



NPC Paralympic News

Organising Committee for the IX Paralympic Winter Games May 2004

Issue 3

TOROC NPC PARALYMPIC NEWS

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1. NOC/NPC Services

NOC/NPC Services' mission is to create a positive and professional platform for communication between all participating NPCs, their athletes and officials and TOROC, and to contribute to an environment of excellence and success for all participating athletes and officials. As the single channel of communication between TOROC and the participating NPCs, NOC/NPC Services is committed to delivering timely, correct and consistent information and services to NPCs prior to and during the IX Paralympic Winter Games of 2006, thereby ensuring a fair and equal basis for the planning and implementation of successful Games participation.

2. New to the NOC/NPC Services Team

Jan Wilson, NPC Relations Manager



Prior to joining TOROC, Ms. Wilson worked for the Salt Lake Organizing Committee in the NOC/NPC & Athlete Services function as the manager responsible for relations with all participating NPCs. Before this, she owned and operated a Fine Art Gallery, worked for United States Olympic Committee as Disabled Sports Services Coordinator, and served as Competition Manager for Disabled Sports/USA. Ms. Wilson served as Chef de Mission for the United States Paralympic Team in Lillehammer, Norway, and was a Paralympic swimmer.

3. NPC Pre-Games Visits and Visa Procedures

To date, NPC Services has hosted two NPC visits in Torino. All NPCs are welcome and encouraged to visit Torino, the surrounding venues and TOROC offices.

If your NPC would like to schedule a visit, please contact NPC Services at least 30 days in advance to allow time for the scheduling of meetings, arrangement of venue tours and coordination of the visa application process (only applies to NPCs that are required to have a visa to enter the European Union/Italy).

NPCs are responsible for all expenses related to their visits, including travel to and from Torino and accommodation during their stay. Upon request, NPC Services can coordinate hotel accommodation in the Torino area. Visiting NPCs staying outside of Torino will be responsible for their own transport between the airport and the hotel as well as for transfers to the TOROC offices for any meetings or venue tours.

4. TOROC Holidays and Office Closures in 2004

TOROC will be closed on the following days in 2004, so please attempt to schedule your visits around these periods of time:

Holiday or Closure	Month	Day
Easter	April	9, 12
Liberation Day	April	25
Labour Day	May	1
Independence Day	June	2
San Giovanni Battista	June	25
TOROC Summer Closure	August	1-15
All Saints Day	November	1
Day of Immaculate Conception	December	8
TOROC Winter Closure	December	24-31

5. Chefs de Mission Seminar

TOROC has scheduled the date for the NPC Chefs de Mission Seminar in Torino for **5-9 April 2005** at Lingotto Fiere. Please reserve these dates in your calendars. Elements of the programme will include:

- TOROC functional area presentations
- Venue tours
- One on one meetings between NPCs and NPC Relations staff
- TOROC functional area information booths

Further details will be communicated closer to the event.

6. Alpine Skiing Test Event

The FIS Alpine Skiing World Cup Finals for the Disabled took place from 17 to 19 March 2004 in Sestriere Borgata. The Local Organizing Committee was the Sporting Club of Sestriere. With a total of 131 athletes from 18 nations competing in slalom, super G, and downhill, this event provided TOROC the opportunity to test the newly upgraded Banchetta Nasi slope. Competition was organized successfully and received good reviews from participants and the IPC.

7. Sport News

TOROC is pleased to announce that a new position of Head of Paralympic Sport has been created within the Sport Department. Mr. Piero Rebaudengo has been selected to assume this role. Mr. Rebaudengo joined TOROC as Paralympic Manager in October 2002 and will now be responsible for Paralympic Sport Planning for all sport disciplines. Piero was a volleyball bronze medallist for Italy at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles, USA.

Also, as of 1 March 2004, Mr. Elio Locatelli resigned from TOROC as Director of Sport. TOROC thanks Elio for the leadership, dedication and enthusiasm that he brought to the organizing committee and wish him all the best as he continues his career in international sport.

TOROC is currently in the process of recruiting a new Director of Sport. During the transition period, Mr. Herwig Demschar will act as the Interim Director of Sport and assume all responsibility for managing the Sport department.

8. Venue Change for Cross-Country Skiing and Biathlon

TOROC has modified plans for the cross-country skiing and biathlon venues. Pragelato, the Olympic cross-country skiing venue, has been selected to host these events, instead of Cesana San Sicario, the original site. This decision was made in agreement with the IPC after carefully examining the results of the most recent surveys conducted by IPC technical delegates. The position of the firing range in the middle of the stadium remains to be defined. Technicians are currently studying the position of the sun during the period of the Paralympic Games and how that might affect competition at the venue. Besides these minor considerations, the Pragelato venue has all the right features to host both disciplines.