

THE

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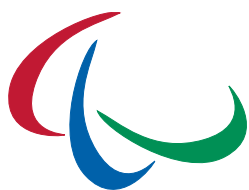
# PARALYMPIAN

[www.paralympic.org](http://www.paralympic.org)



## ► More than the Paralympics

- Recap: Winter World Championships
- Preview: IPC Athletics Grand Prix, VISTA2013





# our personal bests to everyone's progress

We like to make smashing records our personal business. In London our Business Technologists provided the IT expertise that ensured the world enjoyed a faster, safer and greener Paralympic Games. They are now on their way to Sochi and Rio de Janeiro to smash new records. To learn more about our personal bests, and what they could achieve for your business go to [atos.net](http://atos.net)

Your business technologists. Powering progress



“Sustaining momentum is key in 2013, and although this may not be a Paralympic year, it is still set to be one of the busiest yet.”

Dear Readers,

The first edition of The Paralympian in 2013 comes with a number of exciting new features and is part of the IPC's aim to give you more in-depth information about the Paralympic Movement, whilst complementing the comprehensive daily news updates on [www.paralympic.org](http://www.paralympic.org).

Since its relaunch in February 2012, the IPC website, [www.paralympic.org](http://www.paralympic.org), has recorded over 3.5 million visitors, which is more than the last six years put together. With so much sport and good news to report on from around the Movement it is easy to see why visitor numbers continue to increase.

Sustaining momentum is key in 2013, and although this may not be a Paralympic year, it is still set to be one of the busiest yet, and it is important for all of us that we continue to build on the success of London 2012.

Evidence of this can be found with the two broadcast agreements we recently announced with EBU and Channel 4. Both deals mean the next two Paralympics will receive record coverage during the event and in the build-up through coverage of upcoming championships.

The first three months of 2013 have already seen numerous World Championships take place, mainly in winter sports, and these are covered in this edition together with the Test Events and one year to go activities Sochi 2014 implemented ahead of next year's Paralympic Winter Games.

The main feature this edition is on the growing range of competitions athletes from around the world can choose to compete in. As the number of athletes taking part in para-sport globally increases, it is vital that they have greater opportunities to compete at all levels and a number of athletes give us their views on progress in this area.

To close I'd like to pay tribute to two amazing athletes and superb ambassadors for the Paralympic Movement – Daniel Dias and Esther Vergeer.

Brazilian swimmer Dias picked up his second Laureus Sport Award in March in recognition of the six gold medals he won at London 2012. At just 24 years old, it is unbelievable to think an athlete who has already won 10 Paralympic and 10 world titles, may still have his best days ahead of him, especially with Rio 2016 on the horizon.

As for Vergeer, what else is there to say? Unbeaten in 470 consecutive singles matches stretching over 10 years, eight Paralympic and 42 Grand Slam titles, I am not sure we will ever witness an athlete in any sport enjoy such dominance again. On behalf of the entire Paralympic Movement, I would like to congratulate Esther on her historic career and wish her well with the new aspects of her life.

Enjoy your read.

Philip Craven

Sir Philip Craven, MBE  
IPC President





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The Netherlands' Bibian Mental won March's IPCAS Snowboard Cross Test Event in Sochi, Russia

PRINT



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The Channel 4 presenter shares what is next in Paralympic broadcasting.

THE PARALYMPIAN

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## Channel 4 and EBU win TV rights

The IPC secured historic broadcast deals in the lead-up to the Sochi 2014 and Rio 2016 Games.



a highly competitive tender process.

The deal includes multi-platform broadcast rights and will build on the network's acclaimed coverage of London 2012, which broke national viewing records for Paralympic sport and reached 69 per cent of the population.

Channel 4 will now screen more than 45 hours of coverage from Sochi 2014, the most ever by a British broadcaster from a Winter Games.

In the lead-up to Rio 2016, the broadcaster will show coverage of July's IPC Athletics World Championships and August's IPC Swimming World Championships. For Rio 2016, it will screen a minimum of 200 broadcast hours of live coverage, highlights and The Last Leg.

# EBU

In addition to this landmark deal, the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) formed a multi-service partnership with the IPC to cover the media rights on all platforms for the Sochi 2014 and Rio 2016 Games, as well as various other events.

Under the new terms, the EBU will exploit the media rights for all EBU territories, excluding Russia for Sochi 2014 and Great Britain for both Games. Twenty-seven EBU members have already committed to showing the Rio 2016 Paralympics – an unprecedented number so far in advance of any Games.

The EBU will also provide the IPC with production and distribution services and on-site activities to enhance the coverage of IPC Championships and test events.



Canadian swimmer Benoit Huot will be one to watch at Toronto 2015

## Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games shaping up nicely

The IPC visited the Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games Organising Committee for the first time this spring, touring the city's venue construction sites and receiving updates on the budget, sports programme and accessibility of the event.

"Like the London 2012 Games did for the Paralympic Movement globally, it's our hope Toronto will inspire and reach new audiences for the development of Paralympic sports in the Americas and the Caribbean," IPC Chief Executive Officer Xavier Gonzalez said.

More than 1,600 athletes will compete in Toronto across 15 sports, all of which will serve as qualifiers for Rio 2016.

web >>

>> [www.toronto2015.org](http://www.toronto2015.org)



Poland's Wojciech Kosowski competed in pistol events at London 2012, which will also be on the European Championships programme



France's Patrick Ardon came sixth in the -48kg category at London 2012



Canada's Alexandra Starker will hope to build on her three World Championship bronze medals on home snow in 2015

## Future World and regional Championships announced

The IPC announced that the **2013 IPC Powerlifting Open European Championships** will be held in Alexin, Russia, the **2013 IPC Shooting European Championships** will take place in Alicante, Spain, and the **2015 IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships** have been awarded to Invermere, Canada.

The powerlifting event will run from 22-28 May this year, drawing 150 athletes, and the

shooting event will run from 18-26 October, welcoming 170 athletes.

The seventh edition Alpine Skiing World Championships will take place at the Panorama Resort in British Columbia from 24 February - 4 March in 2015.

The 2015 Championships, to be organised by Alpine Canada, are expected to draw 120

athletes and will build on a successful 2011-12 World Cup final event at the Panorama Resort, as well as the Vancouver 2010 Games, which IPC President Sir Philip Craven described as the best Winter Games ever.

web >> [www.ipc-shooting.org](http://www.ipc-shooting.org)

web >> [www.ipc-powerlifting.org](http://www.ipc-powerlifting.org)

web >> [www.ipc-alpineskiing.org](http://www.ipc-alpineskiing.org)

## Wheelchair tennis star Vergeer retires

The Netherlands' Esther Vergeer, arguably the greatest female wheelchair tennis player of all-time, announced her retirement from the sport on 12 February.

Vergeer went the last 10 years without a defeat in 470 singles matches and has been ranked No. 1 in the world since 1999. In the last decade, Vergeer, won a total of 120 successive tournaments, beating 73 different opponents, winning 95 matches 6-0, 6-0 and dropping just 18 sets of tennis. In that time, she faced only one match point – against fellow countrywoman Korie Homan in the gold-medal match at the Beijing 2008 Games.

### Vergeer's career numbers

8 PARALYMPIC MEDALS

WINNING STREAK  
470 MATCHES

CAREER WINS  
700  
25 CAREER LOSSES

44 GRAND SLAM TITLES

248 TOURNAMENT TITLES

668 WEEKS AT NO. 1



Channel 4 recorded more than 500 hours of coverage during London 2012



## Para Snow Sport Youth Circuit kicks off

The first two competitions on the IPC European Para Snow Sport Youth Circuit took place from 27-31 January in La Molina, Spain and from 28 March - 1 April in Rogla, Slovenia.



The IPC European Para Snow Sport Youth Circuit, funded by the European Union, consists of five competition camps in alpine skiing, nordic skiing and snowboarding for youngsters with an impairment. The primary object of the initiative is to introduce youngsters to winter sports and to provide professional training to already skilled youngsters on their way to a first competition.

### Future circuit events

**17-21 November 2013**  
Landgraaf, the Netherlands

**5-9 January 2014**  
Bischofswiesen, Germany

**23-27 March 2014**  
Sestriere, Italy

Youngsters with an impairment from five EU Member States – Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Slovenia and Spain – ages 10 to 17 are involved.



Young skiers and snowboarders may develop into future Paralympians

web 

>> [www.youth-snow-circuit.eu](http://www.youth-snow-circuit.eu)

## Cody and Parsons join co-ordination and evaluation committees



IPC Governing Board member Ann Cody (pictured above) has been appointed as a member of the IOC Co-ordination Commission for the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Games.

Cody will oversee the progress of Paralympic-specific milestones for the Games, particularly those relating to athletes, accessibility and awareness issues.

IPC Governing Board member and President of the Brazilian Paralympic Committee Andrew Parsons (pictured below) was selected to participate in the evaluation committee of the bid cities for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games: Istanbul, Tokyo and Madrid.

After compiling a report for IOC members entitled to vote, the choice of the host city for the 2020 Games will be announced on 7 September in Buenos Aires, Argentina.



Table tennis  
Athletics  
Wheelchair basketball  
Judo  
Wheelchair fencing  
Football 5-a-side  
Wheelchair tennis  
Wheelchair rugby  
Football 7-a-side  
Powerlifting  
Sitting volleyball  
Goalball

## New training facility

Brazil and Latin American athletes received a major boost in January when construction plans were unveiled for the new Brazilian Paralympic Centre, which will serve as the main training venue for Paralympic athletes throughout the region.

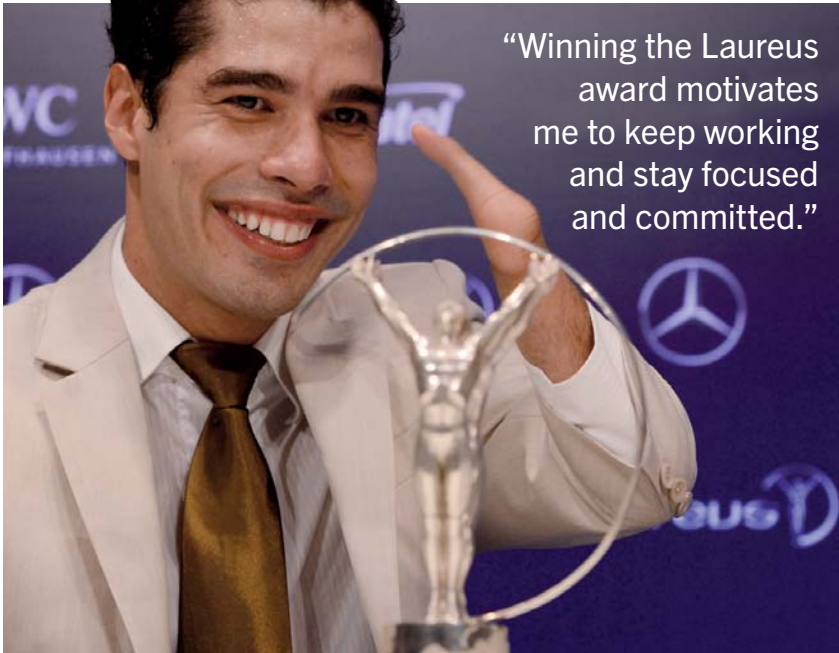
“In recent years, the conditions for Brazilian athletes have been greatly improved,” Daniel Dias said.

“Investment in Brazilian Paralympic sport has been growing steadily and the Brazilian Paralympic Committee is handling this very well. Each year, its infrastructure improves, giving athletes more confidence.”



The Brazilian Paralympic Centre will house 14 disciplines.

Daniele Bernandes  
Milan of Brazil defeated  
Naomi Soazo of  
Venezuela to win the  
-63kg bronze-medal  
match at London 2012



Brazil's Daniel Dias was awarded his second Laureus Award in his home country in Rio de Janeiro

## Dias picks up second Laureus Award

After winning the Laureus World Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability Award for the second time in March, Brazilian swimmer Daniel Dias joked he did not fall asleep cradling the statuette, because his wife, Rachel Davis, was at his side in the sophisticated Copacabana Palace Hotel.

“This was an amazing experience, like a dream,” he said. “I really enjoyed this award that crowned my work in 2012. I had a fabulous time at this glamorous party at home.”

“Winning the Laureus award motivates me to keep working and stay focused and committed.”

“I will simply keep doing my best and hope to represent my country well.”

“It will be a great opportunity to show the world that Brazilian Paralympic sport is growing and that we are on the right track.”

Dias won six gold medals in the pool at the London 2012 Paralympic Games, all in world-record times.

In August, Dias hopes to lead Brazil to a top-five finish at the 2013 IPC Swimming World Championships in Montreal, Canada.




Daniel Dias was the  
most-decorated Brazilian  
Paralympian at London  
2012 with six golds

## Athens to stage 2013 IPC General Assembly



The last IPC General Assembly took place in December 2011 in Beijing, China

 Athens, the Greek capital and the host city of the 2004 Paralympic Games, will stage the IPC General Assembly and Conference this November.

Elections for the IPC Governing Board will take place, as the positions of IPC President, Vice President and 10 member roles will be up for election.

More than 300 attendees are expected at the event and all National Paralympic Committees, Paralympic Sports, Regional Organisations and International Organisations of Sport for the Disabled will be invited to attend.

The Paralympic Sport and Media Awards, in conjunction with Allianz, will coincide with the event.

 Athens



#AskAnAthlete

The IPC caught up with USA and Canada’s ice sledge hockey team captains Taylor Chace and Greg Westlake prior to April’s 2013 IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships A-Pool in Goyang, Korea.



To play in the gold-medal game, allowing ourselves the opportunity to win the tournament and defend our 2012 world title.

Both teams play the same style of hockey, which is high-tempo, with lots of hard hitting. I personally believe that the games between Canada and the United States are great for showcasing sledge hockey.

Canada’s Brad Bowden because of his speed and quick shot release.

Last summer I took two months off of any sport-specific training. I have never done that before. Sometimes, you just need to keep your mind and body fresh.

Wheelchair racing because I have long arms and once I build momentum I can reach a high top speed, relative to my bigger size.



**2013 IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships A-Pool**  
Dates: 12-20 April  
Location: Goyang, Korea  
Faces to watch in Goyang:  
Pavel Kubes, Czech Republic  
Florian Planker, Italy  
Seung-Hwan Jung, Korea  
Rolf Pedersen, Norway  
Engeny Petrov, Russia  
Per Kasper, Sweden

Next up! The next #AskAnAthlete will feature swimmers Sophie Pascoe of New Zealand and Summer Mortimer of Canada. Submit your questions for them prior to the 2013 IPC Swimming World Championships by tweeting @Paralympic using the hashtags #AskSophie and #AskSummer.



◀ Taylor Chace  
vs.  
Greg Westlake ▶

What are your expectations for the World Championships?

Why are the matches against your North American rivals hyped up so much?

Which ice sledge hockey player do you fear the most and why?

What’s the oddest thing you’ve ever done in your training?

If you participated in a Paralympic summer sport, too, which sport would you be most suited for and why?

When it comes to single-elimination tournaments, anyone can win any given tournament. I believe we have the talent and heart to win a gold medal this year.

We are two of the best teams in the world and also two of the most physical. There is lots of hitting, trash talking and close games.

I don’t fear anyone.

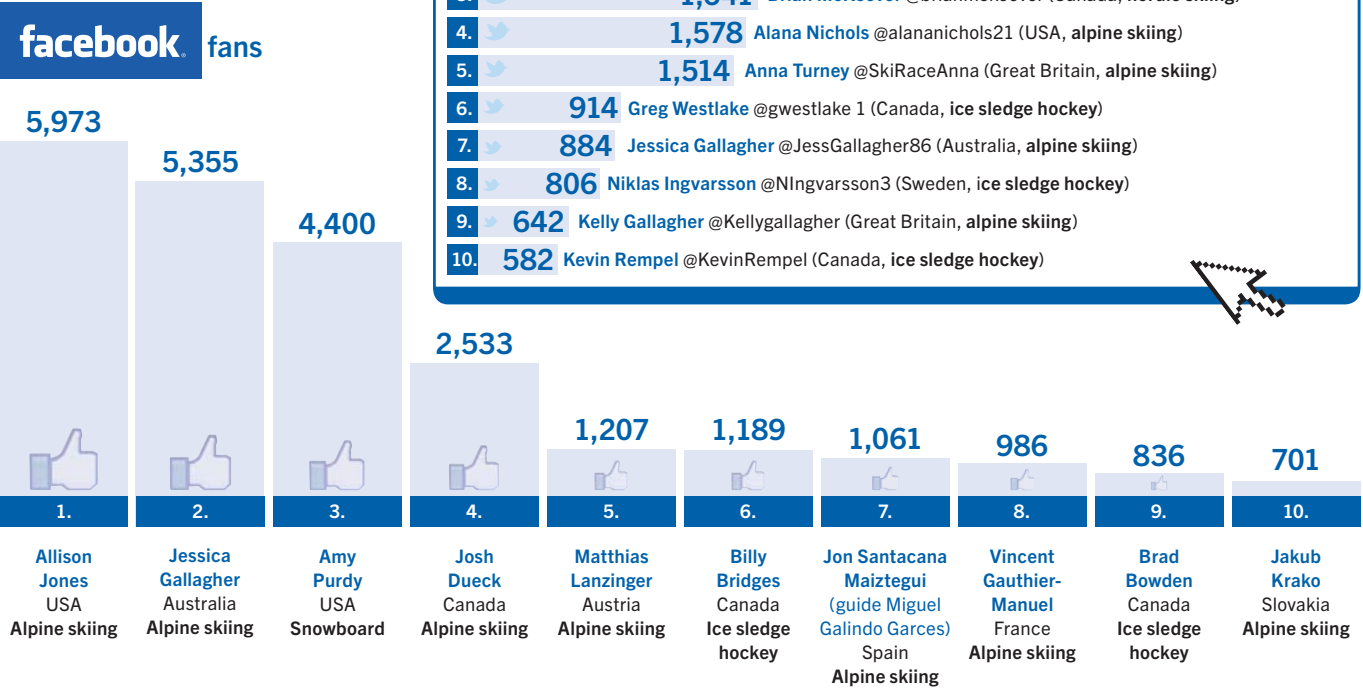
I got into hand biking as a cross training for sledge hockey, and ended up setting the record for fastest arm-propelled vehicle, I did not expect to end up racing it through the desert in Nevada.

I think if I got a street hand bike made up, I would love to compete against Alex Zanardi in the hand bike road race. I would also like to try kayaking, as I have trained in that before.

Top winter athletes on social media

Find out which winter athletes have the biggest fan bases heading into the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games.

(Social media fan figures are as of 21 March)



Instagram

In February, the IPC activated its Instagram account @paralympics to bring immediate behind-the-scenes photos to its social media followers.





sochi.ru  
2014  
paralympic games

# SOCHI 2014 PARALYMPIC TORCH RELAY

## 1. Far Eastern Federal District

1. MAGADAN
2. VLADIVOSTOK
3. YAKUTSK
4. KHABAROVSK
5. ANADYR

## 2. Siberian Federal District

6. BIYSK
7. IRKUTSK
8. KRASNOYARSK
9. OMSK
10. NOVOKUZNETSK
11. ULAN-UDE
12. SAYANOGORSK
13. SEVERSK

## 3. Ural Federal District

14. YEKATERINBURG
15. TYUMEN
16. KHANTY-MANSIYSK
17. NOYABRSK



## Paralympic Torch Relay

The Paralympic Torch Relay route will last for 10 days from 26 February - 7 March 2014, going through 43 cities in all eight regions of Russia.

More than 1,500 torchbearers will carry the flame, which will be lit simultaneously every day in several Russia cities so that at the end of the relay it will reach the Opening Ceremony via a Paralympic flame unification ceremony.

Duration 10 days

More than 1500 torchbearers

More than 3000 volunteers

Width:  
0.145m

Height: 0.95m

Weight: 1.8kg

## Sochi 2014 torch revealed

In January, the Sochi 2014 Organising Committee revealed the torch that will carry the Paralympic flame leading into the next Winter Games.

More than 1,000 editions of the sky-blue torch will be produced, and it was officially presented to the public in Moscow by Sochi 2014 Ambassadors Natalia Vodianova (pictured left) and Olesya Vladykina.

The torch design was developed by a Russian creative team led by Vladimir Pirozhkov and Andrei Vodyanik. The designers paid particular attention to the torch's construction and its flame-lighting system. The construction of the torch ensures that the flame burns reliably in difficult conditions, such as strong winds, heavy frosts or any surprises that a Russian winter can throw up.

The concept behind the torch for the 2014 Games combines motifs from Russian folklore with ideas of innovation and technological breakthroughs.

Dmitry Chernyshenko, President of the Sochi 2014 Organising Committee, commented: "The torch is a key symbol of the Relay. The Sochi 2014 torch combines traditional Russian motifs with the very latest technical know-how in the field of design. The elegant, extraordinary and radiant Sochi 2014 torch represents Russia's beauty and its multi-faceted nature."

## Sochi 2014 1 Year to Go

The one year to go mark until the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games was celebrated in both Moscow and Sochi on 7 March.

Festivities were held in Moscow's Red Square, where the Sochi Paralympic Torch Relay route and official Paralympic Games pictograms were presented by the President of the Sochi 2014 Organising Committee, Dmitry Chernyshenko.

General Partners of next year's Paralympics were also announced, including Coca-Cola, Dow, General Electric, Samsung and Visa.

In Sochi, Paralympic Test Events took place in alpine skiing and snowboard during the same week and nordic skiing the week after.



## Volunteers start to gain experience for Paralympics

The Sochi 2014 Organising Committee had nearly 200,000 people apply to be volunteers for the next Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, with 21,000 of those applicants coming from 101 countries. The Committee's 26 volunteer centres chose the volunteers and began training them throughout Russia on 11 March.

Nearly 5,000 of these volunteers gained valuable experience working at the Sochi 2014 Test Events.



Dmitry Chernyshenko, President of the Sochi 2014 Organising Committee, meets with volunteers

## 4. North Western Federal District

18. KALININGRAD
19. ST. PETERSBURG
20. MURMANSK
21. PSKOV
22. PETROZAVODSK
23. ARKHANGELSK
24. CHEREPOVETS

## 5. Central Federal District

25. BRYANSK
26. KURSK
27. LIPETSK
28. MOSCOW
29. CHEKHOV
30. OREL
31. SASOVO
32. TAMBOV
33. TVER
34. TULA
35. YAROSLAVL

## 6. Volga Federal District

36. NIZHNY NOVGOROD
37. UFA
38. SAMARA
39. SARATOV

## 7. North Caucasian Federal District

40. NAZRAN

## 8. Southern Federal District

41. VOLGOGRAD
42. ROSTOV-ON-DON
43. KRASNODAR
- SOCHI

web

>> [www.sochi2014.com](http://www.sochi2014.com)



## Rio 2016

### Mascot design process launched

In January, the Rio 2016 Organising Committee decided on 15 potential companies who could create the mascots for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The Committee presented an overview of the Olympic and Paralympic Movements, as well as the essence of the Rio 2016 Games emblems, the Games mascots' roles and the creative briefing's technical details.

"The mascots mark the Games' history," Rio 2016 President Carlos Arthur Nuzman said. "They are responsible for the emotional connection between the Games and the population."

The Paralympic Movement's values were presented by IPC Governing Board member and Brazilian Paralympic Committee President Andrew Parsons.

"Anybody capable of transmitting the sense of overcoming one's limits through the mascot, will have achieved the goal," Parsons said.

Following the briefing, the selected companies will develop their proposals together with the Organising Committee for adjustments and sharpening. Then, the best companies will be selected for the next phase, in which the mascot proposals will be evaluated by research.

The winner will eventually be selected unanimously and will receive a prize of R \$50,000 for the creation of the mascots.

web >> [www.rio2016.com](http://www.rio2016.com)



### Take a look back at mascots from the last four Paralympic Summer Games:



Sydney 2000



Athens 2004



Beijing 2008



London 2012



Rio 2016

At the Rio 2016 mascot briefing, the whole brand concept, including the Paralympic logo, was taken into account

## PyeongChang 2018

The IPC held its first Project Review with the PyeongChang 2018 Organising Committee (POCOG) from 27-28 February.

The review covered observations from the London 2012 Paralympic Games, the organising committee structure, the Games Foundation Plan, sport, accessibility, venues and infrastructure, marketing, broadcasting and communications. The development of the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic emblem was also discussed.

Allianz

## Allianz supporting IPC winter sports

After activating their partnership with the Paralympic Movement through 2016, IPC International Partner Allianz has transferred its communication strategy from summer sport over to winter sport.

Through sport videos and information graphics, Allianz will continue to distribute updated educational and emotional branded content in winter sport.

During February's 2013 IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships in La Molina, Spain, Allianz was on site with a camera crew to interview top Paralympic athletes and officials, including Spain's Jon Santacana, Germany's Anna Schaffelhuber, Austria's Claudia Losch and Slovakia's Henrieta Farkasova.

By telling stories of personal experience, the videos will aim to deliver an inspirational message to believe in one's own strengths and abilities and embrace personal challenges and crises.

This successful production of branded content will be continued with more filming of other Paralympic sports in the lead-up to the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games, including snowboard, ice sledge hockey and nordic skiing.



web >>

[www.sponsoring.allianz.com/en/paralympics/paralympics](http://www.sponsoring.allianz.com/en/paralympics/paralympics)



# World Wheelchair Curling Championships



After taking gold at the World Wheelchair Curling Championships, Canada also remain atop the world rankings

Canada defeated Sweden, 4-3, in the final of the World Wheelchair Curling Championships on 23 February at the Ice Cube Curling Centre in Sochi, Russia.

The Canadians were skipped by Jim Armstrong, who was helped by Dennis Thiessen, Ina Forrest and Sonja Gaudet, and they beat Sweden in the final for the second time in the event's history, having done the same in 2009.

China, skipped by Haitao Wang, beat USA for bronze by a score of 6-5.

All 10 nations who competed at the Championships qualified to compete at the Sochi 2014 Games.

web >> [www.wwhcc2013.curlingevents.com](http://www.wwhcc2013.curlingevents.com)

## FINAL STANDINGS

- |    |  |          |
|----|--|----------|
| 1  |  | Canada   |
| 2  |  | Sweden   |
| 3  |  | China    |
| 4  |  | USA      |
| 5  |  | Russia   |
| 6  |  | Scotland |
| 7  |  | Slovakia |
| 8  |  | Finland  |
| 9  |  | Korea    |
| 10 |  | Norway   |



China won bronze at the World Wheelchair Curling Championships



## Australian Open

Japan's Shingo Kunieda, the Netherlands' Aniek van Koot and the USA's David Wagner won the Australian Open men's, women's and quad singles titles, respectively, on 26 January at the first Grand Slam of the year on the NEC Wheelchair Tennis Tour.

It was Kunieda's sixth Australian Open crown, while van Koot's victory propelled her to No. 1 in the world's women's singles rankings.

Japan's Shingo Kunieda followed up his London 2012 gold with an Australian Open title



Austria's Claudia Loesch was one of the top performers at the 2013 IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships, winning three golds

# IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships

France topped the medals table, followed by Austria and Russia, at the 2013 IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships in La Molina, Spain, which ran from 19-27 February.

Across eight days, 120 athletes from 28 countries competed in 30 medal events.

French standing skier Marie Bochet was victorious in all five of her events, while Spanish visually impaired skier Jon Santacana Maiztegui quickly became a host nation favourite after winning three golds with his guide Miguel Galindo Garces. Russia's Alexandra Frantseva (guide Pavel Zabotin), Austria's Claudia Loesch and Japan's Taiki Morii also finished the event with three golds apiece.

web >> [www.ipcalpineskiingworlds.org](http://www.ipcalpineskiingworlds.org)

## TOP PERFORMERS



Jon Santacana Maiztegui (Spain)

	Marie Bochet					
	Alexandra Frantseva					
	Taiki Morii					
	Claudia Loesch					
	Jon Santacana Maiztegui					



## Fazza International Powerlifting Championships

Egypt came away with nine top finishes and Namibia had four first-place finishes, as 12 world records were broken at the Fazza International Powerlifting Championships in Dubai, UAE.

The event, which took place between 23-27 February, saw nearly 150 participants from 22 countries taking part.

Egypt's Sherief Othman will be one to watch from now until Rio 2016



## IPC Nordic Skiing World Championships



Canada's Brian McKeever (guided by Erik Carleton) won two golds at the 2013 IPC Nordic Skiing Worlds

Russia reigned supreme at the 2013 IPC Nordic Skiing World Championships in Solleftea, Sweden, winning a total of 56 medals, including 22 golds.

Top medallists included Russian visually impaired skier Mikhailina Lysova with five golds and one bronze, and sit-skier Roman Petushkov with four gold, one silver, one bronze.

Petushkov was voted the IPC's Athlete of the Month for February after dominating the cross-country sprint, middle and long-distance races, as well as the open relay and biathlon middle-distance events.

Ukraine placed second in the medals tally in Solleftea with seven gold, 11 silver and nine bronze medals, followed by Germany with three gold, one silver and two bronze medals.

[www.ipcnordicskiingworlds.org](http://www.ipcnordicskiingworlds.org)

Ukraine's Oleksandra Kononova won gold in the cross-country middle distance, after already picking up a silver and three bronze. Her team-mate Iuliia Batenkova won silver and Sweden's Helene Ripa bronze



### TOP PERFORMERS



Roman Petushkov (Russia)

	Mikhailina Lysova							
	Roman Petushkov							
	Nikolay Polukhin							
	Andrea Eskau							
	Olena Lurkovska							

## IPC Alpine Skiing World Cup

[www.ipc-alpineskiing.org](http://www.ipc-alpineskiing.org)

The 2012-13 IPC Alpine Skiing World Cup concluded in Sochi, Russia, with events also being held in Sestriere (Italy), St. Moritz (Switzerland) and Rogla (Slovenia).

TEAM TROPHY								
Russia								
WOMEN'S TROPHIES								
Women's visually impaired			Women's standing			Women's sitting		
Alexandra Frantseva (guide Pavel Zabotin) Russia			Andrea Rothfuss Germany			Anna Schaffelhuber Germany		
Slalom	Giant slalom	Speed events	Slalom	Giant slalom	Speed events	Slalom	Giant slalom	Speed events
Alexandra Frantseva (Russia)	Alexandra Frantseva (Russia)	Alexandra Frantseva (Russia)	Andrea Rothfuss (Germany)	Andrea Rothfuss (Germany)	Marie Bochet (France) and Andrea Rothfuss (Germany)	Anna Schaffelhuber (Germany)	Claudia Loesch (Austria)	Anna Schaffelhuber (Germany)
MEN'S TROPHIES								
Men's visually impaired			Men's standing			Men's sitting		
Jon Santacana Maiztegui (guide Miguel Galindo Garces) Spain			Alexey Bugaev Russia			Takeshi Suzuki Japan		
Slalom	Giant slalom	Speed events	Slalom	Giant slalom	Speed events	Slalom	Giant slalom	Speed events
Ivan Frantsev (guide German Arganovskii) (Russia)	Santacana Maiztegui (Spain)	Santacana Maiztegui (Spain)	Alexey Bugaev (Russia)	Alexey Bugaev (Russia)	Vincent Gauthier-Manuel (France)	Takeshi Suzuki (Japan)	Christoph Kunz (Switzerland)	Tyler Walker (USA)

## IPC Nordic Skiing World Cup

[www.ipc-nordicskiing.org](http://www.ipc-nordicskiing.org)

The IPC Nordic Skiing World Cup began in Vuokatti, Finland, in December 2012, before moving on to Cable, Wisconsin, USA, in January. It culminated in the finals in Sochi, Russia, which also served as a Paralympic Test Event.

WOMEN'S BIATHLON TROPHIES		
Women's visually impaired	Women's standing	Women's sitting
Mikhailina Lysova (Russia)	Anna Milenina (Russia)	Olena Lurkovsk (Ukraine)
MEN'S BIATHLON TROPHIES		
Men's visually impaired	Men's standing	Men's sitting
Nikolay Polukhin (Russia)	Mark Arendz (Canada)	Kozo Kubo (Japan)

WOMEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY TROPHIES		
Women's visually impaired	Women's standing	Women's sitting
Elena Remizova (Russia)	Anna Milenina (Russia)	Andrea Eskau (Germany)
MEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY TROPHIES		
Men's visually impaired	Men's standing	Men's sitting
Brian McKeever (Canada)	Rushan Minnegulov (Russia)	Ramil Ilalutdinov (Russia)



### Paralympic Winter World Cup

Italy defeated Sweden, 2-1, in the finals of the ice sledge hockey Paralympic Winter World Cup tournament in Solleftea, Sweden on 3 March, an event held in conjunction with the IPC Nordic Skiing World Championships. Norway beat Estonia, 6-1, for third place.

Host nation Sweden came away with silver at the Paralympic Winter World Cup in Solleftea



### 2013 IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships B-Pool

Germany defeated Japan 3-2 for gold at the 2013 IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships B-Pool in Nagano, Japan, from 10-16 March.

Both teams, along with Great Britain, who beat Estonia 3-2 in the bronze-medal game, will now advance to the Paralympic Qualification Tournament later this year, keeping their hopes for Sochi 2014 alive.

[www.icesledgehockeyworldspoolb.org](http://www.icesledgehockeyworldspoolb.org)

Frank Rennhack was voted the IPC's Athlete of the Month for March after leading Germany to gold in Nagano, Japan



# More than just the Paralympics

World  
Championships  
World Cups  
Regional Games  
Continental Cups

International Races  
Two-Nation Tournaments  
National Championships  
National Trials  
Development Competitions

Australia's Mitch Gourley has seen IPC Alpine Skiing grow tremendously as a sport since he first joined the circuit in 2005



Mitch Gourley has been on the road since November and will not return home to Australia until mid-April.

The 22-year-old alpine skier is an elite athlete – a lifestyle he never expected to relish when he first joined the IPC Alpine Skiing circuit in 2005.

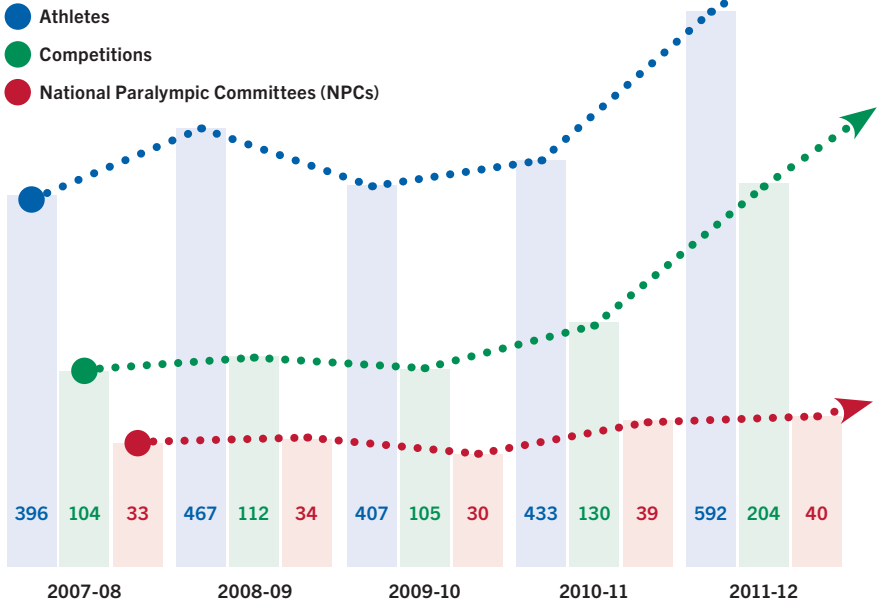
Within the past decade, the majority of para-sports – including alpine skiing – have seen a major increase in the number of competitions offered and the level of the athletes taking part, giving the sports’ event cycles multiple focal points rather than just the Paralympic Games.

When Gourley first joined the IPC Alpine Skiing circuit, for example, 100 races were offered a season with over 300 athletes. Now, there are well over 200 races on the competition schedule with more than 600 athletes taking part.

“I’ve grown a lot with the sport,” Gourley said. “I never thought eight years ago that I’d be racing in Slovenia, and here I am.”

“It’s good to see people getting behind the sport in all kinds of areas. In eight years, it’s grown a lot. I think we’re in a really good place. The level of competition just goes up and up every year.”

IPC Alpine Skiing by the numbers



Henrieta Farkasova (guided by Natalia Subrtova) topped the podium in the women’s downhill visually impaired at the 2013 IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships

Paralympic athletes compete in more than just the Paralympic Games, taking part in regional, national and international events on a regular basis.

Enhanced competition calendar

In the last decade, winter sports have quickly grown into their own unique properties, with IPC Alpine Skiing leading the way.

The sport has clear competition levels now, all of which have grown tremendously, and during the 2012-13 season, nearly 600 athletes from almost 40 countries took part in over 200 competitions.

Sylvana Mestre, IPC Alpine Skiing Sport Technical Committee Chairperson, has been one of the key influencers in the sport’s growth, saying she prefers to keep the sport very separate from its able-bodied counterpart, FIS.

“We keep it completely different because the situation that surrounds our athletes is completely different,” Mestre said. “They are being considered as elite athletes in their countries more and more.”

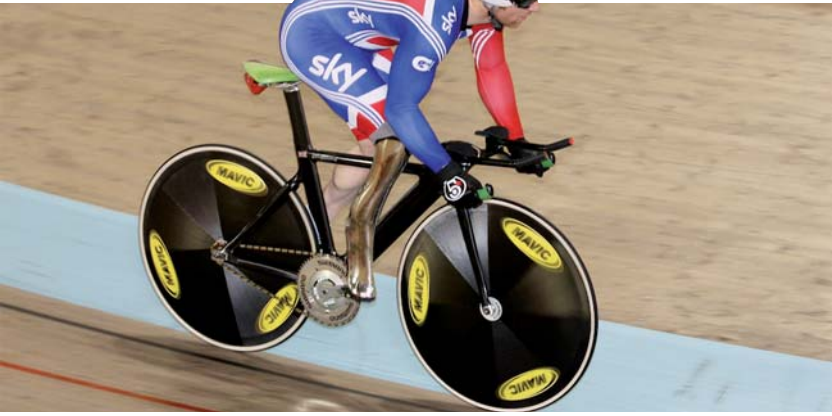
The sport’s current setup includes a condensed schedule with blocks of races in a specific region to ease travel and the transfer of equipment.

Gourley is very appreciative of what IPC Alpine Skiing has done for winter sport, and said his sport is now ready to make a consistent competition circuit, returning to the same hills year after year.

“We’re getting there,” Gourley said. “We have enough races each year, but in an ideal world we may spread them out a little bit more.

“The next step is diversifying where we go in terms of race stops. I think a really good thing that’s probably achievable as a next step is to have a consistent circuit where we go back to the same hills each season.”

IPC Alpine Skiing participation numbers have increased due to development and funding initiatives across multiple regions, as well as awareness



Great Britain’s Jody Cundy has been vocal about the benefits of a more standardised schedule of events



Since the Netherlands’ Aniek van Koot began playing wheelchair tennis at the Paralympic level five years ago, the sport has grown significantly

More sports follow suit

Following the success of London 2012, summer sports are also now on the cusp of exponential growth outside of the Paralympic Games, with the most noteworthy announcement thus far being that of the IPC Athletics Grand Prix.

Seven Grand Prix events are scheduled for 2013, providing athletes with high-level international competition and enhancing the sport’s classification, education, research and anti-doping methods.

The response of the Grand Prix announcement from athletes could not have been more positive, as now they do not have to try to seek out able-bodied events that will allow them to compete.

“I’d like to see us grow as our own sport and for people to be interested in our side of things,” Great Britain’s double Paralympic gold medallist Hannah Cockroft said.

“I’d just love to see IPC Athletics to grow as our own property and to keep it that way.”

Wheelchair tennis has seen tremendous growth as well, with the number of ranked players in the world increasing from 658 to 977 in the last five years and the number of participating nations rising from 46 to 52.

In para-cycling, UCI Technical Delegate Louis Barbeau said the top goal at the moment is to increase the number of participating nations in the sport from outside of Europe.

The UCI is hoping to employ the Asian Para Games and Parapan American Games as stepping stones to enhancing competitions, as well as development projects in Africa.

Once the UCI further develops the sport worldwide, they will work to include more competitions for athletes between World Championships and Paralympic Games.

“We’ve already enabled athletes to focus solely on one discipline,” Barbeau said.

“We’re now looking at incorporating some of our track events with able-bodied events. This is a work in progress.”

Great Britain’s Jody Cundy, a specialist on the track, has been vocal about the need for a more standardised schedule of events, but he understands how much effort and funding is required to organise an event and supports spreading the sport to other continents.

With no track events scheduled between now and Rio 2016, though, Cundy will do anything he can to compete, and has even suggested playing off the back-end of able-bodied events to keep costs at a minimum.

“We don’t want to just train for four years with no races,” Cundy said. “We’d love to do races almost week in and week out and be spoiled for choice.”

IPC Nordic Skiing has nearly mirrored the success of alpine, as this season 271 athletes from 22 countries competed on the sport’s circuit – nearly double the amount of total participants from just two seasons ago.

Canadian visually impaired skier Brian McKeever said the number of stops on the circuit has increased so much that he now hand picks his events rather than having to settle for the three or four that used to be on the schedule each season.

In addition, McKeever and his teammates are now able to specialise in a discipline. McKeever focuses solely on cross-country skiing, while his compatriot Mark Arendz concentrates all of his attention on biathlon, and they hardly need to cross over due to the high number of events offered.

The sport is certainly now far removed from the days when McKeever recalls Germany’s Frank Hofle having to organise his own nordic skiing event and compete in it, too.



For more information please

**IPC Athletics Grand Prix**

see page 26

China will host one of the seven IPC Athletics Grand Prix events this season



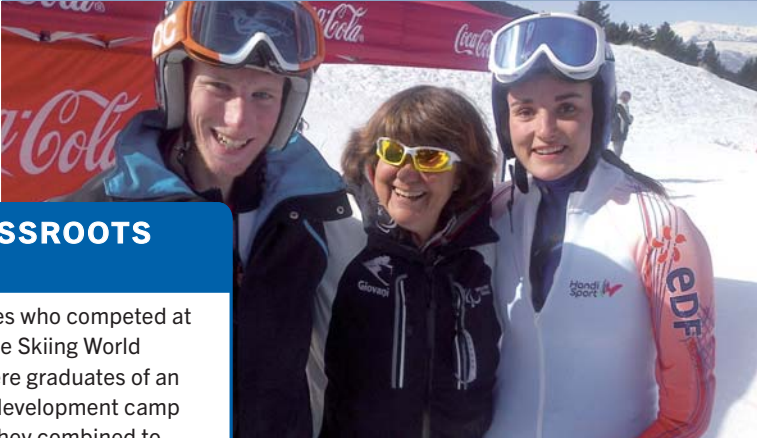


Russia's Inga Medvedeva takes to the slopes at the 2013 IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships, the sport's biggest event of this year

Australia's Scott Reardon and Germany's Heinrich Popow are both ones to look out for at Lyon 2013



Spain's Josefa Benitez Guzman, with pilot Maria Noriega will look to carry their London 2012 success over to the 2013 Para-Cycling Road World Cup



Sylvana Mestre has been instrumental in developing IPC Alpine Skiing

“The ultimate for us would be to follow the World Cup circuit”

Grassroots growth

One of the keys to further enhancing the competition schedule is not actually at the elite level, but rather at the grassroots level by creating development pathways for athletes on a sport-by-sport basis.

“If I want to sell my sport and I want the athletes to be recognised as elite athletes, we need to have a clear path of competition and a clear path of development,” Mestre said.

“It’s important to bring youth into the sport. This is why I’m concentrating a lot in development. In a lot of the sports we have old people, so we need to start moving to the bottom.”

That is exactly why the IPC European Para Snow Sport Youth Circuit was launched earlier this year.

Mestre said several regions in the southern hemisphere have skiers now, but no competitions. Starting next season, she will bring IPC Alpine Skiing events to them, rather than forcing them to start at the international level.

McKeever argued the same rationale carries over to all para-sports, as he insisted the worst thing you can do is take a developing athlete to a World Cup or World Championship event.

FROM GRASSROOTS TO GOLD

These eight athletes who competed at the 2013 IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships were graduates of an IPC Alpine Skiing development camp seven years ago. They combined to win 15 medals – 10 golds – at the Championships.

- France Marie Bochet
- Austria Claudia Loesch
- Austria Markus Salcher
- Belgium Jasper Balcaen
- Slovenia Petra Smarzova
- Canada Aleandra Starker
- Slovenia Miroslav Haraus
- Spain Gabriel Juan Gorce Ypes

“That’s a brutal place to take a young, developing and inexperienced skier,” McKeever said.

“You take a new skier over and they’re racing against a Paralympic champion like Irek Zaripov in their first big race, and those guys are going literally twice as fast and that leaves developing skiers scratching their heads.”

Cundy echoed McKeever’s sentiments, stressing how poor it would be for a sport not to have any sort of development pathway.

“It’d be awful for the young talent that’s coming through,” Cundy said.

“Potentially, the first race that some youngster may get would be the Paralympic Games or a World Championships. They’ve got no small events to go to and test the waters. It’s literally trying to jump into the deep end feet first.”

Once a sport has concrete and separate elite and grassroots competitions, then the levels in between will slowly fall into place, making way for national and regional championships as the sport becomes part of a national federation.

A unique future

With the vast growth in sports’ competition cycles, one rhetorical question still hangs over everyone’s heads: Is it better to conform to the able-bodied side or keep para-sport its own entity?

“The ultimate for us would be to follow the World Cup circuit,” Gourley said.

“That would obviously be unreal to follow them and maybe to ski a week behind at the same venue. That would be unreal with all the infrastructure already in place. That would be the dream.”

McKeever agreed.

“It’s not so hard to follow an existing model as compared to creating your own,” McKeever said.

“People understand the able-bodied side because that’s what’s shown on TV and accessible to the general public. If the para-side mirrors that a little bit, then people will understand what to expect out of para-sport as well.”

But at the same time, most Paralympic athletes realise it’s also time for them to step outside of their able-bodied counterparts’ shadows and become household names around the world for their own achievements.

“It’s always nice that some people want us to go parallel to the Olympic Games and compete with them, but at the same time, I’m really, really proud to be a Paralympic athlete,” Cockcroft said.





IPC Athletics Grand Prix

The first-ever IPC Athletics Grand Prix is now underway, following the 5th FAZZA International Athletics Competition, which took place in Dubai, UAE, from 25-27 March.

It is the first of seven Grand Prix events this season that will provide athletes with high-level international competition, and provide a framework for the sport to further develop areas such as classification, education, research and anti-doping.

“Athletes now have a clear pathway of major international and regional events between now and Rio 2016 and beyond,” said IPC Athletics Sport Technical Committee Chairperson Ed Warner.

The Grand Prix is a direct legacy resulting from the London 2012 Paralympic Games and gives athletes a more regular competition schedule.

“I was really excited when I found out about it, because it means I can line up against my best competitors again, and I don’t have to wait another four years to find out about what they’ve been doing,” said Great Britain’s Hannah Cockcroft, Paralympic champion in the 100m and 200m T34 sprints.

“It gives us a parallel competition to the Olympic side, and it gives us more of an opportunity to travel around the world and compete against the best in the world that are out there.”

“I was really excited when I found out about it, because it means I can line up against my best competitors again.”

In addition, the IPC Athletics Marathon World Cup will take place on 21 April as part of the 2013 Virgin London Marathon, and London’s Olympic Stadium will host some of the world’s top athletes for the London Anniversary Games on 28 July.

All of the events, which will centre around July’s IPC Athletics World Championships in Lyon, France, give para-athletics fans something to follow between Paralympic Games years.

“I think the thing that’s going to have to grow over time is getting the public interested,” Cockcroft said. “In Great Britain, we have a lot of people and media excited about what we’re doing, but I think the rest of the world still has to catch up with that.

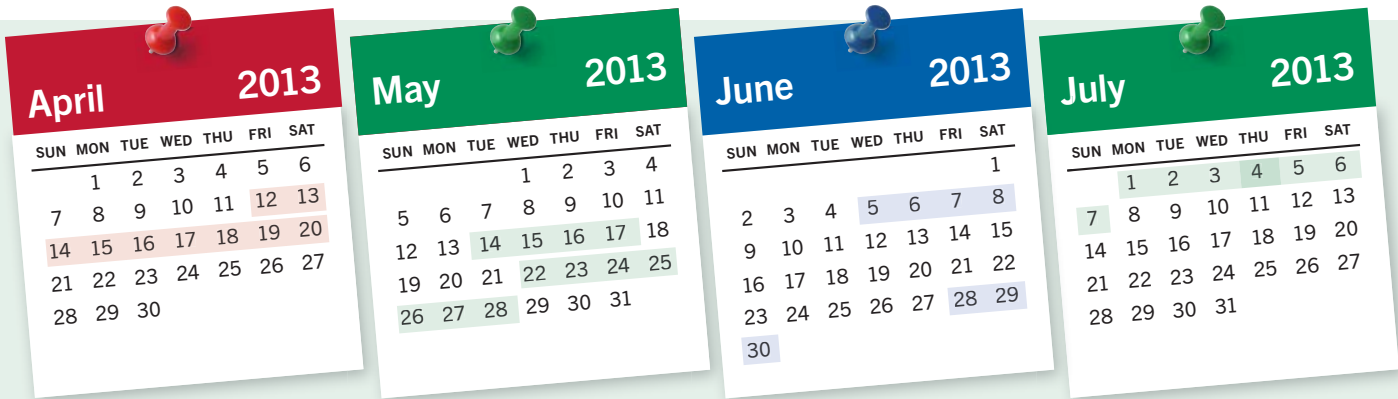
“Hopefully we’re going to bring that interest in with this.”



web >> [paralympic.org/athletics](http://paralympic.org/athletics)

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE GRAND PRIX AND DEFENDING PARALYMPIC CHAMPIONS TO LOOK OUT FOR:

<b>19-21 April</b> 2013 China Open Athletics Championships Beijing, China	<b>23-24 April</b> 2013 Loterias Caixa Brazilian Athletics Open Championships Sao Paulo, Brazil	<b>8-9 May</b> Italian Open Championships Grosseto, Italy	<b>16-17 May</b> Desert Challenge Games Mesa (Arizona), USA	<b>12-13 June</b> 35th International German Championships Athletics for Disabled Berlin, Germany	<b>29 June</b> Birmingham Para-Athletics Grand Prix Final Birmingham, Great Britain
<b>Na Mi (China)</b> Shot put and discus F37	<b>Yohansson Nascimento (Brazil)</b> 200m T46	<b>Martina Caironi (Italy)</b> 100m T42	<b>Jeremy Campbell (USA)</b> Discus F54	<b>Heinrich Popow (Germany)</b> 100m T42	<b>Jonnie Peacock (Great Britain)</b> 100m T44



<b>12-20 April</b> 2013 IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships A-Pool Goyang, Korea	<b>14-17 May</b> 2013 IPC Shooting World Cup (Antalya)  <b>22-28 May</b> 2013 IPC Powerlifting Open European Championships Alexin, Russia	<b>5-8 June</b> Roland Garros Wheelchair Tennis Grand Slam, Paris, France  <b>28 June - 7 July</b> IWF Wheelchair Basketball European Championships Frankfurt, Germany	<b>1-4 July</b> 2013 IPC Shooting World Cup (Stoke Mandeville)  <b>4-7 July</b> Wheelchair Fencing World Cup (Warsaw)
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VISTA2013 Conference



The VISTA2013 Conference will take place from 1-4 May in Bonn, Germany, and will focus on equipment and technology issues related to Paralympic sport.

It will be the sixth edition of the conference, with some of the world’s leading experts on technology and equipment in Paralympic sport discussing in-depth issues that made global headlines during the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

Ivo Van Hilvoorde, assistant professor of Human Movement Sciences at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam in the Netherlands, will be one of the keynote speakers, discussing the fair use of technology and equipment in para-sports. He will talk about the balance between access, competitive edge and the philosophy of sport.

Hilvoorde’s speech will aim to answer the following questions in detail: “What is sport? What sort of obstacles do we overcome? What are the definitions of disability in sport?”

With the maturing of sport for people with an impairment, and para-sport becoming more and more elite in the eyes of the public, Hilvoorde wishes to explore the use of new technologies and innovations, which have become hot topics.

“There are new ethical issues when it comes to ethics and fairness,” Hilvoorde said. “Certain countries are behind in development, and I think that’s an important issue for how the IPC should deal with that.”

In addition, he will convey the semantic differences between the language used in para-sport compared to able-bodied sport, and how that is constantly changing.

At the VISTA2013 Conference, the IPC will also present Dr. Rory Cooper with the Paralympic Scientific Award in recognition of his work to create and evaluate new sports technologies, advancing equipment used in various sports.

web >> [www.vista2013.com](http://www.vista2013.com)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Ivo Van Hilvoorde**  
Assistant professor of Human Movement Sciences, Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam, the Netherlands

“Using technology and equipment fairly: the balance between access, competitive edge and the philosophy of sport.”

**Brendan Burkett**  
IPC Sports Science Committee member and Professor in Biomechanics at the University of the Sunshine Coast in Brisbane, Australia

“Paralympic sporting equipment: performance enhancement or necessary for performance?”

**Chris Rushman**  
Senior technical specialist for Motivation UK

“Products for grassroots sports development: a case study of the Motivation court sport wheelchair for low-income countries.”

**Simone Oehler**  
Head of the testing department at Ottobock

“Equipment and Technology: from products for grassroots development to high-tech applications.”



# Summer of Rivalries

Rivalries among Paralympic summer team sports have grown massively over the last couple of years, and 2013 will put some of these in the spotlight.

Take a look at the top rivalries to follow during the next few months:

## Wheelchair basketball: Germany-Netherlands (women)

**Background:** Both nations have become powerhouses in the women's wheelchair basketball world, with Germany winning gold and the Netherlands taking bronze at the last Paralympics. In fact, all 13 editions of the IWBF European Championships on the women's side have been won by one of these two teams, with the Germans taking every European title since 1999.

**Last match:** Germany defeated the Netherlands 49-46 in the semi-final round of the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

**Next meeting:** IWBF European Championships in Frankfurt, Germany (26 June - 7 July)

Who will be celebrating this summer?



## Wheelchair rugby: Belgium-France

**Background:** After only having a wheelchair rugby team for five years, the French squad is already making headway and the rivalry with their veteran neighbour team is heating up. Both squads have the potential to push themselves toward the top of the world rankings in the lead-up to Rio 2016 and turn a lot of eyes from Australia, Canada and USA's programmes their way.

**Last match:** Belgium defeated France 54-50 for seventh place at the London 2012 Games.

**Next meeting:** IWRF 2013 European Championships in Antwerp, Belgium (10-18 August)



Belgium came out on top the last time they played France

## Football 5-a-side: Argentina-Brazil



Argentina's Froilan Padilla pushes past Brazil's Severino Gabriel da Silva, who scored the winning goal during the penalty shoot-out at the London 2012 semi-finals

**Background:** Brazil remain the only team to have ever won a Paralympic gold in the sport, but Argentina have been their toughest test on the pitch without question. With one of the world's best players in Jefinho and the Games coming to Rio in 2016, expect the best to get even better.

**Last match:** Brazil defeated Argentina on penalty kicks in the semi-final round of the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

**Next meeting:** IBSA Copa America 2013 in Salta, Argentina (19-29 September)



## Goalball: China-Japan (women)

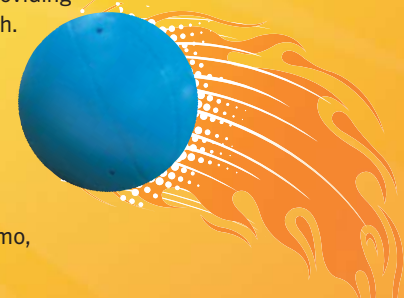


Masae Komiya (right) was one of Japan's top players at London 2012 scoring five goals across the tournament

**Background:** China have always been one of the world's best teams, but Japan recently shocked the field at the last Paralympics, becoming the newly crowned champions and providing fans with thrilling games that went into sudden death. A rivalry between these two teams was definitely born in London.

**Last match:** Japan beat China 1-0 to win Paralympic gold in London at the Copper Box last year.

**Next meeting:** Malmo Lady Inter Cup 2013 in Malmo, Sweden (2-5 May)



### MORE NOTABLE RIVALRIES:

- Football 7-a-side  
Ukraine-Russia
- Sitting volleyball  
USA-China (women)  
Bosnia & Herzegovina-Iran (men)
- Wheelchair basketball  
Australia-Canada (men)



The Paralympic Games are one of the biggest sporting events in the world behind the Olympics, yet until last summer it's fair to say the average man on the street might not have known that.

The public may also have been used to differentiating between the two by referring to the Olympic Games as the “normal” or “proper” Olympics.

Using such terms gives the impression the Paralympics are a second-rate competition; more a novelty rather than an elite sporting event.

Until last summer, I have to say that perception was probably right.

“Has Alex Brooker gone mad? Is he having a laugh or something?”

Please, don't throw that prosthetic at this page or send your strongly worded email just yet.

I'm talking purely in terms of TV coverage, and in those terms, the Paralympics had a long way to go before they got the same treatment as the Olympic Games.

We all knew already the Games were simply incredible. An amazing sporting event unlike any other.

The problem was many other people didn't.

Channel 4's coverage of the 2012 Games in London changed that in Great Britain.



Alex Brooker's view

What other  
broadcasters  
can learn  
from Channel 4's  
success

When Jonnie Peacock won gold in the 100m T44, there were 6.3 million people watching. In total, Channel 4's coverage reached more than two thirds of the British population.

More people in Britain than ever before watched and enjoyed the Games. I was lucky enough to feature on The Last Leg – a show presented by some Australian bloke

Alex Brooker

Nationality: British  
Job: Channel 4 journalist  
and broadcaster  
Most-well known for:  
Co-host of TV series,  
The Last Leg

and another guy whose name escapes me – which celebrated the day's highlights and spoke about disability in a way never seen before.

I'd like to think our show complemented the phenomenal feats of the athletes and helped to change perceptions of disability in the UK.

The good news is that shows no signs of stopping. Channel 4 will provide another 500 hours of coverage from the 2016 Games in Rio, and before that, 45 hours from the Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi next year.

As the athletes continue to push the limits further year on year, it is only right that the media do the same.

Now, it's time for other broadcasters around the world to do the same.

The 2012 Games brought the Paralympic Movement to its largest audience ever, and there's no reason to stop now.

And in some cases it must start.

In the USA, NBC showed a paltry five-and-a-half hours of retrospective coverage. If they have sense, they will have watched their output and realised the Games deserve to reach a far greater audience.

Since the first Paralympic Games in 1960 there have been super humans. In 2012, it just so happens that so many more people got to meet them.



The Last Leg show, which gives an alternative and often humorous take on para-sport, has been a major hit across Great Britain



International  
Paralympic  
Committee

WORLDWIDE PARALYMPIC PARTNERS



INTERNATIONAL PARTNER





“To enable Paralympic athletes to achieve  
sporting excellence and inspire and excite the world.”

