



**Special Olympics**  
New Zealand



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For immediate release

## Media release Kiwis continue to impress in LA

The New Zealand team is now well into their stride in their competition across all sports. There was considerable courage and determination shown in basketball, golf and equestrian on the second day of the Special Olympics World Summer Games in Los Angeles.

The equestrian team performed well in their divisioning with Chelsea Thorn (Special Olympics Manukau) showing intense concentration in her dressage. "Griffith Park is an amazing venue with a fabulous equestrian facility. Chelsea had a lovely mount and she rode beautifully today. She is an extremely focused athlete and she clearly has a wonderful rapport with her horse", Special Olympics New Zealand Chief Executive Officer Kathy Gibson said.

The golfers were also in action on day two of competition at Griffith Park. "Our golfers are performing well and supporting each other to lift their games, despite the 5am starts due to the venue being a distance from the Games Village", said Special Olympics New Zealand Marketing and Communications Manager Angela Day who was following their progress closely in Burbank today.

The New Zealand basketball team was tested today in a tough encounter against Trinidad and Tobago at the Galen Centre, University of South California. "They played out of their skins to win an amazing tussle against the top performers in their division. New Zealand has never been in Division two at any World Games and so our guys needed to lift their game which they certainly did. There was no doubt that our team is gelling strongly together and to see them defending and attacking so well was just brilliant. The New Zealand supporters were very loud and I think it really spurred our guys on to victory", Mrs Gibson said.

All sports will be in action on Wednesday as the competition reaches the half way point in Games week.

Ends

**For more information:** Angela Day

Manager – Marketing & Communications  
Special Olympics New Zealand  
Tel: +64 27 297 7006  
Email: [angelad@specialolympics.org.nz](mailto:angelad@specialolympics.org.nz)

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### Special Olympics New Zealand

PO Box 38344, Wellington Mail Centre, Lower Hutt 5045, New Zealand **Tel** +64 4 560 0360 **Fax** +64 4 560 0400

[www.specialolympics.org.nz](http://www.specialolympics.org.nz) **Email** [info@specialolympics.org.nz](mailto:info@specialolympics.org.nz)

**Facebook** [www.facebook.com/specialolympicsnz](http://www.facebook.com/specialolympicsnz) **Twitter** @SpecOlympicsNZ

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