



International
Paralympic
Committee

International
Paralympic Committee

Annual Report 2015





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“More than EUR 1 million of financial support was distributed to the membership through grants from either the IPC or the Agitos Foundation.”

President's welcome



In 2015, the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) enjoyed arguably its busiest and most productive 12 months yet.

Key successes included:

- Publication of the IPC Strategic Plan 2015-2018 outlining how we will develop the Movement over the next four years
- Approval of the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code strengthening the position of the athlete as the centre of classification in the Movement
- An international sports event taking place nearly every week, including nine IPC Sport World Championships
- Engagement of more people than ever before during a non-Paralympic year either as Para sport participants, TV viewers or online users
- IPC activities further strengthening the IPC Membership
- Growth in reach and appeal of the Paralympic brand
- Securing our biggest ever broadcast and commercial partnerships with NHK and Toyota both joining in long-term agreements.

“Nine World Championships and more than 50 major regional Championships or events were organised by the IPC Sports in 2015, the equivalent of more than one per week.”

New Strategic Plan

The IPC Strategic Plan 2015-2018 aims to build on previous successes and, in particular, the results from the last four year strategic planning cycle.

Although we should all be fiercely proud of what we have achieved, we must not rest on our laurels; these achievements must now act as a platform for future growth.

The sporting world is evolving rapidly and coming under far greater scrutiny.

The IPC must lead the way as an athlete centred organisation. We have to improve our governance, overcome the challenges we face and take advantage of the many opportunities that are out there in order to grow the Movement and become financially sustainable.

The Paralympic Games must continue to be a success, strengthening its position as the world's number one sports event for driving social inclusion. Key to this is further developing our relationship with the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

We need to capitalise on the growing awareness of the Paralympic brand and Para sport. The Agitos Foundation will lead on increasing global Para sport participation, the IPC will explore new commercial opportunities, and the IPC Academy will continue to improve educational standards throughout the Paralympic Movement.

Paralympic Games preparations

Crucial to our continued growth is consolidating the Paralympic Games as a premier sporting event and 2015 marked the final full year of preparations before Rio 2016.

Despite facing probably the most challenging circumstances ever for an Organising Committee, I am confident that Rio 2016 will deliver a great and memorable Paralympic Games.

A Paralympic Games' success is measured in a number of areas, two of which are TV audience and legacy.

Rio 2016 will be shown by more than 100 broadcasters whose TV pictures will reach a cumulative audience in excess of four billion people for the first time. The Games are also delivering tangible legacies with new facilities and accessibility improvements set to benefit the Brazilian public and the Brazilian Paralympic team for generations to come.

Following Rio 2016, the next three editions of the Games will be in Asia after Beijing was elected in July as host city of the 2022 Paralympic Winter Games.

In 2015, the athlete and medals event quota was decided for the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games and the IPC was appointed as the exclusive sales agent for international broadcast rights to maximise TV coverage for the Games.

After an extensive 16-month review process to ensure the Paralympic Games sport programme remains fresh and features the best possible sports, it was announced that Tokyo 2020 will feature 22 sports. Badminton and taekwondo will both make their Paralympic debuts.



Increasing membership support and engagement

The IPC membership grew to over 200 members in 2015 and during the year more than EUR 1 million of financial support was distributed to the membership through grants from either the IPC or the Agitos Foundation.

The Agitos Foundation's programmes helped 109 members, whilst every International Federation (IF) was supported in their promotional activities by the IPC's volunteer writer programme.

From 2016 there will be an increase in the grants IFs and Regional Organisations (ROs) receive from the IPC, whilst all National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) from 2017 will benefit from the IPC's landmark Worldwide Paralympic Partnership with Toyota.

The partnership with Toyota is the first of its kind to encapsulate the IPC, all NPCs and future Paralympic Games under one agreement. It is also the first time an IOC TOP Partner has shown such widespread support of the Paralympic Movement through funding and global promotional reach.

IPC Sports

In 2015, IPC Sports increased the number of competition opportunities for athletes at all levels, grew participation, raised engagement levels with the public and further developed their long-term competition calendars.

Nine World Championships and more than 50 major regional Championships or events were organised by the IPC Sports in 2015, the equivalent of more than one per week, as part of a strategy to develop a 365-days-a-year sporting calendar.

In-line with their strategic plans, all World Championships profited from greater levels of organisation, improving the athlete experience further. Better conditions to compete in, combined with fantastic high performance training programmes from NPCs and National Federations, led to athletic performance in all sports reaching new levels.

All sports also enjoyed record levels of broadcast and media coverage as the IPC worked hard to improve the recognition of the Paralympic brand and Para sport in between the Paralympic Games years.

Challenges and opportunities ahead

The year ahead is one of the Paralympic Movement's most important. As we work together towards achieving our aspiration to make for a more inclusive society for people with an impairment through Para sport, it is vital that Latin America's first Paralympic Games are a triumph. We must show to the world that Beijing 2008 and London 2012 were not exceptions, but the norm.

Away from the Games, the IPC will work closely with the IOC to extend our existing agreement to beyond 2020. The Agitos Foundation will implement a new governance structure and continue its excellent work in developing Para sport around the world. Building on the tremendous success of 2015, the IPC will also look to expand its sponsorship portfolio, whilst renewing agreements with existing partners.

Finally, thank you for your continued efforts and contributions towards the Paralympic Movement's growth. I look forward to seeing many of you later this year in Rio, for another magical and memorable Paralympic Games.

Sir Philip Craven MBE
IPC President

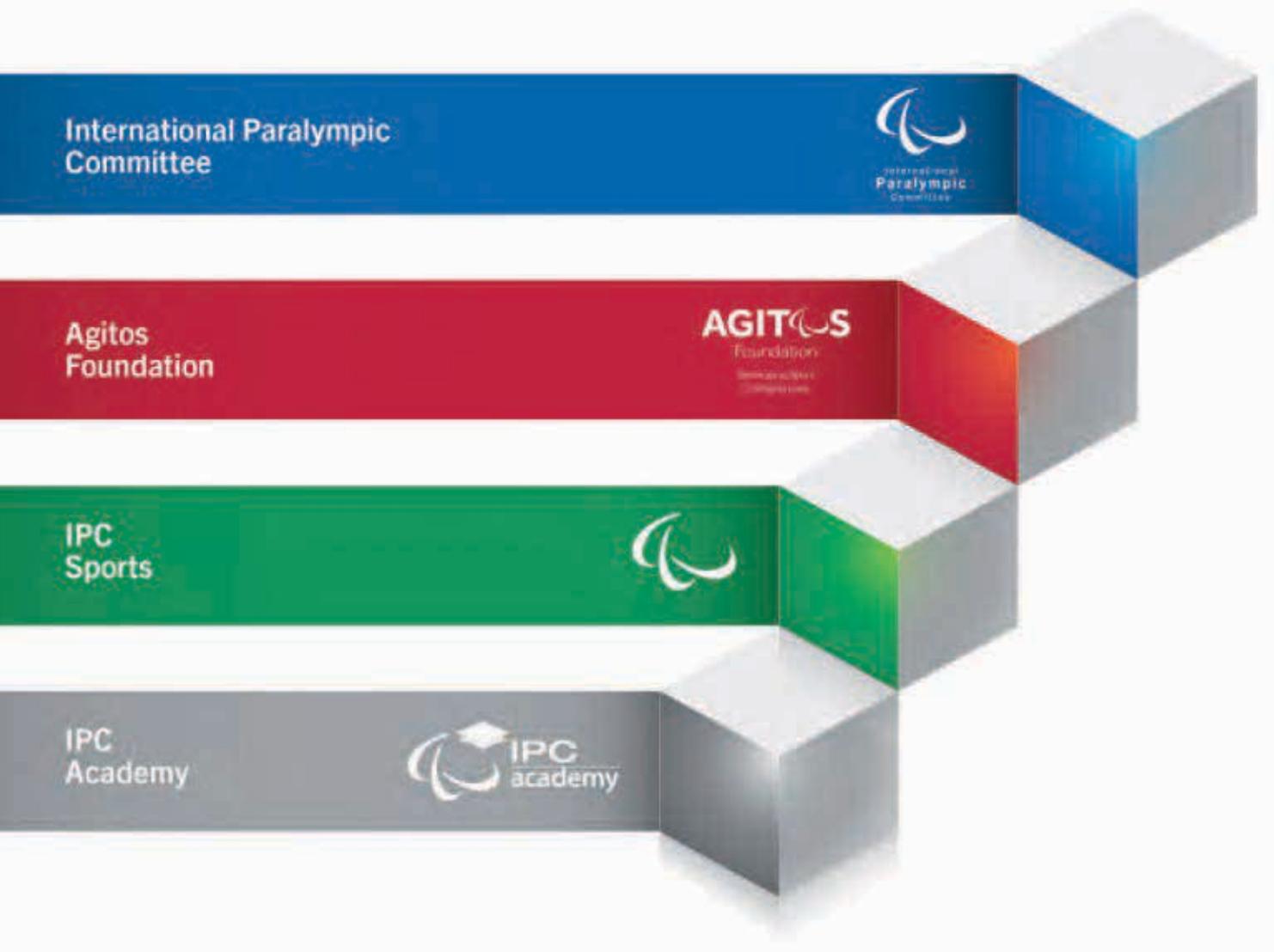




The Paralympic Movement and the IPC

The Paralympic Movement's ultimate aspiration is: **“To make for a more inclusive society for people with an impairment through Para sport.”**

Divisions of the IPC



Although all within the Movement have different perspectives and backgrounds, they all share a common vision: **“To enable Para athletes to achieve sporting excellence and inspire and excite the world.”**

The International Paralympic Committee

Founded on 22 September 1989, the IPC is an international non-profit organisation based in Bonn, Germany. It is composed of a Governing Board, management team and various Standing Committees and Councils.

The IPC executes and leads the direction of the Paralympic Movement. As such it ensures the constitutional duties as outlined by the IPC Handbook are carried out appropriately. This includes supervising the organisation of the Paralympic Games and the Paralympic Winter Games and acting as IF for 10 sports.

The Agitos Foundation is the development division of the IPC. It was launched in August 2012 and is the only global charity focussed on the development of Para sport.

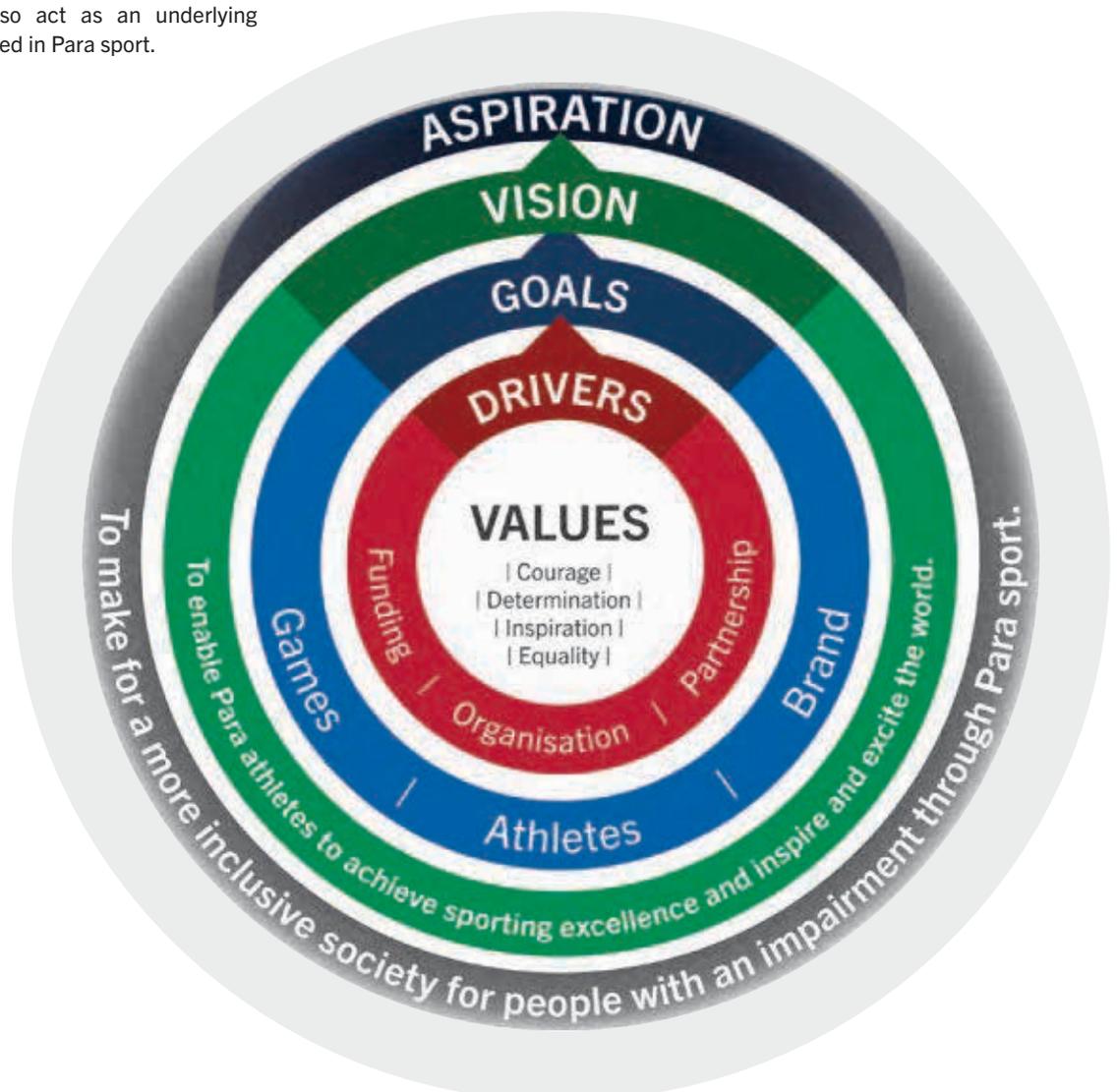
The IPC Academy – a partnership between the IPC and World Academy of Sport (WAoS) – is the education division of the IPC. It aims to improve educational standards throughout the Paralympic Movement.

Our aspiration, vision and values

The Paralympic Games are the world’s number one sporting event for driving social inclusion. By broadening the reach of the Paralympics, growing Para sport events and furthering brand awareness, the Paralympic Movement’s transformational legacy will be amplified.

In trying to achieve this vision, the Paralympic Movement has adopted and follows four athlete focussed values, which also act as an underlying reference for all those involved in Para sport.

- **Courage** – through their performances Para athletes showcase to the world what can be achieved when testing your body to its absolute limits
- **Determination** – Para athletes have a unique strength of character that combines mental toughness, physical ability and outstanding agility to produce sporting performances which regularly redefine the boundaries of possibility
- **Inspiration** – Para athletes fully maximise their talents and abilities in their tireless pursuit of sporting excellence. As role models they empower and excite others to get active and involved in sport
- **Equality** – through sport Para athletes challenge stereotypes and transform attitudes, helping to increase inclusion by breaking down social barriers and discrimination towards people with an impairment







Consolidating the Paralympic Games

as a premier sporting event

Strategic priorities

- Further enhance the appeal of the Paralympic Games by ensuring a balanced yet attractive sports programme with high quality and easily understood competition
- Promote the values of the Paralympic Games by maximising legacy and social impact opportunities as well as by harnessing commercial impact
- Use the Rio 2016, PyeongChang 2018 and Tokyo 2020 Games to further improve the global reach of the Paralympic Games
- Leverage existing Paralympic Games know-how and the positive relations with the IOC, IFs and NPCs to strengthen the effectiveness with Organising Committees



Rio 2016

500 days to go

In April 200 dancers defied heavy downpours to lead an energetic flashmob on Copacabana Beach to mark 500 days to go until the Games.

The performance started with a series of recorded voices announcing “500 days to the Paralympic Games” in a variety of languages, including French, Mandarin, Arabic, Spanish and Russian. The assembled group then exploded into life to the strains of *Rio de Janeiro* by American soul singer Barry White, followed by *Xote de Copacabana* by Brazilian artist Jackson do Pandeiro. Even Tom, the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games mascot, joined in.

The performance was choreographed by celebrated theatre director and dancer Deborah Colker, the first Brazilian artist to receive a Laurence Olivier Award.

One year to go

As part of the celebrations to mark one year to go and the launch of tickets sales, a number of events were staged in early September.

On 6 and 7 September, Para athletes, musicians and dancers attended a Paralympic Festival featuring sport demonstrations and cultural performances at the iconic Lagoa Rodrigo de Freitas.

Exhibition games involving leading Brazilian and international athletes took place in sitting volleyball, football 5-a-side and wheelchair basketball. Arguably the highlight of the event was a race to find the world’s fastest male and female Para athlete over 100m.

In front of thousands of spectators and hundreds of domestic and international media, visually impaired sprinters Jason Smyth of Ireland and Omara Durand of Cuba took the titles on a specially built track.



Along with the festivities was the official launch of ticket sales to Brazilian residents.

As part of a week of activities, Rio Mayor Eduardo Paes teamed up with members of Brazil’s world title winning goalball team to play a demonstration match to herald the official opening of the Future Arena.

IPC President Sir Philip Craven and Brazilian swimmer Andre Brasil also spoke about what impact the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games will have globally when they addressed the final Rio 2016 World Broadcasters’ Briefing.

Finally, the last Rio 2016 Chef de Mission Seminar was held in mid-September with 200 delegates from nearly 100 countries attending.

In addition to countries being invited to the Games by IPC President Sir Philip Craven, heads of delegations took part in a number of venue tours and received updates and valuable information on preparations for the Games.



The locations of the next four Paralympic Games – summer and winter





Viral video

To help change the public's attitudes towards Para sport and people with an impairment ahead of the Games, the Rio 2016 Organising Committee produced a ground breaking hidden-camera video in September that became a global viral internet hit.

Featuring three Brazilian Para athletes – sprinter Vinicius Rodrigues, powerlifter Luciano Bezerra and judoka Lucia Teixeira – the two-minute film showed the stunned reaction of gym regulars in Rio when the three athletes turned up and performed incredible feats, smashing preconceptions about athletes with impairments.

Within one week, the video had been viewed more than 18 million times online and was being used in full by a number of leading media outlets including NBC and BBC.



Test Events

Between August and December 2015, Test Events took place in archery, boccia, canoe, triathlon and wheelchair tennis giving athletes a taste of what they can expect during Rio 2016.

The events provided an important opportunity to test the competition areas and results systems, as well as integrating all the relevant stakeholders and training the team of people who will be responsible for running the events during the Games.

In 2016, further Test Events will be held in athletics, goalball, powerlifting, swimming and wheelchair rugby.

Volunteers

More than a quarter of a million people applied to be a Rio 2016 volunteer and by November the first 50,000 had been selected.

Of the successful candidates, 82 per cent are Brazilians whilst 151 countries are represented. Those appointed will work across a number of functional areas including customer services, operational support, ceremonies, protocol and languages.

Torch Relay

In December, Rio 2016 revealed its design for the Paralympic Torch which celebrates “diversity and equality” and will spread the spirit of the Games and the Paralympic values around Brazil.

Designed to celebrate passion and transformation, the essence of Rio 2016, the torch's sinuous curves represent the highs and lows in the life of a Paralympic athlete, celebrating their determination and achievements.

Quadrangular in shape, the Torch refers to the four Paralympic values – courage, determination, inspiration and equality – which are also written in Braille on the torch, along with the words “Rio 2016 Paralympic Games Torch Relay.”

The route of the Torch Relay was also announced. Between 1 and 5 September the Torch Relay will pass through five cities – one per day – representing the five regions of Brazil: São Paulo (South East), Joinville (South), Natal (North East), Belém (North) and Brasília (Central West).

A regional flame will be lit in each city on the start of each day and when the relay has finished that evening it will be sent directly to Rio. On 2 September there will also be a ceremony in Stoke Mandeville, Great Britain, the birthplace of the Paralympic Movement, for the lighting of the Heritage Flame. This flame will be combined with the five regional Brazilian flames in Rio de Janeiro on 6 September, forming the Rio 2016 Paralympic flame. This will then be carried around Rio on the last two days of the relay, before being used to light the Paralympic Cauldron at the Opening Ceremony in the Maracanã Stadium on 7 September.



Delivering a legacy

In the final full year leading up to Rio 2016, the Paralympic Games started to deliver a number of tangible legacies.

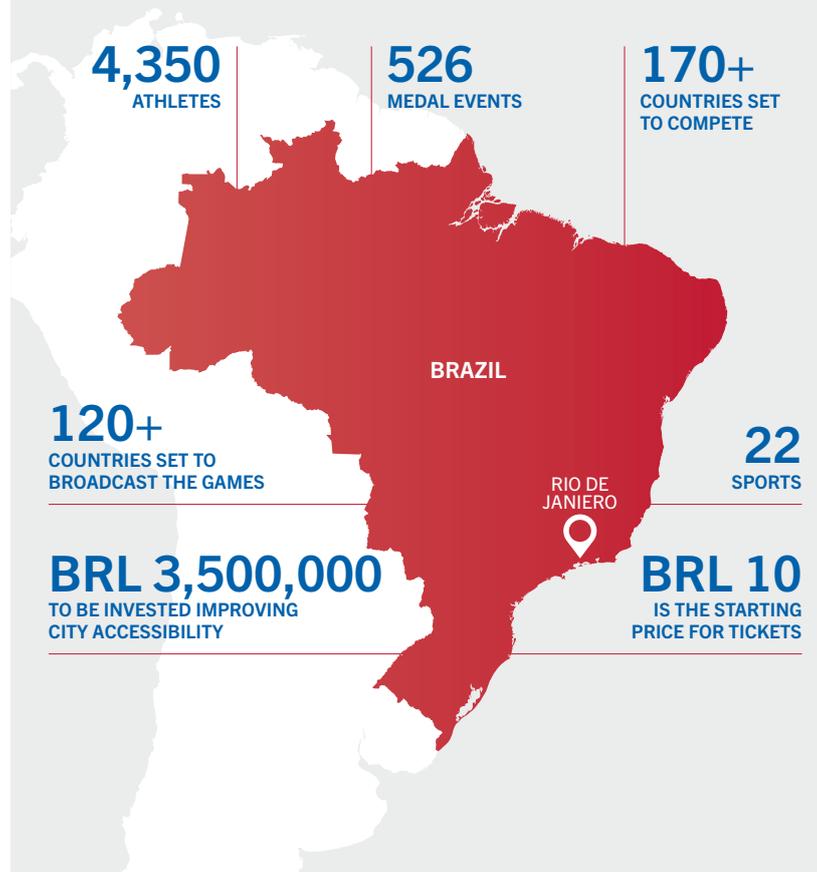
In July, Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff signed off the Inclusion of People with Disabilities Act which eliminates accessibility barriers in transport, housing, services, education, sport and the exercise of citizenship.

At the same time, she announced that she was increasing the amount of funding the Brazilian Paralympic Committee receives from federal lotteries from EUR 20 million per year to around EUR 43 million. This additional funding will help support the new purpose built Brazilian Paralympic Training Centre which is set to open in São Paulo in early 2016. Catering for 15 Paralympic sports, the centre will not just benefit Brazilian athletes, but also athletes from other countries within the Americas. The Centre will also stage the 2017 Youth Parapan American Games.

The Games are acting as a catalyst to improve accessibility in and around Rio. Further to the redevelopment of the city's port area in 2015, which is now fully accessible, the city's Mayor Eduardo Paes announced in September EUR 900,000 of accessibility improvements to the city's tourist destinations ahead of the Games. Furthermore, the city approved changes in legislation to obtain a licence for accessible taxis making them more affordable to taxi operators; this change will see the number of accessible taxis available in the city double prior to the start of the Games.

The *Projeto Rotas Acessíveis* (Accessible Routes Project) will see 4,000m² of accessible pavements and 5,831m² of concrete resurfacing undertaken at the entrances to 10 popular Rio locations, among them Sugarloaf Mountain, Corcovado and Copacabana beach.

Rio 2016 in Numbers



2015 Landmarks

23-25 February	8th IOC CoCom
26 April	Flashmob marks 500 days to go
5-6 May	7th IPC Project Review
1-2 August	Triathlon Test Event
10-12 August	9th IOC CoCom
4-6 September	Canoe Test Event
7 September	One Year to Go and ticket sales launched in Brazil
8 September	Mayor Paes plays goalball to open Future Arena
14-17 September	Final Rio 2016 Chef de Mission Seminar
19 September	Rio 2016 viral video reaches 18 million views
28-29 October	8th IPC Project Review
12-14 November	Boccia Test Event
26 November	First 50,000 Games volunteers selected
10-12 December	Wheelchair tennis Test Event
13 December	Paralympic Torch and relay route revealed
29 December	Barra Olympic Park 95 per cent complete



PyeongChang 2018

Passion. Connected.

Between 14-15 March, the PyeongChang 2018 Organising Committee (POCOG) staged its first annual National Paralympic Day celebration in Seoul, South Korea, attracting around 15,000 people, including 500 dignitaries.

Featuring demonstrations in wheelchair curling and ice sledge hockey, the event aimed to raise awareness of the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games.

Other activities held as part of the weekend included a Para sport photo exhibition using images from Seohon Cho and a display of Para sport equipment. Cho, together with wheelchair curler Haksung Kim were also announced as PyeongChang 2018 ambassadors.

By the end of the year, POCOG had confirmed the names of 13 ambassadors whose role is to help promote the Games.

Seoul's Olympic Park was the venue as "Passion. Connected" the slogan of the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games was revealed in May.

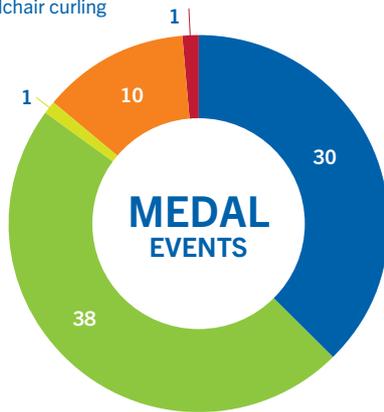
"Passion." symbolises PyeongChang 2018 as the stage of a global festival where people will exchange inspirations, share the South Koreans' warm unique hospitality and experience the excitement of the Paralympic spirit.

"Connected." signifies the openness of PyeongChang, where all generations can participate anytime and anywhere through South Korea's cutting-edge technology and cultural convergence. It also showcases the meaning of a new beginning for winter sports in Asia to spread throughout the world.

Combined, "Passion. Connected." expresses PyeongChang's vision to expand the enthusiasm for and participation in winter sports to a wider audience throughout Asia, opening new horizons for winter sports and the Winter Games.



- Alpine skiing
- Biathlon & cross-country skiing
- Ice sledge hockey
- Snowboard
- Wheelchair curling



Biggest Winter Games ever

The IPC Governing Board approved the athlete and medals event quota for the Games in June. A maximum of 670 athletes, a 24 per cent rise on the 539 athletes who competed in Sochi, will contest 80 medal events in PyeongChang, making them the biggest Paralympic Winter Games ever.

The number of athletes also includes a 44 per cent increase in the number of female athletes competing in PyeongChang, compared to Sochi.

Athletes will compete in 80 medal events with the medals programmes for alpine skiing, biathlon, cross-country skiing, ice sledge hockey and wheelchair curling remaining unchanged from Sochi; however the wheelchair curling competition will be expanded from 10 to 12 mixed sex teams.

Having made its Paralympic debut in 2014 as part of the alpine skiing programme, snowboard will be a standalone sport in 2018 and will provisionally feature 10 medal events, eight more than it did in Sochi.

Training

Fifty South Korean National Technical Officials (NTOs) participated in a two-day introductory training session on officiating at IPC Biathlon and IPC Cross-Country Skiing competitions as part of preparations for the Games.

October's seminar was organised by the Korean National Ski Federation for the Disabled (KNSFD) with support from POCOG and delivered by Len Apedaile, the Race Director for PyeongChang 2018, and Joe Bajan, IPC Biathlon International Referee.

Less than one month later, the South Korean Alpine Skiing Association (KASA), again supported by POCOG, trained a further 50 NTOs in Para alpine skiing.

The course was led by Brad Serwa, the Technical Delegate for alpine skiing at PyeongChang 2018, alongside Markus Walser, the Chairperson of the Sport Technical Committee (STC).

The training was held at the Youngpyong Alpine Centre, where skiers will compete in technical events in just over two years' time.

Excellence Programme

The IPC Academy delivered its fourth workshop as part of the IPC Excellence Workshops which aim to provide the Organising Committee with examples of best practice, knowledge and learnings from previous Games.

The workshop "Paralympic Integration in Planning and Paralympic Testing" took place between 7-9 September.

Broadcast rights

In an effort to maximise coverage in 2018 and create long lasting relationships with broadcasters, the IPC was appointed by POCOG in September as the exclusive sales agent for international broadcast rights.

Under the terms of the IPC-IOC agreement, a Games Organising Committee is responsible for this role. However, after an agreement was signed between POCOG and the IPC, the responsibility for marketing and negotiating international broadcast agreements was passed to the IPC.

Improving accessibility

With the aspiration of hosting the most accessible Games possible and leaving a lasting legacy, POCOG published their signature Accessibility Guide for venues and services to stage a successful and accessible Paralympic Winter Games.

The publication incorporates guidelines from the IPC's own Accessibility Guidelines and relevant South Korean legislation to ensure maximum access and convenience. POCOG adopted higher standards between the IPC guidelines and local regulations in order to maximise the accessibility of the PyeongChang Games.

Following completion of the Manual, it was distributed to relevant stakeholders including the South Korean government, venue cities, Korean Paralympic Committee (KPC) and organisations for athletes with an impairment. POCOG also started accessibility inspections of Games' facilities, services and infrastructure. It is hoped POCOG 'Accessibility Guide' will leave a legacy model of accessibility for South Korea that can lead to a higher benchmark of accessibility for the entire nation.

2015 Landmarks

4-5 February	4th IPC Project Review
3 March	POCOG publish Accessibility Guide
4-15 March	First annual National Paralympic Day
June	Athlete and medal events quota announced
1-2 June	5th IPC Project Review
24 September	IPC appointed to sell international broadcast rights
October	50 NTOs trained in IPC Biathlon and IPC Cross-Country Skiing
20-22 November	50 NTOs trained in IPC Alpine Skiing



Tokyo 2020

Landmarks celebrated

Children at the Tokyo International School, Japan, had a glimpse of the excitement the Paralympics will bring to the city when they were given the opportunity to try out football 5-a-side to celebrate 2,000 days to go until the Games.

Helping the children to celebrate the landmark was Japanese Paralympic national football 5-a-side team player, Kento Kato who was joined by two former Japanese football stars, Tsuyoshi Kitazawa and Atsuhiko Miura.

As well as trying out the sport, the players told the youngsters about the role that sport has played in their lives and showed them that sport provides a welcoming environment in which anyone can join in and have fun.

On 25 August athletes and citizens came together in a mass demonstration event to celebrate five years to go until the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

A temporary basketball court was installed on Odaiba, an island in the Tokyo Bay where the competitions will be hosted. Thousands of fans came to watch the wheelchair basketball experience at an event, which was jointly organised by Tokyo 2020 and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. One-hundred spectators were selected to try the sport themselves with experienced wheelchair basketball athletes.

The celebration was a glimpse of how the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games will be, as it fostered a welcoming environment and strengthened the “Unity in Diversity” concept among citizens.

IPC Academy

In June, Tokyo 2020 announced that it will be the fourth Organising Committee to benefit from the IPC Academy Excellence Programme.

Run by the IPC’s education division, a range of knowledge workshops will be organised geared towards sharing knowledge and best practice and enhancing the planning and delivery of the 2020 Paralympics.

The first workshop took place on 31 August – 1 September and was on “Ensuring an Accessible and Inclusive Games”.

Venue Master Plan

In November, the IPC Governing Board approved the venues for 19 of the 22 Paralympic sports that will take place at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

The venues for track cycling, road cycling, football 5-a-side and powerlifting are expected to be all approved in 2016.

Sports programme decided

In January, the sports programme for Tokyo 2020 was finalised by the IPC Governing Board following the conclusion of a 16-month review exercise which saw 24 sports apply to be part of the Games. The Board decided the final programme will feature 22 sports with badminton and taekwondo set to make their Paralympic debuts in 2020. The sports of CP football and sailing were not included after neither sport met the worldwide participation criteria.

Beijing 2022

On 31 July, Beijing, China, won the right to stage the 2022 Paralympic Winter Games after defeating a rival bid from Almaty, Kazakhstan, by just four votes.

The Chinese capital will be the first city to stage both the summer and winter Paralympics, and the IPC hopes that the Beijing 2022 can take the Games to new heights and do for the Paralympic Winter Games what Beijing 2008 did for the summer Games.

In October, the IPC launched the application process for sports to be included in the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games. A maximum of seven sports can be included and a final decision will be taken by the IPC Governing Board on 5 September 2016.

Paralympic Games Committee

Between 1-3 May, the newly selected committee met in Bonn. The committee was provided with background information on the IPC Strategic Plan, the Paralympic Games Management Approach, the IPC communications, brand and broadcasting strategy for the Games as well as information on the development of the sport programme. A working roadmap of the work of the committee over the next four years was developed. Looking ahead, it was decided by the committee that the main area of work over the next three years will be to support the development of a blueprint as guidance for the strategic development of the Paralympic Sport Programme.

Growth of the Paralympic Games since 1960

SUMMER GAMES

GAMES	ATHLETES	COUNTRIES
1960 Rome	400	23
1964 Tokyo	375	21
1968 Tel Aviv	750	29
1972 Heidelberg	984	43
1976 Toronto	1,657	38
1980 Arnhem	1,973	42
1984 New York & Stoke Mandeville	2,900	45
1988 Seoul	3,057	61
1992 Barcelona	3,001	83
1996 Atlanta	3,259	104
2000 Sydney	3,881	122
2004 Athens	3,808	135
2008 Beijing	3,951	146
2012 London	4,237	164

WINTER GAMES

GAMES	ATHLETES	COUNTRIES
1976 Örnsköldsvik	250	16
1980 Geilo	350	18
1984 Innsbruck	457	21
1988 Innsbruck	397	22
1992 Tignes-Albertville	475	24
1994 Lillehammer	492	31
1998 Nagano	571	32
2002 Salt Lake City	416	36
2006 Torino	477	39
2010 Vancouver	502	44
2014 Sochi	541	44





Empower Para athletes and support the development of Para sports

Strategic priorities

- Ensure resources exist to improve access and opportunities in Para sport through the continued development of athlete pathways, from the grassroots level to Paralympic success
- Provide robust sport-specific classification, supported by policies, procedures and evidence, as a prerequisite for fair and easily understood competition
- Support Para athletes in reaching their full potential during their sporting career and beyond, as they transition to life after sport
- Ensure that sports in the Paralympic Movement are practiced in a manner that protects the health of Para athletes, addresses their needs and respects fair play and ethics

AGITOS

Foundation

Developing Sport,
Changing Lives

Agitos Foundation

The year was one of evolution for the Agitos Foundation as it focussed its work on enhancing the effectiveness of its global programmes and started to build its profile to attract new funding for the Movement.

Through donations, grants and strategic partnerships, the Agitos Foundation continues to promote Para sport providing sustainable pathways into grassroots and competitive Para sport.

Grant Support Programme

The third edition of the Grant Support Programme was launched on 1 July 2015 making EUR 650,000 available to the IPC membership.

The quality, creativity and reach of applications reached a new level and 32 projects were accepted. All projects focused on closing gaps in representation by sport, gender and region. Based on the predictions from the successful applications, nearly 60,000 athletes, coaches, classifiers and members of the public were reached through various training workshops, coaching sessions, research opportunities and festivals of Para sport.

Since the Grant Support Programme was launched in 2013 to provide support to the IPC membership in developing Para sport and in reaching their own organisational goals, nearly EUR 2 million has been distributed to 93 projects.

Road to Rio 2016: Agitos Foundation Sessions

As part of the Agitos Foundation's aim to boost Para sport participation in regions hosting regional and Paralympic Games, the Road to Rio 2016 initiative has helped to build technical capacity of coaches, classifiers and sport managers at the national level.

Developed in partnership with the Rio 2016 Organising Committee and the Brazilian Paralympic Committee, Road to Rio 2016 aims to build on the momentum created by the Road to Toronto 2015.

Athlete camps were an exciting new addition to this programme and provided a platform for young and competing athletes to learn more about the Paralympic Movement, share their experiences and enhance their sporting performance with top coaches.

In 2015 courses included:

- Vision Impairment Classification and Sport Management – 29 participants from 19 NPCs – hosted in São Paulo, Brazil, from 18-21 April
- Coaching, Classification and Athlete Camp – 70 participants from 16 NPCs – hosted in São Paulo from 30 June–2 July
- Coaching and Athlete Leadership (sitting volleyball and goalball) – 32 participants from 17 NPCs – hosted in Natal, Brazil, from 22-25 November

A Coaching and Athlete Camp (Para powerlifting) in Rio de Janeiro was scheduled for early 2016.

Organisational Capacity Programme

Thirteen NPCs from the Americas region took part in the Organisational Capacity Programme in 2015 which supports NPCs to understand their mission and prioritise their work. All hosted their first national workshops to further engage local stakeholders, NPC staff and board members.

Through a mentorship process over two years the programme is achieving a variety of outcomes from increased professionalism, more local support from governments, corporates and development agencies, new local partnerships and better visibility.

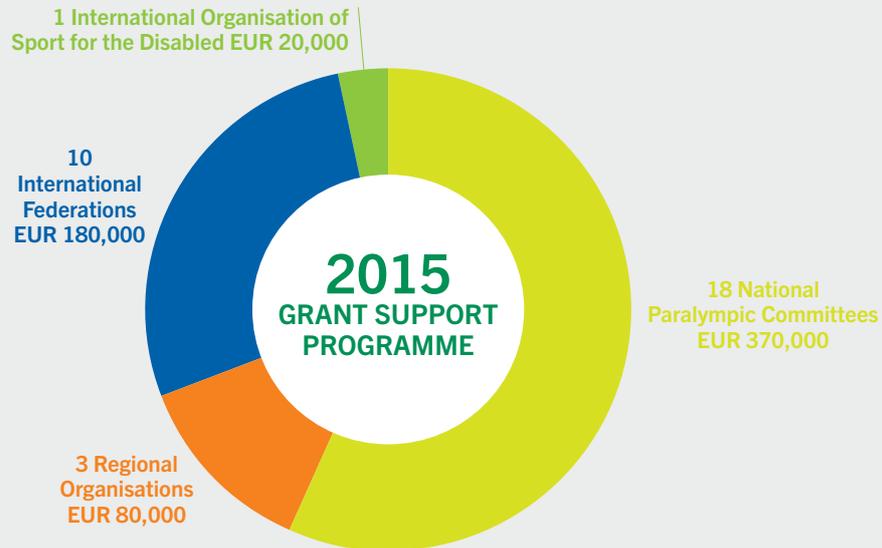
A further 25 NPCs, who had Programme Leads trained in 2014, received ongoing support in the form of mentoring and financial resources to organise national Organisational Capacity Programme workshops. The 25 NPCs are: Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Haiti, Hungary, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mongolia, Namibia, Puerto Rico, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Vanuatu and Zimbabwe.

WoMentoring

The WoMentoring project, which was launched in May 2014 to support women in increasing their impact across the Paralympic Movement, continued in 2015.

In partnership with the IPC Women in Sport Committee, experienced mentors were partnered with an emerging female leader from within the Paralympic Movement for an 18-month long mentoring relationship. Participants in the programme came from Southern, Central and Eastern Europe. The programme will conclude in February 2016.

The IPC members benefitting from the 2015 Grant Support Programme



Agitos Foundation support to countries in Latin America

NPC	ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY PROGRAMME	VISION IMPAIRMENT CLASSIFICATION AND SPORT MANAGEMENT 18-21 APRIL	COACHING, CLASSIFICATION AND ATHLETE CAMP 30 JUNE-2 JULY	COACHING AND ATHLETE LEADERSHIP 22-25 NOVEMBER
ARUBA				■
ARGENTINA	■		■	■
BARBADOS	■	■		
BERMUDA	■	■		
BRAZIL		■	■	■
CHILE	■	■	■	■
COLOMBIA	■	■	■	■
CUBA	■	■	■	
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	■	■	■	■
ECUADOR	■	■	■	■
EL SALVADOR	■	■	■	■
GUATEMALA	■	■	■	
HAITI	■			
HONDURAS			■	
JAMAICA	■	■	■	
MEXICO	■	■	■	
NICARAGUA		■	■	■
PANAMA				■
PUERTO RICO	■	■		■
PERU	■	■		■
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	■	■	■	
SURINAME	■			
URUGUAY	■	■	■	■
VENEZUELA	■	■	■	



Proud Paralympian

A new education programme called Proud Paralympian was launched in 2015 designed to empower athletes with the knowledge and resources to achieve their best during and after their sporting careers. Athletes were introduced to the programme at competitions, regional games and workshops and participants were given the chance to shape its future direction.

Proud Paralympian connected with athletes at workshops and through outreach programmes in 2015 at:

- IPC Powerlifting FAZZA World Cup, Americas, Asian and European Open Championships (March, April, July, Nov 2015)
- Toronto 2015 Para Pan American Games (Aug 2015)
- FISA Para rowing Development Camp (May 2015)
- Road to the Games – Athlete Camps (July 2015, Jan 2016)
- Finnish Youth Training Camp (Sept 2015)
- Danish Youth Training Camp (June 2015)

Partner projects

In 2015, the Agitos Foundation continued its long standing partnerships with UK Sport, Norwegian Olympic and Paralympic Confederation (NIF), Chinese Lions Club and Foundation for Global Sports Development to expand the reach of Para sport in Africa.

- Through the support of UK Sport, the Agitos Foundation increased access to Para sport coaching and classification programmes and provided training opportunities to certify international level classifiers from the region.

- In partnership with NIF, training was provided through a mentorship process with NPC Malawi. Training helped them to write their first action plan and host in a national athletics competition. Although a relatively small competition, it provided the NPC a platform to engage a sponsor and raise awareness, in particular for youth with albinism, a condition often leading to visual impairments and discrimination. Funding also supported a capacity building camp for sitting volleyball coaches, referees and sport managers in South Africa with 29 participants coming from Malawi, Namibia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

For the first time, BP and Foundation for Global Sports Development, long-time partners of the Paralympic Movement, extended their support to the Agitos Foundation.

BP's support enhanced the technical capacity of Para athletics coaches and officials in Angola and Portuguese speaking African nations (Cape Verde, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, São Tomé and Príncipe) in collaboration with the Brazilian Paralympic Committee (CPB). It also helped expand the pool of Para swimming classifiers in Singapore and South East Asia and raise awareness of Para sport through a national Paralympic school festival in Georgia with 27 schools.

Similarly, the focus of Foundation for Global Sports Development's support was to help NPCs in Benin, Guinea and Tanzania change perceptions through Para sport days and elevate the standard of coaching in Para powerlifting. Nearly 30 new coaches from 20 countries in Congo, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Mexico were trained.



Agitos Foundation case studies

Committed to driving Para sport development from grassroots to Paralympic success, the motivation for the Agitos Foundation's work comes from sports inherent power to transform lives. While sport is by no means the only avenue to change perceptions, Para sport does have a track record for positive change. Case studies from 2015 highlight the Agitos Foundation's global impact – developing sport, changing lives.

Equipped for the Road to Rio 2016

The Road to Rio 2016: Agitos Foundation Sessions aim to develop Para sport in the Americas. The programme's training workshops were the first opportunity for many new coaches to receive specialised training and a platform for athletes and their coaches to have their first international competition experience.

One beneficiary was Freddy Geovanni who coached visually impaired runner Darwin Castro and guide Sebastian Rosero to 5,000m T11 bronze at the Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games. It was Ecuador's first ever athletics medal and qualified the duo for Rio 2016.

Wade Franklin, a coach from Trinidad and Tobago, took part in the athletics coaching course. He said he was delighted "to learn from the best athletics coaches and exchange learnings with my colleagues of the Americas." His athlete Akeem Stewart won gold with world records in both the javelin and discus F43 at Toronto 2015. He now hopes he will win gold at Rio 2016.

"I want to thank the Agitos Foundation for helping out to reach our dreams," Franklin said.

Building capacity in Sierra Leone

In Sierra Leone people refused to let the Ebola outbreak stop them from pushing forward with their plans to develop Para sport. At the height of the outbreak in November 2014 they gathered in Freetown for the first of four workshops as part of the Organisational Capacity Programme (OCP).

Further workshops took place in June and December 2015 and the group of nine, which included people from the NPC, athletes and administrators, used the time to pen a strategic plan. They also received presentations on the Paralympic brand and Games and the best ways to organise themselves with the resources they have.

The collective considered the next steps in taking the NPC to greater heights through the OCP. Following the workshop the Sport Ministry restated their commitment to Para sport after the NPC were drafted in to a national programme to help the country recover from the impact of Ebola.

Proud Paralympians lead the future

Nine Paralympians, with 36 medals between them, will spread the word about the Paralympic Movement amongst other athletes after receiving "Proud Paralympian" leadership training in Natal, Brazil, between 22-25 November.

It is hoped that Brazil's Clodaaldo Silva, Adria Dos Santos, Samanta Bullock, Sheila Finder, Andre Andrade, Antonio Delfino and Renato Oliveira, Colombia's Moises Fuentes Garcia and Argentina's Ariel Quassi will now go on to support the IPC and their NPCs with awareness raising efforts at future events and competitions.

They will become the leaders of the next generation, increasing the pool of Spanish and Portuguese speaking athletes who can lead the charge in spreading the word about what it means to be a Proud Paralympian in Latin America in the lead-up to and beyond the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.



Medical

The IPC Medical Committee developed sport-specific “Scope of Event Medical Services” documents for all IPC Sports. These will be utilised to define both the minimal and optimal requirements for the medical services for all IPC sanctioned events and will greatly enhance athlete health and safety in international competition.

Three committee members attended the Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games. Their focus was on Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE) processing, running the boosting testing programme and monitoring daily medical encounters. Ahead of the Games, the Toronto 2015 Organising Committee hosted the first fully integrated Games sport medicine congress.

The congress aimed to train medical staff and volunteers in the lead up to the Games, and reached out to all national professional associations in sports and exercise medicine.

Sport specific papers on the London 2012 injury and illness survey were published for athletics, football 5-a-side, football 7-a-side and powerlifting. The findings were discussed in great detail with the respective IFs to prevent such injuries and illnesses happening again at major events.

The injury and illness data from the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games was also analysed with reports presented at VISTA 2015. The scientific publication of the papers is due in early 2016.

Finally, the IPC endorsed the Safe Sport International Declaration which aims to protect all athletes against violence and abuse in sport. As a result the IPC is now improving its own internal policies and procedures in order to implement the Declaration.





Sport science

In January, the IPC extended its Partnership Agreement with the American College of Sports Medicine, a leading organisation in the fields of sport medicine and the exercise sciences, for a further five and half years, taking it beyond the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

Under the terms of the new agreement, the two organisations, who have been working in partnership together since 2006, identified a number of collaborative areas to improve the dissemination of knowledge in health, safety, research and performance of athletes with impairments.

This includes identifying areas of common interest which can benefit both the IPC and American College of Sports Medicine.

Girona, Spain, staged the seventh and biggest ever VISTA conference in October attracting around 260 scientists, academics and researchers from around the world. Organised by Play & Train, the theme of VISTA 2015 was “Securing the future for young Para athletes” and the three-day long conference included a world class line-up of speakers. In the lead-up to the event, the IPC Sport Science Committee reviewed over 120 abstracts for the conference resulting in a strong final speaker line-up.

Canadian professor Jennifer Mactavish was awarded with the 2015 Paralympic Scientific Award in recognition of her academic support to the Paralympic Movement, in particular her role in the successful re-inclusion of intellectually impaired athletes into the Paralympic Games. During VISTA, Mactavish presented a keynote address titled “How to engage youth in disability sport: Reflections of an accidental academic.”

After bids from three cities, it was announced that the next VISTA conference will be staged in September 2017 in Toronto, Canada. The theme will be “Opportunities and challenges in Paralympic sport science and medicine support.”

In the final quarter of 2015 it was announced that the International Convention on Science, Education and Medicine in Sport 2016 (ICSEMIS 2016) convention, a collaboration between the IPC, ICSSPE and FIMS will take place in Santos, Brazil, between 31 August and 4 September. The theme is “Saying ‘Yes’ to Diversity in Sport” and the event will be hosted by the Federal University of São Paulo.

The Sports Science Committee developed content for the IPC Academy Online module “IPC Coaching Para sport – An Introduction” which was launched in June. The module content also found its way in December’s first IPC Athletics Coach Workshop in Colorado Springs, USA.

Classification

At November's IPC General Assembly in Mexico City, the IPC membership approved the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code following extensive consultation with relevant stakeholders dating back to June 2013.

During three rounds, nearly 4,000 pieces of feedback was submitted to the IPC Classification Committee who led the process under the guidance of chairperson Anne Hart. Two drafts of the Code were created and consulted on before a final draft version was submitted to the IPC Governing Board in June 2015. The draft was then approved and submitted as a motion to the IPC General Assembly in November, before it was finally ratified.

The new Code, effective from 1 January 2018 onwards, strengthens the position of the athlete as the centre of classification in the Movement and gives a clear mandate to the IPC to monitor implementation of the Code throughout the membership.

The main changes made to the 2007 Code include the use of more accessible language, removing duplication between the Code and the International Standards, clarity in roles and responsibilities for all parties and responsibilities for the IFs in developing Code compliant classification systems.

Coinciding with October's Vista conference and ahead of the General Assembly, the IPC Classification Committee met in Girona with IF Heads of Classification

and NPC classification experts to discuss the new Code and how to facilitate its implementation.

The three IPC Classification Research & Development Centres which became fully operational in 2014 in Brisbane, Australia; Leuven, Belgium and Amsterdam, the Netherlands, identified and engaged with different research partners. They also generated complementary research funding in support of the IPC grant.

All three centres held sport-specific expert meetings with IF representatives.

Towards the end of the year, the IPC Swimming Classification System review process 2015-2018 was launched covering the sport's physical impairment classification systems.

The review process, supported by the formal engagement of Manchester Metropolitan University and University of the Sunshine Coast as research partners, will help strengthen compliance with the IPC's revised Athlete Classification Code. In support of the review, which will expand on research already undertaken in previous years, UK Sport is co-financing a post-doctoral position at Manchester Metropolitan University for 50 per cent.

Twenty-one new visual impairment classifiers were certified following an international course organised jointly by IBSA and the IPC in Athens, Greece.

Throughout the year support was offered to multiple IFs to initiate research in support of classification system review processes.





**DIS NON!
AU DOPAGE**
En partenariat avec  AMA

Anti-doping

The new IPC Anti-Doping Code became effective on 1 January 2015 emphasising the need for an effective and efficient testing programme and the obligation to provide athlete education and awareness. It also featured revised sport-specific testing requirements and revised Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) management procedures.

As a result of these updates all terms of reference, internal policies and procedures, and template documents were adjusted to reflect the changes under the new Code. The recommendations from the WADA TUE symposium were integrated as part of this revision process.

Throughout the year athlete education and outreach took place at IPC Powerlifting events under the “Raise the Bar – Say No! to Doping” campaign. Due to the success of the programme it was expanded to also cover IPC Swimming and IPC Athletics.

In 2015, the IPC conducted a total of 1,102 tests which were made up of in and out of competition tests of blood and urine. In addition, WADA complemented the IPC testing with eight urine out-of-competition tests in IPC Powerlifting. There were three anti-doping rules violations during the year, two in athletics and one in powerlifting.

The IPC also approved 13 TUEs and recognised a further 51. Five TUEs were rejected and 27 either not processed or cancelled.

Following the publication in December of the WADA Independent Commission report on doping in Russian athletics, the IPC Anti-Doping Committee reviewed the report to mitigate the risks of Para athletes and Para sports and made recommendations to the IPC Governing Board.

Education programme and activities

Besides daily management of the IPC website – the anti-doping section as a main source of information and the further dissemination of WADA news within the Paralympic Movement through IPC media and communication channels, targeted educational and awareness programmes were held in conjunction with IPC competitions and events, including:

- IPC Powerlifting Americas Open Championships, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2015 Toronto Parapan American Games – Run by WADA Athlete Outreach team
- IPC Swimming World Championships, Glasgow, Great Britain
- IPC Powerlifting Asian Open Championships, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- IPC Athletics World Championships, Doha, Qatar
- IPC Snowboard World Cup, Landgraaf, the Netherlands
- IPC Athletics Coach Workshop, Colorado Springs, USA

In addition, the IPC Medical & Scientific Department acts as the information exchange channel with the IFs in the Paralympic Movement.



IPC Anti-Doping – Annual Statistics 2015

IPC Anti-Doping Code, article 14.4: "The IPC shall publish at least annually a general statistical report of its Doping Control activities, with a copy provided to WADA."

IPC SPORTS	URINE TESTING (OOC)	URINE TESTING (IC)	BLOOD TESTING (OOC)	BLOOD TESTING (IC)	TOTAL TESTS (URINE)	TOTAL TESTS (BLOOD)	TOTAL (URINE + BLOOD)	AAF	ATF	ADRV
ALPINE SKIING	0	24	0	0	24	0	24	0	0	0
ATHLETICS	96	310	71	18	406	89	495	2	0	2
ICE SLEDGE HOCKEY	0	29	0	0	29	0	29	0	0	0
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND BIATHLON	7	30	13	4	37	17	54	0	0	0
SNOWBOARD	0	15	0	0	15	0	15	0	0	0
POWERLIFTING	58	196	41	17	254	58	312	1	0	1
SHOOTING	0	39	0	0	39	0	39	0	0	0
SWIMMING	25	79	21	4	104	25	129	0	0	0
WHEELCHAIR DANCE SPORT	0	5	0	0	5	0	5	0	0	0
TOTAL	186	727	146	43	913	189	1102	3	0	3

*NON-IPC SPORTS	URINE TESTING (OOC)	URINE TESTING (IC)	BLOOD TESTING (OOC)	BLOOD TESTING (IC)	TOTAL TESTS (URINE)	TOTAL TESTS (BLOOD)	TOTAL (URINE + BLOOD)	AAF	ATF	ADRV
ARCHERY	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
BOCCIA	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
CYCLING – ROAD AND TRACK	7	8	7	4	15	11	26	0	0	0
FOOTBALL-5-A-SIDE	0	4	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	0
FOOTBALL-7-A-SIDE	0	4	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	0
GOALBALL	0	4	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	0
JUDO	2	10	2	0	12	2	14	0	0	0
TABLE TENNIS	0	5	0	0	5	0	5	0	0	0
SITTING VOLLEYBALL	0	4	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	0
WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL	0	20	0	0	20	0	20	0	0	0
WHEELCHAIR RUGBY	0	10	0	0	10	0	10	0	0	0
WHEELCHAIR TENNIS	0	4	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	0
TOTAL	9	77	9	4	86	13	99	0	0	0
TOTAL (IPC + Non-IPC sports)	195	804	155	47	999	202	1201	3	0	3

* Testing conducted at the 2015 Toronto Parapan American Games (multi-sport competition conducted under IPC Governance).

AAF	Adverse Analytical Finding	A report from a laboratory or other WADA approved testing entity that identifies in a specimen the presence of a prohibited substance or its metabolites or markers, or evidence of the use of a prohibited method.
ATF	Atypical Finding	A report from a laboratory or other WADA approved entity which requires further investigation as provided by the International Standard for Laboratories or related Technical Documents prior to the determination of an Adverse Analytical Finding.
ADRV	Anti-Doping Rule Violation	An AAF or ATF, or any other investigation that is not supported by a TUE or where no apparent departure of the applicable International Standards is derived.

IPC Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) Management

IPC SPORTS	APPROVED TUES	REJECTED TUES**	RECOGNISED TUES***	NOT PROCESSED/ CANCELLED
ALPINE SKIING			5	
ATHLETICS	9	2	18	7
ICE SLEDGE HOCKEY			3	1
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND BIATHLON				
SNOWBOARD	1		2	
POWERLIFTING	1	1	2	4
SHOOTING		2****	8	4
SWIMMING	2		11	8
WHEELCHAIR DANCE SPORT			2	3
TOTAL	13	5	51	27

*NON-IPC SPORTS	APPROVED TUES	REJECTED TUES**	RECOGNISED TUES***	NOT PROCESSED/ CANCELLED
ARCHERY				
BOCCIA	2			
CYCLING – ROAD AND TRACK			3	
FOOTBALL-5-A-SIDE			1	1
FOOTBALL-7-A-SIDE			1	
GOALBALL			1	
JUDO	1			
TABLE TENNIS	3			1
SITTING VOLLEYBALL	5	1	1	
WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL	1		2	
WHEELCHAIR RUGBY	1		3	
WHEELCHAIR TENNIS	1		1	
TOTAL	14	1	13	2
TOTAL (IPC + Non-IPC sports)	27	6	64	29

* TUEs managed during the 2015 Toronto Parapan American Games (multi-sport competition conducted under IPC Governance).

** Includes TUEs reviewed for recognition where recognition was not granted.

*** Includes TUEs which were automatically recognised, and those which were reviewed by the IPC Medical Committee prior to recognition.

**** One rejection appealed to WADA, who upheld the IPC decision. Decision subsequently appealed to the CAS.

Sanctioned athletes announced in 2015 (IPC as Result Management Authority)

NAME	COUNTRY	SPORT	EVENT	SANCTION START DATE	SANCTION	SUBSTANCES(S)
Gorgodze, Iago	Georgia	Powerlifting	Out of competition test	16.10.2014	4 years +1,500 EUR (athlete appealed decision to CAS)	Oxandrolone and Stanozolol
Ostavarian, Ahmad	Iran	Athletics	7th Fazza Athletics Champs	10.04.2015	4 years	Metandienone metabolites and Trenbolone metabolite
Juboori, Hussein	Iraq	Powerlifting	Fazza Powerlifting Champs	11.05.2015	4 years	Oxandrolone and its metabolite Epioxandrolone
Zverev, Alexander	Russia	Athletics	Berlin Grand Prix	06.08.2015	9 months	Cannabinoids



Improve the recognition and value of the Paralympic brand

Strategic priorities

- Develop and implement a long-term brand vision that ensures greater understanding, consistent usage, exposure, recognition and affinity across the world, in particular in key territories.
- Develop and implement a strategy to increase the quality, recognition and awareness of Para sport, its main events and leading Para athletes 365 days a year.



Broadcasters signed up to show the Paralympic Games with #500daystogo

BBC Radio
Channel 4

Broadcast

In 2015, the IPC continued to act as the international sales agent for broadcast rights for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games and enjoyed some great success.

This was best highlighted when marking 500 days to go until the Rio 2016 Games when a map was created comparing how broadcast sales for the same landmark looked for London 2012 and Rio 2016.

More broadcasters than ever before are signed up to show Rio 2016 and, as a result, it is expected that the cumulative TV audience for the Games will exceed four billion people for the first time.

During the year, the broadcast rights to a number of IPC Sport Championships were sold to various broadcasters around the world.

IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships

The rights to Panorama 2015 were sold to SSR SRG, Switzerland; Sport A, Germany; ORF, Austria and NBC, USA. The event was also livestreamed by the IPC via panorama2015.com and by CBC in Canada.

IPC Biathlon and Cross-Country Skiing World Championships and World Cup

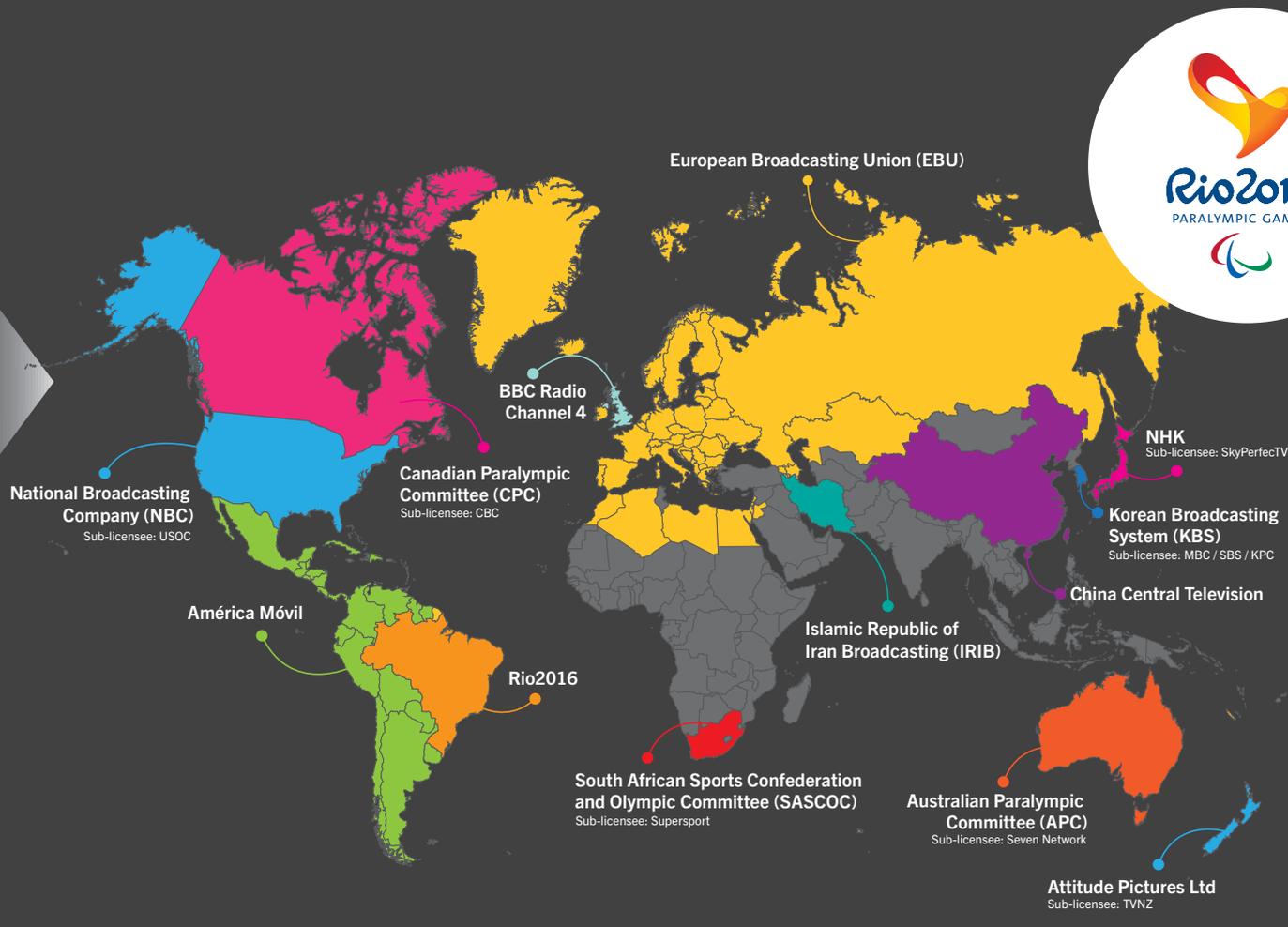
January's World Championships were livestreamed globally by the IPC via cable2015.org and in the USA by US Paralympics. SkyPerfectTV showed some coverage from the World Cup in Asahikawa, Japan.

IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships A-Pool

Buffalo 2015 was the most broadcasted World Championships in the history of the sport with coverage in eight countries.

Coverage included:

- NBC Sports in the USA showed three games on television and all 20 matches from the Championships were streamed via their online platforms. They also showed 36 news reports across 14 NBC stations
- KHL TV, Russia, showed six games live, one delayed and a further 13 as re-runs
- Sport Deutschland TV, Germany, streamed all games live
- Coverage was also secured on Rai, Italy; NHK and SkyPerfectTV in Japan and NRK, Norway
- Games were also livestreamed by the IPC and Canadian Paralympic Committee
- BBC World News produced daily news bulletins



IPC Athletics World Championships

The rights to October's event in Doha, Qatar, were sold to broadcasters in the following 14 countries making it the most widely covered IPC Sport Championships to date.

The rights holders were:

- NPC Australia
- Attitude Pictures, New Zealand
- Channel 4, Great Britain
- NPC Brazil
- DSM and Sport A, Germany
- France TV, France
- IRIB, Iran
- NBC, USA
- NHK, Japan
- NPC Spain, Spain
- NRK, Norway
- Rai, Italy
- SASCOC, NPC South Africa
- SSR SRG, Switzerland

Supplementing the rights holders, a race clipping service was produced to news broadcasters which resulted in coverage in Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands and Portugal.

More than 170 hours of coverage, an increase of 111 per cent on the last World Championships in 2013, was shown across 42 channels. The total cumulative audience of the event was 157.4 million people, an increase of 31 per cent on the Lyon 2013 World Championships.

The event was also livestreamed at doha2015.org, the official website for the Championships.

IPC Swimming World Championships

Glasgow 2015 was a milestone for broadcast production for IPC Swimming World Championships with new standards set. The IPC offered broadcasters a comprehensive nine HD camera production of all 47 hours of action.

Live coverage was secured on Spain's Grada1, Japan's SkyPerfecTV, Germany's SportDeutschland.TV, New Zealand's Attitude Pictures and US Paralympics. Domestically Channel 4 showed the event live online and also produced two hour-long highlights shows. BBC Radio 5 Live also covered the event, as did Sky Sports News, STV and Radio Clyde.

News and highlights were shown on NBC in the USA, Rai Sport in Italy, ARD and ZDF in Germany, NHK in Japan, Spain's RTVE and Brazil's Empresa Brasileira de Comunicacao (EBC).

The IPC also worked with a number of NPCs to distribute over 100 race clips for news bulletins in Australia, Canada, Colombia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway and Spain.

A livestream of the event was also available at glasgow2015.com, the event's official website.

IPC Powerlifting

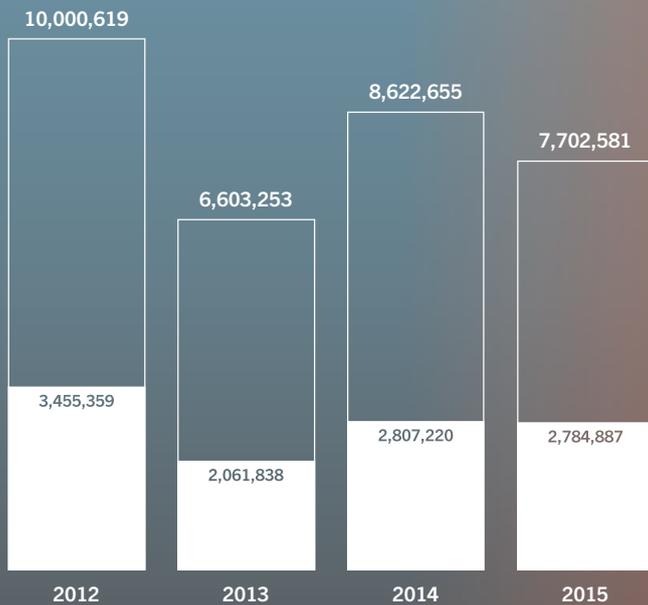
All three regional Championships were livestreamed via www.paralympic.org and IRIB, Iran, took coverage of the Almaty 2015 IPC Powerlifting Asia Open Championships which were held in July.



Website Visitors

www.paralympic.org

■ VISITORS
□ PAGE VIEWS



YouTube

www.youtube.com/paralympics

■ SUBSCRIBERS



6,547,924 video views

IPC brand

In preparation for Rio 2016, the IPC published the Manufacturer Identification Guidelines for the Games to help enhance the visual presentation of the Agitos through the promotion of compliant uniforms to be worn by all attending participants.

To coincide with the publication of the IPC Strategic Plan 2015-2018, a new look and feel was given to IPC publications that references the visual direction of the brand in the years to come.

Exclusive stationary applications for the IPC Regions were developed to facilitate the consistent reflection of their brand identity and to help differentiate the Paralympic Movement in each area of the world.

Twelve National Paralympic Committee emblems were approved in 2015. Six of them were completely new: Aruba, Ghana, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, St Vincent & the Grenadines and Yemen. The emblems of Chinese Taipei, Latvia, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sweden and the USA were redesigned.

Digital activities

The IPC now manages 43 different digital media channels and in 2015 activities reached 501 million people, up from the 270 million they reached during 2014.

Paralympic.org enjoyed the most traffic ever for a non-Paralympic year, attracting 2.784 million visitors, cementing its position as the world's number one online platform for Para sport news 365 days a year.

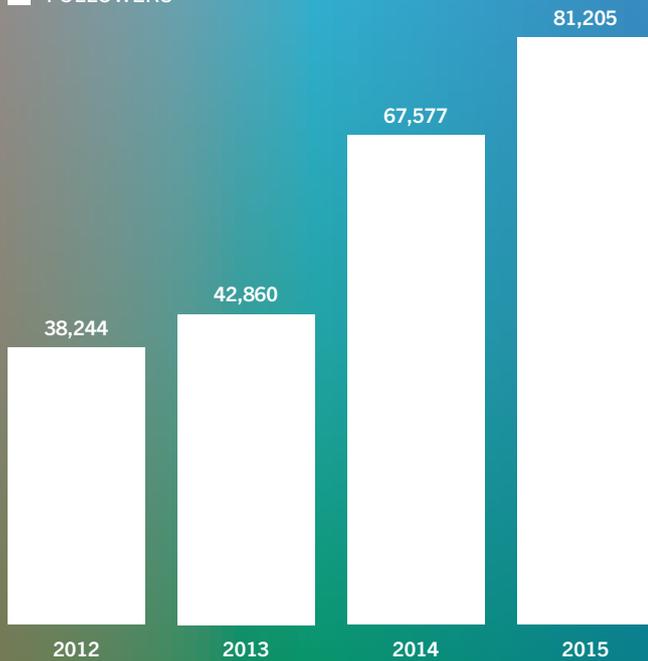
Key headlines for 2015 included:

- Around 2,100 stories were uploaded to the website during the year, an average of 5.75 per day
- On Facebook, the number of likes across the 11 accounts the IPC manages increased from 292,500 in 2014 to 358,203 in 2015, a rise of 22 per cent
- The IPC's Twitter following across 13 accounts grew from 93,807 in 2014 to 110,692, an increase of 17.9 per cent
- The number of Google+ followers the IPC has increased from 366,497 to 537,810. Instagram followers more than doubled during the year from 2,582 people to 6,713
- More than 6.55 million videos were viewed on the IPC's YouTube channel, equivalent to 26.884 million minutes of coverage!

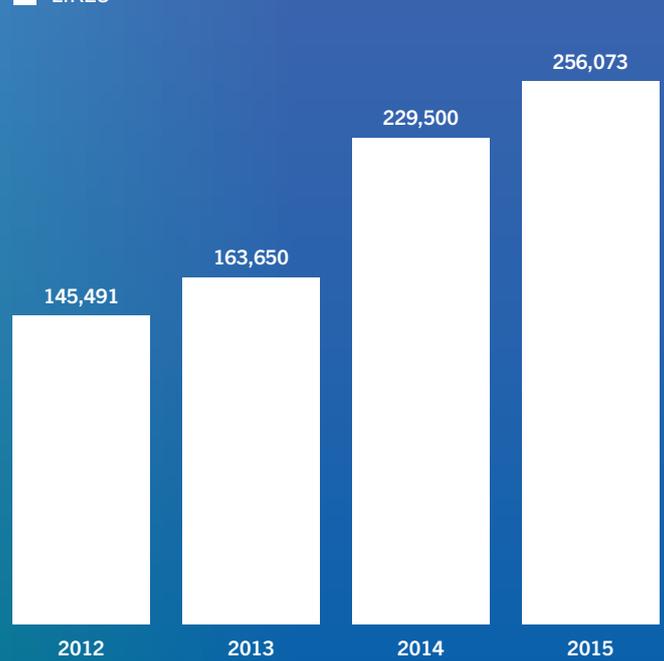
Overall, the IPC now has more than one million followers on social media.

**Twitter**www.twitter.com/paralympics**Facebook**www.facebook.com/paralympics

■ FOLLOWERS



■ LIKES



Sport support

During the year a number of microsites were created for the World and regional Championships organised by IPC Sports. In addition to featuring information about the event, the sites included live results and, in many cases, a commentated livestream of the action.

Comprehensive PR plans were implemented for each major Championship.

Volunteer writer programme

Launched in 2013, the IPC volunteer writer programme continues to go from strength-to-strength in supporting all International Federations.

In 2015, 40 volunteers – made up of aspiring and established journalists – supported the IPC's editorial team in creating regular content about all Para sports within the Paralympic programme.

At least one volunteer writer was dedicated to each IF producing a minimum of one piece of editorial content each month. Each writer followed a dedicated editorial plan for their chosen sport which, not only aimed to raise the profile of leading athletes, but also major sports events.





Build sustainable funding

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a stream of water, with a large splash of water above it. The background is a deep blue gradient. The text 'Build sustainable funding' is overlaid on the image in white, with 'Build' on the first line, 'sustainable' on the second, and 'funding' on the third.

Strategic priorities

- Grow income through targeted, long-term global alliances and maximise revenue by smarter pricing of the IPC's assets, based on better valuations of the Paralympic brand in different markets
- Maximise commercial opportunities from the sales of broadcasting rights and achieve cost coverage of broadcasting production as part of a long-term financial sustainability strategy
- Ensure greater value across the IPC's activities by fostering value for money awareness, controlling expenditure and optimising operational costs

IPC budget and its evolution

In 2015, the IPC generated a total revenue of EUR 15,745,240 and incurred a total expenditure of EUR 15,704,897. Through prudently managing its finances, the IPC made a small surplus of 40,343, after having increased its unrestricted capital reserves to 800,000. The IPC's net assets position (equity) grew from EUR 942,867 at the end of 2014 to EUR 1,703,210 by the end of 2015.

The important drivers of these positive results were related to the IPC's foreign currencies management supported by the favourable evolution of the foreign exchange rate of the US Dollar against Euro, an optimisation of all taxable services with the resulting reduction of tax expenditure, and the release of tax provisions that became redundant following clean German tax audits of the IPC.

Since 2007 the IPC's revenues and expenditures have more than tripled. The IPC has a revenue-driven budgeting and spending approach so that expenditure can be balanced at the year end. Any surplus generated goes into an unrestricted capital reserve.

The chart on page 43 shows how the IPC's budget has evolved since 2007 taking into account figures from the audited results.

IPC revenue

The IPC revenue grew by 25.8 per cent in 2015 compared to 2014.

Paralympic Games marketing and broadcasting fees accounted for EUR 3,858,075 in 2015, 24.5 per cent of the IPC's total revenue. Sponsorship and fundraising efforts grew by 20.1 per cent in the last year to EUR 2,508,525, equivalent to 15.9 per cent of the IPC's total revenue. The IPC prides itself on its sponsorship portfolio and the longevity of its partnerships as shown by the table.

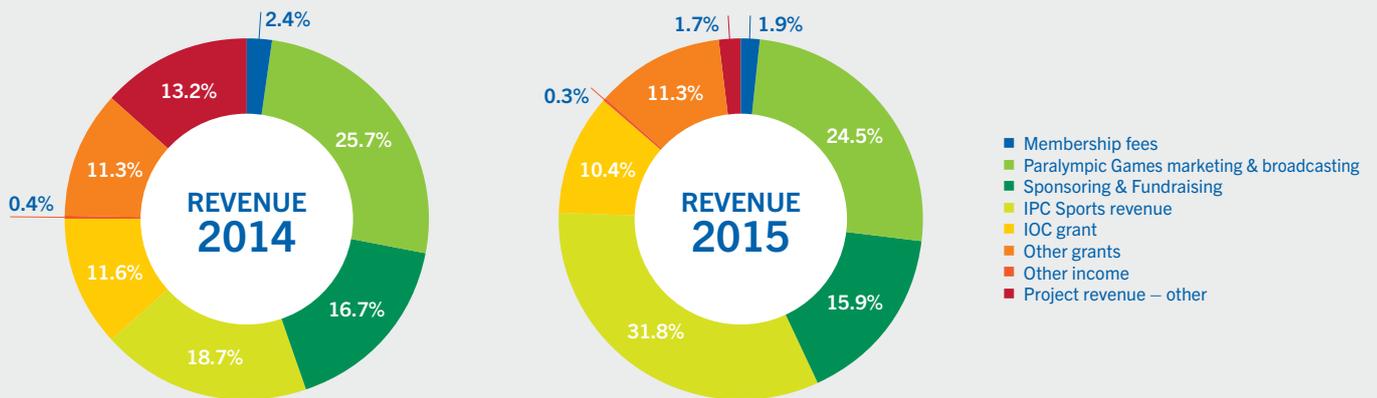
During the course of 2015 the Agitos Foundation received financial support; grants and donations from the following organisations: Chinese Lions Club and Chinese Disabled Peoples Foundation, Foundation for Global Sports Development, UK Sport, the Norwegian Olympic and Paralympic Committee (NIF) and the Rio 2016 Organising Committee. The largest financial contribution was still provided by the International Paralympic Committee. In addition to the direct funding, programmes were also supported by a number of NPCs and IFs.

Funding of EUR 52,600 was also provided by the German Federal Ministry of the Interior during 2015 for two projects.

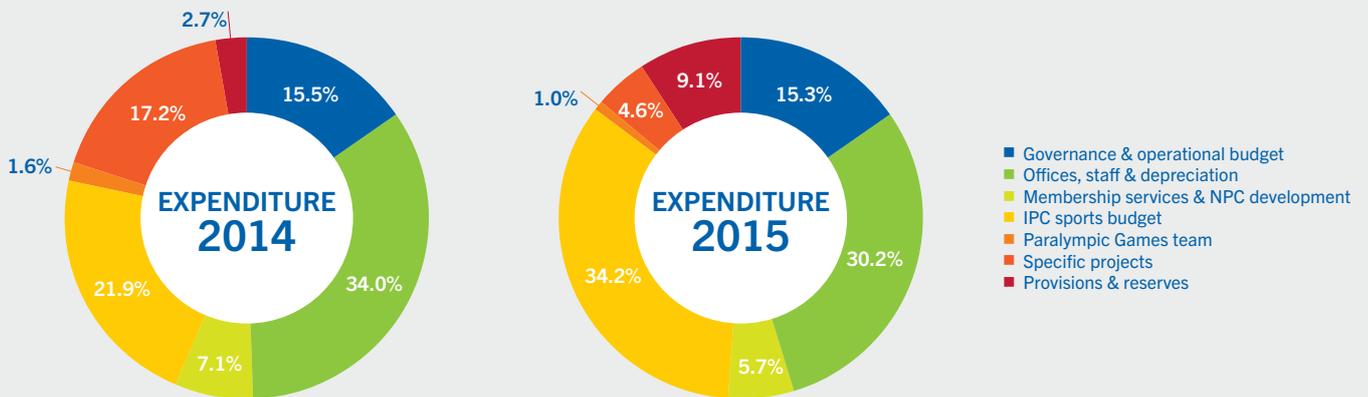
IPC expenditure

The major expenditure of the IPC's core budget – governance, operational office, staff and depreciation – stood at 15.3 per cent in 2015. This is despite the increase of the IPC's activities and sports events. It is also due to the IPC's cost effectiveness.

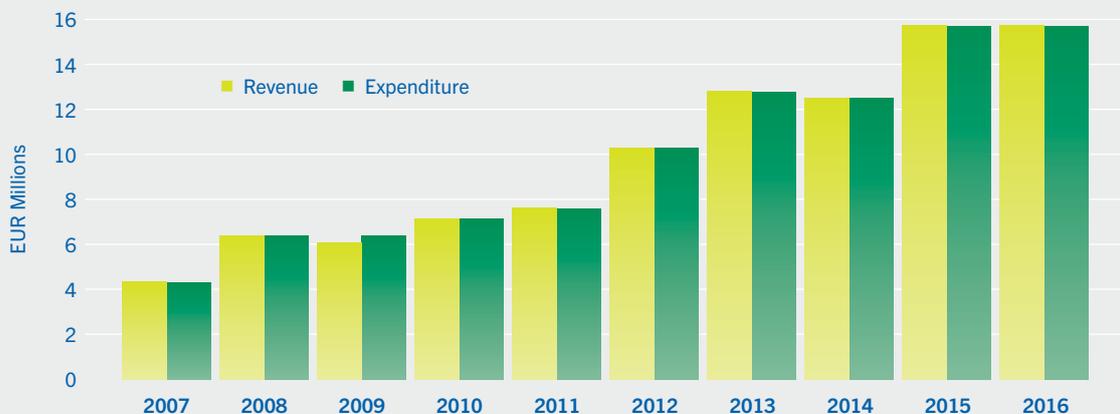
IPC revenue



IPC expenditure



The evolution of the IPC's budget



Statement of Financial Condition (as of 31 December 2015)

ASSETS	2014	2015
Fixed Assets	1,373,693	499,544
Current Assets	1,442,096	1,650,975
Cash and Bank Balances	2,492,560	3,477,755
Prepaid Expenses	264,072	457,604
TOTAL ASSETS	5,572,421	6,085,879

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	2014	2015
Equity	942,867	1,703,210
Provisions ¹⁾	1,204,961	2,357,317
Liabilities ²⁾	1,205,806	1,296,497
Deferred Income	2,218,787	728,855
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	5,572,421	6,085,879

1) Including provisions for IPC Sports

2) The liabilities include a loan of EUR 125,000 from the International Olympic Committee (IOC)

3) All figures rounded up to the nearest Euro.

Statement of Income (as of 31 December 2015)

REVENUE	2014	2015
Membership Fees	302,366	300,310
IPC Sports Revenue ¹⁾	2,333,756	5,010,292
Marketing & Broadcasting/Sponsoring/Fundraising ²⁾	5,299,206	6,366,600
Grants	1,500,296	1,675,240
Broadcasting Projects	508,721	1,240,363
Other	909,830	533,464
Specific Project Funding ³⁾	1,657,371	618,972
TOTAL REVENUE	12,511,547	15,745,240
EXPENDITURE	2014	2015
Executive Office	560,585	567,242
Paralympic Games	195,864	152,076
Administration ⁴⁾	4,255,208	4,747,818
Sports Budget ⁵⁾	2,737,011	5,366,739
Sport and IFs Relations	35,666	41,899
Medical and Scientific	283,015	391,970
Media and Communication	393,044	387,611
Marketing and Commercial	203,295	184,568
Broadcasting Projects	458,455	827,377
Membership Services and NPC Development	884,542	889,485
Specific Project Expenditure	2,145,266	726,437
Allocation to reserve funds (net)	207,000	701,674
Allocation to unrestricted capital reserve	130,000	220,000
Allocation to earmarked reserves	0	500,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	12,488,951	15,704,897
RESULT	25,596	40,373

1) Entry fees from IPC Sports competitions, Athletes' License fees, Competition Approval fees, other Sports related fees (related expenses see 5)

2) Marketing & Broadcasting fees from Organising Committees, Sponsoring and Fundraising Revenue

3) Project related resources incl. IPC Academy activities, VISTA Conference 2015 and General Assembly 2015, and, for 2014, the Sochi Paralympic Games activities and the Membership Gathering in Berlin. Related expenses to be found under "Specific Project Expenditure"

4) Administration, general operations and corporate services, salaries for IPC Headquarters staff, and depreciation of assets and software

5) Grants to IF Sports, Grants to Organisers of IPC Sports competitions, Management costs of IPC Sports and provisions for IPC Sports from IPC Sports revenue



Shape organisational capability

A close-up photograph of a wheelchair tennis racket on a blue court. The racket is positioned on the left side of the frame, with its head and part of the frame visible. The background is a blurred blue court surface with white lines. The overall image has a green-to-blue gradient overlay.

Strategic priorities

- Establish an IPC staff community where there is respect for diversity, high professional expectations and all staff members have opportunities to engage in the pursuit of excellence
- Provide guidance and support to the IPC Sports in order for them to achieve further growth and attain long-term sustainability
- Strengthen the capability and capacity of the organisation to excel as the spearhead of the Paralympic Movement and align with leading operating practices
- Encourage best practices within the Paralympic Movement and use knowledge sharing and professional education to strengthen member organisations' capabilities

Strategic Plan

The IPC published its Strategic Plan 2015-2018 in English, French, German and Spanish in June.

The Plan aims to consolidate the growth of the Paralympic Games, increase global participation in Para sport and improve the recognition and value of the Paralympic brand.

Developed during 2014 and 2015, the IPC consulted many stakeholders including those who attended the IPC Membership Gathering in October 2014.

The new Plan aims to build on the previous version which delivered some impressive results including:

- Outstanding Paralympic Games in London and Sochi, showcasing superb athlete performances and promoting the Paralympic brand and its visibility with record audiences and ticket sales
- Extension of the Games agreement and signing a new partnership agreement with the IOC, which identifies additional areas of co-operation; coupled with a positive and constructive dialogue with IOC President Bach during his first year in office
- The launch of the Agitos Foundation in August 2012 and its activities including the successful Grant Support Programme that has distributed nearly EUR 1.3 million over the last two years
- Monumental increase in the engagement of sport fans through digital channels with the IPC website traffic increasing from 0.6 million visitors in 2011 to 2.8 million in 2014 and similar trends in social media reach
- Renewal of partnership agreements and conclusion of new deals which have nearly doubled the IPC's sponsorship revenues. The IPC's sponsorship portfolio now boasts Atos, Ottobock, Panasonic, Samsung, Visa, Allianz and BP
- Organisational growth that resulted in expansion to a second office, accompanied by the implementation of new management tools in terms of planning and risk mitigation
- Development of long-term Strategic Plans for all IPC Sports
- Positive trends in participation and attendance in numerous World and regional Championships during the quadrennium.

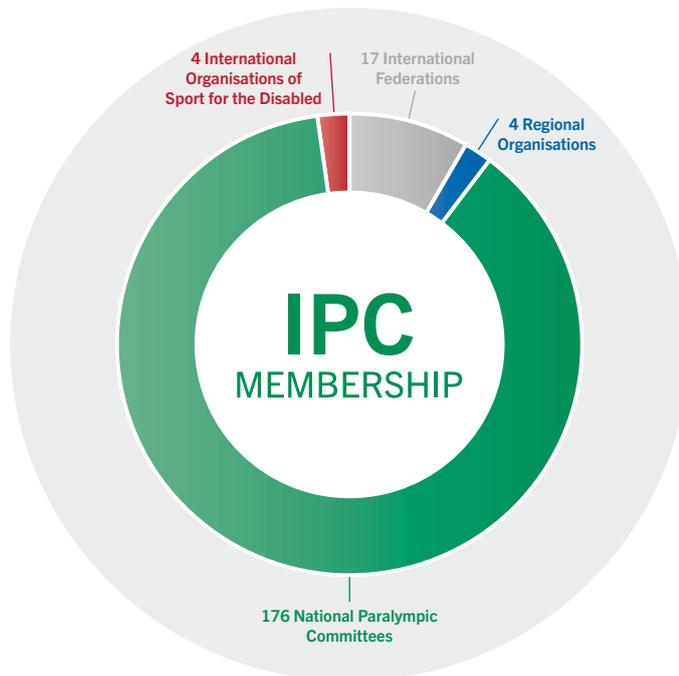
To coincide with the launch of the new Plan, the IPC developed a new aspiration "To make for a more inclusive society for people with an impairment through Para sport," which reflects the Paralympic Movement's track record of helping to change attitudes towards people with an impairment.

The IPC's vision was also revised. "To enable Para athletes to achieve sporting excellence and inspire and excite the world," highlights that the vision applies to Para athletes at all levels, including athletes from the grassroots to high performance level.

As 2015 came to a close, work started on developing new Strategic Plans for the four IPC summer sports. These separate plans will cover the period 2017-2020.



Breakdown of the IPC membership at the end of 2015



Membership

The IPC had 201 members by the end of 2015 after November's IPC General Assembly in Mexico City approved the membership of nine new organisations. This included five NPCs: Aruba, Yemen, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Guinea-Bissau and Somalia.

Four IFs – World Taekwondo Federation, International Sailing Federation, International Federation of CP Football and Badminton World Federation – were also approved as IPC members.

In total, EUR 350,000 was distributed to IFs in 2015 and this will increase to EUR 450,000 in 2016. Grants of EUR 10,000 were also provided to the five Regional Organisations and in 2016 the amount provided to each will double to EUR 20,000.

At the General Assembly, the IPC Membership agreed to terminate the membership of the NPCs of Bangladesh, Somalia (an old NPC), Albania and Peru. The reason for taking each of these decisions was either because of the respective NPCs' inactivity or because a suspension of

the respective NPC had exceeded four consecutive years.

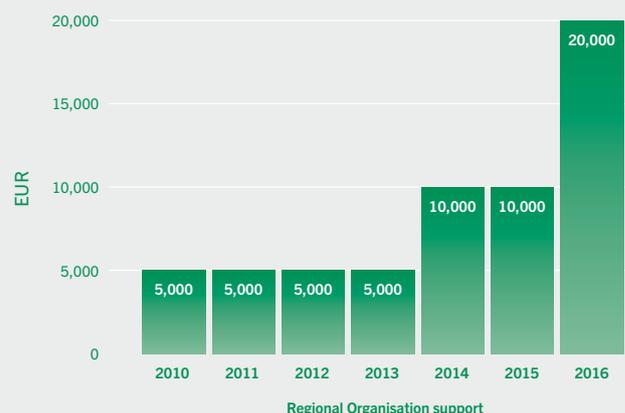
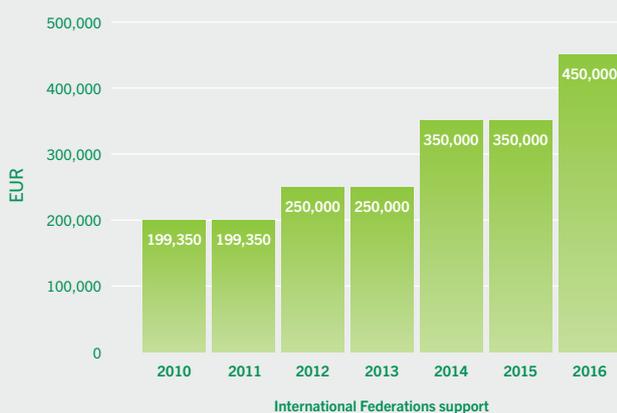
Six members – Costa Rica, India, Mauritania, Timor-Leste, Comoros and Niger – finished the year as suspended by the IPC.

In 2015, the IPC also recognised four IFs, all of which agreed the IPC Medical Code, IPC Classification Code and World Anti-Doping Code.

The four are: World Armwrestling Federation, World Squash Federation, World Karate Federation and International Golf Federation.

The Americas Paralympic Committee (APC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Pan American Sport Organisation (PASO) in January that established the concept of one city for the Pan American Games and Parapan American Games. The APC will also have representation in several of the PASO commissions and there will be a willingness to co-operate in other areas such as the relationship between NPCs and National Olympic Committees. PASO also agreed to provide an annual grant of USD 100,000 to the APC.

Growth in the IPC financial support to International Federations and Regional Organisations





IPC management team

The IPC's workforce in Bonn, Germany, grew from 72 to 81 members of staff in 2015, including full-time, part-time and temporary staff.

This includes 54 people in core IPC departments, 19 in IPC sports and eight in the Agitos Foundation.

The 81 members of staff are made-up of 36 men, 45 women and 20 nationalities. Women hold one in three leadership positions and four employees have an impairment.

Due to the growing size of the IPC, in October half of the workforce moved into a new building located next door to the IPC headquarters having spent the last two years in an office 1km away.

During the year the IPC Handbook was updated and distributed to all staff.

Governing Board

The IPC Governing Board met three times in 2015.

The first meeting was held in Abu Dhabi, UAE, between 31 January and 1 February. Here the Governing Board finalised the sports programme for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, announcing that badminton and taekwondo would be included for the first time. The Board also approved the composition of four IPC Standing Committees – Women in Sport, Development, Education and Paralympic Games. Each Committee features at least one athlete member and many of the committees with newly appointed members met for the first time in May in Germany. Details of all IPC committees and councils can be found on page pages 84-87.

During June's Governing Board meeting in Tokyo, Japan, it was announced that Tokyo 2020 will be the fourth Organising Committee to benefit from the fourth edition of the IPC Academy Excellence Programme. The partnership will see the IPC Academy deliver a range of knowledge workshops across the next five years, and is geared towards enhancing the planning and delivery of the 2020 Paralympic Games.

The final meeting of the year was held in Mexico City, Mexico, in the days prior to the IPC General Assembly. At the meeting the Governing Board approved venues for 19 of the 22 sports due to take place at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

IPC Academy

Having worked closely with the IPC Knowledge Management team for several years, the department was fully outsourced to the World Academy of Sport in 2015 in order to create efficiencies across its significant number of activities. The transfer has seen the integration of the IPC Academy Campus, Excellence Programmes, Games Host City Contract Operational Requirements and updating of the Olympic Games Guides to include Paralympic areas.

IPC Academy Excellence Programmes

The Excellence Programme which provides a learning pathway for Organising Committees of the Paralympic Games, continued apace in 2015. This integrated programme, connects Games Guides, observation and simulation with a consistent learning pathway throughout the OCOG lifecycle to improve the delivery of the Paralympic Games and further enhance the transfer of knowledge initiative for the IPC. The OCOGs of the next three Paralympic Games are currently benefitting from the programme.

Rio 2016 Excellence Programme

The workshops in 2015 were all about the OCOG building upon the foundation of its newly acquired knowledge from previous years.

Workshops dedicated to understanding the fundamental principles attached with staging a Paralympic Games, were delivered across four areas: Stakeholders and Strategy, Games Operations – Strategy and Planning, Commercial and Finances, and Promotion and Communications.

Much work across these four areas has been completed to help establish a long lasting legacy as well as utilising the Games commercial possibilities, making services for its athletes the best it possibly can and ensuring that spectators have the best experience when in Rio.

PyeongChang 2018 Excellence Programme

The latter months of 2015 were an important period for the PyeongChang 2018 Excellence Programme. The halfway point between the first workshop in 2013 and the last in 2017 saw the IPC Academy deliver workshops in September. These focussed on Paralympic integration for planning to achieve operational efficiency whilst also delivering a distinct product.

The workshops in 2015 were a vital stepping stone as OCOG staff work toward the testing simulation programmes to take place closer to Games time.

Tokyo 2020 Excellence Programme

The maiden workshop, which focussed on the topic of accessibility, took place in September and included a host of industry experts sharing their thoughts and knowledge. The bulk of workshops will now be delivered to Tokyo 2020 throughout 2016 and 2017 on site.

Train the Trainer

Designed to develop workforces of International Federations and other sport organisations, including Local Organising Committees, a number of Train the Trainer workshops were held during the year. The training aims to empower National Federations, Regional Associations and IFs towards self-sufficiency.

The development of the global workforce is defined by three levels:

- An IPC Academy trainer who trains educators
- An educator who educates coaches or officials (referee, classifiers, etc)
- And a coach who coaches athletes or an official who officiates the sport

This empowering approach is underpinned by strong centralised leadership, efficient processes and clear policy objectives, and requires appropriate investment in people, funding and internal systems.

Train the Trainer is now well engrained in the development process for IPC Sports with a number of educators now seeing recertification. Both IPC Athletics and IPC Swimming ran additional educator programmes throughout 2015 to increase the number of Coach, Technical Official and Classifier Educators able to teach and certify individuals in their home countries and regions.



Organisational Capacity Programme

In partnership with the Agitos Foundation, the IPC Academy developed and delivered the Organisational Capacity Programme which also utilises the Train the Trainer methodology. More detailed information about this can be found on page 24.

IPC General Assembly

The 17th IPC General Assembly took place between 14-15 November and was attended by nearly 300 delegates from 102 organisations. The event was supported by the City of Mexico Government.

IPC President Sir Philip Craven presented the IPC's Biennial Report which highlighted the growth and breadth of the Paralympic Movement's work in the last two years.

By using the IPC's 2015-2018 Strategic Plan as a focal point, Sir Philip talked at length about the progress made in terms of the Paralympic Games, athlete development and awareness of the Paralympic brand.

A number of motions were approved by the IPC membership, including the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code.

Effective from 1 January 2017, the new Code is more athlete focussed and accessible. A motion put forward by CPISRA for the IPC Governing Board to consider a 23rd sport for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games was defeated.



Foster key strategic partnerships

Strategic priorities

- Harness the full potential and collaborative opportunities of the IPC's partnership with the IOC and the Olympic Movement, building on mature relationships and existing experience
- Further strengthen the IPC's capacity to reach its strategic goals through corporate alliances, building on synergies and common vision
- Foster a sense of community with the Paralympic Movement based on the same shared strategic intent and direction
- Engage with other partner organisations, including the United Nations, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), governments, universities and research institutes to extend the Paralympic Movement's values beyond sporting horizons



IOC

Following the election of Thomas Bach as IOC President in September 2013, relations between the IPC and its most important strategic partner continued to flourish in 2015. Since then the IPC and IOC Presidents have met on a number of occasions.

With the current IPC/IOC agreement running until the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, the IPC signed a principle agreement in 2015 that covers the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games.

This agreement provides the IPC with time to negotiate a much longer term co-operation agreement with the IOC that aims to fully realise the many opportunities that the two parties have identified during their numerous years in partnership.

Since the signing of the last agreement in July 2012, the IPC and IOC have collaborated on a number of projects and this trend will continue further under Olympic Agenda 2020. The IPC will also work closer with the IOC on the management of the Paralympic Games, ensuring an integrated approach to the Games that covers everything from the bidding phase right through to the Games delivery.

In May, the IOC President announced widespread changes to IOC commissions; a result of which has been greater involvement by representatives of the Paralympic Movement.

Appointments included:

- Sir Philip Craven: Chair of the Olympic Education Commission and to the Olympic Channel Commission; the Board of Directors of the Olympic Channel Services S.L. Spain
- Andrew Parsons, IPC Vice President: member of the IOC's Tokyo 2020 Co-ordination Commission; IPC representative to the new Olympic Channel Commission
- Jose Luis Campo, Americas Paralympic Committee President: member of the IOC Rio 2016 Co-ordination Commission
- Rita van Driel, IPC Governing Board Member: member of the IOC 2022 Evaluation Commission
- Todd Nicholson, IPC Athletes' Council Chairperson: member of the IOC Athletes Commission; member of the IOC PyeongChang 2018 Co-ordination Commission
- Tine Rindum Teilmann, IPC Women in Sport Committee Chairperson: member of the IOC's Women in Sport Commission
- Jane Jones, former Director of Communications and Marketing at the British Paralympic Association: IPC representative on the newly-formed Communications Commission
- Johnson Jasson, President of the Tanzanian National Paralympic Committee: IPC representative to the new Sustainability and Legacy Commissions
- Xavier Gonzalez, IPC CEO: IPC representative on the IOC Sport and Active Society Commission
- Kyung-Won Na, IPC Governing Board Member: member of the IOC Sport and Active Society Commission.

United Nations

To mark the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace in April, IPC President Sir Philip Craven and Dr. Cheri Blauwet, Chairperson of the IPC Medical Committee, joined United Nations (UN) Secretary General Ban Ki-moon to speak at an event at UN headquarters in New York, USA.

Sir Philip spoke about how the Paralympic Games have now established themselves as the world's number one sporting event for driving social inclusion whilst Dr. Blauwet shared her own experiences as an athlete in changing attitudes and perceptions of impairment.

As part of the celebrations to mark the UN's International Women's Day on 8 March, the IPC announced that Chantal Petitclerc, Canada's most successful Paralympian, was the winner of the IPC's International Women's Day Recognition Award.

The former wheelchair racer, a winner of 21 Paralympic medals, was nominated by the Canadian Paralympic Committee and the winner was chosen by the IPC's Women in Sport Committee.

The IPC marked December's UN International Day of Persons with Disabilities with a series of stories and blogs which focused on the chosen theme of "inclusion matters: access and empowerment for people of all abilities".

A blog from the IPC President on how the Paralympic Games are the greatest showcase of inclusion and empowerment in action on earth was featured on multiple UN and World Bank channels.

As part of the IPC's strategy to raise the profile of the Paralympic brand in the USA, the IPC worked with US Paralympics on a media tour for a number of leading US athletes who were interviewed by key media outlets in New York.

IPC Honorary Board

The biennial meeting of the IPC Honorary Board was held in October and hosted by HRH Grand Duchess Maria Teresa of Luxembourg.

Attending the meeting was HRH Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden, HRH Princess Margriet of the Netherlands, HSH Prince Albert of Monaco, Hassan Ali Bin Ali, a Paralympic Ambassador from Qatar, and soprano Maria Guleghina.

The Board was updated on the success of the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games, continued growth of the Paralympic Movement and progress of the Agitos Foundation. This was the first Board meeting to take place following the resignation of HRH Princess Astrid of Belgium.

Other Partnerships

- Dr. Toni Pascual, Chairperson of the IPC Anti-Doping Committee, was re-appointed to the WADA Foundation Board for the next three years.
- Vista 2015 was staged in Girona, Spain, and was organised by Play & Train.
- Co-operation agreements were renewed and extended with the American College of Sport Medicine (ACSM) and the International Federation of Sports Medicine (FIMS) until 2020 to increase and exchange knowledge in sports science and sports medicine.
- In partnership with FIMS, a medical symposium was held on "The health of the Paralympic athlete" during the 2015 IPC Athletics World Championships in Qatar.
- The publication of "Training and Coaching the Paralympic Athlete" is scheduled to be included as part of the IOC Handbook series when published in mid-2016.





International
Paralympic
Committee

ottobock.

Atos

Panasonic

Atos

During a busy year for IPC Sports, Atos provided results and technology services for a number of Championships and competitions. In August, they provided timing, scoring and results services at the Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games. The IPC's worldwide IT partner also helped maintain and service Paralympic.org, the IPC's website.

Ottobock

Ottobock celebrated its 10th year of partnership with the IPC in 2015. The Organising Committees of the Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games and 2015 IPC Athletics World Championships appointed the company to provide technical services.

German Paralympic champion sprinter Heinrich Popow held running clinics in Germany, India, Japan and the UAE whilst Ottobock also increased its number of global ambassadors to 13 athletes from nine countries. The company now has ambassadors in Austria, Brazil, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Rwanda and the USA.

After successful initiatives in Norway and Italy, the IPC Ice Sledge Hockey Equipment Loaner Programme in partnership with Ottobock provided NPC Croatia with 12 sledges to hold its first demonstration event in the sport.

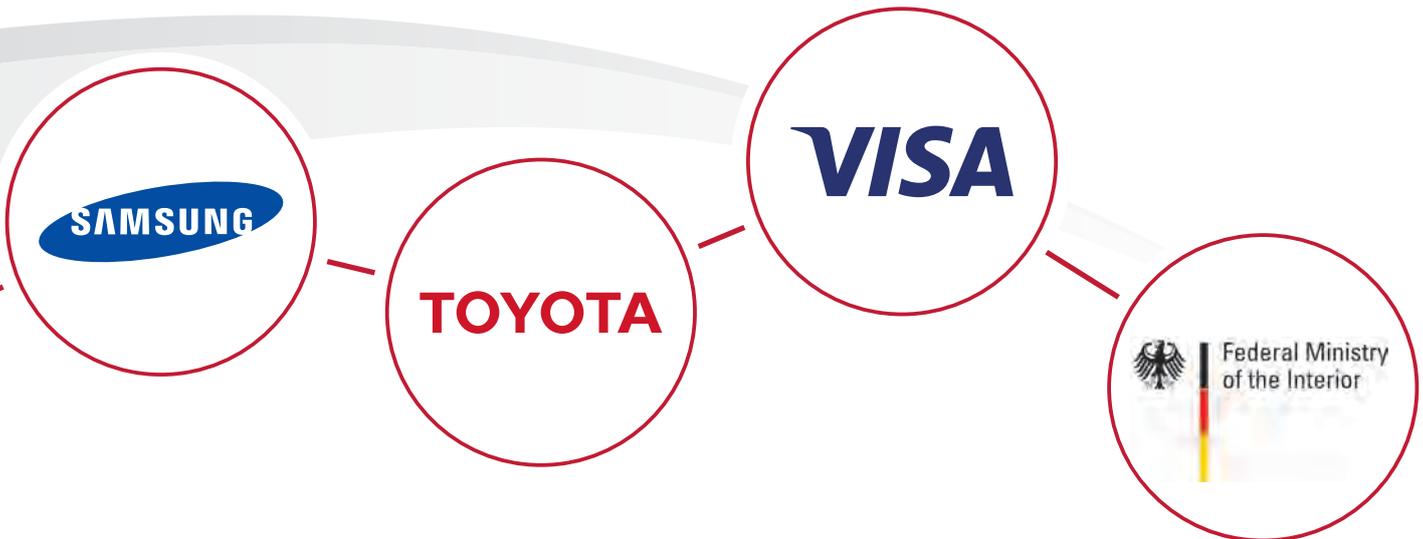
Panasonic

Having become a Worldwide Paralympic Partner in late 2014, Panasonic spent periods of 2015 testing Point of View (POV) cameras at IPC Alpine Skiing and IPC Athletics events. The resulting footage provided stunning insights into the view of high performance athletes taking part in the sports.

IPC Governing Board member Duane Kale presented an award at Panasonic's Kids Witness News (KWN) Global Contest Awards Ceremony in Singapore. KWN is a global video education programme which aims to boost creativity and communication skills and foster teamwork through video production by children at the elementary and secondary school levels.

Samsung

During 2015, the IPC and Samsung started work on planning the Samsung Bloggers project for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. First launched at London 2012, Samsung Bloggers involves Paralympians recording behind the scenes blogs during the Games, giving viewers a unique insight to a Paralympic Games.



Toyota

In late November, the Toyota Motor Corporation was announced as the IPC's sixth Worldwide Paralympic Partner in a ground-breaking partnership for the whole Paralympic Movement.

Under the terms of the nine-year long category agreement which covers vehicles, mobility services and mobility solutions, Toyota rights will include the IPC, all National Paralympic Committees from 2017 and future Games Organising Committees from Tokyo 2020.

It is the first partnership in the Paralympic Movement's history to encapsulate the IPC, all NPCs and future Paralympic Games under one agreement and the first time an IOC TOP Partner has shown such widespread support of the Paralympic Movement through funding and global promotional reach.

Visa

The IPC's longest serving Worldwide Paralympic Partner supported the Rio 2016 Paralympic ticketing campaign in 2015 by helping to launch a video aiming to change the public's attitudes towards Para sport and people with an impairment ahead of the Games. The ground breaking video featuring three Brazilian Para athletes went viral attracting millions of views.

In September, Team Visa for Rio 2016, featuring five Para athletes, was announced. The athletes are the Brazilian duo of Daniel Dias (swimming) and Terezinha Guilhermina (athletics), Canada's Benoit Huot (swimming), Russia's Olesya Vladykina (swimming) and the USA's Alana Nichols. In 2008, Nichols won gold in wheelchair basketball and two years later won two gold medals in sit-ski events at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games. In Rio she is aiming to compete in canoe, a sport that will make its Paralympic debut.

German Government

In 2015, the IPC intensified its efforts to build stronger relations with the German government at federal, state and local level by meeting with numerous political stakeholders in Bonn and Berlin to promote the Paralympic Movement. The German Ministry of Interior supported the IPC's work with an institutional grant as well as a project grant. The IPC will continue to build upon this support.





Allianz

As an IPC International Partner, Allianz extended their support of NPCs from 11 to 14 in 2015 with new partnerships agreed with Colombia, Great Britain and Greece. Allianz was the headline sponsor of November 2015's Paralympic Sport and Media Awards staged in Mexico City which recognised achievements at the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games.

The winners were:

- **Best female**
Anna Schaffelhuber, Germany, alpine skiing
- **Best male**
Roman Petushkov, Russia, biathlon and cross-country skiing
- **Best Games debut**
Alexey Bugaev, Russia, alpine skiing
- **Best team**
USA ice sledge hockey
- **Best official**
Hans Peter Nesser, Switzerland, biathlon and cross-country skiing
- **Best broadcast**
Channel 4, Great Britain
- **Best written**
Ben Shpigel, New York Times, USA
- **Best photograph**
Naoki Maeda, Yomiuri Shimbun, Japan
- **Best radio**
Ronny Blaschke, Deutsche Welle, Germany

In the second year of its global IPC Athletics partnership, Allianz supported the World Championships and Grand Prix meetings in Australia, Germany and Switzerland.

BP

In September, BP launched its global "The Energy Within" campaign with a stunning video featuring Dutch sprinter Marlou van Rhijn. The IPC and BP worked together on the launch and the video was viewed by millions of online viewers.

Having partnered with eight NPCs in 2014, BP extended its support in 2015 to the NPCs of Germany and Singapore. Additionally, BP is supporting 26 brand ambassadors from these countries. At the 2015 Paralympic Sport and Media Awards, BP presented the biennial Courage award to Dutch snowboarder Bibian Mentel-Spee. The award recognised the Sochi gold medallist's efforts to get snowboard into the Paralympic programme.

BP also supported the 2015 IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships A-Pool in Buffalo, USA, and the 2015 IPC Athletics World Championships.

The company's support also extended to the Agitos Foundation, helping to increase the number and quality of officials and classifiers in various sports in Africa and Asia.

Finally, BP offset the IPC's travel carbon emissions for 2014 through BP Targetneutral.

Jet Set Sports

The IPC announced a new partnership with Jet Set Sports in October dedicated to growing spectator attendance at the Paralympic Games.

Starting with Rio 2016 and extending through the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, Jet Set Sports will be the official supplier for the marketing, sales and distribution of Games tickets worldwide as the IPC's Global Authorised Ticket Reseller (ATR) and Official Hospitality Provider.

IPC WORLDWIDE PARALYMPIC PARTNERS

PARTNER	PARTNERS SINCE	CONTRACTED UNTIL
ATOS	2006	2016
OTTOBOCK	2005	2016
PANASONIC	2014	2020
SAMSUNG	2006	2020
TOYOTA	2016	2024
VISA	2003	2016

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

PARTNER	PARTNERS SINCE	CONTRACTED UNTIL
ALLIANZ	2006	2016
BP	2013	2016

IPC SUPPLIERS

PARTNER	PARTNERS SINCE	CONTRACTED UNTIL
ADECCO	2007	2020
SCHENKER	2010	2016



IPC Sports



IPC Sports events in 2015

Americas

11-13 Jan	IPC Snowboard World Cup – Aspen, USA
16-19 Jan	IPC Snowboard World Cup – Big White, Canada
23 Jan – 1 Feb	IPC Biathlon & Cross-Country Skiing World Championships – Cable, USA
28 Feb – 10 Mar	IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships – Panorama, Canada
23-25 Apr	IPC Athletics Grand Prix – São Paulo, Brazil
26-29 Apr	IPC Powerlifting Americas Open Championships – Mexico City, Mexico
26 Apr – 3 May	IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships A-Pool – Buffalo, USA
15-16 May	IPC Athletics Grand Prix – Mesa, USA
7-15 Aug	Parapan American Games – Toronto, Canada
3-7 Nov	IPC Shooting World Cup – Fort Benning, USA

Europe

8-11 Jan	IPC Alpine Skiing World Cup – La Molina, Spain
26-30 Jan	IPC Alpine Skiing World Cup – Tignes, France
2-5 Feb	IPC Alpine Skiing World Cup – St Moritz, Switzerland
23-28 Feb	IPC Snowboard World Championships – La Molina, Spain
15-21 Mar	IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships B Pool – Ostersund, Sweden
16-22 Mar	IPC Biathlon & Cross-Country Skiing World Cup – Surnadal, Norway
30 Mar – 1 Apr	IPC Shooting World Cup – Stoke Mandeville, Great Britain



Africa

23-25 Mar	IPC Athletics Grand Prix – Tunis, Tunisia
15-18 Sept	IPC Powerlifting Paralympic ranking competition – Brazzaville, Congo

Asia

4-11 Feb	IPC Cross-Country Skiing World Cup – PyeongChang, South Korea
14-19 Feb	IPC Cross-Country Skiing World Cup – Asahikawa, Japan
22-25 Feb	IPC Athletics Grand Prix – Dubai, UAE
15-18 Mar	IPC Powerlifting World Cup – Dubai, UAE

17-21 Apr	IPC Shooting World Cup – Szczecin, Poland	13-19 Jul	IPC Swimming World Championships – Glasgow, Great Britain
26 Apr	IPC Athletics Marathon World Championships – London, Great Britain	26 Jul	IPC Athletics Grand Prix Final – London, Great Britain
12-15 May	IPC Shooting World Cup – Antalya, Turkey	3-7 Sept	IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport World Cup – Saint Petersburg, Russia
29-31 May	IPC Athletics Grand Prix – Nottwil, Switzerland	7-8 Nov	IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport World Championships – Rome, Italy
12-14 Jun	IPC Athletics Grand Prix – Grosseto, Italy	20 Nov	IPC Snowboard World Cup – Landgraaf, the Netherlands
19-21 Jun	IPC Athletics Grand Prix – Berlin, Germany	24-28 Nov	IPC Powerlifting European Open Championships – Eger, Hungary
10-14 Jul	IPC Shooting World Cup – Osijek, Croatia	2-9 Dec	IPC Biathlon & Cross-Country Skiing World Cup – Tyumen, Russia



18-20 Apr	IPC Athletics Grand Prix – Beijing, China
26-30 Jul	IPC Powerlifting Asian Open Championships – Almaty, Kazakhstan
21-31 Oct	IPC Athletics World Championships – Doha, Qatar
3-9 Dec	ASEAN Para-Games – Singapore

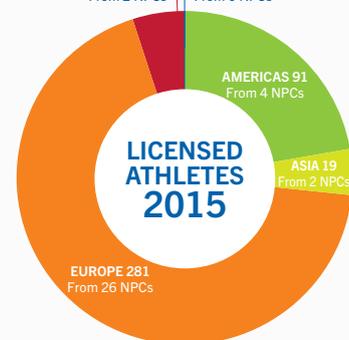
Oceania

6-8 Mar	IPC Athletics Grand Prix – Brisbane, Australia
15-19 Sept	IPC Shooting World Cup – Sydney, Australia



OCEANIA 20
From 2 NPCs

AFRICA 0
From 0 NPCs



IPC ALPINE
SKIING



IPC Alpine Skiing

The 2014/2015 season started in Chillan, Chile, in late September and concluded in April in La Molina, Spain. In between there were a record 40 sanctioned competitions organised across the Americas, Europe and Asia. This included the 2015 World Championships which were staged in Panorama, Canada, and involved 135 athletes from 28 countries.

Russia topped the medals table with 19 medals, including five golds. Their cause was helped by Alexey Bugaev who was one of two skiers to complete a clean-sweep of titles, claiming gold in the downhill, slalom, giant slalom, super combined and super-G. France's Marie Bochet also won five gold medals and has now won 11 successive world titles dating back to 2011.

Panorama2015.com, the official microsite for the Championships, livestreamed the action and included a number of previews, athlete interviews and reviews of the action. The site received 60 per cent more visitors than the site created for the La Molina 2013 World Championships.

Nearly 40 media from Canada, Japan, Germany and Austria attended the Championships with the latter two countries broadcasting daily highlights. In Canada, CBC Sports livestreamed all the action.

Over 1,000 pieces of media coverage was achieved relating to Panorama 2015 and the sport's Facebook page experienced strong growth as a result of the event.

Aside from the World Championships, World Cup races during the season took place in La Molina, Spain; Tignes, France and St. Moritz, Switzerland. Overall title winners on the women's side were the USA's Danelle Umstead, Bochet and Germany's Anna Schaffelhuber. Canada's Mac Marcoux, Bugaev and Japan's Takeshi Suzuki took the men's titles.

Classification opportunities for athletes were organised in Landgraaf, the Netherlands and Rinn, Austria.

The Sport Technical Committee (STC) met in May, the first to be attended by Mitchell Gourley, the newly appointed athlete representative from Australia and Bibian Mentel-Spee, the athlete snowboard representative from the Netherlands. Updated Rules and Regulations for the 2015/2016 season were approved and published to the sport's website.

LISKI, the sport's official supplier of winter sports equipment since 2012, extended their partnership agreement with IPC Alpine Skiing through to 2018.

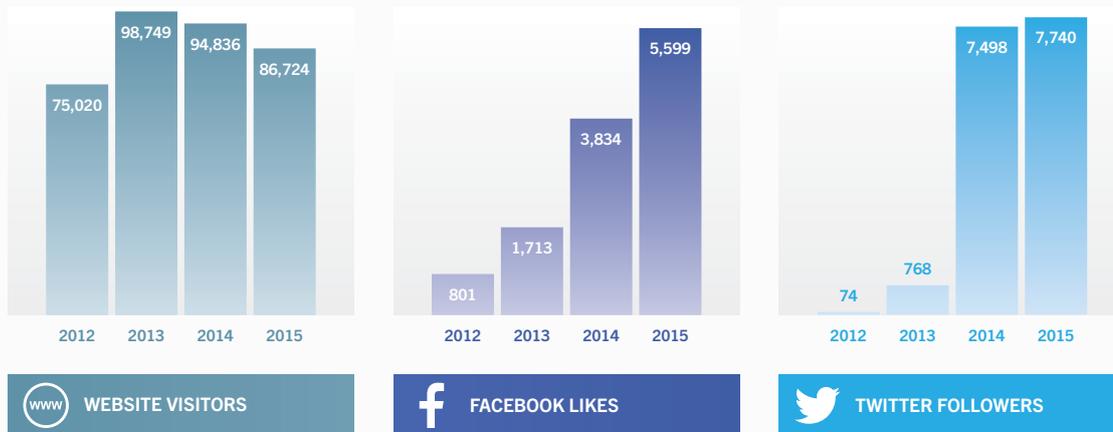
The bidding process for the 2019 and 2021 IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships was opened.

In numbers

- 454 licensed athletes
- 35 NPCs
- 1 World Championships
- 3 World Cup races
- 4 Europa Cup races
- 2 Noram Cup races
- 1 Asia Cup race
- 18 IPCAS races
- 3 youth races
- 8 national Championships



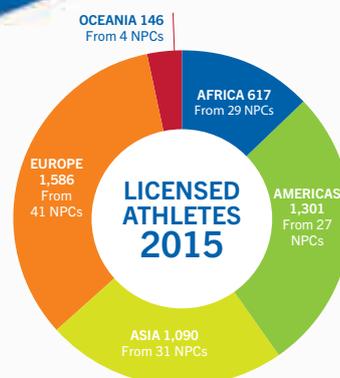
Digital media appeal



In November, the first stage of research to move visual impairment classification from a system based on medical diagnosis to one that is based on the effect of impairment on sport function was conducted in Landgraaf, the Netherlands. Supported by the Agitos Foundation and the School of Optometry and Vision Science at the University of Waterloo, Canada, 22 athletes from 10 nations participated in the research. Further research is planned for 2016.

Ahead of the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games, officials from IPC Alpine Skiing took part in a site visit in May and said they were “encouraged” by the progress being made by the Organising Committee.

Months later, in November, a workshop was organised in conjunction with the Korean Adaptive Sports Association (KASA) and POCOG, to increase the number of NTOs in the country. The workshop was led by Brad Serwa, the Technical Delegate for alpine skiing at PyeongChang 2018, and Markus Walser, the Chairperson of the STC. Around 50 people took part in the training which was held at the Youngpyong Alpine Centre, where skiers will compete in technical events in 2018.



IPC ATHLETICS



IPC Athletics

In 2015, the number of licensed athletes in the sport grew to 4,741, a 16.9 per cent increase on 2014. More than 130 NPCs are now involved in the sport, a rise of 7.3 per cent on the previous year.

The third IPC Athletics Grand Prix season kicked off in January with Brisbane, Australia, a new addition to the 2015 calendar. In total 10 Grand Prix events were staged covering all five continents, including July's Grand Prix final in London, Great Britain.

Around 2,155 athletes from 96 countries were involved in the 2015 Grand Prix season, a 10.8 per cent increase on 2014.

April saw the IPC Athletics Marathon World Championships held in London. Coinciding with the Virgin Money London Marathon, 100 athletes from 28 countries took part. World title winners included the US trio of Tatyana McFadden, Josh George and Raymond Martin.

The Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games brought together 370 athletes from 25 NPCs. Six world records were broken during five days of competition.

Doha, Qatar, staged the biggest ever IPC Athletics World Championships in October, bringing together more than 1,229 athletes from around 90 countries.

China topped the medals table picking up 85 medals, 41 of which were gold. An impressive 54 world records were set during the 10 days of competition.

Digitally, the event was a huge success. Activity on Facebook and Twitter reached nearly 26 million people, an increase of 180 per cent on the Lyon 2013 World Championships. Nearly 80,000 people watched the livestream of the event on the official microsite and 340,000 videos were viewed on-demand, equivalent to 2.1 million minutes.

The large number of sporting events in 2015 led to a 44 per cent increase in the number of online visitors to the IPC Athletics website, whilst social media platforms also enjoyed strong growth.

Looking to the future, IPC Athletics reached an agreement with World Marathon Majors (WMM) to start a wheelchair competition series from 2016. The Series will start at the Boston Marathon and will include races in Berlin, Chicago, London, New York and Tokyo. The series will be run over a two year period, and will also include either the World Championships or Paralympic Games marathon races; with WMM allocating USD 50,000 to both the male and female winner of the series.

Nottwil, Switzerland, was named as the host venue for the 2017 and 2019 IPC Athletics World Junior Championships. In facilitating a major Championships opportunity for all youth athletes U18 (ages 14-17) and Junior Athletes U20 (ages 18-19), these Championships will act as an integral part of the pathway for young athletes towards Regional/World Championships or Paralympic Games.

In numbers

- 10 Grand Prix events
- 2 World Championships
- 4,740 licensed athletes
- 132 NPCs



Digital media appeal



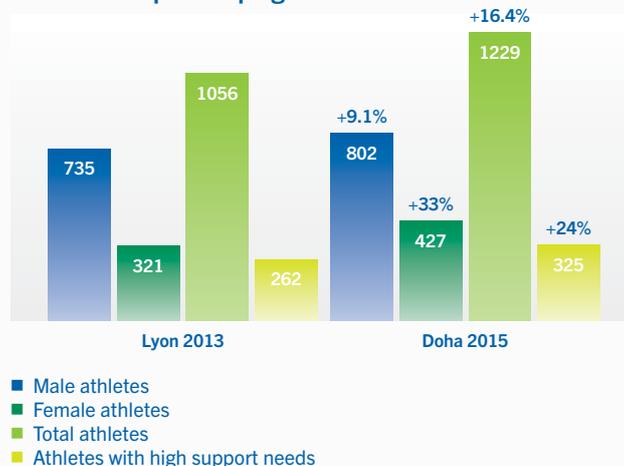
IPC Athletics implemented a comprehensive education programme in 2015 running a number of courses including:

- IPC Athletics Classifier Educator Programme (Dubai, UAE) – four participants from four countries participated resulting in three new IPC Athletics Classifier Educators
- IPC Athletics International Classifier Programmes were held in Dubai, UAE; Nottwil, Switzerland and Mesa, USA – 13 participants from 12 countries participated, resulting in six new IPC Athletics International Classifiers
- IPC Athletics National Classifier Programmes were held in Dubai, and Tunis – 15 participants from nine countries took part
- IPC Athletics National Technical Officials Programmes took place in Tunis, Quito, Ecuador, and Grosseto, Italy – 67 participants from six countries participated
- IPC Athletics International Technical Officials Programme took place in Grosseto, resulting in six new International Technical Officials from four countries
- IPC Athletics Coaching and National Technical Officiating Programmes were staged at the all African Games with 30 participants from five countries taking part
- IPC Athletics Intellectual Impairment Classifier Education Programme was staged in Macau, China, resulting in seven new International Classifiers from five countries
- Championships Officials Training Programmes were staged in Toronto and Doha in preparation for 2015 Para Pan American Games and 2015 IPC Athletics World Championships.

The sport’s online education platforms were relaunched in June 2015 providing a Russian language course for technical officials and classification. The platforms in English, French, Spanish and Arabic were also updated.

Closing a very busy year, the first Para Athletics Coaching Conference was staged in December in Colorado Springs, the USA. Held in conjunction with US Paralympics, the two day conference attracted 55 people from 17 NPCs.

World Championships growth





IPC Biathlon and Cross-Country Skiing

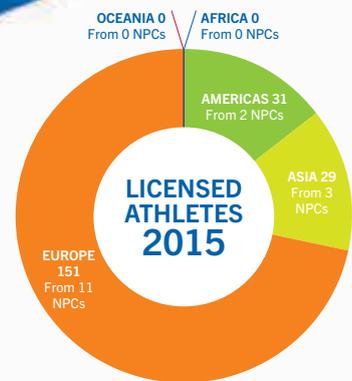
The 2014/2015 season started in December in Vuokatti, Finland, and finished in April in Surnadal, Norway. Both were World Cup events featuring races in biathlon and cross-country skiing.

In between, these were 16 sanctioned competitions including their most successful ever World Championships which were held in late January and early February 2015 in Cable, USA.

Around 120 athletes from 15 countries competed for medals, the most of which were won by Russia. The Sochi 2014 host nation finished with 54 podium finishes, including 24 world titles.

Ukraine's Oleksandra Kononova was the event's biggest medal winner. The standing class skier won six gold medals to help her country finish second in the medals table.

The Championships attracted over 50 domestic and international media and all the action was livestreamed via www.cable2015.com, the official website for the event. The site received four times as many online visitors as the website for the 2013 World Championships.



In numbers

- 248 licensed athletes
- 20 NPC's
- 9 sanctioned competitions
- 3 continents hosted sanctioned events

During the season five World Cup events were scheduled. In an effort to grow the sport in Asia ahead of the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games a World Cup was staged in Asahikawa, Japan. The World Cup planned for South Korea was postponed by 12 months. At the first World Cup of the season, a new electronic shooting system was successfully tested in biathlon events.

New results software was also tested during the World Championships and World Cups.

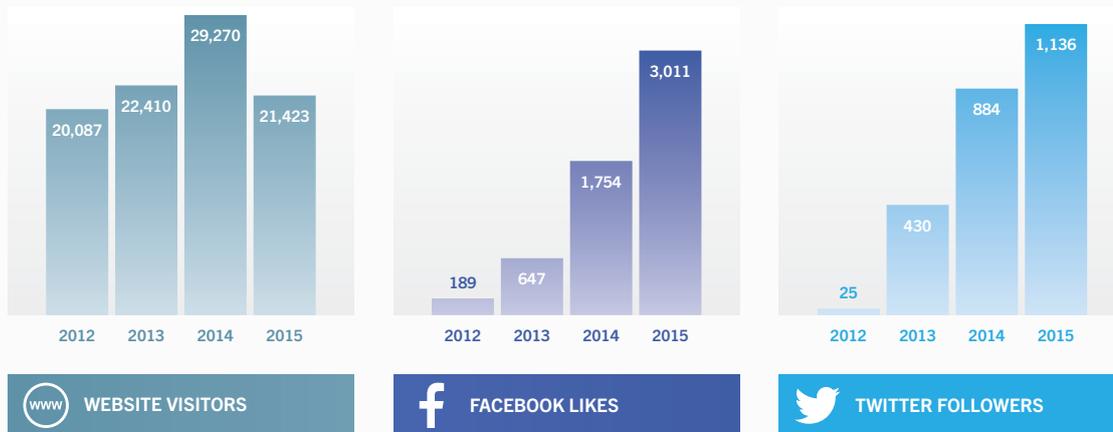
A four-year partnership agreement until 2018 was signed with specialist winter sports equipment supplier LISKI.

A Sport Forum was held in February to coincide with the World Championships and the Sport Technical Committee met in June.

Following the conclusion of the 2014/2015 season, work was started to develop a long-term competition calendar through to 2018. The bidding process for the 2019 and 2021 World Championships was also opened.



Digital media appeal



Supported by the Agitos Foundation and the School of Optometry and Vision Science at the University of Waterloo, Canada, research in visual impairment classification was approved in June 2015. Data collection was set to start at the IPC Biathlon and Cross-Country Skiing World Cup in Finsterau, Germany, in February 2016.

Ahead of the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games, officials from IPC Biathlon and Cross Country Skiing took part in a site visit in May along with International Biathlon Union (IBU) representatives.

In October, a workshop was organised in conjunction with the Korea Nordic Ski Federation for the Disabled (KNSFD) and POCOG, to increase the number of national technical officials in the country. The workshop was led by Len Apedaile, Race Director for cross-country skiing and biathlon at PyeongChang 2018, and Joe Bajan, the International Biathlon referee. Around 50 people took part in the training which was held at the Alpensia Biathlon Centre, where Nordic skiers will compete in 2018.



OCEANIA 0
From 0 NPCs

AFRICA 0
From 0 NPCs

AMERICAS 35
From 2 NPCs

ASIA 35
From 2
NPCs

LICENSED
ATHLETES
2015

EUROPE
155
From 9
NPCs

IPC ICE SLEDGE
HOCKEY



IPC Ice Sledge Hockey

Following the success of the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games, IPC Ice Sledge Hockey staged its best ever World Championships A-Pool in April and May.

The eight-team tournament, featuring 126 players, was staged in Buffalo, USA, and was played out in front of record crowds and received more media and broadcast coverage than any previous Championships.

In the USA, the event was covered by NBC Sports who showed three games on television and all 20 matches from the Championships via their online platforms.

Paralympic champions the USA secured a third world title thanks to a 3-0 victory over rivals Canada in the gold medal match, a fixture that was played out in front of a capacity crowd.

Russia picked up the bronze medal with a hard fought 2-1 win over Norway.

After finishing seventh and eighth, Czech Republic and Japan were relegated to the B-Pool for 2017.

Buffalo 2015 was widely reported by the world's media with nearly 1,000 pieces of coverage recorded in six of the eight competing countries. On social media, the Championships reached 11 million people on Twitter and 700,000 on Facebook. The event microsite received 32,000 visitors during the eight days of competition, three times more than the 2013 edition.

Prior to the Championships, the Foundation for Global Sports Development pledged USD 75,000 to help with education and awareness raising efforts in the USA and around the world.

The funds were used to develop video interviews with athletes with the aim of giving people an insight into the sport and to attract new audiences to the sport.

The 2015 World Championships B-Pool was held in March in Östersund, Sweden, and featured 74 athletes and six teams. This included Austria who qualified for the event following a playoff win against Finland in January.

South Korea and hosts Sweden won B-Pool gold and silver respectively to win promotion to the sport's A-Pool for 2017. Slovakia won bronze – their first-ever medal on the ice sledge hockey world stage.

All matches were livestreamed on a special microsite built for the Championships which also featured previews, reviews, athlete interviews, biographies and results.

During the year, to coincide with the World Championships A and B-Pools, educational training courses for international classifiers were held. Six new international classifiers from Canada, Norway, Sweden, South Korea and the USA were certified.

New appointments were made to the Sport Technical Committee (STC) and included Kent Nyholt as Vice Chairperson, Johan Balder as Head of Classification, Sergey Samoylov as the Regional Liaison Officer for Europe and Gregory Leperdi as Athlete Liaison. The STC met in September ahead of the Sport Forum which attracted 13 countries to Bonn, Germany, to discuss the ongoing development of the sport for the first time following Sochi 2014.

In numbers

- 342 licensed athletes
- 16 NPCs (plus women's Europe team)



Digital media appeal



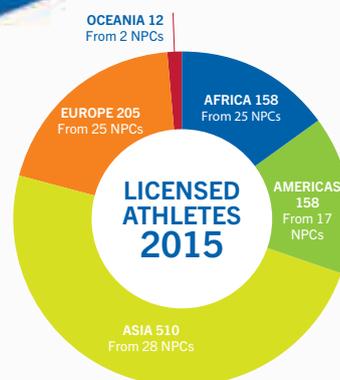
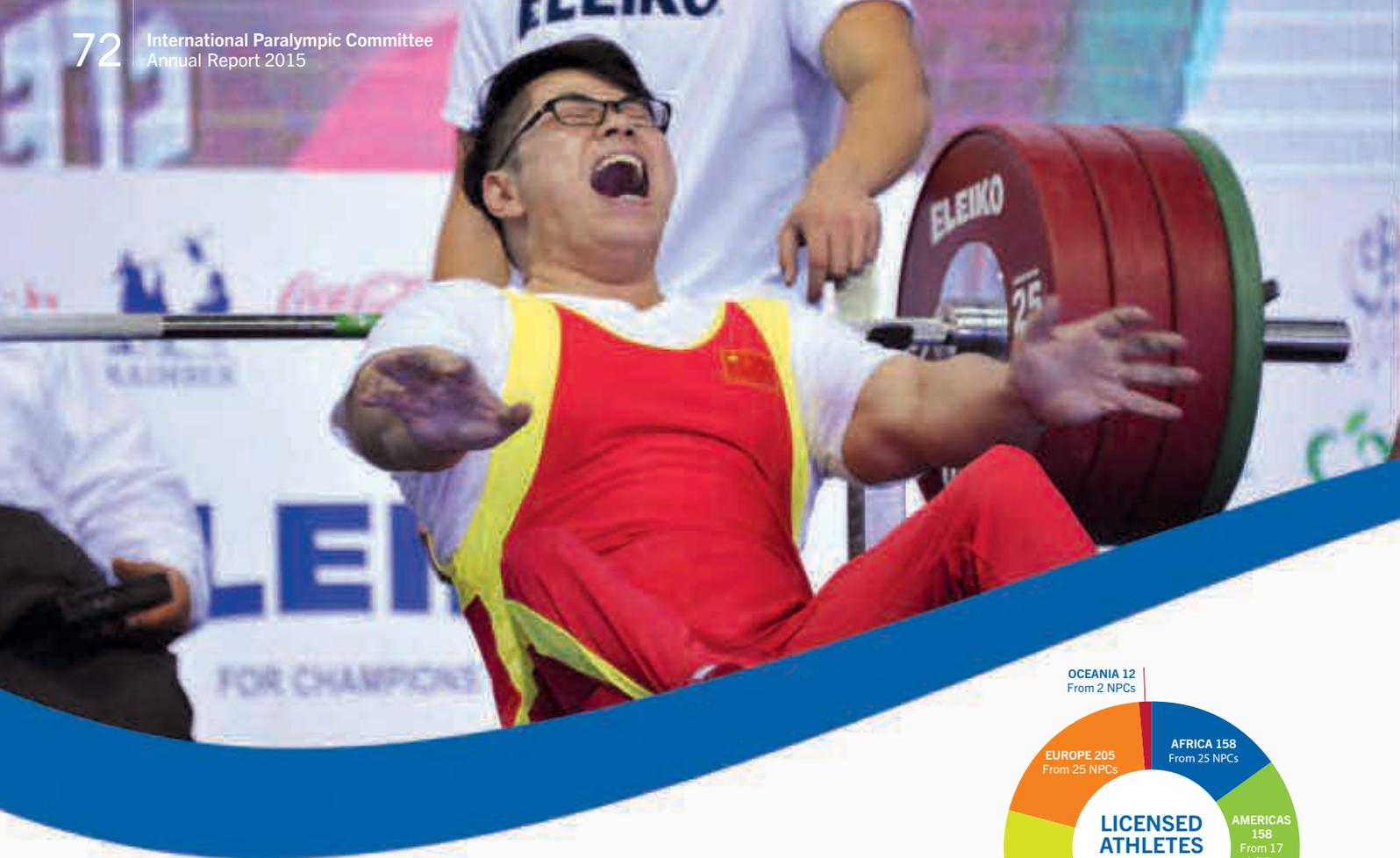
In November in an effort to grow the women’s game, the first ever IPC Ice Sledge Hockey Women’s International Cup took place in Brampton, Ontario, Canada. Three teams – hosts Canada, the USA and Europe – took part in the ground breaking competition. After scoring four goals and making one assist in the 5-1 final win over Canada, Kelsey Diclaudio, was named the Allianz Athlete of the Month.

Training camps for the development of women’s ice sledge hockey were also held during the season thanks to support from the 2014 Agitos Foundation Grant Support Programme.

After successful initiatives in Norway and Italy, NPC Croatia held its first demonstration event for ice sledge hockey after receiving 12 sledges through the IPC Ice Sledge Hockey Equipment Loaner Programme in partnership with Ottobock.

Finally, IPC Ice Sledge Hockey and the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) signed a MOU agreeing a historic partnership on the promotion and coordination of sledge hockey.

The MOU was signed by Sir Philip Craven, IPC President, Xavier Gonzalez, IPC CEO and Rene Fasel, President of the IIHF, at the 127th IOC Session in Monaco.



IPC Powerlifting

In terms of participation, IPC Powerlifting is arguably the fastest growing sport in the Paralympic Movement. A total of 1,043 athletes are now licensed, almost two and a half times more the 474 athletes who were licenced at the end of 2012.

The increase in participation, is, in part, down to the development of a comprehensive competition calendar which is now offering athletes from around the world more opportunities to compete at the highest level. Two World Championships are set to take place per Paralympic cycle in 2017 and 2019 and all regional Championships will be staged in 2018.

The first IPC Powerlifting World Cup was held in Dubai, in March. The standard of competition was extremely high with over 120 lifters from 25 countries taking part. Four world records were broken. To coincide with the event, a pilot "Proud Paralympian" project was launched with the aim of supporting athlete development both on and off the field of play, as individuals and active citizens.

Further "Proud Paralympian" workshops were held at the three regional Championships which took place in 2015. By the end of the year 365 lifters and team officials had benefited from the education programme.

April saw the first Americas Open Championships in IPC Powerlifting history hosted in Mexico City. More than 110 lifters from 21 countries competed for medals. One world, three junior world and 10 Americas records were broken during four days of competition.

July's Asian Open Championship in Almaty, Kazakhstan, attracted more than 200 lifters from 29 countries.

Amongst the nine world records set, Iran's Siamand Rahman improved his mark in the men's over 107kg class with a lift of 295kg. Four junior world and 16 Asian records were also broken in Almaty.

The final and biggest competition of the year came in November. The European Open Championships in Eger, Hungary, gathered over 210 lifters from 41 countries. Four world, six junior world, six European and nine junior European records were broken.

All three IPC Powerlifting regional Championships were livestreamed through the IPC's YouTube channel and on the IPC and IPC Powerlifting websites respectively. Livestreaming for the three Championships totalled 73 hours and 59 minutes and attracted 95,703 viewers from across the globe.

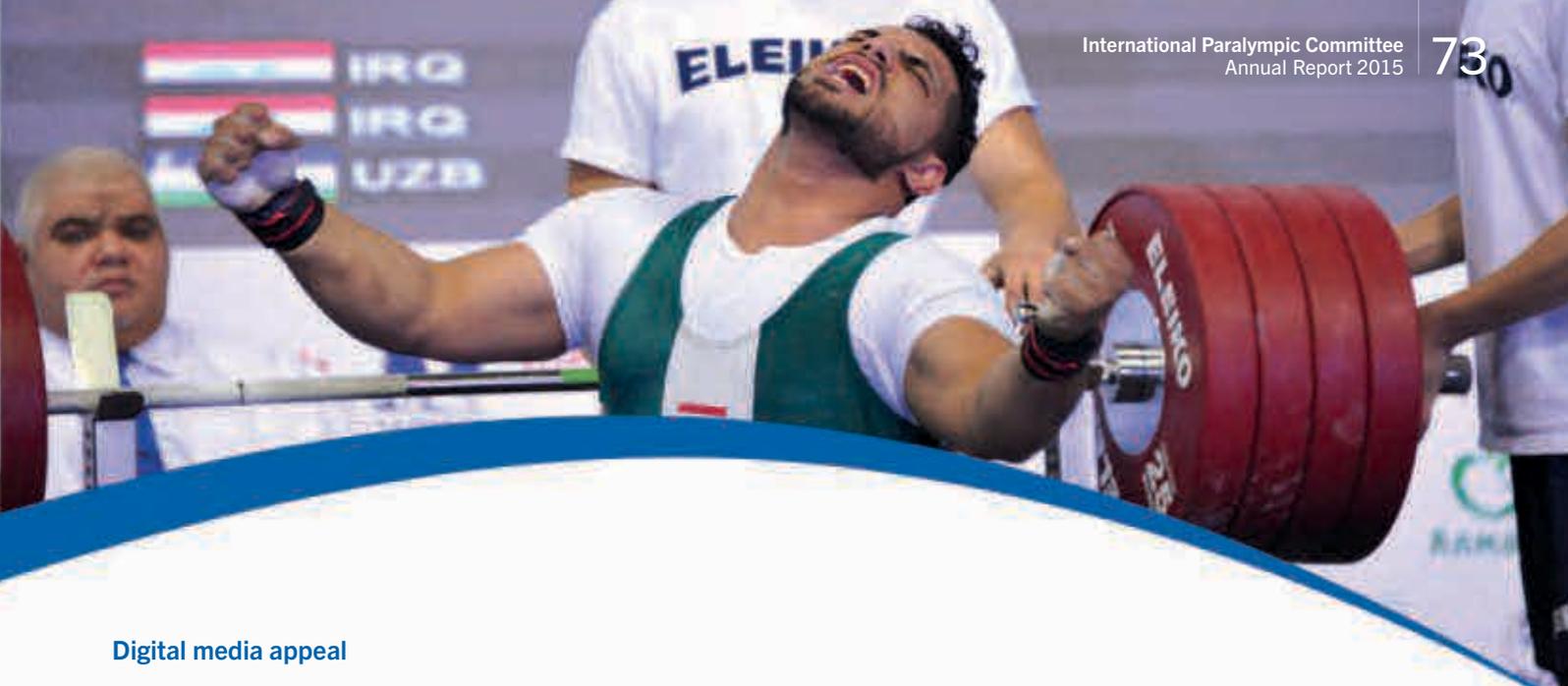
Classification opportunities were provided at all three regional Championships, in addition to a number of other strategically picked events in Canada, China, Congo, Iran, Singapore and the UAE. This ensured that IPC Powerlifting was able to classify 422 athletes.

Away from the regional Championships, 75 athletes from 16 NPC's took part in 10 medal events at the Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games in August. One world and five Americas records were broken.

A month later, Brazzaville, Congo, was the location of the first IPC Powerlifting Paralympic ranking competition in Africa. The event helped to increase the profile and standard of the sport in Africa and provided athletes in the continent with a much needed opportunity to increase their Paralympic ranking to qualify for Rio 2016.

In numbers

- 1,043 licensed athletes
- 97 NPC's
- 3 regional Championships
- 18 approved competitions



Digital media appeal



Organised as part of the 2015 All African Games, 90 lifters from 23 NPCs took part, setting 12 African records.

Finally in December, 78 athletes from eight NPCs took part in powerlifting at the 2015 ASEAN Para Games in Singapore. This competition was the 18th and final IPC Powerlifting approved event of the competition year.

During 2015, the IPC conducted tests at seven major competitions and there were no anti-doping violations in the sport. The Raise the Bar – Say No! to Doping athlete and coach education programme continued at all major events.

All IPC Powerlifting events were supported by comprehensive PR and social media activities. This resulted in a 36 per cent increase in website visitor numbers compared to the previous year. The sport's social media accounts also enjoyed strong growth with the Facebook page more than doubling its following.

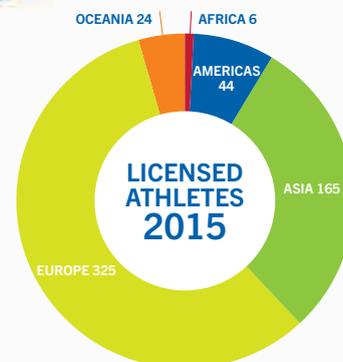
In total 138 participants attended Technical Officials training courses that were held in Brazil, China, Colombia, Congo, Greece, Hungary, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Singapore and UAE, whilst 43 participants joined classifier training courses which took place in Congo, Iran, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Russia and UAE and Venezuela. In collaboration with the Agitos Foundation and their 2015 Grant Support Programme, the Introduction to Para Powerlifting Coaching Course was developed and successfully delivered in Congo, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Mexico educating 47 coaches from 20 nations. In 2015 a total of 23 face-to-face education courses were delivered representing a 77 per cent growth on 2014.

A very productive first IPC Powerlifting classification meeting was held in Bonn in February. Topics discussed included IPC Athlete Classification Code compliance, classifier training and development. Deliberations on rules and research projects subsequently saw the 20 degree elbow angle rule removed from the classification process and rules and regulations as it was concluded that it does not fit into the Minimum Impairment Criteria of the sport.

It was announced that Mexico City will stage the 2017 World Championships and Cartagena, Colombia will host the 2018 Americas Open Championships.

IPC Powerlifting secured an agreement through to 2018 with Kit Us Out, a British charity to supply powerlifting suits to those nations and athletes with limited financial or commercial support. The first suits were donated to Armenian athletes at the European Open Championships. Additionally, IPC Powerlifting secured official approved supplier agreements with Watson Gym Equipment and Uesaka through to 2018. With support of official sponsors Eleiko, the IPC Powerlifting Sport Donation Programme was developed which subsequently saw eight nations (Colombia, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Poland and Tajikistan) benefit from the donation of 21 Eleiko IPC Powerlifting sets.

IPC Powerlifting appointed Ireland's Roy Guerin as an Athlete Liaison Officer for the sport.



IPC SHOOTING



IPC Shooting

During 2015, six World Cup events took place, three of which acted as Rio 2016 qualifiers with 27 direct quota places up for grabs at each.

The first three World Cups of the year were not Rio 2016 qualifiers.

At the end of March and early April, around 80 shooters from 21 countries gathered in Stoke Mandeville, Great Britain. The host nation topped the medals table, and one world record was broken.

Two weeks later, more than 100 athletes from 30 nations met in Szczecin, Poland. This time Ukraine topped the World Cup medal standings, just ahead of Great Britain. Four world records were set.

In May, Slovakia finished at the top of the medals table at the World Cup in Antalya, Turkey, helped by Veronika Vadovicova winning three individual gold medals. The five-day event was attended by around 80 athletes from 20 countries.

Osijek, Croatia, staged the first World Cup which acted as a Rio 2016 qualifier. July's event brought together 227 athletes from a record 48 countries and saw China take home 11 medals, including four golds, the most of any nation. Seven world records were set by athletes during the week-long competition.

A second qualifier in Sydney, Australia, in September featured 142 athletes from 31 nations. With 17 medals, including eight golds, South Korea topped the medals table. Five world records were broken.

The final qualifier for Rio 2016 was held in Fort Benning, USA, in November and involved 178 athletes from 48 NPCs. South Korea again led the medals table with five golds, but Great Britain, with 11, won the most medals. Nineteen countries won at least one medal and two world records were set.

November's qualifier was the most successful of the year on social media, reaching almost 1.2 million people via Facebook and Twitter.

By the end of 2015, the Rio 2016 direct slot allocation process had concluded and 144 direct slots had been allocated to 40 NPCs across all five continents. Six remaining places will be allocated via the Bipartite Allocation Process in 2016.

Ahead of the Fort Benning World Cup, the Sport Technical Committee met to discuss a range of topics including the 2017-2020 technical rules and regulations; competition calendar 2016-2018; development of sport disciplines; appointments, education and development.

The Committee was updated on the development of visually impaired shooting and Para clay target shooting.

In January, 10 visually impaired shooters from eight countries took part in a Grand Prix in Stoke Mandeville as part of the sport's research and development project for a sport-specific classification system. The event, supported by the German Federal Ministry of the Interior, saw athletes compete in rifle events with specially adapted rifles, as work continued in developing a sport-specific visual impairment classification system and sport rulebook.

In numbers

- 564 licensed athletes
- 67 NPCs
- 6 World Cup events



Digital media appeal



An expert meeting and data collection for Paralympic Target Shooting was also held in Lonato, Italy, in September, as work continued in developing a sport-specific classification system and technical rulebook.

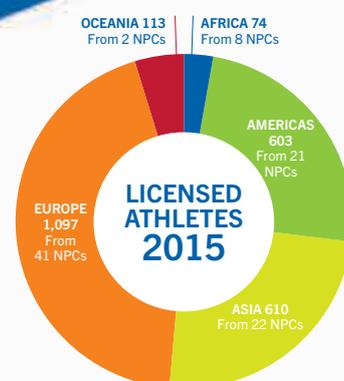
In June, IPC Shooting published its updated sport Technical Rules and Regulations which included clarifications as discussed in the 2014 IPC Shooting Sport Forum.

A month later a two-stage consultation process for the 2017-2020 Technical Rules and Regulations was launched, inviting views from the IPC Membership. The first round which concluded in October asked members to give their views on the sport's current Technical Rules and Regulations. A second consultation round will take place in 2016.

During the year, SIUS continued as IPC Shooting's official results and target systems provider and there was further dialogue and co-operation with the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF).

The sport was supported throughout the year by a comprehensive PR and social media plan which resulted in a record number of website visitors. Nearly 55,000 people visited ipc-shooting.org, a 34 per cent increase on the previous year whilst the sport's Facebook following more than doubled.

Finally, the bid process for 2017-2019 World and Regional Championships was launched.



IPC SWIMMING



IPC Swimming

The highlight of the 2015 season was July's World Championships which were held in Glasgow, Great Britain. The competition featured 579 athletes from 65 countries and during seven days of action 44 world records were broken.

Russia topped the medals table with 71 podium finishes, including 32 world titles. Brazil's Daniel Dias left the event as the biggest medal winner taking home seven gold medals.

A record 122 media attended Glasgow 2015 and more than 1,200 pieces of print and online coverage was achieved in the lead-up to, and during, the event. TV crews from eight countries, including Brazil, Great Britain, Japan and the USA covered the Championships, with broadcast pictures reaching more than 14 million people worldwide.

Nearly 100,000 people watched the livestream of the action via the official microsite Glasgow2015.com. The combined reach of the Championships via Facebook and twitter was 10.1 million people.

Following the World Championships, a Sport Forum was held. Topics discussed included technical rules, classification, education and development and management. After the Sport Forum an Open Table discussion with NPC's took place which included a presentation about classification.

Soon after the World Championships, 200 athletes from 20 countries took part in the swimming events at the Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games. Three world, 23 Americas and 37 Games records were set.

Brazil led the way in the pool winning 104 medals, 38 of which were gold. Again Dias was the biggest medal winner, topping the podium in all eight races he took part in.

December's 2015 ASEAN Para-Games in Singapore saw 325 swimmers from 10 countries compete. The competition also allowed 93 athletes to be classified.

Overall, IPC Swimming sanctioned 194 competitions in 2015 and organised 18 physical, nine intellectual and 12 visual impairment classification opportunities. These were provided in Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Ecuador, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, South Korea and the USA.

In June, it was announced that Funchal, Portugal, would stage the 2016 European Open Championships, whilst progress was made in securing a host for the 2017 World Championships and 2018 Europeans. The bidding process for the 2019 World Championships was also opened.

The STC met in November. At the meeting a range of topics were discussed including competition calendar, development, education and appointments. Per Rune Eknes of Norway was appointed the new Vice Chairperson for the sport replacing Glenn Tasker.

Updated Classification Rules and Regulations were published and effective from 1 September.

A Competition Programme Working Group was established in November as an advisory group to the STC and management team, focusing on World Championships and Paralympic Games.

In numbers

- 2,497 licensed athletes
- 94 NPC's
- 1 World Championships
- 194 sanctioned competitions



Digital media appeal



The group will evaluate and develop major competition programmes beyond 2016. This includes the qualification pathway, event selection policy, determining the minimum qualification standards and daily competition schedule for the 2017 and 2019 World Championships and Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

Classifier training courses were held in Spain and Great Britain, whilst International Technical Officials courses were staged in Canada and Great Britain. In December, training was held for classifiers and technical officials. This led to six newly certified Classifier Educator and six certified Technical Officials Educators who will now be engaged in training classifiers and officials around the world.

An online training course, produced in conjunction with the IPC Academy, for International Technical Officials was launched in August.

The sport's website enjoyed its most successful year to date. It attracted 207,944 visitors, a 14 per cent increase on 2014. Strong growth was also recorded in IPC Swimming's following on social media.




IPC Snowboard

IPC Snowboard sanctioned 10 events during the 2014/2015 season between November 2014 and April 2015 as the sport embraced a number of major changes following its Paralympic debut at Sochi 2014.

New classes were added in the lower limb impairment sport class and banked slalom races were introduced for the first time at November's first World Cup of the season in Landgraaf, the Netherlands. A new format for snowboard-cross races was also launched with boarders going head-to-head with their opponents rather than competing against the clock.

A record 18 countries entered athletes into February's World Championships in La Molina, Spain. The Championships were the first under the governance of IPC Snowboard and the first to feature the new snowboard-cross and banked slalom formats.

Twelve of the 18 competing countries won at least one medal, highlighting the geographical spread of talent within the sport.

Dutch boarders Bibian Mentel-Spee and Chris Vos both won two gold medals each as the Netherlands topped the medals table ahead of the USA and Italy.

World Cups races were held in Landgraaf, Aspen, the USA, and Big White, Canada. Unfortunately scheduled World Cup races in Maribor, Slovenia and San Martino di Castrozza, Italy, were cancelled due to a lack of snow.

Overall, the new classes and events were warmly received during the season. Classification opportunities were offered at Landgraaf and Aspen.

In October 2014 new IPC Snowboard Rules and Regulations were published. At the end of May and early June, the IPC Alpine Skiing and Snowboard Sport Technical Committee met in Bonn, Germany, and at the same time a Sport Forum took place.

During the season, the IPC media team supported the sport with a number of previews, interviews and reviews of major races. More than 4,000 people visited the World Championships microsite during February providing a benchmark for future competitions.

The bidding process for the 2019 and 2011 IPC Snowboard World Championships was opened.

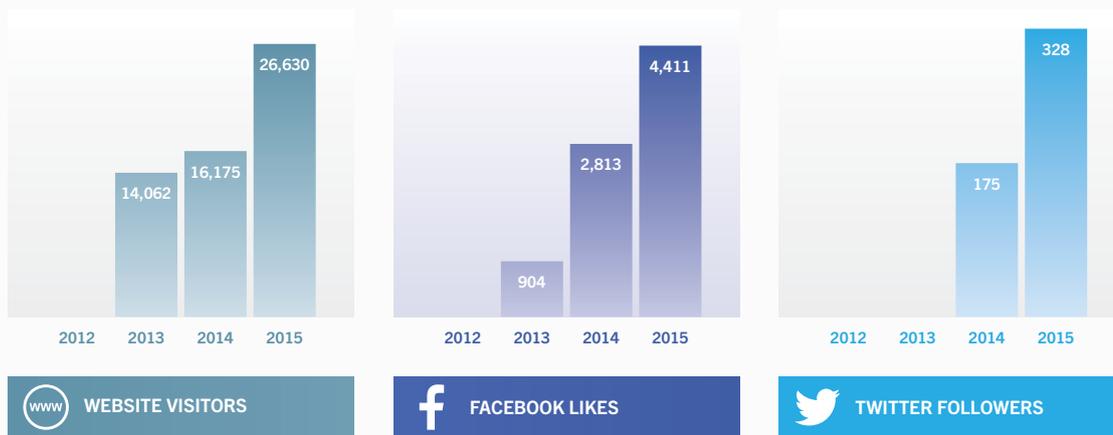
Finally, a partnership agreement was signed with equipment supplier LISKI through to 2018.

In numbers

- 104 licensed athletes
- 22 NPCs
- 1 World Championships
- 10 sanctioned competitions
- 2 continents hosted sanctioned events



Digital media appeal



WEBSITE VISITORS

FACEBOOK LIKES

TWITTER FOLLOWERS



IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport

In one of the sport's busiest year's to-date, there were seven sanctioned competitions including November's World Championships in Rome, Italy.

More than 150 athletes from around 23 countries took part and with the addition of singles and freestyle onto the programme, the number of medal events increased to 14. Russia led the way winning four gold, two silver and five bronze medals to finish ahead of Belarus and Ukraine in the medals table. The Philippines and Mexico, the lone team from the Americas, were amongst the surprise medallists.

The event was supported by the IPC media team through dedicated previews, reviews and athlete interviews, in addition to social media coverage. The final day of competition was shown live by Italian broadcaster RAI and attracted more than 700,000 viewers. Following the World Championships a Sport Forum was held.

In addition to the World Championships, the sport's first World Cup to be held under new rules was staged in September in Saint Petersburg, Russia. Previously known as the Continents Cup, the event attracted 146 dancers from 17 countries, including athletes from Hungary for the first time. Dancers from Brazil also returned after a brief hiatus from the sport.

Other sanctioned competitions were held in Italy, Kazakhstan, Belgium, Chinese Tapei, Germany and Serbia.

In May, the IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Technical Committee (STC) met to discuss competitions, sport rules and promotion of the sport. Updates to the 2014-2017 rulebook were published in August; key changes included athlete eligibility, general rules for freestyle/showdance and judging criteria.

Slovakia's Helena Kasicka was appointed as the sport's athlete liaison.

Visitors to the sport's website increased to 26,630, up by 33 per cent compared to 2014. The combined reach of Facebook and Twitter was nearly 1.8 million people.

In numbers

- 314 licensed athletes
- 31 NPCs
- 7 sanctioned competitions



Committees and Councils

IPC Alpine Skiing and IPC Snowboard

Chairperson	Markus Walser (CAN)
Vice Chairperson	Erik Petersen (USA)
Head of Technical Control and Officiating	Ozzie Sawicki (CAN)
Head of Snowboard	Davide Cerato (ITA)
Head of Competition (Asia and Oceania)	Jane Stevens (NZL) <small>Co-opted Member, non-voting rights</small>
Head of Classification	Sandra Titulaer (NED)
Athlete Representative (Alpine skiing)	Mitchell Gourley (AUS)
Athlete Representative (Snowboard)	Bibian Mentel-Spee (NED)

IPC Athletics

Chairperson	Ed Warner OBE (GBR)
Vice Chairperson	Troy Engle (USA)
Head of Competition	Roger Getzmann (SUI)
Head of Officiating	Tarek Souei (UAE)
Head of Technical Control	Yukio Seki (JPN)
Head of Classification	Hilary Beeton (RSA)

IPC Biathlon and IPC Cross-Country Skiing

Chairperson	Rob Walsh (USA)
Vice Chairperson	John Farra (USA)
Head of Technical Control and Officiating	Len Apedaile (CAN)
Head of Competition (Biathlon)	Aleksey Kobelev (RUS)
Head of Competition (Cross-Country Skiing)	Tor Undheim (NOR)
Head of Classification	Dia Pernot (NED)
Athlete Representative	Akzhana Abdikarimova (RUS)

IPC Ice Sledge Hockey

Chairperson	Keith Blase (USA)
Vice Chairperson	John Farra (USA)
Head of Technical Control and Officiating	Scott MacDonald (CAN)
Head of Competition	Dave Newson (CAN)
Head of Development	Thomas Koester (USA)
Head of Classification	Dia Pernot (NED)
Regional Liaison Officer Europe	Sergey Samoylov (RUS)
Officer Regional Liaison Officer Asia	vacant
Athlete Liaison	Gregory Leperdi (RUS)

IPC Powerlifting

Chairperson	Jon Amos (GBR)
Head of Development (Vice Chair)	Lt. Cdr. Kamaruzaman Kadir (MAS)
Head of Competition	TBC
Head of Classification	Dr. Bassam Qasrawi (KUW)
Athlete Liaison Officer	Roy Guerin (IRL)

IPC Shooting

Chairperson	Ghislaine Briez (FRA)
Vice Chairperson	Wanda Jewell (USA)
Head of Competition and Officiating	Ferrol Van Hoeven (NED)
Head of Classification	A/Prof Jagdish Maharaj (AUS)
Athlete Liaison Officer	Michael Johnson (NZL)
Coach Liaison Officer	Miro Sipek (AUS)

IPC Swimming

Chairperson	Jane D. Blaine (CAN)
Vice Chairperson	Per Rune Eknes (NOR)
Head of Technical Control and Officiating	Susan Prasad (GBR)
Head of Competition	Andre Cats (NED)
Head of Classification	Peter Van de Vliet <small>(Classification Rulebook 2.1.2)</small>

IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport

Chairperson	Grethe Anderson (NOR)
Vice Chairperson	Nobuko Yotsumoto (JPN)
Head of Technical Control	Konstantin Vasilyev (RUS)
Head of Competition	Dr. Yun-An Tsai (TPE)
Head of Competition and Officiating	María del Carmen Legaspi Torres (MEX)

Athletes with High Support Needs

At their meeting in June 2014 the IPC Governing Board considered that a greater emphasis was needed on the work of the Athletes with High Support Needs Committee through the creation of a working group. The working group will explore the possibilities for developing a revised function and creating the best structure for a committee that can drive all aspects forward to better represent athletes with high support needs within the IPC governance structure.

IPC Athletes' Council

Acts as the collective voice of athletes within the IPC and great Paralympic Movement.

Chairperson	Todd Nicholson (CAN)	Ice sledge hockey
Vice Chairperson	Elvira Stinissen (NED)	Sitting volleyball
Member at Large	Teresa Perales (ESP)	Swimming
Member at Large	Gizem Girismen (TUR)	Archery
Member at Large	Eskil Hagen (NOR)	Ice Sledge Hockey
Member at Large	Katja Saarinen (FIN)	Alpine skiing
Member at Large	Yu Chui Yee (HKG)	Wheelchair Fencing
Member at Large	Arnaud Assoumani (FRA)	Athletics
Member at Large	Mikhail Terentiev (RUS)	Cross-country skiing
Co-opted member	Tim Prendergast (NZL)	Athletics
IOC Athletes' Commission Representative	Claudia Bokel (GER)	Fencing

Anti-doping

Established to consult and advise the IPC on issues related to the fight against doping throughout the Paralympic Movement.

Chairperson	Dr Jose A. Pascual (ESP)
Member	Joseph de Pencier (CAN)
Member	Nicki Vance (AUS)
Member	Katarzyna Rogowicz (POL)
Member	Dr. Chin Sim Teoh (SIN)
Member	Kyu-Hwan Lee (KOR)
Member	Dr. Matthew Fedoruk (USA)
Member	Mario Zorzoli (ITA)

Audit and Finance

Established to provide expert advice and consultation to the IPC on finance-related matters.

Chairperson	Miguel Sagarra (ESP)
Member	Gadiel Blusztajn (ISR)
Member	Hilda Gibson (GBR/WA)
Member	Christo Kok (NED/ITF)
Member	Mohan Menon (SIN)
Member	Michael Rosenbaum (GER)

Classification

Established to provide advice and consultation on issues related to the classification of athletes in the Paralympic Movement.

Chairperson	Dr. Anne Hart (USA)
Member	Dr. Jürgen Schwittai (GER/IFDS)
Member	Scott Field (RSA)
Member	Dr. Sean Tweedy (AUS)
Member	Graham Arthur (GBR)
Athlete Representative	Erin Popovich (USA)

Development

Established to provide advice and consultation to the IPC on issues related to development.

Chairperson	Rita van Driel (NED)
Member	Bjorn Omar Evju (NOR)
Member	Dominique Bizimana (RWA)
Member	Juan Pablo Salazar (COL)
Member	Kristina Molloy (CAN)
Member	Martin Lam (HKG)

Education

Established to provide advice and consultation to the IPC on matters relating to Paralympic education.

Chairperson	Nick Fuller (GBR)
Member	Steven Ungerleider (USA)
Member	Tim Prendergast (NZL)
Member	Luciana Scheid (BRA)
Member	Georges Seriki (BEN)
Member	May Kim (KOR)

Legal and Ethics

The members are a panel of experts whom the Chairperson can call upon to provide advice and consultation to the IPC on legal and ethics matters depending on the issues arising.

Chairperson	Linda Mastandrea (USA)
Member	Carla Qualtrough (CAN)
Member	Winnet Kanyerere (ZIM)
Member	Mark Copeland (NZL)
Member	Sora Noh (KOR)
Member	Ian Warner (GBR)

Medical

Established to provide expert advice on issues related to athletes in extraordinary circumstances who must take certain drugs for therapeutic use.

Chairperson	Dr. Cheri Blauwet
Member	Dr. Jaap Stomphorst (NED)
Member	Dr. Wayne Derman (RSA)
Member	Dr. Nick Webborn (GBR)
Member	Dr. James Kissick (CAN)
Member	Dr. Jan Lexell (SWE)
Member	Dr. Yetsa Tuakli-Wosornu (GHA)
Member	Dr. Guzel Idrisova (RUS)

Paralympic Games

Established to provide strategic advice and recommendations to the IPC Governing Board on policy matters and specific issues related to the Paralympic Games including the Paralympic Games sport programme.

Chairperson	Matt Smith (SUI/USA)
Member	Masoud Ashrafi (IRI)
Member	Evgeny Bukharov (RUS)
Member	Mark Bullock (GBR)
Member	Dena Coward (CAN)
Member	Tim Hollingsworth (GBR)
Member	Terje Jentoft Roel (NOR)
Member	Lambis Konstantinidis (GRE)
Member	Cyril More (FRA)
Member	Julie O'Neill (USA)

Sports Science

Established to provide expert advice to the IPC on issues related to sport science.

Chairperson	Dr. Yves Vanlandewijck (BEL)
Member	Dr. Walter Thompson (USA/INAS)
Member	Dr. Osnat Fliess-Douer (ISR)
Member	Dr. David Legg (CAN)
Member	Dr. Raymond So (HKG)
Athlete Representative	Daniela Luchina (ARG)

Women in Sport

Established to provide advice and consultation to the IPC on issues of gender equity in Paralympic Sport.

Chairperson	Tine Rindum Teilmann (DEN)
Member	Muffy Davis (USA)
Member	Pena Drusilla Kandji (NAM)
Member	Dr. Shauna Taylor (CAN)
Member	Limor Goldberg (ISR)
Athlete Representative	Katja Saarinen (FIN)



Top 50 Moments of 2015



1

The IPC signed its biggest broadcast and commercial deals in 2015. Japanese broadcaster NHK will show the Games through to at least 2024, whilst the ground breaking partnership with Toyota will support all NPCs from 2017 and Games Organising Committees from Tokyo 2020.



2

German T44 long jumper Markus Rehm made global headlines with a world record leap of 8.40m at October's World Championships, a distance good enough to have won him gold at the London 2012 Olympic Games.



The Rwandan sitting volleyball team will be the first women's African side to compete in a Paralympic Games after they qualified for Rio 2016.



To mark one year to go until the Paralympic Games and the launch of ticket sales, Rio 2016 organised a Paralympic Festival at Lagoa Rodrigo de Freitas.



The rivalry between USA and Canada took wheelchair rugby to a new level at Toronto 2015. In the group stages, the USA claimed an overtime win, but the hosts eventually won gold.



Brazil's Daniel Dias warmed up for Rio 2016 by winning seven world and eight Parapan titles in the space of a month.



Cuba's Omara Durand's first year back after childbirth saw her win three world titles, three Parapan golds and set many sprint world records. She is now the world's fastest female Paralympian.



Two-time Paralympian Carla Qualtrough was appointed Canadian Minister for Sport and Persons with Disabilities in November.



Paralympic champions Germany, may have lost the world title to Canada in 2014, but they responded in 2015 by claiming back the European crown with a win over defending champions the Netherlands.



At the 2015 ITU World Triathlon Grand Final in Chicago, USA, 18-year-old Canadian Stefan Daniel upstaged France's two-time world champion Yannick Bourseaux and Germany's defending champion Martin Schulz to win the men's PT4 race.



The work of the Agitos Foundation helped many athletes and coaches qualify for Toronto 2015, whilst a similar project was launched to do the same for Rio 2016.



Israel Hilario Rimis, Peru's sole competitor at the UCI Para-Cycling Road World Championships, won gold in the C2 road race to build on the success of his two World Cup wins.



Ukraine's Yelyzaveta Mereshko tore up the form book in 2015, winning three world titles, including the women's 400m freestyle S6 where she beat Great Britain's Eleanor Simmonds.



Reunited on home snow, Mac Marcoux and his guide brother BJ, won downhill gold at the 2015 IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships in Panorama, Canada.



The first IPC Snowboard World Championships took place in La Molina, Spain. They featured new medal events and saw the emergence of 16-year-old Dutch boarder Chris Vos who left with two gold medals.



The Netherlands' Jiske Griffioen and Australia's Dylan Alcott topped the wheelchair tennis world rankings after wins in Paris.



On 31 January 2015, the IPC announced that the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games will feature 22 sports, with badminton and taekwondo included for the first time.



France's Marie Bochet became the first skier to sweep all five world titles at two successive World Championships after wins in downhill, slalom, giant slalom, super-G and super combined at Panorama 2015 and La Molina 2013.



"Super Sunday" at the Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games saw Canadian swimmers win 15 out of a possible 45 medals, including five golds.



In front her home crowd, Dutch Para cyclist Alyda Norbruis won three world titles – the scratch race, 3km pursuit and the 500m time trial – at the 2015 UCI Para Cycling Track World Championships.



IPC international partner BP announced in the US that it would be supporting more Paralympians than Olympians ahead of Rio 2016.



The 2015 IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships A-Pool in Buffalo were the most successful ever drawing packed crowds and record media coverage. USA won gold.



Italian wheelchair fencer Beatrice Vio went the whole of 2015 undefeated winning all eight events she entered. This included a first world title win in September.



At Doha 2015, US T44 sprinter Richard Browne smashed the 100m and 200m world records on his way to winning his first individual world titles.



Canada's Aurelie Rivard had an incredible 2015, winning two world titles and six Parapan Am medals and setting a new world record.



After two years of consultation, the IPC published its latest Strategic Plan for 2015-2018, detailing how it hopes to deliver another four years of success.



27

In January, the IPC Governing Board announced that badminton would be of the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games sport programme.



28

Brazil underlined their world dominance in football 5-a-side winning a thrilling match against rivals Argentina to win Parapan gold in Toronto.



29

It was announced that PyeongChang 2018 will feature up to 670 athletes and 80 medal events, the most ever.



30

The USA's Nordic skier Andrew Soule won five medals at his home World Championships in 2015 to become the most decorated US skier on the world stage.



31

China's Cuiping Zhang catapulted herself back to the top of the rankings after setting three individual and a team world record at the 2015 IPC Shooting World Cup Osijek, Croatia.



32

The final of the IWRP European Championships in Finland was a thriller, eventually won by Great Britain 49-48 over Sweden.



33

At three regional Championships in the Americas, Asia and Europe as well as the Parapan American Games in 2015, powerlifters set 16 senior and 14 junior world records.



34

Great Britain's LTA mixed coxed four crew edged out the USA by nanoseconds to retain their title at the World Rowing Championships in France.



35

With a creative digital content strategy, the 2015 IPC Athletics World Championships in Doha, Qatar, surpassed all expectations with a reach of more than 26 million.



36

Spain's world champion Alvaro Valera defeated Denmark's Peter Rosenmeier in five thrilling sets to take the ITTF European title.



37

Iranian archery sensation Zarah Nemati made history by not just qualifying for the Rio 2016 Paralympics but also the Olympics too.



38

The 2015 ICF World Championships had added impetus as for the first time the event acted as a Rio 2016 Paralympic qualifier.



39

“Proud Paralympian”, an education programme to support Para athletes in various ways throughout their professional careers and beyond was launched by the IPC, in conjunction with the Agitos Foundation.



40

World and Paralympic champions Russia now hold every major title in CP Football after winning the European crown with a tense 1-0 win over Ukraine in Great Britain.



41

A second world title in three years showed that Russia are now a force to be reckoned with in the sport of wheelchair curling.



42

South Korea and Sweden won promotion to the 2017 IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships A-Pool by finishing in the top two in the 2015 B-Pool event.



43

Russia topped both the men and women’s podiums at the World Championships, the first held since the announcement that taekwondo will be part of Tokyo 2020.



44

For the first time at a major Championships, the Netherlands dethroned Great Britain at the top of the medals table at FEI Para-Equestrian Dressage European Championships.



45

In 2015, IPC Powerlifting recorded a 45.7 per cent increase in licensed athletes and hosted three regional Championships.



46

Filipino couple Rhea Marquez and Jun Julius Obero were shock gold medallists at the 2015 IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport World Championships in Rome, Italy.



47

At the first World Cup of the year in Eger, Hungary, Uzbekistani judoka made themselves a force to be reckoned with ahead of Rio 2016 by winning four gold medals.



48

Both Turkey’s men’s and women’s goalball teams won the 2015 European title to secure their qualification for Rio 2016.



49

After learning in February they would not be part of Tokyo 2020, World Sailing started implementing a development programme to boost global participation.



50

In a thrilling encounter Brazil’s pairs team of Eliseu dos Santos and Dirceu Pinto came back to win Parapan gold against the Canadian home favourites.





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