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*Special Olympics*  
Ireland

# **SPECIAL OLYMPICS IRELAND** **Annual Report 2010**



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*Pictured opposite are George Hamilton from Leinster and Meg Carr from Ulster - the oldest and youngest athletes who took part in the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games.*

## CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT

The year will be remembered for the many wonderful sporting achievements and successes of our athletes, not only in Ireland but also on the international front. The 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games in June saw over 1,825 athletes from across the island of Ireland descend upon Limerick to compete in 14 different sports. The athletes were accompanied by 650 coaches and official delegates, as well as an estimated 9,000 family members and loyal supporters, the highest number of supporters to date attending any All Ireland Games. From the emergence of the Law Enforcement Torch Run out of the newly opened Limerick Tunnel, to the hosting of the Opening Ceremony to an enormous audience in the historic Thomond Park to the conclusion of all competitions, it really was an unforgettable few days. The legacy of these Games began to unfold by November, as over 300 Games Volunteers expressed interest in getting involved in the programme in Munster.

2010 also marked the 25th Anniversary of the wonderful partnership between *eircom* and Special Olympics Ireland, a milestone that both organisations are very proud of and which was celebrated throughout the year and, in particular, at the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games.

In September, Team Ireland, sponsored by *eircom*, travelled to the 2010 Special Olympics European Summer Games in Warsaw, Poland. Accompanied by a team of 16 volunteers, many records were broken on the sports field and Team Ireland did us proud and created a huge impression on everyone who met them. Their success was recognised by President Mary McAleese, who hosted a memorable reception at Áras au Uachtaráin in October to honour their achievements.

There was a steady growth in the number of athletes, as we welcomed 834 new athletes into the Special Olympics Programme, raising the total number of registered athletes by end of December to 10,634. 18 new Special Olympics clubs were also established. The organisation continues to grow, confirming the need for a continued focus on providing opportunities for athletes within their own local communities.

Economically, 2010 proved as difficult as 2009 for everyone and no more so than for Special Olympics Ireland. April 23rd was the date for the 2010 All Ireland Collection Day where 2,500 volunteers lined the streets and roads of Ireland to collect money for us. Once again we received fantastic support from our volunteers, our sponsors, corporate partners and members of the public. The funds raised ensured the delivery of our life-changing work in supporting athletes in clubs in their localities, providing them with competition opportunities and developing life-enhancing programmes such as the Athlete Leadership Programme and the new Health Promotion initiative.

Participation in Special Olympics changes the lives of athletes and their families. It is thanks to the terrific support of our visionary Board of Directors and Council of Patrons, our dedicated volunteers, loyal sponsors, committed partners and enthusiastic staff members, led by CEO Matt English, that we are able to continue to make a difference for people with an intellectual disability in their local communities.

Special Olympics Ireland is an organisation which continues to raise the bar so as to develop quality in the services we provide for our athletes. We look forward to 2011, the final year of our current strategy, to achieving what we set out to do and to working with everyone to map out the subsequent four-year strategy.

Thank you most sincerely for the part that you have played and continue to play in helping us to realise our promise of changing lives.



**Mary Davis**  
**Chairperson**





***Celebrating 25 years of partnership.***

*The covers of the 2010 eircom phone directories all featured photographs of Special Olympics Ireland athletes.*

## 2010 HIGHLIGHTS

- 18 new Special Olympics clubs were established.
- 834 new athletes joined the programme.
- 2010 marked 25 years of our partnership with eircom.
- Photographic membership cards were introduced for all volunteers and the first phase rolled out in time for the Ireland Games in Limerick.
- 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games, from 9th – 13th June, involved 1,825 athletes competing in 14 sports competitions across 8 sports venues in Limerick and Clare.
- 35 Irish athletes travelled to Poland to compete in the 2010 Special Olympics European Games in Warsaw.
- In September 2010, 126 athletes were selected to represent Ireland at the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games which will be held in Athens.
- Inter-Club Guide launched in February.
- 50 clubs around the country began the pilot Health Promotion programme, a project co-funded by the HSE and the Daughters of Charity.
- Connaught Regional office moved to a larger premises in Collooney in March.
- An online Volunteer Induction Training Module was developed and went live for the first time in February, targeted at potential 2010 Games volunteers.
- Modules in Intellectual Disability, developed in conjunction with Trinity College, and a Code of Ethics Module for Athletes were added to the range of training modules available within the programme.

## 2010 PROGRAMME REPORTS

### SPORT



Without doubt, the focus and highlight of the competition year for some 1,825 athletes, their coaches and clubs in 2010 was the Special Olympics Ireland Games, held in Limerick in June. However, for other athletes and coaches within the programme, 2010 was an ideal year to work towards achieving a key strategic aim of delivering high quality programmes. 2010 saw a continued drive towards improving coaching standards.

A number of sports-specific Development Days took place providing additional opportunities for athletes and coaches. The focus for coaches was on up-skilling and learning about the more technical aspects of the sport. The athletes received additional training tips, dedicated coaching and an opportunity to try out new events.

On other Coach Education initiatives, 565 coaches availed of coach training in one of the following three courses: i) Introduction to Coaching Practices, ii) Golf Leader Course and iii) the Introductory Coaching in Bocce. All of these courses are certified by Coaching Ireland. In addition, the final section of the revised Motor Activities Training Programme manual, the Kicking and Striking section, was completed and made available to regional programmes.

Demand for competition opportunities is growing and we are continuously working on improving the level of provision and the standard to which the competitions are delivered. The minimum standards for the running of competition events have been in place for a few years but 2010 saw the introduction of assessment of these minimum standards at a number of regional events. The plan is to further expand the assessment of the standards over the next few years.

In a determined effort to provide additional competition opportunities to our athletes, and to ensure standards are also in place, a Guide to Organising Inter-club Events was developed, circulated to all clubs and made available on the website. Each region promoted the concept of Inter-club Events at every opportunity and by the year-end, clubs in all regions gave very positive feedback on the success of the initiative and the potential to build on this success for the future.

As part of Special Olympics European Football week, the Annual Football National Cup was held at Dublin City University in May. In the 11-a-side Men's football, the closely-fought competition saw the men's cup retained by title holders, Donegal. In the Women's 5-a-side football, North West Special Olympics Club emerged victorious.

On the international competition front, a team of 35 Irish athletes travelled to Poland to compete in the 2010 Special Olympics European Games in Warsaw. The very successful participation of our athletes in five sports - athletics, badminton, bowling, women's football and table tennis - was outstanding, with many achieving significant personal bests in their performances. The Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport, Mary Hanafin, officially welcomed the team home at Dublin Airport and President Mary McAleese hosted a reception in Áras an Uachtaráin in September to honour and recognise the athletes' success and to thank the 16 coaches and official delegates for their dedication and commitment in preparing and travelling with the team.

In addition to the 2010 European Games, six alpine skiing athletes from the Eastern Region, accompanied by three coaches, travelled to Austria on the 26th January to compete in a European Ski Event. An Irish team also took part in the Triple Crown golf event in September in Drumoig Golf Club, St. Andrew's, Scotland. Team Ireland finished a very impressive second place. A team from the Eastern region also participated in the Athletics and Aquatics competitions at the at the Isle of Man National Games in July.

The selection of athletes to represent Ireland at the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens, Greece, took place in the Regency Hotel in September. 126 athletes were selected in 12 sports. Squad training began in December.

Other international news to emerge during 2010 was the decision of Special Olympics International to recognise Floorball as an official sport within the Special Olympics Programme. For several years now, the Munster Programme has offered Poly Hockey as a team sport in their region.



*Members of the Special Olympics Ireland Floorball Team who took part in the European Floorball Cup in Austria, September 2010.*

Therefore, when the opportunity arose to participate in the first official European Cup in Floorball in Austria in September 2010, a team from the Munster region was invited to represent Ireland at the event. The team had tremendous success, taking the bronze medal in their division.

Finally, recognition of the successful achievements of our athletes is always a joy and for our footballers who participate in UEFA approved competition, recognition by the Football Association of Ireland (FAI), as part of the Football for All Programme, is a huge honour.

The FAI International Caps presentation took place in Dublin City Hall in December. The 10 athletes who participated at the Special Olympics European Football Cup in Lisbon, Portugal in May 2009 were awarded with their caps by former Irish international players, Packie Bonner and Ray Houghton.

The total number of male and female athletes with international caps in Special Olympics Ireland has now reached 81. This is a fantastic tribute to the athletes and their coaches for their dedication to their sports training and competition.



*Pictured above are members of the Special Olympics Ireland team who represented Ireland at the 2009 Special Olympics European Football Cup receiving their Football Association of Ireland international caps.*

## Sports Highlights from around the Regions:

### Connaught

- 129 athletes from 13 clubs registered to compete in the first ever Bocce 7's league to be held in the region.
- The Postal Bowling Competition ran from September 2010 to January 2011 with 180 athletes participating.
- Football and basketball leagues held throughout the year and Development Days were held in all sports.

### Eastern region

- Sports Official courses were run in Aquatics, Bowling and Athletics resulting in 42 newly trained officials.
- Development Days held in Athletics, Aquatics, Badminton, Bocce, Golf, Gymnastics and Pitch and Putt.
- A Development Day in Motor Activities saw the launch of the final section of the Motor Activities Programme - Kicking and Striking.

### Leinster

- Competition Events held in 6 sports during the year.
- Workshop training session held in March to roll out the final section of the Motor Activities Training Programme, Kicking and Striking.
- 7 new officials completed the Basketball Table Officials' Course in October 2010 and 3 coaches attended a gymnastics training course.

### Munster

- Athletics, Bocce and Basketball were identified as the three priority focus sports for expansion and development in the region. Initial consultations and plans in these sports were completed during 2010 and ready for implementation in 2011.
- Development Days held in Golf and Equestrian
- 17 teams competed in the Regional Football League and 12 teams took part in the Regional Basketball league, 23 other regional competitions were held during the year.

### Ulster

- 561 athletes competed in competition and/or Development Days
- 201 volunteers completed various Coaching and Officials Courses or clinics during the year.
- 18 women participated in Women's Football Development Day delivered in Area West.





*Adam Lalor from Clonee, Co. Meath*

## 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games, Limerick

Limerick played host to the most successful Ireland Games held to date. From 9th – 13th June, a total of 1,825 athletes competed in 14 sports competitions across 8 sports venues in Limerick and Clare. University of Limerick (UL) was a central hub of activity hosting 5 sports competitions, the Special Olympics Town and Healthy Athlete Programme as well as accommodating 2,000 athletes and coaches.

Over 2,500 local volunteers enthusiastically and professionally ran the Games under the direction of the local Games Organising Committee.

The Games in Limerick saw some new initiatives introduced:

- Kayaking competition held at residential Games for first time.
- Clinics held on the Turbo javelin, a new event in the athletics programme.
- Co-location of Special Olympics Town and Healthy Athlete with 5 sports on UL campus and 2,000 athletes and coaches resident on site created a hub of activity.
- Introduction of the Health Promotion project at Games.
- The opportunity for families to accompany their athlete through the Healthy Athlete Programme was welcomed by athletes, families and coaches alike.

Highlights included:

- The hosting of the Opening Ceremony in the historic and legendary Thomond Park to a packed audience.
- The emergence of the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run from the newly opened Limerick tunnel, making history as the first people to travel through the tunnel.
- Support from over 9,000 family members who made their way to Limerick, the highest number recorded for an All Ireland Games.

### Games Legacy Programme

A formal structured approach was taken to planning and maximising the potential legacy from the 2010 Games. From 2009, when it was decided to host the Games in Limerick, the legacy that could result from the hosting of an All Ireland Games was viewed as a major opportunity for Special Olympics Munster. A Legacy Steering group, involving volunteers and staff from regional and central level, worked for over 12 months on developing an effective plan that would help capture this legacy for the benefit of the mid-west area and the region as a whole.

In the months following the Games we saw this plan become a reality in many ways. Following the post Games “Thank You” event, over 300 volunteers expressed an interest in remaining involved with the programme. Many of these volunteers have subsequently taken on roles in areas such as events, sports, fundraising and working with local clubs in the Munster region. New sports have been offered by clubs in the mid-west Munster area and we will see new athletes coming on stream in 2011. Local sponsors and donors, who were involved with the Games, have come on board in support of the local and regional programme and there can be no doubt that the profile of Special Olympics in the Limerick and Munster mid-west received a massive boost.

## Club Development

**18 new clubs**

**834 new athlete registrations**

The success of the 2008 and 2009 Support and Engagement project, during which each club was visited to establish areas for support or need within the club, has meant that club visits have become an integral and continuing element of the Club Development Programme at regional level.

In 2010, a set of minimum safe operating standards were established and circulated to clubs to encourage and enhance club structures and processes at local level. The focus area during club visits in 2010 onwards has been to highlight the minimum standards of operation for clubs and to discuss any outstanding issues clubs may have.

2010 saw a continued growth in the number of clubs with 18 new clubs established and 834 new athletes registered with the programme.

Despite the excellent growth level for the year, there was an overall reduction in both club and athlete numbers participating in the programme. Ongoing refining and updating of athlete data saw duplicate entries and athletes who were no longer actively involved in sports removed. An element of the reduced numbers is also accounted for by a removal of clubs that are no longer operating.

However, 2010 will be particularly noted for the unfortunate, and regrettable, withdrawal from the programme of some Intellectual Disabilities Service Providers and Special Schools. The economic climate has resulted in some of these groups withdrawing from participation in sport as they redirect limited finances into critical service provision areas.

In each region there was a determined effort to attempt to offer alternative opportunities to athletes that were impacted by the withdrawal of a group. All athletes were contacted and offered places with other local clubs. Addressing the challenges presented by the difficulties for some groups will continue to be a key concern for next few years.

During the year, a decision was made to use the term 'club' to refer to all groups registered with the organisation, i.e. community-based clubs, Intellectual Disability Service Providers and Special Schools. The term 'Affiliated Groups', whilst trying to incorporate all groups within one term, was unclear and lacked meaning and clarity to external groups and in communications with the public. From 2010, all groups will be referred to as 'Clubs', with internal distinction remaining between community clubs and Intellectual Disability Service Providers and Special Schools.

## Club Programme Highlights from around the Regions:



### Connaught:

- 3 new clubs established and 96 new athletes joined the programme.
- New athletes and volunteers were accommodated by many of the existing clubs in the region, some of which also offered an additional sport for their athletes.
- Second round visits to clubs got underway in November 2010 and included two individual club visits and one cluster visit (a gathering of a few clubs in a local area).

### Eastern region

- 5 new clubs established, giving 176 existing athletes additional sports opportunities and providing 30 new athletes with access to a sports training and competition programme.
- All clubs & services successfully re-affiliated within the region.
- Phase I of the Support and Engagement Project completed in early 2010 and phase 2 up and running throughout 2010.

### Leinster

- 3 new clubs established and registered.
- 121 new athletes joined the programme.
- Phase 2 of the Support and Engagement Project got underway in the final quarter of 2010 and 10 club visits completed by end of year.

### Munster

- 4 new clubs established and registered.
- 202 new athletes registered.
- Second round visits to clubs started in the final quarter of 2010.

### Ulster

- 3 new clubs established and registered.
- 23 Support and Engagement club visits completed.
- 209 new athletes registered during the year.



## Athlete Leadership Programme (ALPs)



*ALPs Ireland Chairperson, Joseph Feehily, speaking at the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Annual General Meeting.*

The strategic development plan for the Athlete Leadership programme (ALPs) was reviewed and finalised in 2010, with a key aim of growing and strengthening the programme. Key challenges identified included a need to enhance the overall awareness and understanding of ALPs across the organisation, a shortage of mentors to support potential ALPs athletes and the need to develop a number of resources to assist delivery of the programme.

The ALPs Ireland committee continued to provide strong and valuable input to the programme, particularly working on providing opportunities for athletes who were not competing in the 2010 Games. The committee also provided input to the development of the new ALPs page on the website.

The ALPs Programme continues to struggle to find sufficient volunteers to take on the role of mentors. Much thanks and appreciation is expressed across all regions for the dedicated commitment and the many hours given to the programme from all existing mentors in each region, without whom our ALPs programme would not function and athletes would miss out on development initiatives and opportunities.

## ALPS Programme Highlights from around the Regions:

### Eastern region

- Support provided by ALPs athletes throughout the year, particularly representing athletes at launches and media events in advance of the 2010 Games, Special Olympics Ireland AGM and the Regional Football Finals.
- 3 workshop training sessions were held which covered Code of Ethics and Good Practice training for athletes (May), Mentor Training (May) and Cookery Workshop with a Health Promotion theme (October).
- The 3rd Annual ALPs Conference took place in November.



*Pictured above are Eastern Region ALPs athletes taking part in a Health Promotion Cookery Workshop in October 2010.*

### Connaught

- New ALPs group established in Loughrea Training Centre with 14 new ALPs athletes, all of whom have commenced the ALPS awards scheme.
- 3 workshop training sessions were held in the region. A photography module in May, the Arigna Mining Experience, followed by a barbeque in July, and a Personal Development training session in Castlebar in September, followed by bowling.
- ALPs Awards were presented on Wednesday 27th October at a special function in the McWilliam Park Hotel. All ALPs athletes were invited to the evening. For the first time in the region, 3 athletes received their Gold Awards, 2 athletes got Silver Awards.

### Leinster

- 3 Regional ALPS workshops held throughout the year.
- 33% growth in number of athletes in the programme in 2010
- ALPS Awards Presentation evening held in September, where 5 athletes successfully attained Silver Award and 6 athletes received their Bronze Awards.

### Munster

- 2010 was a busy year for ALPs athletes in the region, particularly with the location of the 2010 Games in Limerick. Athletes carried out a number of important media events representing the programme and the many athletes involved in the Games.
- A special mention must go to Emily Hurley, from the North Cork ALPs group, for the fantastic job she did as the Athlete Face of the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games.
- ALPs athletes also participated in the launch of the Johnson & Johnson Association and other events associated with the 2010 Games Legacy Plan.

### Ulster

- 91 registered ALPs athletes in the Region.
- ALPs Awards workshop held in Cookstown.

## Family Programme



*Robbie McNamara, from Ennis, Co. Clare, is welcomed home from the 2010 Special Olympics European Games, held in Poland, by his mother Susan O'Grady.*

The main focus of the Family Programme in 2010 was to ensure the successful provision of family services at the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games in Limerick. The Games witnessed the highest ever attendance at Games by family members in support of their athletes, with up to 9,000 family members attending.

The Families Programme Strategic Plan, which outlines the direction of the families programme, was reviewed and agreed in 2010. The key goals focus on increasing the number of registered family members, with the aim of enhancing and strengthening communication and sharing information. The plan also seeks to engage family members and provide opportunities for involvement in various areas within the programme.

## Families Programme Highlights from around the Regions:

### Eastern region

- Family Information evening held in February to share information on the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games, address queries and to distribute a Family Games pack.
- Family Hospitality Centres were organised at two regional events during 2010 - Football and Athletics.
- The 2nd Annual Family event was held in Simmonscourt, RDS, Ballsbridge in October. The theme was 'Family Halloween Fun Day' and 400 registered family members attended the event.

### Connaught

- 3 Family Information events, specifically dedicated to providing information on the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games, were organised, one in Loughrea and two sessions in Claremorris.
- 800 family members from Connaught attended the Games, 700 of whom attended the Opening Ceremony in Thomond Park. The participation of this number of family members was a significant increase on attendance levels at previous Games and reflects how the programme has developed over the past number of years.
- The 3rd Families Halloween Party took place on Sunday 31st October at the McWilliam Park Hotel, Claremorris. Over 200 athletes and family members attended. Music, refreshments, raffle and a costume parade were a few of the highlights from the day.

### Munster

- The Regional Families Committee continued to play a key role in the ongoing development of the programme in 2010, with the main focus on providing support to the Team Munster Families Coordinator and family members attending the 2010 Games.
- Families' Information sessions were organised, updating families, facilitating the distribution of tickets and giving general support for family members.
- Families provided assistance with the gear-sizing sessions for the Munster team and had a presence at a number of regional events.

### Ulster

- Registered family members increased to 1,116 in 2010.
- 801 family members travelled to the 2010 Games in Limerick with 570 attending the Opening Ceremony.
- A Family Hospitality Centre was set up at the Regional Aquatics event.

### Leinster

- 1,000 family members from Leinster attended the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games.
- Family Hospitality Areas were set up at two multi-sport venues hosting the Special Olympics Ireland Games training sessions in Kilkenny in February and May and also at the Aquatics Event in November.
- A very successful Regional Families Day was held in Lullymore Heritage Park in September, at which there was an attendance of 140 family members.





## Volunteer Services

The highlight for the year was the successful recruitment, screening and training of over 2,500 volunteers for the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games. Of the new volunteers recruited for the event, over 12% are now actively engaged in the Munster Region and over 95% expressed their interest in remaining involved in a support capacity.

The number of volunteers receiving CONNECT electronically rose from 6,000 to over 10,000, meaning that 69% of volunteers now receive it by email. This change from postal to electronic, combined with a change of suppliers, resulted in a 60% cost saving for the organisation. A move from using Microsoft Publisher to Adobe InDesign, has facilitated a more professional look and feel to the newsletter and also delivered a quicker turnaround time from print to delivery to the volunteers. Our new print partner has agreed to produce the hardcopy version in colour, at no extra cost to the organisation.

The Volunteer Opportunities Flyer was also redesigned to make it easier for volunteers to choose their role within Special Olympics Ireland.

All active volunteers who provided us with a photograph and whose role assignments were registered on our database were issued a new photographic membership card. Over 6,500 cards were issued in 2010.

The Annual Volunteer Forum was held in *eircom* Headquarters in September and there was a great representation of volunteers from across all regions. The forum provided excellent suggestions and feedback and was a terrific opportunity for volunteers to interact and share experiences. The date of the Volunteer Forum was chosen to coincide with inaugural Eunice Kennedy Shriver (EKS) Day and Mark Kennedy Shriver attended to celebrate the occasion with Special Olympics in Ireland and addressed the volunteers.

All registered volunteers were given the opportunity to apply to become part of the 200-strong team of volunteers that will travel to the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens. The 200 volunteers selected began training in October as fundraising initiatives got underway too. The 200 Irish volunteers will work for 10 days of the Games, alongside locally-recruited Games volunteers.

The Volunteer Programme faced new challenges over the past year as the length of time needed to vet volunteers increased to between 12 and 16 weeks. This increase in time reflected the additional organisations seeking vetting clearance and the challenge in the Central Vetting Unit to manage workload with their allocated level of resources. Changes were made to the Access NI application process, making it easier, more efficient and faster for Northern Irish residents to apply for clearance in order to volunteer with Special Olympics Ireland.

*Pictured opposite are volunteers at the University of Limerick preparing for awards presentations during the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games.*



At local level, our coaches, volunteers and club management teams continued to play such a vital role in the delivery of the programme. At regional level, the programme was supported by dedicated volunteers on Regional Committees, Regional Support Teams and on other teams like Event Management Teams.

In each region, the Volunteer Support Centres continue to expand and develop, supporting the administration of the volunteer programme and the ongoing recruitment and assignment of volunteers to support the delivery of competition events and Development Days.

In 2010, significant dedication and commitment was shown by volunteers on Regional Management Teams. These teams helped prepare athletes and their families for the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games in Limerick, from organising squad training sessions and team uniforms to travel and accommodation.

## Training

A priority for the year was the development and rollout of training for over 2,500 volunteers taking part in the Games in Limerick, including an online Games-specific module completed by over 1,400 people.

As well as the Games online training module, Induction Training for newly registered volunteers was also made available online and completed by almost 900 new recruits to the programme.

## Health Services



The Health Promotion Pilot Project reached an exciting phase in 2010 where each participating club had the opportunity to take part in two modules from the Health Promotion Toolkit and Athlete Pack, with ongoing feedback on the content captured. Baseline health assessments were completed. In addition to the pilot project, numerous Health Promotion workshops were run at various events in different regions.

The Health Promotion Project Officer received training in the role of a Clinical Director, in the discipline of Health Promotion, at the 2010 European Games Healthy Athlete Programme, thus ensuring the capability to provide Health Promotion screenings with the Special Olympics Ireland programme from 2010. This is an extremely positive development for the programme.

## Marketing, Communications and Fundraising



*Assistant Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) Duncan McCausland, Mark Kennedy Shriver (son of Special Olympics founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver), and Garda Síochána Deputy Commissioner Nacé Rice pictured at Farmleigh on Eunice Kennedy Shriver Day, 25th September 2010.*

The 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games were a huge focus in terms of marketing, media and PR activity. A significant amount of support from the local business community in Limerick was secured which helped to offset the substantial cost of hosting such a major sporting event. Many new media links were established around the Games and a significant amount of support and interest from the media was generated. From the 2nd–9th June, the Flame of Hope was carried throughout the island by members of An Garda Síochána and the PSNI. The torch visited 57 different locations, including many primary schools, on its way to Thomond Park for the Opening Ceremony of the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games.

The first annual Eunice Kennedy Shriver Day (EKS Day) took place on Saturday 25th September 2010. This day was chosen to celebrate the life of Eunice Kennedy Shriver, founder of the Special Olympics movement. In Ireland, the occasion was marked by a reception hosted by An Taoiseach Brian Cowen in Farmleigh. The event was attended by Mark Kennedy Shriver as well as Special Olympics athletes and their families.

Our new fundraising strategy got underway in 2010 with the recruitment of 5 fundraising coordinators, one to work in each of our 5 regional offices. An online strategy was also developed to enable us to target new audiences and provide information on the overall movement. The new strategy focuses on strengthening our relationships with existing supporters and nurturing new donors and funding providers.



*Academy Award winning songwriter Glen Hansard performing on Grafton Street during 2010 Special Olympics Collection Day.*

Our All Ireland Collection Day took place on Friday, 23rd April. 2,500 volunteers took to the streets of Ireland to raise essential funding for us. In Dublin, the day started off with a coffee morning held in the offices of Today FM and Newstalk. This event was followed by street entertainment from 7am–7pm on Grafton and Henry Street, including a special performance by Glen Hansard. In Limerick, Des Cahill was MC at a coffee morning which was well-attended by our friends and supporters. In addition, several members of the Munster Rugby team came out to collect for us. In Belfast, Lord Mayor Naomi Long held a Coffee Morning to celebrate the day. The support and goodwill we received from our sponsors, corporate partners, supporters and members of the public was absolutely fantastic and resulted in €600,134 being raised for Special Olympics that day.

Last year also marked 25 years of our partnership with *eircom*. This is a milestone that both organisations are extremely proud of. To celebrate, a week-long programme of activities was organised in *eircom*'s Head Office. The activities included volunteer recruitment and information sessions, athlete visits, a photographic exhibition and a visit of the Law Enforcement Torch Run to the building.

The impact of Kia Ireland's vehicle sponsorship was once again evident with the five 7-seater vehicles constantly on the road, particularly around our collection day and the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games.

Accenture continued their sponsorship of the ALPs programme. This provided us with excellent facilities, volunteers and much needed funding for the programme.

The new Special Olympics website, powered by *eircom* broadband, was officially launched boasting many new features such as athlete blogs, picture galleries and interactive facilities including online registration and volunteer training programmes. We also developed and grew our online presence through Facebook and Twitter.

## Support Functions

### Administration

After a review on the suitability of the Regional Offices it was recommended that some offices needed to secure larger office space on the basis of health and safety regulations. The Connaught Office relocated to their new premises just outside Sligo town in March 2010. The search for suitable Eastern Regional office space began early 2010 and the relocation is expected to take place in June 2011.

An annual review of the Special Olympics Health & Safety Statement took place in July 2010 and an update was issued to all the Regional Offices.

An internal annual review of insurance cover took place over the period July and August 2010. The review confirmed that all necessary cover was in place for the coming 12 months. Four insurance providers tendered for the renewal and our current insurers Allianz secured the business.

Special Olympics Ireland provides both a defined contribution scheme and a PRSA scheme to its staff. The current schemes are with Zurich and administered directly by them. Trustees reviewed the pension scheme in 2007 and transferred over to the current provider in 2008, where performance indicators would provide improved returns and administration costs were negotiated at a better rate.

### Logistics

2010 was a busy year in terms of the logistical support required for both the Collection Day and the 2010 Games in Limerick, which also incorporated the Law Enforcement Torch Run. Collection Day preparation involved distribution of 2,500 buckets, 2,500 signs and 2,500 t-shirts and high-visibility vests right around the island in a coordinated and timely manner, followed by the return of same after the event.

Equipment, banners and signage was transferred in May from our central warehouse to the Games warehouse, to be redistributed to Games venues. A major reorganisation and return of stock took place in Limerick immediately after the Games, followed by a return to Dublin. A complete tidy-up and inventory of all stock-on-hand in the warehouse was completed over a two-day period in October. A new stock inventory system is in place to capture list of stock items and further development underway to track movement of stock in and out of warehouse.



*Pictured at the opening of the new Special Olympics Connaught office in Collooney are Matt English, CEO Special Olympics Ireland, Special Olympics Connaught athlete, Tony Lynagh, and Mayor of Sligo Matt Lyons.*



## Human Resources

In order to support the existing employees working on the plans and preparations involved in staging the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games in Limerick, a small number of additional employees were recruited for the six months leading up to the Games in June.

With the launch of the new fundraising strategy at the start of the year, a Fundraising Co-ordinator was appointed in each region to plan and manage the fundraising and income-generating initiatives for the region.

As part of the organisation's continuing efforts to enhance communication to and from employees, 'The Link', which is the annual staff day, took place in November. It is a valuable opportunity for all employees to get together in one location once a year, to reflect on achievements throughout the year and to focus on the organisation's priorities for the year ahead.

## Information Technology

Information Technology investment and support remained a high priority for the organisation in the drive to improve efficiencies and communication. A new Internet Filtering Software system was implemented to help secure the organisation's network from internet-based threats. The system ensures Web 2.0 tools (Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, etc.) may be safely utilised by designated staff.

Three of the organisation's stand-alone servers (Moodle, Sharepoint and Registration servers) have been virtualised and moved onto new hardware. This process considerably reduced the organisation's risk of downtime for these services, as well as providing cost savings with regards to hardware installation and running costs. In December, after much consideration and after following a detailed tendering process, it was decided to award our Customer Relationship Management (CRM) contract to Blackbaud Technologies. Implementation will be phased-in during 2011. Significant support for this strategically important project is provided through EU funding which was secured by Special Olympics Europe Eurasia.



*Special Olympics athlete Philip Patton, from Dromore in Co. Down, making a presentation to President Mary McAleese and Dr. Martin McAleese at a reception hosted by the President at Áras an Uachtaráin to honour Team Ireland following the 2010 Special Olympics European Games in Warsaw, Poland.*



**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
For year ended 31st December 2010



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## COMPANY INFORMATION

### DIRECTORS

Mary Davis (Chairperson)  
 Patricia Hickey (Resigned 22/05/2010)  
 Claire Kennedy (Resigned 22/05/2010)  
 Finbar Cahill (Resigned 22/05/2010)  
 Frank Donnelly (Resigned 22/05/2010)  
 Michael Quinlivan  
 Teresa McCabe  
 Brian Osborne  
 Peter Fitzgerald  
 Dervila O'Mahony  
 Ann Bourke  
 Nicole Redmond  
 Ronan King  
 Fiona Donaghy (Appointed 17/07/2010)  
 Maurice Redmond (Appointed 17/07/2010)  
 Liam Collins (Appointed 17/07/2010)  
 John Spillane (Appointed 17/07/2010)  
 Laura Murphy (Appointed 17/07/2010)

### SECRETARY

Claire Kennedy (Resigned 22/05/2010)  
 Liam Collins (Appointed 17/07/2010)

### COMPANY NUMBER

228545

### CHARITY NUMBER

CHY 7556

### REGISTERED OFFICE

4th Floor, Park House,  
 North Circular Road,  
 Dublin 7.

### BANKERS

Bank of Ireland,  
 Lower Baggot Street,  
 Dublin 2.

### AUDITORS

Boylan & Dodd,  
 Chartered Accountants,  
 41 Percy Place,  
 Dublin 4.

### SOLICITORS

Beauchamps,  
 Riverside Two,  
 Sir John Rogerson Quay,  
 Dublin 2.



## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### Year Ended 31st December 2010

The directors present their Annual Report together with the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2010.

### Principal Activity

The company was incorporated on the 4th July 1978 and its principal activity is the development and promotion of the Special Olympics movement in Ireland.

### Current Business and Future Developments

Special Olympics Ireland (SOI) continued to provide a year-round sports training and competition programme, for athletes with an intellectual disability, in Special Olympics clubs around the island. The Special Olympics Programme offers 13 Summer Sports, one Winter Sport, and a comprehensive Motor Activities Programme for those not yet ready for competition. The programme includes a range of sporting, social and community-based activities which generate enormous health, educational and social inclusion benefits for people with intellectual disabilities. We are now one of Ireland's largest sporting and voluntary organisations, with 409 registered clubs across the island at the end of December 2010.

A key aspect of the work of the organisation is the support and development of clubs involved in the year-round sports programme. 2010 was also an extremely busy year on the competition front with some of the major highlights including:

- The men's and women's National Football Cup and Plate competitions in May 2010
- The 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games were held in Limerick in June. 1,825 athletes from throughout the island of Ireland competed in 13 sports and a comprehensive Motor Activities Programme, supported by 650 coaches and official delegates and 2,500 volunteers. Over 9,000 family members and supporters came out to support the athletes over 4 days of high-quality competitive events.
- Special Olympics Ireland was represented, by a team of 35 athletes in 5 sports, at the 2010 European Games in Warsaw, Poland in September. On their return, the team, along with family members of the athletes, received recognition at a reception in Áras an Uachtaráin, hosted by President Mary McAleese.
- The selection of the team to represent Special Olympics Ireland at the 2011 World Summer Games took place in September 2010, with the squad training sessions getting underway in December. The Games will take place in Athens, Greece from the 25th June to 4th July 2011.
- 10 athletes were presented with their FAI International Caps by Packie Bonner and Ray Houghton in December.

Over the course of 2010, 18 new Special Olympics clubs were established with recruitment of 834 new athletes into the programme.

The economic value of the All Ireland Games has been estimated to be in the region of €10m and is detailed in a report, commissioned by Shannon Development in conjunction with Special Olympics Ireland, titled "2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games – Limerick, Economic and Event Impact Assessment". A key focus for the organisation in the planning of the Games, and in the post-event follow up, was to ensure maximum benefit was gained from legacy opportunities presented by the hosting of the Games in Limerick.

In that regard, Special Olympics Munster has been most successful in engaging with volunteers, companies and organisations associated with the Games to the betterment of the regional programme.

The following new initiatives also got under way in 2010:

- The Inter-Club Guide was issued in February to promote sports activities between local clubs and to provide additional training and competition opportunities to athletes.
- A root and branch review of the Eastern region programme was undertaken due to its rapid expansion. The Eastern region is the newest region and has been established for five years.
- Photographic membership cards were introduced for volunteers and the first phase rolled out in time for the Ireland Games in Limerick
- A Health Promotion programme resource pack was developed and produced during 2010 and elements of it were made available to athletes who attended the Healthy Athlete programme during the 2010 Special Olympics Ireland Games. The project is co-funded by the Health Service Executive (HSE) and the Daughters of Charity.
- An online Volunteer Induction Training Module was developed and went live for the first time in February, targeted at potential 2010 Games volunteers.
- Modules in Intellectual Disability, developed in conjunction with Trinity College, and a Code of Ethics Module for Athletes were added to the range of training modules available within the programme.

2010 was a hugely significant year for fundraising. A new fundraising strategy was implemented in January to assist with ensuring the long-term financial sustainability of Special Olympics Ireland, which is a key strategic aim in the organisation's current strategy. Our All Ireland Collection Day took place on Friday 23rd April and incredible support was received on the day. Over 2,500 volunteers came out to help fundraise for Special Olympics Ireland and raised €600,134.

This year also saw us celebrate 25 years of partnership with our premier sponsor, *eircom*. This is a cause of tremendous pride on the part of both organisations. Special Olympics Ireland also launched its new website and other social media technologies in March. In the current economic circumstances, maintaining current levels of funding is critical for the organisation.

We continue to work with both the Irish and Northern Ireland governments in relation to securing and maintaining core grant funding towards sustaining the All Ireland programme across the 32 counties. The Irish Sports Council continued to be our main core grant funder. The 2010 grant was cut by 10% compared to that received in 2009. We are continuing to make positive strides, to secure core funding, with the Northern Ireland government.

Special Olympics Ireland also continued to build relationships with our corporate sponsors, *eircom*, (Premier Sponsors), Ulster Bank (Families Programme Sponsor) and Kia Ireland (Vehicle Sponsor). These relationships are highly valued and continue to be strategically important.

Fundraising activities with the general public remain a key factor in both generating required funds and maintaining a high awareness profile.

Demand for new clubs and new sports activities remain buoyant and the organisation continues to be supported by the dedication of thousands of volunteers, which will be a focus for us in 2011, the European Year of the Volunteer.

## Results

The deficit for the year amounted to €99,893 (2009 – surplus of €817,035).

## Post Balance Sheet Events

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the year-end.

## Directors of the Company and their Interests

The Directors of the Company are listed on Page I of the Accounts (page 29 of this Annual Report). The Directors have no financial interest in the Company which is limited by guarantee without share capital.

## Books of Account

The company's directors are aware of their responsibilities, under section 202 of the Companies Act 1990, to maintain proper books of account and are discharging their responsibility by employing qualified and experienced staff, and ensuring that sufficient company resources are available for the task, and liaising with the company's auditors seeking external professional accounting advice.

The books of account are held at the company's business premises at 4th Floor, Park House, North Circular Road, Dublin 7.

## Auditors

The auditors, Boylan and Dodd, have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 160 (2) of the Companies Act, 1963.

Approved by the Board on 7th May 2011



Mary Davis  
Director



Ronan King  
Director

## STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE MEMBERS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2010

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, including the accounting standards issued by the Accounting Standards Board and published by the Auditing Practices Board in the UK and Ireland.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure the financial statements are prepared in accordance with the accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland and with Irish statute comprising of the Companies Acts 1963 to 2009.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Where financial statements are to be published on the web, the directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the company's website. In so far as the directors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the company's auditors in connection with preparing their report) of which the company's auditors are unaware, and
- the directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

The directors are also responsible under company law for securing the company's compliance with its relevant obligations, as defined in the Companies (Auditing and Accounting) Act 2003, and for preparing an annual directors' report setting out specified matters. Those matters specify whether, based on the company's procedures and their review of those procedures, they are of the opinion that they have used all reasonable endeavours to secure the company's compliance with its relevant obligations during the year to which the report relates.

Approved by the Board on 7th May 2011



Mary Davis  
Director



Ronan King  
Director



## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS IRELAND LIMITED

We have audited the Financial Statements of Special Olympics Ireland Limited for the year ended 31st December 2010 which comprised of the income and expenditure account, the balance sheet, cash flow statement and related notes. These Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 193 of the Companies Act, 1990. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

As described in the statement of directors' responsibilities, the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and Irish Accounting Standards issued by the Accounting Standards Board in the UK and Ireland (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland).

Our responsibility is to audit the Financial Statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the Financial Statements give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Acts 1963 to 2009. We also report to you whether, in our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the company and whether the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the Financial Statements. In addition, we state whether we have obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit and whether the company's balance sheet and income and expenditure accounts are in agreement with the books of account.

We also report, to the members if, in our opinion, any information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and directors' transactions is not disclosed and, where practicable, include such information in our report.

We read the directors' report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

### Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the Financial Statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the Financial Statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the Financial Statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the Financial Statements.

### Opinion

In our opinion the Financial Statements:

- give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31st December 2010 and of its deficit and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Acts 1963 to 2009.

We have obtained all the information and explanations we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the company. The Financial Statements are in agreement with the books of account.

In our opinion, the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the Financial Statements.

*Boylan & Dodd*

Boylan & Dodd,  
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors,  
41 Percy Place,  
Dublin 4.



## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2010

	2010 Restricted Funds €	2010 Unrestricted Funds €	2010 Total Funds €	2009 Total Funds €
<b>INCOME</b>				
Irish Sports Council	-	2,307,842	2,307,842	2,622,080
Health Service Executive Grant	-	114,190	114,190	120,130
Other Grants	-	162,988	162,988	157,355
Irish Aid	-	36,000	36,000	62,000
Fundraising, Donations & Sponsorship	-	2,143,640	2,143,640	2,753,488
Investment Income	-	356,996	356,996	227,011
Sundry Income	-	90,249	90,249	14,230
Cost Recovery Income	-	57,474	57,474	83,600
Games Income	-	625,165	625,165	-
Merchandise Income	-	59,480	59,480	2,330
Regional Office Income	1,785,413	-	1,785,413	1,246,509
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,785,413</b>	<b>5,954,024</b>	<b>7,739,437</b>	<b>7,288,733</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Centralised Programmes	26,157	4,108,844	4,135,001	2,700,480
Marketing, Communication & Fundraising	-	861,656	861,656	1,634,607
Overheads & Information Technology	-	722,889	722,889	830,331
Compliance & Insurance	-	278,412	278,412	276,435
Regional Programmes	1,841,372	-	1,841,372	1,029,845
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,867,529</b>	<b>5,971,801</b>	<b>7,839,330</b>	<b>6,471,698</b>
<b>(Deficit) / Surplus for Year</b>	<b>(82,116)</b>	<b>(17,777)</b>	<b>(99,893)</b>	<b>817,035</b>

There are no recognised gains or losses other than the surplus or deficit for the above two financial periods.

Approved by the Board on 7th May 2011



Mary Davis  
Director



Ronan King  
Director

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2010

	2010 €	2009 €
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Assets	64,828	51,670
Investments	250,000	250,000
	<u>314,828</u>	<u>301,670</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Stocks	116,428	75,828
Bank & Cash	9,040,159	9,106,836
Debtors & Prepayments	122,262	140,747
	<u>9,278,849</u>	<u>9,323,411</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	<u>(524,971)</u>	<u>(456,482)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>8,753,878</b>	<b>8,866,929</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>9,068,706</b>	<b>9,168,599</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>		
Restricted Reserves		
Regional Office Reserves	1,236,140	1,973,913
Host Town Fund	87,412	113,569
Open Eyes Fund	6,230	6,230
	<u>1,329,782</u>	<u>2,093,712</u>
Unrestricted Reserves		
Unrestricted Funds	2,455,183	1,791,146
Designated Funding Reserve 2008 to 2011	5,283,741	5,283,741
	<u>7,738,924</u>	<u>7,074,887</u>
<b>MEMBERS FUNDS</b>	<b>9,068,706</b>	<b>9,168,599</b>

Approved by the Board on 7th May 2011



Mary Davis  
Director



Ronan King  
Director

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT

### For the year ended 31st December 2010

	2010	2009
	€	€
Reconciliation of operating (loss)/profit to net Cash outflow from operating activities		
Operating (Deficit) / Surplus	(456,889)	590,024
Depreciation	47,684	65,832
Decrease in debtors	18,485	73,414
(Increase) in stock	(40,600)	(27,494)
Increase / (Decrease) in creditors	<u>68,489</u>	<u>(246,731)</u>
<b>Net cash (outflow) / inflow from operating activities</b>	<b><u>(362,831)</u></b>	<b><u>455,045</u></b>
<b>Cash flow statement</b>		
Net cash (outflow) / inflow from operating activities	(362,831)	455,045
Returns on investment and servicing of finance	356,996	227,011
Capital expenditure	<u>(60,842)</u>	<u>(11,700)</u>
<b>(Decrease) / Increase in cash in the year</b>	<b><u>(66,677)</u></b>	<b><u>670,356</u></b>
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds		
(Decrease) / Increase in cash in the year	<u>(66,677)</u>	<u>670,356</u>
Net funds at 1st January 2010	<u>9,106,836</u>	<u>8,436,480</u>
<b>Net funds at 31st December 2010</b>	<b><u>9,040,159</u></b>	<b><u>9,106,836</u></b>

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements.

### (a) Basis of Financial Statements Preparation:

The audited financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland and Irish statute comprising of the Companies Acts 1963 to 2009. Accounting Standards generally accepted in Ireland in preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view are those issued by the Accounting Standards Board and published by the Auditing Practices Board in the UK and Ireland.

### (b) Income:

Income is recognised as it is received for the following categories:

- Sponsorship Income, Fundraising, Trusts, Investment Income, Sundry Income, Cost Recovery Income and Merchandise Income.
- Grants Income is recognised in the Income and Expenditure Statement as the related expenditure is incurred.

### (c) Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation:

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold Improvements	-	30% Straight Line
Computer Equipment	-	Straight Line over 3 years
Office Equipment	-	25% Straight Line
Fixtures & Fittings	-	25% Straight Line
Motor Vehicles	-	25% Reducing Balance

### (d) Investments:

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost less provision for diminution in value.

### (e) Stock:

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

### (f) Pensions:

The Company operates a defined contribution scheme. Contributions payable to this scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account in the period in which they relate. These contributions are invested separately to the company's assets.

### (g) Foreign Currencies:

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Euros at the rate of exchange prevailing at the accounting date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the date of the transactions. All differences are taken to the Income and Expenditure account.

### (h) Reserve:

It is stated policy of the charity to ensure that there are sufficient reserves available to meet projected expenditure for a minimum of twelve months ahead.



# Our Long-Term Vision

**“ To build a sustainable Special Olympics Ireland programme so that every person with an intellectual disability has the opportunity, in their local community, to participate in high quality sport and development activities that bring life-changing experiences of increased skills, self-confidence and joy. ”**

## **SPECIAL OLYMPICS IRELAND**

4th Floor, Park House,  
North Circular Road,  
Dublin 7, Ireland

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### **Find us online**

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