, Athlete on the Board of Directors

[steel@psi-europe.be](mailto:steel@psi-europe.be)

[zehra.sayin@specialolympics.be](mailto:zehra.sayin@specialolympics.be)

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS BELGIUM**

Av. Van der Meerschen 166b  
1150 Brussels, Belgium

**PHONE :** +32 2 779 93 13

**FAX:** +32 2 779 98 73

**WEBSITE :** [www.specialolympics.be](http://www.specialolympics.be)