



**ACADÉMIE
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ACADEMIE DE NANTES

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Sujet n°3

“Unified sports, a game-changer for Special Olympians.” Euronews march 2019

What makes a successful Unified team?

“Great teams play well together, and have roles that accentuate their strengths,” says Mike Bovino, Unified Sports Senior Advisor at the Special Olympics.

“The ultimate goal is social inclusion, athletes and partners come together as equal teammates and peers on the court of play.”

Bovino told Euronews that the initiative has proved to work as a mechanism to remove labels, “when you play together, train together, and compete as equals, you start the process of being able to see that people are unique to who they are. This is the same for those that watch Unified games: they gain a greater understanding from the quality that happens in the field of play.”

For a Unified team to be successful, Bovino says it is imperative to understand the philosophy, “here the aim is not to win at any cost. The aim is to win while you're meaningfully involving everyone. There's a philosophical piece there, and when you sign up for it, whether you are an individual with an ID or not, you should understand it.”

<https://www.euronews.com/2019/03/21/unified-sports-a-game-changer-for-special-olympians>

Question : Explain in your own words how we define 'success' in a unified sports team. In your view, how can Physical Education help to build a more linked and inclusive model of society?