

2017 SPECIAL OLYMPICS NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FACT SHEET

Data Source: 2016 Special Olympics Global Census | Revised 3/5/17



Special Olympics Northern California

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What is Special Olympics Northern California (SONC)?

SONC is dedicated to enriching the lives of children and adults with intellectual disabilities through sports, education and athlete health. The 501(c)3 nonprofit organization offers free year-round training and competition programs for 21,250 athletes who compete in a combined 236 competitions in 14 sports. In addition, SONC is increasing its presence in schools through the Schools Partnership Program to promote inclusion at an early age; and is encouraging the growth of Unified Sports®, bringing together athletes with and without intellectual disabilities to play as teammates. Along with athletic programs and work in the classroom, SONC is committed to improving the overall health and well-being of individuals with intellectual disabilities through Healthy Athletes events, offering screenings and services free of charge.

Where does Special Olympics Northern California serve?

SONC offers community sports in 44 program areas, ranging from the northern edge of the state down through Monterey County and eastward. SONC also supports students in 433 schools through Unified Sports® and the Schools Partnership Program.

Who does Special Olympics Northern California serve?

SONC provides free sports training and competitions, health services and education programs to individuals with intellectual disabilities ages 2 and up. The Young Athletes Program (YAP) provides opportunities and resources for athletes ages 2-7 and the Community Sports Program serves athletes 8 and older. While a majority of athletes in SONC are youth, 31 percent are adults 22 and older.

Key Numbers:

- Total Athletes: 21,250
- Total Students: 45,600
- Total Unified Sports Partners: 2,556
- Volunteer Coaches: 6,146
- Event Volunteers: 14,343

How does Special Olympics Northern California operate?

SONC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that relies on the support of funding from individuals, organizations, corporations, government and foundations. SONC hosts a variety of fundraising events throughout the year, including the Polar Plunge and Law Enforcement Torch Run®, and plays an active role to build mutually beneficial relationships with key donors, sponsors and members of the community. SONC also depends on the commitment of 20,490 volunteers to continue to provide sports and services in all areas.

Community Sports Offered:

Track & Field; Basketball; Soccer; Bowling; Softball; Swimming; Bocce; Golf; Floor Hockey; Tennis; Volleyball; Flag Football; Cross-County and Alpine Skiing (in select counties)

Special Olympics Oath*: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

**Special Olympics athletes recite this oath before every competition.*

Tagline: Preparing for Life Through Sports

Incorporation: Special Olympics Northern California & Nevada is a tax exempt corporation under Section 501(C)3 of the IRC. SONC was incorporated in 1995 and Special Olympics Nevada became part of the organization in 2001. Prior to 1995, SONC had operated in conjunction with the Southern California Program since the early 1970s.

President and CEO: David S. Solo