



**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 1971

**PARTICIPANTS (per the 2023 census):**

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners:	4,362
Coaches:	457
Competitions:	16
Volunteers:	573

**SUPPORT:**

Recipient of 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, Graz, 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
- Host of the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Boise Idaho, USA

**10 OFFICIAL SPORTS:**

Alpine Skiing	Athletics	Basketball	Bocce
Bowling	Cheerleading	Cycling	Snowshoeing
Softball	Swimming		

**OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:**

Athlete Leadership, Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Young Athletes™, Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools®, Special Olympics Unified Sports®, and Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), Special Olympics eSports.

**EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

**Ms. Katie Schimmelpfennig**, Board Chair  
**Ms. Kristi Kraft**, President and CEO/National Director  
**Ms. Emily Fuller**, Athlete Representative on the Board of Directors

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