

Our Mission

The Mission of Special Olympics Florida is to provide year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic type sports for persons eight years of age and older with intellectual disabilities, giving them the opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics Florida athletes, and the community.

History

The concept of Special Olympics began in the early 1960s when Eunice Kennedy Shriver started a day camp in her own backyard for people with intellectual disabilities. In 1968, Mrs. Shriver organized the first International Special Olympics Games in Chicago. In 1972, Special Olympics Florida was established.

Today, Special Olympics Inc. is the world's largest provider of fitness training, education and athletic competition - coupled with social, life, and leadership skill development opportunities - for children and adults with intellectual disabilities or a similar developmental disability.

With over 30,000 competitions around the world, with training taking place every day, with family leaders, athlete leaders and volunteers extending our message every day, Special Olympics is no longer just an event. We are a movement, inviting the world not just to attend Games but to think, feel, and act differently about everything. Come help create a world of acceptance and inclusion for all.



Special Olympics
Florida
Seminole County

Compete • Volunteer • Coach • Donate
Become a "Fan"

Website:

www.SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org

Hotline:

407-263-8043

Mailing Address:

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Longwood, FL 32752-0742



Special Olympics
Florida
Seminole County



Be a fan™

SPORTS SEASONS

Fall Classic

Bowling, Softball, Powerlifting,
Rollerskating, Gymnastics

Basketball Championship

Basketball

Equestrian Championship

Equestrian (Horseback Riding)

Summer Games

Athletics (Track & Field), Cycling,
Volleyball, Tennis, Bocce, Soccer

Golf Championship

Golf

Aquatics Championship

Aquatics (Swimming)

FUNDING

Special Olympics Seminole County (SOSC) is a non-for-profit organization that is funded primarily through individual and corporate contributions, as well as yearly fundraisers.

SPONSORS

SOSC relies greatly on assistance from Sponsors. We are always in need of Sponsors and donations to cover numerous expenses including: equipment, uniforms, transportation, and more! In addition to financial help, Sponsors can offer safe and productive training facilities to our athletes.

A little bit can go a LONG way!

ATHLETES

Special Olympics Seminole County welcomes any new athletes to our program. No matter what your ability level or interests, there is a sport for you. Each athlete participates in eight weeks of training, conducted by dedicated volunteer coaches, prior to three levels of competition: County Games, Area Games & States Games. The best part is that everything is absolutely **FREE!** To be eligible for Special Olympics, an individual must be at least 8 years old to compete, but can train at 6. They must be identified by an agency or professional as having an intellectual disability and complete an Athlete Registration Packet.

***“Let Me Win. But If I Cannot Win,
Let Me Be Brave In The Attempt”***

ATHLETE INPUT COUNCIL

The Athlete Input Council meets once a month and allows athletes to explore many new leadership opportunities. Many other Athlete Leadership Programs exist, such as Global Messengers, a program designed to train athletes in public speaking.

FAMILIES

Sometimes having a family member with intellectual disabilities can be very isolating, but meeting other families, sharing experiences, and learning from one another can help change that. Special Olympics provides hope, knowledge, and a sense of community that many families seek. Take advantage of the opportunities Special Olympics offers and become more involved as a coach, assistant coach, volunteer, unified partner or just attend practices and competitions to cheer on athletes, share the joy, and meet others.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers may serve as often as desired by becoming involved as an assistant coach, or showing up on game day to help out. Other volunteers chose to share their expertise by joining the County Management Team or choose to organize or help with special fund-raising events. As a Special Olympics Volunteer, you can meet people, share ideas, master skills, and make a difference.

COACHES

SOSC needs dedicated Volunteer Coaches, both adults and teens. Whether you are an experienced coach or not, we provide the Special Olympics training you need to be successful. As a Volunteer Coach, you become a role model, friend, and a character builder. You help athletes discover their physical skills, self worth, human courage and capacity to grow...
You are providing training for life!

SCHOOLS

Young people are capable of conveying important information and helping spread the message of the Special Olympics movement. The Special Olympics Schools Youth Initiative is committed to increasing the participation of non-intellectually challenged youth by establishing school-based Special Olympics Programs and activities.

UNIFIED PARTNERS

Unified Partners act as peers and compete along side our athletes on a team. As a Unified Partner, you are helping bridge the gap between our athletes and the non-intellectually challenged community.