



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 1972

PARTICIPANTS (as of 2022 Year End):

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners: 58,461
 Coaches: 2,274
 Competitions: 236

SUPPORT:

Recipient of government, corporate and individual funding

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:

- 2023 Special Olympics World Games, Berlin, Germany
- 2019 Special Olympics World Games, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Schladming, Austria
- 2015 Special Olympics World Games, Los Angeles, USA
- 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games, PyeongChang, South Korea
- 2011 Special Olympics World Games, Athens, Greece

24 SPORTS:

Alpine Skiing	Aquatics (Swimming)	Athletics	Basketball
Bocce	Bowling	Cheerleading	Cycling
Equestrian	Figure Skating	Flag Football	Golf
Gymnastics (Artistic and Rhythmic)	Open Water Swim	Powerlifting	Roller Skating
Soccer	Softball	Speed Skating	Stand Up Paddle
Surfing	Tennis	Triathlon	Volleyball

OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:

Athlete Leadership, Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Young Athletes, Little ELITES, Rising Stars, Motor Activity Training Program, Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools®, Special Olympics Unified Sports®, and Law Enforcement Torch Run

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

Mr. Emery A. Gainey, Retired Chief of Staff, Florida Attorney General's Office, Board Chair
Ms. Sherry Wheelock, President and CEO, sherrywheelock@sofl.org
Mr. Tim Rabbu, Athlete Representative on the Board of Directors

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