

# Awards Regulations

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## 1. Background

- 1.1 Through these Awards Regulations (**these Regulations**), the IPC recognises and values the granting of awards as an important tool to give personal and public recognition to the achievements and contributions of various stakeholders within the Paralympic Movement who contribute towards the IPC's vision both on and off the field of play.
- 1.2 The IPC encourages its members to identify and nominate suitable candidates for IPC awards and for any other relevant external award that increases the visibility of the Paralympic Movement.
- 1.3 Unless specified otherwise, defined terms used in these Regulations (denoted by initial capital letters) have the meaning given to them in the Constitution, and the rules of interpretation set out in Appendix 1 to the Constitution apply to these Regulations.

## 2. IPC awards

- 2.1 IPC awards are presented in the following categories:

- 2.1.1 Paralympic Order
- 2.1.2 Paralympic Games Appreciation Award
- 2.1.3 Paralympic Honour
- 2.1.4 Para Sport Awards
- 2.1.5 Women in Sport Awards
- 2.1.6 IPC Scientific Award

### 2.2 Paralympic Order

- 2.2.1 The Paralympic Order is the highest and most prestigious accolade anyone can be recognised with by the IPC.
- 2.2.2 The Paralympic Order is awarded to individuals/organisations who have made an outstanding and long-lasting contribution to the Paralympic Movement.
- 2.2.3 The Paralympic Order will normally be presented during a ceremony held around the General Assembly.
- 2.2.4 Nominations may be submitted by IPC Members and members of the Governing Board and Athletes' Council, with a limit of one entry per nominator.

2.2.5 A Selection Committee will be appointed by the President to evaluate the nominations received and recommend a maximum of six candidates to the Governing Board for approval. A new Selection Committee will be appointed for each nomination/selection process. The Selection Committee will ordinarily include at least the following:

- (a) one IF representative
- (b) one representative from each of the IPC regions
- (c) one athlete representative

The Selection Committee must have a strong gender balance, and may include members of the Governing Board, Management Team and other suitable members of the Paralympic Movement.

2.2.6 The Governing Board will then select a maximum of four candidates to receive the Paralympic Order.

### 2.3 Paralympic Games Appreciation Award

2.3.1 Representatives from Organising Committees and host cities will be recognised for their efforts in delivering successful Paralympic Games through three tiers of Appreciation Awards:

- **Tier 1:** this award will be presented to a small select group of highest ranked officials e.g. OCOG President, OCOG CEO, Governor/Mayor of host city.
- **Tiers 2 and 3:** recognition plaques in two sizes will be presented to certain senior executives and key high-level members of the OCOG and host city.

2.3.2 These awards will normally be presented towards the end of the Paralympic Games.

2.3.3 Recommendations will be made by the IPC representative on the Coordination Commission of the respective Paralympic Games, and the Management Team in consultation with the protocol department of the relevant Organising Committee. The President will then select the recipients.

### 2.4 Paralympic Honour

2.4.1 The Paralympic Honour is awarded to high-ranking dignitaries and officials partnering with the Paralympic Movement (including but not limited to Heads of State, Royalty, Ministers of Sport, Mayors, and

major sponsors) who have contributed significantly to the Paralympic Movement.

- 2.4.2 The Paralympic Honour will normally be presented at a reception or protocol event.
- 2.4.3 Nominations may be submitted by IPC Members and members of the Governing Board and Athletes' Council.
- 2.4.4 The decision to award the Paralympic Honour is at the sole discretion of the Governing Board.

## 2.5 Para Sport Awards

- 2.5.1 The IPC will aim to have Para Sport Awards on an annual basis, celebrating achievements from the wider Paralympic Movement. These awards focus on sport only.
- 2.5.2 The Para Sport Awards consist of various awards that, among other things:
  - (a) recognise outstanding performances from the respective season, across both summer and winter sports;
  - (b) celebrate the achievements and work of the wider Paralympic Movement; and
  - (c) honour legendary Paralympians, coaches and teams.
- 2.5.3 In order to optimise the length of the awards ceremony, not all awards will be presented during the event. Instead, several awards may be announced in the lead up to the event, to stimulate interest and excitement.
- 2.5.4 The award categories may include:

<b>Summer Sports Female Athlete of the Year</b>	Recognising the achievements of a female summer sport Para athlete from the respective season.
<b>Summer Sports Male Athlete of the Year</b>	Recognising the achievements of a male summer sport Para athlete from the respective season.
<b>Winter Sports Female Athlete of the Year</b>	Recognising the achievements of a female winter sport Para athlete from the respective season.

<b>Winter Sports Male Athlete of the Year</b>	Recognising the achievements of a male winter sport Para athlete from the respective season.
<b>Rising Star Award</b>	Recognising the achievements of an athlete (summer or winter) under the age of 20 at the start of the respective season, who has excelled during the season.
<b>Breakthrough of the Year</b>	Recognising an athlete or NPC that made a significant breakthrough during the respective season. This could include qualifying for a first World Championships, debuting at the Paralympic Games, winning a first medal, setting several personal bests. This award is targeted at developing athletes and NPCs.
<b>Team of the Year</b>	Recognising the achievements of a team (summer or winter) from the respective season.
<b>Coach of the Year</b>	Recognising the achievements of a coach (summer or winter) from the respective season.
<b>Community Initiative of the Year</b>	Recognising the work of an IPC Member or an IPC partner to develop Para sport and show return on investment.
<b>Sporting Moment of the Year</b>	Recognising the best sporting moment of the respective season.
<b>Volunteer of the Year</b>	Recognising a volunteer (for example, a classifier, technical official, event volunteer) who has excelled or gone beyond the call of duty to support the Paralympic Movement.
<b>Change Starts with Sport Award</b>	Recognising an individual or organisation whose actions have contributed to the growth and progression of the Paralympic Movement in at least one of the areas of attitudes, mobility and opportunity.

<b>NPC of the Year</b>	Recognising the achievements of an NPC during the respective season, both on and off the field of play.
<b>International Federation of the Year</b>	Recognising the achievements of an International Federation or Recognised International Federation during the respective season, both on and off the field of play.
<b>Women in Sport Awards</b>	Although the recipients of these awards will be announced on 8 March (see Article 2.6), the winners will be recognised again during the Para Sport Awards.
<b>Hall of Fame</b>	Four awards. Honours a female and a male Paralympian, as well as a coach and a team, who have achieved a very high and sustained level of success at the Paralympic Games (note: athletes from team sports also may be considered for individual awards). They must also have consistently displayed a spirit of fair play and made a positive contribution to the Paralympic Movement. Athletes/coaches must have retired from Paralympic Games competition, and must not have participated in the Paralympic Games during the last four years (one Paralympic Games cycle).

- 2.5.5 With the exception of Sporting Moment of the Year and Volunteer of the Year, nominations for the Para Sport Awards may be submitted by IPC Members and members of the Governing Board and Athletes' Council, with a limit of one entry per award.
- 2.5.6 For Sporting Moment of the Year and Volunteer of the Year, nominations are open to anyone.
- 2.5.7 With the exception of Sporting Moment of the Year and Volunteer of the Year, the Governing Board will vote to determine the winners of the Para Sport Awards from all nominations received.

2.5.8 For Sporting Moment of the Year and Volunteer of the Year, the Governing Board will select a shortlist of three moments for each award. The winner will then be decided by a public online vote.

2.5.9 Where appropriate, for any of the Para Sport Awards the President may decide to appoint a Selection Committee to evaluate the nominations received and make recommendations to the Governing Board for approval.

## 2.6 Women in Sport Awards

2.6.1 To coincide with International Women's Day on 8 March, the IPC will ordinarily present three Women in Sport Awards, in the following categories:

- (a) Builder
- (b) Next Generation Leader
- (c) NPC/IF

2.6.2 The procedures for nominations and selections are as set out in Article 2.5.

## 2.7 IPC Scientific Award

2.7.1 The IPC Scientific Award recognises the work of one academic researcher for their contribution to research in the field of Para sport. To be eligible for this award, candidates must have contributed through significant scientific publications or received national and/or international recognition for their work, and place an emphasis on the practical application of research with direct or indirect benefit to the Paralympic Movement. This award also aims to promote and encourage further study in this area.

2.7.2 The IPC Scientific Award will ordinarily be presented biennially, around the IPC VISTA conference.

2.7.3 Nominations may be submitted by IPC Members and members of the Governing Board and Athletes' Council. The IPC may also call for nominations from outside the IPC membership, including from the wider academic/scientific community.

2.7.4 Current members of the Governing Board, Committees and Athletes' Council cannot be nominated during the period of their mandate.

2.7.5 A Selection Committee will be appointed by the CEO to evaluate the nominations received and make a final decision. The Selection

Committee may decide not to award the IPC Scientific Award if no candidate meets the criteria.

## 2.8 General procedures for nominations and selections

2.8.1 Where members of the IPC are invited to nominate recipients for IPC awards, the following procedures will ordinarily apply:

- (a) The IPC will send an invitational letter and a nomination form to all IPC Members, including the timelines and criteria.
- (b) Those who submit nominations must complete the form with the candidate's contact details and the relevant information specific to the award, and send the form back to the IPC in the manner specified. Those who submit nominations are responsible for the accuracy of the information provided.
- (c) Where relevant, the IPC will provide the full nominations and information package to each Selection Committee member.
- (d) Selection Committee members must review all nominations and submit their recommendation within the timelines set by the IPC.
- (e) In the case of a tie between two or more candidates, the final decision will be made by the President.
- (f) All parties will maintain full confidentiality until the public announcement of the relevant awards.

## 3. External awards

3.1 In addition to IPC awards, the IPC also nominates and, where relevant, assists in the selection of a number of external awards, such as:

3.1.1 Awards presented by external organisations for nominees proposed and submitted by the IPC. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) Laureus World Sports Awards;
- (b) SportAccord Spirit of Sport Awards; and
- (c) International Fair Play Committee (CIFP) Awards.

3.1.2 Other external awards to which the IPC contributes e.g. in the form of having IPC representation in the selection jury or by promoting the opportunity towards its members. This includes the IPC/International



Association for Sport and Leisure Facilities (IAKS) Distinction for Accessibility to sports and leisure.

#### **4. Principles**

4.1 The following principles will apply in relation to the IPC awards and external awards:

4.1.1 Full confidentiality will be assured during the nomination and selection process. Selection Committee members and the IPC will not disclose any information outside of the respective committee on any of the candidates, nor on the nature of their decision.

4.1.2 All candidates will be given fair and equal consideration based on their merits and achievements. Additional information (e.g. outside of the relevant award criteria) and personal relationships must not influence the decision of the Selection Committee.

4.1.3 Selection Committee members may not cast a vote on any matter in respect of which they have an actual or perceived conflict of interest and should (or may be required by the chair to) excuse themselves from the meeting and refrain from participating in discussion on the matter. Where appropriate, a conflicted member may be replaced by a substitute. In the event of a dispute as to whether a Selection Committee member has a conflict of interest, such dispute will be resolved by the chair of the Selection Committee (or, if the conflict relates to the chair, the Selection Committee will vote on the issue).

4.1.4 The IPC seeks to promote diversity in connection with the nomination and selection process for IPC awards. The IPC calls on IPC Members to give special consideration to nominating suitable candidates from any under-represented diversity group.