

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 1970

PARTICIPANTS (per the 2023 census):

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners: 54,400
 Coaches: 6,000
 Competitions and competitive events: 2,042

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, 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

22 OFFICIAL SPORTS:

Alpine Skiing	Aquatics (Swimming)	Athletics	Basketball
Bocce	Bowling	Cross Country Running	Cycling
Equestrian	Figure Skating	Floor Hockey	Golf
Gymnastics	Nordic Skiing	Powerlifting	Roller Skating
Snowboarding	Snowshoeing	Soccer	Softball
Tennis	Volleyball		

OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:

Athlete Leadership, Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Young Athletes, Special Olympics Unified Sports®, Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), Motor Activities Training Program (MATP)

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

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