



TO: National Paralympic Committees

FROM: Jürgen Padberg
Paralympic Games Sport Manager

Bonn, 23 January 2012
JP/IPC

London 2012 Paralympic Games Bipartite Application Process

Dear NPC President / Secretary General,

The Qualification Criteria for the London 2012 Paralympic Games are meant to ensure that the best athletes in each sport have an opportunity to compete at the Games. While the primary method of allocating qualification slots is through rankings and competition performance, the IPC and many IPSFs have also established the "Bipartite Invitation Allocation Method". These invitational qualification slots are granted on a discretionary basis by the IPC and the respective IPSF and are typically allocated based on the following principles:

- to ensure the participation of top athletes who may have not had the opportunity to formally qualify through other methods due to extraordinary circumstances;
- to ensure the representation of athletes with a severe disability;
- to ensure medal events will have sufficient representation for viability; and
- to enable greater representation by gender.

A. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

NPCs seeking to qualify athletes under this method for the London 2012 Paralympic Games are reminded that the minimum eligibility standards apply. Athletes must meet all eligibility criteria for their respective sport as outlined in the London 2012 Qualification Guide with the exception of having achieved a Minimum Qualification Standard (MQS).

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B. SPORTS OFFERING BIPARTITE SLOTS

The following twelve sports offer Bipartite Invitation slots:

- Archery (4 male slots, 3 female slots)
- Athletics (9 male slots, 9 female slots, plus any unused slots)
- Cycling (10 male slots, 5 female slots)
- Equestrian (3 slots, male or female)
- Judo (7 male slots, 6 female slots)
- Powerlifting (20 male slots, 20 female slots)
- Rowing (6 male slots, 6 female slots)
- Shooting (4 slots, male or female, plus any unused slots)
- Swimming (10 male slots, 10 female slots, plus any unused slots)
- Table Tennis (19 male slots, 11 female slots)
- Wheelchair Fencing (a maximum of 18 slots, male or female)
- Wheelchair Tennis (16 male slots, 8 female slots; 4 quad slots, male or female)

C. PROCESS

Most of the sports listed above will use IPC's established Online Entry System (linked to the SDMS database) to capture Bipartite applications online from NPCs. This includes non-IPC sports that usually do not utilize these systems for athlete registration and licensing. The Entry System has been modified so as to afford these sports a convenient way of managing their Bipartite application process. Please find attached a detailed user manual that will walk you through the online application process.

Please note that the online Bipartite application interface is open to any administrator who has access privileges to SDMS. If several administrators within your NPC and its affiliated National Federations have access to SDMS, please ensure that these individuals coordinate their efforts. **It is recommended that only one designated administrator per NPC submit that country's Bipartite applications.**

The following sports have chosen to establish their own procedures for collecting Bipartite applications: Cycling (UCI), Rowing (FISA), Table Tennis (ITTF), Wheelchair Fencing (IWAS). These IPSFs will inform you separately of their respective processes. Please contact them directly with any questions.

D. TIMELINE

The Bipartite module of the Online Entry System opens 6 February 2012 for all eight participating sports. The deadline by which to submit Bipartite applications varies by sport:



- 12 March 2012: Powerlifting
- 26 March 2012: Archery, Equestrian, Judo, Shooting
- 7 June 2012: Athletics, Swimming, Wheelchair Tennis

These deadlines are firm. The system automatically disables the respective sports at midnight Bonn time on the days listed above.

NPCs will be notified in writing of any Bipartite slots they may have been awarded by the following dates:

- 9 April 2012: Archery, Equestrian, Judo, Powerlifting, Shooting
- 18 June 2012: Athletics, Swimming, Wheelchair Tennis

We look forward to receiving Bipartite applications from eligible NPCs and wish you a successful 2012 London Paralympic Games.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Padberg', is positioned above the typed name.

Jürgen Padberg
Paralympic Games Sport Manager