



International
Paralympic
Committee

Chapter 3.8 - Policy for Granting the Status ‘IPC Recognised International Federation’

For IFs not eligible for IPC membership, including IFs that have lost their Paralympic status

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International Paralympic Committee

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Approval authority:	IPC Governing Board for section 1, 2 and 3, IPC CEO for section 4, 5 and 6 of this policy
Responsible office or department:	Executive Office
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Related bylaws and policies:	N/A

1 Policy statement

In its mission statement, the IPC commits to ‘promote and contribute to the development of sport opportunities and competitions, from initiation level to elite level, for Paralympic athletes as the foundation of elite Paralympic sport’.

The IPC Strategic Plan therefore aims at maximising awareness, recognition, understanding, and exposure of the Paralympic values.

To achieve this, the IPC recognises the importance of creating a Paralympic Family network of recognised international federations that are not eligible to be IPC members (as outlined in section 2 below), but contribute to the development of sport opportunities for athletes associated with the Paralympic Movement and have organisational goals that are compatible with the vision and mission of the IPC.

Consequently, the IPC Governing Board will consider the mutual benefits and may grant the status of ‘IPC Recognised International Federation’ to an international federation subject to meeting the principles and conditions as outlined in section 3.1 below. The IPC Governing Board may also grant certain rights that are associated with the status ‘IPC Recognised International Federation’ as outlined in the section 3.2 below.

2 Application

IPC recognition may be granted by the IPC Governing Board to an international federation that is not on the Paralympic Games Sports Programme (Winter or Summer) and consequently not eligible to obtain IPC membership. Federations under this category may include but are not limited to those international federations that are designated as an Olympic Winter or Summer



Sport or IOC Recognised International Federation and contribute to the development of sport opportunities for athletes associated with the Paralympic Movement and have organisational goals that are compatible with the vision and mission of the IPC.

Federations may also include those international federations that once were designated under article 4.1 of the IPC Constitution as an International Para-Sport Federation, but have since been removed from the Paralympic Games Sports Programme (i.e., lost their “Paralympic status”).

3 Principles & definitions

3.1 Principles and conditions applying for IPC recognition

Subject to having complied with the administrative procedures as set out in sections 4-6 below, the IPC Governing Board may grant an International Federation with the status ‘IPC Recognised International Federation’ on the following conditions.

- 3.1.1 Proven record of activities and a positive evaluation by the IPC Sports Department in accordance with sports related criteria and checklists (provided in sections 4-6 below).
- 3.1.2 Positive evaluation by the CEO on structure and sustainability of the organisation.
- 3.1.3 Term: the status ‘IPC Recognised International Federation’ shall normally be granted for a period of two (2) years. Subject to a positive evaluation report being submitted by the IPC management team, the IPC Governing Board may grant an extension of such recognition for consecutive terms. The IPC Governing Board reserves the right to terminate the recognition or to modify the duration of the term at any point.
- 3.1.4 Annual report: a federation that has been granted the status ‘IPC Recognised International Federation’ must continue to provide the IPC with a copy of its annual activity report.

3.2 Rights granted to ‘IPC Recognised International Federations’

IPC Recognised International Federations may be granted with the following (non-exhaustive) list of rights, as recommended by the CEO to the IPC Governing Board for ratification:

- Observer status in the IPC General Assembly open meeting sessions in accordance with the event’s participation conditions and IPC Policy on Confidentiality



- As and when relevant and appropriate, observer status during reporting sessions of the IPC Sports Technical meetings in accordance with the event's participation conditions
- Participation in IPC Congresses and Conferences for up to two (2) representatives in accordance with the event's participation conditions
- 'IPC guest' accreditation at Paralympic Games for up to two (2) representatives in accordance with the event's participation conditions
- Possibility to hire information stands/exhibition booths at IPC Congresses, Conferences or other events where relevant and possible.
- Inclusion in the IPC Directory as 'IPC Recognised International Federation'
- Right to receive designated IPC publications
- Right to submit articles for possible inclusion on the IPC's website and Paralympian magazine
- Right to use the title 'IPC Recognised International Federation', including the IPC logo with that denomination, i.e., only in connection to the title; this is only to be used for non-commercial purposes and is in all circumstances subject to prior approval of the IPC
- Right to use the Paralympic flag, at designated events subject to the prior written approval of the IPC
- Right to use the terminology 'Para-SPORT NAME', to designate its sport's association with the Paralympic Movement subject to the prior written approval of the IPC.

4 Procedures and requirements to apply for the status 'IPC Recognised International Federation'

4.1 Procedures for organisations to apply for the status 'IPC Recognised Organisation'

- International Federations seeking IPC recognition must complete the application form and submit it to the IPC Sports Department with all supporting documentation
- International Federations seeking IPC recognition must pay the application fee to the IPC
- The IPC Sport Department under the direction of the IPC Chief Executive Officer will evaluate the application and, where relevant, request further information on the material submitted
- Once the evaluation is complete and the concerned federation has displayed satisfactory evidence of Para-sport activity, the IPC Chief Executive Officer will make a recommendation to the IPC Governing Board to grant IPC recognition



- Applicant IFs will be notified by the IPC Chief Executive Officer of the IPC Governing Board's decision as soon as possible after the respective IPC Governing Board meeting

4.2 Requirements/criteria for applying for IPC Recognition

The IF shall:

- Demonstrate a sustainable and democratic governance and organisational infrastructure to effectively manage the administration and ensure operational viability and quality of Para-sport(s)
- Adopt and implement the World Anti-Doping Code, comply with the IPC Classification Code, and promote the principles of the Paralympic Movement
- Have a structure of national organisations each recognised by the highest sport authority in the respective country

5 Procedures and requirements for granting the status 'IPC Recognised International Federation' following IF loss of Paralympic status.

- 5.1 Supplementing Section 4 above, and in the case of an International Para-Sport Federation that has been removed from the Paralympic Games Sports Programme, the international federation also must formally terminate its membership with the IPC under article 9.1.1 or article 9.1.3 of the IPC Constitution prior to having its application for 'IPC Recognised International Federation' considered by the Governing Board.
- 5.2 An International Para-Sport Federation will be deemed to have lost its Paralympic status immediately following the Closing Ceremonies of the Paralympic Games in which it was last included on the Sports Programme.
- 5.3 As provided in paragraph 3.2.6 of the IPC Governing Board bylaws, holding Paralympic status is a precondition for an IF wishing to apply for IPC membership. Consequently, the Governing Board shall suspend the membership of an IF that loses its Paralympic status, at the moment of such loss in accordance with article 5.2 above. Membership shall subsequently be determined in accordance with the IPC Constitution.
- 5.4 Should the international federation accept its withdrawal of IPC membership under article 9.1.1 of the IPC Constitution, the Governing Board may agree to simultaneously grant approval of that international federation's application for status as an 'IPC



Recognised International Federation’.