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# Green and gold pride

## SKIERS HEAD TO AUSTRIA

TWO Bracken Ridge athletes are hitting the slopes of Austria at the Special Olympics World Winter Games this week.

Alpine skiers Brenton Heslehurst and Shaun McKee are competing at the Games alongside 3000 athletes with an intellectual disability from 117 countries.

It is only the second time Australian athletes have competed in snow sports at a World Winter Games.

Mr Heslehurst, 30, said wearing green and gold was an honour.

"I am excited and proud about representing Australia at the highest level," Mr Heslehurst said.

"I love skiing and giving my best for my friends and family."

Special Olympics is the world's largest sports organisation for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

The program has a sentimental place in Mr Heslehurst's heart.

He met his wife Emily, who is also a Special Olympics athlete, through the



**Brenton Heslehurst will head to the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Austria.**

program. They welcomed their first child, a boy named Daniel, last year.

"Meeting Emily is a dream come true and shows that if you have dreams, you can

achieve them," Mr Heslehurst said.

Mr McKee, 26, said he was looking forward to the opportunity. "I love skiing and it's a great honour to rep-

resent Australia," Mr McKee said.

"I am very proud and excited."

To find out more, visit [specialolympics.com.au](http://specialolympics.com.au).