

# Artistic Gymnastics

**Special Olympics**  
Ireland



**About Artistic Gymnastics:** Artistic gymnastics is a discipline of gymnastics where gymnasts perform short routines (ranging from approximately 30 to 90 seconds) on different apparatus. Athletes can compete in their selection of events within these disciplines at the appropriate level to their ability. Female artistic events include floor, tumbling, vault, beam, uneven bars. Male artistic events include floor, tumbling, vault, pommel horse, rings, parallel bars, high bar.

**Established:** Special Olympics Ireland first offered gymnastics in the early 80's.

**Differences of Special Olympics Artistic Gymnastics:** At the program level, an artistic gymnast may compete on two different levels, with one-level difference between.

## By The Numbers:

- In 2014, 264 Special Olympics Ireland athletes participating in Gymnastics
- East Asia has the highest number of Gymnastic athletes at 12,035

## Associations/Federations/Supporters:

Gymnastics Ireland <http://www.gymnasticsireland.com/>

British Amateur Gymnastics Association <http://www.british-gymnastics.org/>

Federation International de Gymnastics (FIG) <http://www.fig-gymnastics.com/site/>

## Divisioning at Special Olympics:

Athletes in every sport and event are grouped by age, gender, and ability, giving everyone a reasonable chance to win. At Special Olympics there are no World Records because each athlete, whether in the fastest or the slowest division is valued and recognized equally. In every division, all athletes receive an award, from gold, silver, and bronze medals, to fourth through eighth place ribbons. This idea of equal ability groupings is the foundation for competition in Special Olympics and can be witnessed at all events, whether it's athletics, aquatics, table tennis, football, skiing, or gymnastics. All athletes are given an equal chance to participate, perform, and be recognized for doing their best by their teammates, family, friends, and fans."

[www.specialolympics.ie](http://www.specialolympics.ie)