

**MISSION:**

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with a intellectual disabilities, 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:	17,617
Coaches:	11,313
Competitions:	216
Volunteers:	27,225

SUPPORT:

Recipient of government, corporate and individual funding

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:

- 2023 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Berlin, Germany
- 2022 Special Olympics USA Games, Orlando, Florida, USA
- 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Abu Dhabi
- 2018 Special Olympics USA Games, Seattle, Washington, USA
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Austria
- 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Los Angeles, USA
- 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games, PyeongChang, South Korea
- 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Athens, Greece

18 OFFICIAL SPORTS:

Alpine Skiing	Athletics	Basketball	Bocce
Bowling	Equestrian	Flag Football	Floor Hockey
Football (Soccer)	Golf	Gymnastics, Artistic	Gymnastic, Rhythmic
Powerlifting	Snowshoeing	Softball	Swimming
Tennis	Volleyball		

OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:

Athlete Leadership, Coach & Wellness, Family Leadership, Health Education & Screening, Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), Motor Activities, Training Program (MATP), Traditional Sports, Unified Champion Schools, Unified Sports, Young Athletes, Fitness, Special Olympics eSports

EXECUTIVE TEAM:

Ms. Kathy Schniedwind, Board Chair

Mr. Peter Beale-DelVecchio President and CEO

Ms. Colleen Costello, Athlete Leader and Board Member

Mr. Alexander Huegen, Athlete Leader and Board Member

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SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS

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