



## 10 DAYS TO GO!

Teams are ready, the City of Melbourne is ready and I'm ready to enjoy the great celebration that will be the Special Olympics Australia National Games. I can't wait to see athletes marching into the stadium wearing their state/territory colours with pride while family, friends and fans cheer them on. Bring on the Games!

Nicola Stokes, Chief Executive Officer  
Special Olympics Australia



It's just 10 days until the Games and our athletes are bursting with excitement! Photo: Peter Muhlbock, Special Olympics Australia

## MESSAGE FROM TOMMY OAR

Take a look at the brilliant message of support from Soccerroo and National Games ambassador, Tommy Oar and watch out for more messages from our supporters on the [National Games Facebook page](#) as we countdown to the big event in Melbourne.

## TAKE ACTION

**DONATE** to the team.  
**ATTEND** an event.  
**PROMOTE** our news.



Please share our news and pictures via your own personal or business channels. All content is media cleared for the promotion of Special Olympics Australia. For enquiries please contact [contactmedia@specialolympics.com.au](mailto:contactmedia@specialolympics.com.au)

## CONGRATULATIONS CARRIE!



A huge congratulations to our Special Olympics Australia National Games ambassador Carrie Bickmore on the exciting news! [Click here](#) to see what Carrie's big news is!

## GALA DAY CELEBRATIONS



## GETTING IN GEAR

One of the joys of being selected for the National Games is receiving the uniform so we were delighted to see photos from the official uniform presentations which ranged from fun community celebrations to formal receptions. Share your uniform pictures via our [Facebook page](#). We can't wait to see you all proudly wearing your gear in Melbourne!



Philip De Jong, Garry Burnside and Katherine Symons from Team Tasmania show off their colours at Government House in Hobart. Photo: The Mercury. [Click here](#) for more pictures from the day.



Special Olympics Australia athletes Kerrod Hamilton, Ruby Lawler, Jarrod Lee and Adam Knust were proud to receive their Queensland uniform. Photo: Special Olympics Gladstone



We love the celebration cake! Photo: Special Olympics Gladstone



SEDA students and Gala Day participants enjoyed a wonderful day of sport and inclusion. SEDA students from L to R: Laura Breen, Josie Gonzalez, Mikayla Leyonhjelm and Jessie Hare.

More than 300 primary school and all-ability students from eight schools participated in the Special Olympics Gala Day yesterday at the State Netball and Hockey Centre. The day was coordinated by students in SEDA's Diploma class who ran netball, basketball, soccer and AFL clinics. The aim of the day was to raise awareness of the need for social inclusion and sports participation for people with an intellectual disability.

It was a fantastic event with a positive response from all in attendance, including students and sports partners. Congratulations SEDA and the student team! We look forward to continuing to work together.

## MESSAGE FROM GAMES SUPPORTER

"Holden is thrilled to come on board as the official vehicle sponsor for the Special Olympics Australia National Games.



**HOLDEN**

This event is a celebration of the role sport can play in the lives of the athletes who strive for personal excellence and their families and supporters who are able to cheer them on.

We would like to wish all of the athletes competing, who have sacrificed and worked so hard to compete in these Games, all the very best."

## SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCES

Take a peek at our social media resources which include Facebook avatars, cover photos and videos to share. They are a great way to show support for your state or territory team! [Click here to visit the Social Media Resources page](#).



Our social media resources includes athlete videos. Click above to hear from Ruby Lawler (Team Queensland) who is competing in aquatics at the Special Olympics Australia National Games!

## GET TO KNOW YOUR HOST CITY

Its quite fitting that Melbourne will host the Special Olympics Australia National Games as it is often referred





Team Victoria at a reception with the Governor of Victoria, Alex Chernov AC QC. Photo: Governor of Victoria's Office.

## TORCH RUN NEWS

The Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg kicks off next week in Adelaide, the host of the previous National Games in 2010. There are three Torch Run legs in South Australia before the Flame of Hope hits Melbourne's Federation Square and we encourage all supporters to get out and support the Torch Run in your local town.

1 | Adelaide City | 11.30am, Wednesday 15 October 2014 starting at the Eastern Gates of Adelaide Oval and finishing at Victoria Square at 12:25pm.

2 | Naracoote | 1pm, Thursday 16 October 2014 starting at TAFE SA and finishing at Memorial Park Fountain at 1:45pm.

3 | Bordertown | 9.15am, Friday 17 October 2014 starting at Tolmer Park with handover to Victoria at 9:30am before journeying through Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong and Horsham.

4 | Melbourne | 11am, Sunday 19 October 2014 starting at Town Hall and finishing with a celebration hosted by Carrie Bickmore in Federation Square at 11am. It's free and open to all so come and join us.

## FROM THE TREASURE BOX

The Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics Australia National Games is always a colourful affair and none were more so than the beach-themed party for the National Games on the Gold Coast in 2006 where over 850 athletes filled the Gold Coast Convention Centre. Team Victoria took the beach-theme to the extreme with brightly colour Hawaiian shirts and bucket hats.



Team Victoria get into the beach spirit on the Gold Coast in 2006. Photo: Special Olympics Australia

to as the sporting capital of Australia. Melbourne hosts the Australian Open tennis, the Australian Formula One Grand Prix and Spring Racing Carnival each year and we look forward to creating another chapter in Melbourne's great sporting history this October!



The famous MCG is one of Melbourne's world-class sporting venues.

## ACCESSIBLE SEATING



**Priority Seating**  
for customers with  
disabilities and  
seniors

If you are joining us at the Opening or Closing Ceremony and require an accessible seat please register your request

with [supporters.2014ng@specialolympics.com.au](mailto:supporters.2014ng@specialolympics.com.au). On the day, look out for the Game Changer Volunteers in their orange shirts who will guide you to your seat.

## OPENING CEREMONY TICKETS

The Opening Ceremony of a National Games is always a highlight. Make sure you don't miss this great night of entertainment and fun. [Click here](#) to grab your tickets.

## MERCHANDISE

Get into the spirit of the Games and grab your merchandise. A great range of clothing and accessories are available. [Click here](#) to get yours.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

Get your plans together for the Games by viewing the Sports Schedule, which is officially available now. [Click here](#) to download the schedule. In addition, get yourself familiar with each of the venues. [Click here](#) to find out where each sport is being held.

PRINCIPLE PARTNER



MAJOR PARTNER



MEDIA PARTNER

