

**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 1986

**PARTICIPANTS (per the 2022 census):**

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners: 4,551  
 Coaches: 600  
 Competitions: 92

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:**

- 2023 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Berlin, Germany (68 athletes and partners)
- 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Abu Dhabi, UAE (89 athletes and partners)
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Graz/Schladming, Austria (14 athletes)
- 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Los Angeles, USA (63 athletes)
- 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games, PyeongChang, South Korea (12 athletes)
- 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Athens, Greece (69 athletes)
- 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Shanghai, China (47 athletes)

**17 OFFICIAL SPORTS:**

Alpine Skiing	Athletics	Badminton	Bocce
Bowling	Cross Country Skiing	Cycling	Distance Running
Equestrian	Figure Skating	Floorball	Football (Soccer)
Golf	Gymnastics (Rhythmic)	Handball	Swimming
Table Tennis			

**OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:**

Athlete Leadership, Family Leadership, Unified Sports, Unified Schools, Youth Leadership, Healthy Athletes

**EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

Mr. John Peterson, President  
 Mr. Soren Jul Kristensen, National Director  
 Mr. Jacob Linding, Athlete on the Board

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