

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 1968

PARTICIPANTS (per the 2023 census):

Registered athletes and Unified partners: 7,200
Coaches: 883
Competitions: 52
Volunteers: 11,052

Support:

Recipient of government, foundation, corporate and individual funding

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:

- 2023 Special Olympics World Games in Berlin, Germany
- 2019 Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- 2015 Special Olympics World Games in Las Angeles, California

10 OFFICIAL SPORTS:

Athletics	Basketball	Bocce	Bowling
Flag Football	Football (Soccer)	Golf	Powerlifting
Softball	Swimming		

OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:

Athlete Leadership, Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Young Athletes Program, Holoholo Walking Program, Special Olympics Toastmasters Club, Special Olympics Unified Sports®, and Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR)

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

Mr. Mike Betz, Board Chair

Mr. Dan Epstein, President and CEO/National Director

depstein@sohawaii.org

Mr. Ian Kahalewai, Athlete Representative on the Board of Directors

SPECIAL OLYMPICS PROGRAM

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www.specialolympics.org July-24