

# RIF Regulations

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## 1. Introduction

1.1 As set out in the Constitution, the IPC recognises the importance of creating a Paralympic family network of recognised international federations that are not eligible to become IPC Members but contribute to the development of the Paralympic Movement. Accordingly, the Governing Board may, in its absolute discretion, grant the status of 'Recognised International Federation' (**RIF**) to an international federation that is not part of the Paralympic Games Sport Programme and so is not eligible to become an IPC Member as an International Federation, but still contributes to the development of the Paralympic Movement.

1.2 These RIF Regulations (**these Regulations**) set out the procedure for the granting and removal of RIF status, and the rights and obligations of RIFs.

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. Process to become a RIF

2.1 To apply to become a RIF, an international federation must submit an application to the IPC in accordance with the procedure and requirements established by the IPC.

2.2 The Management Team will carry out an initial review of the application and will assist the Governing Board as necessary in its review of the application.

- 2.3 The Management Team and/or the Governing Board may require the applicant to provide any additional information that it considers may be necessary or relevant.
- 2.4 Once the review is complete, the Management Team will present to the Governing Board its recommendation as to whether or not RIF status should be granted.
- 2.5 In determining whether or not to grant RIF status, the Governing Board will take into account such factors as it considers relevant, including (without limitation) whether or not the applicant:
  - 2.5.1 claims the right to act as the sole worldwide representative of a specific Para sport (and if there is more than one body claiming such right, the Governing Board will decide which body to recognise, if any);
  - 2.5.2 demonstrates satisfactory evidence of Para sport activity;
  - 2.5.3 has organisational goals that are compatible with the vision and mission of the IPC;
  - 2.5.4 is in compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code and the related International Standards;
  - 2.5.5 undertakes at the time of submitting its application to comply at all times with the IPC Classification Code and the related International Standards; and
  - 2.5.6 has a constitution that includes a formal undertaking by the applicant to be bound by and to comply with the Constitution and the Regulations.
- 2.6 The following are not eligible to apply for RIF status:
  - 2.6.1 governing bodies of mind sports; and
  - 2.6.2 governing bodies of sports and disciplines where (in the view of the Governing Board) performance depends essentially on mechanical propulsion or motorised devices.
- 2.7 Once an international federation is recognised as a RIF, it will retain that status indefinitely unless and until removed by the Governing Board in accordance with Article 5.

### **3. Rights of RIFs**

- 3.1 Subject to compliance with the requirements of the Constitution, the Regulations, and any other applicable procedures or conditions imposed by the IPC, each RIF has the right to:
- 3.1.1 have one representative attend open sessions of the General Assembly as an observer, at its own cost (for the avoidance of doubt, RIFs do not have the right to speak, submit motions, nominate candidates for election or appointment, or vote at General Assembly meetings);
  - 3.1.2 receive IPC accreditation at the Paralympic Games for up to two representatives, where available to the IPC;
  - 3.1.3 use for non-commercial purposes the title 'IPC Recognised International Federation', with or without the IPC logo, subject to the IPC's prior written approval (for the avoidance of doubt, the IPC logo may only be used in connection with the RIF denomination);
  - 3.1.4 use the Paralympic flag at designated events, subject to the IPC's prior written approval; and
  - 3.1.5 use (with the IPC's prior written approval and in accordance with the Intellectual Property Regulations) the title 'Para [*sport name*]' as part of its official sport and federation name.

### **4. Obligations of RIFs**

- 4.1 Each RIF must (in each case, as a condition of recognition):
- 4.1.1 pay any applicable fees relating to such recognition, as set by the Governing Board;
  - 4.1.2 submit such reports on its activities as are requested by the Governing Board;
  - 4.1.3 comply in all respects with the Constitution, the Regulations, any other applicable rules and/or procedures of the IPC, applicable law, and all Decisions;
  - 4.1.4 comply with the World Anti-Doping Code and the related International Standards;
  - 4.1.5 not be a member (whether voting or non-voting) of any Regional Organisation;

4.1.6 not have any sporting contact with a suspended IPC Member or any organisation that has been expelled from IPC Membership; and

4.1.7 not do anything (by act or omission) that is contrary to the purpose or objects of the IPC and/or that risks bringing the IPC, the Paralympic Movement, or Para sport into disrepute.

## **5. Removal of RIF status**

5.1 The Governing Board has absolute discretion to remove RIF status at any time with or without reasons. The decision of the Governing Board to remove RIF status is final and not subject to appeal.