



MICHELLE SCHIFFLER

Country: Germany

Date of Birth: 20/3/1983

Sport: ParaVolley

Discipline: Sitting Volleyball



Sports Career

Paralympic Games : Gold medal in 2016, Silver medal in 2012

World Championships : Silver medal in 2010, Silver medal in 2014

Why do you wish to become a member of the IPC Athletes' Council?

It would be such a great honour to represent not only ParaVolley, Para athlete, mothers and women in Paralympic sports, but all Para athletes! I'm married to a fellow Paralympian and thus have my ear open to my male counterpart's concerns and issues. I'm naturally a very outspoken, outgoing, and receptive individual, and I believe that the timing is very appropriate to be active on this council, given not only my experience as a team player, but the current global situation that has affected all of us, with Paralympic/disabled sports being hit especially the hardest.

I would love your vote and the chance to amplify your voice! I wish you success in Tokyo! Stay well and healthy!

Why do you wish to run for the IPC Athletes' Council?

I'm committed to advocating for women in sport (especially mothers returning to sport and their needs), transparency and consistency of classification systems, and clean & safe sport as my top priorities of mine.

What special skills, background and expertise will you bring to the IPC Athletes' Council?

Unique vantage point from two major zones (Para Pan American and Europe), many years' experience as a team player with team dynamics, and time management (multitasker) as mother, wife, teacher, and active Para athlete.

How has sport impacted your life?

Every facet of my life, from elevating me to an international stage to represent my country, to being an advocate of (congenital) amputees, women, and mothers in sport, to meeting my husband & starting a family.

What is your vision for the IPC Athletes' Council?

To continue to push for athletes' voices to be heard and placed at the heart of all levels of decision making, propelling the Paralympic Movement forward to assist past, current, and future generations' needs.

Why is the athletes' voice important to you?

The athletes are the main attraction and inspiration for the Paralympic Movement. Therefore, their individual needs, concerns, and issues should be at the fore during decision making, while maintaining transparency.

What is the biggest challenge you have experienced as an athlete? How did you overcome it?

Keeping my growing family as top priority while investing the rest of my time to support and push my team to success - being actively present and dedicated to both requires a bottomless pit of energy and passion!