IRAQ FACT SHEET

Special Olympics Iraq | Middle East/North 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.

HISTORY:

Founded in 2000

PARTICIPATION (PER THE 2025 CENSUS):

Registered Athletes/Unified Partners:	7,054
Coaches:	509
Competitions in 2025:	137

SPORTS (PER THE 2025 CENSUS):

Athletics	Badminton	Basketball
Beach Volleyball	Bocce	Bowling
Cross Country Skiing	Cycling	Floorball
Football (Soccer)	Gymnastics, Artistic	Gymnastics, Rhythmic
Handball	Judo	Power Lifting
Roller Skating	Snowshoeing	Swimming
Table Tennis	Tennis	Volleyball

OTHER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES:

- Athlete Leadership
- Healthy Athletes
- Motor Activities Training Program (MATP)
- 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
- 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Shanghai, China
- 2005 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Nagano, Japan
- 2003 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Dublin, Ireland

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

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SPECIAL OLYMPICS IRAQ

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