International
Paralympic
Committee

Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games

Qualification Regulations

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International Paralympic Committee
Adenauerallee 212-214 Tel. +49 228 2097-200
53113 Bonn, Germany Fax +49 228 2097-209

www.paralympic.org
info@paralympic.org

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INTRODUCTION

These Qualification Regulations (Regulations) describe in detail how athletes and teams can qualify for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games in each of the twenty-two (22) sports on the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games Programme (Games Programme). It provides to the National Paralympic Committees (NPCs), to National Federations (NFs), to sports administrators, coaches and to the athletes themselves the conditions that allow participation in the signature event of the Paralympic Movement.

These Regulations present:

- an overview of the Games Programme;
- the general IPC regulations on eligibility;
- the specific qualification criteria for each sport (in alphabetical order); and
- a glossary of the terminology used throughout the Regulations.

Structure of sport-specific qualification criteria

Each sport-specific section in these Regulations follows a standardised format. Readers can quickly locate information or cross-reference it between sports. The standard structure of each sport-specific qualification criteria is as follows:

- Events
- Athlete Quotas
- Allocation of Qualification Slots
- Maximum Quota Allocation per NPC
- Athlete Eligibility (sport-specific)
- Maximum Entries per NPC
- Qualification System
- Timeline
- Confirmation Process of Allocated Slots
- Reallocation of Unused Qualification Slots
- International Federation (IF) Contact Information

Qualification Methods

There are a variety of qualification methods that IFs may employ, which may depend on the nature and traditions of each sport. The mix of qualification methods within each sport (listed below) shall respect the following principles:

- to ensure that the world's leading athletes receive the opportunity to perform at the highest level; and

- to ensure that regional opportunities for qualification exist and that regional distribution of qualification slots is justifiably based on elite performances and/or prevalence of a sport within a given region.

In most sports, the participation of the host country is guaranteed via reserved slots. However, athletes representing the host country still need to comply with all eligibility requirements in order to enter the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

The following qualification methods based on performance may be used. Methods 1, 2 and 3 are referred to as **"direct slot allocations"** as they reward performance at one competition directly with a qualification slot.

1. Placement at World Championships
2. Placement at Regional/Zonal Championships or Regional Games
3. Placement in other IF sanctioned competitions or designated Paralympic qualifiers
4. Rank on a World or Regional Ranking List
5. Rank on a specific Paralympic Qualification Ranking List
6. Achievement of a Minimum Qualification Standard (MQS) with or without subsequent Quota Allocation Formula
7. Bipartite Commission Invitations (see page 9 of this section).

In addition, a small number of Universality Wild Cards will be awarded in the sole discretion of the IPC to athletes representing NPCs who have not been able to achieve entry into the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games via the above qualification methods (see page 9 of this section).

In the event of any inconsistency between IF qualification methods for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games that are published elsewhere and the IF qualification methods listed in these Regulations, these Regulations will prevail.

Questions and Updates

For questions regarding sport-specific qualification issues please contact the respective IF. Questions of a general nature can be addressed via email to the IPC Sports Department: juergen.padberg@paralympic.org. Occasional updates to these Regulations may be necessary. Updates are recorded at the end of these Regulations. For the latest version of these Regulations (see date on front page) please visit www.paralympic.org/Tokyo-2020.

At any given time the only valid version of these Regulations is the one published on the IPC website.

Official Language

The official language of the IPC is English. If any organisation translates these Regulations for internal purposes the English version shall prevail in case of discrepancy.

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TOKYO 2020 PARALYMPIC PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The Paralympic Games represents an international, multi-sport competition for athletes with an impairment that reflects the highest standards of athletic excellence and diversity. The goal of the Games Programme is to provide exciting events in the Paralympic Games that allow athletes to achieve competitive excellence while engaging and entertaining spectators. To ensure this for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, the IPC conducted its quadrennial review process that determined the inclusion and positioning of sports, disciplines and medal events within the Paralympic Games based on established core characteristics and guiding principles.

Guiding Principles

The guiding principles of the Paralympic Sports Programme are as follows (Paralympic Games Guiding Principles):

EXCELLENCE: The Paralympic Games is the highest level competition of each sport with participation of the world's best athletes.

DIVERSITY: The Paralympic Games give athletes with varying types/ranges of impairment the opportunity to compete within an equitable event programme that offers opportunities for both genders and ensures the participation of athletes with high support needs.

UNIVERSALITY: The Paralympic Games includes athletes from all regions of the world representing the maximum possible number of NPCs.

INTEGRITY: The Paralympic Games features excellence in judging and officiating.

SUSTAINABILITY: The Paralympic Games has a significant positive impact on the host-country and society while inspiring a long-term legacy for people with an impairment.

Athlete and Medal Event Quotas

The number of medal events and athlete slots by sport as approved by the IPC Governing Board are outlined in the following table:

	MEDAL EVENTS				ATHLETE SLOTS			
	Male	Female	Mixed	Total	Male	Female	Gender-Free	Total
Archery	3	3	3	9	80	60	0	140
Athletics	93	74	1	168	660	440	0	1100
Badminton	7	6	1	14	44	46	0	90
Boccia	0	0	7	7	0	34	82	116
Canoe	5	4	0	9	50	40	0	90
Cycling	29	20	2	51	150	80	0	230
Equestrian	0	0	11	11	0	0	78	78
Football 5-a-side	1	0	0	1	64	0	0	64
Goalball	1	1	0	2	60	60	0	120
Judo	7	6	0	13	80	58	0	138
Powerlifting	10	10	0	20	80	80	20	180
Rowing	1	1	2	4	48	48	0	96
Shooting	3	3	7	13	100	54	0	154
Swimming	76	67	3	146	340	280	0	620
Table Tennis	17	14	0	31	174	106	0	280
Taekwondo	3	3	0	6	36	36	0	72
Triathlon	4	4	0	8	36	36	8	80
Volleyball (Sitting)	1	1	0	2	96	96	0	192
Wheelchair Basketball	1	1	0	2	144	120	0	264
Wheelchair Fencing	8	8	0	16	48	48	0	96
Wheelchair Rugby	0	0	1	1	0	0	96	96
Wheelchair Tennis	2	2	2	6	56	32	16	104
Total	272	228	40	540	2346	1754	300	4400

GENERAL IPC REGULATIONS ON ELIGIBILITY

In addition to each IF's sport-specific athlete eligibility criteria the IPC has established a set of general eligibility criteria that apply to all participants in the Paralympic Games. These general regulations are derived from the IPC Handbook. They ensure that the fundamental rights and obligations of the IPC and its membership are recognised and protected. The General IPC Regulations on Eligibility are as follows:

IPC Membership

Only NPCs in good standing with the IPC may enter duly qualified and eligible athletes in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. NPCs are reminded that NFs must ensure that their membership with their sport's respective IF is in good standing during the qualification period and upon close of sport entries to the Paralympic Games so their athletes may participate.

Separately, the IPC has the ability, at its sole discretion, to enter athletes as members of a refugee team into the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, in accordance with article 3.1.3 of the IPC Athlete Nationality Policy and on such terms and conditions as may be specified by the IPC in its absolute discretion.

Compliance with IPC Athlete Nationality Policy

Any athlete in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games must be a national of the country/territory of the NPC entering him/her and in compliance with the provisions of the IPC Athlete Nationality Policy published in the IPC Handbook.

Minimum Age Requirement

No minimum age limit for athletes competing in the Paralympic Games is stipulated by the IPC on a general basis. However, NPCs must note that an age limit may be established by IFs through sport-specific athlete eligibility criteria. While the Paralympic Games welcomes the world's youth with an impairment, NPCs are encouraged to send to the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games only athletes adequately prepared for high performance competition.

Understanding and Agreeing to the Conditions of Participation

To be eligible for participation in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games all athletes must sign, observe, comply with and abide by the rules and regulations outlined in the IPC Conditions of Participation Agreement. This agreement is part of the NPC registration process.

NPC Selection Standards

The IPC recognises and respects the right of NPCs to establish national selection standards for determining the qualification of an athlete or team to compete in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. Such standards must be compliant with those established by the IPC as well as those of each respective IF. Any national selection standards must also align with confirmation dates and administrative deadlines of the Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (OCOG). All athletes and teams are equally subject to their respective NPC's selection standards.

Compliance with Classification Rules

Only qualified athletes that meet the sport-specific classification rules and have an appropriate classification status will be eligible for entry in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. It is the responsibility of each NPC to ensure that its athletes are appropriately classified in their respective sports prior to entry and that each athlete holds a sport class status that complies with the sport's eligibility requirements as published in these Regulations.

BIPARTITE COMMISSION INVITATIONS

As in previous Paralympic Games, the IPC has worked with the IFs to develop qualification methods which allow the top athletes in each sport to compete in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, but which also respect the Paralympic Games Guiding Principles. The principles of excellence, diversity, universality, integrity and sustainability are fundamental and leading aspects in the objective of the IPC and each IF to deliver great competition at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

While the primary method in which the Paralympic Games Guiding Principles are respected is through the standard qualification methods, the IPC and certain IFs have also sought to provide targeted qualification slot allocations through Bipartite Commission Invitations. Bipartite Commission Invitations are included in the overall athlete quotas of the relevant sports, are granted by the IPC in its sole discretion following engagement with the respective IF, and are typically allocated based on the following principles:

- to ensure 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 high support needs;
- to ensure medal events will have sufficient representation for viability; and/or
- to enable greater representation by gender.

The following sports offer Bipartite Commission Invitation slots:

Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Cycling, Judo, Powerlifting, Rowing, Shooting, Swimming, Table Tennis, Taekwondo, Wheelchair Fencing, Wheelchair Tennis.

Timelines and Application Procedures:

The timeline for submission and acceptance of Bipartite Commission Invitation applications is outlined in the respective section of each sport's chapter of these Regulations, if applicable for

that IF. All Bipartite Commission Invitation decisions by the IPC are final with no opportunity for protest or appeal.

REDISTRIBUTION OF VACANT QUALIFICATION SLOTS

Each IF confirms in writing to the NPCs the allocation of qualification slots their teams and athletes have obtained. The NPCs then must confirm acceptance of their allocated slots by the deadline established in each sport's chapter of these Regulations. Any qualification slots not used by an NPC will be reallocated according to the method outlined in the respective sport's chapter of these Regulations. Qualification slots that cannot be reallocated by the established deadlines or become vacant (following the deadline for final sport entries) may be redistributed at the sole discretion of the IPC to any sport on the programme and across gender categories. All redistribution decisions by the IPC are final with no opportunity for protest or appeal.

UNIVERSALITY WILD CARDS

In each edition of the Paralympic Games, the IPC institutes a slot allocation method to uphold the universality principle (of the Paralympic Games Guiding Principles) and to ensure representation of a maximum number of eligible member NPCs. This slot allocation is called the Universality Wild Card (UWC) method and is by IPC invitation only. No athlete or NPC is entitled to receive a UWC. UWC invitations may be extended by the IPC if an NPC has either been unable to qualify athletes or has only obtained one (1) qualification slot in any of the twenty-two (22) sports on the Games Programme. The UWC slot is allocated to an individual athlete, not to the respective NPC. If an NPC qualifies athletes via the regular qualification pathways after one (1) of its athletes has been granted a UWC, that UWC is revoked and the athlete who qualified via the regular qualification pathway obtains his/her slot instead.

UWC slots fall outside the athlete and sport quotas published in these Regulations. For the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games the IPC will only consider granting UWCs in the following sports:

- Athletics
- Swimming

A maximum of one (1) male UWC slot and one (1) female UWC slot may be granted if an NPC has not otherwise obtained any qualification slot. A maximum of one (1) female UWC slot may be provided if a NPC has obtained only one (1) qualification slot (irrespective of gender).

Criteria for Consideration

In order to be considered for a UWC an athlete must meet the following criteria:

- comply with the General IPC Regulations on Eligibility as published in these Regulations;
- meet all IF requirements for licensing and classification at the time the UWC is awarded; and
- be on the "Accreditation Long List" as described under Key Dates below.

Athletes who do not meet the above criteria will not be considered for a UWC.

Irrespective of the above criteria, the IPC Governing Board reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to award a UWC in any sport in exceptional circumstances.

All UWC decisions by the IPC are final with no opportunity for protest or appeal.

Application Process

The IPC will announce the UWC application process one (1) year prior to the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

KEY DATES

The following dates and deadlines have been established by the IPC and the Tokyo 2020 OCOG and need to be observed across all sports on the Games Programme:

Beginning of Qualification Period: 01 January 2018

Subject to the following, each IF will determine its own qualification period during which athletes and teams can attain results and rankings that count towards qualification for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games:

a) No IF may establish a qualification period that begins prior to 01 January 2018, whereby direct slot allocations (as defined on page 4 of this section) are obtained by athletes or teams for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.
b) An IF may rely on athlete ranking lists that incorporate competition results achieved at competitions prior to 01 January 2018. However, subject to sub-clause c) below, no IF may rely on athlete performances that have occurred prior to or during the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.
c) For those IFs joining the Paralympic programme for the first time at Tokyo 2020, no competition results achieved prior to 01 January 2016 may contribute to any rankings that qualify athletes for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.
d) Participation in a competition during the qualification period may depend on results achieved prior to the beginning of the respective sport's qualification period.

Accreditation Deadline: 08 May 2020

Each NPC must submit to the Tokyo 2020 OCOG complete information about every potential delegation member it considers may attend the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. This "Accreditation Long List" includes athletes (including, but not limited to, duly qualified, replacements, substitutes, bipartite candidates, UWC candidates), competition assistants (such as runners, tandem pilots, goalkeepers, Boccia assistants), coaches, team physicians, administrators, physiotherapists, caretakers, press attachés, Paralympic attachés, Chefs de Mission, NPC Presidents, NPC Secretaries General and accompanying guests. Only athletes who are accredited by 08 May 2020 can be entered into the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games by the sport entries deadline (see below).

Sport Entries Deadline: 03 August 2020

Sport entries is the official registration process for qualified athletes selected to participate in the Paralympic Games. Any athlete an NPC may choose to enter must meet all eligibility criteria

by the time the entry is made. The athlete must also be on the “Accreditation Long List” (see previous section). The last possible day to meet the eligibility criteria is 3 August 2020. Sport entries will close at 23:59h, Tokyo time, on 03 August 2020.

International Paralympic Committee

CANOE

Medal Events

Male	Female	Mixed	Total
5	4	0	9
Kayak single KL1 Kayak single KL2 Kayak single KL3 Va'a single VL2 Va's single VL3	Kayak single KL1 Kayak single KL2 Kayak single KL3 Va'a single VL2		

Athlete Quota

Male	Female	Gender Free	Total
50	40	0	90

Allocation of Qualification Slots

The qualification slot is allocated to the NPC, not to the individual athlete. An athlete can only obtain one (1) qualification slot for their NPC.

If an athlete attains a qualifying rank in both a Kayak and a Va'a medal event, the NPC is allocated the Va'a qualification slot while the Kayak qualification slot is allocated to the next highest ranked athlete in the respective Kayak event (not otherwise qualified). Should the athlete lose the qualification slot due to the Three Continents Rule (see below) in either of the events then the athlete will retain the qualification slot superseding the continental restrictions.

Maximum Quota Allocation per NPC

An NPC can be allocated a maximum of one (1) qualification slot per medal event. An NPC can obtain a maximum of five (5) male and four (4) female slots.

There must be a minimum of three (3) continents represented in each medal event at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. Should three (3) continents not be represented then the lowest ranked qualified NPC at the 2020 ICF Paracanoe World Championships will lose their slot in the respective medal event and the qualification slot will be given to the highest ranked NPC from another continent not represented in that event. This process will be repeated until three (3) continents are represented in all medal events. Host Country slots will count as representing a continent for qualification slots.

Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible for selection by an NPC, athletes must:

- be internationally classified either with a 'Confirmed' sport class status or a 'Review' sport class status with a review date after 31 December 2020;
- have competed in the 2019 or the 2020 ICF Paracanoe World Championships.

Maximum Entry per NPC

An NPC must enter a minimum of one (1) eligible athlete per medal event for which a qualification slot was obtained. An athlete may be entered in a second medal event of the other boat category (Kayak or Va'a) as long as they hold the required sport class for that additional event and also meet the above eligibility requirements.

An athlete may enter a maximum of two (2) medal events, one Kayak and one Va'a, as long as the athlete meets all classification and eligibility requirements for both events. An NPC may enter a maximum of two (2) eligible athletes per medal event.

QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

Qualification slots will be allocated as follows:

METHOD	QUALIFICATION	TOTAL
2019 World Championships Qualification	In the Male medal events, the top six (6) ranked athletes in each medal event each obtain one (1) qualification slot for their NPC. In the Female medal events, the top six (6) ranked athletes in each medal event each obtain one (1) qualification slot for their NPC. An NPC can obtain only one (1) qualification slot per medal event. Any subsequent slot will be allocated to the next highest ranked NPC (not yet qualified).	30 male athletes 24 female athletes
2020 World Championships Qualification	In the Male medal events, the top four (4) ranked athletes in each medal event (not yet qualified) each obtain one (1) qualification slot for their NPC, but this is subject to the Host Country's right to take up one (1) or both of the two (2) slots reserved for Kayak and Va'a (see Host Country Allocation below).	18 male athletes 14 female athletes

	In the Female medal events, the top four (4) ranked athletes in each medal event (not yet qualified) each obtain one (1) qualification slot for their NPC, but this is subject to the Host Country's right to take up one (1) or both of the two (2) slots reserved for Kayak and Va'a (see Host Country Allocation below). An NPC can obtain only one (1) qualification slot per medal event. Any subsequent slot will be allocated to the next highest ranked NPC (not yet qualified). NPCs that have already obtained qualification slots at the 2019 ICF Paracanoe World Championships cannot obtain an additional qualification slot in the respective event(s) at the 2020 ICF Paracanoe World Championships. (Note: The seeding of heats at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games will be based upon the results ranking of qualified NPCs at the 2020 World Championships.)	
Host Country Allocation	The host country directly qualifies one (1) eligible male athlete in Kayak, one (1) eligible female athlete in Kayak, one (1) eligible male athlete in Va'a and one (1) eligible female athlete in Va'a, subject to participation in the 2020 ICF Paracanoe World Championships. The Host Country slots will be awarded from the events in which the host country (male and/or female) has had the highest ranked performance at the 2020 ICF Paracanoe World Championships. Should the host country obtain a minimum of one (1) male and/or one (1) female qualification slot in Kayak and/or in Va'a at the 2019 or 2020 ICF Paracanoe World Championships, the NCP will not receive a host country allocation for that respective boat category and for the respective gender. The reserved host country slot for that boat category and gender will be released and allocated via the 2020 World Championship Qualification allocation method (see above).	1 male athlete in Kayak 1 male athlete in Va'a 1 female athlete in Kayak 1 female athlete in Va'a

Total		**50 male athletes** **40 female athletes**

TIMELINE

20-24 Aug. 2019	2019 ICF Paracanoe World Championships, Szeged, Hungary
8 May 2020	Deadline for Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee to receive accreditation application forms submitted by NPCs ("Accreditation Long List")
21-24 May 2020	2020 ICF Paracanoe World Championships, Duisburg, Germany
1 June 2020	ICF confirms in writing to the NPCs the allocation of qualification slots
15 June 2020	NPCs confirm to ICF in writing the use of allocated qualification slots
30 June 2020	ICF confirms in writing the reallocation of unused qualification slots
3 August 2020	Deadline for Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee to receive sport entry forms submitted by NPCs

CONFIRMATION PROCESS OF ALLOCATED SLOTS

By 15 June 2020 each qualified NPC must confirm to the ICF in writing (emails are accepted) the qualification slots they will use. NPCs that have not responded by this date will lose their qualification slots, and ICF will reallocate these slots. If an NPC confirms acceptance of a qualification slot, the NPC commits to enter a boat into the medal event for which the slot was obtained.

By 30 June 2020 the ICF will confirm in writing the reallocation of all unused qualification slots.

By 30 June 2020 it is officially declared that the respective NPCs will use the allocated quotas granted for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. Any NPC that does not use all of its allocated and accepted qualification slots may be subject to sanctions by IPC and ICF.

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUALIFICATION SLOTS

Any unused qualification slot from the 2019 ICF Paracanoe World Championships will be offered to the next highest ranked NPC (not yet qualified) in the respective medal event. Should no ranked NPC be available, the slot will go to the next highest ranked NPC (not otherwise qualified) in the respective medal event at the 2020 ICF Paracanoe World Championships.

Any unused qualification slot from the 2020 ICF Paracanoe World Championships will be offered to the next highest ranked NPC (not yet qualified) in the respective medal event. Should no ranked NPC be available, the slot will go to the next highest ranked NPC (not otherwise qualified) in the respective medal event at the 2019 ICF Paracanoe World Championships.

Should no ranked NPC be available to fill all the qualification slots in a particular medal event, then the slot(s) will be reallocated at the discretion of the ICF to the highest ranking NPC (not otherwise qualified) in a different medal event of the same gender at either the 2019 or 2020 ICF Paracanoe World Championships.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION

International Canoe Federation
Avenue de Rhodanie 54
CH-1007 Lausanne
Switzerland
Phone: (+41) 21 612 0290
Email: michel.alarcon@canoeicf.com