

2016 ANNUAL REVIEW

*Special
Olympics
Ireland*



TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH SPORT



2016 WAS ANOTHER LANDMARK YEAR FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS IRELAND



2016 was an incredible year with many sporting and organisational highlights. Our five regions held numerous Area and Regional Advancement Competitions, as athletes aim to progress through the four-year cycle for the opportunity to compete in the Special Olympics Ireland Games in Dublin in June 2018.

The Ireland Winter Games took place during April in Loughlinstown and Kiltarnan and Team Ireland were selected to represent their country at the World Winter Games in Austria in March 2017.

26 tutors completed their training in the first phase of developing a Young Athletes' Programme for 4 – 7 year olds and a Club Recognition Programme was initiated to encourage and enhance good governance in clubs.

I would like to sincerely thank our various stakeholders who continue to both sustain and develop the programme offered to our many athletes. Our volunteers' unrelenting dedication is really inspiring and has such a positive impact on so many lives. I would like to thank our committed and skilled staff and our patrons who are always so supportive.

Our many funding partners and sponsors continue to demonstrate wonderful loyalty and support. It is not possible to mention all here but a special thanks must go to Sport Ireland and Sport NI, to our long-term partner, Gala Retail, Johnson & Johnson Group, the JP McManus Benevolent Fund and the Iris O'Brien Foundation for their year-on-year support and commitment to Special Olympics.

At the end of 2016, Special Olympics had 352 affiliated clubs. The dedication of the club volunteers, coaches, family members and athletes is reflected in the ever-growing rise in standards and achievements of all the athletes who are increasingly developing a broad range of skills and improved well-being.

2016 marked two other major milestones. A new and updated constitution was approved by the members at a specially convened Extraordinary General Meeting on 26th November. Special Olympics Ireland, along with Leinster and Eastern Region, took up residence in the Sport Ireland National Sports Campus at Blanchardstown, the new premises being officially opened by Minister Patrick O'Donovan on 10th November.

On so many levels, 2016 has been another brilliant year and the organisation is well-placed to continue upwards and onwards as we work towards delivering on our 2020 Strategy adopted earlier in the year.


Terry Buckley
Chairman

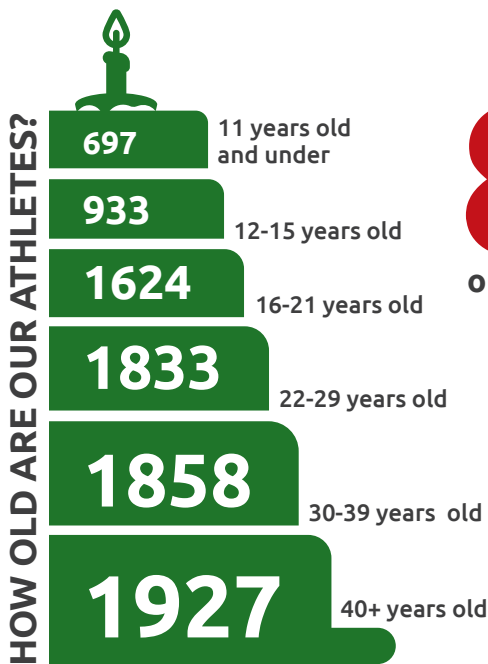
Special Olympics Ireland officially opened by Minister of State for Tourism and Sport Patrick O'Donovan T.D. Thursday 10th November 2016




IT'S ALL ABOUT SPORT

The mission of Special Olympics Ireland is "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 a sharing of gifts, skills and friendships with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community."

615 NEW ATHLETES



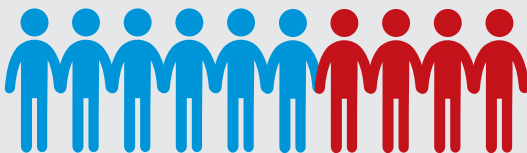
84%



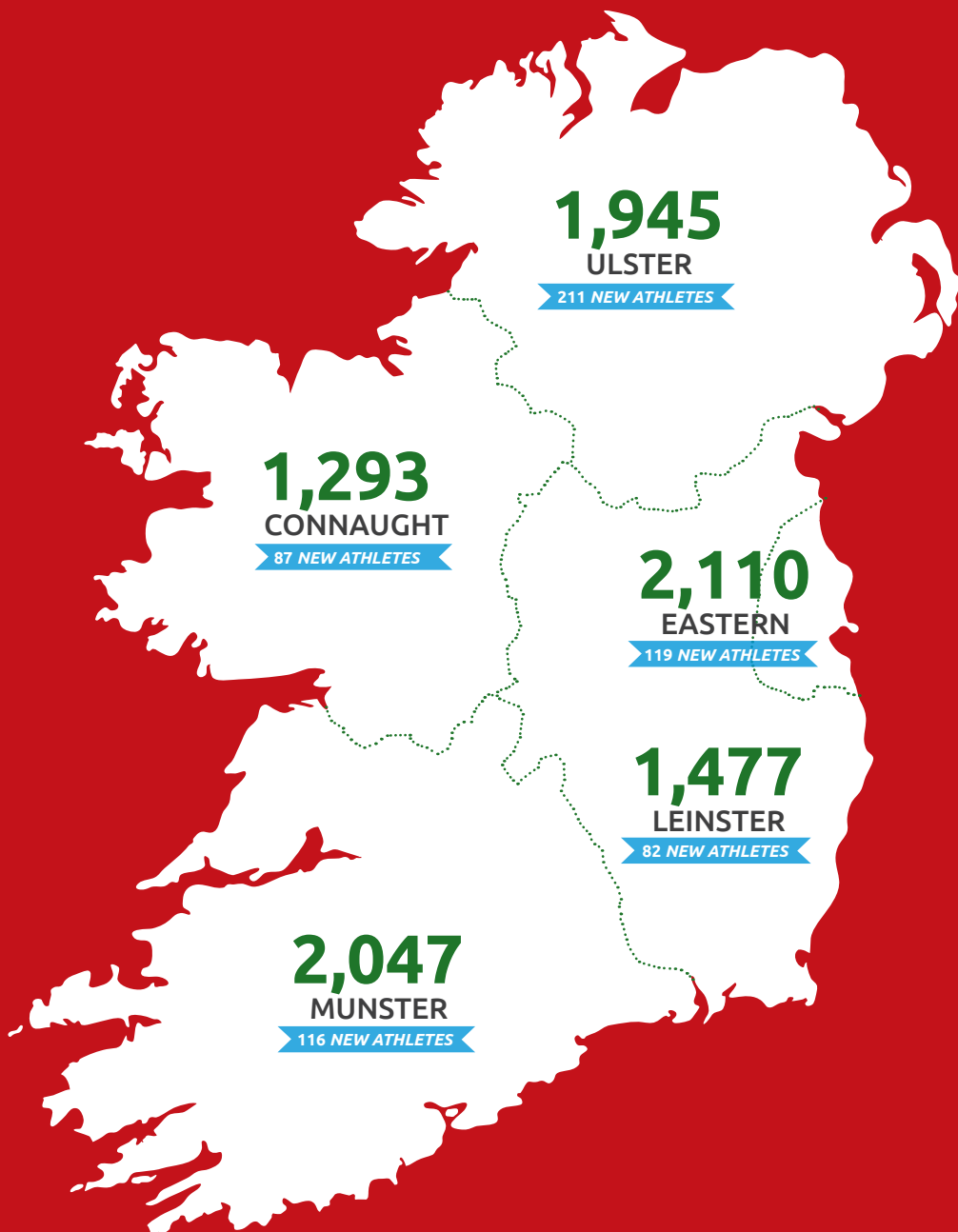
of athletes have at least one registered family member



YEAR-ROUND sports training and athletic competition

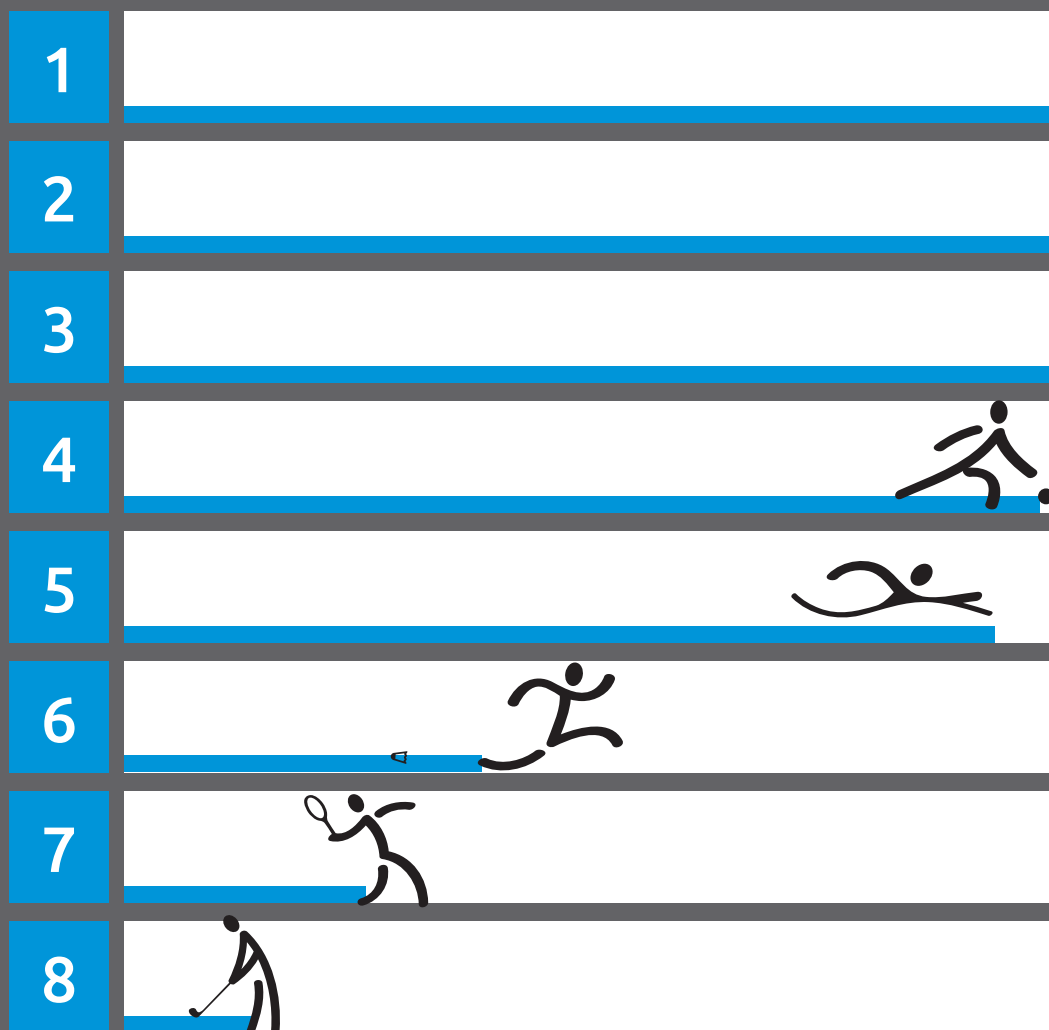


ATHLETES IN THE PROGRAMME



WE HAVE 8 SPORTS LEAGUES

In addition to the planned competition which takes place throughout the programme, sports leagues have also been established. Managed by teams of volunteers, these leagues provide additional opportunities for athletes to grow and develop their skills in a competitive environment.





704 **bowling**
athletes



581 **football**
athletes



521 **basketball**
athletes



369 **bocce**
athletes



351 **aquatics**
athletes

129 **athletics**
athletes

78 **badminton**
athletes

42 **golf**
athletes

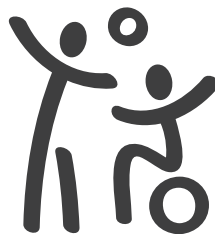
CONSTANTLY DEVELOPING, CONSTANTLY IMPROVING

A high quality coach education programme is paramount to Special Olympics Ireland. Special Olympics athletes, similar to any athlete, deserve to be coached by qualified coaches in their chosen sport. Minimum standards are established for coaches throughout the programme and coaches are encouraged to maintain their coaching levels as outlined by the relevant National Governing Body of Sport.



“There are *no shortcuts* to life's greatest achievements”

23 athletes attended *Code of Ethics and Good Practice training*





**Training courses
provided in
2016**

- ✓ Special Olympics Induction
- ✓ Intellectual Disability Education
- ✓ Safeguarding
- ✓ Health Promotion
- ✓ Club Governance
- ✓ Competition and Event Management
- ✓ Athlete Mentoring
- ✓ Code of Ethics and Good Practice Workshop for Athletes

2,127
training opportunities
provided to volunteers
and athletes



COMMITTED TO GOOD GOVERNANCE PRACTICES



We are committed to

- ✓ Governance Code for the Community, Voluntary and Charitable Sectors
- ✓ Standards in Fundraising Practice
- ✓ Anti-Doping Compliance Guidelines
- ✓ Code of Ethics
- ✓ Access NI Code of Practice



Annual audited accounts
can be found on:
specialolympics.ie

SUPPORTING CLUBS IN THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

"2016 was as rewarding as any year that has gone before for Special Olympics Ireland. Athletes demonstrated courage, experienced joy and shared long lasting friendships every day. What is most remarkable though, is just how far Special Olympics reaches to transform lives through sport. The quality of life was improved for athletes and their families across the whole island. At that foundation, are the clubs." (Matt English CEO)

224 
community based clubs

32 
special schools

98 
service providers

352
total clubs

145  clubs engaged in health and wellbeing Promotion




Focus on health and wellbeing

- ✓ Health and wellbeing initiatives make health information more accessible
- ✓ We want to provide athletes with the tools and knowledge to make healthier choices for everyday health and wellbeing
- ✓ Empowering athletes to stay healthy and perform to the best of their ability



1,088
new volunteers recruited,
vetted and trained in 2016



7,147
volunteers active in 2016

**“If you go out and make
some good things happen,
you will fill the world with hope,
you will fill yourself with hope”**

- BARACK OBAMA -

Age of active volunteers



VOLUNTEERS ARE VITAL

Special Olympics Ireland would not exist today without the time, energy, commitment and enthusiasm of volunteers. In 2016, in communities all over the island of Ireland, thousands of individuals took time from their busy schedules to help change the lives of people with intellectual disabilities.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

€1,425,100

Sports Programmes
30%

€471,981

Games and Events
10%

€1,176,013

Volunteer Training and Support
25%

€176,455

Special Projects
4%

€844,954

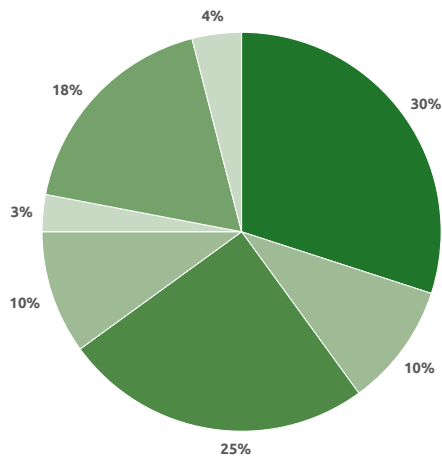
Fundraising and Sponsorship
18%

€138,820

Advocacy
3%

€454,129

Governance
10%



It's all about sport

The first Ireland Winter Games comprising the sports of floorball and alpine skiing was held on April 9th in Kiltarnan and Loughlinstown. The Law Enforcement Torch Run formed part of the Opening Ceremony. The event was supported by a team of 68 volunteers.

Following those Games, athlete selections for two floorball teams and six athletes in alpine skiing took place for Team Ireland to participate in the 2017 World Winter Games in Austria.



Alpine Skiing



Floorball

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

CORE FUNDING

received from governments in both jurisdictions



Successful partnerships were enjoyed with:



- ✓ Dept of Social Protection/CE Scheme
- ✓ eir
- ✓ Gala Retail
- ✓ Health Service Executive
- ✓ Iris O'Brien Foundation
- ✓ Johnson & Johnson
- ✓ JP McManus Benevolent Fund
- ✓ Pobal

Thank you!

€600K

was raised through our 2016 Annual Collection Day

Many fundraising events took place across the country:

- ✓ Golf Classics
 - ✓ Cops 'N Donuts
 - ✓ Polar Plunge
 - ✓ 5 Peaks Challenge
 - ✓ Official Charity Partner Status For Events
- Supported by the Law Enforcement Torch Run

OUR SUPPORTERS ARE COMMITTED AND LOYAL

It is through the continued kindness of our volunteers and donors that we are aided in our mission of growing and developing our programme, so that the needs of all our athletes, and the athletes of the future, continue to be met. Your effort ensures that we can continue to provide the services our athletes deserve.



Facebook



45,464
likes in 2016



397,891
Facebook video Views in 2016

€6.12Million 

Article Value (press and broadcast) total in 2016

Source: Kantar

Our top tweet

"It's Friday ! It's #CollectionDay!
Show your support by texting SPECIAL to 50300.
9,100 Irish athletes benefit!"



71,731 impressions
683 engagements

173 likes
179 retweets

12,938
🐦 followers

1,240
📷 followers

41,100
watch time minutes
on youtube

TELLING OUR STORY

Storytelling is a hugely important tool for Special Olympics as it helps us promote the many great achievements of our athletes, volunteers and supporters. Special Olympics Ireland embraces all forms of media. We strive to utilise all available platforms, including traditional media and the ever expanding digital spectrum, to help spread Special Olympics' message.

***“Let me win,
but if I cannot win,
let me be brave in
the attempt”***

- ATHLETE'S OATH -

***Special
Olympics
Ireland***



Special Olympics
Ireland



2020 STRATEGY

To drive and support a quality year-round sports programme that is embedded in local communities, resourced by vibrant and strong leaders and offers health and well-being opportunities to athletes with an intellectual disability from four years of age upwards.

www.specialolympics.ie

Special Olympics Ireland
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Dublin 15

Company Number: 228545 - Charity Numbers: 20016883 / CHY 7556