PARALYMPIC ADMINISTRATION MANUAL

• PARALYMPIC MOVEMENT
The IPC’s mission is to develop Paralympic Sport around the world at all levels, and ensure the means necessary to support future growth of the Paralympic Movement. Behind this stated objective, constant hard work is being conducted on the ground – men and women through their love of sport and devotion to the Paralympic Movement use resources available to bring Paralympic Sport to life across the five continents. Without them, Paralympic Sport would simply not exist.

This commitment ultimately drives the continual evolution of National Paralympic Committees (NPC) and the growing events calendar. The popularity and development of Paralympic Sport now more than ever depends on the ability of our NPCs to develop and deliver quality training and competition opportunities for their athletes. For this reason, the IPC is providing managers and administrators the means which allow them to accomplish their work in the best manner possible.

This Paralympic Administration Manual is a further demonstration of the IPC’s commitment in providing the Paralympic Movement with the resources needed to accomplish their goals. You will find it an extremely useful tool in developing Paralympic Sport in your region and country.

This publication was made possible through funding from the German Ministry of the Interior, and adds to a wide range of programmes developed in partnership with the IPC Academy. It will contribute to raising the general quality of NPCs and Paralympic events, and will assist the growth of Paralympic Sport at all levels.

On behalf of the IPC, I would like to thank all of the NPCs and their commitment to Paralympic Sport. I wish them the utmost success!

Sir Philip Craven MBE
IPC President
Sport for athletes with a disability has existed for more than 100 years. In the 18th and 19th centuries, new contributions proved that sport activities were very important for the rehabilitation of persons with a disability.

Following World War II, traditional methods of rehabilitation could not meet the medical and psychological needs of large numbers of soldiers and civilians with a disability. At the request of the British government, Dr. Ludwig Guttmann founded the National Spinal Injuries Centre at the Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Great Britain in 1944. Guttmann introduced sport as a form of recreation and as an aid for remedial treatment and rehabilitation.

On 28 July 1948 – the day of the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games in London – the Stoke Mandeville Games were founded, and the first competition for athletes with a spinal cord injury took place on the hospital grounds in Stoke Mandeville. Two British teams with 14 former servicemen and two former servicewomen competed in Archery. The Stoke Mandeville Games were held from then on annually. In 1952, Dutch ex-servicemen joined the movement and the International Stoke Mandeville Games were established. These, too, took place every year in Stoke Mandeville.

In 1960, the International Stoke Mandeville Games were staged for the first time in the same country and city as the Olympic Games, i.e., in Rome. They went down in history as the “First Paralympic Games”. The first Paralympic Winter Games took place in Örnsköldsvik, Sweden, in 1976.

The word “Paralympic” was originally a pun combining “paraplegic” and “Olympic”; however, with the inclusion of other disability groups and the close association of the Paralympic Movement with the Olympic Movement, it now refers to “parallel” (from the Greek preposition “para”) and “Olympic” to illustrate how the two movements exist side by side. “Paralympics” has been the official term of the Games since 1988.

Over time, the organization and structure of the Paralympics became more professional, and resulted in the continuous improvement of the classification system; an increase in standards for coaching, training, refereeing and umpiring; continual amendments of the Handbook of Rules for each sport; and a growing number of athletes and countries participating in the Games.

The organizational structure also underwent significant changes. Until 1952, the Stoke Mandeville Games were organized by Guttmann and hospital staff, with a group of doctors, trainers, physiotherapists and administrators deciding on rules, classifications, etc. However, the International Stoke Mandeville Games Committee was founded in 1961 and took over responsibility for organizing the Games until 1972, the year the Constitution was amended to include the International Stoke Mandeville Games Federation (ISMGF). In the 1990s, the ISMGF became the International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation (ISMWSF).

In 1960, an International Working Group on Sport for the Disabled was set up to study the challenges facing persons with a disability who wanted to become involved in sport. Its aim was to establish an organization that included all disability groups. It resulted in the creation, in 1964, of an international sport federation called ISOD: International Sports Organization for the Disabled.

ISOD offered opportunities for those athletes who could not belong to the ISMGF: athletes with a visual impairment, amputation and cerebral palsy. The organization pushed hard to include athletes with a visual impairment or an amputation in the Toronto 1976 Paralympic Games, and persons with cerebral palsy in the Arnhem 1980 Paralympic Games.

The aim of ISOD was to become an umbrella organization for all disabilities and to act as a co-ordinating committee. Later, other disability groups established their own international
sports organizations that arranged various competitions. Today, four of the five International Organizations of Sport for the Disabled (IOSDs) listed below are members of the IPC:

- CPISRA: Cerebral Palsy International Sport and Recreation Association,
- IBASA: International Blind Sports Federation,
- INAS-FID: International Sports Federation for Persons with an Intellectual Disability,
- IWAS: International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (amalgamation of ISOD and ISMWSF in 2004),

The international organizations recognized a need to co-ordinate both the Paralympic Games and other international and regional sport competitions. Therefore, the ISOD, ISMGF, CPISRA and IBASA created the “International Co-ordinating Committee (ICC) of World Sports Organizations for the Disabled” in 1982 to govern the Paralympic Games and to represent the participating organizations in dialogues with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and other global organizations.

However, the member nations demanded more national and regional representation in the organization. This finally led to the foundation in 1989 of a new, democratically organized institution: the International Paralympic Committee (the IPC) initially headquartered in Bruges, Belgium. The IPC officially replaced the ICC following the Barcelona 1992 Paralympic Games.

The Winter Paralympics in Lillehammer in 1994 were the first Paralympic Games under the management of the IPC, with its headquarters being based in Bonn, Germany, since 1999. Today, we look back on a history of the organization, which is rapidly evolving, and presently numbers around 165 member nations. The Movement’s growth is best exemplified through the phenomenal rise of the Paralympic Games. More countries competed at the Beijing 2008 Paralympics (3951 athletes, 146 countries) than in the Munich 1972 Olympic Games. In Beijing, the degree of media coverage was unprecedented. With interest in and acceptance for sport for persons with a disability growing, the expansion of the Paralympics is most likely to continue in the future.

The IPC is currently composed of a General Assembly, a Governing Board, a Management Team in Bonn and various Standing Committees and Councils. From 1989 (when the IPC was founded) to 2001, Dr. Robert D. Steadward held the office of IPC President. In December 2001, after the maximum of three terms in office, he was succeeded by the former Paralympian and President of the International Wheelchair Basketball Federation, Sir Philip Craven, MBE. In 2005, the Executive Committee was replaced by a Governing Board whose members were directly elected by the IPC General Assembly.

For more information and details on the history of the IPC and the Paralympic Games, please visit the official website at www.paralympic.org/IPC/.
A. The International Paralympic Committee (The IPC)

The International Paralympic Committee (the IPC) is the global governing body of the Paralympic Movement. It is an international, non-profit organization formed and run by around 160 National Paralympic Committees (NPCs), four disability-specific international sports federations (International Organizations of Sport for the Disabled, or IOSDs), the sports and Regional Organizations. The IPC was founded on 22 September 1989 with the aim of creating an international representative organization of elite sports for athletes with a disability. It has a democratic structure with democratically elected representatives. The Lillehammer 1994 Paralympic Winter Games were the first Paralympic Games under the governance of the IPC.

The IPC organizes the Summer and Winter Paralympic Games, and serves as the International Federation for ten sports, for which it supervises and coordinates the World Championships and other competitions. The IPC is committed to helping enable Paralympic athletes to achieve sporting excellence and to developing sporting opportunities for persons with a disability from the beginner to elite level. In addition, the IPC aims to promote the Paralympic values of courage, determination, inspiration and equality.

The IPC has wide ranging aims:
- To promote, without discrimination, the practice of sports for people with a disability,
- To seek the expansion of sporting opportunities from a developmental to an elite level for people with a disability,
- To create the conditions for athlete empowerment through self-determination,
- To liaise with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and other international sports bodies,
- To co-ordinate the calendar of international and regional competitions; and,
- To assist and encourage educational programmes, research and promotional activities.

There are a total of 25 sports on the Paralympic programme (20 Summer and five Winter). Other sports such as Wheelchair Rugby, Boccia, Judo, Football, Goalball (ref. to Chapter Two – Structure, F. International Paralympic Sports Federations) are either governed by independent sport federations or are part of a disability-specific IOSD programme.

The IPC Mission

The Mission that provides the broad goals to the IPC for a long-term strategy is:
- To guarantee and supervise the organization of successful Paralympic Games,
- To ensure the growth and strength of the Paralympic Movement through the development of National Paralympic Committees in all countries and to support the activities of all IPC member organizations,
- To promote and contribute to the development of sporting opportunities and competitions, from initiation to elite level, for Paralympic athletes as the foundation of elite Paralympic Sport,
- To develop opportunities for female athletes and athletes with a severe disability in sport at all levels and in all structures,
- To support and encourage educational, cultural, research and scientific activities that contribute to the development and promotion of the Paralympic Movement,
- To seek continuous global promotion and media coverage of the Paralympic Movement, its vision of inspiration and excitement through sport, as well as its ideals and activities,
- To promote the self-governance of each Paralympic Sport either as an integral part of the international sport movement for able-bodied athletes, or as an independent sport organization, while at all times safeguarding and preserving its own identity,
- To ensure that in sport practised within the Paralympic Movement, the spirit of fair play prevails, violence is banned, the health risk of the athletes is managed, and fundamental ethical principles are upheld,
- To contribute to the creation of a drug-free sport environment for all Paralympic athletes in conjunction with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA),
- To promote Paralympic Sport without discrimination for political, religious, economic, disability, gender, sexual orientation, or race reasons,
- To ensure the means necessary to support the future growth of the Paralympic Movement.

The IPC Vision

“‘To enable Paralympic athletes to achieve sporting excellence and inspire and excite the world.’”

Each word in the vision represents a clear idea in defining the ultimate aim of the IPC:
- To enable: this is the primary role of the IPC as an organization – to create the conditions for athlete empowerment through self-determination,
- Paralympic athletes: the primary focus of the IPC’s activities, in the context of Paralympic athletes, is the development of all athletes from initiation to elite level,
- To achieve: the goal of a sports-centred organization,
- To inspire and excite the world: the external result is our contribution to a better world for all people with a disability. To achieve this, relations with external organizations and the promotion of the Paralympic Movement as a whole are of prime importance.

The IPC Motto

The spirit of every Paralympic athlete is uncompromising – exceeding every day what others had thought was possible by pushing themselves to their limits. With the motto “Spirit in Motion”, the IPC has captured what the Paralympic Movement is trying to achieve: enabling athletes from all backgrounds to unite on a single stage, inspiring and exciting the world with their performances.

The IPC Symbol

The new Paralympic Symbol (logo) was launched in 2003. It is a symbol in motion, with three Agitos (from the Latin meaning “I move”) encircling a centre point to emphasize the role the IPC has of bringing athletes from all corners of the world together and
enabling them to compete, and also to illustrate that Paralympic athletes are constantly inspiring and exciting the world with their performances; they are always moving forward and never giving up. The new Paralympic Symbol consists of three elements in red, blue and green – the three colours that are most widely represented in national flags around the world.

The previous symbol incorporated the Tae-Geuk, which is a traditional Korean decorative motif. Tae-Geuks were first used in a symbol at the 1988 Paralympic Games in Seoul, Korea. At that time, the symbol consisted of five Tae-Geuks in a configuration in the five colours (blue, black, red, yellow and green) of the Olympic Rings. In 1991, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) requested that the IPC modifies its symbol, if it was to be used for marketing purposes. The IOC Marketing Department considered the symbol with five Tae-Geuks too similar to the five Olympic Rings and hence potentially confusing for the IOC Sponsorship Programme. The configuration of five Tae-Geuks was used at the 1994 Lillehammer Paralympic Winter Games. A Paralympic Symbol with three Tae-Geuks was officially launched on a worldwide basis at the 1994 World Championships for IPC sports, and “Mind, Body, Spirit” was adopted as the Paralympic motto.

The Tae-Geuks were used in limited ways until the Closing Ceremony of the Athens 2004 Paralympic Games. The flag that was handed over to Beijing had the new IPC symbol on it. The old symbol is no longer used.

The IPC Handbook

The IPC Handbook represents the permanent fundamental reference document for all parties of the Paralympic Movement. It contains the Constitution and Bylaws, Guiding Principles, Rules and Regulations adopted and implemented by the IPC.

The latest version of the IPC Handbook, which is regularly revised and updated, is available on the IPC website:

http://www.paralympic.org/IPC/IPC_Handbook/

The IPC Organization

In November 2003, the IPC took important steps toward a new future when the General Assembly, its highest decision-making body, adopted new governance and management structures following a Strategic Review. A motion that will lead the ten IPC Sports towards self-sustainability and eventual self-governance was also passed. In addition to the NPCs and IOSDs, the sports and regional bodies have the option of becoming full members of the IPC.

The IPC Executive Committee mandated a Constitutional Committee, which in 2004 fine-tuned the governance structure and developed a new Constitution for the IPC. An Extraordinary General Assembly was held in November 2004 to approve the new IPC Constitution and bylaws outlining the new electoral system. The Executive Committee was replaced by a Governing Board, and a new Governing Board was elected by the General Assembly in November 2005.

The new structure was implemented in 2005. The IPC is now composed of the General Assembly, the Governing Board, the Management Team, and various Councils and Standing Committees, as shown in the following chart.

The full list of staff and their contact details are available on the IPC website:

http://www.paralympic.org/IPC/IPC_Handbook/

The IPC Headquarters

The IPC decided to open its Headquarters in the former German capital of Bonn in 1997. Bonn was successful in its application against bids from other cities such as Madrid and Paris. With funds from the Bonn-Berlin compensation package, the city provided the IPC with a building for 99 years. The building was renovated and made wheelchair accessible, and the IPC Headquarters officially opened on 3 September 1999.

The IPC Headquarters are run by professional staff, the first of whom were employed in 1998. The staff manage the daily operations of this large and complex organization. Previously, the organization was run almost exclusively by volunteers, but currently has a workforce of about 30 full-time and part-time employees.

In the early 1900s, the IPC building was originally a private residence and was later used as an office building. It has a distinct atmosphere through the integration of modern elements and old-style architecture.

The building has two apartments that are available for visiting committee members and guests, along with a meeting room that holds more than 30 people. The IPC Headquarters, located along Bonn’s Museum Mile, are about 2km from the city centre, the main train station and City Hall.

B. Membership

Subject to compliance with the IPC Constitution (Reference Module II), membership shall be open to the following categories:

National Paralympic Committees (NPCs): a national organization recognized by the IPC as the sole
representative of athletes with a disability in that country or territory to the IPC, and recognized as such by the respective National Sports Council or similar highest sports authority within a country. The NPCs are responsible for Paralympic co-ordination within their respective country and are responsible for relations and communications with the IPC.

Regional/Continental Paralympic Organizations (Regions): an independent (*) Regional Organization recognized as the sole regional/continental representative of the IPC members within a specific region as recognized by the IPC.

International Organizations for Sport for Disabled (IOSDs): an independent organization recognized by the IPC as the sole representative of a specific disability group to the IPC.

International Paralympic Sport Federations (IPFSFs): an independent (*) Sport Federation recognized by the IPC as the sole, worldwide representative of a specific sport for athletes with a disability that has been granted the status of Paralympic Sport by the IPC Governing Board.

Note (*): Until they have become an autonomous registered organization, Regions and IPFSFs will be granted speaking and voting rights at the IPC General Assembly. The same provisions are made for the IPC Championships sports that have not obtained Paralympic Status.

Full members from all four categories shall have the right to:

Vote and be heard at any meeting of the Members of the IPC, including the General Assembly, subject to delegating duly mandated in writing and in compliance with the published timelines.

Nominate candidates for the IPC Governing Board and the IPC Standing Committees, subject to candidates being duly nominated in compliance with the published nomination procedures.

Submit motions to the IPC General Assembly, subject to compliance with the relevant the IPC Standing Order. The IPC Governing Board will provide the General Assembly with its recommendations on such motions.

Participate in all IPC activities, including congresses/conferences and any other scientific, educational or promotional activities organized by the IPC, subject to payment of participation fees and other relevant decisions made by the IPC Governing Board.

Full members from all four categories shall:

Participate in the development of the IPC’s Vision and Mission statement.

Pay the annual membership fee established by the IPC General Assembly within the first 90 days of the calendar year. Under special circumstances, the IPC Governing Board may consider a request for reduction or waiving of the membership fee. Such a decision will not revoke any rights of the member.

Submit the Statutes of the organization to the IPC Headquarters (copy in English) and inform the IPC of any subsequent changes to the statutes, inform the IPC on any matter coming to their attention, which may hinder the effective development of sports for athletes with a disability or which may adversely affect the IPC, Paralympic Movement or Paralympic Games.

Abide by all the IPC Bylaws, Codes, Rules and Regulations and the decisions of the IPC Governing Board, and promote the principles outlined in the IPC Code of Ethics to their respective individual members.

Maintain regular and on-going communication with the IPC and, in particular, respond to the IPC’s official requests in a timely manner.

C. National Paralympic Committees (NPCs)

The NPCs co-ordinate and support the IPC’s activities and Paralympic Sport in their respective territory. They are also responsible for the entrance, management and team preparation for the Paralympic Games and other IPC sanctioned competitions.

As members of the IPC, the NPCs have the right to submit motions, vote and be heard at meetings of the Members, nominate candidates for appropriate IPC bodies and participate in all IPC activities, subject to meeting the eligibility criteria of the respective activity.

The NPCs who are members of the IPC shall:

Have the right to enter their athletes in the Paralympic Games and all competitions sanc-tioned by the IPC, subject to compliance with the IPC rules and regulations, and the decisions of the IPC Governing Board.

Nominate one athlete for election to the IPC Athletes’ Council, subject to compliance with the nomination and election procedures as outlined in the bylaws for the IPC Athletes’ Council.

Where required for entering athletes in qualifying events for the Paralympic Games, respect the conditions for membership as set by the specific IOSD, IPFSF, or where relevant, Region, which governs the specific qualifying tournament.

Consider, without any form of discrimination, all athletes from the respective territory, who according to the respective sport qualify for the Paralympic Games, for selection to the National Paralympic Team.

Observe and comply with the administrative and operational guidelines issued by the IPC with regard to entrance, management and team preparation for the Paralympic Games and other IPC sanctioned competitions.

The NPCs shall also respect the rights and obligations in relation to marketing (**):

Each NPC, which is a member of the IPC, is responsible for the observance in its own country or territory (*) of all the rules within the IPC Handbook relating to the use of the IPC emblem, Paralympic Symbol, flag, motto, hymn and name “Paralympics”.

Each NPC is obliged to protect the IPC emblem, Paralympic Symbol, flag, motto, hymn and the name “Paralympics” within its own country or territory (*).

Each NPC has the right to the devolved use of the IPC Marketing Programme, (**) of the IPC intellectual Property Bylaws, (**) of the IPC Intellectual Property Bylaws.

Support the International Marketing Programme (IMP) of the IPC and through the IPC, future Paralympic Games Organizing Committees’ (or if one and the same, Olympic Games Organizing Committee’s) marketing plans.

Ensure the continuous promotion of the Paralympic Movement through supporting IPC authorized broadcast-ers of the Paralympic Games using Paralympic properties to promote the broadcasts of the Paralympic Games as outlined in the IPC Intellectual Property Bylaws.
D. Regional Organizations

The IPC currently recognizes four Regional Organizations: the African Sports Confederation of Disabled (Africa), the Asian Paralympic Committee (Asia), the European Paralympic Committee (Europe) and the Oceania Paralympic Committee (Oceania). Until such time as an independent regional organization is created, the IPC has established a Regional Committee, the Paralympic Committee of the Americas (for the Americas region), to act as the sole representative body in that region.

Regional Organizations act as a liaison with the IPC on behalf of their members in the respective region, organize regional sports events, co-ordinate their development activities with the IPC, and provide support to the IPC membership in the respective region.

As members of the IPC, Regional Organizations have the right to submit motions, vote and be heard at meetings of the members, nominate candidates for appropriate IPC bodies and participate in all IPC activities, subject to meeting eligibility of the respective activity.

Specific agreements outlining the roles and responsibilities as well as the marketing rights for each party are signed between the IPC and each Region. In general, each Region that is a member of the IPC shall:

- Have the right to be fully represented in the IPC Regions’ Council, which has been established by the IPC.
- Act as a liaison with the IPC on behalf of its national members in the respective region, while recognizing that its relationship with the IPC cannot supersede the national member’s rights to directly liaise with the IPC on all IPC matters.
- Have the right to organize Regional sports events in co-operation with the respective IPSF, while respecting the specific calendar co-ordination agreements reached with the IPC, but recognizing their right to conduct their own affairs,
- Until such time as all multi-disability sports are independent from the IPC, the Region awards, supervises and controls the respective Official Regional Championships, Regional Games and/or cup competitions in multi-disability sports for which it applies for sanctioning by the relevant IPC Sport,
- Co-ordinate its development activities with the IPC and co-operate with the IPC Development Committee to ensure the development of Paralympic sport within the respective Region.

Each Region shall also agree to the following principles:

- That membership in the Region is open to all national organizations that are members of the IPC and belong to that region,
- That non-payment of a membership fee to the Region shall never be a reason for excluding from participation in any competition or event in the region that is a qualifier for the Paralympic Games or IPC Sport World Championships,
- That non-payment of a membership fee to the Region shall never be a reason for excluding from speaking and voting at General Assemblies of the Region on all topics related to IPC activities,
- That subject to the agreements on membership listed above, the General Assembly of the Region has the sole right to appoint its elected representative to the IPC Council of Regions,
- That where possible, the Region shall observe standards similar to those of the IPC in relation to notice of meetings, nominations for office, voting, general democratic practice and the IPC Code of Ethics,
- That whenever the IPC financially contributes to the development of the Region for its administrative, its general operations and its development projects, the Executive Committee of the Region shall be held accountable by the IPC for the proper use of the funding received from the IPC,
- That the IPC and the Region shall establish a special agreement on any fundraising and sponsorship programme undertaken by both parties, whereby the protection of the adopted IPC fundraising and sponsorship programme shall have priority.

E. International Organizations of Sport for the Disabled (IOSDs)

The IPC currently recognizes four IOSDs: the Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association (CPSRA), the International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA), the International Sports Federation for Persons with an Intellectual Disability (INAS-FID) and the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS).

IOSDs co-operate with the IPC in providing the disability-specific expertise required to develop sport for athletes with a disability from the grassroots level to the elite level. They are the governing body for some of the disability-specific sports participating at the Paralympic Games. They also co-ordinate their development activities with the IPC.

As members of the IPC, IOSDs have the right to submit motions, vote and be heard at meetings of the members,
nominate candidates for appropriate IPC bodies and participate in all IPC activities, subject to meeting eligibility criteria of the respective activity.

Every IOSD that is a member of the IPC shall:

- Have the right to be fully represented in the Council of IOSDs as established by the IPC,
- Have the right to conduct its own sporting events and to assist the IPC in multi-disability events,
- Respect the specific calendar co-ordination agreements reached with the IPC,
- Co-ordinate its development activities with the IPC in providing the disability-specific expertise required to develop sport for athletes with a disability from the grassroots level and upwards.

F. International Paralympic Sports Federations (IPSFs)

The governance of all current 25 Paralympic sports (20 Paralympic Summer sports, 5 Paralympic Winter Sports) falls under the responsibility of different bodies:

- IPC Sports (The IPC serves as the International Federation for nine sports, for which it supervises and co-ordinates the World Championships and other competitions)
- IOSD Sports
- IP Sports

Specific agreements outlining the roles and responsibilities along with the marketing rights for each party are signed between the IPC and each IPSF. In general, each IPSF that is a member of the IPC shall:

- Have the right to be fully represented in the Sport Council as established by the IPC,
- Have the right to conduct their own sporting events and to deal with their own affairs,
- Respect the specific calendar co-ordination agreements as reached between the IPSF and the IPC,
- Communicate and collaborate when appropriate its development activities with the IPC and co-operate with the IPC Development Committee to ensure the development of their sport throughout the world,
- Accept that it is the sole authority of the IPC Governing Board to decide on the inclusion of a sport/discipline/event in the Paralympic Games,
- Establish and enforce the rules concerning the practice of their respective sport, and ensure their application during the Paralympic Games,
- Establish the criteria for eligibility of the sport’s competitions to the Paralympic Games in conformity with the IPC Handbook and the IPC Classification Code, and submit qualification criteria as well as sports specific classification rules to the IPC Governing Board for ratification,
- Assume the responsibility for the technical control and direction of their sports at the Paralympic Games,
- If different from the NPC, ensure that any national member of the IPSF that has athletes qualified for the Paralympic Games enters its athletes for the Paralympic Games through the respective NPC in that country.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport Type</th>
<th>International Federation</th>
<th>Sports Governed</th>
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<td>International Cycling Union (UCI)</td>
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<td>International Equestrian Federation (FEI)</td>
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<td>International Rowing Federation (FISA)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>International Association of Disabled Sailing (IADS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)</td>
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<td>World Organization Volleyball for the Disabled (WOVD)</td>
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<td>International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF)</td>
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<td>World Curling Federation (WCF)</td>
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<td>IOSD Sports</td>
<td>Cerebral Palsy International Sport and Recreation Association (CPISRA)</td>
<td>Boccia, Football 7-a-Side (n=2)</td>
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<td>International Blind Sport Federation (IBSA)</td>
<td>Football 5-a-Side, Goalball, Judo (n=3)</td>
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<td>International Wheelchair and Amputee Sport Federation (IWAS)</td>
<td>Wheelchair Fencing</td>
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<td>International Paralympic Committee (IPC)</td>
<td>Alpine Skiing, Athletics Biathlon, Cross-Country Skiing, Ice Sledge Hockey, Powerlifting, Shooting Swimming, Wheelchair Dance Sport (non-Paralympic Sport) (n=9)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**G. Athletes**

The Paralympic Movement, above all, is focused on the athletes and youth. Sports administrators should never lose sight of the fact that their main efforts must be directed towards the creation of opportunities for athletes, who come from a variety of backgrounds and may belong to any of the following disability groups:

- **Amputee**

  Athletes with an amputation have at least one major joint or part of an extremity missing (e.g., elbow, knee). Depending on the location of the amputation and on the sport requirements, athletes may compete standing with or without prosthetic extremities (e.g., Alpine Skiing, Athletics), or sitting (e.g., Ice Sledge Hockey, Wheelchair Basketball).

- **Spinal Injuries**

  This group includes, but is not limited to athletes with spinal cord injury due to trauma, injury, illness or from birth (e.g., spina bifida). It also includes other health conditions besides spinal cord injury or spina bifida, such as poliomyelitis, Post-polio syndrome and Guillain-Barré syndrome. Many of these athletes compete sitting in a wheelchair or other equipment designed for sitting sports (e.g., sit-ski, Ice Sledge Hockey sledge).

- **Cerebral Palsy**

  “Cerebral” means brain-centred. “Palsy” signifies a lack of muscle control. Cerebral palsy is defined as a heath condition affecting movement and posture due to damage to an area, or areas, of the brain that control and co-ordinate muscle tone, reflexes, posture and movement. Athletes in this group have impaired usage, co-ordination and muscle tone.

  This group may also include those who have had a stroke or head injury.

- **Les Autres**

  “Les Autres” (French for “the others”) is an umbrella term for athletes with a wide range of conditions resulting from various neurological, neuromuscular or musculoskeletal disorders, but which do not “fit” into the traditional profiles of physical disability as described above. Typical examples are: achondroplasia, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, mutilated hands or feet, congenital deformities etc. In the majority of sports, “Les Autres” athletes compete together with athletes with other physical impairments in accordance with their functional ability.

  **Intellectual Disability**

  To be eligible for Paralympic Sports, athletes with intellectual impairment must have a significantly sub-average general intellectual functioning (defined as IQ < 75) and concurrent limitations in adaptive skills, acquired before the age of 18. Additionally, they show reduced “sports intelligence”, or limitations in the conative domain (conation refers to the mental processes that activate and/or direct behaviour and action, such as processing speed, visual-spatial intelligence, memory) that impact directly on sport participation.

- **Visually Impaired**

  Athletes with a visual impairment compete with a wide range of function from conditions that result in significant loss of vision after correction (i.e., using glasses, etc.) to total blindness. Athletes are allocated a sport class according to the amount of useful vision they have. Visual acuity and visual field are measures to make this determination. Visual acuity refers to clarity and distance vision. Visual field refers to the area a person can see without moving the eyes or head.

  The IPC has established an Athletes’ Council to encourage input from athletes to the IPC and to its various commissions. The IPC Athletes’ Council is composed of nine Paralympic athlete representatives elected for a four-year term. Six athlete representatives are elected from summer sports and three from winter sports at the Paralympic Games.

  Athlete candidates are nominated by their respective National Paralympic Committee (NPC), and must have competed at a Paralympic Games within the previous eight years. The Athletes’ Council meets at least once a year at the invitation of the Chairperson and at the request of the IPC Governing Board.

  Several IPFs and NPCs encourage input by athletes and have established mechanisms to solicit their views through Athletes’ Councils and athlete representatives on NPCs and NFs.

  What has your NPC done to encourage the involvement of athletes in your association?

**H. Competitions**

**All Africa Games**

Although plans were in progress for the All Africa Games since the 1920s, it was not until the early 1960s that the Friendship Games were held for the French-speaking countries in Africa. Before the third edition in Senegal in 1963, a conference of African Ministers of Youth and Sport decided that the competition would be renamed the All Africa Games, as there were already a few English-speaking countries participating.

The first All Africa Games were held in 1965 at Brazzaville and subsequently have been held in Lagos (1973), Algiers (1978), Nairobi (1987), Cairo (1991), Harare (1995), Johannesburg (1999), Abuja (2003) and Algiers (2007). The 2011 Games will be held in Maputo, Mozambique.
Starting in 1999 in Johannesburg, the All African Games began to include competitions for athletes with a disability. In Algiers (2007), around 350 athletes with a disability from 25 countries competed in Athletics, Goalball and Wheelchair Basketball.

The Commonwealth Games

The first Commonwealth Games were held in 1930 in Hamilton, Ontario, in Canada. Four hundred athletes from 11 countries participated in the first Commonwealth Games. Since then, the Games have been held every four years except for 1942 and 1946, due to World War II.

From 1930 to 1950, the Games were referred to as the British Empire Games, and then the British Empire and Commonwealth Games until 1962. From 1966 to 1974, they were called the British Commonwealth Games and from 1978 onwards simply as the Commonwealth Games. Since then, the 2010 Commonwealth Games will be held in New Delhi, India.

The 2002 Games in Manchester, England, included for the first time a limited number of medal events for elite athletes with a disability in a fully inclusive sports programme. This continued in Melbourne (2006) where athletes with a disability took part in Athletics, Swimming, Table Tennis and Powerlifting. The same four sports will be part of the 2010 programme in Delhi.

Oceania Paralympic Championships

The Arafura Games are a leading international sporting competition for emerging champions from the Asia-Pacific region that are held in Darwin, Australia, every two years. They began in 1991 as the Arafura Sports Festival with 1,500 participants from seven countries competing in 13 sports. By the time the ninth Games were held in 2007, participation had soared to more than 2,500 athletes representing 30 nations and the inclusion of 30 sports.

The inaugural Oceania Paralympic Championships, a multi-sport, multi-disability event, was incorporated into the 2007 Arafura Games as a result of a partnership among the Oceania Paralympic Committee, the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) and the Northern Territory Government.

A total of 322 athletes from 24 countries participated in seven sports for athletes with a disability (Athletics, Wheelchair Basketball, Cycling, Powerlifting, Swimming, Table Tennis, and Wheelchair Tennis).

Asian Para Games

The first Paralympic Games held in Asia (Tokyo 1964) stimulated revolutionary changes in social and political attitudes towards people and athletes with a disability in Japan. However, these changes never spread throughout the continent. The need to provide additional impetus for the development of the Paralympic Movement in Asia led to the creation of the FESPIC (Far East and South Pacific Disabled Games Federation) in the 1970s.

The first FESPIC Games were held in Oita, Japan, in 1975 and grew spectacularly to include 3,800 athletes from 47 nations competing in 19 sports at the ninth and final edition held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 2006.

Following the creation of the Asian Paralympic Committee and the dissolution of FESPIC in 2006, the FESPIC Games will be succeeded by the first Asian Para Games, which will debut in Guangzhou, China, in December 2010.

Parapan American Games

The origins of the Parapan American Games date back to 1967, when six countries participated in the Pan American Games for the Paraplegic in Winnipeg, Canada, which included sports played by athletes in wheelchairs. Nine additional editions of the competition were held until 1999, when Mexico City hosted the first edition of the Games under the supervision of the IPC. These Games were entitled the Parapan American Games. Approximately 1,000 athletes participated in 1999. About 1,300 athletes participated in the subsequent Games, staged in the Mar del Plata, Argentina, in 2003.

For the first time, the 2007 Parapan American Games took place immediately after and in the same city, at the same venues and the same Village as the Pan American Games. More than 1,100 athletes from 25 countries competed in ten sports. The 2011 Parapan American Games will also be held in the same city as the Pan American Games (Guadalajara, Mexico).

The IPC World Championships

Since 1994, the IPC supervises and coordinates the organization of the World Championships for the sports under its governance. Host Cities are selected through a bidding process, during which NPCs are invited to submit expressions of interest in hosting the competitions and provide appropriate guarantees for staging successful championships.

World Championships vary in size and are typically held every four years. The first IPC World Championship was organized for the sport of Powerlifting in Uppsala, Sweden, in 1994. Since then, several championships have been held around the world, with the 2006 Athletics IPC World Championships in Assen reaching a record attendance of 1,100 athletes from 76 countries.

Other Games

There are dozens of other multi-sport international games based on subregions, language and culture and other considerations. A few of these include: Youth Games, the Paralympic World Cup and the Jeux de l’Avenir, etc.

I. Your NPC and the Paralympic Movement

Now that you have spent some time looking at the structural/organizational relationships in the Paralympic Movement, draw a chart describing concisely how your NPC fits in with these organizations. Identify all of your country’s Paralympic Sports as well as the specific people who lead the various organizations.

J. Questions

- Who are the various stakeholders of the Paralympic Movement, both historically and currently? Please briefly describe their different roles.
- What does ISMGF stand for?
- Name the four IOSDs that are members of the IPC
- What is the IPC’s Vision?
- What are the Agitos?
- Name four sports that are governed by International Federations.
- Who is the sole authority to decide on the inclusion of a sport/discipline/event in the Paralympic Games?
- Name three rights and obligations of the IPC members.
A. The Evolution of the Paralympic Games

The Paralympic Games have witnessed rapid progress since their modest beginnings in Stoke Mandeville more than half a century ago. From a small event attended by 23 nations and 400 athletes in Rome (1960), the Paralympic Games have grown to involve 3,951 athletes from 146 nations in Beijing (2008).

The table below illustrates the evolution of the Paralympic Summer Games:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number of Nations</th>
<th>Number of Athletes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Rome, Italy</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Tokyo, Japan</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Tel Aviv, Israel</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Heidelberg, Germany</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Toronto, Canada</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1,657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Arnhem, Netherlands</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>1,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Stoke Mandeville, Great Britain and New York, USA</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Seoul, Korea</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>3,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Barcelona, Spain</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>3,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Atlanta, USA</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>3,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Sydney, Australia</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>3,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Athens, Greece</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>3,806</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Beijing, China</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>3,951</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below illustrates the evolution of the Paralympic Winter Games:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number of Nations</th>
<th>Number of Athletes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Örnsköldsvik, Sweden</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Geilo, Norway</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Innsbruck, Austria</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Innsbruck, Austria</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Tignes-Albertville, France</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Lillehammer, Norway</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Nagano, Japan</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Salt Lake City, USA</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Torino</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Same Host City as the Olympic Games.

B. The IPC and the IOC

The IPC and the IOC share a common belief in the right of all human beings to pursue their physical and intellectual development, and that mutual benefits exist in the development of close co-operation between both organizations to support their strategic objectives and vision. Indeed, the Paralympic Games have always taken place during the same year as the Olympic Games since the Seoul 1988 Paralympic Games, the Paralympics have taken place in the same city and at the same sporting venues and facilities as the Olympics.

In October 2000, at the time of the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games, an Agreement of Co-operation was signed by the IPC and IOC. The agreement outlined the principles governing further relationships between the two organizations, and represented a significant development in the IOC’s support for sport for athletes with a disability.

Another agreement signed in June 2001 was aimed at protecting the organization of the Paralympic Games by securing the practice of “one bid, one city”, which means the staging of the Paralympics is automatically included in the bid for the Olympics. The agreement addresses the general scope and organization of the Paralympic Games, with the aim of creating similar principles for the organization of the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

In 2003, the IOC-IPC Agreement was adjusted. The amendment is aimed at ensuring that Organizing Committees for the Olympic and Paralympic Games (IOC, OPGs) in 2008, 2010 and 2012 pay the IPC a certain amount of money for broadcasting and marketing related to the 2008, 2010 and 2012 Paralympic Games.

In June 2006, the IOC and the IPC signed an extension of their current agreement, which will continue to see the IOC support the IPC and the Paralympic Games through to 2016. The accord that ran until 2012 has thus been extended to include the 2014 and 2016 Games. The agreements for subsequent Games editions are renewed every 2 years in line with the bidding stage for each Games.

Furthermore, the IPC is represented on several IOC Commissions and Committees and vice versa. For example, the IPC has a representative on the IOC Athletes’ Committee, the Coordination Commissions of the Olympic Games, the IOC Medical Commission, the Women and Sport Commission, the Press Commission, and the Radio and Television Commission.

C. The International Bid Process for Selecting Host Cities

The selection of the Host City for the Olympic and Paralympic Games is governed by Rule 34 of the Olympic Charter (2004) and its By-Law. The entire procedure for designating Olympic and Paralympic Games Host Cities was revised by the 110th IOC Session, which met in Lausanne on 11-12 December 1999. The IOC-IPC Agreement specifies the role of the IPC and the NPCs in this process.

The new procedure involves two distinct phases: i) application and ii) candidature.

Phase I is under the authority of the IOC Executive Board. In this phase, a city, via its National Olympic Committee, makes an application to the IOC to become a Candidate City to host the Olympic and Paralympic Games. At this stage, such cities are “Applicant Cities”. Applicant Cities are asked to respond to a series of questions that enable the IOC to assess their application.

The decision to accept Applicant Cities as Candidate Cities is the responsibility
of the IOC Executive Board. In making its decision, the following criteria are considered:

- The ability of the Applicant Cities – and their countries – to host, organize and stage high-level international multi-sports events,
- Compliance with the Olympic Charter, the IOC Code of Ethics, the Olympic Movement’s Anti-Doping Code, the Candidate Acceptance Procedure and other rules, instructions and conditions that the IOC may establish,
- Any other criteria that the IOC Executive Board, in its sole discretion, may deem reasonable to consider;
- The reinforcement of the principles and rules that are at the basis of Olympism.

Once accepted by the IOC Executive Board, cities enter Phase II as “Candidate Cities”.

The main expenses of a Candidate City include preparatory studies (operating costs of the committee (travel, remuneration, office costs etc.), communications and promotions strategy (including development of the Candidature file) and the guarantee deposit required by the IOC.

The Candidature Committee must obtain the support of the public authorities concerned (including financial guarantees for the staging of the Paralympic Games) and that of the NOC, the IOC members in the country, and the National Sports Federations. It is crucial that the Candidate City has popular support for the project within its community.

The NPC is represented on the Candidature Committee’s Board and participates in the bid process by providing expertise on the Paralympic Games section of the Candidature file. The NPC ensures that the IPC requirements are met on the proposed Games plan, including a guarantee that the future OCGO and the NPC will enter into a Paralympic Joint Marketing Programme Agreement (PJMPA) for the entire Games Marketing period to consolidate all Paralympic properties and equities in the host territory.

Once the city is accepted as a candidate by the IOC, the following occurs:

- The IOC organizes an initial information meeting, during which information is given on all aspects of the process. The IOC provides each city with the IOC Manual for Candidate Cities,
- The Candidate City submits its Candidature file and signs a Candidature Agreement by a date set by the IOC,
- An IOC Evaluation Commission, which is comprised of IOC members, representatives of International Federations, National Olympic Committees, athletes and other experts, visits each of the Candidate Cities,
- There is a possible selection of finalist Candidate Cities by the IOC Executive Board,
- At the IOC Session, each finalising Candidate City makes a presentation followed by questions from the floor. After this, the Host City for the Olympic Games is elected by the attending IOC members by secret ballot.

The involvement of the IPC during this phase includes:

- The IPC representation in the IOC Evaluation Commission for the assessment of the Candidate Cities,
- The Paralympic references and themes throughout the questionnaire and bid documentation. The feedback and support provided by the IPC administration to the IOC in the analysis and evaluation of Paralympic bid components,
- The interaction with the Candidate Cities’ authorities according to the processes and provisions established by the IOC.

A general timeline is given below:

- Nine years before the Games, the IOC sends out a circular to NOCs inviting them to submit applications,
- Eight and a half years before the Games, the NOCs submit the name of an Applicant City,
- Eight years before the Games, the IOC Executive Board accepts Candidate Cities,
- Seven and a half years before the Games, the Candidate Cities submit their Candidature File and shortly thereafter, the IOC Evaluation Commission evaluates the Candidate Cities, spending four or more days in each,
- Seven years before the Games, the IOC Session elects the Host City for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Some cities start this process 15 years before the Games for which they are applying. The city should assess the impact of organizing the Games on the city and the region and undertake planning, including of sports facilities and essential infrastructure elements (accommodation capacity, public and private transport, telecommunications, etc.). The financial aspects of the project should be carefully evaluated.

D. The Organizing Committees (OCGs)

The IOC entrusts the staging of the Olympic and Paralympic Games to the NOC of the Host Country. The Host Country’s NOC then proceeds to form an Organizing Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games (OCOG), which is the organization that is responsible for managing the operations necessary for staging the Games.

Even though the Olympic and the Paralympic Games have been held at the same venues since 1986, the two events were initially organized separately by two distinct Organizing Committees – the OCOG and the POC (Paralympic Organizing Committee). Over the years, however, closer collaboration and co-ordination between these two Committees became apparent in several Host Cities to ensure operational and cost efficiencies.

The 2001 IOC-IPC Agreement provided the framework for an integrated organizational approach with a single Organizing Committee for both the Olympic and the Paralympic Games. This agreement became binding beginning with the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Summer Games and the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games.

However, the Organizing Committee of the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic and Paralympic Games chose to immediately work under one Organizing Committee. Athens 2004 and Torino 2006 also followed the successful example of a single Organizing Committee for both Games.

Vancouver 2010 was the first OCOG to include the term “Paralympic” in its official title (Vancouver Organizing Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games), and London 2012 was the first OCOG to base its Olympic and Paralympic logos around the same core symbols.

OCOGs now typically follow an integrated approach in planning for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. A department dedicated to Paralympic planning is responsible for the tracking, management and co-ordination of activities within the relevant OCOG departments for the successful delivery of the Paralympic Games.

The NPC in the Host Nation plays a critical role in the operational and promotional success of the Paralympic Games. By acting as an advisor to and through its representation on the OCOG board level, the NPC in the Host Nation can contribute to and benefit from the mobilization and development of the Paralympic community in the lead-up to the Games.
E. Paralympic Sports Programme

The Paralympic Games represent an international, multi-sport competition for athletes with a disability that reflects the highest standards of athletic excellence and diversity. The goal of the Paralympic Sports Programme is to provide exciting and inspiring events in the Paralympic Games that allow athletes to achieve competitive excellence while engaging and entertaining spectators.

The IPC conducts a quadrennial review of which sports, disciplines and medal events are included in the Paralympic Games. Each sport and discipline applying for inclusion in the Programme must meet specific minimum eligibility conditions and must have a level of organizational infrastructure and sophistication that is sufficient to manage and sustain their sport.

Minimum Eligibility Conditions

A sport organization (i.e., IPC Sport Committees, an International Sports Organization for the Disabled, an International Federation that governs an Olympic sport, or an International Federation for Athletes with a Disability) may apply for the inclusion of a sport or discipline in the Paralympic Games Programme if it meets all of the following criteria:

- Is organized for athletes with a disability;
- Its statutes, practices and activities are in conformity with the IPC Handbook and contribute to the IPC Vision and Mission, including the adoption and implementation of the World Anti-Doping Code and the guidelines of classification and principles of fair play;
- Have a structure of national organizations each recognized by its own country;
- Demonstrates that it has a regular quadrennial competition programme including two world championships hosted within the last eight years;
- Has a sustainable governance and organization infrastructure that effectively manages it;
- Is ineligible if its performance depends essentially on mechanical propulsion or motorized devices, and mind sports are also not eligible to apply.

Only individual sports and disciplines widely and regularly practised in a minimum of 24 nations in three IPC Regions will be considered for inclusion in the Paralympic Games.

Only team sports and disciplines widely and regularly practised in a minimum of 18 nations and three IPC Regions will be considered for inclusion in the Paralympic Games.

For Paralympic Winter Games the following applies:

- Only individual Sports and individual Disciplines widely and regularly practised in a minimum of eight (8) countries and two (2) IPC regions may be considered for inclusion in the Paralympic Winter Games.
- Only team sports and disciplines widely and regularly practised in a minimum of eight (8) countries and two (2) IPC regions will be considered for inclusion in the Paralympic Winter Games.

The calculation to determine the number of nations widely and regularly practising a sport or discipline may include the following:

- Holding recognized/sanctioned National Championships within the last four years;
- Competing with a national delegation in international recognized/sanctioned competitions on a regular basis within the last four years, and/or
- Demonstrating frequent and widespread sport-specific opportunities for athletes with a disability within the last four years.

The Paralympic Programme Review process includes the following three steps:

1. Pre-Application
   A minimum eligibility assessment based on the principles set forth in the IPC Handbook, Section III, Chapter 4 is used to determine which sports and disciplines may be considered for inclusion in the Paralympic Programme.

2. General Application
   An infrastructural capacity assessment based on organizational risk management principles is used to assess an eligible sport’s or discipline’s ability to meet the obligations of inclusion in the Paralympic Programme.

3. Competition Proposal
   A sport- and/or discipline-specific proposal based on the fundamental technical factors is used to assess the impact that sport/discipline may have on the scope and scale of the Paralympic Games, as well as to provide a basis for positioning it in the Paralympic Programme.
Paralympic Sports Programme Guiding Principles

The principles are categorized by three core characteristics, which broadly outline the philosophical priorities of the Paralympic Programme. The core characteristics and their corresponding definitions as they relate to the principles are as follows:

### Quality
The essential principles with respect to degree of excellence, accomplishment and/or attainment.
- **Fair Play** – Driving the collective values of the IPC; ensuring that the spirit of fair play prevails, that the health risks of athletes are managed, that fundamental ethical principles are upheld, that prejudice and discrimination are not tolerated, and that all forms of cheating are discouraged and dealt with sternly.
- **Inspirational** – Creating a distinct opportunity for personal experience/reflection that acts as a catalyst for change through showcasing the extraordinary perseverance of the human spirit through athleticism.
- **Exciting** – Providing a vibrant and energizing atmosphere that is entertaining in the context of each sport, yet creates a collective motivational atmosphere that is attractive to spectators and the media.
- **Elite** – Representing the highest athlete performances in the context of the specific sport.

### Quantity
The principles that establish parameters and/or conditions necessary for success.
- **Viable** – Ensuring operational and programmatic capability in the context of the IPC’s obligations to its relationship with the IOC and considering the impact on the POC/OCOG (e.g., financially, cost effective, manageable, number of training and competition venues, safety, risk management).
- **Sustainable/Dynamic** – Ensuring a healthy and stable programme (components of the sport) that allows forecasting (foresight) and ongoing evaluation; Stable enough to be sustainable, and dynamic enough to meet the needs of the present and the future.

### Universality
The collective principles or conditions that ensure and reflect a diverse movement.
- **Equitable** – Ensuring that gender representation and the type and extent of disabilities represented at the Games are taken as a fundamental factor in establishing the Games framework.
- **Global** – Establishing a framework that strives to ensure regional representation and the global nature of the Games.
- **Balance** – Weighing and positioning the types of sports and competitors included based on the nature of the sports/disciplines (e.g., individual versus team, power versus precision, speed versus endurance, and combat versus artistic).

### Sports in the Paralympic Programme

#### Summer Sports

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<th>Sport</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boccia</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cycling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equestrian</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Football 5-a-Side</td>
<td>Road Dressage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Football 7-a-Side</td>
<td>Track</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goalball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Powerlifting</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rowing</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sailing</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Shooting</td>
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<td>Swimming</td>
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<td>Volleyball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheelchair Basketball</td>
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<td>Wheelchair Fencing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheelchair Rugby</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheelchair Tennis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Winter Sports

- Alpine Skiing
- Biathlon
- Cross-Country Skiing
- Ice Sledge Hockey
- Wheelchair Curling
CHAPTER 4:
THE IPC PROGRAMMES AND INTERESTS
A. Women in Sport

The IPC is committed to promoting the participation of women and girls in sporting activities and the Paralympic Games.

Sport, whether competitive or recreational, has become a social force with a major impact on the structure of society and the condition of women. More and more women are choosing to take up sport as athletes and in leadership positions. However, women are still under-represented and face numerous obstacles. Although the sporting world and the Paralympic Movement are firmly convinced of the need to make sport more accessible to women, it will take a co-ordinated approach by sport organizations, role models, political authorities, and the media to create sustainable change.

Since 2002, the IPC has been addressing the issues surrounding girls and women in sport through a Commission that in 2004 became an IPC Standing Committee.

The Evolution of Women’s Participation in Sports for Athletes with a Disability

Over the last decade, participation rates for women athletes in the Paralympic Games have increased steadily, but still remain low. The IPC Women in Sport Committee attributes the low rate of participation by women in Paralympic Sport as a result of the limited resources and opportunities available to girls and young women with a disability at the local, national and international levels.

The IPC Mission clearly refers to gender equity and the important role of the participation of women in the Paralympic Movement. Article 4 states: “To develop opportunities for women athletes and athletes with a severe disability in sport at all levels and in all structures”. Thus, the IPC General Assembly adopted in 2003 the following objective:

“That the IPC, NPCs, Sports, IOSDs and IFs belonging to the Paralympic Movement shall immediately establish as a goal to be achieved by December 2005 that at least 15% of all offices in all their decision-making structures be held by women with the intent of achieving 30% representation by 2009.”

The Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games marked a new chapter in female participation. More than 34 per cent of the athletes participants in the Paralympic Games in Beijing were women, thus setting a new record for women’s participation in Paralympic Games. Of the 3951 athletes competing, 1367 were women. In Athens, 1165 women were among the total of 3808 participating athletes. The figure in Beijing reach the projection set by the IPC for the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games.

In Beijing, women competed in 18 of the 20 Paralympic sports. Of 472 events in Beijing, 37 per cent is for women, another 7 percent is mixed events which also allow women’s participation. For the Beijing Games, more quotas were set for women in Archery, Athletics, Boccia, Cycling and etc. Moreover, more women’s teams were allowed to compete in Sitting Volleyball, Basketball and Rugby which have significantly contributed to the increase of female participants in percentage terms.

The following table compares the participation of male and female athletes at Torino 2006 Paralympic Winter Games, Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games as well as the Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 and Beijing 2008 Paralympic Summer Games.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paralympic Winter Games: Participation by Gender</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female Participation</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>21 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male Participation</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>79 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paralympic Summer Games: Participation by Gender</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female Participation</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>24 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male Participation</td>
<td>2,469</td>
<td>76 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Women's Participation in the Administration of the Paralympic Movement

A review conducted in 2009 by the IPC Women in Sport Committee shows that representation by women in the IPC decision-making structures is on the rise, but there are still an overwhelming number of women absent from leadership positions in Paralympic Sport.

Key findings included:

- Women hold around 25% of the offices/positions within the IPC decision-making structures. This finding indicates that the IPC has met its goal of achieving 30% representation by women by 2009.
- Women hold over 30% of the decision-making positions on the IPC Standing Committees and Councils.
- Women hold 21% of the leadership positions within the IPC Governing Board and 20% within the National Paralympic Committees (NPCs).
- Although there is good overall representation of women on the Standing Committees, there is still an under-representation of women filling the position of chairperson.

It should be noted that these statistics are cumulative, and in a number of areas, women are significantly under-represented within each category.

The Women in Sport Leadership Programme

In 2004, the WISC initiated the IPC Women in Sport Leadership Programme. The first pilot Leadership Summit was held from 3-5 December 2004 in Tehran, Iran. Two African Summits were subsequently held from 17-19 August 2005 in Niamey, Niger, with representatives from eight French-speaking African countries and from 2-4 November 2005 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, with representatives from ten English-speaking countries. From 22-24 June 2007, the European Summit was held in Germany with over 20 participants. During 1-3 May 2008, the Asian Women in Paralympic Sport Leadership Summit was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, over 60 participants from 19 countries attended the event.

The IPC Women in Sports Leadership Toolkit

The WISC, in association with the IPC Management Team, developed the IPC Women in Sport Leadership Toolkit, which is a resource aimed at improving the health and well-being, leadership skills, social and democratic skills, self-determination, productivity, and independence of girls and women with a disability. The toolkit is available on the IPC website.

IOC World Conference on Women and Sport

Every four years, IOC organises a World Conference on Women and Sport. The purpose of the conference is to assess progress made, to exchange experiences, to further advocate for women’s involvement in sport, and to outline priority actions to enhance women's participation.

The first conference was held from 14-16 October 1996 in Lausanne, Switzerland, the second in Paris, France, in March 2000, the third in Morocco in March 2004, and the fourth in Dead Sea, Jordan March 2008.

Taking Action

What can I do to help improve opportunities in Paralympic Sport for girls and women?
1. Consult the IPC Women in Sport Toolkit,
2. Promote and develop opportunities for women as athletes, coaches, officials, and leaders in Paralympic Sport, and engage women in the decision-making process,
3. Identify and mentor women in your sport/country for high-level competition, coaching and leadership positions,
4. Analyze participation rates of girls and women in your sport/country and engage women in developing policies and strategies for increasing participation,
5. Address the lack of representation by women in your NPC’s or IOSDI/PSP’s executive committees by developing a strategy to achieve greater equity in your board/committee.

B. Athletes with High Support Needs

The IPC is committed to promoting the participation of persons with high support needs in sporting activities and the Paralympic Games.

Since the inception of the Paralympic Movement, athletes with high support needs have been active participants in the Games and in leadership. In recent years, however, there have been increasing concern expressed that opportunities for this population are diminishing to the detriment of the Paralympic Family.

Following a motion put forward at the 2001 General Assembly, the IPC created a Commission for Athletes with a Severe Disability, which became an IPC Standing Committee in 2004. In 2007, the Governing Board approved a proposal to change the name to Athletes with High Support Needs Committee.

Terminology

Since the inception of the Committee in 2003, concerns have been raised about the terminology used. The main challenge has been to come up with a term that both conveys the importance of and clearly designates the intended population. The title needs to reflect the population the Committee deals with along with its purpose.

The Committee’s name was taken from a motion highlighting the need to examine issues related to the participation of “athletes with a severe disability” within the Paralympic Movement. But concerns have been repeatedly raised that the term “severe disability” is overly negative.

Moreover, there are two principal issues that arise in the course of any discussion of “athletes with a severe disability.” These are: (1) the diversity of the Paralympic Movement (ensuring equitable opportunities for this population of athletes), and (2) ensuring that the rules and regulations that are in place support – not hinder – their participation.

The Committee has determined that most of its efforts should be directed towards the systems of the Paralympic Movement to best understand the state of sport, the needs, and the available opportunities for those athletes who have a more significant disability. The new terminology, therefore, emphasizes the support needs of these athletes in competitive Paralympic environments.

Definition and its Components:

“Athletes with high support needs require supplemental specialized services to participate in a competitive environment on the field of play or in daily living.”

Athletes – a conscious decision was made to maintain a focus on the athletes, in keeping with the purpose of the IPC. The Committee strongly believes that any person, regardless of presence or degree of disability, who can and wishes to contribute to the Paralympic Movement should be able to do so based on their merit, if not as athletes, then as coaches, officials, or leaders.

High Support Needs – all athletes and all coaches, officials, volunteers and leaders require support to fulfill their roles. The challenge for persons with a "severe disability" is that these individuals require a high degree of support to function in a competitive Paralympic environment. The degree of support required in a competition environment may, in fact, be higher than is needed in a home environment due to familiarity of surroundings (as in the case of visual impairment) or the availability of specialized adaptive equipment. This support may be required on and/or off the field of play, and requires a degree of skill and specialization as well as an established relationship with the individual requiring support.

The Evolution of Athletes with High Support Needs in the Paralympic Movement

Opportunities for athletes with high support needs have proven difficult to track over time for two reasons. The first reason is that record-keeping, particularly at early events, has not always been easy to access or been as complete as one might hope. A second factor has to do with the evolution of classification systems. Accurate identification of athletes with high support needs is necessarily linked to classification, and as these systems have developed considerably in recent years, it is vital that identification and tracking of this population be closely linked to the classification process. However, open classification systems and some class groupings do not allow for all athletes with high support needs to be consistently identified.

It is surmised that the “modern” Paralympic Games structure (i.e., since 1992) has inadvertently eliminated a series of opportunities for athletes with high support needs. With a limit on the size of the Summer Games and a more stringent and transparent sport selection process, several disciplines were eliminated, including Club Throw in Athletics and Swimming with flotation devices. These sport eliminations are perhaps balanced by the introduction of Boccia and Wheelchair Rugby to the Paralympic programme.

Data from the Winter Paralympics, even with its limited programme, is more difficult to ascertain. Classification information from Salt Lake 2002 and Torino 2006 show that 10.6% and 7% of athletes at these Games had high support needs (with women being greatly under-represented).

But no information was available on Wheelchair Curling, given its open class system. It appears though that with adaptive equipment permitting a broader range of competitors, a certain number of athletes participating in this sport may have gone unidentified for their high support needs.

The Role of National Paralympic Committees in Providing Opportunities for Athletes with High Support Needs

The NPCs have three principal roles in providing opportunities for athletes with high support needs.
First, as the organizer of delegations to Paralympic Games, the NPC has the responsibility to select the best athletes to its Team (regardless of the degree of support required), and to appropriately support the Team. The Delegation Quota Formula (established by the IPC to determine the number of Team officials an NPC is entitled to bring to the Paralympic Games) provides additional staff positions for delegations with athletes with high support needs so that NPCs have the human resources needed to provide required levels of support in the Games environment.

Second, the NPC coordinates and fosters Paralympic Sport in its country or territory. The NPC, therefore, has an opportunity to encourage the development of sport opportunities for athletes with high support needs, and to work with partners to remove barriers to their participation domestically and as part of national teams.

Third, the NPC has the opportunity to raise issues of importance at the IPC General Assembly and to Standing Committees on specific topics, including on athletes with high support needs.

The NPCs also have the opportunity to nominate individuals (including those with high support needs) to the IPC and related organizations.

Some Key Questions to Consider:

Paralympic Teams

What kind of representation do athletes with high support needs have on recent Paralympic Games Teams? Are there any trends by sport? For men or women?

What challenges, if any, has the NPC delegation faced in providing support to these athletes? What could the NPC do differently? What could the IPC do to support NPCs in these efforts?

Paralympic Sports

What Paralympic Sports are offered by the NPC or its partners? Which of these have opportunities for athletes with high support needs? Are there individual and team choices? Summer and Winter sports?

How many athletes with high support needs participate in sport in the country? Are there sports, clubs, or regions which are more successful? What appear to be the key success factors?

What kinds of barriers do athletes with high support needs face in accessing sport programmes and competition? How are these the same or different from the barriers faced by other athletes with a disability?

Are there opportunities for individuals with high support needs to contribute to sport as coaches, officials, or leaders? What kinds of support would need to be provided to make this a reality?

C. Paralympic Games Impact

Both the Olympic Movement and the Paralympic Movement recognize that planning and staging the Games can potentially have significant impacts on the natural environment and on local communities. At the same time, the Games open up unrivalled opportunities to promote environmental and social responsibility, to raise public awareness, to educate people about issues, and to showcase new methods and green technologies.

Environmental and sustainable development issues are of global significance and both the IOC and the IPC strive to ensure that the Games are held in conditions that demonstrate a responsible concern for the environment, society, and cultures.

From 2008, all Olympic and Paralympic Games Host Cities were required to produce a fourth volume for the Host City Report concerning the global impact of the Games. Host Cities are required to monitor a series of environmental, social and economic factors. Some of these relate to event aspects, while others provide background context of the city and/or region. This is the Olympic Games Impact project (OGI), the IOC’s new sustainability reporting system, which includes the Paralympic Games experience.

Hosting the Paralympic Games, with the required level of safety and comfort necessarily means that venues, facilities and services need to be adapted to suit the enhanced needs of an increased amount of users with a disability. Therefore, the impact of activities serving this cause should be considered as relevant to the OGI study.

The OCOG, the Host City and its partners need to ensure that every resident of the city and every visitor will have full access to all activities that constitute the “Games Experience”. For this to be possible, the conditions that form barriers to this objective need to be removed. Such barriers may not only be architectural, attitudinal, political, economical and educational barriers may also affect an individual’s chances of fully participating in and experiencing the Games.

Therefore, creating an accessible and inclusive environment should be among the key objectives for an OCOG and its Host City. Potential legacy initiatives resulting from staging the Paralympic Games include:

- Accessible infrastructure in sporting facilities and in the overall urban development,
- Development of sport structures/organizations for people with a disability from the grassroots to the elite level,
- Attitudinal changes in the perception of the position and the capabilities of persons with a disability as well as the increased self-esteem of people with a disability,
- Opportunities for people with a disability to become fully integrated in social living and to reach their full potential in aspects of life beyond sports.

The impact of the Paralympic Games in these fields can become the catalyst for achieving legacies that affect the lives of people with a disability in the Host City, region and country. Therefore, integrating the Paralympic Games into the OGI study provides the opportunity to objectively assess such impacts and legacies.

In addition to measuring the impacts, the IPC intends to establish processes and resources (tools, networks and partnerships) to synthesize the Paralympic data and information captured by the OGI study into concrete outcomes.

To capture the impact of the Paralympic Games in the four principal areas indicated previously, the IPC developed and introduced Paralympic elements into the OGI study, through the:

- Inclusion of new data fields into existing OGI indicators, where relevant and pertinent,
- Creation of specific Paralympic indicators to measure specific aspects of the Paralympic impact and/or legacy.

The Paralympic-specific indicators follow the same format and methodology as the OGI indicators.

The OCOG and the Host City’s authorities can benefit significantly from the integration of the Paralympic Games
within the OGI study. It is also probable that sporting organizations and other agencies representing people with a disability in the Host City, region, or country are willing to work with the OCOG to carry out lasting and sustainable legacies. Thus, the OGI study can be seen as a means of bringing all parties together to produce a complementary and non-duplicative study.

D. Development Support Initiatives

NPC and Sports Development Initiative

The promotion and support of National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) and Sport is a crucial aspect in order to develop athletes and to raise awareness for sport for the Paralympic Movement. IPC’s work in this area includes joint activities and programmes with third parties, e.g. the United Nations or other regional initiatives, but, moreover, the sport initiatives of the NPCs. In the past, the IPC provided grants for selected projects in the field of development. As, however, it is very important to strengthen the organizational skills and background of the NPCs, the IPC developed the Organizational Development Initiative (ODI), which has proven to be a successful tool (until 2009). From IPC’s experience with the ODI and as a result from the IPC General Assembly 2009, the IPC will from 2010 onwards focus more on an integrated approach with a clear focus on sport development.

E. Sport for Athletes with a Disability and the Media

Mass media is a term used to denote, as a class, that section of the media specifically conceived and designed to reach a large audience (typically at least as large as the whole population of a nation state). It includes all means of mass communication e.g., magazines, cinema, films, newspapers, radio, television, Internet, billboards, books, CDs, DVDs, videocassettes and other publishing.

Since the first Paralympic Games in 1960 in Rome, there has been a steady and healthy growth of the number of media covering the Paralympic Summer and Winter Games. The Beijing 2008 and Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Games set new records in media attendance, and this development is expected to continue in the future.

The form of media used to bring the Paralympics closer to all citizens of the world is changing rapidly. Radio and television are no longer the sole media used; Internet broadband streaming and mobile technology are some examples of new media.

The media has become so important for the Paralympic Games that the contract with Organizing Committees spells out the provisions that must be made for journalists. The aim is to ensure the most complete news coverage to the widest possible audience.

Sophisticated facilities for transmission of radio and television signals have to be provided by the Organizing Committee at its expense but, of course, it receives income from the sale of television rights negotiated with radio/television networks.

The media render an essential service to the IPC and the Paralympic Movement: they present the Games and other aspects of the Paralympic Movement to a vast unseen audience. The image that most people in the world have of the Paralympics is that presented by the media.

The IOC Press Commission and the Radio and Television Commission

Within the IOC structure, there are two Commissions that specialize in the media: the Press Commission and Radio and Television Commission. Like all the other IOC Commissions, they work in an advisory capacity, making recommendations and giving opinions to the Executive Bodies. The full Commissions meet at least once a year. The IPC also has one representative on each of the Commissions, making sure that the Paralympics are also taken into account.

The Press Commission is composed of renowned photographers and journalists who have covered several editions of the Olympic Games as members of IOC-recognized international agencies, national agencies, and major sporting or general daily papers. Press Commission members provide information to the International Federations, National Olympic Committees and the athletes. Continuity and the transmission of experience and expertise are ensured by the presence of the Organizing Committee’s press chiefs from the previous and present Games.

The Radio and Television Commission members are representatives of the rights-holding unions or networks, and they and other broadcasting colleagues ensure the optimum quality of broadcasts.

Through agreements between the IPC and the IOC, the broadcasting rights for the Paralympic Summer and Winter Games have been transferred to the Organizing Committees of the 2008 to 2016 Games. This means that all rights negotiations are dealt with by the respective Games Organizing Committees.

Facilities and Services at the Games

The media regulations, which form an integral part of the contract signed by the Host City immediately after its election by the IOC Session, outline the whole structure to be put in place for the media, with wheelchair accessibility always kept in mind. It organizes and sets the minimum standards in the areas essential to efficient media operations for:

- The Main Press Centre (MPC) and International Broadcasting Centre (IBC), which are the nerve centres from which information goes out in real time in the form of text, still or moving images, and sound and signals that are now fully computerized, electronic and digital,
The host broadcaster, whose mission is to provide the international feed to all authorized radio and television broadcasters, is responsible for the coordination and execution of all broadcast activities. Through unilateral agreements, each national broadcaster will in turn be able to create a personalized programme with a greater national emphasis.

Venue Press Centres, which are miniature versions of the MPC attached to a sports venue, provide a range of services including television, radio, and venue-related hotel services, venue Press centres, which are managed and equipped to provide the logistical support needed to operate the info system, which offers all the logistical support needed to operate the info system, which offers telecommunication facilities, radio and television broadcast facilities, and other services.

The info system is responsible for managing the broadcast of all Paralympic events, including the opening and closing ceremonies, the award ceremonies, and the awarding of the Paralympic medals. The info system is also responsible for managing the broadcast of the Paralympic Games, including the Paralympic Games on their internet platform UniversalSports.com during the Paralympic Games.

The Info system, which offers comprehensive information accessible via computers in all venues about results, press Accreditation procedures, transportation, and other services, helps to ensure that the Paralympic Games are broadcasted in high quality and in a timely manner.

Accommodation in Media Village(s) and/or hotels with related hotel services, are distributed by means of contracts. Even though the number of media covering the Summer Games is three times that of the Winter Games, the media file at the Paralympic Winter Games is just as complex. Factors such as ambient weather conditions, complex venue configurations, the distances between venues and mountains, and the need for the implementation of an infrastructure that is just as complicated and costly, the Winter Games require a large number of technicians to work outdoors.

Salt Lake 2002
A 2003 study showed that a cumulative audience of 600 million watched the Salt Lake 2002 Winter Paralympics on TV. In total, television broadcasts were transmitted to 29 of the 36 participating countries, with several broadcasters on site. A&E transmitted a daily one-hour broadcast during the Paralympics, which added up to 13 hours of programming.

The Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games saw the largest cumulative TV audience in the history of the Paralympic Games. Worldwide, more than 3.8 billion people in 38 monitored countries watched the best Paralympic athletes compete in Beijing during more than 1,800 hours broadcasted. Several more broadcasting records were broken in Beijing, including more than 7,500 rights-holding broadcasters at the Paralympics than ever before, 64 in total. China as the host country attracted the largest accumulated audience with nearly 1.4 billion people, followed by Japan (670 million), Germany (439 million) and France (329 million). The highest live audience was registered for the Closing Ceremony on 17 September at prime time on CCTV-1 with 51 million viewers. Upon high public demand, NOS in the Netherlands re-aired the Opening Ceremony and aired the Closing Ceremony live, even though this was not planned before. BBC received market shares of up to 10% for its daily highlight show “Paralympics 2008: Games Today”, being aired during prime time at 19:00 on BBC2.

The first time, an agreement was concluded with a rights holder in the USA. NBC Universal Sports covered the Paralympics on their internet platform UniversalSports.com during the Games and created a 90min documentary about the Paralympics which was aired on 9 December 2008 on NBC and re-aired on NBC on 6 December 2008. Additionally, Universal Sports Television Network broadcasted Paralympics in November and will broadcast 28 hours from 24-31 December. A total of 5,611 media representatives covered the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games from 6-17 September.

Press Accreditation Procedure
The Role of the NPC
The NPC must appoint, whenever possible, a press attaché or nominated delegate who will be the single contact point between the NPC and the IPC and OCOG Press Operations on accreditation matters. This person will also be responsible for contact between the NPC and its national media organizations.

The NPC must provide the OCOG with an approximate number of Media
Accreditation Application Forms that will be needed. The NPC is responsible within its territory for the distribution, collection and return of accreditation forms from the media organizations to the OCOG. The NPC also distributes accommodation and rate card order forms, which accompany the accreditation documentation received from the OCOG. However, each individual media organization is then responsible for the return of accommodation forms and technical service order forms to the OCOG in accordance with the procedures and schedule approved by the IPC. The NPC, through its press attaché, should work closely with its national media organizations to ensure that they meet the OCOG deadlines. The OCOG will send the Paralympic Identity Accreditation Cards (PIACs) to the NPC for distribution to the national media representatives.

The NPC is also responsible to ensure that all accredited national media organizations (written and photographic press, non-rights holding radio and television broadcasters and Internet journalists) are genuine recognized media professionals. The IPC and the OCOG will systematically examine all the forms returned by the NPCs and they reserve the right to inform the NPCs concerned of any discrepancies and to reject the application.

The Role of the OCOG
The OCOG must develop and distribute Media Accreditation Application Forms (Press Name Forms), including the EP and ENR undertakings, to all NPCs. They also review, validate and produce the PIACs and distribute them to the NPCs. The OCOG is responsible for the accreditation of so-called "latecomers". The NPC will, therefore, send any requests for accreditation from national media organizations after the set deadline to the OCOG for the IPC approval.

News and Entertainment
Most media organizations have separate departments for news and entertainment, but sport is both. Access to news is free. However, even as news, sport can be different. On the front page of any newspaper many, if not most items, are bad news. But news about sporting events always makes some people happy, namely the winners and their supporters. Sporting news is always good news for someone. In presenting sport as entertainment the media can make their greatest contribution towards achieving the aims of the Paralympic Movement. Media coverage promotes sport to the masses, one of the most important goals of the Paralympic Movement.

ParalympicSport.TV
The creation of ParalympicSport.TV in February 2005 is an extension of the IPC’s on-going Communication and Marketing Strategy. ParalympicSport.TV is a 24/7 television channel broadcasting via the Internet. The channel made its broadcasting debut with almost 100 hours of live and delayed coverage of the Torino 2006 Paralympic Winter Games. Showcasing a wide variety of the IPC and Paralympic Sports, it is the first TV-channel dedicated to promoting Paralympic Sports.
the total number of broadband subscribers in China was expected to surpass the USA at the end of 2006.

Questions
1. Place in order of importance in your country – the written press and photographers, radio, and television.

2. Take any report on an international sporting event in a magazine or newspaper and count the number of references to an athlete from another country compared with the number of references to athletes from your own country.

3. Were the recent Paralympic Games reported, or televised in your country? How much viewing time or how many written reports were devoted to them?

4. Does your NPC have formal or informal meetings with the media to discuss the Paralympic Movement?

5. Does your country have a strong national news agency? If not, should you look at establishing a Paralympic-specific news agency with the national agency and/or key members of the national press to help spread news about and photographs of the Paralympic Games to those who are not able to be accredited?

6. How could the media in your country do more to promote the Paralympics?

7. Think of ways in which your existing NPC website could be utilized as a national news tool to increase Games-time coverage.

F. The IPC Academy

The International Paralympic Committee (the IPC) has recognized the need to provide educational opportunities for all individuals working within the Paralympic Movement, and has partnered with the World Academy of Sport to create The IPC Academy. The IPC Academy is the trusted education partner of the IPC working together to improve educational standards for sport throughout the Paralympic Movement. This ensures that executives, administrators, classifiers and officials have an educational centre that is sensitive to their needs and in touch with trends and developments, providing world class programmes.

Technical Officials and Classifiers Programme
The IPC Academy Classifiers and Technical Officials programmes are tailored education programmes, developed specifically for these specialized functions. The aim to increase the number of Classifiers and Technical Officials globally, therefore providing greater access and opportunity for athletes worldwide to progress through their development pathway. The advanced online delivery mechanism of these programmes provides accessible and robust educational programmes in accordance with a specific competency framework and applicable sport rules, to enhance the depth and breadth of Classifiers and Technical Officials throughout the world. The programmes are accessed via a sophisticated interactive, online learning platform, creating a gateway for Classifiers and Technical Officials to engage through a specific learning community.

Executive Programmes
As the educational arm of the IPC, the IPC Academy offers professional education through a series of tailored management programmes. To reach the educational needs of the Paralympic Movement, The IPC Academy provides customized programmes for administrators, event organizers and other Paralympic stakeholders, focusing on the management of Paralympic Sport.

The IPC Academy also aims to offer a range of formal academic qualifications in association with The University of Manchester, including short course residential modules, on-line flexible training, a Post Graduate Certificate in Executive Management (Sports Management) and a Global MBA for Sport and Major Events. All education equips those involved in Paralympic Sport to manage and successfully operate their own organizations and events – thereby, establishing themselves as leaders within their field and support athletes throughout their competition and post-competition careers.

The IPC Academy, in partnership with the prestigious Manchester Business School, combines the use of top academics with leading industry practitioners to deliver relevant sports and event-driven case studies leading to cutting edge business outcomes for the Paralympic Movement.

Detailed information on the IPC Academy initiatives can be retrieved from: http://www.ipcacademy.org/

G. The IPC Documentation Centre

The IPC Documentation Centre, which was launched at the IPC Headquarters in October 2003, is a resource gathering house for various types of information required in the daily operations of the IPC Management Team as well as by external scholars conducting research on the Paralympic Movement.

The main objectives of the IPC Documentation Centre are to:
- Provide access to the history and legacy of the Paralympic Movement.
- Systematically acquire records and objects of historical value.
- Ensure the selection, appraisal, cataloguing and conservation of materials according to international standards.
- Facilitate procedures for information retrieval.
- Encourage and support research on the Paralympic Movement.
- Exhibit images and objects illustrating the development of the Paralympic Movement.

Services
The IPC Documentation Centre comprises the following components: Library, Archives, and Exhibition.

Library
The IPC has established the IPC Library as a reference and special research library on the first and second floors of the IPC Headquarters. It provides the IPC Management Team and visiting scholars with easy access to documentation. The library currently contains more than 1,500 books, issues of more than 100 periodicals and 30 boxes of flyers, brochures and leaflets. It includes documentation and literature on:
- The Paralympic Games and the Paralympic Movement
- World and Regional Championships
- Sports and Disciplines for Persons with a Disability
- Rehabilitation
- Physical Education and Sport Science
- Medical Science
- Education and Awareness
- Development
- Media
- Sport History
- Sport Sociology
- Sport Business and Management
- Sport Policies, Politics and Law
1. The Olympic Games and the Olympic Movement
2. Field of Play and Sports Venues
3. Biographies of Sports Personalities
4. Reference Books

Archives
The IPC has evaluated existing materials and established a classification system for archival stocks and collections. The IPC Archives currently contain the following stocks (hardcopy and electronic records):

- The archives of the International Co-ordinating Committee (ICC) of World Sports Organizations for the Disabled (1982-1989),
- The archives of the IPC (from 1989 to the present),
- The archives of the IPC departments (“the IPC Management Team”),
- The archives of the IPC’s decision-making bodies (“Executive Committee” and “Management Committee” before 2005, afterwards “Governance Board”);
- The archives of various other provenances;
- Various archival collections (e.g., of Paralympic Games and World and Regional Championships, such as manuals and guides, torches, medals, posters, audiovisual materials, textiles, etc.)
- Press clippings;
- Posters;
- Maps;
- Paintings and drawings;
- Digital and paper photographs, slides;
- Audiovisual media (CDs, DVDs, VHS and Beta tapes);
- Audiotapes;
- Torches;
- Medals and badges;
- Certificates;
- Commemorative plaques;
- Cups, statuettes, and sculptures;
- Souvenirs and merchandising items (pins, mascots, tickets, postcards, etc.);
- Flags, banners, and pennants;
- Prostheses;
- Textiles, including sportswear and uniforms.

Note (*) The IPC Photo Archive, which contains a comprehensive selection of Paralympic-related images, is managed by the Marketing and Communication Department. It is used for both internal and external purposes, i.e., to allow the IPC publications and the IPC website to be designed with high-quality photographs, and to facilitate image requests that the IPC receives from both members and external parties. The Photo Archive currently contains about 50,000 digital images on file or CD, as well as about 1,000 printed photographs and slides.

Note (**) Most Beta tapes of Paralympic Games footage are managed and marketed by Input Media, London.

Scope of Archive and Collections
The IPC Library’s publications, archives and collections provide background on the historical, sociological, psychological, medical, economic and management aspects of sport for persons with a disability. They are organized around three areas:

1. The International Paralympic Committee (IPC): development from a volunteer to a professional organization, administrative evolution, relationships to membership, etc.,
2. Paralympic Games: origin and history, increase in organizational complexity and professionalism,
growth of media interest and public awareness, competition results, etc.,

3. World and Regional Championships: increase in organizational complexity and professionalism, growth of media interest and public awareness, competition results, etc.

The IPC Documentation Centre currently stores more than 2,000 boxes and folders, of which approximately 850 are Paralympic Games-related materials.

Research Facilities
Researchers investigating the Paralympic Movement who want to consult materials stored in the IPC Documentation Centre should fill in and sign a Consultation Request Form and return it to the IPC in advance. The IPC will then consider the application and inform the researcher of its decision as soon as possible.

The Consultation Request Form, the Regulations on Access, and the Regulations on Use are available for download on the IPC website.

Proper Storage
The Archives have been equipped with about 600 linear metres of shelves as well as a large cupboard for proper storage of the IPC’s poster collection. Only acid-free boxes and folders for the storage of archival materials are used. Also, an improved climate has been created in the four basement storage rooms through the installation of an adequate heating system and dehumidifiers. The temperature and humidity are constantly monitored with the help of thermometers/hygrometers.

Cataloguing Software
Sophisticated database software (ADLIB Museum/Archive/Library) has been installed to register and manage archival records, exhibition items, audiovisual materials, library books and periodicals. The database has been specifically tailored to the needs of the IPC Management Team and the IPC constituents.

Procedures
The IPC has developed information management policies governing access to records and records disposal, the use of the IPC Library and Archives, along with acquisition strategies for books, journals, historic objects and documents. Legal advice on copyright and data protection issues was obtained in the process.

Funding
The IPC Documentation Centre has secured annual grants from the Rhineland Regional Council (LVR) in 2008 and 2009 to purchase archiving equipment.

Networking
The IPC is in contact with experts on archiving, library and information science, and museum planning, as well as with sports museums, archives, universities, and study centres worldwide. Throughout the development process, external consultants from the Cologne/Bonn region donated their time and expertise to help the IPC.

In particular, the IPC Documentation Centre is supported by the Archiv-und Museumsberatung (which translates to the Archive and Museum Consultancy) of the Rhineland Regional Council (LVR).

The IPC is a corporate member of:
• International Association for Sports Information (IASI),
• International Council on Archives – Provisional Section on Sports Archives (ICA-SPO).
Objectives

Mid-term Objectives
The IPC will continue to improve the services it provides through the IPC Documentation Centre by complying with international standards. For instance, the quality, size and accessibility of the IPC Library will be enhanced within the constraints of its limited financial resources. Its database will be further populated, with the eventual goal being able to offer it online so users worldwide can make database queries on the Web.

Existing contracts are being enhanced, and partnerships are being established with universities, sports documentation and information centres and museums all over the world.

The Paralympic Heritage Centre and Museum
In the long run, the IPC aspires to house all this Paralympic documentation in a separate building. The building could be a multi-service facility with an exhibition area, a library and archives as well as rentable meeting facilities and offices. It would be open to the public and serve both entertainment, educational and research purposes.

Involvement
The IPC is looking for Paralympic Games memorabilia and records, including personal papers that illustrate the history and development of the Paralympic Movement. Of particular interest are materials from the early Paralympic Games. The objects will complement the existing collections of torches, medals, pins, flyers, posters, flags, photographs and footage. In the long term, these objects will serve as the foundation for the Paralympic Heritage Centre and Museum.

All donations will be listed in a donor agreement. Alternatively, objects and records can be provided to the IPC on loan, with the details being outlined in a special deposit agreement between the IPC and the contributor. In an effort to improve and enlarge the Library, donations of books on a variety of topics such as the Paralympic Games, sport for persons with a disability, and other related topics are welcome.

Recognition
All donors will receive, if they wish, special mention on the IPC website, on the first page of a donated book, and in the electronic database.