



**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**AGENDA ITEM**  
**Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department**  
**Aquatics Division**

---

**Date:** August 21, 2024  
**To:** The Honorable Board of County Commissioners  
**Thru:** John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator  
Michael C. Zito, Deputy County Administrator  
Beth Powell, Parks, Recreation & Conservation Director  
**From:** Dave Smith, Aquatics Manager  
**Subject:** State of Florida Special Olympics Aquatics Championships

---

**BACKGROUND:**

The Special Olympics is a global organization that supports athletes with intellectual disabilities. It's the largest sports organization of its kind, with over 4.9 million athletes in 172 countries and more than one million volunteers. The mission of the Special Olympics is to offer year-round sports training and athletic competitions in a range of Olympic-type sports for both children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Since its founding in 1968, this mission has remained as important as ever. Indian River County has been partnering with Florida Special Olympics for many years to host the regional and state aquatics championship at the North County Aquatic Center.

**DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS:**

Through a renewing agreement previously approved by the Board, the State of Florida Special Olympics Aquatic Championships will be held, for its 19<sup>th</sup> year on September 28-29, 2024, at the North County Aquatic Center. The Opening Ceremony will take place at 8:00p.m. on September 28, 2024, at the Intergenerational Recreation Center. It is at this local level, where interested volunteers meet the amazing athletes. This year's event will highlight 428 swimmers representing 39 Florida Counties, 120 coaches, family members and volunteers.

Currently, there are volunteer position openings for timing, staging, awards, and ushers. Anyone interested in volunteering for this event may call the North County Aquatic Center 772-226-1746 or sign up through a link found at [www.IndianRiver.gov/parksandrecreation](http://www.IndianRiver.gov/parksandrecreation). The Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department encourages the community to come out and support the hard work of these athletes.

**FUNDING:**

No funding is required

**RECOMMENDATION:**

There is no action required by the Board as this item is being presented for informational purposes only.