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## IPC Celebrates Inspiring 10/20 Milestone

WORLD LEADERS AND THE PARALYMPIC FAMILY COME TOGETHER IN BONN TO RECOGNIZE MAJOR ANNIVERSARIES

The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) celebrated two milestones in its history on 4 September – 20 years of the organization and ten years of the official Headquarters in Bonn. These two major anniversaries successfully played out with high spirits at the World Conference Centre in Bonn, Germany, with guests from all around the world.

The big event saw more than 350 people gathering in the name of the IPC and the Paralympic Movement. Personalities from the world of sport, economics and politics, as well as members from the Paralympic Family came to the conference centre to remember the history of the organization together and talk about the future.

### Distinguished Guests Highlight IPC

Official speeches of welcome were given by Federal Minister of the Interior Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble, Special Advisor to the UN Secretary General on Sport for Development and Peace Wilfried Lemke, International Olympic Committee (IOC) Vice President Dr. Thomas Bach, HSH Prince Albert II. of Monaco, Lord Mayor of Bonn Baerbel Dieckmann and IPC President Sir Philip Craven.

Sir Philip said that the gathering reflects positively on the countless achievements over the last two decades.

“I was very happy to see so many familiar faces in Bonn. This was a chance to recognize the growth of both the organization and the Paralympic Movement,” Sir Philip said. “Whether we look to the development of the Paralympic Games or Paralympic Sport in general, the global audience has become more aware about athletes with a disability. This has always been our aim, and will continue to inspire us further.”

On behalf of the IOC, Vice President Dr. Thomas Bach offered official con-



The IPC Anniversary event had several opening speeches, including from IPC President Sir Philip Craven

tulations from IOC President Jacques Rogge.

“The IPC is an unparalleled success story,” Dr. Bach said. “If I look back a decade and consider just the importance and impact that the IPC has had and continues to have not only on the world of sports, but on our society as a whole, then you get an idea of what the IPC under the presidency of our friend Sir Philip, has achieved in the recent years”

The full programme also included panel discussions on themes such as “The Paralympic Movement – A History of Change” and “The Paralympic Games – From Challenger to Frontrunner”.

The first discussion was led by Mr. Lemke, who addressed the topic “Paralympic Sport – A catalyst for the implementation of the UN Convention on Rights for Persons with a Disability”. Mr. Lemke said that he was impressed with the development of the IPC in a time of just 20 years, most recently in Beijing.

“When I go around the world, I see many problems,” Mr. Lemke said. But to come back to the Chinese situation, I want to say thank you very much for your work here after 20 years. You have done a tremendously good job. In China they have about 90 million people with a disability, and you with your organization have changed their lives.”

Further panellists included Deputy Secretary General of the National Paralympic Committee of China Eric Zhang, President and CEO of the Sochi 2014 Organizing Committee Dmitry Chernyshenko, former IPC President Dr. Robert D. Steadward, and former IPC Athletes’ Council Chairperson Ljiljana Ljubisic.

The second round of discussion was led by the Chairman of the London 2012 Organizing Committee Lord Sebastian Coe, who held the topic “The London 2012 Paralympic Games Approach”. Those who took part in the discussion included IPC President Sir Philip Craven, IOC Olympic Games Executive Director Gilbert Felli, Head

of ABC TV Sport and Events Justin Holdforth, Chief Marketing Officer Otto Bock Healthcare Dr. Helmut Pfuhl, and British Paralympian Danielle Brown.

### Movement Continues Development

In finishing, Sir Philip said that the key over the last 20 years for the organization has been moving from a disability sport movement to a sports movement.

“When our vision was written in 2002 to ‘enable Paralympic athletes to achieve sporting excellence and inspire and excite the world’, it was about empowering individuals to do what they want and when they want to do it – and that’s what Paralympians are all about,” he said.

The evening closed with an official dinner for the Paralympic Family celebrating the reunion of friends and companions, providing the opportunity to reminisce about the past and look ahead to future endeavours. The IPC also officially honoured three individuals who received the Paralympic Order during the dinner, including Tony Sainsbury, Maura Strange and Jens Bromann.

The opening speeches as well as the panel discussions were recorded and are available to view on the IPC’s internet TV channel [www.ParalympicSport.TV](http://www.ParalympicSport.TV).

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### 10/20 Celebration

Many distinguished guests and Paralympic Family members had the chance to express their thoughts at the big event, evoking memories and continuing to highlight what the Paralympic spirit means for the world of Paralympic Sport.

The Paralympian also goes down the history road with Jean Stone, Paralympic Order recipient and long-time member of the Paralympic Family in roles which included Technical Secretary to the IPC Sports Council and member of the Women in Sport Committee.



## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**"The 20th Anniversary of the IPC and the 10th Anniversary of the Bonn Headquarters are two milestones in the IPC's history brought the Paralympic Movement once again onto the world stage, and I take great pride in saying that we will continue to build upon this."**



The past few months have been quite eventful for the IPC and the Paralympic Movement. Back in July we celebrated Paralympic Sport to the highest degree with the International Paralympic Day (IPD) 2009, which turned out to be the most successful to date. Less than two months later we celebrated our 20-Year Anniversary as an organization and the 10-Year Anniversary of our Headquarters in Bonn.

I attended both events, and it was fantastic to see the number of visitors at the IPD 2009 and the hundreds of guests who came to celebrate our anniversary. Together we experienced the tremendous success that resulted from excellent planning and hard work.

At the IPD in Berlin, the athletes' skills and performance showed the capital of Germany the true meaning of the Paralympic Values of Courage, Determination, Inspiration and Equality. It was a thrilling sight to be so close to such elite sport on the Pariser Platz, celebrating in excitement with the thousands of visitors. We saw athletes in the Long Jump competition, as well as activities and games in Biathlon, Football 5-a-Side, Table Tennis, Wheelchair Basketball, Wheelchair Rugby and Wheelchair Dance Sport.

In Berlin, we experienced the incredible results of training behind each athlete, and recognized their sense of accomplishment that came with each goal, basket, serve and finish. When you think about it, these are in fact universal themes.

At the 10/20 Anniversary of the IPC, it was a whirlwind of experiences, as we saw so many faces, and explored countless topics, all in name of the Paralympic Movement. During the event, it remained clear to me just how far the Paralympic Movement had come. But at the same time, we did not forget that this was a celebration event.

We also had our second IPC Honorary Board meeting at the IPC Headquarters. A total of five Board Members attended, including Her Royal Highness (HRH) Princess Astrid of Belgium, HRH Princess Margriet of the Netherlands, Soprano Maria Guleghina, business woman and lifelong Paralympic

Sport supporter Thérèse Rein and former World Bank President James Wolfensohn. It was humbling to see such influential world figures together all in the name of Paralympic Sport here in Bonn.

Globally, so many have contributed honestly and wholly, making the IPC what it is today. We know that the organization has a rich history, and the past 20 years have been the most formative. In reflecting about where we have been, and where we will be going, we do not forget where we are today, and the real impact in the world of Paralympic Sport and the Paralympic Movement.

The 20th Anniversary of the IPC and the 10th Anniversary of the Bonn Headquarters are two milestones in the IPC's history brought the Paralympic Movement once again onto the world stage, and I take great pride in saying that we will continue to build upon this.

In this third and final issue of The Paralympian for 2009, we look at these events and take the opportunity to relive the experiences. We also look at the history of the IPC with an interview with Jean Stone, a member of the Paralympic Family who offers a looking into her rich experiences in Paralympic Sport.

We also look at updates in the world of accessibility. The USA recently signed the UN Convention on Rights for Persons with Disabilities, bringing the Movement forward. Additionally, the IAKS Congress takes place in October, focusing on accessible sports and leisure facilities.

And on behalf of the IPC, I would like send a heartfelt congratulations to Rio de Janeiro on winning the bid to host the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games. I was in Copenhagen, Denmark, for the big announcement, and I believe the Games in 2016 will be memorable to Paralympic Sport fans and athletes all around the globe.

As this will be the final issue of The Paralympian for the year, I wish each of you already Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year!

*Philip Craven*

Sir Philip Craven, MBE  
IPC President

# Vocal Chords for the IPC Anniversary

Distinguished guests at the anniversary event reflected on the IPC and its influence on Paralympic Sport and athletes with a disability.

## HRH Princess Astrid of Belgium...

"The Paralympic Games are an outstanding success because they show the world that a physical disability does not need to stand in the way of personal athletic ambition and achievement. I hope they will continue to grow and attract more and more sport enthusiasts."

## HSH Prince Albert of Monaco...

"I think it is not only important to support the Paralympic athletes in their quests, but also the IPC as an organization because it promotes great values and a great framework for people with a disability who want to do sport. This organization has done more for breaking down these walls of prejudice and discrimination and in offering possibilities for people to express themselves in sport and to find ways to be examples to others."

## James Wolfensohn...

"The Paralympic Movement is something that is extraordinarily important. It is inclusive, and I think it gives everybody the opportunity to achieve the limits of their activities in sport. But it is more than in sport, it is also in life."

## Maria Guleghina...

"I see a fantastic future for the IPC, because each young person who watches Paralympic Sport on TV will see what is possible and know that they can succeed and there is a place for them in the world."

## Sir Philip Craven...

"The Paralympic spirit is important to remember in past Paralympic Games, and know that it too will be present in the future. It is what brings the crowd together to watch the high performances of the athletes, and has kept the IPC growing over the last 20 years."

## Thérèse Rein...

"I have learned just how inspirational it is when people focus on what they can do, rather than what other people think they cannot do. And because the Paralympic Games are continuing to grow, more and more people all around the world will focus on being the best they can be."

## Wilfried Lemke...

"When I see emotions I can identify myself with that person, and the Paralympic athletes do just that, and that is inspirational in itself. The human connection is what Paralympic Sport can and does show the world."

# Paralympic Order Recipients Honoured

The IPC has officially honoured seven individuals with the Paralympic Order for the contribution that they have made to the Paralympic Movement. They include:

- Valeriy Sushkevych, President of the National Paralympic Committee of Ukraine
- Maura Strange, Executive Director and Secretary General of the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS)



- Pol Wautermartens, former Chairperson of the IPC Powerlifting Sport Technical Committee
- Tony Sainsbury, former Vice-President IWBF Europe and five-time Chef de Mission of the British Team for the Paralympics



- Jerry Johnston, founder of the Canadian Association for Disabled Skiing (CADS)
- Jens Bromann, former President of the International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA)



- Bob Fisher, former Chairperson of the Football 7-a-Side Committee of the Cerebral Palsy International Sports & Recreation Association (CPISRA)

On the occasion of the 10/20 Anniversary of the IPC, three of the seven individuals received the award during the dinner event in Bonn. Those recipients included Mr. Sainsbury, Ms. Strange and Mr. Bromann. Mr. Sushkevych, Mr. Wautermartens, Mr. Johnston and Mr. Fisher will receive their Paralympic Orders at a later date this year.

**"The Paralympic Order is the highest tribute a person connected with the Paralympic Movement can achieve."**

It honours persons who have made important contributions to the Paralympic Movement, have illustrated the Paralympic ideal through their actions, have achieved remarkable merit in the Paralympic sporting world or have rendered outstanding services to the Paralympic cause.





Eva Loeffler...  
(Daughter of Sir Ludwig Guttman)

"The Paralympic Movement started with just a few people in wheelchairs behind the hospital, and now look at it – more than 4,000 athletes in Beijing. They are his memorial."

Gertrude Krumbolz...  
(Paralympic Order Recipient, Past IPC Chairperson Wheelchair Dance Sport)

"I was instrumental in building Wheelchair Dance Sport with the IPC and the 10/20 Anniversary of the IPC is a fantastic event where we can remember the past experiences together, and look forward to the many things that will come in the future."

Hans Lindstrom...  
(Paralympian, former IPC Executive Committee member)

“Paralympic Sport has developed tremendously since the time when I was an athlete. The level of the sport right now and the achievements that the athletes have are not comparable. That is one part of it – the other is how impressively the organization has grown.”

Harald von Selzam...  
(IPC Guest, together with his wife Eva-Maria)

"I was in Dusseldorf for the foundation of the IPC and this anniversary event here is like a family gathering. The steps and the progress that the Paralympic Movement has made are just incredible, and anyone here who would have predicted this much development in such a short amount of time would have been called a liar. The will to succeed in this Movement and push it forward surpassed everything and made all of this happen."

# IPC Honorary Board Convenes in Bonn

A total of five IPC Honorary Board Members attended the second official meeting at the IPC Headquarters on 3 September in Bonn, Germany. Attendees included Her Royal Highness (HRH) Princess Astrid of Belgium, HRH Princess Margriet of the Netherlands, Soprano Maria Guleghina, business woman and lifelong Paralympic Sport supporter Thérèse Rein and former World Bank President James Wolfensohn.

The IPC Honorary Board took the opportunity together to discuss their goals and future steps in helping to develop the Paralympic Movement, conduct advocacy to achieve equality for persons with a disability, and increase the awareness

and profile of the Paralympic Movement. The meeting was led by IPC President Sir Philip Craven, with IPC Vice President Miguel Sagarra and IPC CEO Xavier Gonzalez also in attendance.

The IPC, as the global governing body of the Paralympic Movement, decided in 2003 to create an Honorary Board to allow leaders of society an opportunity to support the vision of the Paralympic Movement. Honorary Board Members assist the IPC in creating opportunities for raising awareness and funding, through the member's network of contacts and sphere of influence.



**From left to right:** (Top) Miguel Sagarra, James Wolfensohn, Xavier Gonzalez (Bottom) Thérèse Rein, HRH Princess Astrid, Sir Philip Craven, HRH Princess Margriet, Maria Guleghina



# Leading the Movement From 1989

PARALYMPIC FAMILY MEMBER AND PARALYMPIC ORDER RECIPIENT JEAN STONE SEES FULFILMENT IN GAMES AND IPC

The future of the IPC is said to be in the strengthening of its relationships in order to further raise standards and the presentation of the Paralympic Games. As the IPC is now recognized as the main and clear voice of the Paralympic Movement, the organization has gathered together a diverse family that continues to focus on athletes, enabling them to achieve sporting excellence and inspire and excite the world.

Paralympic Order recipient and long-time member of the Paralympic Family in roles which included Technical Secretary to the IPC Sports Council and Women in Sport Committee member, Jean Stone has seen incredible progress of the Paralympic Movement beginning with the Rome Games in 1960. As Ms. Stone remembers this time as clear beginnings, she references an official programme from the International Stoke Mandeville Games in 1959.

“The programme said, ‘It has always been our ambition to model our International Stoke Mandeville Games in line with the Olympic Games, whilst maintaining their separate entity. We have, therefore, the greatest pleasure in announcing that the 1960 Stoke Mandeville Games will be held abroad for the first time since their inception and will take place in Rome, immediately after the Olympic Games. This has been made possible through the excellent co-operation of the Italian National Institution of Accident Insurance, who at the instigation of Dr Maglio, the Director of the Spinal Unit in Rome, have most generously offered hospitality to the overseas teams. It also includes the co-operation of the World Veterans Federation, who have again offered to help with the fares of some of the visiting teams,’” Ms. Stone recalled.



Jean Stone

**“The Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games to me are the first Games where there was an obvious link between the Organizing Committees for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.”**

At that time, it was the goal to have future Games held every four years if Rome proved to be successful. Consequently, this occurred from 1960-1972. In the following years, International Federations took part in the preparations for the Games, including the International Organisation Sport Disabled (ISOD), which in 2004 merged with International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation (ISMWSF) into International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS). Also included was the International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA), as well as representatives from Cerebral Palsy International Sports & Recreation Association (CPISRA). This diverse grouping eventually led to the formation of the International Co-ordination Committee of World Sports Organizations for the Disabled (ICC).

## All Roads Lead to the IPC

“The members of ICC were the IOSDs but it was obvious that many nations felt that countries should be involved,” Ms. Stone said. “The result was that a seminar was organized in the Netherlands in 1985 and the outcome was a working group to prepare a constitution and other relevant paperwork for a new organization, and the result came in 1989 with the inception of the IPC.”

Ms. Stone has been involved in the sports movement for more years than she cares to remember, moving to the international scene in the early eighties

on the Sports Council of the IPC. But the word ‘change’ is not one that she cares to use regarding the current status of the organization.

“The creation of the IPC was a necessity to ensure the growth and development of the Paralympic Movement,” she said. “The world needed a ‘one-stop shop’ for everything related to the Movement and over the past 20 years it has grown, with the opening of the Headquarters in Bonn in 1999 as the first milestone in its development.”

It is clear that all of the hard work over the last two decades has continually raised the standards of the actual Paralympic Summer and Winter Games, with heightened collaboration to benefit all athletes. Some of Ms. Stone’s best memories in fact come from the Games.

“The Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games to me are the first Games where there was an obvious link between the Organizing Committees for the Olympic and Paralympic Games,” she said. “A comment made by more than one volunteer was that they had preferred working at the Paralympic Games, to which they gave the subtitle, ‘the friendly Games!’.”

The growth of the IPC can also be attributed she said to promotion and marketing of the Paralympic Games, which has in turn led to an increase in the number of athletes and sports involved.

“The centralization of the Paralympic Movement has made it easier to focus on the main areas of finance, marketing and communication, all of which are essential to any organization,” she said.

## For the Future

Ms. Stone hopes that in the near future, the IPC will no longer have the responsibility for the remaining sports for which it currently serves as the International Federation for nine sports (Alpine Skiing, Athletics, Biathlon, Cross-Country Skiing, Ice Sledge Hockey, Powerlifting, Shooting, Swimming and Wheelchair Dance Sport). She sees the IPC best as being solely responsible for the Paralympic Games.

Additionally, Ms. Stone sees the IPC’s future continuing to be at its brightest with volunteers. Furthermore, she said, as volunteers have been instrumental in the growth and success of the IPC, they remain vital to the Paralympic Movement.

“Why do people volunteer,” she said. “Ask the question, and you will get many answers.”



Guests were able to view the IPC Exhibition area, which displays historical images and pieces from the Paralympic Movement



**“Why do people volunteer?  
Ask the question, and you will  
get many answers.”**





## International Cup in Africa Brings in New Talent



The competition in Africa brought in new Paralympic fans from the surrounding area

The country of Egypt took the top spot in the first Open International Cup of Sitting Volleyball in the Great Lakes Region of Africa at the end of July. The inaugural event was a meeting of teams in Kigali, Rwanda, and was the first time that such a competition in Sitting Volleyball took place.

A total of six teams were in Rwanda's capital for the inaugural competition, including the host country, Kenya, Burundi, Uganda, Egypt and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Open International Cup gave athletes in the Great Lakes Region the chance to demonstrate the outcome of months of training, preparing them for further competitions.

Following Egypt in second place was Rwanda, winning four and losing one game. In third place was Kenya, winning three and losing two games. The subsequent three places were held by Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda, all with one win and four losses.

The International Cup in Kigali had been on the calendar of the National Paralympic Committee of Rwanda for months, and therefore saw a great deal of planning and training for the participating countries. Just in November of last year, NPC Rwanda organized a workshop on Sitting Volleyball, which was sponsored by the Voluntary Ser-

vice Overseas (VSO) and managed to have experts in the sport onsite, including Jouke de Haan from The Netherlands, and the President of the World Organization Volleyball for the Disabled (WOVD), Pierre Van Mannen.

A total of 12 coaches and eight referees were trained at the workshop in Sitting Volleyball, with coaches from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda. The two experts helped to conduct the seminar and activities, and as a result, helped to set up a calendar for developing the sport up to the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

NPC Rwanda plans on continuing such competitions, bringing in neighbouring countries and furthering Paralympic Sport in the region.

The WOVD is the International Organisation of Volleyball for people with physical disabilities and is affiliated with the IPC. It was formerly part the International Sports Organisation for Disabled (ISOD) and was established in 1981. The WOVD became a separate organization in 1992 after the Paralympic Games in Barcelona. The Headquarters of the WOVD is located in The Netherlands.

**For more information about Sitting Volleyball, please visit [www.wovd.info](http://www.wovd.info).**

## Tokyo Sees Successful Youth Para Games

The Tokyo 2009 Asian Youth Para Games which took place from 11-13 September, had a total of six different Paralympic sports played including Athletics, Boccia, Goalball, Swimming, Table Tennis and Wheelchair Tennis. Each sport had a competition everyday during the event.

Being the largest Games for youth athletes with a disability in the Asian region, a total of 466 athletes and 339 staff from 29 different countries and territories participated in the events. Highlighting the competitions, new world records were set by Meng Genjimsu of China in Athletics (Women's F40 Discus) and Yip Xiu Pin of Singapore in Swimming (Women's Backstroke S3 50m). Pin had set the previous World record and won the gold medal in the event at the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games.

In the Table Tennis competition, Japan took the gold medal in the Men's team event (class 7-8) with athletes Masachika Inoue and Takumi Shukunobe, against Wan Chung Law from Hong Kong, China, and Hossein Golmirzaei from Iran. In the Women's team event (class 3-5), Iran took the gold medal with athletes Maryam Gilanilarimi, Marzieh Akhavan Hariri and Maryam Alizadehmehdimahaleh.

In the Goalball team competition, Iran took the gold medal, while Thailand took the silver and both Japan and Korea took the bronze.

IPC President Sir Philip Craven was also in Japan attending the event. Furthermore, he visited the British Ambassador David Warren at the Embassy in Tokyo. Sir Philip and Mr. Warren talked about the impact of the Youth Games in Tokyo, as well as the London 2012 Paralympic Games and how the venues are continuing to develop in preparation for the event.

Organized by the Asian Paralympic Committee (APC) and the Tokyo 2009 Asian Youth Para Games Organizing Committee (TAYPOC), the age range of the athletes was between 14-19 years old.

**For more information about the Tokyo 2009 Asian Youth Para Games, please visit [www.tokyo2009.jp/english](http://www.tokyo2009.jp/english).**

## Wimbledon 2009 Adds Women's Doubles

Familiar pair from the Netherlands, Korie Homan and Esther Vergeer took the win at Wimbledon 2009 in the finals of the inaugural Women's Wheelchair Tennis Doubles event against Daniela Di Toro from Australia and Lucy Shuker from Great Britain, winning both sets 6:1 and 6:3. The Dutch pair successfully won their third major competition of 2009, having already won the Australian Open and Roland Garros Doubles titles.

In the Men's Wheelchair Tennis Doubles, French pair Stephane Houdet and Michael Jeremiasz took the hard-fought win against Robin Ammerlaan from the Netherlands and Shingo Kunieda from Japan. The French athletes lost the first set 1:6, but came back to win after taking the next two 6:4 and 7:6.

The French pair were top seeds in one of the strongest fields ever assembled in the five-year history of the Men's Wheelchair Doubles at Wimbledon. With the win, Houdet and Jeremiasz added their second title at a major competition in just one month, having also won at the Roland Garros tournament. This is also Jeremiasz's second Wimbledon Wheelchair Doubles title.

Eight of the top ten ranked Men's Doubles players and eight of the top 11 ranked Women's Doubles players contested the events at Wimbledon this past July.

**For more information about Wimbledon 2009, please visit [www.wimbledon.org](http://www.wimbledon.org).**

**For more information about Wheelchair Tennis, please visit [www.itftennis.com/wheelchair](http://www.itftennis.com/wheelchair).**



French pair  
Stephane Houdet  
and Michael  
Jeremiasz





# International Paralympic Day Takes Over Berlin

THE FOURTH EVENT IN ITS HISTORY AND SECOND IN THE GERMAN CAPITAL BRINGS AWARENESS WITH SUCCESS

In front of the Brandenburg Gate on 11 July, one of the main icons of Berlin, Germany, the International Paralympic Day (IPD) 2009 was officially the main event. Bringing in a record 58,000 people to Pariser Platz, the event brought together Paralympic Sport and the public, along with many educational opportunities.

The highlight of the day was the Long Jump competition (class F12 and F44) in the late afternoon. Many international top athletes competed, including Maximiliano Rodriguez (ESP), Matthias Schroeder, Thomas Ulbricht, Joerg Trippen-Hilgers (all GER) and Ronan Pallier (FRA) as well as Andre Oliveira (BRA), Casey Tibbs (USA), Urs Kolly (SUI), Roberto La Barbera (ITA), Jean-Baptiste Alaize (FRA) and German athletes Nick Weihs and Markus Rehm.

Spectators lined the route from start to finish for the athletes in the Long Jump, enthusiastically cheering as an unofficial world record was set by Matthias Schroeder (F12), who jumped 7.47m.

## Public Sees Paralympic Sports

Several Wheelchair Basketball and Wheelchair Rugby teams as well as Sitting Volleyball and Football 5-a-side teams took over the court at Pariser Platz, including the German and Dutch Women's National Team and the U21 Men's Berlin/Brandenburg team. Other sports over the day included Biathlon, Table Tennis, and Wheelchair Dance Sport.

For almost every sport presented at the IPD, top athletes were on-site to share their knowledge and provide guidance for several try-out activities. Paralympian Holger Nikelis for example, offered his expertise in Table Tennis and Verena and Michael Bentele offered theirs in Biathlon. With these demonstrations and athletes together, the public had the chance to get acquainted with the different Paralympic sports.

Many of the visitors at the IPD 2009 in Berlin experienced Paralympic Sport for the first time. The day-long programme therefore, gave everyone involved the opportunity to learn about the Paralympic Movement and consequently become fans of the sports.

The big event took place under the patronage of Prof. Dr. Horst Koehler, President of the Federal Republic of Germany, who was also in attendance. "After being at previous Paralympic Games, I can say the awareness of Paralympic Sport has certainly increased, and today at the International Paralympic Day in Berlin that process continued," President Koehler said. "After watching many of the athletes perform, we see that this is an elite world of sport with its own range of passion and emotions."

## Activities for Everyone

Some of the social activities which were part of the programme this year included Wheelchair Cheerleading and Dance Groups, Mini-Paralympics for children, and try-outs for all spectators willing to discover their own skills in Paralympic Sport.



The partners for the IPD 2009 were also in full force at Pariser Platz, with various stands and exhibitions of their own, while at the same time supporting Paralympic Sport. IPC Gold Patron Deutsche Telekom for example presented Wheelchair Basketball at the event, and Biathlon was presented by the Federal Union of German Associations of Pharmacists (ABDA).

IPC Gold Patron Allianz SE also had a stand at the event, giving visitors a chance to shoot a football in a goal with glasses simulating visual impairment. Event partner Deutsche Bahn, together with the German National Paralympic Committee presented Football 5-a-Side, with the German Social Accident Insurance Association (DGUV) offering physical performance assessments throughout the day to visitors. Other partners, like Otto Bock Healthcare presented a wheelchair obstacle course where visitors could experience the movement in a wheelchair.

Some of the other groups present in Berlin were the London 2012 and Sochi 2014 Organizing Committees,

Sumi, the Vancouver 2010 Mascot and all Candidate Cities for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games (Chicago, Madrid, Rio and Tokyo).

The IPD 2009 followed the enormous success of the IPD in 2007, 2005, and 2003, as well as the significant media coverage of the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games.

The IPC was able to host this event through the active support of the IPC Gold Patrons Allianz SE and Deutsche Telekom, the IPC World Wide Partners Samsung and Otto Bock Health Care, the event partners Deutsche Bahn, the Federal Union of German Associations of Pharmacists (ABDA), the German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV), Volkswagen, the German National Paralympic Committee DBS, the German Ministry of the Interior (BMI) as well as the media partners Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg (RBB) and Tagesspiegel.



## German President Prof. Dr. Horst Koehler says...

"After watching many of the athletes perform, we see that this is an elite world of sport with its own range of passion and emotions."



Visitors at the IPD 2009 in Berlin became new fans of Paralympic Sport







# Participation Builds Fan Base

ATHLETES ADE ADEPITAN AND CASEY TIBBS PRAISE THE BENEFITS OF VISITOR PARTICIPATION

At the IPD 2009, the IPC made every effort to open up activities and maximize the number of visitors able to participate. The Paralympic sports and demonstrations were an inclusive effort at this event, and the effect was recognized and welcomed by athletes Ade Adepitan and Casey Tibbs.

## Casey Tibbs

US Paralympian Casey Tibbs, who competed in the Long Jump competition at IPD 2009, said the event was a tremendous demonstration of Paralympic Sport that should also take place in the United States.

"People can be educated about Paralympic sports and see that it is not just about people with a disability, but an actual world-class sporting atmosphere," Tibbs said. "Most importantly, this is about educating the population and the world that there are Paralympics."

Tibbs, who has been in Paralympic Sport for eight years now, said the event and activities were purely for fun for the people of Berlin.

"It's about coming here and seeing your friends again and showing the people of the city what the Paralympics are all about," Tibbs said. "If you ever have an invitation to come here and show off your sport then you should definitely take advantage of that."



Casey Tibbs (left) and Ade Adepitan

"People can be educated about Paralympic sports and see that it is not just about people with a disability, but an actual world-class sporting atmosphere."

Most importantly, this is about educating the population and the world that there are Paralympics."

## Ade Adepitan

Ade Adepitan is a former Wheelchair Basketball player from Great Britain who currently is serving as ambassador to the London 2012 Paralympic Games. Adepitan was raving about the IPD 2009 in Berlin, saying the day was extremely important for the public as they were able to see Paralympic Sport up close and personal, as well as meet the athletes.

"Ultimately sport is about participation," he said. "It's real enough to watch it on the television, but you don't really get a feel and understand how fast Paralympic Sport is and how intense it is unless you have a go and see it in real life."

The London 2012 Ambassador said the activities provided a chance to expand the number of fans of Paralympic Sport.

"You can't help but be touched when you meet and you see the athletes and to be inspired by them," he said. "Because when I was a kid, watching sport on television was amazing, but one of the first athletes I met was boxer Frank Bruno, and when I saw how strong he was, how tall he was, it was just so inspirational and I immediately wanted to go to the gym and workout and become strong like him."



## Andreas Brehme...

(Former German National Football Team Player)

"I have recognized today at IPD for the first time just how difficult it is for athletes in Paralympic Sport. It was made apparent when I tried on the glasses which take away most of your vision, and you just see the football at the very last minute."

## Mongolia, Chicago, Vancouver and Whistler Host Paralympic Days

Around the time IPD 2009 was taking place, other cities around the world followed with their respective Paralympic Days in July. Mongolia, Chicago, Vancouver and Whistler each saw their own event take place this past summer, where both Paralympic Sport and the Paralympic Movement were promoted.

The National Paralympic Committee (NPC) of Mongolia recognized Paralympic Sport and its growth over the years with an event in the country on 10 July. The committee held a general meeting with its members, and celebrated with the media. The meeting was presented by the local media, including MNB, TV 5, TV 9 and local newspapers. Mongolian athletes who competed at the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games also attended, giving interviews and meeting with the public.

Chicago 2016 celebrated their International Paralympic Day in the windy city by bringing five Paralympic athletes to a Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC) youth camp at the same time. The athletes spoke to the children about their Paralympic Sport experiences and took part in sport activities with the RIC campers, including Wheelchair Basketball and Boccia.

Canada's Vancouver and Whistler promoted Paralympic Sport in July, and at the same time the upcoming Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games. In Whistler, at the Village Square, interactive demonstrations took place, as well as meet and greet opportunities with Paralympic athletes. In Vancouver, the Paralympic Day took place on a rooftop, reflecting the theme "Sport in the Sky".

Many distinguished guests made their way to the upcoming host city, including the Minister of State for the Olympics and Paralympics and ActNow BC, the Honourable Mary McNeil, who tipped off a demonstration game between Canada's world class Men and Women's Wheelchair Basketball Teams. Along with in-depth interviews with the athletes and photo opportunities, a Wheelchair Tennis match between German Paralympian Kai Schrameyer and Canadian Wheelchair Basketball gold medallist Patrick Anderson gave spectators a taste of elite Paralympic Sport.

All four Paralympic Days were the first of their kind in each respective location.

## Sochi 2014...

"The IPD in Berlin gives us a good impression and many ideas for how to carry out the International Paralympic Day in Moscow in December 2009. The IPC has done a fantastic job in putting this all together."

## 2016 Candidate City Madrid...

"In Spain, Paralympic sports has gotten a lot more attention in the last four years. And the IPD is extremely helpful for the Paralympic Movement because it raises awareness, and it is a model of social integration."

## 2016 Candidate City Rio...

"Brazil has a very good history of Paralympic Sport. And today is an excellent opportunity for Germany, and hopefully the exposure will continue on, with more athletes participating around the world."

## 2016 Candidate City Tokyo...

"We have a very long tradition of Paralympic Sport starting in 1964 when we hosted the Games. And today at the IPD seems very fantastic and this kind of event is very important to promoting the Paralympic Movement directly with the people."

## 2016 Candidate City Chicago...

"It is exciting to see all the people here today in Berlin, and know that they too will have influence on the Paralympic Movement, experiencing Paralympic Sport here whether intentional or by accident. With events like these that are in such wonderful public places, it makes it more accessible for everyone in the city to come by and see the power of the activities and the athletes."



# Vancouver to See Record Coverage



An incredible 50 hours of high definition (HD) television coverage in both English and French languages has been confirmed for the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games. Produced for the first time entirely in HD by a Canadian rightsholder, the Games will be multi-platform, including television, radio, digital and print offerings to the public.

With Canada's Olympic Broadcast Media Consortium planning to deliver the record programming, the Paralympic Games in Vancouver each day will be featured in a 90-minute programme, which highlights the day's activities, results and updated medal standings. Airing in English on CTV, TSN or Rogers Sportsnet, and in French on RDS or RIS Info in Sports, several live events will also be part of the major broadcast.



The Vancouver Paralympics will also have a strong showing during the Consortium's Olympic coverage. Features on Paralympians will regularly air in English and French, which celebrate the athletes' skills and achievements.

Additionally, a one-hour documentary about the Paralympic Winter Games, the Paralympic Movement and the host country's athletes will air on 28 February, the last day of the Olympics.

The coverage of the Paralympic Winter Games is designed to reach the widest possible audience. Digital coverage for example, will be prevalent on CTVolympics.ca and RDSolympiques.ca leading up to and during the Games, with athlete features, results, profiles, photos, video, an interactive medal tracker and user generated content.

## Creative Team Announced for Opening and Closing Ceremonies

Fifteen Canadians with expertise in costumes, lighting, music, and stage direction are joining the creative team tasked with orchestrating the magical and awe-inspiring moments celebrating the dramatic achievements of Paralympians at the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games.

They include a choreographer who strutted on stage with Janet Jackson, one of the world's foremost B-boy dancers and an audio designer who captured the blissful "I do's" at the wedding of the world's richest man.

Under Patrick Roberge's direction, the creative team will deliver on the creative vision for the ceremonies, create mass choreography for the 5,000 volunteer performers, including performers with a disability, design lighting and audio systems, select composers and musical arrangements, as well as design sets, costumes and props.



Official posters for the Vancouver 2010 Winter Games



## Paralympic Torch and Torchbearer Uniform Official

On 3 March 2010, a 10-day inspirational journey will illuminate the extraordinary achievements of Paralympians and celebrate the endless possibilities of the human spirit through sharing the Paralympic values of courage, determination, inspiration and equality embodied by the flame. The new flame will be lit in Ottawa, Canada, sparking the official start of the 2010 Paralympic Torch Relay.

Supported by the Government of Canada, the relay will involve an estimated 600 torchbearers and visit several celebration sites, which the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC) is actively working on and will announce at a later date. The Paralympic Flame will travel to BC Place in downtown Vancouver for the opening of the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games on 12 March, marking the first time Canada has hosted a Paralympic Winter Games. Tickets for all Paralympic events are currently on sale at [www.vancouver2010.com](http://www.vancouver2010.com).

IPC President Sir Philip Craven was on hand at the announcement in the summer, along with many other dignitaries. He said that the Paralympic Winter Games are about celebrating unbelievable athletic performances and triumphing repeatedly over adversity.

"The Paralympic Torch Relay is a powerful physical reminder of how a dream can spark a personal and emotional transformation in the pursuit of excellence," said Sir Philip. "I know in 2010, Canadians will give a warm welcome to the flame wherever it visits, and be great hosts to the world's finest Paralympians."

For the first time the Paralympic Torch Relay will also have its own unique emblem - "Spark Becomes Flame". The emblem shows a human figure with its arms raised and joined, much like a candle's flame. Contained within the arms is the glow of the fire within everyone, symbolizing the moment when imaginations are ignited and dreams are born. The design was created by Vancouver 2010's in-house design team.

The one-metre-long torch, designed by Bombardier, has an ergonomic, curved and modern design and features the emblem of the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games, a red maple leaf air intake cut-out and an engraving of the Games motto "With Glowing Hearts/Des plus brillants exploits". It also has robust technology created by Bombardier's aerospace and transportation design teams to weather the extremes of the Canadian winter. The torch can be operated in temperatures ranging from -50 C to over 40 C, through rain, sleet, snow and wind.

The Paralympic Torchbearer uniform, which blends in with the torch design, is steel blue in colour and accented with bright bursts of blue and green on the jacket's left arm. The uniform, designed and produced by the Hudson's Bay Company, consists of a jacket, pullover pants, toque and knitted red mittens. The uniform is a commemorative keepsake for torchbearers.

**For more information on the 2010 Paralympic Torch Relay, please visit [www.vancouver2010.com/torchrelay](http://www.vancouver2010.com/torchrelay).**

### OVERVIEW OF FACTS

## Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games

**Date:** 12 - 21 March 2010

**Host City:** Vancouver and Whistler, Canada

**Competitors:** Approx. 600 athletes from 45 different countries

**Five Paralympic sports:** Alpine Skiing, Biathlon, Cross-Country Skiing, Ice Sledge Hockey and Wheelchair Curling

**Mascot:** Sumi

**Motto:** With Glowing Hearts / Des plus brillants exploits

**Venues:** UBC Thunderbird Arena, Vancouver Paralympic Centre, Whistler Creekside and Whistler Paralympic Park

**Tickets available at [www.vancouver2010.com](http://www.vancouver2010.com)**





"In three years time we will be welcoming the Paralympic Games home and we will deliver a spectacular showcase for Paralympic Sport. However, we have greater ambitions."



## London 2012

### Three Years to Go

The official three year point to the start of the London 2012 Paralympic Games was on 29 August, and the London Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) marked the milestone date by announcing the appointment of Chris Holmes, MBE as its new Director of Paralympic Integration.

Mr. Holmes will lead on all aspects of London 2012's planning and organization for the Paralympic Games. He has had a distinguished career as a Paralympic swimmer, winning nine Paralympic gold medals, six at the Barcelona Games in 1992. He is a Patron of the 'Help for Heroes' charity and the British Paralympic Association, has been a board member at UK Sport since 2005 and was a Commissioner on the board of the Disability Rights Commission from 2002-2007, as well as practicing at a leading City international law firm.

Chris Holmes commented: "I am honoured to be taking up this position and it is a dream come true for me. My role is to ensure we continue our detailed work for a first class delivery of the Paralympic Games in 2012. My priorities are to educate our audiences so they understand and enjoy Paralympic Sport. The Games offer a truly unique opportunity for our country – a chance to change Britain for the better."

Furthermore, the Three Years to Go milestone was marked by a visit to the Aquatics Centre on the Olympic Park by Paralympic swimmer Ellie Simmonds and Chris Holmes.

### Goals Ahead

Key priorities in the next year will be to carry on detailed operational planning on all aspects of the Games as well as develop a public awareness campaign to educate the public about Paralympic sport and help them understand and enjoy what they watch in 2012.

Sebastian Coe, Chairman of the London 2012 Organizing Committee, said: "In three years time we will be welcoming the Paralympic Games home and we will deliver a spectacular showcase for Paralympic Sport. However, we have greater ambitions. This is a golden opportunity to raise awareness of Paralympic Sport, challenge stereotypes about disability and secure a legacy which would see every child with a disability having access to sport."

The chairman continued, saying that the Paralympic Games are key to their ambitions in using the Games to be a catalyst for lasting change.

**For more information, please see the official website at [www.london2012.com](http://www.london2012.com).**



Ellie Simmonds (left) and Chris Holmes

## Sochi 2014

### Festival Promotes Paralympic Sport

The Paralympic Movement was brought to Moscow, Russia, at the end of the summer with the Equal Chances Sport Festival. The festival was designed to raise the profile of Paralympic Sport and athletes with a disability around the country. The Equal Chances Sport Festival also boosted the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Games by demonstrating the clear enthusiasm from Russia's public, athletes and special guests for the Winter Games.

President and CEO of Sochi 2014 Dmitry Chernyshenko said that events like the Equal Chances Sport Festival are an acknowledgment that awareness is already changing attitudes toward people with a disability. He continued, saying that the importance of the issue was demonstrated by the involvement of famous athletes, politicians and business people for the event.

### Russia House in Vancouver

A setup called the 'Russian Sochi 2014 House' will officially represent the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games at the upcoming Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games, reminding all visitors of what to expect four years ahead on the calendar.

The 'Russian Sochi 2014 House' will be situated in Whistler, Canada, during the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games from 12-21 March, the entire run of the Games. The house will give Sochi 2014 the opportunity to present to each visitor an idea of the unique atmosphere and innovations of Russia's first Winter Games, four years ahead of its Opening Ceremony.



The Sochi 2014 President and CEO, Dmitry Chernyshenko, presented the facility's innovative concept at the meeting of the Organizing Committee for the Preparation and Participation of Russian Athletes at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Games. The meeting was chaired by Russia's Deputy Prime Minister, Alexander Zhukov.

During the meeting to discuss Russia's preparations for Vancouver 2010, Mr. Zhukov emphasized that Russia is taking every step necessary to ensure that its athletes will perform at the highest standard during the Games. He also highlighted the importance of the 'Russian Sochi 2014 House' as a facility for Russian athletes to experience the support of Russian sport-lovers.

President and CEO of Sochi 2014 Dmitry Chernyshenko said that the venue will have incredibly advanced communications facilities, including a live video conferencing facility for Russian athletes to share their successes with friends and relatives at home. He added that visitors will not only be able to sample genuine Russian hospitality, they will also get a showcase of Sochi and the whole of Russia.

**For more information about the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games, please visit the official website at [www.sochi2014.com](http://www.sochi2014.com).**



# Rio de Janeiro

## Becomes 2016 Host City

Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) was elected to be the host city of the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games at the 121st IOC Session in Copenhagen, Denmark, in early October. Rio de Janeiro eventually triumphed by taking 66 votes from a possible 98, following three rounds of voting by eligible IOC members. Other Candidate cities competing for the right to host the 2016 Games were Chicago (United States), Tokyo (Japan) and Madrid (Spain).

Following the decision, Rio 2016 President Carlos Arthur Nuzman thanked the representatives of the three levels of government of Rio de Janeiro – Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, Governor Sergio Cabral and Mayor Eduardo Paes.

“The IOC has made a historic decision,” Mr. Nuzman said. “I have much to thank. I’m proud of the representatives of the three levels of government. I am delighted to see how they understood what these Olympic Games represent for Rio and Brazil.”

Attendees at the session included IPC President and IOC member Sir Philip Craven, IPC Governing Board member and member of the IOC 2016 Evaluation Commission Greg Hartung and IPC CEO Xavier Gonzalez.

“I want to congratulate Rio de Janeiro in being elected as host city for the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2016,” Sir Philip said. “I know that Rio will do a great job in setting up unique and inspiring Paralympic Games in seven years time.”

The purpose of Rio 2016 is to deliver accessible and inclusive designs for all facilities, maximize media coverage and strengthen the Paralympic Movement. The Olympic and Paralympic Games are the pinnacle of every athlete’s career, and Rio 2016 will strive to provide conditions that enable the athletes to compete in an environment of excellence, friendship and enjoyment.



### Why Rio is Ready?

- Spirit, sport and a powerful legacy
- World-class existing venues
- A truly global celebration
- Uniting sport and youth
- An extraordinary Village experience for every athlete and official
- Taking sport to new audiences



Paralympic Village



Overview of the venues





Rio has already hosted competitions in various sports during the RIO 2007 Parapan American Games



“The Olympic and Paralympic Games are the pinnacle of every athlete’s career.”



# 2016

“I know that Rio will do a great job in setting up unique and inspiring Paralympic Games in seven years time.”

## Rio's Bid

With total commitment to an active and enthusiastic partnership with the Paralympic Movement, Rio 2016 is committed to staging inspirational Paralympic Games that showcase determination, courage and respect – and the potential of every human being to excel.

Staging the Paralympic Games in Rio provides an opportunity to promote the benefits of inclusion. Building on the foundations already established, the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games will also generate a powerful physical legacy through the creation of extended

accessibility infrastructure, including at visitor attractions, iconic sites and events. While some of Rio's primary attractions such as Sugar Loaf Mountain are currently wheelchair accessible, others, such as Corcovado (Christ the Redeemer), will be upgraded to ensure access for all.

The Rio 2016 Paralympic Games will provide inspiration beyond Brazil. As a regional leader, Brazil has the opportunity to influence South America, as seen by the significant change at the regional level and appreciation of Paralympic Sport brought about by the Rio 2007 Parapan American Games.

The Rio 2016 philosophy for the Paralympic Games is to embrace inspiration and change through equality. Rio 2016 will be an integrated Olympic and Paralympic Games. Both Games will be planned and delivered by the same Organizing Committee, guaranteeing equal levels of commitment. The same venues will be used.

Both physical and social, with new infrastructure and venues such as the Olympic Training Centre facilities which will integrate Olympic and Paralympic athletes, an extensive workforce trained and ready as a resource for future events in Brazil and South America, and changes in the perception of people with a disability.

For more information about the bid process, please visit [www.olympic.org](http://www.olympic.org).

For more information about the host city for 2016, please visit [www.rio2016.org.br](http://www.rio2016.org.br).



Athletics venue



Rowing venue



# Competitive Bids From Candidate Cities

The Candidate Cities who did not secure host city status for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games all showed exemplary efforts in planning integrated and successful Games. Chicago (USA), Tokyo (Japan) and Madrid (Spain) all were in the race until the very last day, finishing with the world more aware of each city's real potential.

With the official results, Chicago 2016 congratulated Rio on their success, and thanked Tokyo and Madrid for being such wonderful competitors.

"We look forward to continuing to work to promote Paralympic Sport and values in Chicago and in the Midwest, and to bringing teams to Rio in 2016

for the Paralympic Games," Chicago 2016 said. "This process strengthened the Paralympic Movement as each bid city really put forth their best effort to integrate the Paralympic Games, Paralympic Sport and Paralympic values into their bid plans and messaging. This is only the beginning of a new period of growth and understanding of the Paralympic Movement around the world, and we are grateful to have played a part."

With the focus on integration of the Games, each of the cities bids was clear about the importance of organized and well-developed Paralympic Games. For example in Tokyo, hosting the Paralympic Games was going to accelerate the implementation of univer-

sal design policies, and stimulate an additional range of legacies, such as Tokyo 2016's role as a catalyst in creating new sporting initiatives for people with a disability. These initiatives were to create an environment where anyone, including people with a disability, can enjoy sports freely and easily.

Dr. Ichiro Kono, Chairperson and CEO of Tokyo 2016 said: "Our participation in the bidding race has also inspired all sections of Japanese society, from the sporting and business communities, to government and even more importantly, the Japanese people, who have demonstrated to the entire world our nation's passion for sport and the values of friendship, excellence and respect."

Madrid, which made it to the final round with Rio, was to use the Paralympics to improve the Spanish capital and the sub city of Valencia's accessible infrastructure and to help promote multi-cultural understanding and social integration. Madrid wanted to use the values of Olympism to affect social change and their desire to use both the Olympic and Paralympic Games as a social model that respects differences and diversity. Madrid held the theme, "the Games with the human touch".

In commenting on the cities who did not win, IPC President Sir Philip said that the quality of all bids was very high, including the content of each presentation about the Paralympics.

"I am confident that any of the four cities would have put on great Paralympic Games," Sir Philip said.

For more information about Chicago's 2016 bid, please visit [www.chicago2016.com](http://www.chicago2016.com).

For more information about Madrid's 2016 bid, please visit [www.madrid2016.com](http://www.madrid2016.com).

For more information about Tokyo's 2016 bid, please visit [www.tokyo2016.or.jp/en](http://www.tokyo2016.or.jp/en).



1



2



1 Spanish athlete Vicente Arzo and the Madrid marathon

2 Proposed Paralympic Village and athletes in Chicago

3 Proposed main stadium in Tokyo and supporters in Copenhagen



"I am confident that any of the four cities would have put on great Paralympic Games."

3







# Wheelchair Curling on the Paralympic Winter Stage



Kate Caithness

FEDERATION VICE PRESIDENT CHRONICLES THE SPORT FROM ITS BEGINNINGS IN SCOTLAND TO WHERE IT IS TODAY

Born in Scotland, Kate Caithness has been actively involved in the Paralympic Sport of Wheelchair Curling for quite some time now. Currently, the Vice President of the World Curling Federation (WCF), Ms. Caithness is also one of the seven members of the WCF Executive Board, a member of both the IPC Sports Council and the IPC Paralympic Games Committee.

Ms. Caithness has been involved with the WCF since 1998. In 2000, because of her high interests in Curling for athletes with a disability, she was asked by the Executive Board to become the WCF Disabled Project Leader. The volunteer position had Ms. Caithness introduce Wheelchair Curling to the WCF Member Associations, as well as seeking for admission to the Paralympic Winter Games.

With clearly a full plate of responsibilities in front of her, Vice President Caithness has become an expert on Wheelchair Curling, and continues to promote it in the world of Paralympic Sport.

## How would you introduce Wheelchair Curling to new fans who are unaware of the Paralympic Sport?

Wheelchair Curling is a very enjoyable team sport for all ages and abilities. Through our early promotion of Wheelchair Curling as an integrated (not segregated) sport alongside able-bodied Curling, we have built the sport to allow the same skill levels to be apparent. However, with the absence of sweeping in Wheelchair Curling, it could be argued that the skill levels for wheelchair curlers are far greater. A DVD introducing the sport to newcomers is available for anyone on request from the WCF Headquarters in Perth, Scotland.

## What is the history of Wheelchair Curling and the World Curling Federation (WCF)?

I think it is important to first give a brief history of the sport.

Curling first began in the 17th Century and the first recognized Curling Clubs were formed in Scotland. During the 19th Century, the game was 'exported' wherever Scots settled around the world in cold climates, most notably at that time in Canada, USA, Sweden, Switzerland, Norway and New Zealand.

The first Rules of Curling were drawn up in Scotland in 1838. In 1966 the International Curling Federation was established and in 1991 the name of the Federation was changed to the World Curling Federation.

Wheelchair Curling first was introduced at an International Bonspiel and Workshop held in Crans Montana, Switzerland, in January 2000. Disabled Curling had been discussed at the WCF Annual General Assembly the previous

year in St. John, New Brunswick, and this was to be my first sight of Wheelchair Curling.

Sweden and Switzerland were the only countries at this time trying this sport. During the workshop, rules were discussed and there were some who thought the game should be played with junior stones and on a shorter playing field. Thankfully this was quickly ruled out. There was representation present from the WCF, and at the end of the week we formulated the basic rules for Wheelchair Curling.

Thereafter International Bonspiels and workshops took place and in 2002 the first World Wheelchair Curling Championships were held.

## How has the sport of Wheelchair Curling grown over the years?

During its infancy, I hosted 'Come & Try' events in several countries and also introduced coaches to Wheelchair Curling at courses held during the WCF Annual Summer Camp and Clinics. This has resulted in some 24 of our Member Associations now involved in Wheelchair Curling with more coming on board.

Our rules state that each team in WCF sanctioned events must comprise mixed gender, and this has certainly encouraged female participation.

## What are the opportunities for other disability groups?

A seminar/workshop was held recently to discuss the way forward for Curling for other disability groups. Recently, 'Come & Try' took place in Prague with a view to introducing the sport to cerebral palsy and visually impaired athletes. In fact Wheelchair Curling for visually impaired athletes has been played in Canada for some years now.

## Can you talk about the possibility of expanding and refining the classification system?

The Paralympic Games have been successful through the appropriate classification of athletes. Thankfully we have managed to establish a system which largely allows our sport to be a huge success. We feel that the classification governing Wheelchair Curling is well placed but this must be constantly monitored. We are currently looking at some small changes which will be brought into place following the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games and these will

The sport is currently practiced by athletes in over 20 countries

## OVERVIEW OF FACTS

### Wheelchair Curling

- The first World Championships were held in Switzerland in January 2002. Switzerland won in the finals against Canada.
- The sport had its Paralympic debut at the Torino 2006 Paralympic Winter Games.
- No stone must be of greater weight than 19,96kg or of greater circumference than 91,44cm or of less height than 11,43cm.
- Most stones used in international competitions are produced from granite only found on the Scottish island of Ailsa Craig.
- Current most successful team: Canada



Wheelchair Curling at the Torino 2006 Paralympic Winter Games

be communicated shortly. We are also looking at classification for other disciplines with a view to inclusion in the future.

## Can you talk about experiences in the sport when reflecting on the time during and since the Torino 2006 Paralympic Winter Games?

I was delighted to be appointed Technical Delegate for Torino where Wheelchair Curling made its debut on the Paralympic stage. What impressed me and continues to do so, is the absolute dedication undertaken by the athletes, along with the team spirit and camaraderie amongst the teams. There is no doubt in my mind that Wheelchair Curling in Torino caught the public imagination and was a great platform to move the sport forward. Wherever I go, I find enthusiastic wheelchair curlers around the world, and the commitment of players, organizers and volunteers is fantastic to see.

## Can you highlight upcoming competitions and what you hope Paralympic fans will watch for in the coming months/years?

Each year, apart from the year when the Winter Paralympics take place, ten teams compete in our World Champion-

ships. The number of teams entered for the qualifying competition is growing dramatically and perhaps in future years we shall be forced to look at zonal qualification.

## What can the world hope to see at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games?

As the skill levels improve we have seen the athletes introduce more varied shots to their repertoire. The length of games have been extended to eight ends of play by popular choice, but to ensure good time management we have introduced time clocks. I know that the athletes will truly aspire and seek to become true Paralympians in their sport. There is an excitement building and I have every reason and confidence to believe that we will be party to something very special in Vancouver 2010.


For more information about Wheelchair Curling, please visit [www.worldcurling.org](http://www.worldcurling.org).





# Disability Sport Increasing on the Radar in Turkey

NPC TURKEY PRESIDENT DISCUSSES SUCCESS IN THE PAST DECADE, AND THE WORK THAT REMAINS AHEAD

 The President of the National Paralympic Committee of Turkey, Yavuz Kocaömer, has been a strong and vocal advocate for creating opportunities for athletes with a disability. Because of this effort, disability sport in the country has grown considerably, and continues to be a larger force on the international scene.

President Kocaömer spent much of his childhood with a sibling who had a disability, which prevented his family member from properly sitting and walking for 22 years. From that point on, Mr. Kocaömer wanted to be part of the lives of people with a disability, helping them in some way.

Mr. Kocaömer was first the deputy chief, and then the President of the Turkish Sport Federation for the Physically Disabled until 1999. He then founded the Turkey Disabled Persons Sport, Aid and

Education Organization (TESYEV), and subsequently increased the number of sport clubs for people with a disability in Turkey from a beginning 18 to the current 64. TESYEV has provided the needed equipment for the new sport clubs, especially in the Anatolian region. Mr. Kocaömer also founded NPC Turkey in 2002, and continues to be an important voice for athletes with a disability not only with the organization, but also as a voluntary, contributing writer to the well-known national newspapers "Posta" and "Milliyet".

In looking at the progress in the country, President Kocaömer has witnessed a tremendous change.

**How and why has NPC Turkey grown over the last years?**

At the beginning of 2007, after seeing NPC Turkey was left alone and

had not been taken seriously by the Turkish National Olympic Committee, I wanted to be the President, and I took on the task. Since that time, NPC Turkey has worked in an office (300m<sup>2</sup>) which belongs to us. Now we are trying to enlighten the Turkish government and related sports institutions using the motto "There is no Olympic Games without Paralympic Games".

**Recently NPC Turkey held an international youth camp. Can you explain the reasons for having it and the outcome?**

I was with the Presidents and Secretaries General of several NPCs at two different dinners which were held during the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games. I told them that the slogan of these games is "One World One Dream" and it is time to make this dream real, and this is only possible when the countries gather in Paralympic Youth Camps.

The purpose of these camps was to introduce Paralympic players, help athletes with a disability to socialize with others in the camp, promote international peace and help the teenagers get to know the historical and cultural values from other countries.

The first camp was held this year from 27 June - 4 July in Marmaris, Turkey. Young athletes between ages 13-17 were from Germany, Greece, the Netherlands, Kenya, South Korea, USA and Turkey. During this one week period, under Turkish National Team's coaches, they tried the Paralympic sports of Swimming, Goalball, Table Tennis and Archery. It was especially important for us to see Kenyan young athletes try other sports since they mostly competed in Athletics.

The young athletes from the four different continents were distant in the first day of the camp, but the last day they were hugging each other, crying and exchanging e-mail addresses. This is the evidence that the camp was successful. The camp is planned to be organized again next year in South Korea.

**Can you talk about the involvement with NPC Kenya? Why are NPC relationships important?**

When Kenyan young athletes came to the camp, we saw that the wheelchairs they used were very old, broken, and not comfortable. NPC Turkey then donated six brand new wheelchairs to them.

To see the joy they had the moment they received their new wheelchairs



Neslihan Kavas took the bronze in Table Tennis in Beijing

made all of us, including myself, forget how tired we were during the camp.

Starting next year, we are preparing to work with other countries on similar initiatives. We have already received positive responses from Germany, the Netherlands, Iraq and Greece. We find co-operation between NPCs very helpful, as these countries try to complete their strong and weak sides with another country's strong and weak sides, and essentially be able to help each other.

**How has the awareness of Paralympic Sport grown in Turkey?**

In the last ten years, Paralympic sports have seen important progress in Turkey. The Turkish Sport Federation for the Physically Disabled and the Turkish Sport Federation for the Visually Impaired just have begun to see the results of their hard work. The purpose is to enlighten our people about sports for persons with a disability and tell them that it is a performance sport rather than rehabilitation sport.

We also just completed our preparation for a "Paralympic Publicity Programme" which will cost EUR 500,000 initially and these advertisements and programmes will be both on TV and in newspapers starting this year. We have the slogan, "There is no Olympic Games without Paralympic Games".

**How has equality progressed for athletes with a disability in Turkey?**

About 12 years ago when an able-bodied athlete won in the Olympics or World Championships, he or she was awarded five times more than an athlete with a disability, according to the laws in Turkey. The mistake was corrected after we had fought against it, with the change happening just before we planned to go to the European Court of Human Rights. The problem was that people with a disability were not seen in society and they were basically forgotten. But in the course of time, government institutions and politicians began to change.

With the upcoming London 2012 Paralympic Games for example, athletes with a disability will receive the same monetary support as others according to the law. There is still a long way to go, but we see positive outcomes in everything we do.

**What is the future outlook for NPC Turkey and the athletes?**


The future of NPC Turkey is directly related to Istanbul's candidacy for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. As long as our candidacy continues, we will continue to be able to benefit from the agreement signed between the IPC and the International Olympic Committee.





NPC Turkey President Yavuz Kocaömer and athlete Gizem Girismen


## +++ NPC TICKER +++


The Oceania Paralympic Committee has elected its new Board. The new President is Paul Bird (Australia), Secretary General is Fiona Pickering (New Zealand), Director of Finance is Jagdish Marharaj (Fiji) and Board Member is Bernard Chan (Papua New Guinea).

 NPC Tonga has a new office and email address! Their official address is now: Upper Room; Tonga Red Cross Bldg.; Taufa'ahau Road; Nuku'alofa; Tonga. Email: tnp1@hotmail.com.

 Mr. Suleiman Al-Rousan is the new Secretary General of NPC Jordan.

 NPC United Arab Emirates now has a new email address at uanpc@emirates.net.ae.

 Mr. Martin Lam is the new Secretary General of NPC Hong Kong, China.

 NPC Montenegro has moved offices and is now at: Obala 36; 85300 Petrovac na Moru; Montenegro.





## Otto Bock Brings Science Centre to Public

The Saturday stroll through the Pariser Platz on 11 July for many visitors included the Otto Bock stand, which featured the new Otto Bock Science Centre for Medical Technology in Berlin. Along with many examples of its innovative technology, IPC Worldwide Partner Otto Bock was able to present their new centre to a wide audience at the International Paralympic Day 2009, giving a preview to what is expected inside.

The Science Centre Medical Technology building has three levels and a total of 450 square metres forming an open area. All visitors for example can explore the true complexity of seemingly ordinary movement patterns like walking and gripping. Also, the way an understanding of biological processes inspires research and development in the field of medical technology is clearly illustrated.

As innovation for people with a disability is one of the focal points, visitors at the Otto Bock Science Centre Medical Technology can additionally experience the functionality of prosthesis, orthoses and wheelchairs directly. A virtual ob-



The Science Centre has three levels and totals 450 square metres

stacle course for instance around the Pariser Platz in Berlin, is part of the showcase, further outlining the areas of interest.

Located on Ebertstrasse, between Potsdamer Platz and the Brandenburg Gate, the centre offers a wealth of knowledge through multimedia installations and various interactive experiences. With the motto "Grasping

what moves us", the medical technology company Otto Bock welcomes all those interested in the field of science, and promises to offer a multi-faceted experience for everyone interested in the area of human mobility.

**For more information about the Otto Bock Science Centre for Medical Technology, please visit [www.sciencecenter-medicaltechnology.com](http://www.sciencecenter-medicaltechnology.com).**

## Allianz and Telekom Present Top Team



IPC Gold Patrons Allianz and Deutsche Telekom also presented the official German Top Team at the IPD in Berlin. The Team was formally presented during IPD on the main stage, giving the spectators a chance to see some of the athletes who will be competing at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games.

A total of 13 German athletes going to Vancouver are being given the opportunity to spend an entire 12 months practicing for the big event. The main goal of the support of the German Top Team is to allow for Paralympic athletes in employment to be released from work, enabling them to dedicate more time to their training. In return, the athletes' employers will receive a financial compensation.

Mr. Althoff said that it will give these athletes a chance to focus 100% on their training.

**"The German Top Team has the chance to focus 100 % on its training."**

"If they usually work as an employee for example, they do not have to work for 12 months," he said. "We pay the company so the athlete can concentrate on their particular sport."

**The German Top Team includes** Gerd Gradwohl, Thomas Nolte, Andrea Rothfuss, Gerd Schoenfelder, Karl-Heinz Vachenaer, Christian Junghanns (all Alpine Skiing), Verena Bentele, Thomas Friedrich, Wilhelm Brem, Josef Giesen, Florian Grimm, Frank Hoefle und Thomas Oelsner (all Biathlon and Cross-Country Skiing).



## Allianz Debuts Mini Arena in Berlin

With the thousands of people walking around Pariser Platz in Berlin, each setup which represented a company or organization had to do its best in standing out among the crowd. IPC Gold Patron Allianz did just that on 11 July with their new and bold 'Mini Arena'.

The inflatable Mini Arena held the shape of the original Allianz Arena in Munich, and was called a great success at the end of the day, with a large showing from children, parents, tourists and athletes. Allianz's Mini Arena offered information to all visitors and was the starting and ending point for the Mini Paralympics, the string of sporting activities for those looking to experience Paralympic Sport.

Next to the Mini Arena was the 'Try-Out Zone', one of the activities on the Mini Paralympics programme. Measuring nine-by-eight metres, the branded football area proved to be enjoyable for the young and old alike. Participants received specially designed glasses that offered ten percent vision ability, simulating much of the environment that athletes with a visual impairment might experience. The actual football used also produced sound, which again simulated the experience, giving each participant a chance to play like a Paralympic athlete.

Along to support Allianz's Try-Out Zone and Mini Arena was former FC Bayern Munich and National Team player Andreas Brehme. Brehme interacted with the participants, giving them tips and suggestions, as well as signing autographs.



Distinguished guests and the Top Team outside the Allianz Arena in Berlin

Executive Vice President of Allianz Group Governmental Relations/Public Policy Wolfgang Ischinger welcomed many of the visitors who entered the Mini Arena, including Prof. Dr. Horst Koehler, President of the Federal Republic of Germany. The German Top Team Squad was also nearby to greet the German President.

The day's activities ended with a reception in the evening at the Eugen-Gutmann-Haus at Pariser Platz, which was organized by Allianz with the support of Deutsch Telekom and the Bundesvereinigung Deutscher Apothekerverbände (APDA). The reception gave athletes the chance to speak with each other and others who were instrumental to the day's programme. The target of the event was to bring the Paralympic Family together in a comfortable atmosphere at the end of a successful day.

**For more information about Allianz, please visit [www.allianz.com](http://www.allianz.com).**



## Telekom Truck Stops at IPD

With the number of visitors at the International Paralympic Day 2009 breaking past IPD records, IPC Gold Patron Deutsche Telekom consequently welcomed a high number of visitors at its Telekom Truck setup. The vehicle, which expands to facilitate various activities like a Wheelchair Basketball court and Deutsche Telekom information stand, offered those interested an opportunity to try their hands at the Paralympic Sport.

Vice President of Corporate Sponsoring and Communications Controlling at Deutsche Telekom Stephan Althoff said the truck additionally offered interactive content, where visitors could use a computer to find out information regarding Deutsche Telekom as a sport sponsor or as a company. He continued saying that the numbers this year were much greater, in terms of real visitors to the stand.

"We are very happy and this is a huge increase from the previous years of the International Paralympic Day," Mr. Althoff said. "I think from content, it is much more interesting for people to come here to the Brandenburg Gate this year."



Sir Philip demonstrated his skills on the court with IPD visitors





# ODI Finishes Second Successful Year

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME BY THE IPC PROVIDES THE MEANS FOR PARALYMPIC SPORT

With the Olympic and Paralympic Games having the aim of embracing the whole planet and representing its diversity, the success of Paralympic Games is also measured by an effective participation of athletes from all parts of the earth. Any development initiatives therefore have as ultimate goal an increase of the number of different countries that send a fair number of athletes to the Paralympic Games. These Paralympic athletes are able to change perception on the abilities of persons with a disability within their societies which has a positive impact to all social and professional aspects in the lives of persons with a disability. Besides the IPC, through their NPCs, wishes to provide the chance of practicing sport to as many persons with a disability as possible.

The Organizational Development Initiative was born out of priorities elaborated by IPC's member organizations during a

conference in 2004. It is based on the comprehension that organizational efficiency as well as becoming capable and sustainable entities are crucial aspects in the development of National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) towards an increase of Paralympic athletes.

ODI results show that not only there are more NPCs that are represented in the www through their own sites but also that all ODI participating NPCs are registered to attend the GA in November. Other outcomes such as athlete development are a long term process; the numbers of athletes from each of these countries participating in the coming games are expected to increase.

Each NPC made different achievements but the areas of investment are pretty much the same for all: Administration, Awareness Raising, Marketing & Fundraising, Outreach and Governance. As sport represents the heard of NPCs some already used new rela-

tionships, growing expertise and own initiative to include areas of sport development into their activities.

Zambia's NPC's greatest accomplishment because of ODI has been including mainstreaming sports for persons with a disability into the National Federation of able-bodied persons. The directors of Burundi's rehabilitation centres were sensitised on the importance of sports participation which quickly had positive impact on the initiation of new sports and a growth of the Paralympic family.

Owing to internet access and an office space, NPC Burundi has been able to communicate more easily with their partners and extend activities to all provinces. Also NPC Lesotho and others could establish an office space for the safe keeping of items. These achievements are crucial for the stability of the organization and general infrastructure, and as a result bring in more

support from the community. Raising awareness in schools and within the media was another area that was actively followed by many NPCs.

A clear success has been demonstrated by clustering countries in East Africa. This concept allows achieving synergies and fosters NPCs to support each other. Rwanda organized a seminar in the region for training in Athletics and Goalball for visually impaired athletes and their coaches. Rwanda furthermore conducted trainings in Sitting Volleyball in Countries of the Great Lakes Regions. At a later step the first Open International Cup in this sport with the Great Lakes Region being represented was organized.

At the moment, a total of 13 countries participate in the ODI for a period of three to four years. Uganda, Panama, El Salvador and Nicaragua will become the newest members during the next couple of months to guarantee



a more global distribution. Countries that joined the programme in 2007 and 2008 are Azerbaijan, Cape Verde, Kenya, Rwanda, Tunisia, Uruguay, Burundi, Lesotho, Morocco, Namibia, Palestine, Tanzania and Zambia.

With challenges still ahead, ODI will continue to look for leaders in each respective country and prepare a fertile soil to increase the number of participating athletes with a disability. With the results reported so far, it seems that the countries will be much more visible at the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

## Nominations for IPC Governing Board

A total of 30 nominations have been accepted for the elections to the IPC Governing Board (GB) 2009-2013. Out of the 30 nominations, one is for President, five for Vice President and 24 for the Member at Large positions. The elections will take place on 22 November in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, at the 2009 IPC General Assembly.

The GB will consist of one President, one Vice President and ten Members at Large. Furthermore, an Athletes' Representative and the IPC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will be ex-officio members of the GB.

The nominees for President, Vice President and Members at Large listed in alphabetical order

PRESIDENT		VICE PRESIDENT			
	Sir Philip Craven, GBR		Ms. Ann Cody, USA		Mr. Greg Hartung, AUS
			Mr. Patrick Jarvis, CAN		Mr. Tariq Mustafa, PAK
			Mr. Miguel Sagarra, ESP		
MEMBER AT LARGE					
	Dato' Zainal Abu Zarin, MAS		Mr. Saad Alazma, KUW		Mr. Mohammed M.A. Fahdel Alhameli, UAE
			Mr. Masoud Ashrafi, IRI		Mr. Daniel Ben Abou, ISR
			Mr. Chutinant Bhirombhakadi, THA		Mr. Jose Luis Campo, ARG
			Ms. Ann Cody, USA		
	Mr. Paul DePace, USA		Mr. Alan Dickson, GBR		Ms. Rita van Driel, NED
			Mr. Greg Hartung, AUS		Mr. Ali Harzallah, TUN
			Ms. Hyang-Sook Jang, KOR		Mr. Patrick Jarvis, CAN
			Ms. Chen Lee-Chou, TPE		
	Dr. Vladimir Lukin, RUS		Mr. Tariq Mustafa, PAK		Mr. Karl Vilhelm Nielsen, DEN
			Mr. Andrew Parsons, BRA		Mr. Simon Peterson, NZL
			Dr. Karl Quade, GER		Ms. Veronika Roos, SUI
			Mr. Miguel Sagarra, ESP		





# Eligibility Outlined for Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment

In the first issue of 'The Paralympian' this year, Classification under the IPC Classification Code was explained and defined as the system that sets eligibility criteria. This ensures that an athlete's impairment is relevant to sport performance, minimizing the impact of the impairment on the outcome of competition. Additionally, the methods used to assess impairments under this definition of Classification should be reliable and preferably based on research indicating the relative impact of the impairment on the core activities of the sport.



The various stages of the testing process provide helpful documentation

The above criteria guided the development of a framework for 'Classification' of athletes with an intellectual impairment (ID Athletes) by the IPC – INAS-FID (International Sports Federation for Persons with an Intellectual Disability) Working Group. This group, with representatives from the governance and management of both the IPC and INAS-FID, as well as sports scientists appointed by both parties, was given the mandate by the IPC Governing Board and INAS-FID Executive Committee in 2007 "to appraise the present position, consider the options and make recommendations that, taken together, may ensure the re-inclusion of athletes with intellectual disability in the London 2012 Paralympic Games and beyond. An effective sport input needs to be ensured throughout the process."

Athletes with an intellectual impairment are challenged by limitations in the cognitive or intellectual functioning area, and therefore an assessment of cognition in relationship to sport demands is needed to set criteria for inclusion in Paralympic Sport. Derived from different theoretical models in educational and clinical psychology, the key components of cognition or intellectual functioning that likely have sport specific applications include: reasoning, working memory and learning, visual-spatial perception, reaction time and processing speed, attention and concentration, and executive function. These components can jointly be referred to as 'sports intelligence'.

Consequently, 'Classification' of ID athletes should focus on a series of tests for the above components, and if needed these tests should be 'tailored' to the sport-specific needs and demands.

In 2008, a group of researchers started the development of ID Classification systems for Athletics, Swimming, Table Tennis and Basketball under the above model. Representatives of the sports assisted this work and brought particular sport-specific expertise and reflections to the discussions and proposals.

In a first step, test items from existing cognitive and intelligence tests were selected on the basis of set scientific criteria, with minimum dependence on verbal language skills (e.g., ensure minimum verbal instructions) and cultural differences (e.g., use of neutral images). As the majority of these tests are computer-based, all tests selected were included into one single computerized test battery.

In a second step, additional tests were developed that prompt decision making (e.g., photos of relevant game scenarios) first for sports with key components in strategy and tactics (Table Tennis, Basketball).

This past summer, a large-scale research project to assess the tools and procedures developed was conducted at the 2009 INAS-FID Global Games in Liberec, Czech Republic, in July. The research project was conducted by 35 researchers representing five partnering universities and centres. It

aimed to test the standardization of instruments and test instructions, but also to assess the relationship between the tests and the demands of the sport. For this purpose, data have been collected from competitions, as well

as from mental skill sets and athletic career history.

It will be the in-depth understanding of all these component relationships that will allow for the further development and fine-tuning of the ID athlete classification system.

## How does this theory and model translate into practice and what do we have today?

It is important to reiterate that this translation in practice is subject to the decision of the IPC Membership at the IPC General Assembly this November on the motion for re-inclusion of ID athletes in IPC sanctioned events and competitions, including the Paralympic Games. The following is an elaboration of the above model in case the membership decides in favour of re-inclusion.

At first, any ID athlete who wants to apply for participation in Paralympic Sport will need to submit, through the national federation, their medical file to INAS-FID for review. The application should include proof of diagnosis of 'intellectual impairment' as defined by: IQ-measure < 75, limitations in adaptive behaviour, and age of onset < 18 years.

This procedure differs from any precedent on one of two main points:

- 1 Evidence on the IQ-measure only will be considered when submitted as a test result on a Wechsler Scale, Stanford-Binet Test, or Raven Matrix.
- 2 More detailed documentation in support of limitations in adaptive behaviour is required, preferably through the use of standardized questionnaires or surveys.

Details on the procedure can be derived from the official INAS-FID website at [www.inas-fid.org](http://www.inas-fid.org).

An independent INAS-FID 'International Eligibility Committee' will review every incoming application. Once an application is approved by this Committee, INAS-FID will issue a letter to the athlete stating the athlete is found 'eligible' and is allowed to proceed to the next step of the classification process.

The athlete then will proceed to on-site testing by a classification panel, appointed by the International Federation responsible for that sport. The on-site testing will focus on 'sports intelligence' as defined above, and will include tests relevant to that particular sport.

The test score will be evaluated against sport-specific minimal disability scores and the athlete will be allocated the sport class that applies to ID athletes in a particular sport. Failure to meet the sport-specific minimal disability scores will lead to allocation of sport class 'Ineligibility to compete'.

In case of objection against the decision of the classification panel, the athlete will be entitled to protest in accordance with the sport classification rules and the IPC Classification Code International Standard for Protest and Appeals.

At the occasion of the IPC Conference 2009 (preceding the IPC General Assembly), the above concept of classification will be illustrated with preliminary data from the 2009 INAS-FID Global Games. Also the administrative and operational pathway for athletes with intellectual impairments

to register and proceed through the 'classification' process, as derived from the model and agreed by both the IPC and INAS-FID, will be explained.

As of this autumn, no sport-specific minimal disability scores are available yet. This requires the full analysis of all data collected from the 2009 INAS-FID Global Games study, and it is expected that criteria will be made available through 2010. It is guaranteed that an ID Athlete classification system is developed in accordance with the IPC Classification Code, has an evidence-based methodology, and thus strengthens the decisions on the right for ID athletes to be included in a particular sport. It is recommended that each Paralympic Sport that targets the inclusion of ID athletes in future events and competitions, extend their classification system on the basis of the above model.

Finally, it is important to note that the decision on the events to be included in a competition will be made in accordance with the set forth provisions. This is for the determination of that competition's medal events and the respective qualification criteria, which is no different than any other event for any other disability group or sport class.

## Impact, Mobility and Psychology in Beijing Research

The Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games provided an ideal opportunity for some selected research projects to be conducted with authorization from the IPC. Besides the study on autonomic dysreflexia and boosting reported in the Paralympian this summer, the IPC approved research projects covering both sport-centred and athlete-centred themes.

Using high speed digital cameras, a biomechanical analysis of throwing techniques of athletes with lower-limb amputations, and athletes competing in seated classes, the impact by absence of lower limb or lower limb muscles was better understood. The digital reconstruction of the athlete's performance and calculation of joint angles and velocities during the Shot Put event for example, show that the angle of shot at release was not found to be strongly related to distance of throw. Additionally, it was quite low (average of 27 degrees) when compared to that of able-bodied shot putters (35-42 degrees). This outcome, regardless of the technique used (standing versus gliding), is consistent over all sport classes, and generates further questions on the involvement of the rotation of the hips, trunk and shoulders, leg and trunk to the preparation and launch.

Throughout the Games' period, Paralympic athletes in different sports participated in a study on the impact of wheeled mobility on the independent performance in the daily life of permanent wheelchair users. Nearly half of the respondents claimed to have learned to perform the most essential wheelchair mobility skills after discharge from hospital, and only just over 10% learned to perform the most essential skills by peers. The survey indicates the need to optimize skills learned while being hospitalized to reflect the real needs and demands of 'wheeled mobility in a real environment'. The data suggest that individuals who were in a similar situation should play a more prominent role in the skill acquire process.



Detailed testing took place during the Beijing 2008 Paralympics

A study focusing on psychological factors underlying peak performance shows that, similar to Olympic athletes, goal-setting methods are used both in practice and competition situations most frequently. In focusing on performance and success criteria, activation as well as imagery seems to be crucial psychological factors, while self-talk and relaxation techniques seem to be of minor relevance for top-level Paralympic athletes. However, mental preparation does not seem to be a systematic part of the athlete training and preparation programme, and mostly only short-term mental consultations were reported in the study.

For more information, please contact IPC Medical & Scientific Director Dr. Peter Van de Vliet at [peter.vandevliet@paralympic.org](mailto:peter.vandevliet@paralympic.org).



# IPC-IAKS Confirm Accessibility Agreement

CO-OPERATIVE ACCORD BRINGS BOTH ORGANIZATIONS IN SOLIDARITY TOGETHER

A new agreement between the IPC and the International Association for Sports and Leisure Facilities (IAKS) was signed on the occasion of the IPD in Berlin, Germany, in the aim to continue promoting internationally recognized accessibility standards. Strengthening the relationship between the organizations, the agreement will also designate staff liaisons in co-ordinating activities and enhance communication and co-operation.

## 21st IAKS Congress



International Congress for the Design, Construction, Modernization and Management of Sports and Leisure Facilities

Cologne, Germany  
28 - 30 October 2009

For more information, visit [www.iaks.info](http://www.iaks.info) or send e-mails to [kongress@iaks.info](mailto:kongress@iaks.info).



IAKS Congress in 2007

Signed by IPC President Sir Philip Craven and IAKS President Dr. Stephan J. Holthoff-Pfoertner, the agreement ensures future collaboration on all issues of mutual interest consistent with the goals and policies of both organizations. Additionally, the IPC and IAKS have the possibility of entering into further co-operative agreements to expand on the foundation established through this agreement.

For more information about IAKS, please visit [www.iaks.info](http://www.iaks.info).

## International Architectural Awards Announced

The IPC, IOC and IAKS has announced this year's winners of their international architectural award for sports and leisure facilities. The triumphant winner is China with two gold, two silver and one bronze medal as well as with two IPC/IAKS Distinctions. The Olympic Stadium ("Bird's Nest") in Beijing won the gold medal in the category "Stadia" and also the IPC/IAKS Distinction for accessibility for its outstanding offers for athletes and spectators with a disability.

The award ceremony will take place during the 21st IAKS Congress in conjunction with International Trade Fair for Amenity Areas, Sports and Pool Facilities (FSB) in Cologne, Germany, on 28 October.

A jury-session with international personalities honoured seven projects with gold, nine with silver, eight with bronze and argued for four special distinctions. Ten participants were awarded with an IPC/IAKS Distinction. The winning entries come from 14 countries worldwide.

For more information, please visit the official website at [www.iaks.info](http://www.iaks.info).

## UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities Adds USA

The United States became an official signatory to the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the end of July. The new addition brings the USA together with other UN Member Nations in the common goal of promoting equality in sporting activities.

The emotional and inspirational event was a giant leap forward for the Paralympic Movement in the USA. US President Barack Obama said he had instructed U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice to sign the document, joining 140 other nations, with attendees from the Movement, including IPC Governing Board Member Ann Cody and Paralympian Linda Mastandrea.

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities becomes the fourth major human rights treaty ever adopted by the USA.

History was made in 2008 at the Beijing Paralympic Games when the unveiling of the UN Convention on Rights for Persons with Disabilities Wall in the Paralympic Village took place before the start of the Games and drew a large crowd of athletes, officials and supporters. The Convention was introduced unanimously in 2006 by the delegates of the 192 UN Member Nations.



Top: UN Ambassador Susan Rice signs the document

Bottom: IPC Governing Board Member Ann Cody (left) and Paralympian Linda Mastandrea (right) at the signing ceremony

The UN Convention on Rights for Persons with Disabilities recognizes that persons with a disability have the right to participate in sporting activities with a choice between mainstream and disability-specific programmes.

For more information about the Convention, please visit [www.un.org/disabilities](http://www.un.org/disabilities).

## IPC Pays Tribute to Paralympic Family Members

Since the last issue of The Paralympian, the IPC has had to say goodbye to several individuals over the past few months.

Therefore, the IPC would like to take this opportunity to offer its sincere condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Colin Rains, Jimi Flowers, Gillian Hall and Professor Sir Harry Fang.

**Colin Rains** became Honorary President of Cerebral Palsy International Sports & Recreation Association (CPISRA) in 2004, where he continued to challenge assumptions, raise issues of concern and concentrate on what it meant for people with a disability, and particularly those with cerebral palsy to have the opportunity to participate in sport.

Colin has been recognized by his local university, his country, international organizations and the IPC for his long and distinguished career in international disability sport and his legacy will continue in all that we continue to strive for within sport for athletes with a disability.

**Jimi Flowers** had become the USOC Paralympic Swimming Head Coach and National Team Manager. Jimi was an incredible coach who developed numerous Paralympic champions for the United States. Over the past 25 years, he had met and influenced countless swimmers. He was known for his positive attitude which was not only consistent, but contagious.

Jimi had been managing the aquatic centre at the US Olympic Training Centre in Colorado Springs, and when life and sport reunited, he was at his best.

**Gillian Hall** had been Head of Classification for the IPC Alpine Skiing Sport Technical Committee. An outstanding contributor to the Paralympic Movement, Gillian had a long history with Paralympic Sport. Coming from Christchurch, New Zealand, her diverse background included physiotherapy advisor to the New Zealand Disabled Ski Team, and Board Member of both Disabled Snowsports New Zealand and the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) of New Zealand.

Gillian was a leader in sport for persons with a disability in New Zealand, and was a strong organizer of events and competitions. She worked with teams, held governance roles and also worked on the sport technical side. Gillian was instrumental in the success of previous Paralympic Winter Games and Championships due to her expertise and commitment to Paralympic Sport.

**Professor Sir Harry Fang** was the Founding Father of the Far East and South Pacific Games for the Disabled (FESPIC). Former President of the National Paralympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, Professor Fang worked tirelessly and relentlessly playing a leading role in the Paralympic Movement. He was the founder of Hong Kong, China's Paralympic Committee in 1972 and was instrumental in pioneering the development of sport for people with a disability in Hong Kong, and around the Asia and Pacific region.

He was awarded the Paralympic Order in 2001 for his important contributions to the Paralympic Movement.





# Season's Greetings

聖誕節和新年快樂！ • God jul och gott nytt år • Sretan Božić • E schéine Chrëschttag an e glécklecht neit Joer! • WESOLYCH ŚWIĄT • Joyeux Noël et bonne année  
 Frohe Weihnachten und ein gutes neues Jahr • اجمل التهاني بمناسبة الميلاد و حلول السنة الجديدة • Prettige Feestdagen • Καλά Χριστούγεννα και Ευτυχισμένο το Νέο Έτος  
 ¡Feliz Navidad y próspero año nuevo! • Glaedelig jul og godt nytår • С Рождеством Христовым • Maligayang Pasko at Manigong Bagong Taon • Gleðileg jól  
 メリクリスマス&新年おめでとうございます。 • Buon Natale e felice anno nuovo • Crăciun fericit și un an nou fericit • חג מולד שמח ושנה טובה • Bon Nadal i felix any nou  
 Kellemes karácsonyt és boldog új évet • Честита Коледа • God jul og godt nytt år • 즐거운 성탄절 되시고, 새해 복 많이 받으세요.

# Tokyo 1964

GAMES FOLLOW TREND SET IN ROME, MAINTAINING OLYMPIC LOCATION

The tremendously ambitious goal that Sir Ludwig Guttman had to repeat his organizing of the Paralympic Games at the same location as the Olympic Games was met in the sophomore year of the big event. Tokyo, Japan, in 1964 saw an early form of what is now the Paralympic Games, with Sir Ludwig going to great lengths in implementing his vision.

The support gathered for his plan was helped by the positive reactions of Japanese observers who visited the 1960 Games in Rome. Based on their reports when returning to Tokyo, and with the agreement of the International Stoke Mandeville Games Committee, communication was established between Sir Ludwig and the Japanese authorities.

An incredible event by athletes with a disability had been on the world's stage just four years prior in Rome, therefore the people of Tokyo had an idea of what was to be expected. This curiosity turned into an impressively filled National Stadium on 12 November for the official Closing Ceremony. A total of 5,000 people enthusiastically cheered on the athletes for their performances, along with the Crown Prince and Princess, Sir Ludwig, the

representative of the Prime Minister of Japan, the Minister of Health and the Governor of Tokyo.

The Opening Ceremony was no less impressive, with about the same number of spectators in attendance at the Oda Field located in the Olympic Village. The local and national press, radio and television responded with intense coverage, which was contrary to the Organizing Committee's earlier concerns that it might be difficult to create media interest because of the focus on the Olympic Games.

A total of 375 athletes (307 men and 68 women) from 21 countries participated in the Tokyo Games. The largest delegation came from Great Britain, with 70 athletes, followed by the USA with 66.

One of the most significant additions to the sports programme was made at the 1964 Games – wheelchair racing in the form of a 60m race for men and women. Wheelchair racing has

since grown into one of the most exciting Paralympic sports of Athletics with many events within it, and has helped to greatly raise the profile of athletes using a wheelchair.

The athletes competed for 144 gold medals during the Games, with the USA, Great Britain, Italy and Australia taking the top four positions

A total of 5,000 people enthusiastically cheered on the athletes for their performances.



Tokyo 1964 Poster

## CRASH COURSE: THE MOVEMENT

## Do you know...

- 1 When was the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) founded?
- 2 How many Presidents has the IPC had and who are they?
- 3 What replaced the Executive Committee in 2005?
- 4 How many sports does the IPC currently govern as an International Federation?
- 5 When did the IPC Headquarters in Bonn, Germany, officially open?



Sir Ludwig Guttman



Sir Ludwig Guttman, Prince Philip and archer at the Opening of the Stoke Mandeville Stadium (1969)

1 22 September 1989  
 2 Two: Dr. Robert D. Steadward and Sir Philip Craven (current)  
 3 The Governing Board  
 4 Nine  
 5 3 September 1999



## Governing Board in Whistler

The IPC Governing Board (GB) concluded its 53rd official gathering from 26-28 June in Whistler, Canada. The GB discussed and approved several issues, including the ratification of the appointment of Her Royal Highness Princess Astrid of Belgium as a member of the IPC Honorary Board, and a position statement of Classification providing scientific background for classification in Paralympic Sport and guidelines on how evidence based classification may be achieved. The next Governing Board meeting will take place in November in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, days before the General Assembly for 2009.

## Call For Athletes' Council Nominations

The official call for the IPC Athletes' Council (AC) nominations for the upcoming AC elections was sent out on 10 September to NPCs who participate regularly in winter sports, with the deadline set for 10 December 2009. The IPC will be organizing the elections for new members of the AC during the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games, which occur from 12-21 March 2010.

The IPC Athletes' Council is composed of nine Paralympic athlete representatives elected for a four-year term. Six athlete representatives are elected from summer sports and three from winter sports at the Paralympic Games.

Further information regarding the submission process please contact Verena Conrad at [verena.conrad@paralympic.org](mailto:verena.conrad@paralympic.org).

## New IPC Website Online



The website of the IPC has received a complete face-lift with new features including accessible Flash Animation, RSS Feed, News Widgets, a Calendar and an embedded link to IPC's YouTube channel.

The new website will continue to be the main source of information to the Paralympic Family and fans of Paralympic Sport. Established sections like the Media Centre and the Athlete Club will continually be extended and updated.

In close collaboration with Netempire AG - responsible for concept, project management, technical implementation and web design – the IPC has ensured that the site remains accessible according to W3C standards and easy to use.

To visit the official website of the IPC, please visit [www.paralympic.org](http://www.paralympic.org).



### PARALYMPIC VALUES INSIDE THE MOVEMENT

## The Question:

How have the last 20 years of the IPC brought the Paralympic Values to light?

## Courage

"Because the IPC united the Paralympic Movement, the needed platform was created to move sports for athletes with a disability from the backyards onto world arenas, developing comprehensive Paralympic Games with an immense audience. This change has given many athletes the courage to participate in Paralympic Sport today, as well as the courage to establish themselves truly as athletes in society."

**Hans Lindstrom**  
Former IPC Executive Committee Member

## Determination

"Over the years I have seen determination in the eyes of the athletes and the people behind each and every National Paralympic Committee. The way in which this has affected the evolution and progress of the organization is immeasurable."

**Sabine Mikulas**  
IPC Membership Relations Manager

## Inspiration

"Anniversaries are an opportunity for reflection. The creation of the IPC provided a focal point for the Paralympic Movement that is still critical today in ensuring that Paralympians are recognized as elite athletes and for our athletic achievements, and inspiring everyone who experiences it."

**Karolina Wisniewska**  
Canadian Paralympian in Alpine Skiing

## Equality

"There is no Paralympic division or dedicated staffing structure in LOCOG. We define equality in terms of our delivery of the Paralympic Games as a coin with two sides – integration and distinctiveness. Integration of the operational infrastructure of a sixty day event of two Games with minimal transition yet distinctive to emphasize the unique characteristics of Paralympic athletes 'to inspire and excite the world'. LOCOG's vision is 'to use the power of the Games to inspire change'."

**Tony Sainsbury**  
LOCOG Athletes' Villages Manager

## Registration for Vancouver Observers' Programme

On the occasion of the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games, the IPC will once again be organizing an official Observers' Programme. The programme was successfully organized during past Games as part of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) programme in Athens, Torino, and then for the first time independently with the IPC in Beijing.

The main programme will cover 13 days of activities, with visits to competition venues, presentations from key VANOC staff and IPC Advisors, informative workshops, and the possibility for participants to conduct their own observations based on individual interests and needs. An Observers' Manual will also be provided to facilitate the observation. The Observers' Programme is intended for event organizers. Therefore, due to the limited availability of slots for Vancouver, each interested organization will be allowed a maximum of four participants.

The IPC will be making every effort to ensure observation opportunities are provided to all applicant organizations, and for this reason, the IPC may change the number of originally requested participants from an applicant organization. The deadline for registration is 20 November 2009. For more information, please contact Kostas Anestis at [observers@paralympic.org](mailto:observers@paralympic.org).

### IMPRINT

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