

## **IPC Athletics Paralympic Games Event Programme**

### **Event Replacement Policy**

11/02/2014

## Introduction

Following an eighteen-month consultation process with NPCs, IPC Athletics announced in July 2013 the event programme for the 2016 Paralympic Games.

The event programme was developed using three guiding principles which are based on the approved motions at the IPC Athletics 2011 Sports Forum.

The three principle set out to determine the programme were

- Single class events - IPC Athletics agreed to create an event programme for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games that would remove the requirement of a coefficient points system (Raza) to be used to determine the outcome of the event.
- Fair distribution across gender, impairment type, and event type - IPC Athletics aimed to achieve an event programme that would address the gender imbalance within the London event Programme (60% Male, 40% Female), increase event opportunities for athletes with high support needs, and increase the distribution across the spectrum of events offered within athletics (short, middle and long distance running events and jumps and throwing events).
- Strong, competitive fields - Ensure that each event on the Rio 2016 Games programme will have a strong competitive athlete number also ensuring that each event meets the minimal eligibility criteria. IPC Athletics aim to ensure this by revisiting the qualification criteria used to determine entry into the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games

As part of the event programme, IPC Athletics included a number of events that did not meet minimal eligibility criteria. These events were included in the programme to provide a greater balance between impairment type, event type and gender.

These events were highlighted within the publication of the final programme on condition that if they did not meet the minimal eligibility criteria (10 athletes, 4 nations and 2 regions) within an identified timeline they, along with any other event that did not meet minimal eligibility criteria, would be subject to replacement policy and procedure.

The IPC Athletics Rio Event Programme replacement policy and procedure is now outlined in the following pages of this document.

## Replacement Policy and Procedure

IPC Athletics have identified 'event blocks' to ensure integrity of the original principles outlined when developing the original Rio event programme. **[Appendix 1]**

These 'event blocks' are set by the following principles

- Type of event (Short, Middle/Long distance running, Throwing and Jumping)
- Gender
- Impairment group (visual impairment, amputees, etc.)

The following procedure will be used to replace an event where an event does not meet minimal eligibility criteria by a set deadline.

1. Replace the event in the same sport class and gender but different type of event (e.g. Short, Middle/Long distance running, Throwing and Jumping)
2. Replace with an event in the same impairment and gender but different type of event (e.g. Short, Middle/Long distance running, Throwing and Jumping)
3. Replace with an event in the same gender and same type of event (e.g. Short, Middle/Long distance running, Throwing and Jumping) using the calculation method **[Appendix 2]**
4. Replace with an event in the same gender by using the calculation method.
5. Where no event meets the any of the above criteria IPC Athletics will use calculation system detailed in Appendix 2.

IPC Athletics reserves the right, in the event that applying the above principles results in an imbalance in the competition programme, to recommend to the IPC Governing Board (who shall be empowered to make the change that has been recommended, or some variant of the recommendation, or not, as they shall in their discretion decide) alterations to the programme to address the imbalance.

## Timeline

- July 2013 IPC Athletics announces the 2016 Rio Medal Events programme and identified events at time of publication that do not meet minimal eligibility criteria and that a replacement policy and procedure would be announced in 2013
- February 2014 IPC Athletics announce Rio 2106 Event Replacement Policy and Procedure
- 31 March 2014- IPC Athletics identify current events that do not meet minimal eligibility criteria and identify the events that will replace them accurate at time of announcement. IPC Athletics update events within the hierarchy principles
- April 2014 – February 2015 IPC Athletics will identify current events that do not meet minimal eligibility criteria and identify the events that will replace them according to the Policy and Procedure Guidelines. The outcome will be distributed via correspondence and will be available on our website [www.paralympic.org/athletics](http://www.paralympic.org/athletics)
- 31 March 2015 IPC Athletics will announce the **FINAL** events that do not meet minimal eligibility criteria and identify the events that will replace them according to the Policy and Procedure Guidelines.
- April 2015 IPC Athletics will announce the **FINAL** Rio Event Programme. This event programme will feature at the 2015 IPC Athletics World Championships in addition to the original Rio Events Programme published in July 2013.

## Appendix 1

Event Blocks are colour coordinated

Black identifies no event

Class	Track						Field							
	Sprints			Middle Distance			Jumps			Throws				
	100	200	400	800	1500	5000	HJ	TJ	LJ	Discus	Shot	Jav	Club	
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## Appendix 2

### Calculation System

This ranking system is based on the participation criteria (depth and representation), as well as a measure of competitiveness.

Each event meeting the cut off gets a score between 0 and 100 on each of the three criteria, and these three scores added up to provide the total score.

The score for athlete depth is calculated as follows:

- The maximum number of athletes participating in any single event during the previous 4-year cycle is benchmarked to a score of 100, and 0 athletes in an event will get a score of 0. If events get more participants than there were in any events in the previous cycle, they will still be bounded at 100.
- The score will be calculated from the formula:  $s = a\sqrt{p}$ , where  $p$  is the criterion to be analysed,  $s$  is the score of a criterion, and  $a$  is a constant found so that the maximum score equates to 100. This equation is then used to produce score tables so that all possible numbers of athletes can be given a score. The square root is used to give a greater relative bonus to smaller events (20 athletes is much better than 10, but there's not such a great difference between 60 and 50 athletes)
- Example: there are five events to be ranked, with 70, 20, 12, 10 and 10 athletes. 60 athletes was the maximum in any events in the previous cycle, which we use to benchmark the equation. The constant is calculated:  $a = \frac{100}{\sqrt{60}} \approx 12.9$ . That produces the following relation between number of athletes and scores:

