



**INFORMATIONAL**  
**BCC Meeting September 26, 2023**

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**AGENDA ITEM**  
**Assistant County Administrator /**  
**Department of General Services**  
**Parks and Recreation**

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**Date:** September 18, 2023

**To:** The Honorable Board of County Commissioners

**Through:** John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator  
Michael C. Zito, Deputy County Administrator  
Beth Powell, Acting General Services Director/Parks & Recreation Director

**From:** David Smith, Aquatics Manager

**Subject:** State of Florida Special Olympics Aquatic Championship to be held at the North County Aquatic Center and Intergenerational Recreation Center October 7-8, 2023

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Special Olympics is a global organization and is the largest sports organization that serves athletes with intellectual disabilities. There are more than 4.9 million athletes in 172 countries and over one million volunteers. The mission of the 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. The Special Olympics mission remains as vital today as it did when the movement was founded in 1968.

The State of Florida Special Olympics Aquatic Championships will be held starting at 8:00 am on October 7-8, 2023, at the North County Aquatic Center in Sebastian for the 18<sup>th</sup> year. The Opening Ceremony will take place on October 7, 2023, at the Intergenerational Recreation Center in Vero Beach starting at 8:00 pm. This year's event will highlight 428 swimmers representing 39 Florida counties, 120 coaches, family members and volunteers. Volunteers from throughout Indian River County contribute their time, energy, and efforts to this worthwhile cause and have the opportunity to work with exceptional athletes from throughout the State.

Anyone interested in volunteering for this event may contact the North County Aquatic Center (772) 226-1746 or sign up at <https://cerv.is/0197x2537>. There are positions open in timing, staging, awards, and ushers. The Parks and Recreation Division encourages the community to attend the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Special Olympics Aquatic Championship in support of our visiting athletes.