

To all  
National Paralympic Committees

*Via Email*

Bonn, 14 February 2020

## **Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games – Bipartite Application Process**

Dear NPC President/Secretary General,

The Qualification Criteria for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games 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 performance in competition, the IPC and many International Federations (IF) have also established the “Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation Method”. These invitational qualification slots are granted on a discretionary basis by the IPC and the respective IF and are typically allocated based on the following principles:

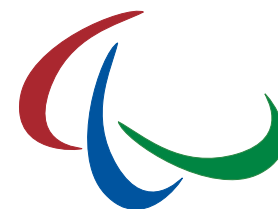
- to ensure the participation of top athletes who may not have had the opportunity to formally qualify through other methods due to extraordinary circumstances;
- to ensure the representation of athletes with high support needs;
- to ensure medal events will have sufficient representation for viability;
- to optimise competition formats in certain medal events; and
- to enable greater representation by gender.

Bipartite slots are awarded to the individual athlete, not to the NPC. Please note that Bipartite decisions by IPC and the IFs are not subject to any protests or appeals.

Several sports are beginning to accept Bipartite applications. Below is an overview of the main principles and policies:

### **Athlete Eligibility**

NPCs seeking to obtain Bipartite slots are reminded that eligibility standards apply. Athletes must meet all eligibility criteria for their respective sport as outlined in the Tokyo 2020 Qualification Regulations. In individual cases the obligation to meet a Minimum Qualification Standard (MQS) may be waived by the respective IF.



Please refer to each sport's chapter in the Qualification Regulations for further details. General eligibility criteria are explained in the front section of the Qualification Regulations which are published here: <https://www.paralympic.org/tokyo-2020/qualification-criteria>

### Sports offering Bipartite slots

The following 15 sports offer a combined total of 203 Bipartite slots:

| Sport        | Bipartite slots |        |       | Application period starts | Application period ends | Bipartite slots allocated by |
|--------------|-----------------|--------|-------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
|              | Male            | Female | Total |                           |                         |                              |
| Archery      | 6               | 6      | 12    | 1 May                     | 31 May                  | 1 July                       |
| Athletics    | 7               | 7      | 14    | May                       | June                    | June                         |
| Badminton    | 13              | 7      | 20    | 7 May                     | 25 May                  | 8 June                       |
| Cycling      | 5               | 5      | 10    | 8 June                    | 29 June                 | 6 July                       |
| Equestrian   | -               | -      | 3*    | 17 February               | 16 March                | 23 March                     |
| Judo         | 7               | 6      | 13    | 18 June                   | 1 July                  | 8 July                       |
| Powerlifting | -               | -      | 20*   | 4 May                     | 11 May                  | 18 May                       |
| Rowing       | 4               | 4      | 8     | 11 May                    | 25 May                  | 1 June                       |
| Shooting     | 2               | 2      | 4     | 20 June                   | 1 July                  | 10 July                      |
| Swimming     | 5               | 5      | 10    | 15 February               | 10 April                | 23 April                     |
| Table Tennis | 36              | 14     | 50    | 15 April                  | 30 April                | 15 May                       |
| Taekwondo    | -               | -      | 3*    | 4 May                     | 18 May                  | 25 May                       |
| Triathlon    | -               | -      | 8*    | 1 May                     | 5 July                  | 13 July                      |
| Wh. Fencing  | 1               | 1      | 2     | 31 May                    | 20 June                 | 27 June                      |
| Wh. Tennis   | 14              | 8      | 26**  | 6 February                | 19 June                 | 3 July                       |

\*gender-free slots

\*\*includes 4 gender-free slots for quad division

### Process

Most of the sports listed above will use IPC's established Online Entry System (linked to SDMS) to capture the NPCs' Bipartite applications online. This includes non-IPC sports which usually do not utilise our systems for athlete registration, licensing and sport entries.



The Online Entry System has been modified in order to provide these sports with 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 all Bipartite applications for that country.**

Badminton World Federation (BWF) has chosen to establish their own procedures for collecting Bipartite applications. They will inform you separately of their respective process. BWF will not use IPC's Online Entry System. Please contact them directly with any questions.

### Timeline

IPC's Online Entry System will start accepting Bipartite applications at 0:01h (Central European Time) on the days indicated for each sport in the table above. The system closes at 23:59h (Central European Time) on the last day of each sport's application period. The IFs will inform in writing each NPC which has obtained one or more Bipartite slot(s) by the allocation deadline in the table above.

We look forward to receiving your applications and wish you a successful Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

With kind regards,

Jürgen Padberg  
Paralympic Games Sport & NPC Services Senior Manager