Special Olympics North Carolina

NORTH CAROLINA FACT SHEET

Special Olympics North Carolina | North America

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 1971

PARTICIPATION (PER THE 2025 CENSUS):

Registered Athletes/Unified Partners:	49,996
Coaches:	1,379
Competitions in 2025:	641

SPORTS (PER THE 2025 CENSUS):

Alpine Skiing	Athletics	Basketball
Bocce	Bowling	Cheerleading
Cycling	Equestrian	Figure Skating
Fitness	Football (Soccer)	Golf
Gymnastics, Artistic	Power Lifting	Roller Skating
Snowboarding	Softball	Swimming
Tennis	Volleyball	

OTHER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES:

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

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS (TEAM USA):

- 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:

SportsDirector Nathan Brookins
Vice President of Sports

Mr. Keith Fishburne
President/CEO

Mr. Phil Gruber
Board Chair

Kelly Vaughn

SPECIAL OLYMPICS NORTH CAROLINA

2200 Gateway Centre Boulevard
Suite 201
Morrisville, NC 27560
United States

Phone: 919-719-7662
Fax: 919-719-7663
Website: www.sonc.net