



## Athletics Canada Canadian Championships Para Event Guidelines

### Preamble

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines on the integration of Para events at Canadian Championships, which supports viable and meaningful competition to all athletes. This document will be reviewed annually at minimum and if necessary, edits be made to ensure alignment with Athletics Canada's Strategic Plan.

### 1 Purpose

- 1.1 To outline the process for Para event integration and inclusion at all Athletics Canada's Canadian Championships by:
  - 1.1.1. Supporting a viable and meaningful competition which will create full competitive event fields where possible with athletes having the opportunity to compete against their peers.
  - 1.1.2. Providing clarity to athletes, coaches, and Provincial/Territorial Branches on the processes of athlete seeding and progressions through event rounds and as well as how medals will be awarded.
  - 1.1.3. Provide clarity and guidance to the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for organizational and planning purposes including scheduling, managing entries and start lists, and calculating results.

### 2 Principles and Criteria

- 2.1 Where applicable, athletes required to meet the entry criteria for each event to be eligible to participate.
- 2.2 Para athletes are required to be Nationally Classified within Para Athletics to enter all Athletics Canada's Canadian Championship events.
- 2.3 Foreign Para athletes may participate in those Competitions if they are eligible to participate in the sport of Athletics under the rules of World Para Athletics (WPA); however, only Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents in good standing with Athletics Canada will be eligible to win a Canadian Championships Medal.

### 3 Event Selection

- 3.1 Wherever possible, Athletics Canada aligns with World Para Athletics (WPA) Rules and Regulations. In the Paralympic program, sport classes are often combined to provide more depth of field at



the Paralympics and other major Games/International Para Athletics events. Sport Classes are combined based on similar function in the given event and not every event is offered for each sport class.

**3.2** Para events to be offered at the 2024 Canadian Track and Field Championships will align with the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games Program.

- 3.2.1.** A National Para Medal Event represents all competition events. These events will combine sport classes into 3 main categories: ambulatory (throws and track), seated throws and wheelchair racing.
- 3.2.2.** These 3 categories will be represented in each Canadian Track and Field Championships Event and will make up the “Para Medal Events.” For example: Men’s Ambulatory Javelin, Men’s Seated Discus, Women’s Wheelchair 800m, Women’s Ambulatory 100m. (See Appendix B for full list.)
- 3.2.3.** Canadian Championship Medals will be awarded to top 3 finishers in each Para Medal Event (see 3.2.2). For the avoidance of doubt, in the case of an event where there are three (3) competitors or less, medals will be awarded to each finisher.

**4** World Para Athletics (WPA) Points Scores

- 4.1** Where more than one Sports Class competes together the World Para Athletics (WPA) Points Scores (sometimes referred to as “Raza Points System”) may be used to determine placings. WPA Points Scores are based on a calculation using an average of the World Records over a pre-determined number of years. The closer an athlete is to the World Record in their category, the higher the point score they receive. The WPA Points are updated regularly and can be found on the [World Para Athletics website](#). Please note that there are separate tables for Track and for Field.

- 4.1.1.** If a Sport Class is not listed in the WPA Points Scores Calculator, an athlete will not be eligible to compete for that event. Example: WPA Point Scores do not exist in track events for Sport Classes 40-41 (Short Stature athletes). For this reason, this sport class can only compete in eligible throwing events.

**5** Para Event Groupings

- 5.1** For track events, athletes will be combined with other athlete(s) of the same sporting gender based on event category (i.e., wheelchair or ambulatory). These athletes will compete against one another.

- 5.1.1.** For the first round, if applicable, the athletes shall be placed in heats using the zigzag distribution with the seeding determined from the relevant list of valid performances.



5.1.2. After the first round, progression and final placing will be determined by the World Para Athletics (WPA) Points Scores Calculator (RAZA). (See Appendix A Example 1).

5.2 For field events, athletes will be combined with other athlete(s) of the same sporting gender based on event category (i.e., seated, or ambulatory throws). These athletes will compete against one another, seeded based on distance with final placing determined by the World Para Athletics (WPA) Points Scores Calculator (RAZA) (See Appendix A Example 2).

5.3 In the instance where the depth of field for ambulatory track or ambulatory throws is not viable for a competitive experience, Para athletes will be integrated with Olympic stream athletes of the same age category and gender. This may be in qualifying rounds or finals depending on the number of athletes.

5.3.1. Final rank and medals will be awarded separately following the principals laid out above (See Appendix A Example 2). The threshold will depend on various factors (i.e., scheduling, entries, seed times, etc.); however, whenever possible, Para will have a standalone event if more than 5 competitors.

5.3.2. For avoidance of doubt, when an event is integrated, it will be considered a Para event for National Team Selection purposes (see section 6.2).

## 6 National Team Selection

6.1 In the instance where the Canadian Track and Field Championships also acts as National Team selection (i.e., Paralympic Selection Trials) athletes' final placings will also be ranked according to the Paris 2024 Paralympic Medal Program Sport Class combinations (See Appendix C Example 1). This may or may not differ from the placings and awards for the Canadian Track and Field Championships. This could result in more than one "first-placed Canadian athlete" in one race for the purposes of athlete nomination for the Paralympic Games. Please reference Section 8.e.i of the [Athletics Canada Selection Criteria Paris 2024 Paralympic Games](#) for Step 2 – Selection Trials of the nomination process.

*Example of Sport Class Combination: T34 800m is a Paris 2024 event. The sport classes eligible for this event are T33 and T34.*

6.2 Para athletes must compete in at least one Para event at the Canadian Track and Field Championships to be eligible for selection to the Paralympic Team.

6.2.1. Para athletes seeking nomination through 'Step 2 – Selection Trials' are only eligible for



automatic nomination by competing in the Para event for which they are seeking Paralympic selection.

*Example*

*If an athlete is seeking Automatic Nomination for the Women's T12 100m, they must compete in the Women's Para Ambulatory 100m.*

- 6.2.2.** Para athletes may also choose to compete in additional Olympic-stream events for which they are eligible for (i.e., U20, Senior, Open). Although Olympic-stream performances may be eligible for WPA and AC National Para rankings and records, they will not be included in the rank for the National Championships Para Events and no Para Event medals will be awarded.

*Example:*

*Scenario 1: Separate Para Men's Shot Put and Olympic-stream Men's Shot Put (MSP) events are on the National Championships program.*

- All Para athletes seeking selection for the Paralympics in the MSP F12 must compete in the Para Men's Ambulatory Shot Put event (or at least one Para event for which they are seeking Paralympic selection).*
- Athletes may also compete in the Olympic-stream Open MSP. The results in this event will be valid for Para records and will appear on the WPA results and ranking lists. The results in this event will NOT be eligible for Para specific medals and will NOT be counted towards "first-placed Canadian athlete" status for Paralympic selection purposes.*

*Scenario 2: A combined Men's Shot Put (MSP) integrating both Open athletes and Para athletes is on the National Championships program.*

- All Para athletes seeking selection for the Paralympics in the MSP F12 must compete in this event (or at least one Para event for which they are seeking Paralympic selection).*
- The results in this event will be valid for Para records and will appear on the WPA results and ranking lists. The F12 athletes will be eligible for Para specific medals and the best F12 athlete will be the "first-placed Canadian athlete" for Paralympic selection purposes.*



## Appendix A

### Example 1: Men's Ambulatory 400m Entries, Start List, Progressions and Standings

#### Entries

Bib	Class	Seed
501	T20	58.59
502	T13	56.53
503	T37	54.86
504	T20	52.45
505	T20	51.96
506	T47	51.79
507	T12*	51.57
508	T38	50.29
509	T47	50.28
510	T38	01:00.9

\*Two lanes allocated for guide and athlete in classes T12 and T11, regardless of if an athlete uses a guide.

#### Heat 1

Lane	Bib	Class	Seed	Time	Raza	Rank	Q
2	501	T20	58.59	58.54	257	10	
3	505	T20	51.96	51.99	747	6	q
4	508	T38	50.29	50.55	986	1	q
5	507	T12*	51.57	51.31	817	3	q
6		Guide					
7	503	T37	54.86	54.79	804	4	q

#### Heat 2

Lane	Bib	Class	Seed	Time	Raza	Rank	Q
2	502	T13	56.53	56.42	408	8	
3	506	T47	51.79	51.72	800	5	q
4	509	T47	50.28	50.78	860	2	q
5	504	T20	52.45	52.23	729	7	q
6	510	T38	01:00.9	59.89	376	9	



Final

Lane	Bib	Class	Time	Raza	Championships Rank	Medal
1	503	T37	55.43	763	5	
2	505	T20	52.24	728	6	
3	507	T12*	51.60	798	3	Bronze Men's Para Ambulatory 400m
4		Guide				
5	508	T38	50.79	975	1	Gold Men's Para Ambulatory 400m
6	509	T47	50.98	848	2	Silver Men's Para Ambulatory 400m
7	506	T47	51.82	793	4	
8	504	T20	52.67	696	7	

#### Example 2: Women's Ambulatory Shot Put Final Results

Bib	Class	Mark	Raza	Championships Rank	Medal
876	41	8.42	837	2	Silver Women's Para Shot Put
856	46	9.12	669	3	Bronze Women's Para Shot Put
845	46	10.38	839	1	Gold Women's Para Shot Put
836	40	5.63	454	5	
809	37	8.42	550	4	
873	38	6.95	384	6	
853	20	6.17	84	7	
874	-	15.78	-	4	
862	-	19.23	-	1	Gold Senior Women's Shot Put
842	-	17.34	-	3	Bronze Senior Women's Shot Put
864	-	18.24	-	2	Silver Senior Women's Shot Put



## Appendix B

### Para Medal Events

#### Men's

Sporting Gender	Category	Event
Men's	Ambulatory	100m
Men's	Ambulatory	200m
Men's	Ambulatory	400m
Men's	Ambulatory	1500m
Men's	Ambulatory	5000m
Men's	Ambulatory	Long Jump
Men's	Ambulatory	High Jump
Men's	Ambulatory	Discus
Men's	Ambulatory	Javelin
Men's	Ambulatory	Shot Put
Men's	Wheelchair	100m
Men's	Wheelchair	200m
Men's	Wheelchair	400m
Men's	Wheelchair	800m
Men's	Wheelchair	1500m
Men's	Wheelchair	5000m
Men's	Seated	Discus
Men's	Seated	Javelin
Men's	Seated	Club Throw
Men's	Seated	Shot Put



## Women's Para Medal Events

Sporting Gender	Category	Event
Women's	Ambulatory	100m
Women's	Ambulatory	200m
Women's	Ambulatory	400m
Women's	Ambulatory	1500m
Women's	Ambulatory	5000m
Women's	Ambulatory	Long Jump
Women's	Ambulatory	Discus
Women's	Ambulatory	Javelin
Women's	Ambulatory	Shot Put
Women's	Wheelchair	100m
Women's	Wheelchair	200m
Women's	Wheelchair	400m
Women's	Wheelchair	800m
Women's	Wheelchair	1500m
Women's	Wheelchair	5000m
Women's	Seated	Discus
Women's	Seated	Javelin
Women's	Seated	Club Throw
Women's	Seated	Shot Put





## Appendix C

### Example 1 – Men's Ambulatory 400m Final Trials Selection

Lane	Bib	Class	Final Time	Trials Rank	Best Time*	Trials Standard Achieved?	Notes
1	505	T20	52.24	1	51.93	No	
2		Guide					
3	507	T12*	51.60	1	51.52	No	
4	508	T38	50.79	1	50.59	Yes	Eligible for nomination in Step 2 – Trials Selection
5	509	T47	50.98	1	49.06	Yes	Eligible for nomination in Step 2 – Trials Selection
6	503	T37	55.43	1	55.43	No	
7	506	T47	51.82	2	51.44	No	
8	504	T20	52.67	2	52.57	No	

\*In Qualifying Period