

**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 1978

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

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners:	8103
Coaches:	1,182
Competitions:	283

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:**

- 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Abu Dhabi, UAE (91 athletes)
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Schladming, Austria (26 athletes)
- 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Los Angeles, USA (85 athletes)
- 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea (14 athletes)
- 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens, Greece (123 athletes)
- 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Nagano, Japan (8 athletes)
- 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Shanghai, China (140 athletes)

**16 OFFICIAL SPORTS:**

Alpine Skiing	Aquatics	Athletics	Badminton
Basketball	Bocce	Bowling	Equestrian
Floorball	Football (Soccer)	Golf	Gymnastics (Artistic)
Gymnastics (Rhythmic)	Kayaking	Pitch & Putt Golf	Table Tennis

**OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:**

Athlete Leadership, Family Support Network (FSN), Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), Motor Activities Training Program (MATP), Young Athletes, Healthy Communities

**EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

**Mr. Brendan Whelan**, Board Chair

**Mr. Matt English**, CEO

**Ms. Jo McDaid**, Director

**Ms. Claire Adams**, Athlete on the Board of Directors

[matt.english@specialolympics.ie](mailto:matt.english@specialolympics.ie)

[jo.mcdaid@specialolympics.ie](mailto:jo.mcdaid@specialolympics.ie)

[info@specialolympics.ie](mailto:info@specialolympics.ie)

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS IRELAND**

National Sports Campus

Snugborough Road, Blanchardstown

Dublin 15, Ireland

**PHONE:** +353 1 882 39 72

**FAX:** +353 1 868 82 50

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