PALESTINE FACT SHEET

Special Olympics Palestine | 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 1995

PARTICIPATION (PER THE 2025 CENSUS):

Registered Athletes/Unified Partners:	5,553
Coaches:	501
Competitions in 2025:	82

SPORTS (PER THE 2025 CENSUS):

Athletics	Badminton	Basketball
Bocce	Cycling	Equestrian
Fitness	Football (Soccer)	Futsal
Handball	Power Lifting	Snowshoeing
Swimming	Table Tennis	Triathlon
Volleyball		

OTHER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES:

- Athlete Leadership
- Healthy Athletes
- 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
- 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Shanghai, China
- 2003 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Dublin, Ireland
- 1999 Special Olympics World Summer Games, North Carolina, USA

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