



IPC GOVERNING BOARD BIOGRAPHY

- **Name:** Miki Matheson PLY
- **IPC position:** Member at Large
- **Elected:** 2025
- **Position (outside of IPC GB):** Steering Committee member of the Japanese Paralympic Committee, DEI Consultant
- **Nationality:** Japan
- **Languages spoken:** English, Japanese
- **Paralympic Games competed in:** Nagano 1998 Winter Games
- **Social media channels:** [LinkedIn](#), [X](#)



Miki Matheson was re-elected as an IPC Governing Board and is a Paralympic gold medallist, educator, and global advocate for accessibility and inclusion. She represented Japan in ice sledge speed racing at the Nagano 1998 Paralympic Winter Games, winning three gold medals and one silver medal, setting world records and redefining excellence in her sport.

After sustaining a spinal cord injury at age 20, Miki experienced first-hand both the life-changing impact of sport and the systemic barriers faced by persons with disabilities. While training at the University of Illinois – an institution widely recognised not only for producing Paralympians, but for helping build the structural, cultural, and architectural foundations upon which the Paralympic Movement and modern accessibility standards stand – she was influenced by Dr. Tim Nugent, often referred to as the “Father of Accessibility.” His pioneering work in accessible design and disability inclusion profoundly shaped her worldview and strengthened her commitment to human rights advocacy. She has also contributed to international dialogue on disability inclusion, including speaking at the United Nations Headquarters in observance of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

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A former teacher and a driving force behind Paralympic education in Japan, Miki has played a strategic leadership role in advancing values-based education within the Paralympic Movement. She has served as a member of the IPC's Education Committee and the IOC's Olympic Education Commission, contributing to the development and global implementation of education frameworks that leverage sport as a tool for inclusion, equity, and social change. Through the IPC's official education programme, I'mPOSSIBLE, her leadership has helped equip educators worldwide with practical tools to foster inclusive mindsets and engage young people in the Paralympic Movement.

Miki is a certified Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification™ Professional, enhancing her expertise in systematically assessing and improving accessibility in the built environment. In parallel with her governance responsibilities, she serves as a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion consultant, advising executive leaders on inclusive strategy and cultural transformation. She remains committed to advancing accessibility and inclusion as fundamental human rights and to building a world where everyone can participate fully with dignity and excel.

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