



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FACT SHEET

Special Olympics Southern California | 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 1969

PARTICIPATION (PER THE 2025 CENSUS):

Registered Athletes/Unified Partners:	11,392
Coaches:	1,255
Competitions in 2025:	63

SPORTS (PER THE 2025 CENSUS):

Athletics	Basketball	Bocce
Bowling	Flag Football	Floorball
Football (Soccer)	Golf	Softball
Swimming	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 (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:

Ashton Edwards

VP, Programs Melissa Erdmann

Melissa Erdmann

Ms. Kelly Pond

President & CEO

Janet Rose

Vice President, CFO

Mr. Richard Van Kirk

New in 2025 Board Chair

SPECIAL OLYMPICS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

1600 Forbes Way Suite 200
Long Beach, CA 90810
United States

Phone: 562.502.1100

Fax: 562.502.1088

Website: sosc.org