



PARALYMPICS NEW ZEALAND

STRIVING FOR PARALYMPIC SUCCESS

A GUIDE TO INCLUSIVE EVENT MANAGEMENT



Version 1.0



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1 An Introduction to Inclusive Events

Paralympics New Zealand (PNZ) supports sporting opportunities for athletes with a disability (AWD) at all levels. Traditionally people with a disability have participated in sport and active leisure within a segregated environment. However, with the growth of disability sports and its recognition within mainstream sport, Event Organisers are being encouraged to make provision for AWD within their event.

An inclusive environment is defined by Paralympics New Zealand as:

"Events where both able bodied and AWD compete in the same competitive environment, utilising the same venues, equipment and officials. AWD events may be conducted separately from able bodied events."

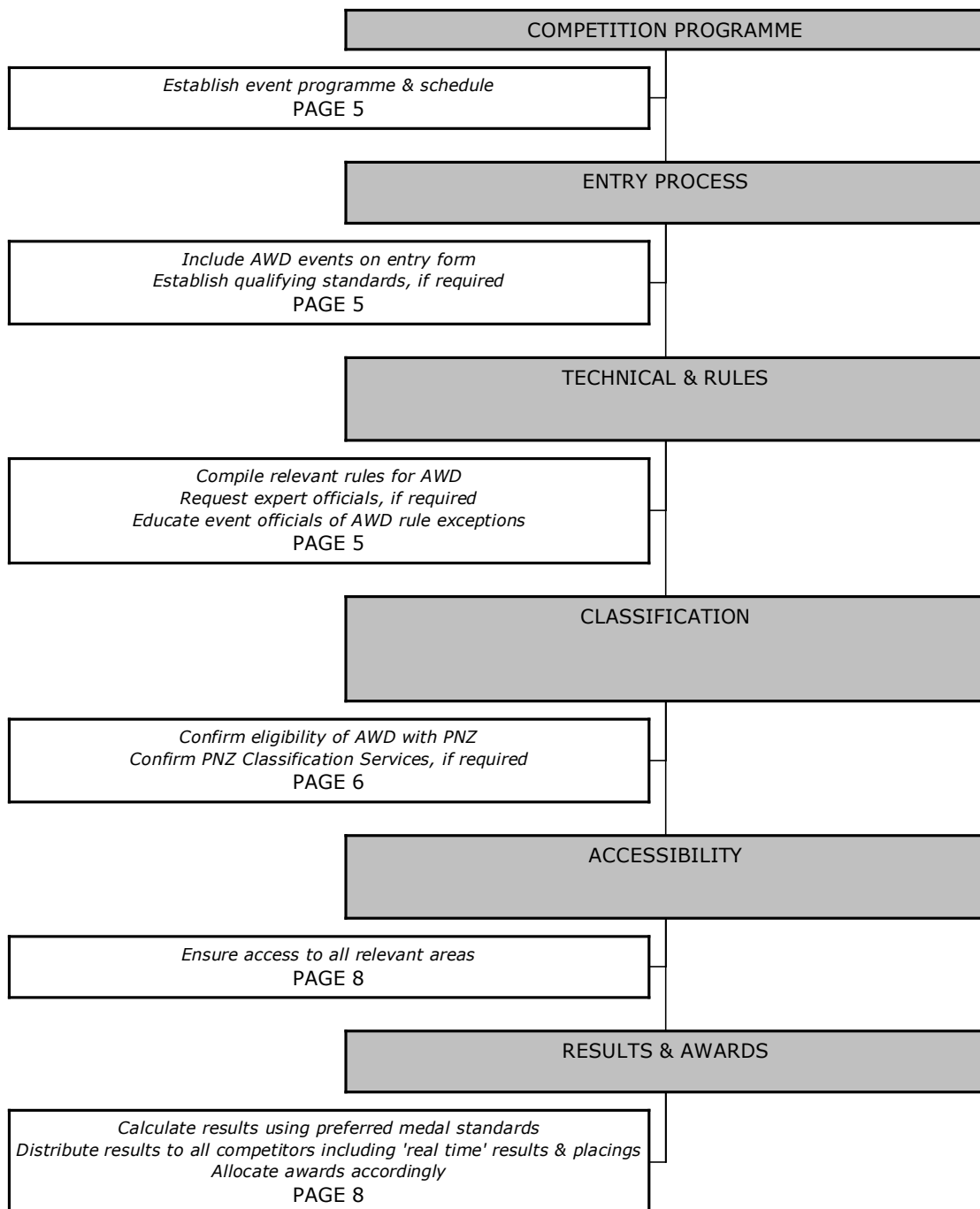
National events in athletics, basketball, cycling and swimming have included events for AWD. With the continued development of such events it is hoped that more opportunities will be available to AWD at school, club and regional levels.

This Guide outlines the various matters that require attention when including AWD events in mainstream events, with a view to increasing the number and quality of events available to AWD in New Zealand sport.



2 Overview of Event Planning

There are few additional considerations required when including AWD in events. However, the few changes that you will need to make have a significant impact on AWD and their successful inclusion.



3 Competition Programme

When establishing the competition programme Event Organisers should take into account the following:

1. A full programme of events should be available to AWD. Contact PNZ for recognised events for each class in each sport. Should there be insufficient entries it is possible to conduct multi-class races as detailed on page 8.
2. In most sports the time taken to complete each sporting activity will be only marginally different to the time taken by able-bodied athletes.

However in some sports the time difference may differ depending on the athlete's class. New Zealand and World Records are available from PNZ for an indication of the best national and international performances in each sport.

4 Qualifying Standards

Where events have qualifying standards for able-bodied athletes, qualifying standards should also be established for AWD events. Qualifying Standards can be requested from PNZ for all levels of competition.

5 Technical

5.1 Sport Rules

Through PNZ's affiliations to international sporting organisations PNZ is the 'guardian' of the international sports and classification rules for International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Sports. See Appendix 1 for list of PNZ international affiliates and Appendix 2 for a list of IPC Sports.

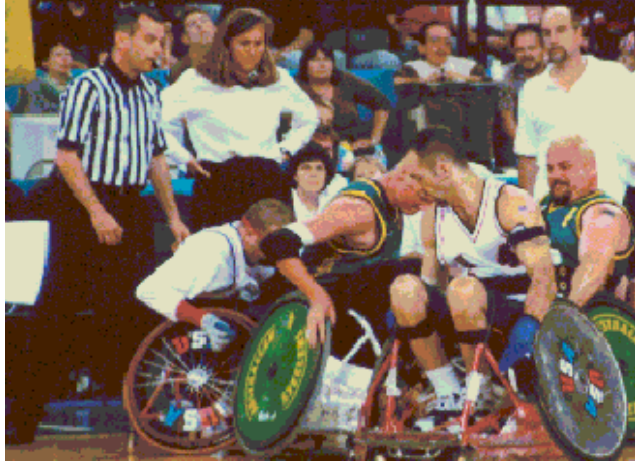
In some cases sport specific rules for AWD differ to those for able bodied athletes. Rules are available from PNZ and should be read with an understanding of the classification system that complements the rules.



5.2 Officials

The same technical officials should be utilised for AWD events. In this way officials will acquire greater knowledge of the rule differences for AWD. This in turn will ensure that events have skilled and knowledgeable officials for the future.

It is recommended that event officials be provided with a brief summary of the AWD rules and their implications prior to the event.



For larger events it may be deemed necessary to appoint an AWD Technical Official to address the specific matters that occur during AWD events. Contact PNZ for details of officials with AWD experience and knowledge.

6 Athlete Eligibility & Classification

6.1 General Information

Classification is a unique and integral part of disability sport. It ensures fair and equitable competition at all levels of sport. Classification systems are sport specific and enable athletes to compete at the highest level, regardless of individual differences in physical, visual and intellectual function.

In order to conduct an event for AWD athletes are required to have a class for the following reasons:

1. To determine eligibility.
2. So that athletes with similar function are competing together.
3. Placings are a fair reflection of the sporting achievement of the athletes.
4. Athletes have prior indication of their performance expectations.



PNZ has an active classification programme and offers event classification services. For further information on classification contact PNZ or refer to the PNZ Classification Handbook & Procedures or the PNZ Athlete Classification Handbook found at www.paralympicsnz.org.nz

6.2 Athlete Eligibility

In order for an athlete to compete in an AWD event they must be eligible to compete under IPC rules. PNZ has a comprehensive list of New Zealand athletes who have an authorised class and can advise event organisers on athlete status.

For those athletes without an authorised class there is a comprehensive process by which athletes are allocated a 'Provisional' class prior to competition. Again details of this can be found at www.paralympicsnz.org.nz

6.3 Classification Panel

If after consultation with PNZ it is deemed necessary to provide classification services the following should be made available to the Classification Panel.

1. A classification room for the duration of the event.
2. Posters and signs to denote the classification area.
3. Appropriate places with good views of the athletes' competition arena so that observation during competition can take place. The observation will normally take place for the duration of competition.



7 Event Facilities

The competition venue, registration area, changing rooms, shower and toilet facilities should be accessible to all competing athletes.

For information on funding available for the conversion of existing inaccessible venues into accessible venues contact your local council.

8 Results & Medal Standards

The following method of allocating medals is recommended for events where recognised classes are used. This method has been used at both Swimming New Zealand and Athletics New Zealand national events and at the 2002 Commonwealth Games.

Medals should be allocated:

- By division (i.e. wheelchair, ambulant)
- By event (i.e. 100m)
- By gender (i.e. male, female)
- By age group (i.e. Open, under 18, under 15)

AWD may compete in combined events (i.e. more than one class and/or age group will compete for medals in the same race.)



1. Placing in events will be allocated based on calculating the competitor's results as a percentage of the world record for their class.
2. For timed events the competitor with the lowest percentage against the world record takes first place, the competitor with the next lowest percentage against the world record takes second place and so on.
3. For distance events the competitor with the highest percentage against the world record takes first place, the competitor with the next highest percentage against the world record takes second place and so on.

In addition, medal standards as detailed below will also be employed to determine the medal allocation in events where there are three or fewer competitors.

1. If **more than three competitors** in an event: The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd placed competitors receive gold, silver, and bronze respectively.

2. If **three competitors only** in an event: The 1st and 2nd placed competitors receive gold and silver, and a bronze will be awarded if the 3rd placed competitor obtains at least 60% of the current New Zealand Record.
3. If **two competitors only** in an event: The 1st placed competitor automatically receives gold, and silver is awarded if the 2nd placed competitor obtains at least 70% of the current New Zealand Record.
4. If **one competitor only** in an event: The competitor is awarded gold, if at least 80% of the current New Zealand Record is obtained or a New Zealand Record is set.

Results should be distributed to AWD after the event detailing the athlete's 'real time', percentage calculated and final placing.

9 Anti-Doping

Doping is forbidden by the IPC and uses the same list of prohibited drugs as the IOC, including blood doping. For further information on PNZ Anti-doping policy contact PNZ or visit www.paralympicsnz.org.nz

The New Zealand Sports Drug Agency provides guidelines for athletes and event organisers at www.nzsda.co.nz

Appendix 1 – PNZ International Membership

Paralympics New Zealand (PNZ) is the recognised National Paralympic Committee of New Zealand and is the New Zealand member of the following International Sports Bodies, governing sports for AWD:

- International Paralympic Committee (IPC)
- International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation (ISMWSF)
- Cerebral Palsy International Sports & Recreation Association (CP-ISRA)
- International Sports Organisation for the Disabled (ISOD)
- Far East & South Pacific Games Federation (FESPIC)
- International Sports Federation for Persons with an Intellectual Disability (INAS-FID)
- International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF)

Appendix 2 – IPC Sports



Archery



Athletics – Track



Athletics – Field



Boccia



Cycling – Track & Road



Equestrian – Dressage



Fencing



Goalball



Lawn Bowls



Powerlifting



Sailing



Shooting



Soccer



Swimming



Table Tennis



Volleyball



Wheelchair Basketball



Wheelchair Rugby



Wheelchair Tennis



**International
Paralympic Committee**



Alpine Skiing



Cross-Country Skiing



Ice Sledge Hockey



Wheelchair Dance

Appendix 3 – Glossary of Terms

Acquired:	Impairment caused by an accident, disease or old age.
AWD:	Athlete with a disability. Others variations include SWD (swimmer with a disability). Never use Para-athlete or ParaFed athlete.
Classification:	The process of ensuring fair competition.
Congenital:	Condition has been present from birth.
Disability:	Loss of ability in certain activities because of impairment.
Functional Ability:	An athlete’s available ability to see, hear, feel and move.
Handicap:	Limitation of opportunities to take part in activities on an equal level with others due to physical and social barriers.
Impairment:	Functional limitation caused by a physical, intellectual or sensory condition.
Inclusion:	The inclusion of people with a disability into sport and active leisure opportunities at their own level of ability in the activity and setting of their choice.
Integration:	The process of developing social and physical skills appropriate for participation in community activities including sport.
Intellectual: Disability	Refers to impairment in an athlete’s learning ability.
Physical: Disability	Refers to any impairment that directly affects motor function and/or the control of movement.
Paralympian:	An athlete who has competed at a Paralympic Games.
Sensory: Impairment	Refers to restriction in an athlete’s ability to see and hear.

Appendix 4 – Contact Information

For further information contact the relevant organisations or refer to their websites. Alternatively, contact the SPARC or your Regional Sports Trust.

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The Halberg Trust

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Ellerslie, Auckland

Tel. 09 579 9931
Fax. 09 579 9936
Email. office@halberg.co.nz
www.halberg.co.nz

New Zealand Special Olympics Foundation

PO Box 26623
Epsom, Auckland

Tel. 09 525 1081
Fax. 09 525 1091
www.specolympics.wellington.net.nz

Blind Sport New Zealand

PO Box 99802
Newmarket, Auckland

Tel. 09 275 1635
Fax. 09 355 6591
www.blindsport.org.nz

Deaf Sports New Zealand Association

PO Box 1975
Palmerston North

Fax. 06 354 5286

Sport & Recreation New Zealand

PO Box 2251
Wellington

Tel. (04) 472 8058
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