



Special Olympics GB – Governance Statement

Special Olympics GB is the largest provider of year-round, all ability, sports programme in Great Britain and supports over 10,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities on a continued basis. 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 a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Our Board

Special Olympics GB is a charity and a limited company that is governed by a Board of Directors who support the organisation in a voluntary capacity.

The Special Olympics GB Board will guide, govern and strengthen its leadership of Special Olympics Great Britain to create improved organisation performance in the provision of sport and competition to all people with Intellectual Disabilities (ID) whilst ensuring the health, wellbeing, development, respect and dignity of all its members and allowing them to achieve their full potential in life through meaningful inclusion.

Our Board is responsible for:

- Setting and maintaining the strategic direction of Special Olympics GB
- Ensuring effective delivery of our desired outcomes for our target audience of people with intellectual disabilities, including through finance and resource management
- Developing and maintaining a clear and effective governance structure, across our national delivery structure in England, Scotland and Wales
- Complying with all relevant laws and regulations
- Ensuring the Board is properly constituted and operates effectively.

The Board is committed to:

- Recruiting people with appropriate diversity and independence and who bring a wide variety of skills, experience and knowledge to help us deliver our goals
- Recruiting Board Directors who are passionate about and keen to progress the work of Special Olympics GB
- Completing a Board Skills Matrix on an annual basis so that we can ensure that the experience, expertise and skills of the Board continue to reflect the needs of Special Olympics GB.

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Board of Directors

Our Board is composed of business and sport leaders, professional athletes, educators and experts in intellectual (learning) disabilities.

- [Murton Mann, Chair](#)
- [Len Dunne, Vice Chair](#)
- [Professor Jan Burns MBE](#)
- [Robert Powell](#)
- [Miles MacKinnon](#)
- [Phil Nathan MBE](#)
- [Laura Smith OBE](#)
- [Greg Silvester](#)
- [Anthony Abbott](#)

Honorary Board

- [Lawrie McMenemy MBE, President](#)
- [Paul Anderson OBE, Vice President](#)
- [Pat England MBBS, FRCS, FRCS Ed](#)
- [Georgina Hulme](#)
- [Rosie Stancer](#)

Company Secretary

- [Peju Oriunuta](#)

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Articles of Association

The organisation is governed by our Articles of Association and they can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/2RExraK>

Policies

The governance of Special Olympics GB is supported by a range of organisational policies and procedures.

Key policies can be found in the Delegation of Authority that the Board is responsible for ensuring are in place and reviewed annually including:

- Safeguarding (including Protection of Children and Vulnerable People)
- Health and safety
- Risk management (including protection of the charity's property and necessary insurances)
- Complaints & grievance
- Data protection
- Equal opportunities
- Environmental
- Communications/PR

Board Sub-Committees

The Board has established the following two sub-committees: an Executive Committee and a National Advisory Council.

The Board is in the process of establishing a further two sub-committees, which will support the main Board of Directors, these being:

- Governance & Risk committee
- Finance & Audit Committee

The Sub-Committees will be established by 31st December 2018. Terms of references for the sub-committees will be available here shortly.

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Executive Committee

The Executive Committee (ExCo) is a standing Committee of the Board of Directors that:

- Provides the Board with guidance and recommendation when required
- As required, acts as a decision making forum for and on behalf of the Board on time sensitive (emergency) decisions and authorisations required in between regular board meetings*
- Supports the CEO on strategic matters arising in between regular board meetings
- Monitors progress and guide the CEO through the year
- Recommends for the Board senior remuneration framework giving due regard to the financial health of the organisation.

ExCo does not have the authority to vote on behalf of the full Board other than in matters delegated to it in the Delegation of Authority (DoA) or by resolution of the Board.

Current ExCo representatives are:

- Murton Mann (Chair)
- Len Dunne (Vice-Chair)
- Phil Nathan
- Robert Powell

The Terms of Reference of our Executive Committee can be found here:

<https://bit.ly/2PKtyUa>

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National Advisory Council

The National Advisory Council (NAC) is a sub-committee of the Board and is responsible for setting the priorities and overseeing the development of the Special Olympics GB sports programme. The committee is comprised elected volunteer representatives from England, Scotland and Wales. Our current NAC representatives are;

For England

- These roles are currently vacant, if you have any queries please contact Andy.Heffer@sogb.org.uk

For Scotland

- Laura Smith OBE
- Yvonne Anderson

For Wales

- Anthony Abbott
- Dr Dawn Brace

Each one of the home countries also has its own National Council, which is made up of regional or clubs volunteer members who are voted into position by their steering groups. To find out more about our National Programme Structure, please click here <https://bit.ly/2AO7Ru4>

The Terms of Reference of our National Advisory Council and National Councils can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2AQKEaV>

Governance Statement: Agreed by Board 27th September 2018

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