Special Olympics South Africa

SOUTH AFRICA FACT SHEET

Special Olympics South Africa | Africa

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.

PARTICIPATION (PER THE 2025 CENSUS):

Registered Athletes/Unified Partners:	57,804
Coaches:	4,916
Competitions in 2025:	372

SPORTS (PER THE 2025 CENSUS):

Athletics	Badminton	Basketball
Bocce	Bowling	Equestrian
Figure Skating	Floor Hockey	Football (Soccer)
Golf	Netball	Open Water Swimming
Swimming	Table Tennis	Volleyball

OTHER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES:

- Athlete Leadership
- Healthy Athletes
- Motor Activities Training Program (MATP)
- Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools®
- Special Olympics Unified Sports®
- Young Athletes

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:

- 2025 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Turin, Italy
- 2023 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Berlin, Germany
- 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Graz & Schladming, 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
- 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Boise, USA
- 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Shanghai, China
- 2005 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Nagano, Japan
- 2003 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Dublin, Ireland
- 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Anchorage, USA
- 1999 Special Olympics World Summer Games, North Carolina, USA

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

Mr. Phillip Mphalele
Sports Director

Dr. Mathews Phosa
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Nontsasa Sangotsha

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SPECIAL OLYMPICS SOUTH AFRICA

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