

## Finland: 11 facts for the Sochi 2014 Paralympics

There's no doubt that cross-country skiing is Finland's strongest sport, but will they get a look-in against Russia's greatest team?

- Finland have won 182 medals at the Paralympic Winter Games, including 76 gold medals. Only four NPCs have won more gold and more totals medals.
- Finland need one more gold medal to reach 150 gold medals at the Paralympic Winter Games (76) and Paralympic Games (73) combined.
- They have won 161 medals (64 gold, 45 silver and 52 bronze) in cross-country skiing, 88.5 per cent of their total of 182 medals. They also won nine gold medals in ice sledge speed racing (which is no longer a Paralympic sport) and three gold in biathlon.
- These 161 medals are the most for any NPC in cross-country skiing at the Paralympic Winter Games.
- Only Norway (77) have won more gold medals in cross-country skiing than Finland's 64.
- Finland won their last gold medal at the Paralympic Winter Games in 2002 when Tanja Kari won three gold medals and Jaana Argillander won one; both in cross-country skiing.
- Finland's most recent medals came in 2010, when Maija Jarvela took silver in the women's 3km biathlon pursuit standing and Ilkka Tuomisto finished third in the men's 1km cross-country skiing sprint classic style standing.
- Jouko Grip has won 10 gold medals and 15 in total in cross-country skiing and biathlon, the most out of all Finnish athletes at the Paralympic Winter Games.
- Grip was inducted into the Visa Paralympic Hall of Fame in 2006 for his achievements.
- Finland's men have won 43 gold medals, 10 more than women, but the men have not won gold since 1998. Finland's women have won four gold medals since 1998.
- You can follow the Finnish Paralympic team on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/Paralympiaurheilu?ref=pb> and on Twitter @FinnParalympic

## Athletes:

### Alpine skiing

First Name	Last Name	Twitter	Facebook
Katja	SAARINEN	@SaarinenFIN	



## Snowboard

First Name	Last Name	Twitter	Facebook
Matti	SUUR-HAMARI	@MattiSuurHamari	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/pages/Matti-Suur-Hamari/1401736570067593">https://www.facebook.com/pages/Matti-Suur-Hamari/1401736570067593</a>

## Nordic skiing

First Name	Last Name	Twitter	Facebook
Juha	HARKONEN		
Maija	JARVELA		
Lasse	KANKKUNEN	@Late_K	
Rudolf	KLEMETTI		
Sini	PYY	@Sipressi	
Ilkka	TUOMISTO	@IlkkaTuomisto	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ilkka-Tuomisto/145330412185007?fref=ts">https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ilkka-Tuomisto/145330412185007?fref=ts</a>

## Wheelchair curling

First Name	Last Name	Twitter	Facebook
Tuomo	AARNIKKA		
Vesa	HELLMAN		
Markku	KARJALAINEN	@tulikoni	
Sari	KARJALAINEN	@irwin_sari	
Mina	MOJTAHEDI		



### Paralympic Winter Games debut: 1976

Year	1976	1980	1984	1988	1992	1994	1998	2002	2006	2010
<b>Athletes</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>
Gold	8	15	19	9	7	7	7	4	0	0
Silver	7	7	9	8	3	6	5	1	0	1
Bronze	7	12	6	8	4	11	7	3	0	1
Total	22	34	34	25	14	24	19	8	0	2