

International
Paralympic
Committee

To all
National Paralympic Committees

Via Email

Bonn, 13 January 2016

Rio 2016 Paralympic Games – Bipartite Application Process

Dear NPC President/Secretary General,

The Qualification Criteria for the Rio 2016 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; 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.

Some IFs will begin to accept Bipartite applications soon. Below is an overview of the main principles and policies:

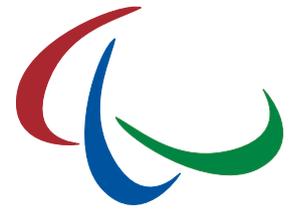
Athlete Eligibility

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 Rio 2016 Qualification Guide. In individual cases the obligation to meet a Minimum Qualification Standard (MQS) may be waived by the respective IF.

International Paralympic Committee

Adenauerallee 212-214 Tel. +49 228 2097-280
53113 Bonn, Germany Fax +49 228 2097-209

www.paralympic.org
juergen.padberg@paralympic.org



Please refer to each sport's chapter in the Qualification Guide for further details. General eligibility criteria are explained in the front section of the Qualification Guide which is published here: <http://www.paralympic.org/rio-2016/qualification>

Sports offering Bipartite slots

The following 13 sports offer a combined total of 209 Bipartite slots:

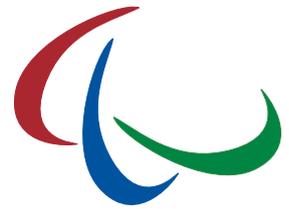
Sport	Bipartite slots			Application period starts	Application period ends	Bipartite slots allocated by
	Male	Female	Total			
Archery	7	4	11	1 May	31 May	1 July
Athletics	20	10	30	2 May	20 June	30 June
Cycling	5	5	10	30 March	27 April	4 May
Equestrian	-	-	3*	15 February	15 March	22 March
Judo	7	6	13	25 January	8 February	22 February
Powerlifting	20	20	40	8 February	14 March	11 April
Rowing	6	6	12	10 May	24 May	30 May
Shooting	2	1	3	8 February	25 March	8 April
Swimming	5	5	10	15 February	10 April	23 April
Table Tennis	20	11	31	15 January	15 February	12 March
Triathlon	8	8	16	1 May	30 June	8 July
Wh. Fencing	3	3	6	31 May	20 June	27 June
Wh. Tennis	12	8	24**	6 February	7 June	20 June

*gender-free slots

**includes 4 gender-free slots for quad division

Process

Nine 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.**

The following four sports have chosen to establish their own procedures for collecting Bipartite applications: Cycling (UCI), Judo (IBSA), Rowing (FISA), Triathlon (ITU). These IFs will inform you separately of their respective processes. They 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 Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.

With kind regards,

Jürgen Padberg
Paralympic Games Sport & NPC Services Senior Manager