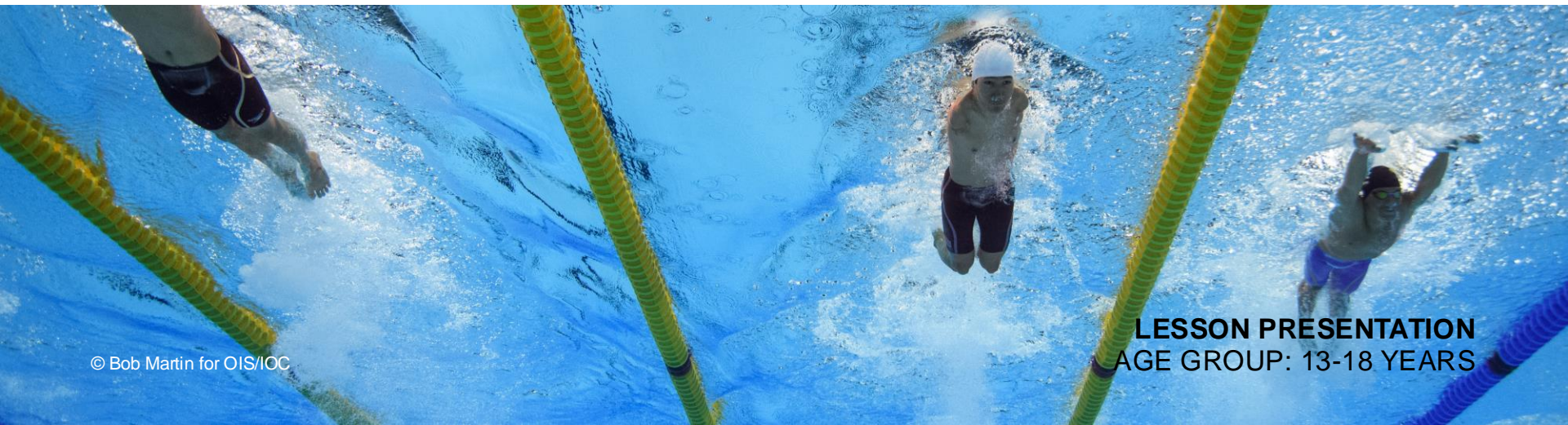


# THE PARALYMPIC GAMES

## PAST AND PRESENT





Take a look at the pairs  
of photographs.

What has **changed over the years?**



© Christopher Payne

### LET THE GAMES BEGIN



© Italian Institute for Disabled Workers

**ROME 1960, ITALY**



© Simon Bruty for OIS/IOC

**RIO 2016, BRAZIL**

### LET THE GAMES BEGIN



© Italian Institute for Disabled Workers

**ROME 1960, ITALY**

The athletes enter the stadium behind their **national flag**.

**5,000**

**spectators** watched the Opening Ceremony in Rome in 1960.



### LET THE GAMES BEGIN



© Simon Bruty for OIS/IOC

**RIO 2016, BRAZIL**

It includes a **colourful parade of countries.**

In 2016 in Rio de Janeiro there were over

**75,000**  
spectators.

### THE NAME SAYS IT ALL!

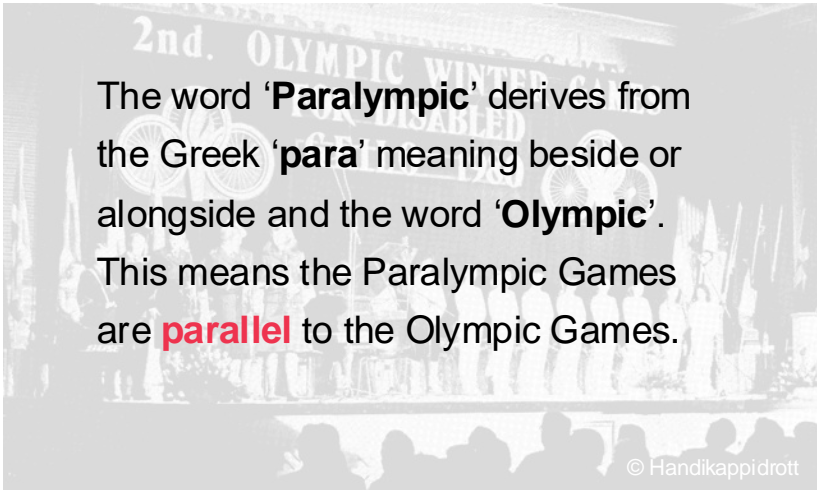


**GEILO 1980, NORWAY**




**PYEONGCHANG 2018, SOUTH KOREA**

### THE NAME SAYS IT ALL!



The word '**Paralympic**' derives from the Greek '**para**' meaning beside or alongside and the word '**Olympic**'. This means the Paralympic Games are **parallel** to the Olympic Games.

© Handikappidrott



Today the Paralympic Games take place **just after** the **Olympic Games** in the same host city.

© International Paralympic Committee

### CHANGE STARTS WITH SPORT



ROME 1960, ITALY



RIO 2016, BRAZIL



### CHANGE STARTS WITH SPORT

The men's 50m freestyle S5 was first contested at **Barcelona 1992**, with gold won in **39.96 seconds**. At **Rio 2016** the title was won in **32.78 seconds**.

Athletes **practice more** to become the best they can be.

The materials and technology behind sports equipment have also developed a lot.



**RIO 2016, BRAZIL**

### SOME COME, SOME STAY, SOME GO



**TEL AVIV 1968, ISRAEL**

### SOME COME, SOME STAY, SOME GO



### PREPARING FOR THE UPCOMING GAMES AND BEYOND

### PARALYMPIC SUMMER GAMES 1960-2016



**400**  
athletes



**4,328**  
athletes

**23**  
countries



**159**  
countries

**8**  
sports



**22**  
sports



ROME 1960, ITALY

RIO 2016, BRAZIL



### PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES 1972-2018



© Handikappidrott

53

athletes



567

athletes

16

countries



49

delegations

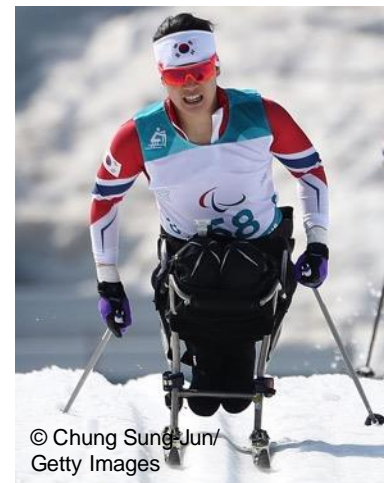
2

sports



6

sports



© Chung Sung Jun/  
Getty Images

ÖRNSKÖLDSVIK 1976, SWEDEN

PYEONGCHANG 2018, SOUTH KOREA

### IMPROVISE AND DEVISE



**STOKE MANDEVILLE 1958, GREAT BRITAIN**



**RIO 2016, BRAZIL**

### IMPROVISE AND DEVISE



# 1964

In the early days, athletes **improvised** and **devised** their own ways of doing things.

**Look at how wheelchairs were secured.**

**STOKE MANDEVILLE 1958, GREAT BRITAIN**

### IMPROVISE AND DEVISE



© Simon Bruty for OIS/IOC

**RIO 2016, BRAZIL**

# 2016

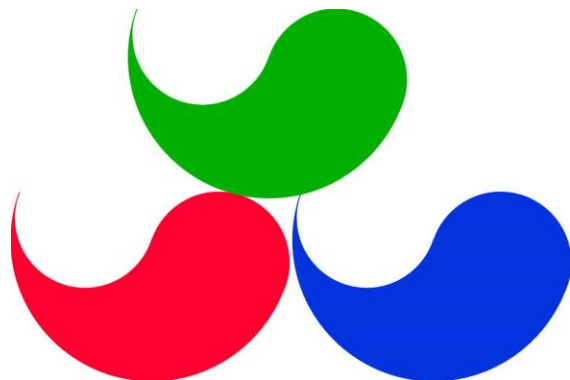
Nowadays athletes have **specifically designed** equipment, like the throwing chair in the picture.

This makes the sport **safer** and **fairer**.

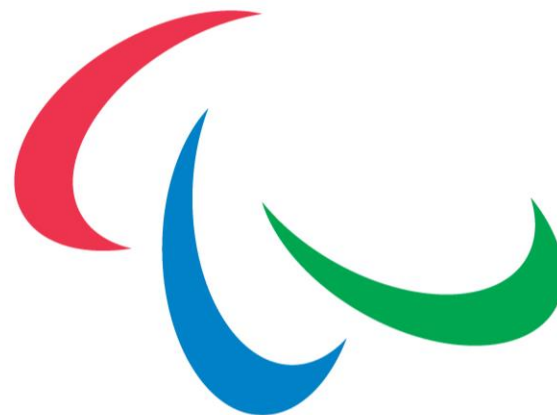


### SYMBOLISING THE SPIRIT

© International Paralympic Committee

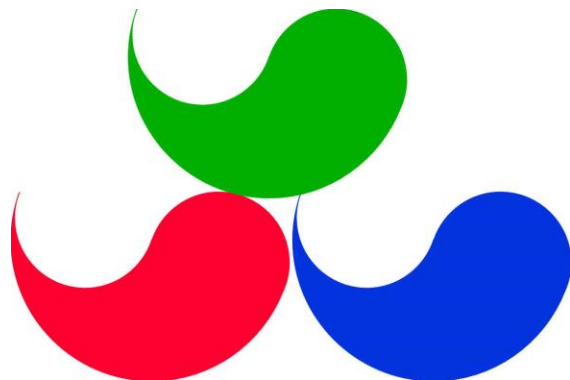


**MIND, BODY, SPIRIT (1994)**



**CHANGE STARTS WITH SPORT (2019)**

### SYMBOLISING THE SPIRIT

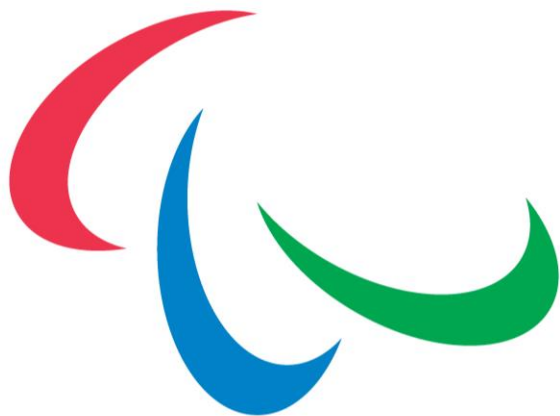


**MIND, BODY, SPIRIT (1994)**

## Tae-Geuks

In 1994 the Paralympic symbol was made up of three **Tae-Geuks**, which are traditional Korean decorative designs.

### SYMBOLISING THE SPIRIT



## Agitos

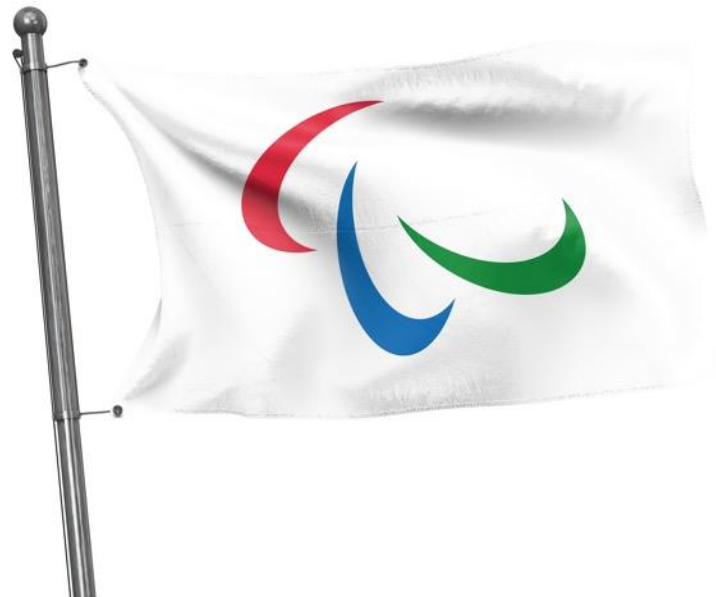
The 2019 design is made up of three **Agitos** (meaning 'I move') encircling a centre point.

CHANGE STARTS WITH SPORT (2019)

### SYMBOLISING THE SPIRIT

The symbols have always been coloured **red**, **blue** and **green**.

The Paralympic symbol is displayed on the Paralympic flag which is raised at the Opening Ceremony of each Games and lowered at the Closing Ceremony.





### ON THE MOVE



ÖRNSKÖLDSVIK 1976, SWEDEN



SALT LAKE CITY 2002, USA

### ON THE MOVE



ÖRNSKÖLDSVIK 1976, SWEDEN

The Paralympic Games have become one of the **largest sporting events** in the world.

**What has changed over the years?**

### ON THE MOVE

- levels of **fitness**
- the **desire** to push one's body to the limit
- pushing the **boundaries** of what is thought possible
- personal **clothing** and **equipment**
- sports **equipment**
- assistive **devices**



SALT LAKE CITY 2002, USA

What will our amazing Para athletes do next?

How **fast** will they travel, how **high** will they jump, how **far** will they throw, what new sports will they **play**?

**Let's find out by following their journey to the upcoming Games.**



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© Beijing 2022



© Paris 2024



© Milano Cortina 2026



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