

Josephs Italy Adventure

Special Olympics Winter World Games 2025

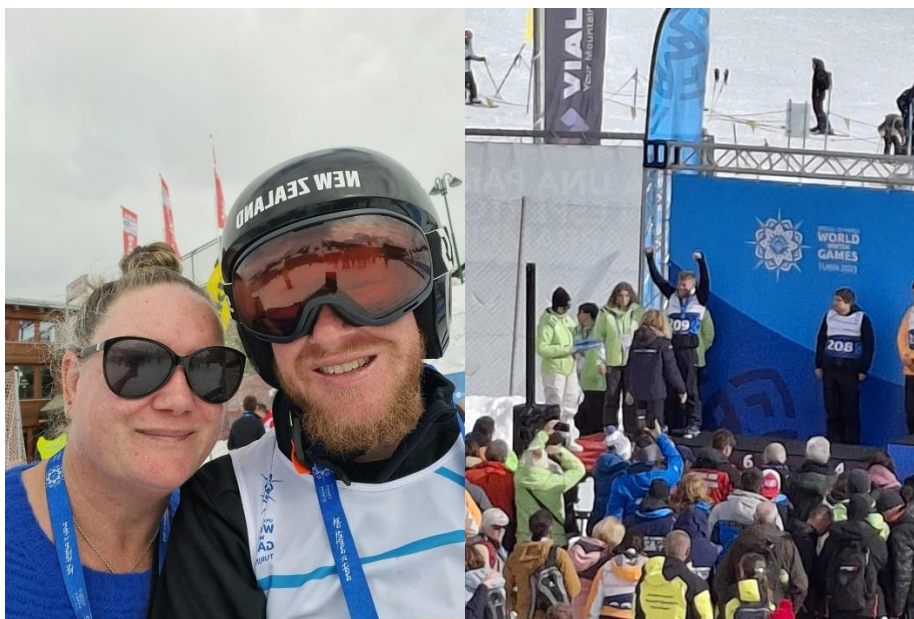
March 12, 2025

Today, Joseph Skiing competed in two divisional Giant Slalom races. The atmosphere was electric, with families and supporters from globally cheering on every competitor. Joseph will compete again tomorrow to secure his placement within his division. I am incredibly proud of his accomplishments, especially given the difficult conditions. As one of the New Zealand athletes, Joseph faced a lengthy wait, approximately 50th in the queue, and when he finally began his first race, the area past the gate was extremely icy. Several competitors fell, but Joseph demonstrated resilience and finished his race. His second race was executed perfectly, showcasing his confidence on the slopes.



March 14,2025

Yesterday was an emotionally intense day for Joseph, who endured two falls during his first ski race. Despite the initial fall, he remained calm and reattached his ski. However, due to snow accumulation under his boot, it did not click into place properly, resulting in a second fall. Although he managed to retrieve his ski and complete the run, he was subsequently disqualified due to exceeding the time limit. His perseverance and determination to finish the race were truly commendable, and we all feel so extremely proud of him. As the adrenaline wore off, Joseph became aware of a painful sensation in his right knee, prompting his coach, Brian, to seek immediate medical attention. The doctor diagnosed the injury as a soft tissue bruise and recommended an ice pack to alleviate the discomfort. The medical staff's kindness and professionalism were impressive, despite the language barrier. Joseph's dedication to his teammates led him to watch their race, navigating the slope with difficulty due to his injury. Later, he received a participation award during the medal presentation ceremony. Today, Joseph's knee showed significant improvement, and he is expected to resume skiing tomorrow.



March 15, 2025

What an amazing day it has been! Joseph has achieved his goal of completing his two divisional races for Slalom, and we're over the moon! Tomorrow, the racing begins at 9:30 am, and we're all hyped. Please send your positive thoughts and encouraging words to Joseph Skiing to give him an extra boost. We appreciate your incredible support!



March 16, 2025

Joseph has enjoyed a stellar finish to his week, earning a bronze medal for his division. He is eager to thank everyone who has contributed to his success in Italy and sent supportive messages. Joseph will embark on his return journey at 4:30am (his local time) and arrive back in Palmerston North on Tuesday morning.



Joseph would like to thank the Jaycee Trust for giving him the opportunity to achieve his goals of being able to compete in the Special Olympics Winter World Games and is so proud to be able to bring home a bronze medal for Manawatu.

