

**Lakeland Special Olympics Club aims to:**

* + provide high-quality sports training and competitive opportunities for people with an intellectual disability
  + provide a safe, secure and neutral environment for athletes, coaches and volunteers to participate in sporting pursuits
  + provide a fun-filled and enjoyable training environment where athletes will be encouraged to develop their skills and abilities to their full potential
  + promote social development through the medium of sport and maximise opportunities for social interaction on a club and interclub basis
  + develop coaches and volunteers through appropriate training and educational courses thereby ensuring high-level coach and volunteer provision
  + engage in an inclusive partnership approach with statutory authorities and the voluntary sector
  + create a shared learning experience by engaging with local schools and colleges and harnessing necessary public support and goodwill.

**In achieving its aims, Lakeland Special Olympics Club holds true the values of:**

* + ensuring all persons are valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, social or ethnic background, religion  or political persuasion
  + fair play, participation, best effort, enjoyment and participation
  + proper standards of behaviour, discipline and conduct at all times by  athletes, coaches and volunteers
  + ensuring all persons are treated with respect and dignity and actions guided by what is best for the athletes in an open, honest and transparent manner
  + recognising commitment and endeavours of coaches and volunteers whose contribution is essential in maintaining and developing club activities
  + nurturing a club atmosphere that ensures athletes and family members feel welcomed and supported throughout all relevant activities
  + adherence in all its practices to the code of ethics and good practice and relevant guidelines as established by the governing body of Special Olympics Ireland