



# **SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS**

**MILANO CORTINA 2026 PARALYMPIC WINTER  
GAMES**

**DEMONSTRATIONS**

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## 1. Introduction and application

1.1 Article 2.2.2 of the Paralympic Games Regulations, located in the [IPC Handbook](#), provides that *'[n]o kind of demonstration, protest, or political statement is permitted in any Paralympic venues or other areas related to the Paralympic Games, except to the extent permitted in any supplementary regulations issued by the IPC in relation to this Article 2.2.2'*.

1.2 This document sets out the regulations referred to in Article 2.2.2 of the Paralympic Games Regulations (the '**Supplementary Regulations**') and also amends the IPC Code of Ethics to the extent necessary to give effect to these Supplementary Regulations. The purpose of these Supplementary Regulations is to provide further detail on how, when and where Participants may demonstrate, protest, and/or make political statements during the Paralympic Games.

1.3 These Supplementary Regulations take effect on 1 February 2026 but apply only during the '**Games Period**', meaning the period commencing on 28 February 2026 (opening of the Paralympic Village(s)) and ending at midnight on 17 March 2026 (closing of the Paralympic Village(s)).

1.4 Each Participant is automatically bound by and required to comply with these Supplementary Regulations as a condition of participation in the Paralympic Games. '**Participant**' is defined in Article 2.1 of the Paralympic Games Regulations as *'each person participating in the Paralympic Games in any capacity, including (without limitation) each athlete, athlete competition partner, coach, trainer, training partner, other team official, other athlete support person, Games official, and other accredited person'*.

1.5 Unless specified otherwise, defined terms used in these Supplementary Regulations (denoted by initial capital letters) have the meaning given to them in Article 7 below, or else in the IPC Handbook.

## 2. Permitted and prohibited words and actions

2.1 Any demonstration, protest, statement, comment, gesture, or other conduct that involves any Impermissible Element(s) is strictly prohibited at all times and in all places.

2.2 During the Games Period, Participants may not demonstrate, protest, and/or make political statements at any Paralympic venue or other area related to the Paralympic Games (including, without limitation, during Official Ceremonies, on the Field of Play, and/or in the Paralympic Village(s)), save as set out in Article 2.3.

2.3 As the sole exception to Article 2.2, during the Games Period, Participants may demonstrate, protest, and/or make political statements as follows, provided always that no Impermissible Elements are involved:

- (a) in the mixed zones, the International Broadcasting Centre, and the Main Media Centre, including when speaking to the media; and/or
- (b) during press conferences and media interviews; and/or
- (c) during team meetings; and/or
- (d) using traditional media and/or digital media and/or social media channels. Such channels may be used at the above times and places and at any other time and place (except only that the Participant may not use these channels to demonstrate, protest, or make any political statement when on the Field of Play or when participating in any Official Ceremonies).

### 3. Disciplinary procedure

3.1 Any breach of these Supplementary Regulations (a '**Demonstration Violation**') constitutes a breach of the Code of Ethics (including, without limitation, Article 1.12 thereof). Any assertion that a Demonstration Violation has taken place will be heard and determined by the ad hoc Judicial Tribunal, and will be governed by the procedures set out in Appendix A to the Code of Ethics, as amended below or elsewhere in these Supplementary Regulations.

- (a) Articles 3 and 11.4 of Appendix A to the Code of Ethics do not apply and are replaced by Article 4.1(a), below.
- (b) The accelerated time limits in Article 11 of Appendix A to the Code of Ethics, providing for an expedited procedure for complaints arising during the Paralympic Games, will apply (rather than any time limits in Articles 6, 7 and/or 10 of Appendix A to the Code of Ethics).
- (c) The hearing panel appointed to hear complaints concerning alleged Demonstration Violations will consist of three members, including at least one Paralympian who has competed in at least one of the previous three editions of the summer or winter Paralympic Games at the time of the appointment (the '**Hearing Panel**').

- (d) The Respondent will be notified of the identity of the Hearing Panel members and given 12 hours to challenge their appointment for lack of independence or impartiality, unless the Hearing Panel decides to hear the matter after the Games Period, in which case the Respondent will have 14 days to challenge their appointment in accordance with Article 8.2 of Appendix A to the Code of Ethics.
- (e) The possible sanctions for Demonstration Violations are set out in Article 4 below, replacing Article 13 of Appendix A to the Code of Ethics.

#### 4. Sanctions for breach

4.1 The Hearing Panel may impose any one or more of the following sanctions for a Demonstration Violation, based on what it considers to be proportionate in all of the circumstances of the case:

- (a) an immediate provisional suspension pending the final decision of the Hearing Panel;
- (b) a warning, which may be either private or public;
- (c) a requirement to undergo an education or training programme;
- (d) a requirement to issue a private or public apology;
- (e) a fine;
- (f) ineligibility to receive and use the 'PLY' designation (i.e. the designation for 'Paralympian'), or revocation of such designation;
- (g) suspension from (or ineligibility to sit on) the IPC Athletes' Council and/or other relevant IPC bodies or committees, whether permanently or for a fixed period of time;
- (h) exclusion from Official Ceremonies;
- (i) suspension from one or more competitions during the Paralympic Games;
- (j) disqualification from the competition in relation to which the Demonstration Violation occurred;
- (k) disqualification from other competitions during the Paralympic Games;

- (l) forfeiture of any or all medals and/or diplomas earned during the Paralympic Games;
- (m) withdrawal of accreditation to any or all Paralympic venues;
- (n) exclusion from future editions of the Paralympic Games;
- (o) suspension from Para sport competition for a fixed period of time;
- (p) exclusion from any other IPC activities; and/or
- (q) such other sanction(s) as the Hearing Panel considers appropriate and proportionate in all of the circumstances of the case.

4.2 A Participant must pay any fine imposed pursuant to Article 4.1(e) within 30 days, unless another deadline is specified by the Hearing Panel. If the fine is not paid within the specified deadline, the Participant must pay interest at the rate set by the Hearing Panel and may be subject to further sanctions as specified by the Hearing Panel. If the Participant does not pay the fine, and/or any interest payable in accordance with this provision, they must be paid by the Participant's National Paralympic Committee.

4.3 The Hearing Panel will assess proportionality and determine appropriate sanction(s) in a particular case based on all of the relevant circumstances of that case, including (without limitation):

- (a) the degree of fault of the Participant, including any intent/premeditation;
- (b) whether the Participant incited, encouraged, or pressured others to commit a Demonstration Violation;
- (c) whether the Demonstration Violation was undertaken at the Participant's own instigation or under pressure from a third party;
- (d) the harm caused to others by the Demonstration Violation;
- (e) whether the Demonstration Violation involved any minors;
- (f) the degree of disruption caused by the Demonstration Violation, including (without limitation) on the Field of Play, during any Official Ceremonies, or in the Paralympic Village(s);

- (g) the extent to which the Demonstration Violation involved any Impermissible Elements;
- (h) the extent to which the Demonstration Violation has brought the IPC, the Paralympic Games, the Paralympic Movement, or Para sport generally into disrepute;
- (i) whether the Demonstration Violation is a first or repeat offence; and
- (j) whether or not the Participant has issued an appropriate apology for the Demonstration Violation.

## 5. Appeals

- 5.1 In accordance with Article 11.8 of Appendix A to the Code of Ethics, there is no right of appeal against any Hearing Panel decision concerning a Demonstration Violation where the hearing is held during the Games Period and the sanctions imposed do not extend beyond the Games Period.
- 5.2 Where the hearing is held outside the Games Period and/or any sanctions imposed by a Hearing Panel for a Demonstration Violation have effect beyond the Games Period, the IPC or Participant concerned may appeal the decision to the Appeal Panel in accordance with Article 14 of Appendix A to the Code of Ethics. The 21-day time limit to file an appeal set out at Article 14.2 of Appendix A to the Code of Ethics will begin to run from the date of the closing ceremony of the Milano Cortina 2026 Paralympic Winter Games.

## 6. No limitation of other disciplinary or legal proceedings

Nothing in these Supplementary Regulations limits or prejudices (i) any powers that a National Paralympic Committee, International Federation, or other relevant authority or body might have under its own rules to conduct its own hearing and sanctioning procedures concerning individuals under its jurisdiction in respect of the facts constituting the Demonstration Violation, or (ii) any civil, criminal, or other law enforcement proceedings relating to those facts.

## 7. Definitions

**“Field of Play”** means the following areas:

- (a) athlete warm-up and training areas;
- (b) athlete changing/locker rooms;

- (c) athlete lounges;
- (d) athlete equipment storage areas;
- (e) any areas where athlete or team introductions are made prior to competitions;
- (f) any areas where competitions take place, including (depending on the sport) the pitch, field, court, arena, track, course, or body of water, and any start/finish areas;
- (g) any areas that include official timing and scoring equipment for competitions;
- (h) any area(s) that athletes walk through after leaving (or returning to) the 'call room' (or similar area) to go to the competition area for their competition (or when returning from the competition area after their competition);
- (i) any areas designated for anti-doping testing;
- (j) any areas designated for athlete medical services;
- (k) any areas designated for podium, medal presentation, and victory ceremonies; and
- (l) any other areas designated as being included in the field of play for a particular sport according to the rules of the relevant International Federation.

**"Impermissible Elements"** means any element of any demonstration, protest, or political statement, or any comment, gesture, or similar conduct, that:

- (a) is contrary to the Paralympic vision, mission, purpose or objects of the IPC (as set out in the IPC Constitution) or the Paralympic ethos and ideals (as set out in the IPC Code of Ethics);
- (b) disrupts Official Ceremonies or competitions during the Paralympic Games, or disrupts the preparation of other athletes or teams for Official Ceremonies or competitions;
- (c) disrupts another athlete's or team's national anthem, introduction, or medal ceremony;
- (d) includes hostility, prejudice, or unlawful discrimination on grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, national or social origin, disability, or other protected status;



- (e) involves violence or threatening or abusive comments or conduct;
- (f) causes or risks causing physical harm to any other person(s) or animal(s); or
- (g) causes or risks causing damage to property.

**“Official Ceremonies”** means the opening ceremony, closing ceremony, and all podium, medal presentation, and victory ceremonies taking place at the Paralympic Games.

**“Paralympic Village(s)”** means the areas where athletes reside during participation at the Paralympic Games, as designated by the IPC.