



## **Chapter 3.5 - Policy for Recommended Regional Games Sports Programmes**

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**International Paralympic Committee**

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## 1 Policy Statement

The purpose of the Policy for Recommended Regional Games Sports Programmes is to establish a set of principles by which a sport will be considered for inclusion in Regional Games. The policy intends to address the IPC principle of promoting equity and unity of sports that are on the Paralympic Sports Programme, thus ensuring equal consideration of these sports in the creation of the various Regional Games Programmes.

## 2 Application

The policy applies to those Regional Organisations wishing to stage Regional Games, which include multiple sports on the Paralympic Sports Programme.

## 3 Principles & definitions

### 3.1 Guiding principles

The Regional Games represent regional, multi-sport competitions for athletes with an impairment that reflect the highest standards of athletic excellence and diversity within a specific IPC region. The goal of the recommended Regional Games Sports Programmes is to provide aspirational, exciting and inspiring events on the pathway to the Paralympic Games in each applicable IPC Region. The guiding principles for determining the Regional Games Sports Programme are categorised by three (3) core-characteristics, which are as follows:



Quality - The essential principles with respect to grade of excellence; accomplishment and/or attainment.

Quantity - The principles that establish parameters and/or conditions necessary for success.

Universality - The collective principles or conditions that ensure and reflect a diverse movement.

These guiding principles will be further exemplified and reflected in the Regional Games Qualification Criteria established for each IPC Region and each edition of a Regional Games.

## 3.2 Criteria for consideration of Paralympic sports

### 3.2.1 Sport eligibility

A sport that is on the Paralympic Sports Programme is eligible to apply for consideration for inclusion on a Regional Games Sports Programme.

### 3.2.2 Sport's Regional reach eligibility

Only individual sports widely and regularly practiced in a minimum of 20 per cent of the NPCs who are members of the Regional Organisation are eligible to apply for consideration for inclusion a Regional Games Sports Programme.

Only team sports widely and regularly practiced in a minimum of six (6) NPCs who are members of the Regional Organisation are eligible to apply for consideration for inclusion a Regional Games Sports Programme.



The calculation to determine the number of NPCs widely and regularly practicing a sport or discipline may include the following:

- Holding recognised/sanctioned National Championships within the last four (4) years,
- Competing with a national delegation in international recognised/ sanctioned competitions on a regular basis within the last four (4) years, and/or
- Demonstrating frequent and widespread sport-specific opportunities for athletes with an impairment within the last four (4) years

Applications for consideration must include proof in the form of official results lists that the “widely and regularly practiced criteria” are fulfilled.

### 3.2.3 Paralympic qualification designation eligibility

A sport must designate the competition as part of the qualification process for the next Paralympic Games in order to be considered for inclusion in a Regional Games Sports Programme.

## 4 Procedures

The IPC Sports Council will submit a list of sports for consideration to the respective Regional Organisations and enter into a consultative process for determining a Regional Games Sports Programme.

## 5 Appendix

N/A