Vacancy

HEAD OF WORLD PARA ATHLETICS (F/M/X)

The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) offers the position of a full-time Head of World Para Athletics (f/m/x) in a multi-cultural team at the IPC Headquarters in Bonn, Germany.

ABOUT THE IPC

At the IPC, we work as one team, aligned and focused on fulfilling our vision and mission.

The IPC’s vision is for an inclusive world through Para sport. We believe that Change Starts With Sport, and that the work of the Paralympic Movement is a catalyst for driving social inclusion and advancing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the UN’s 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

The IPC seeks to use the influential global position of the Paralympic Movement and the growing profile of Para athletes to challenge the stigma attached to disability and empower social transformation.

The IPC is the global governing body of the Paralympic Movement. We supervise the organisation of the Paralympic Games and Paralympic Winter Games and serve as International Federation for 10 Para sports. We enjoy a positive working relationship with the IPC Governing Board, members of which are democratically elected every four years by the IPC General Assembly.

The IPC is a purpose-driven non-profit association. Our mission is to lead the Paralympic Movement, oversee the delivery of the Paralympic Games and support members to enable Para athletes to achieve sporting excellence. Since 1989, we have been creating change through sport with the Paralympic Games and Paralympic athletes at our core.

WORLD PARA ATHLETICS & ROLE

World Para Athletics (WPA) is the department within the IPC responsible for the administration and growth of Para athletics worldwide. By providing Para athletes with an opportunity to showcase their abilities, WPA aims to transform lives on and off the track. Para athletics is the biggest sport within the Paralympic
Movement in terms of the number of participating athletes and countries. It was one of eight sports included in the first Paralympic Games in Rome, Italy, in 1960 and has remained on the programme ever since, consistently attracting the biggest crowds and TV audiences.

In December 2021, the IPC General Assembly will decide on the Remaining Fit for Purpose proposal to reform the governance of the IPC. Should the IPC Membership adopt a new constitution, then WPA will embark on an exciting and historic new era. The newly appointed Head of WPA will have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to lead the WPA team, and the sport of Para athletics, through a period of major organisational change and establish the foundations so that the sport continues to thrive after becoming independent from the IPC.

The Head of World Para Athletics reports to the Managing Director of World Para Sports, and will be responsible for managing the operations of World Para Athletics and be accountable for all Para athletics related matters.

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Leading and further developing a team of six dedicated professionals to achieve the objectives of the World Para Athletics strategic plan and establish the foundations for sustainable growth;
- Providing leadership and clarity to the Para athletics community through a period of significant organisational change;
- Designing and executing the operational plan, monitoring its effectiveness in delivering the objectives of the 2021-2024 strategic plan, and managing annual budgets in accordance with the strategic and operational priorities;
- Developing a balanced, sustainable, universal portfolio of assets which maximise opportunities for Para athletes; and
- Building rapport and managing relationships with internal and external stakeholders including, but not limited to, Para athletes, officials and volunteers, National Paralympic Committees, national federations, sport technical and advisory committees, organising committees, and IPC departments.

CORE REQUIREMENTS

- Passion for the IPC’s vision, mission and values, demonstrated in part, through integrity, a humble demeanour, a sense of humour and a positive outlook;
- An exceptional leader, able to build and develop a cohesive team, with experience in a senior management position of a sporting organisation;
- Outstanding communication and stakeholder management skills, able to create and communicate clarity to members, Para athletes, officials, partner organisations and other internal and external stakeholders;
Experience creating and driving commercially viable sporting initiatives which contribute to the growth of the sport, competitions and operations;
Experience overseeing the delivery and growth of major events, maximising competition opportunities for athletes, and enhancing the entertainment and financial value of the competitions;
A proven record of developing and executing operational plans to achieve desired strategic objectives; and
Ability to travel internationally.

DESIRED REQUIREMENTS

Experience as a Para athlete, preferably in Para athletics;
Demonstrated experience in leading an organisation through significant change;
Deep understanding of the sport of Para athletics or athletics; and
Experience working in Para sport.

Do you want to apply?

If you are interested and provide a good match with our requirements, please send your CV and cover letter in English and in pdf format to WorldParaSportsJobs@paralympic.org.

For this position, the IPC will review applications and interview candidates on a rolling basis.

The IPC is an equal opportunity employer, and we encourage individuals with a disability and members of minority groups to apply; we support the relocation process and provide transitional accessible accommodation. For further information on the IPC, please contact us or visit our website under www.paralympic.org.

We look forward to your application!