



ATHLETE OATH
 Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.



MISSION

Our mission is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendships with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.



Special Olympics Texas

VISION

It is our vision to become the premier provider of Special Olympics training and competition in the world. We approach each endeavor with a single intent – to improve the quality of life for our athletes. The challenges of the future are embraced with enthusiasm and commitment, ensuring that the changing face and needs of our athletes are met.

2010 National Games • Team Texas

The Special Olympics Texas National Games Media Guide is provided to assist you in your coverage of Team Texas at the 2010 Special Olympics USA National Games in Lincoln, Nebraska. During National Games, there are several ways that you can follow the progress of Team Texas:

- Follow us on **Twitter** at www.twitter.com/sotexas and on **Facebook** at www.facebook.com/pages/Special-Olympics-Texas/103329289705768.
- Check our website for updates at www.specialolympicstexas.org.
- Visit the National Games website at www.2010specialolympics.org.
- Media may contact the Special Olympics Texas Communications Department for up-to-date information about the Texas delegation.

Kelly Coffey, Vice President of Communications
 512.740.5245 cell (media only) or kcoffey@sotx.org

Andi Baca Kelly, Public Relations Coordinator
 512.674.5483 cell (media only) or akelly@sotx.org

For more information about **Special Olympics Texas**, call 800.876.5646 or visit www.specialolympicstexas.org.

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Special Olympics Texas Quick Facts

Special Olympics Texas provides year-round sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

Participants

In Texas, 36,311 athletes participate in the program. Athletes may begin training as early as six years old, but must be eight years old to compete. Athletes must be 12 years old to attend Summer Games, Fall Classic or Winter Games. Thanks to the Young Athletes™ program (YA), children ages two through seven can participate as “Athletes in Training” in areas where the program is available.

Competition

Special Olympics Texas is a year-round movement, holding more than 250 competitions annually on area, regional and state levels. Event divisions are based on age, gender and ability level to give athletes an equal chance to win. Each participant receives a medal or ribbon following their events. Special Olympics Texas has three statewide events annually: Summer Games, Fall Classic and Winter Games, with locations varying every three years. Special Olympics, Inc. holds World Games every other year and USA National Games every four years.

Sports

Summer: Athletics, Basketball, Cycling, Equestrian, Gymnastics, Kayaking, Soccer, Tennis

Fall: Aquatics, Bocce, Floor Hockey, Golf, Sailing, Softball, Triathlon

Winter: Bowling, Figure Skating, Powerlifting, Roller Skating, Speed Skating, Table Tennis, Volleyball

Training

Special Olympics Texas athletes must train for a minimum of eight weeks prior to each competition. Volunteer coaches, who are required to first complete a certification program and attend seasonal training schools, are responsible for training the athletes. Competition officials and event directors are also required to attend training schools.

Volunteers

Volunteers are the lifeline of the Special Olympics program. In Texas, 48,591 volunteers dedicate their time to Special Olympics. These volunteers serve as coaches, officials, committee members, competition assistants, speech coaches and much more. There are more than 3,000 volunteer coaches involved in the program.

Funding

Special Olympics Texas is a registered 501(c)(3), non-profit organization supported by private donations from individuals, corporations and organizations throughout the state.



National Games Quick Facts

About the 2010 National Games

Special Olympics will hold the 2010 USA National Games from July 18-23, 2010 in Lincoln, Nebraska. This event will be the largest ever held in the state of Nebraska, and one of the biggest sporting events in the United States. National Games, which are held every four years, will bring together an anticipated 3,000 athletes, 1,000 coaches, 800 officials, and over 15,000 family members and fans.

Overall Games Message

The 2010 Special Olympics USA National Games in Lincoln, Nebraska will unite the country through sport and serve as a living legacy of founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver. These Games will provide an opportunity to showcase and celebrate the Special Olympics movement and athletes, while illustrating the power of sports to educate and inform about the true abilities and achievements of people with intellectual disabilities. While providing opportunities for all to get involved, the USA National Games will present a nationwide platform to engage youth as “agents of change” to foster and promote unity, inclusion, acceptance, respect, dignity and advocacy for people with intellectual disabilities.



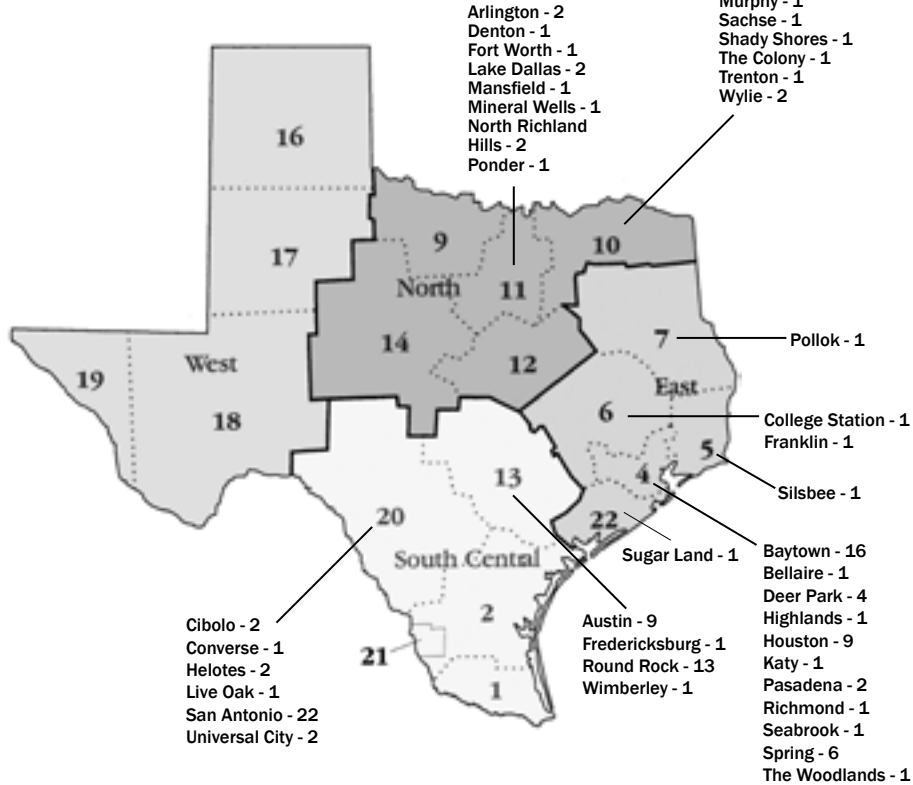
Team Texas: Representing the Lone Star State

152 athletes

39 coaches

13 sports

Athletes by Area



Team Texas Athlete Roster

| Last Name | First Name | Sport | Age | Area | Hometown | Page |
|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----|------|----------------------|------|
| Alderete | Heather | Powerlifting | 22 | 13 | Round Rock | 18 |
| Allen | Venoy | Tennis | 25 | 4 | Spring | 32 |
| Altman | Joshua | Bocce | 25 | 11 | North Richland Hills | 11 |
| Andre | Jon "Jack" | Unified Soccer | 15 | 13 | Round Rock | 27 |
| Andre | Kyle | Unified Soccer | 18 | 13 | Round Rock | 27 |
| Andre | Mitchell | Golf | 18 | 13 | Round Rock | 15 |
| Arnold | Alexander "Brent" | Bowling | 21 | 10 | Mabank | 13 |
| Bell | Earl | Basketball | 29 | 20 | San Antonio | 9 |
| Bell | Lee | Bowling | 35 | 4 | Spring | 13 |
| Billard | Ashley | Aquatics | 24 | 4 | Houston | 5 |
| Bormaster | Kimberly | Tennis | 25 | 4 | Bellaire | 32 |
| Brown | Billy | Golf | 64 | 6 | Spring | 15 |
| Brown | Stacy | Golf | 28 | 6 | Spring | 15 |
| Buscemi | Craig | Basketball | 26 | 20 | Live Oak | 9 |
| Candelas | Thomas | Unified Softball | 19 | 10 | Lewisville | 29 |
| Cantu | Gabriel | Unified Flag Football | 30 | 4 | Baytown | 25 |
| Carpenter | Daryl | Softball | 39 | 20 | San Antonio | 21 |
| Carr | Natalie | Unified Softball | 17 | 10 | Highland Village | 29 |
| Carson | Adrian | Unified Soccer | 18 | 13 | Round Rock | 27 |
| Carson | Danny | Unified Soccer | 19 | 13 | Round Rock | 27 |
| Che | Minh Hai | Softball | 29 | 20 | San Antonio | 21 |
| Claghorn | Blair | Golf | 32 | 4 | The Woodlands | 15 |
| Cleary | Brice | Aquatics | 24 | 11 | Mansfield | 5 |
| Clopp | Jessica | Gymnastics | 20 | 7 | Pollok | 17 |
| Clubb | Ross | Unified Flag Football | 27 | 6 | College Station | 25 |
| Collins | Kevin | Bocce | 33 | 11 | Arlington | 11 |
| Collins | Morgan | Athletics | 18 | 13 | Austin | 7 |
| Conserve | Dorothy | Unified Soccer | 18 | 13 | Round Rock | 27 |
| Crockett | Herman "T.J." | Unified Basketball | 30 | 20 | San Antonio | 23 |
| Crook | Elizabeth | Golf | 18 | 4 | Houston | 15 |
| DeLeon | Christopher | Volleyball | 24 | 4 | Houston | 35 |
| Dickens | Blake | Unified Flag Football | 21 | 4 | Baytown | 25 |
| Dohmen | Kenneth | Unified Basketball | 28 | 20 | Cibolo | 23 |
| Domer | Allen | Unified Softball | 21 | 10 | Lewisville | 29 |
| Domer | Jim | Unified Softball | 49 | 10 | Lewisville | 29 |
| Donner | Brandon | Unified Softball | 18 | 10 | Flower Mound | 29 |
| Earnst | Jessi | Soccer | 25 | 4 | Baytown | 19 |
| Earnst | Michael | Unified Flag Football | 22 | 4 | Baytown | 25 |
| Eck | Adam | Unified Volleyball | 13 | 10 | Fairview | 33 |
| Fenner | David | Athletics | 28 | 4 | Katy | 7 |
| Flowers | Leonard | Unified Basketball | 38 | 20 | San Antonio | 23 |
| Flynn | Meagan | Athletics | 24 | 13 | Austin | 7 |
| Fox | Jeremy | Volleyball | 30 | 4 | Deer Park | 35 |
| Galindo | Aimee-Rhae | Athletics | 21 | 20 | San Antonio | 7 |
| Garcia | Johnny | Softball | 39 | 20 | San Antonio | 21 |
| Garza | Christopher | Volleyball | 33 | 4 | Deer Park | 35 |
| Goodrich | William | Softball | 60 | 20 | San Antonio | 21 |
| Grantham | Brantley | Unified Volleyball | 18 | 10 | Allen | 33 |
| Grantham | Lisa | Unified Volleyball | 44 | 10 | Allen | 33 |
| Graves | Chan | Aquatics | 25 | 11 | Arlington | 5 |
| Green | Allen | Bocce | 39 | 20 | San Antonio | 11 |
| Griffin | Ken | Unified Softball | 24 | 10 | Highland Village | 29 |

Team Texas Athlete Roster

| Last Name | First Name | Sport | Age | Area | Hometown | Page |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----|------|------------------|------|
| Griffin | Les | Unified Softball | 60 | 10 | Highland Village | 30 |
| Guajardo, Jr. | Rafael | Volleyball | 32 | 4 | Pasadena | 35 |
| Gustafson | Cody | Basketball | 25 | 13 | Austin | 9 |
| Hardeman | Joe | Basketball | 36 | 20 | Universal City | 9 |
| Hardin | Blaine | Golf | 24 | 10 | McKinney | 15 |
| Harris | Billy | Athletics | 28 | 13 | Fredericksburg | 7 |
| Hauff | Justin | Unified Flag Football | 22 | 4 | Baytown | 25 |
| Hawes | Derick | Powerlifting | 24 | 11 | Richland Hills | 18 |
| Hawkins | James | Unified Flag Football | 21 | 6 | Franklin | 25 |
| Hawkins | Joseph | Unified Softball | 25 | 10 | Lewisville | 30 |
| Hayes | Tara | Soccer | 18 | 4 | Baytown | 19 |
| Hedges | David | Bowling | 47 | 20 | San Antonio | 13 |
| Hettinger | Daniel | Aquatics | 24 | 10 | Heath | 5 |
| Holland | Paul | Athletics | 37 | 10 | Shady Shores | 7 |
| Holt | Ralph | Unified Softball | 55 | 10 | Lewisville | 30 |
| Holt | Tim | Unified Softball | 29 | 10 | Lewisville | 30 |
| Hornsby | Michael | Unified Basketball | 47 | 13 | Austin | 23 |
| Hunter | Sarah | Aquatics | 22 | 10 | Carrollton | 5 |
| Ingram | Ray | Softball | 48 | 13 | Austin | 21 |
| Jackson | Michael | Unified Volleyball | 32 | 10 | Allen | 33 |
| Jaconette | Thomas | Unified Volleyball | 42 | 10 | Carrollton | 33 |
| Johnson | Erika | Golf | 23 | 10 | Murphy | 15 |
| Jones | Jennifer | Soccer | 21 | 4 | Baytown | 19 |
| Jordan | Tyler | Soccer | 21 | 4 | Baytown | 19 |
| Kern | Hillary | Bocce | 20 | 4 | Houston | 11 |
| Key | Miranda | Bocce | 25 | 11 | Ponder | 11 |
| Kilpatrick | Stephen | Unified Basketball | 26 | 20 | Cibolo | 23 |
| Lakey | John | Volleyball | 36 | 4 | Houston | 35 |
| Lambertz | Brittany | Unified Soccer | 19 | 13 | Round Rock | 27 |
| Lancheros | Jennyfer | Unified Soccer | 18 | 13 | Round Rock | 28 |
| Landry | Paul | Unified Volleyball | 47 | 10 | McKinney | 33 |
| Landry | Ryan | Unified Volleyball | 27 | 10 | McKinney | 34 |
| Lane | Robert | Volleyball | 39 | 4 | Pasadena | 35 |
| Lewis | Dante | Basketball | 19 | 20 | San Antonio | 9 |
| Lucatero | Paco | Soccer | 24 | 4 | Baytown | 19 |
| Malone | John | Unified Flag Football | 21 | 4 | Baytown | 25 |
| Maples | Michael | Unified Softball | 19 | 10 | Lewisville | 30 |
| Mather | Kyle | Unified Soccer | 17 | 13 | Round Rock | 28 |
| McLean | David | Aquatics | 23 | 5 | Silsbee | 5 |
| McVey | Tia | Unified Volleyball | 35 | 10 | Allen | 34 |
| Medley | Kristen | Athletics | 28 | 20 | San Antonio | 7 |
| Mickaels | Zachary | Softball | 25 | 20 | San Antonio | 21 |
| Mickan | Amanda | Volleyball | 22 | 4 | Richmond | 36 |
| Milby | Charles "Charlie" | Unified Flag Football | 30 | 4 | Seabrook | 26 |
| Morris | Dean | Golf | 63 | 10 | McKinney | 16 |
| Motter | Michael | Athletics | 17 | 4 | Houston | 8 |
| Neitsch | Heather | Bowling | 33 | 4 | Spring | 13 |
| New | Kenny | Volleyball | 21 | 22 | Sugar Land | 36 |
| Newman | Consa "Chuck" | Basketball | 45 | 20 | Converse | 9 |
| Nicholson | David "D.J." | Basketball | 25 | 20 | San Antonio | 10 |
| Norman | Margaret "Meg" | Aquatics | 27 | 4 | Houston | 5 |
| Novak | Jamie | Bowling | 19 | 11 | Mineral Wells | 13 |

| Last Name | First Name | Sport | Age | Area | Hometown | Page |
|------------|------------|-----------------------|-----|------|------------------|------|
| O'Connell | Michael | Tennis | 29 | 4 | Spring | 32 |
| O'Donnell | Brennan | Aquatics | 17 | 13 | Round Rock | 6 |
| Phillips | Taylor | Athletics | 18 | 13 | Round Rock | 8 |
| Pike | Tyler | Soccer | 17 | 4 | Baytown | 19 |
| Pilgrim | Jonathan | Softball | 32 | 20 | San Antonio | 21 |
| Plant | Morgan | Soccer | 17 | 4 | Highlands | 19 |
| Porter | Schelly | Bowling | 35 | 10 | Commerce | 14 |
| Purcell | Nathan | Athletics | 17 | 10 | Trenton | 8 |
| Rackel | Jessily | Bocce | 28 | 11 | Denton | 12 |
| Rackel | Wayne | Bocce | 57 | 11 | Lake Dallas | 12 |
| Rackel | William | Bocce | 23 | 11 | Lake Dallas | 12 |
| Randall | Buddy | Golf | 32 | 10 | Wylie | 16 |
| Rapolla | Mark | Basketball | 22 | 20 | Helotes | 10 |
| Rapolla | Matthew | Basketball | 22 | 20 | Helotes | 10 |
| Reagan | Wesley | Softball | 52 | 20 | San Antonio | 22 |
| Richards | Jonathan | Athletics | 26 | 11 | Fort Worth | 8 |
| Richards | Katherine | Tennis | 21 | 4 | Houston | 32 |
| Rooney | Patrick | Bowling | 24 | 10 | Highland Village | 14 |
| Ross | Joshua | Softball | 36 | 20 | San Antonio | 22 |
| Rothert | Kimberly | Unified Soccer | 17 | 13 | Wimberley | 28 |
| Russell | Brandon | Unified Flag Football | 22 | 4 | Baytown | 26 |
| Russell | Samantha | Unified Softball | 26 | 10 | Lewisville | 30 |
| Salas | Jesus | Unified Flag Football | 29 | 4 | Baytown | 26 |
| Saucedo | Chris | Powerlifting | 23 | 13 | Austin | 18 |
| Schrock | Clay | Soccer | 17 | 4 | Baytown | 20 |
| Shannon | James | Volleyball | 40 | 4 | Deer Park | 36 |
| Shepherd | Katie | Gymnastics | 23 | 10 | Greenville | 17 |
| Simpson | Andrew | Aquatics | 53 | 4 | Houston | 6 |
| Smith | Kim | Soccer | 25 | 4 | Baytown | 20 |
| Smith | Tim | Softball | 19 | 13 | Austin | 22 |
| Stanley | Derek | Soccer | 23 | 4 | Baytown | 20 |
| Taggart | Kimberly | Unified Basketball | 30 | 20 | San Antonio | 24 |
| Taggart | Tim | Unified Basketball | 39 | 20 | San Antonio | 24 |
| Taylor | Katherine | Unified Softball | 19 | 10 | The Colony | 31 |
| Tunnell | Jessica | Aquatics | 25 | 20 | San Antonio | 6 |
| Turner | Matthew | Unified Softball | 29 | 10 | Lewisville | 31 |
| Turner | Phillip | Softball | 38 | 20 | Universal City | 22 |
| Van Kleef | Daniel | Unified Basketball | 35 | 20 | San Antonio | 24 |
| Wallace | Zachary | Volleyball | 18 | 4 | Deer Park | 36 |
| Wells | Robert | Golf | 18 | 10 | Wylie | 16 |
| Wempe | Jacob | Powerlifting | 22 | 13 | Austin | 18 |
| Wilbanks | Wayne | Golf | 59 | 10 | Sachse | 16 |
| Williams | Nicole | Bowling | 25 | 13 | Round Rock | 14 |
| Williamson | Jared | Unified Volleyball | 20 | 10 | Allen | 34 |
| Wolf | Jennifer | Unified Volleyball | 26 | 10 | McKinney | 34 |
| Young | Ruben | Basketball | 47 | 20 | San Antonio | 10 |
| Youts | Austin | Unified Softball | 19 | 10 | Lewisville | 31 |
| Zserdin | Andrew | Unified Soccer | 16 | 13 | Austin | 28 |