

What is Special about Special Olympics?

“Special Olympics seeks to uphold the spirit of sportsmanship and love of participation for their own sakes. Special Olympics also believes that every athlete should participate to his or her fullest potential”

Special Olympics is founded on the belief that people with a learning disability can, with proper instruction and encouragement, learn, enjoy and benefit from participation in individual and team sports, adapted as necessary to meet their individual needs.

Special Olympics believes that through sports training and competition, people with a learning disability benefit physically, mentally, socially and spiritually. Families are strengthened and the community at large, both through participation and observation, is united with people with a learning disability in an environment of equality, respect and acceptance.

The beauty of the Special Olympics is that ‘everyone’ from all walks of life and society can make a telling difference to support people with learning disabilities. There’s nothing like building team spirit in local communities, businesses, schools and clubs to support such an amazing and life changing experience for all those involved. What a way to demonstrate and showcase the true spirit of Leicestershire so close to the 2012 Olympics.

The Games will include 21 sports, 2,700 athletes, 1,200 coaches, 6,000 families, 1500 volunteers. Seven days of events and achievements will commence with a high profile Olympic style Opening Ceremony in the Walkers Stadium and a host of highlights and sports/leisure/hospitality related events. The games will take place across the city and Rutland between 25th -31st July.

“Special Olympics continue to challenge educators, employers, health care professionals and the public at large – worldwide – to introduce new opportunities for inclusion of persons with learning disabilities, and, once and for all, to dispel the myths surrounding their capabilities,”

– Tim Shriver, Chairman of Special Olympics.



Leicester Games 2009 Ltd.
c/o A12 New Walk Centre,
Welford Place, Leicester, LE1 6ZG
Telephone: 0116 2528509
Email: info@sol2009.com
www.sol2009.com



Special Olympics
Great Britain

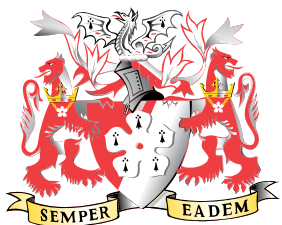
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Lord Mayor's Appeal '08/'09



Special Olympics
Great Britain



The Lord Mayor of Leicester's Appeal 2008/2009 *Special Olympics Leicester 2009*

'Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt'
- oath of Special Olympics athletes



As the Lord Mayor of Leicester and first citizen it gives me great pleasure to support local Special Olympics athletes as they prepare to take part in the 8th Special Olympics GB National Summer Games 2009 in Leicester & Rutland.

Do you remember Friday 13th July 2007? An historic day when Special Olympics GB officials at the Town Hall, awarded the 2009 Special Olympics Great Britain National Summer Games to the city and people of Leicester.

The decision has been met with much acclaim and approval all-round from those people working in sport for people with learning disabilities.



This is without doubt a wonderful opportunity for both the City of Leicester and Special Olympics GB. It's the one big moment in our city which can pull everyone closer together and leave a lasting legacy for people with learning disabilities - people with abilities.

These are undoubtedly the people's Games where anyone and everyone can make a telling difference for the benefit of others.

I do hope the citizens of Leicester take this opportunity during my year in office to join with me to help in any way they can to get behind the Games either in a volunteer capacity, sponsorship & fundraising and support role.



Let's show the UK and international community that we are world-class city. One that uses the power of sport and cultural activities at every level to inspire and build harmonious relations between people from all the city's diverse communities and improve sporting opportunities for people from hard to reach backgrounds, especially those with disabilities.



It's not necessarily about what the 2009 Special Olympics Games can do us. It's about what WE together can do for them.

My appeal aims to assist city and county athletes with learning disabilities to be able to compete in these Games and to help celebrate & research their achievements. I do hope that you will give generously to support this most worthwhile cause.

I look forward to meeting you all during my year in office and to your support.

Manjula Sood

Lord Mayor of Leicester



Please Give Generously

I enclose a donation of £

Cheques/postal orders should be made payable to: **The Lord Mayor's Appeal**

Tax-efficient Giving for the UK Taxpayer. Using Gift Aid would add nearly 30% to your gift - thus increasing its value to the Appeal at no extra cost to you. Gift Aid enables the charity to recover the basic rate tax on one-off donations. Furthermore, a higher rate taxpayer can claim back for himself/herself the difference between basic rate and higher rate tax on the gross value of the gift.

Please send me a Gift Aid Form

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**Lord Mayor's Special Olympics Appeal
Leicester Games 2009 Ltd., c/o A12 New Walk
Centre, Welford Place, Leicester, LE1 6ZG**