



IPC GOVERNING BOARD BIOGRAPHIES

- Name: Duane Kale PLY
- IPC position: Vice President
- Elected: 2013 as Member at Large and in 2017 and 2021 as Vice President
- Position (outside of IPC GB): Independent Director
- Nationality: New Zealand
- Languages spoken: English
- Paralympic Games participated in: Atlanta 1996
- Paralympic medals won: 4 gold, 1 silver, 1 bronze
- Social media channels: [LinkedIn](#)



When and why did you first become involved in the Paralympic Movement?

Following the removal of a benign spinal tumour at age 22, I returned to the sport of swimming as a Para swimmer.

What has been your career path?

In 2022 I concluded a 35-year career in the banking sector. During this time, I managed the New Zealand swim team to the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games and was New Zealand Chef de Mission for both the Beijing 2008 and London 2012 Paralympic Games.

I was first elected to the IPC Governing Board as a Member at Large in 2013. In 2017, I was elected Vice President and am currently serving my second term in the role.

What do you enjoy most about the role that you have on the IPC Governing Board?

I really enjoy helping to shape the organisation to be recognised as a world leading sporting organisation with a strong and meaningful purpose. It is purpose that will transcend generations of Paralympians, shaped by those who have gone before us.

INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

Adenauerallee 212-214, 53113 Bonn, Germany / paralympic.org
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What is your personal highlight(s) from all the Paralympic Games you have attended?

There are too many to mention, however witnessing the joy of victory and knowing the impact on individuals lives due to the Games is the highlight.

Why for you are the Paralympic Games the most transformational event on earth?

They change athletes lives and they showcase to the world extraordinary people performing incredible sporting achievements.

Beyond the Games, what are your passions?

Ensuring that we have strong and transparent governance which includes decision making that reflects our global membership and society.

Over the next decade, what changes would you like to see that would improve the lives of the 1.2 billion persons globally who have a disability?

London 2012 is the benchmark of how the Games changed a nation's perspective on persons with a disability and sport. Not every city in the world can, or will, host a Paralympic Games and we cannot wait for transformation to occur only when a Games takes place. But the Paralympic Games is a platform to showcase that that difference is important and how this can benefit societies view on all people with a disability, not only Paralympians.

Who for you embodies the Paralympic Movement?

It's not one individual. The Paralympic Movement is bigger than the sum of all individuals, athletes, officials, family and fans combined. But it is that combination that provides the momentum and our alignment to be bold in our decisions and leaves me enormously optimistic about the future.

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