New Global Initiatives in Special Olympics Movement

Dr. Mariusz Damentko –
Special Olympics Europe-Eurasia
Sports Director
Warsaw, 26 October 2011



Special Olympics MISSION

The mission of Special Olympics 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 and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.



Coaching Excellence Vision

Through a focus on Coaching Excellence
 Special Olympics will be recognized as a leader
 in sports training and education providing
 coaches with the highest level and most up to
 date technical knowledge enabling athletes to
 achieve their maximum potential.

Characteristics of an Excellent coach

- Complete knowledge of the sport/ rules
- Strong communication skills
- Able to motivate
- Knowledge of medical aspects of ID
- Ability to identify each athletes capabilities and establish goals and plans
- Physical and organizational skills
- Basic knowledge of First Aid



Coaching Excellence and International Sport Organization Partnerships

- Creation of two year calendar of critical Sports Organization meetings and symposiums to establish attendance at priority meetings, events and competitions
- Implement Sport Organization Partnership Strategy Plan
- Solicit support from ISF leaders, Sports Ministers and sport industry executives to attend Special Olympics events and the 2011 SOWSG



UEFA — SOEE





- Initiated in 1999 with help SO Monaco
- First Partnership agreement signed in October 2000 (for 2001-2003) and revewed several times
- Donations every year at least 250 000 EURO (much bigger before 2003, 2007 World Games and 2008 European 11a-side Tournament in Austria/Switzerland)
- 16 European Football Tournaments, 10 Football Weeks, 8
 Football Conferences, promo at EURO2008, Coaching
 DVD, over 200 grants distributed
- Champions League promotion in London 2011







Be a fan of acceptance, dignity, and the human race.

FIBA Europe - SOEE



- 2004 Partnership signed in Rhodos
- Promo at EuroBasket'2005 and 2009
- 2005-2009 Endorsment letters to all Federations before each Basketball Week, SOEE link, press releases & strories at FIBA web site.



EUROLEAGUE BASKETBALL - SOEE



- Partnership signed for 2009/2010 Season.
- Wide PR campaign during 24 Euroleague matches on Nov 11-12 and Nov 25-26.
 - SO Athletes on the courts with Euroleague Teams, players wore SO T-shirts, SO banner/LED/logo, video, SO Be a Fan stickers on the courts.
 - Promo at Final Four in Paris May 7-9 and in Barcelona in 2011.

EUROLEAGUE BASKETBALL - SOEE









LEN (League Europeenne Natation) -SOEE

- Initiated in Rome in 2005
- Protocol of Agreement in Patras in 2006
- SO Demo at the European Swimming Championships in Budapest (2 times), Helsinki, Eidhoven, Rijeka, and Szczecin in 2011
- LEN- SOEE website links, repr. at the SOEE Sports Conference





ETBF (Bowling) - SOEE

- Initiated in October 2009 in Barcelona
- Partnership Agreement signed in 2010 in Malta
- ETBF- SOEE website links
- SO Demonstration during World Champs and European Champs in Munich
- Addie Ophelders visit at the 2011 World Games in Athens



EA European Athletics



- Protocol of Partnership signed in March 2011 in Lausanne
- EA- SOEE website links





UEG (Gymnastics)



- Protocol of Partnership signed in March 2011 in Lauzanne
- UEG- SOEE website links
- UEG President at the 2011 World Games in Athens



IFAPA – SOI



- Participation in IFAPA Conference in Verona (2005), Rio Claro (2007), Gavle (2009) with Special Olympics workshops and EUCAPA in Jyvaskila 2010
- Participation of Shayke Hutzler, IFAPA President in 2008
 SOEE Leadership Conference in Bucharest, Romania
- Protocol of Partnership with SOI signed in Warsaw during European SO Games



ICSSPE - SOI



International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education
Conseil International pour l'Education Physique et la Science du Sport
Weltrat für Sportwissenschaft und Leibes-/Körpererziehung
Consejo Internacional para la Ciencia del Deporte y la Educación Física



- ICSSPE membership since 2006
- Participation in ICSSPE Conference in 2006 Berlin, 2007 Warsaw and 2008 in Guanghzou, China

SPORTS RESOURCE TEAMS SRTS

- Volunteer teams recruited from SO Programs and Sports Federations, worldwide – 120 persons involved in 30 sports
- Experts in a specific sport
- Develop coaches guides and other support materials
- Provide guidance on any sports specific questions
- Review suggested sports rules changes



Extended quota

- The primary goal is to give competition opportunities to athletes who have not been able to find competition within Special Olympics because they are the only athlete in their program competing at such a high level. Programs would still have to nominate athletes
- Nominated athletes must meet the established time standards for the sports available.

Extended quota cont.

Sports Available at 2011 World Games:

Open Water swimming- 1500 m, Marathon, Half Marathon, Aquatics 400 m, Athletics 100 m, 800 m and 5000 m. Bowling, Cycling, Golf and Gymnastics

Sports Available at 2013 Winter World Games:

Alpine and Cross Country Skiing, Speed & Figure Skating, Snowboarding



Athletes Leadership Program (ALPS)

- Athletes Board Members
- Athletes Assistant Coach
- Athletes Officials
- Athletes Volunteers
- Global Ambassadors



Young Athletes Program

- Plays Program for chlidren in age 2½ to 7 years
- Special Olympics & Mattel Children's Foundation

Goals:

- Introduct new families to Special Olympics
- Develop interest in sport among children with I.D. and their families
- Prepare new generation of Special Olympics athletes to training and competitions



Volunteers at schools

- Mainstream schools
- Youth Forums and Conferences
- "SO Get Into It" Program

Thank you very much





