

**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 2023 census):

Registered athletes and Unified partners:	26,505
Coaches:	3,543
Competitions:	365

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:

- 2023 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Berlin, Germany (60 athletes and partners)
- 2019 Special Olympics, World Summer Games, Abu Dhabi, (65 athletes and partners)
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Graz-schladming-Ramsau, Austria (25 athletes)
- 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)

OFFICIAL SPORTS:

Alpine Skiing	Athletics	Badminton	Basketball
Bocce	Bowling	Cross Country Skiing	Cycling
Dance	Equestrian	Football (Soccer)	Golf
Gymnastics (Artistic)	Handball	Field Hockey	Judo
Korfbal	Open Water Swimming	Roller Skating	Sailing
Short Track	Snowboarding	Softball	Swimming
Table Tennis	Tennis	Volleyball	Walking

OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:

Athlete Leadership, Young Athletes, Healthy Athletes, Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), Unified Sports, MATP, Family Health Forum

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

Mr. Erik de Winter, Board Chair

Mr. Matthijs van Doorn, Chair Athlete Committee

Ms. Rachel Richardson, National Director

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