

## **Guidelines for World Para Biathlon IR Education**

**Guidelines for the Organisation, Education and Appointment of World Para Biathlon International Referees (WPB IR)**

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### **World Para Nordic Skiing**

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These guidelines outline criteria for the

- Organisation and tracking of WPB Biathlon International Referees
- Selection and Education of candidates
- Licencing of World Para Biathlon International Referees
- Appointment of World Para Biathlon International Referees
- Further education and training of World Para Biathlon International Referees

**The goal of these guidelines is to ensure the standard of training and education maintains the highest possible level for all World Para Biathlon International Referees.**

## **The Role of the World Para Biathlon International Referee**

The World Para Biathlon International Referee (WPB IR) is a delegate of the International Federation for World Para Nordic Skiing (WPNS) to the organizing body. The WPB IR is responsible for overseeing the organisation and operation of the biathlon range at sanctioned World Para Biathlon competitions. The WPB IR also serves on the jury at World Para Nordic Skiing WC competitions with responsibility for the range, shooting, penalty loop and scoring during Para biathlon competitions and other duties as assigned during Para cross country skiing competitions.

### **1. The World Para Biathlon IR Organisation Structure**

- 1.1. The responsibility for all WPB IR matters belongs to the World Para Nordic Skiing Technical Committee.
- 1.2. The Head of Technical Control and Officiating together with the Head of Biathlon, appointed by IPC Governing Board prepare the material and proposals on WPB IR matters for each World Para Nordic Skiing Sport Technical Committee meeting.

### **2. The Process of WPB IR Education**

- 2.1. The process of WPB IR Education provides the WPB IR with the necessary theoretical and practical knowledge to carry out their assigned duties at sanctioned World Para Biathlon competitions.

#### **2.2. Criteria for the Selection of WPB IR Candidates**

- 2.2.1. WPB IR candidates should be recruited from active members of the IPC / IBU or National Federations. Preferred candidates are certified IBU IR's or National Biathlon TD's with extensive experience in able-bodied biathlon and an active interest or involvement with World Para Biathlon. Former Biathlon or Para biathlon coaches, athletes, or competition officials (e.g. chief of range) are also preferred. Candidates without these qualifications will only be considered if they have had extensive experience in organizing biathlon competitions and/or experience working Para Biathlon competitions.
- 2.2.2. The candidate must be capable of working in English.
- 2.2.3. The candidate must have strong practical skills related to design, construction and installation of the Para biathlon range as well as maintaining and repairing range equipment.
- 2.2.4. The candidate must have strong organisational skills, be able to make independent decisions and to train local organisers as required.
- 2.2.5. The candidate must be active in Biathlon or CC skiing year round and be able and ready to accept at least one WPB IR assignment during the season.
- 2.2.6. The candidate must have a profound knowledge of the World Para Biathlon range equipment and the World Para Nordic Skiing Competition Rules and attend the WPB seminars/webinars.

### **2.3. Education Requirements, Timelines and Licencing**

#### **2.3.1. Steps towards for becoming an WPB IR :**

- Individuals interested in becoming a WPB IR should be nominated by existing WPB IRs, National Federations, NPC's or express their interest directly to the Para Nordic Skiing Sport Technical Committee.
- One accepted, candidate WPB IR's will begin the education and experience steps towards becoming a licensed WPB IR.
- Candidate WPB IR's will normally begin working at WPB competitions at the national level. This may be in an organisational capacity or as a technical official during national, regional, world cup or world championship competitions. Maintaining an active and progressive involvement in the organization and delivery of Para biathlon competitions where opportunities exist is expected.
- Candidate WPB IRs are expected to attend World Para Nordic Skiing TD and/or WPB IR seminars, webinars, and technical range equipment training/maintenance seminars.

- Candidates WPB IRs should work at a minimum of one WPB World Cup competition as a chief or assistant chief of range or national TD or apprentice WPB IR under the supervision of a licensed WPB IR and/or TD.
- Candidate WPB IRs may be assigned at National level or Continental Cup level WPB competitions.

#### **2.4. Licensed WPB IR**

For a candidate WPB IR to acquire a WPB IR license he/she must have met the training and experience requirements outlined above including:

- Worked at a minimum of two PB competitions as a key member of the range crew, chief of range, or candidate WPB IR.
- Demonstrated the ability to oversee the installation and maintenance of the World Para Biathlon range equipment and Para biathlon competitions.
- Attended a minimum of two WPNS TD / WPB IR education seminars.
- Be actively engaged in the delivery development of Para biathlon sport at the national or international level.
- Be nominated to become a Licensed WPB IR by a Licensed Para Nordic Skiing TD or Licensed WPB IR.

A Licensed WPB IR can be appointed to work as a WPB IR at any level of Para biathlon races including Continental Cups, World Cup, World Championships and Paralympic Winter Games.

#### **2.5. The License**

The license is valid for two years and must be renewed at a WPNS TD or WPB IR seminar. World Para Nordic Skiing will maintain records of current licence holders and seminar attendance. Should a WPB IR not be able to attend a seminar within two years he/she must notify the World Para Nordic Skiing Sport Technical Committee and his/her license will be marked as inactive. An inactive license can be renewed by attending a World Para Nordic Skiing TD or WPB IR Seminar.

If a WPB IR does not attend a seminar in four years he/she will lose his/her license and must re-initiate the certification process.

### **3. Appointment of WPB IRs**

WPB IRs for WPB Continental Cups or National level competitions are appointed by their national federations in consultation with World Para Nordic Skiing Sport Technical Committee.

WPB IR's for World Cup, WCH and PWG competitions (where applicable) are proposed by the Para Nordic Skiing Head of Technical Control and Officiating and appointed by the World Para Nordic Skiing Sport Technical Committee.

### **4. Further Education and Training**

In addition to working at WPB competitions, all licensed WPB IRs should attend a seminar at least every two years. The seminars will assure that the WPB IRs are provided with the latest information, additions to and changes of rules and the latest versions of the guidelines. A review of personal experiences from the previous season and information on the interpretation of the rules should be made every year.