



**Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission**

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme

Link Modules

**Case Study
2004**

Case Study

European Special Games 2004

In conjunction with Ireland's presidency of the E.U. Ireland has been asked to host a European Special Games in May 2004. Teams from all existing member states and teams from the new member states will take part in these games. The games will give an opportunity for those with Special Needs to take part in a variety of sporting events.

The Games will take place during the second week in May. The teams will arrive in the country during the first week of May and they will be staying in towns and cities throughout the country for the first week of their visit. This will allow the teams to settle into Ireland, meet Irish people and prepare to compete. The host towns will be organising events to make the visitors welcome, give them an understanding of our culture and will be providing facilities to help them train and prepare for the games.

The European Special Games will take place in and around Dublin. Ten different venues will be used to facilitate the different sports. The participants, their trainers and helpers will come to Dublin for the week of the games and will stay in hotels and universities across the city. Each day transport will be provided to bring the teams to the events.

The organising committee for the European Special Games have been planning the games for the past 3 years. They began by involving a number of people in different areas such as sponsorship, marketing, accommodation, catering, medical, transport and the competition events themselves. The committees have members who have responsibilities for each area. These members in turn have a team of people to help with the work. As the time of the games draws nearer they will be involving more and more people to ensure that all gets done.

Thousands of volunteers will be needed to help throughout the two weeks that the participants are in Ireland. These helpers will be needed to assist with the teams from when they arrive at the airport to when they leave. Some helpers will be needed in the host towns and cities, others will be needed during the week of the Games themselves to help at the accommodation venues and at the competition venues. Volunteers with a variety of skills, such as language or medical expertise, will be required. Training will be provided for all volunteers in the month before the Games and all volunteers must have obtained Garda clearance before they will be issued with their security passes and uniforms. Volunteers will be assigned to specific duties and can sign up for a number of days depending on their availability.

The event will be covered by national and international media. The formal opening and closing ceremonies will take place in Dublin. All the participants are likely to attend these occasions.