

International
Paralympic
Committee

World Para Dance Sport Nationality Policy Exemption

Temporary Waiver of Nationality Policy to Encourage Further Development of the Sport

October 2017

International Paralympic Committee

Adenauerallee 212-214 Tel. +49 228 2097-200
53113 Bonn, Germany Fax +49 228 2097-209

www.paralympic.org
info@paralympic.org



Legal Basis

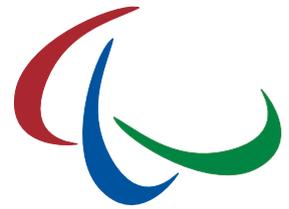
The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Nationality Policy governs the participation of athletes participating in competitions (referred to as 'IPC Competitions' in this policy) for those sports that are governed by the IPC (IPC Sports). Para dance sport is one of the IPC Sports. As such, the IPC Nationality Policy applies to all Para dance sport competitors. The IPC Nationality Policy states that any athlete participating in IPC Competitions must be a national of the country of the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) that enters him or her. However, the IPC may consider specific and exceptional circumstances. The IPC Governing Board has delegated authority to the IPC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to decide and resolve all matters relating to the consideration of specific or exceptional circumstances.

In 2012 and 2013, World Para Dance Sport (WPDS) received a number of requests from NPCs for their Para dance sport athletes to be exempt from the IPC Nationality Policy. These requests were based on the fact that prior to 2011 the IPC Nationality Policy did not apply to Para dance sport athletes so mixed-nationality couples competed regularly. Strictly applying the IPC Nationality Policy at a time when Para dance sport was a small and developing sport, would have resulted in many athletes being unable to find suitable partners who shared their nationality. In fairness to the Para dance sport athletes at that time, and to promote the development of the sport, a four (4) year exemption from the IPC Nationality Policy (excluding marquee international competitions, World Championships and Regional Championships) was granted by the IPC CEO.

During the past four years, Para dance sport has developed and, in some regions and countries, grown significantly. However, despite this growth, the Para dance sport community still remains relatively small and there are still difficulties for athletes to find partners who share their nationality. Accordingly, it has been determined that the exemption should be continued for a further four (4) year period on the terms set out below:

Exemption

A further exemption from the IPC Nationality Policy shall be granted to World Para Dance Sport competitions for a further four (4) year period from today, **not to include** the World Championships the Regional Championships or marquee international competitions. In all other World Para Dance Sport competitions, World Para Dance Sport shall have the discretion to determine whether or not to permit Para dance sport couples without shared nationality to compete in such competitions. World Para Dance Sport shall not permit a couple to compete where neither athlete is a national of the NPC that enters the couple into the competition.



Any ranking earned by mixed-nationality couples will not contribute to their qualification (as a couple or individual) for the World Championships or Regional Championships. Points and/or rankings may only be provided to the mixed-nationality couple (not to each individual athlete) and shall be disregarded for qualification and quota slot allocation to the World Championships and/or the Regional Championships. For the avoidance of doubt, if an athlete competes as a mixed-nationality couple in a combi or duo event and separately as an individual in a single event, any ranking earned by that athlete in the single event will contribute to his/her qualification as an individual for, and may be regarded for qualification and quota slot allocation to, the World Championships or Regional Championships.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Xavier Gonzalez', is positioned below the main text.

Xavier Gonzalez
IPC Chief Executive Officer