



## **SUSANA RODRIGUEZ GACIO**

Country: Spain

Date of Birth: 4/3/1988

Sport: Para triathlon

Discipline: Para triathlon



### **Sports Career**

Paralympic Games : Competed in 2016

World Championships : Competed in 2018 and 2019

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

The experience that I lived in 2020 working at the coronavirus pandemic and being diagnosed with a heart genetic condition made me realise that I wanted to progress my sport career not only in training and racing but also helping to develop the Paralympic Movement with both my experience in healthcare, sports and life. This is why I wish to become a member of the IPC Athletes' Council for the next years.

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

To help develop Paralympic Movement worldwide and spread the importance of sport for equality, respect, education and inclusion.

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

My experience as a healthcare professional (medical doctor).

### **How has sport impacted your life?**

Sport has taught me about hard work, discipline, respect, equality, opportunity to travel and meet athletes from different backgrounds. It has made me feel proud as a person with a disability.

**What is your vision for the IPC Athletes' Council?**

Athletes with a disability give a contribution to keep making Paralympic Movement stronger, to arrive reach out to more people and help to improve sport organisations with their personal skills and experience in Para sport.

**Why is the athletes' voice important to you?**

Athletes with their experience in sports along their life can contribute to development of Paralympic Movement.

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

My biggest challenge was being diagnosed with a heart inherited disease while training for Tokyo and working at coronavirus pandemic. Overcame it I surrounded by a great multidisciplinary team.