



**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 1975

**PARTICIPANTS (per the 2022 census):**

Registered Athletes and Unified Partners: 24,792  
 Coaches: 554  
 Competitions: 25

**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
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Schladming, 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

**23 OFFICIAL SPORTS:**

Alpine Skiing	Athletics	Basketball	Bocce
Bowling	Cross Country Skiing	Cycling	Figure Skating
Flag Football	Floor Hockey	Football (Soccer)	Golf
Gymnastics	Nordic Skiing	Open Water Swimming	Powerlifting
Roller Skating	Sailing	Short Track Speed Skating	Softball
Swimming	Tennis	Volleyball	

**OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:**

Athlete Leadership, Global Messengers, Healthy Athletes, Young Athletes, Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools®, Special Olympics Unified Sports®, Polar Plunge, Plane Pull and Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR)

**EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

**Dr. Chester H. Sharps**, Board Chair

**Mr. Rick Jeffrey**, President

[rjeffrey@specialolympicsva.org](mailto:rjeffrey@specialolympicsva.org) / [info@specialolympicsva.org](mailto:info@specialolympicsva.org)

**Ms. Chelsea Gaughran**, Athlete Representative on the Board of Directors

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS VIRGINIA**

3212 Skipwith Road  
 Suite 100  
 Richmond VA, USA, 23294

**PHONE:** 804.346.5544

**FAX:** 804.346.9633

**WEBSITE:** [www.specialolympicsva.org](http://www.specialolympicsva.org)

[www.specialolympics.org](http://www.specialolympics.org)