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 2021 census):
Athletes: 13,151
Coaches: 1,703
Competitions: 334

SUPPORT:
Recipient of government, corporate and individual funding

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:
- 2019 Special Olympics World Games, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Graz, Austria
- 2017 World Winter Games, Graz, Schladming and Ramsau, Austria
- 2015 Special Olympic World Games, Los Angeles, USA
- 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games, PyeongChang, South Korea
- 2011 Special Olympics World Games, Athens, Greece

23 OFFICIAL AND EMERGING SPORTS*:

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<tr>
<th>Alpine Skiing</th>
<th>Aquatics (Swimming)</th>
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<td>Golf</td>
<td>Gymnastics (Artistic)</td>
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<td>Tennis</td>
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OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:
Athlete Leadership, Healthy Communities, Healthy Athletes, Young Athletes, Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools®, Special Olympics Unified Sports®, and Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR).

EXECUTIVE STAFF:
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