

Omer Ben Dor,

Omer Ben-Dor was seriously injured in a traffic accident in 1994. A tractor driver who failed to observe a stop sign caused the death of Omer's classmate, who was riding with him on his motorcycle, and left him paralyzed from the waist down.

When he was discharged from the Rehabilitation at Tel Hashomer, after 10 months of hospitalization, Ben-Dor became a volunteer for the National Council for the Prevention of Traffic Accidents (NCPTA). In this framework, Ben-Dor delivered thrilling lectures and demonstrated to his audience what can happen to a person who leaves his home on his way to school and returns ten months later, in a wheelchair and with a severe sense of loss. All this because of another driver who left his house that day and decided not to stop at a stop sign.

Ben-Dor decided to specialize in the field of safety. He volunteered for reserve duty in the IDF and was trained by the Road Safety Section of the General Staff Safety Department to administer preventive driving courses to soldiers. Ben-Dor is now a professional on the subject of road safety and, in his approach, he expresses the true meaning of "choosing life".

As a part of his rehabilitation in Tel HaShomer hospital, Omer turned competitive swimming into his profession and accomplished a number of impressive international achievements (World Championships). Realizing his capabilities, Omer decided to turn to his childhood passion – Horse back riding. Omer arrived at Dvash stables in 2001 and turned to Dror Ben Shaul proclaiming his new goal – "I don't want lessons as a disabled rider, I want the challenge and satisfaction of competing amongst non-disabled capable riders."

In Omer's eyes what draws him to horses is the special bond between a horse and his rider. The reference to an animal as a partner in the process of success, coping as team and developing a different nature of communication and all this under the physical restriction of being disabled.