

Appendix 4: Paralympic Sport structure

Introduction

This document provides an explanation of the international sport bodies that govern each sport in the Paralympic Programme as well as sports recognised by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). It is important for National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) to understand this governance structure because it will determine the NPC's membership structure.

According to the IPC Handbook, every NPC IPC member shall have the obligation to:

- 2.2.2 Include as members all national federations affiliated to the IFs governing 'Sports in the Paralympic Programme' or their representatives in the NPC General Assembly;
- 2.2.3 Act as the national governing body for sports governed by the IPC

The suggested NPC membership structure described in this document allows NPCs to fulfil the obligations above.

Paralympic Sport Structure

Sports in the Paralympic Programme and sports recognised by the IPC are governed by the following types of international governing bodies:

- 1. IPC
- 2. International Organisations of Sport for the Disabled (IOSDs)
- 3. Independent International Federations (IFs)
- 4. Recognised IFs



1. IPC Sports

The IPC serves as the IF for eight sports in the Paralympic Programme and for one sport that is not in the Paralympic Programme. IPC Sports can potentially become independent IFs and would then become a member of the IPC.

IPC Sports	In the Paralympic Programme
Para alpine Skiing	Yes
Para athletics	Yes
Para ice hockey	Yes
Para cross-country skiing	Yes
Para powerlifting	Yes
Shooting Para sport	Yes
Para snowboard	Yes
Para swimming	Yes
Para dance sport	No

IPC Membership Status: IPC Sports representatives have the right to attend the IPC General Assemblies as observers with speaking rights only.

NPC equivalent: An NPC has the obligation to serve as the National Federation (NF) of all IPC Sports. The NPC may decide to transfer the authority to a NF of an IPC sport and settle an agreement independently with the NF while keeping in mind that the responsibility of all IPC Sports falls on the NPC as part of their obligations as an IPC member regardless of the agreements they may settle with NFs. The IPC Sport NF representatives would have the right to attend the NPC General Assemblies as observers with speaking rights only.



2. IOSD Sports

The IPC has four IOSD members, from which two serve as the IF of four sports in the Paralympic Programme. IOSD Sports can potentially become independent IFs and would then become a member of the IPC.

IOSD	Sport in the Paralympic Programme
International Blind Sports Association (IBSA)	Football 5-a-side
	Goalball
	Judo
International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS)	Wheelchair Fencing
International Sports Federation for Persons with an Intellectual Disability (INAS)	None
Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association (CPISRA)	None

IPC Membership Status: IOSDs are full IPC members. Its representatives have the right to attend IPC General Assemblies with full vote and speaking rights. IOSD Sport (e.g. IWAS Fencing) representatives have the right to attend the IPC General Assemblies as observers with speaking rights only.

NPC equivalent: Each National Organisation of Sport for the Disabled (NOSD) that is a member of an IOSD member of the IPC can become a member of the NPC with speaking and voting rights. NOSD Sport (e.g. NWAS Fencing) representatives would have the right to attend the NPC General Assemblies as observers with speaking rights only.



3. Independent IFs

The IPC has 15 IF members, from which 12 also govern the Olympic sport.

Sport	International Federation	Also governs the Olympic Sport
Archery	World Archery	Yes
Badminton	Badminton World Federation (BWF)	Yes
Boccia	Boccia International Sports Federation (BISFed)	No
Canoeing	International Canoeing Federation (ICF)	Yes
Cycling	International Cycling Union (UCI)	Yes
Equestrian	International Equestrian Federation (FEI)	Yes
Rowing	World Rowing Federation (FISA)	Yes
Table Tennis	International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)	Yes
Taekwondo	World Taekwondo Federation (WTF)	Yes
Triathlon	International Triathlon Union (ITU)	Yes
Volleyball (Sitting)	World ParaVolley (WPV)	No
Wheelchair Basketball	International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF)	No
Wheelchair Curling	World Curling Federation (WCF)	Yes
Wheelchair Rugby	International Wheelchair Rugby Federation (IWRF)	No
Wheelchair Tennis	International Tennis Federation (ITF)	Yes

IPC Membership Status: Independent IFs are full IPC members. Its representatives have the right to attend IPC General Assemblies with full vote and speaking rights.

NPC equivalent: Each NF that is a member of an IF member of the IPC can become a member of the NPC with speaking and voting rights.



4. Recognised IFs

The IPC currently recognises 13 IFs that are not in the Paralympic Programme. If any of these sports is included in the Paralympic Programme, the respective IF would become a full IPC member.

Sport	International Federation
Armwrestling	World Armwrestling Federation (WAF)
Bobsleigh & Skeleton	International Bobsleigh & Skeleton Federation (IBSF)
CP Football	International Federation of CP Football (IFCPF)
Climbing	International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC)
Flying Disc	World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF)
Golf	International Golf Federation (IGF)
Handball	International Handball Federation (IHF)
Hockey	International Hockey Federation (FIH)
Karate	World Karate Federation (WKF)
Modern Pentathlon	Modern Pentathlon International Union (UIPM)
Powerchair Football	International Federation of Powerchair Football (FIPFA)
Sailing	World Sailing
Squash	World Squash Federation (WSF)

IPC Membership Status: Recognised IF representatives have the right to attend the IPC General Assemblies as observers with speaking rights only.

NPC member equivalent: NPCs can recognise NFs of sports that are not in the Paralympic Programme. Recognised NFs would have the right to attend the NPC General Assemblies as observers with speaking rights only.