

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** NPC's / IOSD's Widely and Regularly Practising Athletics  
**From:** IPC Athletics  
**Date:** 27/06/2008  
**Re:** IPC Athletics Rules Amendments

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Dear Colleagues,

The IPC Athletics Sports Technical Committee (STC) revised and published the IPC Athletics Rules and Regulations effective 15 May 2008. The purpose of the revised edition was to align the IPC Athletics Rules and Regulations with changes introduced by the IAAF as well as providing changes or clarifications on the interpretation of competition rules based on feedback from coaches, athletes and officials.

Since the revised edition of the IPC Athletics Rules and Regulations came into effect a number of concerns from NPCs have been raised in relation to the change of Rule 179 Paragraph 9.

As a result of the feedback received, IPC Athletics decided to undertake a review. The purpose of the review was to examine the rule change in detail and objectively determine its impact on officiating athlete performances.

The review included the following actions:

- Analysing competition results (from 15 May 2008 to present)
- Reviewing Technical Delegate Reports from IPC Athletics Approved Competitions (from 15 May 2008 to present)
- Seeking opinions from a cross section of coaches, athletes and IPC Athletics international technical officials.

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The conclusions drawn from the review were as follows:

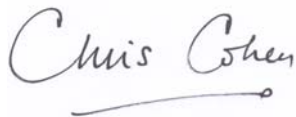
- 1) The timing of the rule amendment was deemed insufficient for athletes to adjust throwing styles for universal compliance prior to the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games.
- 2) Uncertainty existed to whether all technical officials at the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games would be in a position to consistently enforce the rule, due to the insufficient lead-time for training and experience.
- 3) The performances used to determine the minimum qualification standards and point scores for the relevant seated throw events would be inconsistently applied through the qualification and competition period, thus not providing a consistent and comparable competition system throughout the period.

As a result, IPC Athletics has taken the decision to refrain from implementing the change to Rule 179 Paragraph 9 and retain the rule and its application. However the revision will come into effect from and including 1 October 2008.

The IPC Athletics STC invites contributions from the IPC membership specifically in relation to this subject for application following the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games. Contributions should be sent through your respective IPC Member to Ms. Helen Murphy, IPC Athletics Sport Manager at [helen.murphy@paralympic.org](mailto:helen.murphy@paralympic.org)

Thank you for your understanding and continued collaboration

Kind Regards



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IPC Athletics STC Chairperson



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