

**Special  
Olympics**  
Australia



INVESTING IN THE  
**NEXT GENERATION  
OF CHAMPIONS**

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
**2014**

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## This Annual Report

This Annual Report covers the activities of Special Olympics Australia from 1 January - 31 December 2014.

## Charitable Status

Special Olympics Australia is a national charity with tax-exempt and deductible gift-recipient status granted by the Australian Tax Office. CFN: 14503 ABN: 28 050 738 728

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An online version of this Annual Report with links to additional content is available at [www.specialolympics.com.au](http://www.specialolympics.com.au)

**Cover:** Queensland athletes prepare for the Special Olympics Australia National Games 2014. Photo: News Corp Australia

**Back:** Victorian athlete, Timothy Chaplin in action at the Special Olympics Australia National Games 2014. Photo: Vincent Yan

Eunice Kennedy Shriver founder of the global Special Olympics movement. Photo: Special Olympics Inc.



# // ABOUT US

*Through a network of dedicated volunteers, Special Olympics Australia brings the benefits of weekly sports training, coaching and competition to people with an intellectual disability.*

## Global Movement, Local Impact

Special Olympics Australia is part of a global movement that began in the 1960s when Eunice Kennedy Shriver invited 75 children with an intellectual disability to play sport in her backyard.

Today, Special Olympics support 4.4 million athletes in over 170 countries.

Special Olympics Inc. is the international governing body of the Special Olympics movement, which establishes all official policies and owns the registered trademarks to the Special Olympics name, logo and other intellectual property.

Special Olympics Australia is the accredited program of Special Olympics Inc. in Australia with accredited clubs across the country, operating under one ABN and led by one Board of Directors.

## The Olympic Movement

The Olympics, Paralympics and Special Olympics are built on the belief that sport has the power to change lives.

The Olympics host international sports competitions for elite athletes.

The Paralympics host international sports competitions for elite athletes with a disability, mainly physical.

Special Olympics host international sports competitions for athletes with an intellectual disability. We are also a grassroots movement that provides year-round sports training, coaching and competition.

## The Facts

- People with an intellectual disability are the largest disability population in the world.\*
- Over 500,000 Australians have an intellectual disability.\*\*
- Every two hours an Australian child is diagnosed with an intellectual disability.\*\*\*

## Impact

One of the many barriers to success that people with an intellectual disability face is a negative perception of what they can achieve. Our logo tells the story of what is possible when they join the Special Olympics community.



The Special Olympics 'globe of figures' represents an international community.



The figure with low arms is a person with an intellectual disability before Special Olympics when life feels challenging.



The figure with outstretched arms is an athlete exploring their ability with Special Olympics.



The figure with arms raised in joy is an athlete that has discovered their ability and is sharing it with family, friends and fans.

\* World Health Organisation (WHO), \*\* The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2008, \*\*\* Disability Expectations, PwC 2011.

# // JOY!

*One athlete from each of our official sports was asked "What do you like about being part of Special Olympics Australia?" and this is what they said.*

**"It has helped me to feel good about what I can do."** Ethan, Aquatics

**"You can be competitive even if you have a disability."** Brandyn, Football

**"I can be a great table tennis player."** Ashley, Table Tennis

**"I was a very lost soul without sport. Now I have a full-time job and people who believe in me."** Matthew, Athletics

**"I can compete without being judged."** Kate, Golf

**"Without it I would never have the chance to represent my country."** Michael, Tennis

**"I have opportunities that I never thought I would have. I can play the sport that I love and go as far as I can."** Jessica, Basketball

**"After 20 years my dream has come true. I am going to represent Australia."** Martin, Gymnastics

**"I really love it and I'm the only person in my family to represent Australia. That's cool!"** Josie, Tenpin Bowling

**"It has given me many new friends, including a husband and now we have a baby."** Emma, Bocce

**"It makes me feel confident and proud and I hope one day it will help me get a good job, just like my sister."** Laura, Netball

**"I really like playing sport and Special Olympics Australia gives me a chance to do this with my friends and it helps me keep fit too."** Craig, Wintersports

**"It gets me fired up to do my best."** Edward, Cricket

**"It's created a whole new world for me."** Alyse, Sailing

**"It's given me the chance to wear the green and gold for Australia."** Andrew, Equestrian

**"It gives me an opportunity to travel and represent my state and country."** Dylan, Softball



Sandy Freeman (NSW). Photo: Geoff Clark.

# // MESSAGES

## Welcome to our 2014 Annual Report.



### From the Chairman

No-one can pretend that 2014 was anything but a very challenging year for the Special Olympics Australia community.

The realisation of the debt resulting from the 2013 Special Olympics Asia Pacific Games and the action required to quickly rectify the situation caused much controversy.

However, as I have emphasised at the many consultative meetings I have personally attended around the country, the Games debt was a catalyst, but not the sole cause of our troubles. Hence, the need for change.

Change can be difficult and I fully respect the views of those who have challenged the changes, but we have to move on.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Board and management team in implementing changes as it has led to a remarkable financial turnaround, as you will see from this Annual Report.

Thank you to our volunteers, partners, supporters and my fellow Board members for hanging in there under trying conditions.

A big thank you also to Special Olympics Australia CEO, Nicola Stokes and her team for achieving the impossible.

I think it is fair to say, that after the initial shock, the majority of the Special Olympics Australia community are leading the way forward by continuing to bring the joy of sport to people with intellectual disability.



Let's not forget that there are almost 1,000 athletes with an intellectual disability, plus their families and friends, who enjoyed the thrill of our largest National Games ever in 2014.

One of the stories that came out of those Games that has stuck in my mind is the story of Jarrod from Queensland who had only been swimming with Special Olympics Australia for three years before he attended the 2014 National Games as a first-timer. Jarrod came home with two gold medals, but more importantly he came home with a whole lot of confidence, a bunch of new friends and belief in his ability.

His mother, Karen shared this story: "What a wild ride it has been since we joined Jarrod up for swimming training with Special Olympics Australia. He's formed friendships with some great kids, he keeps improving on his personal best times and he's even started to compete with a mainstream swim club. No amount of medals reflect how far he has come in such a small time, but his experiences are worth their weight in gold!"

So my final thank you goes to our wonderful athletes and their families who continue to inspire us with their determination and commitment.

**Nigel Milan AM**  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
Special Olympics Australia



### From the CEO

My first year as CEO was a game of two very different halves. We started out as underdogs, however once we consulted with our coaches, reviewed our game plan and put our training into practice, we finished as a winning team.

The impact of the 2013 Special Olympics Asia Pacific Games debt could have sidelined us and it took a lot of stamina, commitment and a future focus to recover from this setback.

Without change, our grassroots sports program for people with an intellectual disability would have been in jeopardy. So, we forged ahead to ensure that athletes would not miss out on opportunities to experience the joy of sport and competition. Thanks to a collaborative effort from everyone involved we solved the problems using the combined resources of the organisation and have set forth once again on the path to success.

With a reduced side, a more realistic game plan and the support of many great players and captains, we ended a difficult year with a surplus for the first time since 2011.

One of my proudest moments of 2014, was accepting the Special Olympics Australia flag at the Closing Ceremony of our 2014 National Games. I continue to hold the flag on behalf of the next generation of champions, while we select a fitting host for the 2018 National Games.

I want to thank our Board for making the difficult decisions that have resulted in a sustainable future for Special Olympics Australia and all athletes with an intellectual disability.

I also want to thank my team who work tirelessly across the country endeavouring to ensure that everyone with an intellectual disability has the opportunity to participate in sport as well as having access to training, coaching and competition pathways so they can achieve their personal best.

I want to acknowledge our generous funders and partners who allow us to reach out to the 500,000 people living with an intellectual disability in Australia. Your continuing support is vital, not only for individual athletes, but for the well-being of Australian communities.

My deep respect and admiration goes out to all the parents, volunteers and families whose dedication and passion ensured that Special Olympics got started in Australia nearly 40 years ago and who ensure it will continue.

But most of all, thank you to the athletes whose incredible achievements and contagious joy inspire us. Whether you are an existing athlete or a future champion, Special Olympics Australia is here for you and I look forward to working with you to create even more opportunities for you to achieve your personal best, in sport and in life.

**Nicola Stokes**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Special Olympics Australia



### From the ASC

It has been another significant year for the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) and the sports network as we continue working together to encourage all Australians to experience the joy of sport.

The sporting field is where friendships are formed, life skills are learned and heroes are made – and this is why in 2013-14 the Australian Government invested almost \$120 million in our national sporting organisations, despite a challenging economic environment.

In the past year the ASC has worked with sports to reform their governance structures and develop strategic and commercial capabilities. The ASC is determined to create better businesses – ones that will thrive in the years ahead – and we are leading the way with a lean and agile operating model and ongoing commitment to our own good governance.

One of the highlights of 2013-14 was the Australian Government's announcement of the Sporting Schools program. This \$100 million program, which builds upon the successful Active After-school Communities program, will commence in 2015 and reach more

than 850,000 children. It will allow the sports to boost their participation numbers and is a significant endorsement of the importance of community sport to the Government.

Other highlights in 2013-14 have included:

Community Coaching General Principles – a free online training course that provides coaches with the basic skills they need.

Grants programs – a number of national grant programs were delivered to improve the participation of people from under-represented groups.

The ASC also continues to pursue success on the world stage – both in Olympic and non-Olympic sports – to deliver Australians the exceptional performances they crave.

There have been few periods in Australia's sporting history filled with so much activity or promise, and on behalf of the ASC I thank you for your hard work and support. You continue to prove your capacity to succeed in an ever-changing sporting landscape, and I look forward to working with you in the future.

**John Wylie AM**  
Chair  
Australian Sports Commission

Principal Partner



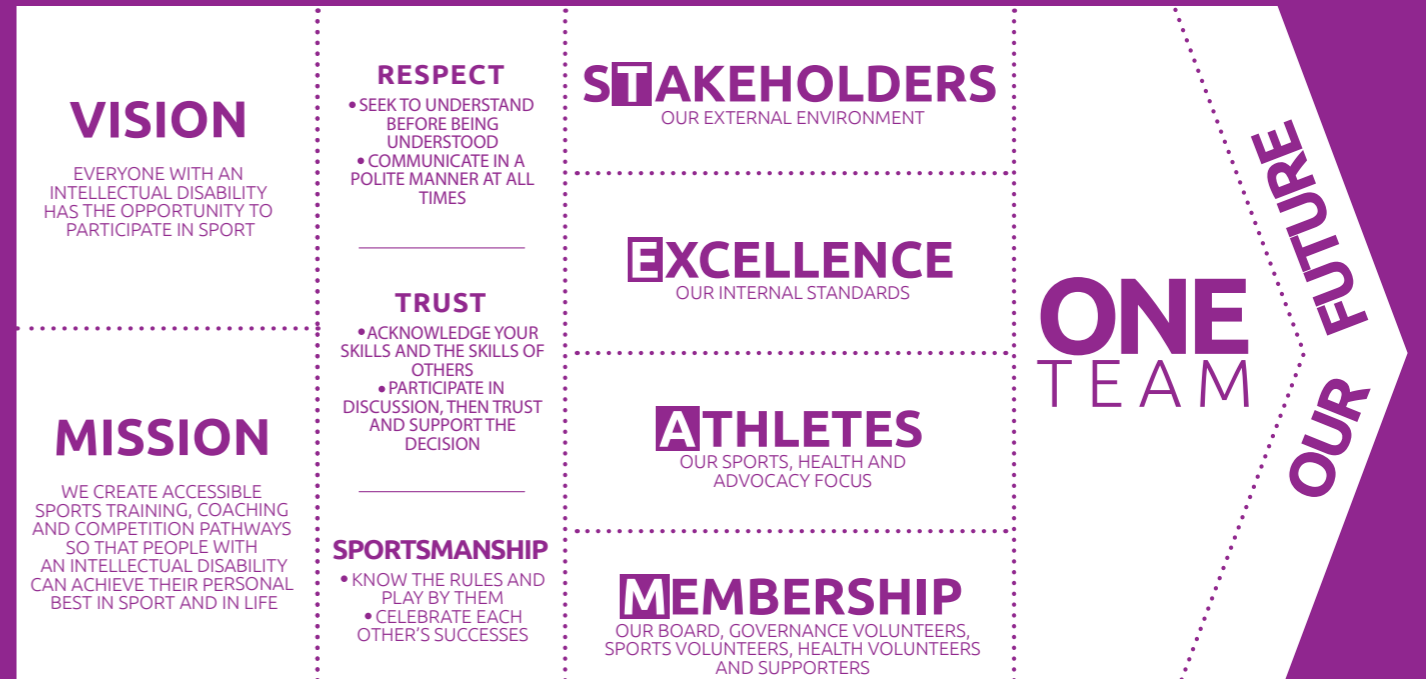
# // 2014 HIGHLIGHTS

- The largest Special Olympics Australia National Games were held in Melbourne, with almost 1,000 athletes from all states and territories competing across sixteen sports
- 76 athletes and 29 officials were selected to represent Australia at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in 2015
- His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia joined us as Patron
- Thanks to ANZ, netball has been introduced as an official Special Olympics Australia sport
- The Eunice Kennedy Shriver Award for athlete leadership was presented to Joshua Frost (NSW)
- Special Olympics Australia athlete Ben Haack (QLD) was elected to the Board of Special Olympics Inc.
- Dedicated volunteer, Moira Ryde from Victoria was the 2014 inductee into the Special Olympics Australia Hall of Fame
- In partnership with Disabled Wintersport Australia (DWA) we expanded our wintersports program



Craig Muhlbock (NSW). Photo: Peter Muhlbock

# // 2015 FOCUS



## Strategy Map

For Special Olympics Australia, 2015 is the start of another four-year cycle which will culminate in the 2018 Special Olympics National Games, where our athletes will show the Australia community their ability and drive to achieve their personal best.

Our four-year strategy focus is "One Team" where each member of our community respects and supports each other and demonstrates sportsmanship at all times.

2015 will be a year of transition and collaboration where we will work together to ensure the long-term sustainability of Special Olympics Australia for current and future athletes.

Planning in 2014 means that our future now includes:

- a four-year strategic plan with clear and measurable outcomes
- reduced operating costs
- improved governance structures, club leadership and recognition opportunities
- open and transparent communications, with channels for discussion and feedback
- an even greater focus on sport and enabling people with an intellectual disability to become athletes

# // ATHLETES

*Through sports excellence we provide an environment where athletes with an intellectual disability can achieve their personal best, in sport and life.*

## Weekly Training

Our athletes have the opportunity to train year-round in one or more of our official sports.

- aquatics
- athletics
- basketball
- bocce
- cricket
- equestrian
- football (soccer)
- golf
- gymnastics
- netball
- sailing
- softball
- table tennis
- tennis
- tenpin bowling
- wintersports (Alpine skiing, ice-skating, snowboarding)

## Competition Pathways

We provide structured competition pathways that enable athletes to progress from local competition to state, national and international events. Through a process of divisioning, athletes of all abilities are able to climb the competition ladder that peaks at the World Games.

In December 2014, we announced the team that will represent Australia at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in 2015 (see page 27).

The Special Olympics World Summer Games will be the largest sporting event in the world in 2015 with 7,000 athletes from 177 countries to compete across 26 sports in Los Angeles, USA, 25 July–2 August 2015.

Team Australia will consist of 76 athletes and 29 officials who will participate in eight sports. Over 70% of these athletes will represent Australia for the first time.

## Fair Selections

The National Selection Committee manages the selection of athletes and officials for international competition. The priority this year was the selection of Team Australia for the Special Olympics World Summer Games 2015.

## Netball is Now Official

Thanks to funding from ANZ and the support of Netball Australia, netball has been introduced as an official Special Olympics Australia sport with 500 athletes expected to participate.

## Cricket Growth

Eighty three athletes from six states/territories participated at the second Special Olympics National Cricket Invitational in Adelaide in February thanks to an ongoing partnership with South Australia Cricket Association.



Western Australia basketballers celebrate their National Games medals. Photo: Fang Yan

**3,697 athletes\***  
**1,911 participants**

**115 COACHES**  
**285 COMPETITIONS**

**61 ACCREDITED CLUBS**

Year	Dates and Location
2015	25 JULY - 2 AUGUST Special Olympics World Summer Games, Los Angeles, USA
2016	9-11 SEPTEMBER Special Olympics Australia National Winter Games, Mt Buller, Victoria
2017	14 - 25 MARCH Special Olympics World Winter Games, Austria
2018	DATES AND LOCATION TO BE CONFIRMED Special Olympics Australia National Summer Games

\* The number of Special Olympics Australia athletes is lower than reported in previous years as only registered athletes who have regularly trained and competed in the calendar year are now included in this number. This matches the athlete numbers provided to our international body, Special Olympics Incorporated and our major funder, the Australian Sports Commission.

Team ACT at the Opening Ceremony. Photo: Peter Muhlbock

## Expanded Winter Sports Program

In partnership with Disabled Wintersport Australia (DWA) we have increased our winter sports competition opportunities in preparation for the Special Olympics World Winter Games in 2017. This year over 40 athletes participated in five camps, as well as the annual DWA Race Week. In 2015 the Special Olympics Australia National Winter Games will be held in Mt Buller, Victoria.

## Largest National Games Ever

In 2014, almost 1,000 athletes from all states and territories competed in Melbourne at the Special Olympics Australia National Summer Games. See pages 12-15 for our National Games Spotlight.

## Celebrating Athlete Leadership

Through our Athlete Leadership Programs (ALPs), athletes learn the skills to take on leadership roles within Special Olympics Australia like working on a committee, public speaking, coaching and volunteering.

Each year Special Olympics Australia honours an athlete leader with the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Award, named after the founder of the global Special Olympics movement. This year, athlete Joshua Frost (NSW) was presented with the award by our Patron, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Four athlete leaders participated in a cultural exchange with athletes from Special Olympics East Asia in Shanghai in November where they also won gold in the Unity Run.

Special Olympics Australia athlete Ben Haack (QLD) was appointed to the Board of our international governing body, Special Olympics Inc.

Special Olympics Australia athlete Kelly Wren (NSW) was appointed as a global Healthy Athletes ambassador and attended the first Special Olympics Athlete Global Health Advisory Committee meeting in Washington in December.

After volunteering with Special Olympics Australia for over a year, athlete Christopher Bunton (NSW) was employed by the organisation in a part-time capacity. Special Olympics Australia athlete Edward Smith (NSW) has now joined us as an office volunteer on a weekly basis.

## Honour Board: EKS Award

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2014 | Joshua Frost (NSW)                        |
| 2013 | Mel Eustace (NSW)                         |
| 2012 | Steven White (VIC), 'Rusty' Nelligan (WA) |
| 2011 | Andrew Williams (VIC)                     |
| 2010 | John Faulkner (QLD)                       |
| 2009 | Saxon Graham (NSW)                        |
| 2008 | Gabrielle Clark (NSW), Kelly Wren (NSW)   |
| 2007 | Christopher Farmer (SA)                   |

# // SPOTLIGHT ON NATIONAL GAMES

From 20-25 October 2014, almost 1,000 athletes from all states and territories competed at the Special Olympics Australia National Summer Games in Melbourne. It was a celebration of ability and achievement, the highlight of the Special Olympics Australia four-year sporting calendar and the selection event for the Special Olympics World Summer Games.

## Opening and Closing Ceremonies

The Opening Ceremony of the Games featured all the traditions expected of a major competition:

- parade of athletes
- torch run
- reciting of oaths
- official flag raising
- lighting of the cauldron
- official opening
- VIP speeches

In comparison, the Closing Ceremony was less about formalities and all about the athletes who enjoyed exclusive access to Luna Park.

## Families and Supporters Program

Families, siblings and supporters were encouraged to get involved in the fun with a range of games-time activities specifically designed to connect families,

including a Young Athletes family fun day for 50 potential athletes between the ages of 2-8 years.

## Healthy Athletes Program

It's important that our athletes are healthy and fit to play sport and that's why we run our Healthy Athletes program where athletes are able to have their health checked by volunteer health professionals. At the National Games over 75% of participating athletes took part in screenings across five disciplines: FitFeet, Health Promotion, Healthy Hearing, Opening Eyes and Special Smiles.

## Law Enforcement Torch Run

Sixty South Australian police officers, 400 Victorian police officers and 297 Special Olympics Australia athletes took the *Flame of Hope* on a 1,500km journey through communities between Adelaide (National Games 2010 host) and Melbourne before lighting the cauldron to officially mark the start of the National Games.



Athlete Mark Hutton (VIC) lights the cauldron at the National Games. Photo Peter Blackman

TOTAL SATISFACTION



ATHLETES 92%



VOLUNTEERS 82%



COACHES 84%



PARENTS 85%

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS



MEDIA REACH



10,601,815



38,628,774



532,000



4,438,624



176,000

SOCIAL MEDIA

INSTAGRAM

TRADITIONAL

GAME NEWS

54.3M TOTAL REACH

South Australia Footballers get into the team spirit. Photo: Peter Muhlbock

SPECIAL OLYMPICS AUSTRALIA

// SPOTLIGHT ON NATIONAL GAMES



Athletics stars! (SA, TAS, WA). Photo: Wayne Young



South Australian athletes in full cheer at the National Games. Photo: David Lange

NATIONAL GAMES STAKEHOLDERS

Patron

The Hon Dr Denis Napthine MP, Premier of Victoria

Ambassadors

Carrie Bickmore, Channel Ten; Tommy Oar, Socceroo; James Tomkins, Olympic gold medallist, rowing

Board

Mr Donald McGauchie AO, Chairman; Ms Nicola Stokes; Mr Andrew Butcher; Ms Barb Harmonn; Mr Max Jackson; Mr Paul Sheahan; The Hon Judith Troeth AM; Mr David Crawford AO; Ms Bella Irlight AM; Mr Mark Mackay; Mr Stuart Sutton; Mr Carl Walsh

National Games Team

Bredette Koen, National Games Director; Ann Monaghan, Games Operations; Cameron Glover, Volunteer Services; Liz Salvatore, Events; Marian York, Accommodation; Moira Ryde, Sport; Chris Novak, Food & Beverage; Emma Langan, Families and Supporters; Yvette Shaw, Games Program; Anita Kemp, Administration

NATIONAL GAMES PARTNERS

Principal Partner

BHP Billiton

Government Sponsor

State Government Victoria

Official Media Partner

News Corp Australia

Major Partner

Australian Sports Commission

Foundation Partners

Cassandra Gantner Foundation, Grain Corp, John T. Reid Charitable Trusts, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, Sidney Myer Fund, The Ian Potter Foundation

Sports Sponsors

ANZ, Australia Post, Bonnie Doon Golf Club, Canberra Community Entourage, Holden, KPMG, OSD

Support and Product Partners

APN, Bonds, CISCO, Federation Square, FuseSport, Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, Mattel, Porter Novelli, SEDA, Telstra



# // MEMBERSHIP

*Special Olympics Australia brings athletes, volunteers, families and supporters together in an environment of acceptance, inclusion and respect.*

## Celebrating Volunteers

Each year Special Olympics Australia inducts an outstanding volunteer into the Hall of Fame to recognise and reward them for their dedication.

The 2014 Hall of Fame inductee was Moira Ryde (VIC). Moira has been part of the Special Olympics Australia community for over 27 years and continues to be an active and highly-regarded member of Special Olympics Australia at all levels of our program, from grassroots to national.

## Volunteers

Volunteers are the backbone of Special Olympics Australia and this year 1,653 registered volunteers across the country brought sport to people with an intellectual disability.

## Game Changers

The Special Olympics Australia National Games 2014 was supported by 957 volunteers, known as Game Changers, who filled 320 unique roles.

## Corporate Volunteering

PwC, Adecco, Commonwealth Bank, GIO and Suncorp continue to provide corporate volunteers for grassroots sporting events across NSW and Queensland.

## Coaches

In 2014, we had 115 accredited coaches. In 2015, thanks to funding from Mazda Foundation Special Olympics Australia will be able to recruit new coaches and assist coaches to update their skills, so that each coach has achieved minimum qualifications of:

- Australia Sports Commission Community Coaching General Principles course
- Special Olympics Inc Coaching Athletes with Intellectual Disability questionnaire

## Honour Board: Hall of Fame

2014	Moira Ryde (VIC)
2013	Albert Green OAM (ACT)
2012	Norm Maroney APM, OAM (NSW)
2011	Robyn Cook OAM (VIC)
2010	Susan Grealy (QLD)
2009	Rex Langthorne AM (NSW)
2008	Alan Burke (VIC)
2007	Eric Jones OAM (VIC)
	Kurt Kraushofer OAM (VIC)
2006	Barry Easy OAM (NSW)
	Marian York (QLD)
2005	Robyn Hanson OAM (TAS)
2004	Anna-Louise Kassulke (QLD)
2003	Jan Sharp OAM (VIC)
2002	Leon Burwell OAM (NSW)
2001	Carol Tanner OAM (TAS)
2000	Des Renford MBE, OHC (NSW)



Moira Ryde (VIC) at her induction into the 2014 Hall of Fame. Photo: Wayne Young

# // STAKEHOLDERS

*We engage in mutually-beneficial partnerships, which supports our stakeholders social responsibility goals.*

## OUR PATRON

We welcomed, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia as our Patron and celebrated with afternoon tea at Government House in Canberra. Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Quentin Bryce AC CVO completed her five-year term as Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and her patronage of Special Olympics Australia in March and we sincerely thank her for giving her time so generously since 2008.

## GOVERNMENT

### Australian Sports Commission

Our principal partner, and major funder, the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) has recognised Special Olympics Australia as a National Sporting Organisation for people with Disability (NSOD) from 2014 - 2018.

## PARTNERSHIPS

### IGA

In 2014 we celebrated 22 years of partnership with IGA. In August a small contingent of Special Olympics Australia athletes, carers and staff flew to the USA to participate in the Dream Ride event thanks to Romeos and Ritchies (IGA franchisees) who also donated \$100,000 to the organisation. Discussions are now underway to bring Dream Ride to Australia in 2016.

## Team OTIS

Team OTIS joined us in June 1994 when the company were looking to embrace an organisation that they could support through its most valuable resource, its employees. Today, Team OTIS is our official Medal Presentation Partner and are also out and about volunteering in the Special Olympics Australia community on a regular basis.

## Gold, Silver, Bronze

Thanks to our gold, silver and bronze partners for their ongoing support.

IGA have shown their support for 22 years.

TMA have supported events such as the Inspirational Women's Breakfast and Sports Lunches since 2006.

SAS has partnered with Special Olympics Australia since 1999 and has been the major sponsor of our annual Chairman's Dinner (Variety Night) since 2006.

Cisco continues to support us through events, paid corporate volunteering, and value-in-kind contributions.

Stuart Alexander has partnered with Special Olympics Australia since 2011 and provides funds and corporate volunteers for local sport.



Netball launched at National Games. Photo: David Lange

## NEW PARTNERSHIPS

### ANZ and Netball Australia

Thanks to funding from ANZ and the support of Netball Australia, netball has been launched as an official sport. Forty students in South Australia participated in the first session of the eight-week NetSetGo program, delivered by community coaches from Netball South Australia.

### Goodman Group

Thanks to Goodman Foundation, Special Olympics Australia has settled into donated office space in Alexandria, Sydney.

## MEDIA

### News Corp Australia

As our Media Partner, News Corp Australia continue to support us with media outreach across our major events, including the Special Olympics Australia National Games 2014, for which they were the Official Media Partner.



Joshua Frost (NSW) receives the EKS Award for leadership from the Governor-General. Photo: Peter Muhlbock



Fern Dunshea (QLD) gets a hug from Detective Inspector Gary Ballard. Photo: Peter Blackman

## Cops are Tops

Our Law Enforcement Torch Run team who supported us at the National Games will be well represented in Los Angeles at the Special Olympics World Summer Games when nine former and current police officers take part in the Unified Relay Across America, which will finish with the lighting of the cauldron.

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

A variety of new and annual fundraising and networking events help us raise funds and build fans.

### Splash!

The inaugural Special Olympics Australia Splash! Corporate Swim Challenge was held in September. The format of the event involved corporate teams swimming for a bid to have an Olympic swimmer join them for a final swim-off. Due to the success of the event a national roll-out is underway.

Our corporate teams were: AdPost, Built, Frasers Property, McGrath Nichol, PwC, Richard Crookes Construction, Smartline, Westpac.

Our Olympics partners were: Laura Crockart, Matthew Dunn, Chris Fydler, Kate Hollywood, Geoff Huegill, Craig Stevens, Taryn Woods, Johnno Cotterill.

## Annual Events

The annual Chairman's Dinner continues to be our largest and most successful fundraiser and the Laugh Out Loud Comedy Breakfasts are always a hit with our supporters. The Special Olympics NRL clash between Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs and South Sydney Rabbitohs was held for the third year in what was a rehearsal for the 2014 NRL grand final.

# // EXCELLENCE

*All governance aspects of the organisation were reviewed and improved to increase transparency and accountability as our first steps towards operational excellence.*

## Continuous Improvement

Our focus is on continuous improvement as we build on the strengths of the past and embed new processes and structures. This will increase transparency and improve governance at all levels of the organisation, while laying down the foundations for sustainable growth.

## Organisational Realignment

A strategic and collaborative review of all aspects of the organisation has resulted in reduced core operating costs, simplification of the organisational structure, realignment of key responsibilities and improved corporate governance.

## Accreditation Standards

Special Olympics Australia has applied the ten Accreditation Standards of Special Olympics Inc and incorporated these requirements into an updated accreditation pack, supported by a Club Leadership Handbook which provides hints, tips and suggestions

to support club operations. Special Olympics Australia will support clubs to transition to the new club model throughout 2015 and has established working parties to ensure that the organisation is ready for the 2016-17 accreditation period.

## Financial Accountability

We are privileged that individuals, governments and organisations give us their money to deliver sport. Therefore, to acknowledge their trust in us we strive for excellence through implementing sustainable and best practise processes and systems.

## Compliance

KPMG (our auditors) has acknowledged improved governance across the organisation. In addition, the accreditation standards have refocused attention on key compliance obligations. Our Member Protection Policy was updated and redistributed to reflect changes to Working with Children requirements. Our Anti-doping policy was also updated as required by ASADA.



Team Tasmania enjoy the National Games Opening Ceremony. Photo: Peter Muhlbock



Matthew Sharp (QLD). Photo: News Corp Australia

# // AROUND AUSTRALIA

## TASMANIA

- Sent a team of 52 athletes and 17 officials to the Special Olympics Australia National Games
- 4 Tasmanian athletes were selected to represent Australia at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in 2015
- Became recognised as a State Sporting Organisation which allows us to seek funding from the Tasmanian Department of Sport and Recreation
- Hosted the largest State Games with over 80 athletes competing in aquatics, tennis and tenpin bowling
- Hosted a morning tea and bocce competition for our National Games team and AFL Premiers Hawthorn Hawks

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

- Sent a team of 71 athletes and 23 officials to the Special Olympics Australia National Games
- 5 SA athletes and 1 official were selected to represent Australia at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in 2015
- Hosted the second 20/20 cricket competition for 83 athletes from six states and territories
- Chosen as the charity of choice for Telethon 2014
- Partnered with Flinders University to run a 10-week health and fitness program for athletes
- Hosted a two-day Torch Run with the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Australia in the lead up to the Special Olympics Australia National Games

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

- Sent a team of 83 athletes and 28 officials to the Special Olympics Australia National Games
- 10 Western Australia athletes and 1 official were selected to represent Australia at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in 2015
- Had basketballers play at the half-time interval between the Perth Wildcats and the Adelaide 36rs
- Secured office space at the Western Australian Cricket Association Grounds (WACA)

## NORTHERN TERRITORY

- Although Special Olympics Australia doesn't yet have an official program in the Northern Territory we continue to partner with Total Recreation to allow NT athletes to access our competitions and we welcomed 9 athletes and 3 officials to the Special Olympics Australia National Games.



## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

- Sent a team of 46 athletes and 15 officials to the Special Olympics Australia National Games
- 7 ACT athletes were selected to represent Australia at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in 2015
- Celebrated the induction of ACT volunteer Albert Green into the Special Olympics Australia Hall of Fame
- Renewed Bendigo Bank's sponsorship of State Games for the next three years
- Graduated 4 athletes from Athlete Leadership Programs
- Moved the Special Olympics ACT office to the University of Canberra
- Special Olympics ACT volunteer, Glenn Keys was named ACT Australian of the Year
- Hosted our inaugural awards night
- Established a partnership with the Greater Western Sydney (GWS) Giants to support World Games athletes through match-day charity support

## NEW SOUTH WALES

- Sent a team of 243 athletes and 71 officials to the Special Olympics Australia National Games
- 19 NSW athletes and 6 officials were selected to represent Australia at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in 2015
- Celebrated the presentation of the EKS Award to NSW athlete Joshua Frost
- Hosted the third annual Anzac Day City vs Country cricket match at Bradman Oval for 54 cricketers
- Launched a combined NSW/ACT competition calendar featuring a 'Summer of Cricket' and increased competition opportunities

## VICTORIA

- Sent a team of 183 athletes and 54 officials to the Special Olympics Australia National Games
- 13 Victorian athletes and 2 officials were selected to represent Australia at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in 2015
- Hosted 13 inter-regional competitions with 765 participants
- Hosted State Games for 285 participants

## QUEENSLAND

- Sent a team of 202 athletes and 58 officials to the Special Olympics Australia National Games
- 17 QLD athletes and 19 officials were selected to represent Australia at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in 2015
- Signed a memorandum of understanding with Football Queensland to develop the football program
- Launched a unified futsal program

Almost 1,000 athletes enjoyed the National Games 2014. Photo: David Lange

# // WORKING TOGETHER

## Board of Directors



1.

### 1. Nigel Milan AM (Chairman)

Nigel has had a distinguished career in television and broadcasting, in both the public and private sectors in Australia and New Zealand. Nigel has also held CEO roles in service delivery organisations and has held roles on the Board of numerous not-for-profit, government and private organisations. Nigel has been Chairman of Special Olympics Australia since 17 May 2014.



2.

### 2. Michael Hogan (Vice Chairman)

Michael has completed a long career in the areas of public affairs, public profile management, policy analysis and government relations, and he is wise counsel in stakeholder management issues. His son Nick has participated in many Special Olympics sports. Appointed 9 July 2012 and elected Vice-Chairman 17 May 2014.



3.

### 3. Cameron Brownjohn

Cameron is a career investment banker and is currently Division Director of Macquarie Capital Principal Investments. Prior to joining the corporate world, Cameron was competitive at state and national level across a range of sports. In addition to combining his passions for sport and the community, Cameron brings his business acumen, corporate knowledge and fiscal skills to the Board. Appointed 2 May 2014.



4.

### 4. Benjamin Haack

As a Special Olympics Australia athlete, coach, volunteer and leader, Ben brings vast experience to his role on the Board. He has played sport at all levels, completed athlete leadership training and also serves on the Board of Special Olympics Inc. Appointed 26 May 2012.



5.

### 5. Maxwell Jackson

Max is a highly experienced consultant, providing training and consultancy services to government-funded, voluntary and private sector organisations. Prior to consulting, Max was Manager Client and Disability Services in Melbourne where over 800 staff serviced the largest region in Victoria. Resigned March 2015.

### 6. Anna-Louise Kassulke

Anna-Louise is passionate about sport and was instrumental in establishing Special Olympics in Queensland. Since joining as volunteer in 1988, Anna-Louise has held many roles and supported many travelling teams. Stepped down on 8 August 2014 to join the World Games 2015 team.

### 7. Anthony McGrath

Tony brings considerable financial expertise and a network of contacts to Special Olympics Australia. He is currently Partner and Chairman of McGrathNicol. Prior to that Tony was Partner and Head of KPMG's Corporate Recovery Team where he was involved in major liquidation work. From 1993-99 he was involved in establishing the Corporate Recovery Practice in the ACT. Appointed 14 April 2007.

### 8. Luke Sayers

Luke Sayers is the CEO of PwC Australia and Vice Chairman of PwC Asia. Luke leads the strategic direction of the firm and provides leadership to a team of over 5,000 people, who partner with businesses, governments, high net-worth individuals and entrepreneurs. In addition, Luke has a long-term commitment to community organisations and external Boards. Appointed April 2011.

• Kim Bryan, Robyn Sefiani, Mark Streeting resigned 17 May 2014.

## PATRON

His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia.

## National Ambassadors

Duncan Armstrong (Olympic Swimmer), Tahir Bilgic (Comedian), Iva Davies (Australian Music Legend), Paula Duncan (Actor), Michael & Simone Ennis (NRL Player and Wife), John Foreman (Musical Director and Composer), Amber Lawrence (Singer and Songwriter), Laurie Lawrence (Olympic Swim Coach), Damien Leith (Singer and Songwriter), Jim Maxwell (ABC Cricket Commentator), Peter Overton (Nine Network), Rob Shehadie (Comedian), Maria Venuti (Actor and Entertainer), Rachel Ward (Actor and Director)

## Executive Team

Rick Van Brugge, Chief Operating Officer; Amanda Beehag, General Manager Sport Development; Sharon Nixon, General Manager Communications.

## Sports Advisory Committee

The Sports Advisory Committee is a volunteer committee that helps to develop and define our yearly sports plan.

Anna-Louise Kassulke (QLD)  
Moiry Ryde (VIC)  
Suzy Chainey (QLD)  
Tony Moore (NSW)



6.



7.



8.

## NATIONAL PARTNERS

### Principal Partner

Australian Sports Commission

### Coaching Partner

Mazda Foundation

### Netball Partner

ANZ

### Medal Presentation Partner

OTIS

### Media Partner

News Corp Australia

### Gold Partners

IGA, TMA

### Silver Partners

Cisco, Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, SAS

### Bronze Partners

Gloria Jeans, Proton, Stuart Alexander

## National Selection Committee

The National Selection Committee is a volunteer committee that manages the selections of athletes and officials for international competition.

Geoff Vickers, Chairman (NSW)  
Peter Wren (NSW)  
Debbie Wilett (QLD)  
Maureen Smith (QLD)  
Perter Quirk (NSW)  
Donna Coetzee (TAS)  
Lorraine Clarke (NSW resigned in 2014)  
Tony Moore (NSW resigned in 2014)

## SUPPORTERS

2GB, 2KY, 2UE, ABC Tissue, Adpost Online, Alctel One Touch, Amber Lawrence, Ange Postecoglou, Anja Nissen, ANZ Bank, ANZ Stadium, Archana Pradhan, Aspen Medical, Baker & McKenzie, Barker College, Bathurst Council, Bayview Boulevard Sydney, Bibby Financial Services, Brad Foreman, Canada Bay Council, Canterbury Bankstown Bulldogs, Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL, Christina Matthews, ClubsNSW, Colgate, Colleen Condon, Commonwealth Bank, Consider it Done Australia, Dan Crowley, Danielle Keys, Darren Care, Dick Smith, dVT Group, Emirates, Essilor Foundation, Events by Nadia, FactorONE, Frasers Property, Freshflowers.com.au, FTI Consulting, Galston Club, Greg Martin, Harvey Norman, Hellenic Club of Canberra, Hologic, Hutchinsons Builders, Impact AV, Iva & Evan Davies, James McHale, James McMahon, Jason Brewer, Jessica Orcsik, Jessica Watson OAM, Jim Carmichael, Joanne Thomas, John Trevillian, Julie McDonald OAM, Kay Cottee AM, KPMG, Lachlan Turner, Launa Inman, Laurie Daley AM, Leo Sayer, Lexie Duncan, Lexus of Parramatta, Lions Australia, Lord Taverners Australia, Maria Venuti, McGrathNicol, Media Smiths, Myer Top Ryde, Natalie Barr, Network of Caring, Network10, Network21, Nick Marvin, Nine Network, Nova Employment, Nova FM Sydney, NRL, O'Maras Valuers & Auctioneers, ParkTrent Properties Group, Pat Nati, Paula Duncan Promotions, Peter Hadfield, PPI Promotions, Proton, PwC, Raytheon Australia, Ritchies, Rob Shehadie, Romeos, Ross's Auctioneers & Valuers, RSM Bird Cameron, Safilo, Salt Advertising Group, Srixon, Sefiani Communications, Sherry Hogan Foundation, Simon Elgie, Smeg, Smith Hancock, South Sydney Rabbitohs, Sports Dietitians Australia, STAX Electrical, Susan Walton, Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre, Sydney Olympic Park Business Association, Tahir Bilgic, Talent Development Project, The Boys in the Band, The Comedy Store, The Honourable Justice P A Bergin, The Westpac Group, Tim Gavel, Tony Squires, Walshs, WatervieW in Bicentennial Park, Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa.

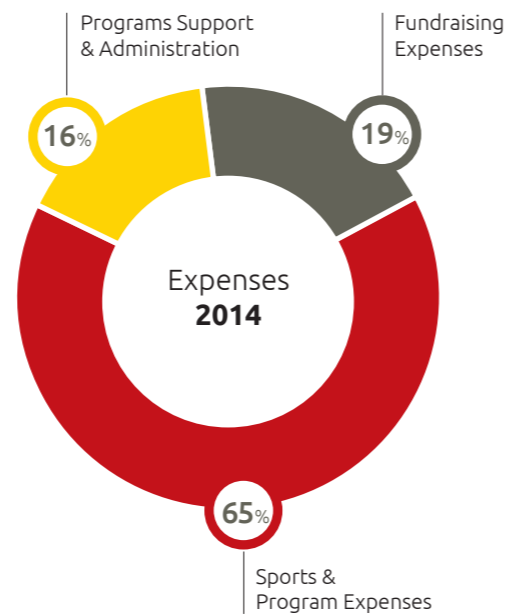
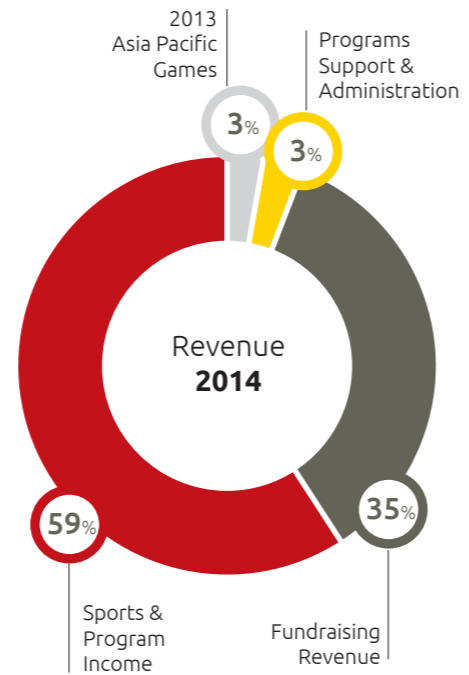
# // FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2014

## Statement of comprehensive income

	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>Revenue</b>		Restated*
Fundraising revenue	3,371,271	3,243,240
Sports and program income	5,659,012	3,942,247
2013 Asia Pacific Games income	338,273	2,704,485
Programs support and administration	336,334	692,776
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>9,704,890</b>	<b>10,582,748</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Fundraising expenses	1,833,211	1,682,834
Sports and program expenses	6,080,920	4,574,114
2013 Asia Pacific Games expenses	-	4,210,420
Programs support and administration	1,518,079	1,293,255
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>9,432,210</b>	<b>11,760,623</b>
Surplus/(deficit) before tax	272,680	(1,177,875)
Tax expense	-	-
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>	<b>272,680</b>	<b>(1,177,875)</b>
Other comprehensive income	-	-
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the year</b>	<b>272,680</b>	<b>(1,177,875)</b>

## Statement of financial position

	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,310,154	4,377,328
Receivables	249,106	690,055
Other assets	626	19,235
Prepayments	58,213	52,907
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>2,618,099</b>	<b>5,139,525</b>
Property, plant and equipment	13,210	55,597
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>13,210</b>	<b>55,597</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>2,631,309</b>	<b>5,195,122</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	344,255	2,750,161
Unearned income	561,445	963,241
Employee benefits	120,695	144,118
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>1,026,395</b>	<b>3,857,520</b>
Employee benefits	27,694	33,062
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>27,694</b>	<b>33,062</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>1,054,089</b>	<b>3,890,582</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>1,577,220</b>	<b>1,304,540</b>
Members' funds	1,577,220	1,304,540
<b>Members' funds</b>	<b>1,577,220</b>	<b>1,304,540</b>




**Restatement:** The Company changed its disclosure regarding the functional presentation of expenses in the statement of comprehensive income.

\*Gift Voucher income is reported net of voucher costs.

This Financial Summary is for the year ended 31 December 2014. A copy of the complete Financial Statements, Directors' Report & Declaration, and Independent Audit Report signed by KPMG is available from [www.specialolympics.com.au](http://www.specialolympics.com.au) or by calling Special Olympics Australia on 1300 225 762





“  
Let me win. But if I cannot win,  
let me be brave in the attempt.”

Special Olympics Athlete Oath

“  
Sport by its very nature is inclusive and  
Special Olympics Australia is a tremendous  
way for people with an intellectual disability to  
be part of the enjoyment and excitement of sport.”

**His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove  
AK MC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth  
of Australia, Government House, Canberra 2014**

“  
You, the athletes, are ambassadors of the greatness  
of humankind. You inspire us to know that all obstacles  
to human achievement and progress are surmountable.  
Your achievements remind us of the potential to  
greatness that resides in every one of us.”

**Nelson Mandela, Special Olympics World Summer  
Games Opening Ceremony, Ireland 2003**

“  
You are the stars and the world is watching  
you. By your presence, you send a message  
to every village, every city, every nation.  
A message of hope. A message of victory.”

**Eunice Kennedy Shriver, founder of the  
Special Olympics movement, International  
Special Olympics Summer Games, USA 1987**

[specialolympics.com.au](http://specialolympics.com.au)

**Special  
Olympics**  
Australia

