



**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 1983

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

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners: 7,852  
 Coaches: 1002  
 Competitions: 150

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:**

- 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Abu Dhabi/UAE (31 athletes and partners)
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Graz/Schladming, Austria (35 athletes)
- 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Los Angeles, USA (24 athletes)
- 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games, PyeongChang, South Korea (28 athletes)
- 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Athens, Greece (43 athletes)
- 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Nagano, Japan (17 athletes)
- 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Shanghai, China (14 athletes)

**16 OFFICIAL SPORTS:**

Alpine Skiing	Athletics	Badminton	Basketball
Bocce	Bowling	Cheerleading	Cross Country Skiing
Cycling	Dance	Equestrian	Floorball
Football (Soccer)	Futsal	Golf	Gymnastics (Artistic)
Gymnastics (Rhythmic)	Handball	Judo	Kayaking
Powerlifting	Short Track Speed Skating	Snowshoeing	Snowboarding
Swimming	Table Tennis	Tennis	Volleyball

**OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS: Athlete Leadership, Family Leadership, Unified Sports**

**EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

Ms. Vibecke Sorensen, President  
 Ms. Mette M. Berg, National Director

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