

SPECIAL OLYMPICS
**WORLD
GAMES**
ABU DHABI 2019



الأولمبياد الخاص
**الألعاب
العالمية**
أبو ظبي 2019



2019 ANNUAL REPORT



**Special
Olympics**
Australia

CONTENTS

2019 IN REVIEW	4
OUR COMMUNITY.....	6
2019 WORLD GAMES - ABU DHABI.....	8
JUNIOR NATIONAL GAMES.....	10
SCHOOLS	11
OUR SUPPORTERS.....	12
OUR LEADERSHIP	14
FINANCIALS	15

This Annual Report covers the activities of Special Olympics Australia between 1 January and 31 December 2019.

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For a copy of this report please email: info@specialolympics.com.au or call 1300 225 762.

An electronic copy can be found at www.specialolympics.com.au



Front Cover

Kelly Wren (left) and Chloe Johnston (right) in Abu Dhabi for the 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games




Photo: Peter Muhlbock

OUR STORY

Combining the transformative power of sport and a holistic approach to athlete well-being enables Special Olympics Australia to support a better life for people with an intellectual disability.

Special Olympics Australia strives to ensure that everyone living with an intellectual disability has the opportunity to participate in sport. Our dedicated network of volunteers creates accessible sports training, coaching and competition opportunities that allow people with an intellectual disability to reach their personal best – in sport and in life.

We provide:

-  Weekly grassroots sporting, recreational, social and health activities in local communities around Australia.
-  An environment where people with an intellectual disability can develop physical fitness, build self-esteem, demonstrate courage and make friends.
-  Competition pathways ranging from weekly club events, to regional, state and national games, culminating in the Special Olympics World Games in both Summer and Winter.

FROM THE BACKYARD TO THE GLOBAL STAGE

Special Olympics owes its existence to the vision of Eunice Kennedy Shriver, who in 1962 invited a group of young people with intellectual disabilities to a summer camp in her backyard. In July 1968, the first International Special Olympics Games were held in Chicago, Illinois, USA.



Read our history

Athletes from the 2019 State Games in Western Australia
Photo: Dylan Woods



2019 IN REVIEW

This year saw Special Olympics Australia commence an upward trajectory of organisational growth and strengthened capacity to deliver our mission, starting with the announcement of our three-year partnership with the nation's most famous stadium and cricket club, the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

The mighty MCG provided a perfect venue to do a uniform presentation for Special Olympics Australia's World Summer Games athletes.

World Games

The World Games were held in March in Abu Dhabi, where 7,500 athletes from 200 nations participated in 24 sports. More than 12 months of volunteer effort went into the planning and delivery of these Games for Team Australia, which sent a delegation of 106 athletes and 35 officials. The team returned with 42 gold, 44 silver and 55 bronze medals, and a ton of great memories. Congratulations to our Head of Delegation Suzy Chainey and her team for creating an outstanding experience for our athletes and their families.



Celebrating 2019 State Games in South Australia
Photo: Zoom Event Photography

National Australia Bank commitment

Following the World Games, Special Olympics Australia announced a historic, four-year partnership with National Australia Bank (NAB). This principal partnership will help support our State, Junior, and National Games, as well as provide much-needed funds for organisational capacity building. NAB personnel will also provide volunteer support for our Games and programs during the partnership period. This partnership has entirely pivoted the organisation for growth, and we thank Mike Baird AO for believing in our athletes and the joy they bring.

Inclusive Sport in Schools support

After 18 months of lobbying, we were delighted to receive federal government funding in late September to progress our Inclusive Sport in Schools program. This enables us to develop and deliver the program in NSW during the funding period, following which we will be positioned for its national expansion. With more than 159,000 children with intellectual disability in the state's schools, we have a tremendous opportunity to connect with and encourage them to participate in sport.



The Board's top strategic priority to increase organisational reach is to grow our athlete, volunteer, supporter, and other stakeholder numbers through connections with school-age Australians with intellectual disability. We will either provide them with pathways into our existing club network or enable schools to establish themselves as community sport 'hubs' with capacity to run ongoing inclusive programs for their students – effectively building new clubs to facilitate this growth.

In addition to growing Special Olympics Australia's athlete numbers and Club network, the schools program will further broader strategic priorities, including cultivating

NAB partnership launch with Corene Strauss and Mike Baird
Photo: Peter Muhlbock

our disability service provider relations, supporting community sports clubs to provide inclusive programs, continuing to generate additional funding and supporters, and recruiting new volunteers.

Sustaining our volunteers

Maintaining an extensive, committed volunteer network is essential to increase our reach and spread the joy of sport and community to more of the 750,000 Australians with intellectual disability. The year saw a renewed focus on investigating and implementing ways to support our invaluable volunteer base. This will be ongoing, with the goal of alleviating administrative pressure and freeing volunteers to focus on front-line sports training delivery, engaging with athletes, and providing more support where our community most needs it.

Thank you to our supporters

We had a successful year of fundraising events thanks to our volunteer organisers and sponsor organisations. Many sponsors are longstanding supporters, such as SAS, which has been the presenting partner of our Annual Signature Dinner since its inception in 2006.

We are grateful to our partners who have helped ensure we can continue to deliver programs in the community, including:

- IGA, which runs an annual fundraising campaign through its supermarkets
- The Goodman Foundation, which subsidises our NSW office premises
- Etihad Airways, the official airline of the World Games.

I look forward to Special Olympics Australia continuing to build on the considerable successes achieved this year for the benefit of our community of children and adults with intellectual disability, their families, and carers.

Cameron Brownjohn
Chair

Corene Strauss
Chief Executive Officer

Their Excellencies, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove and Lady Cosgrove, farewelling Team Australia
Photo: Peter Muhlbock



OUR COMMUNITY

National Awards

The National Awards Program is an exciting opportunity to celebrate our dedicated athletes and volunteers. We are delighted to have the following awards to recognise the contribution of outstanding athletes, coaches and volunteers.



Athlete of the Year

**Evan Wilson,
Melbourne Inner East (VIC)**

Nominees: Brittany Anderson, Illawarra (NSW) | Hayden Weir, Logan (QLD)



Young Athlete of the Year

**Chelsea Haag-Witherden,
Melbourne Inner East (VIC)**

Nominees: Marc Barnesby-Buie, Perth Metro (WA) | Chris Bunton, Flinders (NSW) | Sarah Chaplin, Melbourne Eastern Ranges (VIC) | Britney Gardner-Hudson, Logan (QLD) | Cameron Pollard, North Coast (NSW) | Krystal Pugsley, Barker (SA) | Madison Sims, Illawarra (NSW)



Coach of the Year

**Greg Gibson,
Flinders (NSW)**

Nominees: Angela Chandra, Logan (QLD) | Peter Garlinge, Melbourne Inner East (VIC) | Michael Harris, Sydney South (NSW) | Bruce Hill, Melbourne North (VIC) | Keith Seiler, Barker (SA) | David & Kate Wilson, Sydney West (NSW)



Young Coach of the Year

**Kimberley Robertson,
Redlands (QLD)**

Nominees: Georgina Brown, Melbourne Inner East (VIC) | Chelsea Palmer, Flinders (NSW)



Volunteer of the Year

**Patricia Goodrem,
Melbourne Inner East (VIC)**

Nominees: Janet Heath, Logan (QLD) | David Johnson, Sydney East (NSW) | David Wilson, Sydney West



Meet our National Award winners



7,000
participants



1,123
volunteers

47



grassroots clubs



17
sports



7 states &
territories
around
Australia



3,600
students participated
in Schools Program



765,665
Australians with ID



4.5

extra hours each week
of physical activity by
Special Olympics athletes



Nearly DOUBLE
Special Olympics athletes
employed above national
average of people with ID



\$5,800
Each new
athlete benefits
to economy



2 HOURS
New child
diagnosed with ID



**Largest disability
population in Australia**

2019 WORLD GAMES - ABU DHABI

The Special Olympics World Summer Games were held in Abu Dhabi, UAE from 8-21 March 2019, with 7,500 athletes with an intellectual disability from 200 nations competing across 24 sports in front of half a million spectators.

The Games was one of the largest, most inclusive, most unified, most diverse, and most successful in the history of Special Olympics.

There were so many individual and team achievements from our 106 athletes. We celebrated each with a huge outpouring of happiness and joy from every athlete, coach, and spectator. It was a tremendous honour for our athletes and a culmination of many years of effort and achievement from them, their families, and their coaches to represent Australia at the year's largest sports and humanitarian event in the world.

We are so grateful to our partners and major sponsors who enabled our team's journey to the games: Sport Australia, Melbourne Cricket Club, Etihad Airways, SAS, Metcash and IGA, Law Enforcement Torch Run, Goodman, and Clubs NSW, along with many local community supporters.



Team Australia before departing to the 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games held in Abu Dhabi
Photo: Peter Muhlbock

Competed Sports



Athletics
12 athletes



Basketball
16 athletes



Bocce
4 athletes



Bowling
12 athletes



Equestrian
4 athletes



Football
10 athletes



Golf
3 athletes



Gymnastics
6 athletes



Sailing
7 athletes






Swimming
24 athletes



Tennis
8 athletes

Team Australia Medal Tally

 1	 2	 3	 4	 5	 6	 7	 8	 P
42	44	55	18	15	5	3	1	0

*“Racing together pushed us.
It really pushed us to go harder.”*

Catharine Keir and Reagan Minchin – Unified Sailing



*“I’m extremely proud of our team.
I don’t think I could be any prouder.”*

Natalie Johnston – Coach

*“At the World Games in Abu Dhabi
I felt happy, proud to be representing
Australia, excited and strong.”*

Ellen Maher - Gymnastics



JUNIOR NATIONAL GAMES

SPECIAL OLYMPICS AUSTRALIA JUNIOR NATIONAL GAMES LAUNCH

October 2019 saw the launch celebrations for the Special Olympics Australia 2021 Junior National Games presented by NAB, which will be held from 24-28 October in Launceston.

The Games will see around 500 young athletes with an intellectual disability aged eight to 15 come together from around Australia to compete across five sports: athletics, basketball, gymnastics, soccer, and swimming.

For junior athletes, being part of a state representative team and competing in a national event is frequently the culmination of years of training and provides a unique achievement experience for them, their families, and coaches.

The Games provide a unique opportunity for these young athletes to compete at their individual skill levels within a fun and inclusive environment. They will show that all children should be valued for their talents and abilities, with children of all abilities taking part and benefitting.

Around 1,500 visitors will be accommodated in Launceston over the event period and around 175 volunteers will be engaged.

Through this flagship event, Special Olympics Australia aims to educate and include all members of the community, leaving a legacy of acceptance, understanding and respect.

Special Olympics Australia has two clubs in Tasmania and delivers inclusive sports programs through local schools, community sports organisations, and disability service providers to hundreds of Tasmanians each year.

In the lead-up to the Games, Special Olympics Australia will distribute educational programs about intellectual disability to Tasmanian schools and provide opportunities for school communities to attend the Games as spectators, volunteers, and participant teams.

The Games are supported by presenting partner NAB and major sponsors including the Tasmanian Government, City of Launceston, and Law Enforcement Torch Run.



Vanessa Abernethy, Special Olympics Tasmania (left), The Hon Albert van Zetten Mayor of Launceston (centre) and Patrick Howard, athlete (right)



Daniel Thomson, Special Olympics Tasmania athlete

2021 JUNIOR NATIONAL GAMES AND 2022 NATIONAL GAMES



presenting partner



major partners



program partner

SCHOOLS

2019 INCLUSIVE SPORTS IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT

 **105**
specialist schools
program members

 **3,601**
program
participants

 **941**
sessions delivered

 **149**
programs
delivered in schools

 **5,098**
Individual
touch points

 **31**
schools with support
units program members

SPECIAL OLYMPICS AUSTRALIA INCLUSIVE SPORTS IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Our Inclusive Sport in Schools program connects schools with the Special Olympics movement in Australia to ensure that:

- More children are active every day and developing their physical literacy
- Teachers are more confident to deliver sport and physical activity
- Sport and physical education lessons are more inclusive and of a higher quality
- Strong relationships are built with community coaches
- Strong links are built with community sports clubs and providers.

On delivering its budget in April 2019, the Federal Government committed to additional funding for Special Olympics Australia of \$1.4 million over two years to fund development of our Inclusive Sport in Schools program.

The funding will enable Special Olympics Australia to expand our presence in New South Wales schools, delivering health, wellbeing, and social inclusion through increased opportunities for students to be physically active. While we are currently reaching students in 29 of the state's special needs schools, there are another 770 that we can potentially target. We aim to reach more than 9,000 students with intellectual disability through the Inclusive Sport in Schools program by 2022, then to roll the enhanced program out across other states.

NUMBER OF PROGRAMS DELIVERED BY SPORT

 **25**
Athletics

 **12**
Basketball

 **17**
Cricket

 **12**
Gymnastics

 **18**
Soccer

 **12**
Tennis

15 Young Athletes

15 Multi sports

23 Other

OUR SUPPORTERS

NAB WELCOMED AS PRINCIPAL PARTNER

A four-year partnership with NAB was announced in March 2019.

Through the partnership, NAB will be the Major Partner of the State Games, as well as the Presenting Partner of the 2020 Junior National Games and the 2022 National Games.



NATIONAL PARTNERS

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



MAJOR PARTNERS



SUPPORTERS



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

Two mini Olympic-style events involving Special Olympics athletes and staff from NAB and Melbourne Cricket Club were held at the NAB head office in Melbourne and at the MCG in December 2019 to celebrate International Day of People with Disability.



SOAR & ROAR FESTIVAL

The Soar & Roar Festival was held at the Sydney Motorsport Park on Sunday 8 December 2019.

500+ Cars,
Bikes
& Trikes



400 Dream
Rides



3,000 Attendees



350 Health
Screenings



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR 2019 EVENT PARTNERS

Adpost Online
African Prestige Safari
ARDC
BAT
Blacktown City Council
Capital Investments
CJ Murphy
ClubsNSW
Driving Solutions
dVT Group
Emergency Accounting
Etihad Airways
Family & Community Services

Federation Asset Management
Freshflowers.com.au
GIO
Goodman Property Group
ICAP
LETR
Lexus of Parramatta
Lindt Chocolates
Lynch Group
Melbourne Cricket Club
Mrs Mac's Pies
Newman's Own Foundation
NOVA Employment

NSW Health
O'Maras in Alliance with Graysonline
Oneworld
Ritchies
SAS Institute Australia
Sherry Hogan Foundation
SMEG
Solutions Property Service
STAX Electrical
Sydney Markets
The Epping Club
Total Office National
Whiteley Corporation

OUR LEADERSHIP

Special Olympics Australia board members are strong advocates for people with intellectual disabilities and bring a wealth of experience, knowledge and compassion to the organisation.



Cameron Brownjohn
Chairman



Michael Hogan
Vice Chair



Shaun Fraser



Ben Haack



Anna-Louise Kassulke



Megan Lavender



Ruby Lawler



Allison O'Shea



Jehad Rasheed



Irena Reiss



Ross Smith



Corene Strauss
Chief Executive Officer

National Board members in action
Photo: Peter Muhlbock



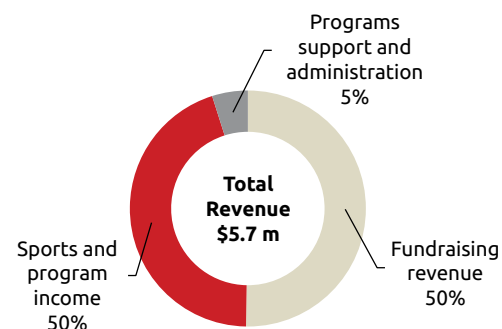
FINANCIALS

Consolidated Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 December 2019

In AUD	2019 \$	2018 \$
Revenue		
Fundraising revenue	2,865,549	2,834,909
Sports and program income	2,557,331	5,217,490
Programs support and administration	279,271	366,605
	5,702,151	8,419,004
Expenses		
Fundraising expenses	(1,331,826)	(1,438,187)
Sports and program expenses	(2,624,536)	(5,682,637)
Programs support and administration	(1,248,877)	(1,346,947)
	(5,205,239)	(8,467,771)
Surplus/(Deficit) before tax	496,912	(48,767)
Tax expenses	(3,183)	(1,682)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	493,729	(50,449)
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	493,729	(50,449)

Revenue 2019

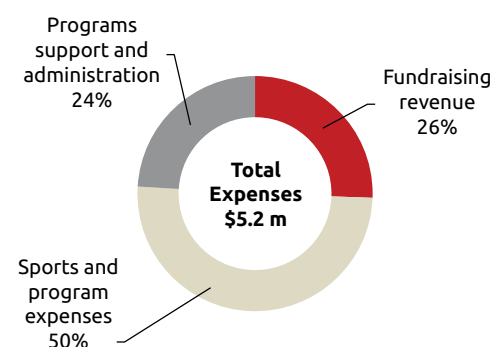


Consolidated Statement of financial position

For the year ended 31 December 2019

In AUD	2019 \$	2018 \$
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalent	3,947,521	2,780,895
Receivables	111,209	97,389
Other assets	7,064	7,408
Prepayments	142,997	264,229
Total current assets	4,208,791	3,149,921
Property, plant and equipment	34,227	33,451
Right-of-use assets	99,417	0
Prepayments	13,135	0
Total non-current assets	146,779	33,451
Total assets	4,355,570	3,183,372
Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	135,199	224,813
Unearned income	1,748,342	1,123,881
Lease liabilities	102,679	0
Employee benefits	137,557	94,205
Total current liabilities	2,123,777	1,442,899
Employee benefits	33,323	35,732
Total non-current liabilities	33,323	35,732
Total liabilities	2,157,100	1,478,631
Net assets	2,198,470	1,704,741

Expenses 2019



Members Fund	2,198,470	1,704,741
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Team Australia
at Host Town, Dubai -
2019 Special Olympics
World Summer Games,
Abu Dhabi
Photo: Peter Muhlbock

CHARITABLE STATUS

Special Olympics Australia is a national charity with tax-exempt and deductible gift-recipient status granted by the Australian Tax Office.

ABN: 28 050 738 728



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