







Australian Paralympic Committee MEDIA GUIDE Beijing 2008





Australian Paralympic Committee (APC)

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Beijing Olympic Games Organising Committee: (BOCOG) http://en.beijing2008.cn

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From the President

AUSTRALIAN PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE



The Beijing Paralympic Games will be the second largest multi-sport event in the world this year, following the Olympic Games. However, the Paralympics is by no means a secondary Games. The word itself originates from "parallel" and, with four thousand athletes and an estimated worldwide audience of 1.5 billion, the Paralympic Games stands in its own right as a significant international sporting event.

The performances of the world's Paralympic athletes have been extraordinary since Australia hosted the Games in 2000 and there is every indication they will be even more extraordinary in Beijing.

Once again, Australia's athletes will be there with the world's best – stride for stride, second for second, centimetre for centimetre - as they were in Athens, Sydney, and, indeed, have been at every Games since the first in Rome in 1960.

The APC values very highly the role played by the Australian media in portraying the achievements of our Paralympic athletes in an exciting and positive manner.

Independent research tells us that Australians want to know about our Paralympians and their stories.

This guide is one way the Australian Paralympic Committee assists Australian media – from local radio, TV and newspapers through to our largest national media groups – to bring the results and the stories of the Games to every Australian.

For those of you covering your first Paralympic Games, I am confident that you will not only enjoy the experience but will also develop an overwhelming admiration for the performances of Australia's Paralympic athletes on the international stage.

For those who have covered previous Games - welcome back!

I look forward to reading, hearing and watching your coverage.

Greg Hartung President Australian Paralympic Committee

From the Chef de Mission

2008 AUSTRALIAN PARALYMPIC TEAM



For the past four years Australia's Paralympic athletes have prepared to perform at their best in Beijing.

With 56 percent of the Australian Team attending their first Paralympics, these Games in the home of the emerging sports power of China reflect the emergence of the new generation of Australian athletes.

2008 also marks a new era in the APC's support of Australian media coverage of the Paralympic Games.

Once again, we have a strong and experienced media team in the Games Village, led by Graham Cassidy, to provide the stories behind every Australian result. In 2008 the Games media team will be complemented by a range of initiatives:

- the APC national office in Sydney will serve as the Australian hub for media operations, led by the APC's Media Coordinator, Tim Mannion;
- this media guide, the most comprehensive ever, is enhanced by the APC's Games website, which includes profile information on every athlete and extended profiles on some key athletes as well as the results of every Australian as they compete;
- media outlets can access interviews (video and audio) and still images for broadcast and publication from a FTP site through AAP at no cost;
- stories about athletes will be targetted at the media outlets in their area so that local, regional and state coverage can meet the needs of Australians in that area.

The APC looks forward to working as closely as possible with every media outlet and every individual journalist interested in covering the Games. If there is any way we can help you to get better stories and to bring the Games to Australians, wherever they are around our country, please let us know.

I wish you all a rewarding and memorable Paralympic Games.

Darren Peters Chef de Mission 2008 Australian Paralympic Team

Media Guide > The APC

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Board

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Member Organisations

Athletics Australia Australian Blind Sports Federation Basketball Australia Cycling Australia Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia Table Tennis Australia Wheelchair Sports Australia Australian Sports Organisation for the Disabled Australian Sport and Recreation Association for Persons with an Intellectual Disability Cerebral Palsy – Australian Sport and Recreation Federation Disabled Winter Sport Australia Swimming Australia Tennis Australia Yachting Australia

The Australian Paralympic Committee

"INSPIRING SPORTING SUCCESS"

The Australian Paralympic Committee is the principal sporting organisation in Australia for elite athletes with a physical disability. The APC is recognised by governments, national and international sports organisations and other bodies as the authority for Paralympic Sport in Australia.

The APC's programs connect Australians through Paralympic sport.

The APC was established in 1990 to identify, select and manage Australian teams for Paralympic Summer and Winter Games and other international sporting competitions and to increase awareness of, and support for, Paralympic sports and Paralympians.

Originally known as the Australian Paralympic Federation, the APC is a registered charity governed by an independent national board.

Its name changed in 1997 and the new-look APC rose to the challenge of preparing Australia's largest ever Paralympic team for a home Games. With Sydney 2000 an outstanding success, with record crowd numbers, media coverage and Australia finishing atop the medal table, the APC evolved again to meet the heightened expectations of both the general public and Paralympic athletes in the lead-up to Athens and now Beijing.

The APC is regarded as a professional and innovative organisation dedicated to promoting sport for those with a disability. It has developed successful partnerships with a range of commercial organisations and works closely with the Australian Government through the Australian Sports Commission and with State governments, especially through the State and Territory Institutes and Academies.

In addition to the Paralympic Team itself, the APC's key programs are:

• The Paralympic Preparation Program (PPP) supports the preparation of athletes for the Games. The APC oversees elite performance programs in 18 Paralympic sports. Twelve sports are managed by National Sporting Organisations (NSOs) under "mainstreaming" agreements with the APC: Athletics, Wheelchair Basketball, Cycling, Equestrian, CP Football, Rowing, Wheelchair Rugby, Sailing, Shooting, Swimming, Table Tennis and Tennis. A further six sports are currently managed direct by the APC: Alpine Skiing, Archery, Boccia, Judo, Nordic Skiing, and Powerlifting. Prior to 2000, the APC directly managed the programs of all supported sports. The PPP funds coaching, training and equipment, travel and competition. The APC funds 400 athletes through the PPP, which is is supported by the Australian Sports Commission.

Media Guide > The APC

- The Toyota Paralympic Talent Search Program identifies potential Paralympians. "Talent Search" commenced in March 2005. It targets 12-20 year olds. 992 participants around Australia had been tested by July 2008 at 71 Talent Search Days. 89 participants were identified as having the potential to represent Australia in Beijing, with a further 368 identified for longer term potential for the London 2012 Paralympic Games or beyond.
- The Telstra Paralympic Education Program was launched in 2007. It is a free online education program linked to upper primary school curriculums in every state. The program teaches Australian children about diversity and inclusion through Paralympic athletes and sports. The themes Empower, Achieve and Inspire are related across a wide range of subject areas. The target is 1,500 schools by December 2008. In July 2008, 1,238 schools had joined the program, with 159,583 students directly involved.
- The Paralympic Awareness and Accident Rehabilitation Program (PAARP) uses real life examples of rehabilitation pathways, timeframes and experiences by linking Paralympic athletes with people in rehabilitation centres. It delivers preventative messages and encourages people injured in motor vehicle accidents to become involved in sport. PAARP is supported by the Motor Accidents Authority.
- The Workcover NSW Paralympian Speakers program was introduced in 2001. In association with the APC, Workcover NSW sponsors athletes who have suffered permanent disabilities in the workplace and yet gone on to achieve outstanding sporting success. These Paralympians visit businesses, organisations, schools, conferences and other workplaces to share their stories and drive home a powerful message about the importance of workplace safety.
- Classification is the allocation of athletes into classes based on their functional abilities. Classification is a cornerstone of Paralympic sport. The National Classification Program assists the nationwide classification of athletes across sports, through the identification, training and certifying of classifiers.

Australian media support

The Australian Paralympic Committee seeks to assist the Australian media to provide the best possible coverage of the Beijing Paralympic Games and, in particular, the performances of Australian athletes.

The APC will enhance the official Beijing results services with information that is comprehensive, relevant and up to date.

This *Media Guide* provides basic information on the sports and brief profiles of the Australian athletes. It is also a guide to facts about the Games' history and Australia's results, information about the classification systems in each sport and Australia's performances at the Games.

The **APC Games website** (www.beijing.paralympic.org.au) contains more detailed profiles and background information.

During the Games, the **APC Games website** will be updated constantly with results of every event featuring Australians and stories about our Team.

The APC will work with AAP to provide a comprehensive **results service** for every event for every Australian competitor. These results will also be available on the APC website.

The APC will provide **high quality images** taken by its official photographer at the Games – Serena Corporate Photography – at a FTP site through AAP. Up to 20 new images will be available every day for use by any Australian media outlet at no cost. Photos of specific athletes can be requested a minimum of 48 hours in advance but cannot be guaranteed.

The APC will make its own **audio and video interviews** with athletes and Team staff in Beijing. These will also be available to media outlets for download from the AAP FTP site. See Downloading images and interviews section, following this, for instructions. The APC will endeavour to assist media requests for interviews with specific athletes.

The **APC Media Coordinator** in Sydney, Tim Mannion, is the first point of contact for all Australian-based media. He will issue media releases throughout the day and liaise with the team in Beijing for interviews.

The **APC Games media team** in Beijing will be available to feed stories, answer queries and organise interviews for the Team. All athlete interviews and stories must be managed through the APC's media representatives.

Australian Team Members are instructed not to respond to direct contact from journalists. All interviews are to be managed through the APC media team. Sport section managers will provide the point of contact for interviews.

Journalists are asked not to contact athletes or team staff (other than the media team) directly.

Images and interviews for Australian media

In 2008 the APC will provide Australian media outlets with access to photos, audio interviews and broadcast quality video interviews with members of the Australian Paralympic Team. Media outlets are free to use any of these resources, although photographer credit is required to accompany images. The images will be taken during the Games by the APC's official photographer, Serena Corporate Photography. Audio interviews will be recorded by the Team's Media Liaison Officers and video interviews will be recorded in the Team HQ office in the Paralympic Village.

This service will be provided through AAP.

For video, registration (and approval) can be requested online at **www.aapvideo.com.au <http://www.aapvideo.com.au>**. Subscribers need to sign a standard supply contract before gaining approval and access. Once approved, subscribers can view and download from the site in various formats, and even edit the video if required. Existing AAP subscribers can apply for download access at either aapimage.com.au or aapvideo.com.au.

Download fees will apply depending on the data rate selected. Lo-res (for mobile and online use) are \$25 each file, and hi-res (TV broadcast use) is \$80 per file.

Subscribers can preview all videos and images before downloading.

Video and images will be available for the duration of the Paralympic Games.

Subscribers can register for the AAP image and video alert service

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Media Guide > Media team

The Australian Games media team

BEIJING: PARALYMPIC VILLAGE

The APC media team in Beijing is based around the Village-based Media Liaison Officers (MLOs).



Graham "Syd" Cassidy

Graham is a highly experienced former journalist with Fairfax Limited, including roles as Chief of Staff and Sports Editor of the Sydney Morning Herald. Graham was Media Director for the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games Minister, Michael Knight. He is currently a media advisor for Cato Counsel. He was the Games Media Manager for the 2004 Australian Paralympic Team in Athens.

Graham will oversee the media program and manage inquiries from Australian media, arrange interviews and manage core issues which may arise during the Games.



Margie McDonald

Margie is a sports journalist with The Australian newspaper, based in Sydney. She was the Media Manager for SPOC (Sydney Paralympic Organising Committee) for the 2000 Paralympic Games. While a journalist at AAP, Margie covered the 1992 Barcelona and 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games. She was a Media Liaison Officer for the Australian Paralympic Teams at the 1998 Nagano, 2002 Salt Lake City and 2006 Torino Winter Paralympics and the 2004 Athens Summer Games.

Margie will cover swimming, wheelchair basketball, shooting, rowing and sailing.



Jordan Baker

Jordan is a journalist for the Sydney Morning Herald and has immense experience as a sports journalist. Previously with AAP, Jordan has covered a variety of events, including the 2000 and 2004 Paralympic Games for AAP. She was the most widely published of any Australian journalist during the 2004 Paralympic Games, with her stories being picked up around the country.

Jordan will cover athletics, powerlifting, table tennis and tennis.



Karen Michelmore

A very experienced journalist, Karen has been with AAP for eight years and is currently its Jakarta Bureau Chief. She has completed a Masters Degree in International Relations. On top of her commitments covering cricket, basketball and AFL for AAP, Karen also covered the 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Karen will cover cycling, wheelchair rugby, judo and equestrian.



Tony Naar

Tony had experience in the high performance and management sides of sport at Volleyball Australia, the Confederation of Australian Sport and Basketball Australia before joining the APC team prior to the Sydney Games. He is currently the APC's Director of Policy and Information.

Tony is responsible for the coordination of IT, the APC's Games' photographers and results information and distribution.

BEIJING: EXTERNAL TO THE VILLAGE



Judy Goldman

Judy was corporate affairs and communications manager at Australia Post, Corrs Chambers Westgarth and the 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games. She currently works as the General Manager of Thrive PR and runs her own media consultancy. Before moving into the corporate world, Judy was the chief of staff on A Current Affair and has worked as a producer on a number of programs at 2GB, 2UE and 702.

Judy will be the liaison point between Australian accredited media and the APC media team in the Village.

SYDNEY: AUSTRALIAN PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE



Tim Mannion

Tim Mannion is the Australian Paralympic Committee's National Media Coordinator. With a double degree in Human Movement and Communications-Journalism, Tim worked as a sports journalist before joining the APC in March this year.

During the Games, Tim will be based in the APC's Sydney office and will be responsible for managing and distributing communications from Beijing to the Australian broadcast, print and online media.

Media Guide > Broadcast schedule

ABC broadcast coverage schedule

The 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games will be broadcast by ABC Television, the Australian Broadcast rights holder for the Games.

ABC TV will broadcast over 100 hours of live coverage and highlights across **ABC1** and **ABC2** during the 12 days including:

Opening Ceremony – LIVE on ABC1 and ABC2 *

Saturday September 6 at 9.50pm Hosted by Adam Hills, Louise Sauvage and Karen Tighe

Daily highlights on ABC1

Sunday September 7-Wednesday September 17 6pm-7pm – Hosted by Steve Robilliard 11.30pm-12.30am – Hosted by Karen Tighe

Daily LIVE coverage of competition on ABC2*

Sunday September 7-Wednesday September 17 1pm-5pm – Hosted by Steve Robilliard 7.30pm-11pm – Hosted by Karen Tighe

Closing Ceremony – LIVE on ABC1 and ABC2*

September 17 at 10pm Hosted by Adam Hills, Louise Sauvage and Karen Tighe

* Denotes programs will be available in HD on ABC HD Channel 20.

Australia's history at the Paralympic Games

Since 1960, when Rome hosted the first official Paralympic Games and Australia won two gold and six silver medals, Australia has competed at every Paralympic Games and has established itself as a leading Paralympic nation. Including the 2008 Team, to date 920 athletes have represented Australia at a Paralympic Games, winning a total of 906 medals.

After ranking in the top seven nations in the first three Games, Australia's performances tumbled in 1972 and then in 1976 Australia finished 17th on the medal tally in overall medals won. Australia's gradual climb back up as a leading medal nation accelerated after Sydney was awarded the 2000 Games in 1993 and the APC's Paralympic Preparation Program was introduced. In Atlanta 1996, Australia finished second on the gold medal tally behind the host nation and fifth in overall medals.

Eight years ago in Sydney, the Australian Paralympic Team had its most successful Paralympic Games. With its largest ever team, Australia reached the pinnacle of Paralympic sport, sitting atop the medal table as the number one Paralympic nation, with 63 gold, 39 silver and 47 bronze medals. Four years later in Athens, with a considerably smaller team, Australia finished second on the overall medal tally behind China.

The development of the Paralympic Preparation Program (PPP) has seen Australia's success at the Games grow. The program supports the preparation of athletes and funds coaching, training and equipment, travel and competition expenses. Each National Sporting Organisation now has responsibility for the training programs they provide, giving them the opportunity to focus on specialised, elite training programs.

In Beijing this year, Australia will continue its fine Paralympic tradition.

The Paralympic movement has matured significantly since 1960, with the number of sports, the range of classifications and the entry standards rising considerably. This year in Beijing, athlete numbers are expected to reach 4000, up from 3806 in Athens, with 150 countries competing, 14 more than in Athens. Rowing will also make its debut as a Paralympic sport.

As Beijing looms, nations such as China and Great Britain are pouring financial support into their Paralympic sport systems. There is no doubt that the Games will continue to get bigger and the competition fiercer.

Year	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1960	3	6	0	9
1964	11	10	9	30
1968	15	16	7	38
1972	6	8	11	25
1976	16	19	5	40
1980	13	22	22	57
1984	47	51	45	143
1988	22	34	38	94
1992	24	27	26	77
1996	42	37	27	106
2000	63	39	47	149
2004	26	39	36	101

Australia's Paralympic Games medal count

History of the Paralympic Games

In 1948, Sir Ludwig Guttmann organised a sports competition involving World War II veterans with a spinal cord injury in Stoke-Mandeville, England, the site of a rehabilitation hospital. Four years later, competitors from the Netherlands joined the games and an international movement was born. Olympic-style games for athletes with a disability, now called the Paralympics, were held for the first time in Rome in 1960.

1960 Rome, Italy

Number of competing athletes	400
Number of competing countries	23
Sports	Snooker, fencing (foil and sabre), javelin and precision javelin, shot put, Indian club throwing, men's wheelchair basketball, swimming
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries

The Opening Ceremony drew a considerable crowd of 5,000.

Despite good intentions, the Games gave organisers, athletes and support staff much to learn from. Accessibility for athletes in wheelchairs had not been considered as part of the village and transport planning. Athletes had to be carried up stairs in the village and transportation to venues that were long distances from the village provided considerable challenges. The organisers enlisted the local military to assist athletes within the village and competition venues.

Australia finished 7th on the gold medal tally.

1964 Tokyo, Japan

Number of competing athletes	357
Number of competing countries	21
Sports	Powerlifting added as a sport
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries

The Opening Ceremony again attracted a crowd of 5,000 and the Games experienced significant media coverage.

Australia finished 4th on the gold medal tally.

1968 Tel Aviv, Israel

Number of competing athletes	750
Number of competing countries	29
Sports	Lawn bowls added as a sport
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries

The 1968 Olympic Games were in Mexico and it was originally planned that the Paralympics would follow afterwards. However, two years out from the Games, the Mexican government withdrew its offer to host the Paralympics. The offer was quickly taken up by Tel Aviv to coincide with Israel's twenty years of independence celebration.

Australia finished 4th on the gold medal tally.

1972 Heidelberg, Germany

Number of competing athletes	984
Number of competing countries	43
Sports	Goalball as a demonstration sport
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries, with exhibition events for vision impaired

The first quadriplegic competition was introduced for the 1972 Games, as well as demonstration events for vision impaired athletes.

The Games were to be held in Munich following the Olympic Games. However, the plan changed because post-Olympics, the Village was to be closed and converted into residential apartments.

The Games were moved to Heidelberg instead and as a result, were held before the Olympic Games. Had the event been staged as initially planned in Munich, the tragic massacre during the Munich Olympics may have affected the running of the Paralympics.

Australia finished 11th on the gold medal tally.

1976 Toronto, Canada

Number of competing athletes	1,657
Number of competing countries	38
Sports	Standing volleyball, goalball and shooting added as sports
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries, visually impaired, amputees, les autres

The 1976 Paralympics saw the first use of specialised racing wheelchairs. New distances of 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m were also introduced to wheelchair track events. The Games were attended by 40 countries, although several withdrew before the Games commenced due to the participation of South Africa during the apartheid period.

The introduction of new disabilities and classifications complicated the organisation of events and posed challenges in accommodating athletes with ranging needs. For the first time 261 amputees and 187 vision impaired athletes were included on the program.

For the first time, television coverage of the Paralympics was broadcast daily to more than 600,000 viewers around the world.

Australia finished 11th on the gold medal tally.

1980 Arnhem, Netherlands

Number of competing athletes	1,973
Number of competing countries	42
Sports	Sitting volleyball added as sport
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries, vision impaired, amputees, les autres, cerebral palsy

Of the 1,973 athletes who competed in Arnhem, 1,055 were wheelchair athletes, 452 were amputee athletes, 341 were vision impaired and 125 were cerebral palsy athletes.

The International Coordinating Committee (ICC) came into being to oversee and organise the Paralympic Games. It was the forerunner of the International Paralympic Committee.

Australia finished 14th on the gold medal tally.

1984 Stoke Mandeville, England and New York, USA

Number of competing athletes	1,100 (UK) 1,800 (USA)
Number of competing countries	41 (UK) 45 (USA)
Sports	Football 7-a-side and boccia added as sports. Road cycling added as a discipline.
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries, vision impaired, amputees, les autres, cerebral palsy

Despite the Olympics being held in Los Angeles, the decision was made to split the Paralympics between New York (vision impaired, cerebral palsy, amputee and les autres athletes) and Stoke Mandeville (spinal cord disability athletes).

The organisers agreed that, in future, the Games should be held at the same venue. The four international disability sporting federations combined to form the ICC, or International Coordinating Committee of World Organizations for the Disabled, the forerunner of the International Paralympic Committee. Wheelchair racing featured as a demonstration event at the Los Angeles Olympic Games.

Australia finished 8th on the gold medal tally.

1988 Seoul, Korea

Number of competing athletes	3,013
Number of competing countries	61
Sports	Judo added as sport with demonstration of wheelchair tennis
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries, vision impaired, amputees, les autres, cerebral palsy

Judo was added to the 1988 Games' program and there was new cooperation between the Olympic and Paralympic Organising Committees.

Australia finished 10th on the gold medal tally.

1992 Barcelona, Spain

Number of competing athletes	3,021
Number of competing countries	82
Sports	Wheelchair tennis added as sport
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries, vision impaired, amputees, les autres, cerebral palsy

The 1992 Paralympics were held in Barcelona. Following the Games in Barcelona, the Paralympic Games for athletes with intellectual disabilities were staged in Madrid.

In Barcelona, Australia performed best in swimming, athletics and powerlifting and finished 7th on the gold medal tally.

1996 Atlanta, USA

Number of competing athletes	3,195
Number of competing countries	103
Sports	Equestrian and track cycling
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries, vision impaired, amputees, les autres, cerebral palsy, intellectual disability

The 1996 Paralympics saw the addition of equestrian and track cycling as a discipline in the cycling program. With a team of only 166, Australia was in first place on the medal tally throughout the Games until the final day of competition, when the host nation pulled ahead. The Australian team was hailed the most successful ever and won medals in ten out of the 13 sports in which it competed.

Australia finished 2nd on the gold medal tally with a total of 42 gold and 106 medals overall.

2000 Sydney, Australia

Number of competing athletes	3,843
Number of competing countries	122
Sports	Sailing and wheelchair rugby
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries, vision impaired, amputees, les autres, cerebral palsy, intellectual disability

The 2000 Paralympics saw the introduction of sailing and wheelchair rugby. The Games experienced record ticket sales with 1.1 million spectators attending over the 11 days, many of these schoolchildren.

Sydney was the best the Australian Paralympic Team has ever performed, finishing first on the medal tally. The success of the team combined with extensive media coverage went a long way to changing public attitudes towards Paralympic athletes and understanding them as elite sportspeople.

2004 Athens, Greece

Number of competing athletes	3,806
Number of competing countries	136
Sports	Football 5-a-side
Disabilities	Spinal cord injuries, vision impaired, amputees, les autres, cerebral palsy

The Athens Games saw record media attendance and the introduction of 5-a-side football. After controversial cheating by members of the Spanish basketball team, events for athletes with an intellectual disability were dropped from the Games program in Athens due to concerns about the development of effective eligibility criteria.

With a smaller team than Sydney, Australia placed second, behind China on the overall medal tally and fifth on gold. The strict selection criteria set by the APC and sports meant that only athletes with the potential to win a medal were on the Australian team.

The 2008 Australian Team fast facts

- Australia will compete in 13 of the 20 sports at the 2008 Paralympic Games.
- Australia will take a total team of 291 athletes and staff.
- There are 170 athletes including 11 guide runners and pilots for vision-impaired athletes, and 121 team staff, including coaches, medical, sports science, media, etc.
- Of the 159 athletes, 87 are men (55%) and 72 are women (45%). In Athens four years ago, 61% of the Australian team were men and 39% were women.
- It is a bigger team than in Athens (143 athletes, 87 staff) but smaller than the team for Sydney (278 athletes and 157 staff).
- 27 athletes in the 2008 team were identified in the Toyota Paralympic Talent Search Program – an Australian Government-funded initiative run by the APC, and supported by Toyota.
- 95 athletes will attend their first Paralympic Games
- 36 athletes will attend their second Paralympic Games
- 22 athletes will attend their third Paralympic Games
- 7 athletes will attend their fourth Paralympic Games
- 3 athletes will attend their fifth Paralympic Games
- 6 athletes will attend their sixth Paralympic Games
- 1 athlete will attend their tenth Paralympic Games

STATE	TOTAL	%
ACT	17	10
NSW	37	21.8
NT	1	0.6
QLD	34	20
SA	17	10
TAS	1	0.6
VIC	45	26.5
WA	18	10.6

Athletes from each State

Australia's Paralympic record

- Australia has won 906 medals at the Paralympic Games 882 at the Summer Games and 24 at Winter Games.
- Australia won 101 medals in Athens (26 gold, 39 silver, 36 bronze), finishing second on the total medal tally behind China. Australia was fifth on the gold medal tally behind China, Great Britain, Canada and the USA.
- Australia could win its 1,000th Paralympic medal in Beijing.

The 2008 Beijing Games

- The Beijing Games will have 472 gold medals on offer and will host around 4,000 athletes and 2,000 officials.
- Athletes from more than 150 countries will participate in China.
- There are 18 Paralympic venues this year, 16 in Beijing plus sailing in Qingdao and Equestrian in Hong Kong.
- It will be the second biggest sporting event in the world this year, watched by an estimated TV audience of 1.5 billion people.

Name	Sport	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Louise Sauvage	Athletics	9	4	0	13
Priya Cooper	Swimming	9	3	4	16
Libby Kosmala *	Shooting	9	3	0	12
Tim Sullivan *	Athletics	9	0	0	9
Neil Fuller	Athletics	6	6	3	15
Tracey Freeman	Athletics	6	4	0	10
Michael Milton *	Alpine Skiing	6	3	2	11
Russell Short *	Athletics	6	2	3	11
Siobhan Paton	Swimming	6	0	0	6
Kingsley Bugarin	Swimming	5	7	7	19

Australia's leading medallists

* Libby Kosmala, Tim Sullivan, Michael Milton and Russell Short will all compete in Beijing.

Tim Sullivan has won gold medals in nine of the ten events he has contested at two Paralympic Games. In Beijing he needs four silver medals to equal Louise Sauvage as Australia's leading medallist and one gold and three silver medals to become Australia's all-time leading medallist. He will contest four events in Beijing.

Libby Kosmala needs two silver medals or one silver and one bronze to overtake Louise Sauvage as Australia's top medallist. She will contest four events in Beijing.

Chris Scott, currently with five gold, one silver and one bronze medal, needs to win gold in all five of his events in Beijing to overtake Sauvage.

Michael Milton needs to win four gold or three gold and one silver in the four events he is contesting to become Australia's leading medallist.

Youngest and oldest athletes on the 2008 Australian Team



Madison de Rozario (Athletics)

At just 14, Madison de Rozario will compete in her first Paralympic Games as the youngest member of the Australian Team. She debuted onto the wheelchair racing scene in 2006 and represented Australia for the first time this year. In 2007, she was the fastest 100m wheelchair racer at the Junior Nationals. She was also named the 2007 Junior Athletics Rookie of the Year.



Brenden Hall (Swimming)

Less than a year ago, 14 year old Brenden Hall made his international swimming debut at the 2007 Arafura Games. As the youngest male on the Australian Team, Brenden hopes to secure a medal in his pet event, the 400m freestyle.



Libby Kosmala (Shooting)

As one of the highest gold medalling Australian athletes of all time, Libby Kosmala needs to win two silver medals or one silver and one bronze to overtake Louise Sauvage as Australia's greatest ever medallist. At 66, Libby is the oldest member of the Australian Team and Beijing will be her 10th Games as an athlete. She currently holds nine gold and three silver medals in shooting and won her most recent international medal this year.



Graeme Martin (Sailing)

At 59, Graeme Martin is the oldest male in the Australian Paralympic Team. He first competed in sailing in 1955 and 44 years later, represented Australia for the first time. He won gold at the Sydney Paralympics in 2000 and has also been awarded an Order of Australia Medal. Graeme was a firefighter until 1995 when he was trapped under a burning wall, effectively burning his left leg off.

Talent Search athletes

The Toyota Paralympic Talent Search Program is an initiative of the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC). It was established after the 2004 Athens Paralympic Games following analysis which identified that sporting pathways for people with disabilities were lacking, from the introduction level through to representation at the Paralympic Games.

The program's main goal is to identify people with physical disabilities (amputees, cerebral palsy, limb deficiencies, wheelchair and people who are blind or have vision impairments) who display the athletic potential to one day make it to Paralympic level competition. A secondary goal is to help introduce people with disabilities to participate in regular sport and physical activities and to promote Paralympism to the broader community.

The Talent Search Program commenced in March 2005 and targets 12-20 year olds. Out of 992 participants to July 2008, 89 have been identified as having potential to represent Australia in Beijing while a further 368 were identified for longer term potential.

Athlete	Sport	Athlete	Sport
Matthew Cameron	Athletics	Tahlia Rotumah	Athletics
Chris Mullins	Athletics	Melissa Leckie	Cycling
Paul Raison	Athletics	Jayme Paris	Cycling
Michael Roeger	Athletics	Nicole Kullen	Equestrian
Brad Scott	Athletics	Kathryn Ross	Rowing
Kelly Cartwright	Athletics	Ellie Cole	Swimming
Courtney Harbeck	Athletics	Michael Anderson	Swimming
Madeleine Hogan	Athletics	Jay Dohnt	Swimming
Kirrilee Macpherson	Athletics	Brenden Hall	Swimming
Brydee Moore	Athletics	Dylan Alcott	Wheelchair basketball
Kath Proudfoot	Athletics	Cobi Crispin	Wheelchair basketball
Katy Parrish	Athletics	Cameron Carr	Wheelchair rugby
Julie Smith	Athletics	Shane Brand	Wheelchair rugby
Jessica Gallagher	Athletics		

Twenty-seven talent search athletes are in the 2008 Australian Paralympic Team. They make up 17 percent of the total team:

Australian athletes who have competed in more than one sport

Twelve members of the 2008 Australian Paralympic Team have previously competed at the Paralympic Games in another sport.



Justin Eveson (Basketball)

Justin Eveson competed at his first Paralympic Games in Sydney 2000 as a swimmer. He won a silver and a bronze medal in 4x100 medley relay and 4x100m freestyle relay. By the Athens Games, Justin had moved on from swimming to wheelchair basketball. The team secured a silver medal, losing the gold medal game to Canada.



Amanda Fraser (Athletics)

In Sydney 2000, Amanda Fraser made her mark in swimming. She won bronze medals in the 50m freestyle and the 4x100m freestyle relay. Before swimming, Amanda had competed in athletics and after her medal winning performance in Sydney, was approached by Athletics Head Coach Chris Nunn, to give athletics another go.

In 2001, she moved to Canberra to train at the AIS under its elite coaches. Focusing on discus, shot put and the 100m sprint, Amanda qualified for the Athens Games and brought home a silver medal in the discus, while finishing 6th in the 100m and 11th in the shot put.

She has since gone on to firmly cement her place in the world of athletics, breaking the discus world record for her class at the 2006 Athletics World Championships.



Gerrard Gosens (Athletics)

Come Beijing, Gerrard Gosens is aiming for gold in the 1500m. But athletics hasn't always been his passion. Gerrard competed in the vision impaired sport of goalball at the 1996 Atlanta Paralympics, where the Australian team finished fourth. In Sydney, Gerrard competed in the 5000m, the 10,000m and the marathon but did not medal.



Libby Kosmala (Shooting)

Libby Kosmala is one of the highest gold medalling Australian athletes of all time and has been to every Paralympic Games since 1968. Beijing will be her 10th Games as an athlete and her 11th overall, as she was a team official in 1968. She currently has a tally of 9 gold and 3 silver medals.

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In 1972, Libby competed in athletics and swimming and did not medal in either. She took up shooting for the 1976 Games where she won a gold medal in the mixed rifle. She also competed in archery and dartchery at the 1976 Games, with no medal wins. The 1984 Games were Libby's most successful, as she won four shooting gold medals. In 1988, she won three gold and one silver medal but since then has failed to place at a Paralympic Games. In recent years, she has won gold at several national and international shooting championships.



John Maclean (Rowing)

John Maclean is one of the most successful sportspeople in Australia. At Beijing he will be competing in the adaptive rowing mixed pairs event with rowing partner Kathryn Ross and is hoping to win a Paralympic gold medal, one of the few sporting achievements that has eluded him. At the Sydney 2000 Games, John competed in the 1500m, 5000m, 10,000m and the marathon but did not medal.

He was also a finalist in the 1500m wheelchair racing demonstration event at the Sydney Olympic Games.

From 1995 to 1997, John competed in the Hawaiian Ironman. He was the first athlete in a wheelchair to complete the race and in 1997 was the first athlete in a wheelchair to finish under the able-bodied cut-off time. In 1998, he was the first wheelchair athlete to swim the English Channel and in 2001 was aboard a yacht in the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. In 2002, he was inducted into the Hawaiian Ironman Hall of Fame.

In 2003 and 2004, John was the Australian national handcycling champion in the road race and in 2004, the time trial as well.



Deahnne McIntyre (Powerlifting)

At the 1988 Seoul Paralympics, Deahnne McIntyre won athletics gold in the 200m, silver in the 400m and 4x400m relay and bronze in the 100m. Missing the 1992 and 1996 Games, she changed her focus to powerlifting for the Sydney Games, which was the first time powerlifting was open to female competitors. She competed again in powerlifting in Athens but is yet to win a medal, finishing 5th both times.



Michael Milton (Cycling)

Now a cyclist, Michael Milton has an impressive Paralympic career in alpine skiing behind him. With five Paralympic Games and six gold, three silver and two bronze medals in his cabinet, Michael will be the fourth Australian to ever compete at both a Summer and Winter Paralympic Games. He has 22 international medals over his career and is the fastest skier with a disability in the world. In 2006,

he became Australia's fastest skier ever.

He is yet to compete as a cyclist at a Paralympic Games, having only seriously taken up the sport in 2007. In February of that year, he won a gold medal in record time at the Australian Track Cycling Championships.



Kieran Modra (Cycling)

Kieran Modra began his career as a pole-vaulter in 1987. In 1988, he competed in his first international competition at the Seoul Paralympics, finishing 6th in javelin.

In 1990, a knee injury prevented him from further competition and he took to swimming to speed up his recovery. He attended the 1992 Barcelona Games as a swimmer and picked up bronze

medals in the 100m and 200m backstroke.

Kieran took up cycling in 1995 and went to the 1996 Atlanta Games in a mixed tandem team. A fall the day before their race injured his pilot Kerry Golding. Against doctor's orders, they chose to race and won gold in the 200m sprint. In Sydney, Kieran finished 5th in the 1000m time trial and the 3000m pursuit.

Following a complicated series of appeals, Kieran did not know if he would be riding in Athens until the eve of the Opening Ceremony. He then won Australia's first gold medal at the Games and finished with gold in the 4000m pursuit in world record time, gold in the sprint and bronze in the combined road and time trial.



Richard Nicholson (Athletics)

Richard Nicholson's early sporting experience was in archery and gymnastics but it was powerlifting that gave him Paralympic success. At the Sydney 2000 Games, he won a silver medal and became the only Australian to bench press over three times his body weight. In 2002, Richard took up athletics and in Athens 2004, won a silver medal as part of the 4x100m wheelchair racing relay team. He also competed in the 100m, the 400m and the pentathlon in Athens.



Chris Scott (Cycling)

Chris Scott's first passion was athletics. As a track athlete, he attended the Seoul and Barcelona Paralympics in the 1500m and 5000m in which he finished 10th and 9th respectively. At the Seoul Games, the track athletes formed to make a 7-a-side football team. Chris broke his ankle during a match and was unable to compete for the remainder of the Games.

Chris began cycling in 1993 as a rehabilitation exercise for his ankle. He fell in love with the sport and made the team at the Atlanta Games where he won gold in the road time trial and silver in the road race. Sydney saw a repeat performance of his gold medal win in Atlanta and a bronze in the road race.

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In Athens, Chris maintained his hold on the road time trial and secured another gold in the 3000m individual pursuit. Japanese new-comer Ishii Masashi beat Chris' world record in the 1km time trial at the 2007 UCI World Championships and is Chris' man to beat at Beijing. After Beijing, Chris plans to retire from competitive cycling.



Greg Smith (Wheelchair rugby)

Greg Smith was originally a wheelchair racer and competed at the 1992, 1996 and 2000 Paralympic Games. In Barcelona, Greg won a silver medal as part of the 4x100m wheelchair racing relay team as well as a bronze in the wheelchair marathon. In Atlanta, he won a silver medal in the 5000m and in Sydney won three gold medals – in the 800m, 1500m and 5000m.

Greg retired from athletics in 2002 and, after a two year break from elite sport, took up wheelchair rugby. He first competed for Australia in 2006.



Jodi Willis-Roberts (Athletics)

At the 1988 Seoul Paralympics, Jodi Willis-Roberts competed in the vision impaired sport goalball. In Barcelona 1992, she remained in the goalball team but added athletics to her repertoire, winning a gold medal and breaking a world record in shot put and a silver medal in discus. In Atlanta four years later, Jodi secured a silver medal in shot put and finished fourth in discus.

Jodi sees the Sydney Games as her best ever, as she won gold in shot put on the last throw and a bronze in discus. She believes there has been no better feeling than standing on the dais singing the national anthem in front of a home crowd. In Athens, she won a bronze medal in the shot put. Beijing will be Jodi's sixth Paralympic Games.

Summer and Winter Paralympic Games athletes

From 1960 to 2008 just four athletes will have represented Australia at both a Winter and Summer Paralympic Games.

Peter Richards

Peter Richards was the first Australian to compete in both a Summer and Winter Paralympic Games. In 1972, he represented Australia in athletics and the now discontinued snooker, where he picked up a silver medal. He then competed in cross country skiing at the 1980 Winter Games.

Kyrra Grunnsund

Kyrra Grunnsund's Paralympic career spanned more than a decade through the 1980s and early 1990s. In 1980, Kyrra represented Australia in cross country and alpine skiing. She continued alpine skiing at the 1984, 1988 and 1992 Games but did not medal. Not only has Kyrra represented Australia in both Summer and Winter Games but in 1992, she did it in the same year, travelling to France for the Winter Games and then to Spain to compete in athletics in the Summer Games.

Anthony Bonaccurso

In 1998, Anthony Bonaccurso attended Nagano Winter Paralympics. After a brief stint in alpine skiing, Anthony took up wheelchair tennis and won a bronze medal in Athens in 2004. Anthony continues to play wheelchair tennis and narrowly missed out on making the 2008 Beijing team.

Michael Milton

Michael Milton is one of Australia's most successful athletes. Since his debut at the 1988 Winter Paralympics in Austria at the age of 14, Michael competed in four Paralympic Winter Games and one Olympic Games, winning a total of 11 Paralympic medals, including six gold medals. Michael's finest Paralympics were in Salt Lake City, 2002, where he won all four of the alpine events (slalom, giant slalom, super G, downhill).

Michael retired from ski racing after the 2006 Winter Paralympics with a silver medal in the downhill. That same year, Michael bettered his previous world record speed for a skier with a disability – his 213.65 km/h was also a record for any Australian skier.

Michael is now aiming for another Paralympic gold medal, this time for cycling. At the 2008 Australian Track Cycling Championships, Michael won gold in the 1km Time Trial and the 3000m Pursuit, an extraordinary performance, given that he had only recently undergone treatment for esophageal cancer.

Media etiquette

When speaking to, interviewing or socialising with a person or an athlete with a disability, here are a few common courtesies, or general rules to remember:

- Always identify the person first and then the disability. Sometimes it may not be necessary or relevant to the article to mention the disability, so don't feel obliged to do so. When it is relevant, just mention what the disability is and then move on.
- Act naturally and don't monitor your every word and action. Don't be embarrassed if you use common expressions like "see you later" (to a person with a vision impairment) or "I'd better run along" (to someone who uses a wheelchair).
- Do not worry about asking specific details about the person's disability. They are generally comfortable with who they are and have no problems discussing it. Don't act like it doesn't exist, relax and be as open and honest as you can. When you are that way, the person you are interviewing will be responsive in the same manner.
- Avoid using emotional wording like "tragic", "afflicted", "victim", or "confined to a wheelchair". Emphasise the ability and not the limitation, i.e. by saying that someone "uses a wheelchair" rather than "is confined" or "is wheelchair-bound".
- Avoid portraying people with a disability who succeed as "extraordinary" or "superhuman". For example, overstating the achievements of athletes with a disability inadvertently suggests the original expectations were not high.
- Do not sensationalise the accomplishments of persons with a disability. While these accomplishments should be recognised and applauded, people in the disability rights movement have tried to make the public aware of the negative impact of referring to the achievements of people with a disability in hyperbolic language.
- Portray the person as he/she is in their day-to-day life. For example, a person with a disability might be an athlete but he/she may also be a parent, a civil engineer, a doctor, a business manager or a reporter.
- Remember that a person with a disability isn't necessarily chronically sick or unhealthy.
- Always ask a person with a disability if he/she would like assistance before rushing in. Your help may not be needed. However, it is quite all right to offer help. If your assistance is needed then listen or ask for instructions.
- When talking with a person who has a disability, speak directly to that person rather than a companion or interpreter.
- Don't forget that people with a disability may need your patience and sufficient time to act independently.
- When greeting a person, if you normally shake hands, then offer the same gesture, even if the person has limited use of his/her hands or wears an artificial limb. The person will let you know if a certain action is appropriate or not.

• Do not assume that a person with a physical disability also has a hearing disability or that his/her mental capacity is diminished in any way. Speak in a normal tone and do not use language that is condescending.

WHEELCHAIR USER

- When talking to a person who uses a wheelchair and the conversation lasts for more than a few minutes, place yourself at eye-level with them.
- Do not push anyone in a wheelchair unless you are asked and do not lean against his/her chair or hang off it in any way. The chair is part of the person's personal space and allows him/her to be mobile and independent.
- Do not patronise a person who uses a wheelchair by patting him/her on the head or shoulders. Simply share the same social courtesies that you would share with anyone else.

PEOPLE WITH A VISION IMPAIRMENT

- When talking to a person who is vision impaired, always identify yourself and others in your group. For example, say "I am Jane Smith and on my right is John Anderson". It is very important to provide verbal descriptions of visual things happening.
- Never pat or touch a guide dog while it is in the harness, just ignore it. The animal is working when it is in the harness it has a very important job to do and distracting it may harm its owner.
- Announce both your entrance and departure from a room.
- Let the person know if an obstacle is present that cannot be detected with their stick.
- On a stairway warn the person on the first and last step.
- When you offer to guide a person with a vision impairment allow him/her to take your arm.
- If you assist a person to find a seat, guide him/her there and place the person's hand on the back or arm of the chair.

These are a few things to be mindful of. But if you can remember only one of them, remember this: ACT NATURALLY AT ALL TIMES. The person will tell you if they require any assistance. Otherwise just carry on and enjoy their conversation and company.

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Athletics

Athletics at international events draws the biggest crowd and offers more events and competitors than any other sport. Athletics has been part of the Paralympic Games since the first Games in 1960 and it is open to all disability groups. Events include 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 3000m, 10,000m, 4x100m relay and 4x400m relay, marathon, pentathlon, long jump, high jump, triple jump, shot put, discus and javelin. In Beijing, 54 athletes will represent Australia in athletics including six guide runners.

Fast facts – athletics

- Australia has had 255 athletes and 23 guide-runners since Rome 1960.
- Australia had its largest athletics team in Seoul 1988, with 73 athletes and 3 guide-runners.
- In Athens, Australia had 43 athletes and one guide-runner.
- The Australian athletics team holds the most gold medals of any sport, with 135 gold medals since Tokyo in 1964. Athletics overall has produced the most Australian medals of any sport, with 389 medals since 1960.
- The Australian athletics team won 35 gold in Sydney 2000, winning more medals than any other Australian sporting team.
- The largest athletics away gold medal haul was in Atlanta 1996 with 19 gold.
- The Rome 1960 Games were the only Games in which Australia did not win a gold medal in athletics.
- Australia's highest medal winner in any sport is Louise Sauvage, with 9 gold and 4 silver medals.
- Tim Sullivan is Australia's most successful athletics athlete in a single Games, winning 5 gold medals in Sydney 2000.
- 18 out of 30 male athletes are new to the athletics team in Beijing.
- 17 out of 24 female athletes are new to the athletics team in Beijing.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in athletics

Gold 155 Sliver 150 Diolize 124 Iotal 569	Gold 135	Silver 130	Bronze 124	Total 389
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Beijing venue

The athletics events will be held at the National Stadium, otherwise known as the bird's nest for its elaborate webbing of steel beams. The stadium, which is 3.1km from the athletes' Village, will seat 91,000 during the Games, after which 11,000 temporary seats will be removed.

Australians to watch on the track and field

Kurt Fearnley is a strong medal chance, given his performances over the past two years. Kurt will compete in six events in Beijing, from 800m through to the marathon and relays. In 2007, he won 10 of the 11 marathons in which he competed, falling short in the London Marathon where he finished second. The finish was so close, Kurt actually had the same time as the winner, Englishman David Weir, but photographic evidence placed Weir first. Kurt again finished second to Weir in the 2008 London Marathon. Kurt won two gold medals in the 5000m and marathon and a silver medal in the 4x100m relay in Athens. At the 2006 IPC Athletics World Championships, he won gold in the 800m, 5000m and marathon.

Kath Proudfoot is one of the athletes found through the APC's Toyota Talent Search Program. Kath, who is making her Paralympic Games debut, broke the F36 javelin world record at the 2006 Athletics Australia National Championships with a throw of 18.06m. She won gold in the javelin and discus at the 2007 Telstra Australian Athletics National Championships. In 2008 she again proved her dominance in javelin at the Nationals.

Youngster **Evan O'Hanlon** is also in strong medal contention, as he holds the world records for the T38 100m and 200m, beating his Australian team mate, Tim Sullivan's times at the 2007 Telstra Australian Athletics National Championships. **Tim Sullivan** is also a medal chance, as he aims to become the highest gold medal athlete for Australia.

Sport specific classification for athletics

Athletics has events for athletes from the disability groups of:

- Vision impairment;
- Cerebral palsy;
- Amputees and other disabilities (athletes called "les autres" the others); and
- Spinal cord injury.

The classes are structured according to the disability type:

Class	Examples of athletes
11, 12, 13	Vision impairment
33 - 38	Different levels of cerebral palsy
42 - 46	Different levels of amputation and other disabilities (Les Autres)
51-58	Different levels of spinal cord injury or other related mobility disability

The letter "T" indicates track events and the letter "F" indicates field events. The lower class number identifies the most disabled within the disability group. The higher class number indicates a lower level of disability up to the required minimum disability standard. (The term W/C refers to Wheelchair).

Track Classes

Class	Examples of athletes
T11/F11	B1 athletes – blind (see Appendix A)
T12/F12	B2 athletes – severe vision impairment (as above)
T13/F13	B3 athletes - significant vision impairment (as above)
F32	CP2 (see CP class examples in Appendix A to this guide)
T33/F33	CP3 (as above)
T34/F34	CP4 (as above)
T35/F35	CP5 (as above)
T36/F36	CP6 (as above)
T37/F37	CP7 (as above)
T38/F38	CP8 (as above)
T42/F42	Single above knee amputee (or combined arm/leg amputee) or comparable leg impairments.

T43/F43	Double below knee amputee (or combined arm/leg amputee) or comparable leg impairments.
T44/F44	Single below knee amputee or an athlete with moderately reduced function in one or both legs.
T45/F45	Double above elbow or double below elbow amputee.
T46/F46	Single above elbow/single below elbow amputee or athlete with normal leg function but impairment in arms/trunk.
T51	Wheelchair athlete with mild weakness in shoulders, limited ability in straightening elbows and wrist function. No finger, trunk or leg function.
T52	Wheelchair athlete with good shoulder, elbow and wrist function. Limited finger movement. No leg/trunk function.
Т53	Wheelchair athlete with normal arms and hands. No or limited trunk function. No leg function.
T54	Wheelchair athlete with normal arms and hands. Trunk function may or may not be limited. May have some leg function.

Only the wheelchair field classes differ slightly from the track equivalents:

F51	W/C athletes from T51 and from CP2 (see Appendix A)
F52	W/C athletes from T52 with no leg or trunk function.
F53	W/C athletes who have mild limitation of hand function. No leg or trunk function.
F54	W/C athletes no leg or trunk function.
F55	W/C athletes with partial or normal trunk function. Fair to good sitting balance. No leg function.
F56	W/C athletes with ability to rotate spine and move backwards and forwards. Normal trunk and arm function. No leg function.
F57	Near normal trunk function. Increased leg function to F56.
F58	More leg function than F57 but not enough to stand and throw.

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Athletes



Name: Zac Ashkanasy Born: 10 July 1973 Resides: Clifton Hill, VIC Events: Guide runner for lan Speed Previous Games: Debut



Name: Angie Ballard Born: 6 June 1982 Resides: Liberty Grove, NSW Events: 100m, 200m 400m, 800m, 4X100m Classification: T53 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Carlee Beattie Born: 9 September 1982 Resides: Sunnybank Hills, QLD Events: 100m, 200m, Javelin Classification: T46, F46 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Arm amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Jonathan Bernard Born: 26 September 1986 Resides: Park Ridge South, QLD Events: 400m Classification: T12 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Hereditary



Name: Damien Bowen Born: 14 May 1984 Resides: Queanbeyan, NSW Events: Javelin Classification: F34 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Jenni Bryce Born: 19 May 1972 Resides: Sutton, NSW Events: Javelin, Shotput Classification: F57 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Left above elbow and above knee amputee How Acquired: Work accident



Name: Gemma Buchholz Born: 20 February 1981 Resides: Pacific Pines, QLD Events: 100m, 200m Classification: T52 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Quadriplegia How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Matthew Cameron Born: 20 September 1985 Resides: Wakerley, QLD Events: 100m, 200m, 400m, 4x100m, 4X400m Classification: T54 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Popliteal web syndrome How Acquired: Birth



Name: Kelly Cartwright Born: 22 April 1989 Resides: Belmont, VIC Events: 100m Classification: T42 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Amputee How Acquired: Cancer



Name: Aaron Chatman Born: 11 May 1987 Resides: Bruce, ACT Events: 4X100m, long jump, high jump Classification: T46/F46 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Right arm amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Richard Colman Born: 28 November 1984 Resides: Highton, VIC Events: 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 4x100m, 4x400m Classification: T53 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Spina bifida How Acquired: Birth



Name: Roy Daniell Born: 11 April 1965 Resides: O'Connor, ACT Events: Marathon Classification: T12 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Hereditary



Name: Christie Dawes Born: 3 May 1980 Resides: Merewether, NSW Events: 800m, 1500m, 5000m, Marathon, 4X100m Classification: T54 Previous Games: Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Madison de Rozario Born: 24 November 1993 Resides: Hamilton Hill, WA Events: 100m, 200m, 400m, 4X100m Classification: T54 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Transverse myelitis How Acquired: Viral infection



Name: Louise Ellery Born: 4 January 1977 Resides: McKellar, ACT Events: Shotput Classification: F32 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Acquired brain injury How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Rod Farr Born: 24 October 1967 Resides: Modbury Heights, SA Events: Discus, javelin, shotput Classification: F52 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Spinal injury How Acquired: Swimming accident



Name: Kurt Fearnley Born: 23 March 1981 Resides: Carcoar, NSW Events: 800m, 1500m, 5000m, Marathon, 4x100m, 4x400m Classification: T54 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Lumbar sacral agenesis How Acquired: Birth



Name: Dennis Fitzgerald Born: 29 January 1970 Resides: Greenslopes, QLD Events: Guide Runner for Gerrard Gosens Previous Games: Debut



Name: Heath Francis Born: 16 November 1981 Resides: Watson, ACT Events: 100m, 200m, 400m, 4x100m Classification: T46 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Right arm amputee How Acquired: Machinery accident



Name: Amanda Fraser Born: 10 November 1981 Resides: Gungahlin, ACT Events: Discus, shotput Classification: F37 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Jessica Gallagher Born: 14 March 1986 Resides: Geelong, VIC Events: 100m, discus, long jump, shotput Classification: T13/F13 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Birth



Name: Gerrard Gosens Born: 3 February 1970 Resides: Graceville, QLD Events: 1500m, Marathon Classification: T11 Previous Games: Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000 Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Birth



Name: Courtney Harbeck Born: 14 March 1989 Resides: Enoggera, QLD Events: 100m, 200m Classification: T13 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Birth



Name: Greg Hibberd Born: 8 September 1985 Resides: Kambah, ACT Events: Shotput Classification: F34 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Madeleine Hogan Born: 8 December 1988 Resides: Ferntree Gully, VIC Events: Javelin Classification: F46 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Bruce Jones Born: 24 December 1968 Resides: Oxley, QLD Events: Guide runner for Gerrard Gosens Previous Games: Debut



Name: Hamish MacDonald Born: 19 August 1974 Resides: Waramanga, ACT Events: Shotput Classification: F34 Previous Games: Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Lisa McIntosh Born: 16 December 1982 Resides: Beaconsfield, VIC Events: 100m, 200m Classification: T37 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Wade McMahon Born: 17 May 1985 Resides: Belconnen, ACT Events: 4X100m, javelin Classification: T37/F37 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Hemiplegia How Acquired: Stroke at birth



Name: Kirrilee McPherson Born: 26 December 1987 Resides: Bridgewater, SA Events: 100m, 200m Classification: T38 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Brydee Moore Born: 1 May 1990 Resides: Bayswater, VIC Events: Discus, Javelin, shotput Classification: F33 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Jemima Moore Born: 18 March 1992 Resides: Highton, VIC Events: 100m, 200m, 4x100m Classification: T54 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Unknown event



Name: Chris Mullins Born: 23 November 1986 Resides: Essendon, VIC Events: 100m, 200m, 400m, 4x100m Classification: T38 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Richard Nicholson Born: 30 June 1970 Resides: Melba, ACT Events: 100m, 200m, 400m, 4x100m, 4x400m Classification: T54 Previous Games: Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Para paralysis How Acquired: Illness



Name: Evan O'Hanlon Born: 4 May 1988 Resides: Belconnen, ACT Events: 100m, 200m, 4x100m Classification: T38 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Stroke before birth



Name: Katy Parrish Born: 4 July 1991 Resides: Prospect, SA Events: 100m, 200m Classification: T38 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Paul Pearce Born: 8 January 1977 Resides: Coorparoo, QLD Events: Guide runner for Jonathon Bernard Previous Games: Debut



Name: Kath Proudfoot Born: 21 April 1977 Resides: Valentine, NSW Events: Discus, shotput Classification: F36 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Not known



Name: Paul Raison Born: 29 December 1977 Resides: Belgian Gardens, QLD Events: 4x100m, discus, shotput Classification: T44/F44 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Below knee amputee How Acquired: Motorcycle accident



Name: Michael Roeger Born: 14 May 1988 Resides: Langhorne Creek, SA Events: 800m, 1500m, 5000m, 4X100m Classification: T46 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Right arm amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Tahlia Rotumah Born: 24 February 1992 Resides: Tweed Heads South, NSW Events: 100m, 200m Classification: T37 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Hemiplegia/cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Charlotte Saville Born: 8 November 1990 Resides: South Frankston, VIC Events: Javelin Classification: F37 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Brad Scott Born: 15 April 1988 Resides: Eaton, WA Events: 200m, 800m, 4X100m Classification: T37 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Russell Short Born: 7 May 1969 Resides: Glenhuntly, VIC Events: Discus, Shotput Classification: F12 Previous Games: Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992, Athens 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Birth



Name: Julie Smith Born: 19 November 1982 Resides: Kirwan, QLD Events: 100m, 200m Classification: T46 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Missing left fingers and pectoral muscle How Acquired: Birth



Name: lan Speed Born: 29 March 1973 Resides: Mitcham, VIC Events: 400m, 800m Classification: T12 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Retinitis pigmentosa



Name: Tim Sullivan Born: 16 September 1975 Resides: Chelsea Heights, VIC Events: 100m, 200m, 400m, 4x100m Classification: T38 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Chris Tagg Born: 7 April 1967 Resides: Woolloongabba, QLD Events: Guide runner for Roy Daniell Previous Games: Debut



Name: Noni Thompson Born: 24 September 1984 Resides: Camberwell, VIC Events: Javelin, shotput Classification: F36 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Vision impaired, acquired brain injury How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Darren Thrupp Born: 6 December 1966 Resides: Wallumbilla, QLD Events: 100m, 4x100m, long jump Classification: T37/F37 Previous Games: Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Julien Wicks Born: 22 April 1978 Resides: O'Çonnor, ACT Events: Guide runner for Roy Daniell Previous Games: Debut



Name: Jodi Willis-Roberts Born: 24 April 1967 Resides: Wendouree, VIC Events: Discus, Shotput Classification: F12 Previous Games: Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Birth



Name: Stephen Wilson Born: 28 December 1971 Resides: Merringandan, QLD Events: 100m, 200m, 400m, 4x100m Classification: T44 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Below knee amputee How Acquired: Truck accident



Name: Christine Wolf Born: 3 March 1980 Resides: Hawker, ACT Events: 100m, long jump Classification: T42/F42 Previous Games: Athens 2004 (for Germany) Disability: Above knee amputee How Acquired: Cancer

Staff



Name: Robbie Bolton Position: Coach Resides: Wollongong, NSW Occupation: Public servant



Name: Steve Butler Position: Coach Resides: Salisbury North, SA Occupation: Personal trainer



Name: Andrew Carter Position: Mechanic Resides: Laffing Waters, NSW Occupation: Bartender



Name: Andrew Dawes Position: Coach Resides: Merewether, NSW Occupation: Coach



Name: Iryna Dvoskina Position: Coach Resides: Canberra, ACT Occupation: Coach



Name: John Eden Position: Assistant Coach Resides: Cranbourne, VIC Occupation: Driver/Sorter



Name: Scott Goodman Position: Head Coach Resides: McKellar, ACT Occupation: Sport administrator



Name: Brett Jones Position: Coach Resides: Annerley, QLD Occupation: Athletics coach



Name: Mick Jordan Position: Massage Therapist Resides: Bentleigh East, VIC Occupation: Myotherapist/naturopath



Name: Gary Lees Position: Section manager Resides: Mullaloo, WA Occupation: General manager



Name: Alan Makin Position: Assistant Coach Resides: Narrabeen, NSW Occupation: Coach



Name: Stephanie Martin Position: PCA Resides: Farrer, ACT Occupation: Teacher



Name: John Minns Position: Assistant Coach Resides: Emu Ridge, ACT Occupation: Cellarman



Name: Louise Mogg Position: Section manager Resides: Flemington, VIC Occupation: Occupational therapist



Name: Alison O'Riordan Position: Coach Resides: Sutton, NSW Occupation: Coach



Name: Phil Power Position: Massage Therapist Resides: Hampton, VIC Occupation: Massage therapist



Name: Sian Pugh Position: Physiotherapist Resides: Annerley, QLD Occupation: Physiotherapist



Name: Cathy Raha-Lambert Position: Assistant Coach Resides: Nuriootpa, SA Occupation: Teacher



Name: Louise Sauvage Position: Coach Resides: Melrose Park, NSW Occupation: Coach/speaker



Name: Rowena Toppenberg Position: Physiotherapist Resides: Bridgeman Downs, QLD Occupation: University lecturer/physiotherapist

Media Guide > Basketball (Wheelchair)

Basketball (wheelchair)

Wheelchair basketball is a high profile Paralympic sport, open to any athlete with a permanent and measurable disability in their lower limbs which prevents them from competing as an able-bodied player. This intense sport has similar rules to the running game of basketball. The main differences are that athletes must dribble the ball after two pushes, players are classified on a points system -1.0 to 4.5 points - determined by their mobility, and there can be no more than 14 points on the court at any time.

Australia has two world class teams: the Rollers (men), and the Gliders (women).

Fast facts – wheelchair basketball

ROLLERS

- Australian men's wheelchair basketball has had 61 players since Rome in 1960. Kevin Coombes, who competed in 1960, was Australia's first indigenous Paralympian and the first indigenous player to represent Australia in basketball internationally.
- The Tokyo 1964 Games was the only Games Australia's Rollers did not compete.
- Troy Sachs, 42 points in a single game at the Atlanta Paralympics remains one of the highest ever individual scores by a basketballer at the Paralympic or Olympic Games.
- 4 out of the 12 players on the team are making their Paralympic debut.

GLIDERS

- Australian women's wheelchair basketball has had 27 players since the Australian team first competed at the Paralympics in Barcelona in 1992.
- The Tel Aviv 1968 Games was the first time women's wheelchair basketball was played at the Paralympic Games.
- Liesl Tesch has played in every Australian Paralympic women's basketball team and will attend her fifth Paralympic Games in Beijing.
- Half (6) of the women's team are making their Paralympic debut.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in wheelchair basketball

Gold 1(M) Silver 3(2W/1M) Bronze 0 Total 4	
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Results leading up to the Games

Ranked number three in the world, the Rollers are aiming for nothing less than gold in Beijing after winning a silver in Athens. The 2004 Athens final saw Australia go down to wheelchair basketball heavyweights Canada, a team which continues to thwart the Australians. The Rollers won a silver medal behind Canada in the Four Nations Invitational Tournament in Germany earlier this year and lost to Canada again in the final of the Good Luck Beijing Test Event. The North America Cup saw the Rollers make a third place win over Great Britain.

With four new faces in the side, the team will face two of its most fierce competitors, the US and Great Britain, along with Israel, Brazil and China in the preliminary round.

After winning silver medals in Sydney and Athens, the Gliders are hungry for gold. Ranked as one of the top four teams in the world, they beat Japan and New Zealand to qualify for the Games. The 2008 Osaka Cup saw the Gliders again win silver, going down to the USA, the only undefeated team in the tournament, 40-52. In 2008, a three games to one victory over China in the Goodluck Beijing Test Event was followed by a bronze medal finish in the Joseph F. Lyttle World Basketball Challenge and a fourth place finish in the North America Cup. In their last international competition before the Games, the Gliders won a five game series against China in July. With six new faces in the side, Australia will face Athens gold medallists USA, number 3 ranked Germany, Great Britain and Brazil in the preliminary round.

Venue

The wheelchair basketball matches will be played at the National Indoor Stadium and the University of Science and Technology Beijing Gymnasium which are 2km and 4km from the Games Village respectively.

Sport Specific Classification for Wheelchair Basketball

To be eligible to play wheelchair basketball, a person must have an objective and measurable permanent physical disability in their lower limbs which prevents them from running, jumping and pivoting as an able-bodied player.

By classification, players are assigned a point value in half point increments from 1.0 to 4.5 – according to their level of physical function, with 0.5 class between each full point for the exceptional cases which do not fit exactly into one class. These points are then added together in a game and a team is not permitted to exceed 14.0 points for the five players on court at any time.

This ensures that any player, regardless of degree of disability, has an integral role to play in the team structure. Observed trunk movements and stability during actual basketball participation, not medical diagnosis, form the basis of player classification.

Points	Examples of athletes
1	No lower limb and little or no trunk movement. Rebound overhead single-handed.
2	No lower limb but partial trunk control in a forward direction. Rely on hand-grip to remain stable in collisions.
3	May have some limb movement more control of their trunk. Can rebound overhead with 2 hands.
4	Normal trunk movement, but some reduced lower limb function – unable to lean to both sides with full control.
4.5	These players have the least disability on court. Usually have minimal lower limb dysfunction or single below knee amputation. Normal trunk movements in all directions.

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ROLLERS Athletes



Name: Dylan Alcott Born: 4 December 1990 Resides: Brighton East, VIC Classification: 1.0 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Paraplegia Acquired: Birth



Name: Brendan Dowler Born: 31 January 1968 Resides: Corrimal, NSW Classification: 1.0 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia Acquired: Spinal tumour



Name: Justin Eveson Born: 10 June 1980 Resides: Victoria Park, WA Classification: 4.5 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Amputee Acquired: Machine accident



Name: Michael Hartnett Born: 3 June 1982 Resides: Gosnells, WA Classification: 1.0 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Paraplegia Acquired: Car accident



Name: Adrian King Born: 25 November 1971 Resides: Wishart, QLD Classification: 2.0 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia Acquired: Car accident

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Name: Tristan Knowles Born: 25 April 1983 Resides: Wollongong, NSW Classification: 4.0 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Above knee amputee Acquired: Cancer



Name: Grant Mizens Born: 19 April 1977 Resides: East Ryde, NSW Classification: 2.0 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia Acquired: Car accident



Name: Brad Ness Born: 24 November 1974 Resides: Perth, WA Classification: 4.5 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Leg amputee Acquired: Boat accident



Name: Shaun Norris Born: 2 April 1985 Resides: Alexander Heights, WA Classification: 3.0 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia Acquired: Car accident



Name: Troy Sachs Born: 3 December 1975 Resides: Castle Cove, NSW Classification: 4.5 Previous Games: Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Amputee Acquired: Birth

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Name: Tige Simmons Born: 5 May 1977 Resides: Fairfield, QLD Classification: 1.0 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Paraplegia Acquired: Motorbike accident



Name: Brett Stibners Born: 25 June 1979 Resides: Oakflats, NSW Classification: 4.0 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Amputee Acquired: Car accident

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Staff



Name: Kelvin Browner Position: Section manager Resides: Hillarys, WA Occupation: Teacher



Name: Ben Ettridge Position: Head coach Resides: Mirrabooka, WA Occupation: Basketball coach



Name: Craig Friday Position: Assistant coach Resides: Willetton, WA Occupation: Contract glazing sales representative



Name: Ian Lowther Position: Physiotherapist Resides: Nedlands, WA Occupation: Physiotherapist

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GLIDERS Athletes



Name: Clare Burzynski Born: 11 August 1986 Resides: Midland, WA Classification: 1.0 Previous Games: None Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Shelley Chaplin Born: 4 September 1984 Resides: Harcourt North, VIC Classification: 3.5 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Incomplete paraplegia How Acquired: Birth



Name: Cobi Crispin Born: 22 December 1988 Resides: Midland, WA Classification: 4.0 Previous Games: None Disability: Amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Melanie Domaschenz Born: 13 October 1983 Resides: Marshall, VIC Classification: 1.0 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Spina bifida How Acquired: Birth

Media Guide > Basketball (Wheelchair) > Athletes



Name: Kylie Gauci Born: 1 January1985 Resides: Rooty Hill, NSW Classification: 2.0 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Lumbo sacral agenesis How Acquired: Birth



Name: Melanie Hall Born: 11 January 1977 Resides: Darwin, NT Classification: 2.5 Previous Games: None Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Katie Hill Born: 17 February 1984 Resides: Panania, NSW Classification: 3.0 Previous Games: None Disability: Spina bifida How Acquired: Birth



Name: Bridie Kean Born: 27 February 1987 Resides: Parkdale, VIC Classification: 4.0 Previous Games: None Disability: Amputee How Acquired: Meningococcal disease



Name: Tina McKenzie Born: 8 June 1974 Resides: St Peters, NSW Classification: 3.0 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Falling accident

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Name: Kathleen O'Kelly-Kennedy Born: 21 June 1986 Resides: Ringwood North, VIC Classification: 4.0 Previous Games: None Disability: Right leg below knee amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Sarah Stewart Born: 13 June 1976 Resides: Maroubra, NSW Classification: 3.0 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Reflex sympathetic dystrophy How Acquired: Injury



Name: Liesl Tesch Born: 17 May 1969 Resides: Woy Woy, NSW Classification: 4.0 Previous Games: Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Incomplete paraplegia How Acquired: Bike accident

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Staff



Name: Sonia Healy Position: Section manager Resides: Ryde, NSW Occupation: High school teacher



Name: Mark Hewish Position: Assistant Coach Resides: Officer, VIC Occupation: Basketball manager



Name: Gerry Hewson Position: Head Coach Resides: Rhodes, NSW Occupation: Basketball coach



Name: Emma Whiteside Position: Physiotherapist Resides: Queanbeyan, NSW Occupation: Physiotherapist

Cycling

Speed and excitement are a part of able-bodied and Paralympic cycling. Cycling is a relatively new sport for Paralympians, with vision impaired athletes the first group to take part. Cerebral palsy and amputee athletes followed, joining the competition in 1984. Track cycling was introduced in 1996 and handcycling in 2004. Cycling is divided into track and road events. Athletes with cerebral palsy ride standard racing bikes – competing in track and road - and, in some classes, tricycles – competing only in road events. Visually impaired athletes compete on tandem bicycles with a sighted "pilot" in track and road events. Amputees and cyclists with permanent locomotor deficiencies compete in track and road events using bicycles specially modified for their needs. Athletes with a lower limb impairment compete in handcycling on the road only. Track events include the 1000m time trial, individual pursuit and team sprint, as well as individual sprint events for tandems. In Beijing, 18 athletes, including 5 pilots, will represent Australia in cycling.

Fast facts – cycling

- Since Seoul 1988, Australia has had 28 athletes and 19 pilots on its cycling team.
- The largest Australian cycling team was in Sydney 2000 with 15 athletes and 7 pilots.
- In Athens 2004 Australia had 12 athletes and 7 pilots and the team won 21 medals, including 10 gold.
- Cycling holds a total of 25 gold medals since Atlanta 1996. The largest cycling gold medal haul was both in Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004, with 10 gold at each Games.
- Chris Scott is the most successful Paralympic cyclist in the world with 5 gold medals and 7 overall. he is Australia's most successful cyclist at a single Games, winning 3 gold in Athens. In 2008 he will attend his sixth Paralympics.
- Michael Milton will be Australia's fourth ever Paralympian to compete in both a summer and winter Games.
- Out of the 13 male cyclists and pilots, 7 are attending their first summer Games. Out of the 7 female cyclists and pilots, 5 are attending their first Games.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in cycling

Gold 25	Silver 15	Bronze 15	Total 55

Venue

Track cycling will take place at the Laoshan Velodrome, 27km from the Games Village. The Velodrome seats 6,000 people.

The road cycling course is 37km from the Games Village.

Australians to watch on the bike

Australia has a rich history in cycling at the Paralympic Games which is likely to continue in Beijing. Amongst them, the team currently holds five world records.

As the world record holder in the men's LC1 1km TT and individual pursuit, **Michael Gallagher** is a likely medal chance for Australia. Making his Paralympic debut in Beijing, Michael won gold in the 1km TT and the individual pursuit at the 2006 IPC Cycling World Championships. At the 2007 IPC Cycling World Championships, he won three gold medals and set two new world records in the process. He also won three gold medals at the 2008 Australian AWD Track Cycling Championships.

At his sixth Paralympics and with five gold, one silver and one bronze medal behind him, **Chris Scott** is again a chance to take out his specialty event, the men's CP4 individual pursuit. Chris will compete in five events in Beijing, including the team sprint.

Lindy Hou will be competing in the home of her ancestors in Beijing and, with her pilot Toireasa Gallagher, is a medal chance for Australia in the women's individual pursuit. Lindy won one gold, two silvers and a bronze medal in Athens and in 2006 won two gold medals at the IPC Cycling World Championships.

Sport Specific Classification for Cycling

- **B** Vision Impairment (See Appendix A)
- **CP** Cerebral Palsy (See Appendix A)
- HC Hand Cycling (See Appendix A)

The lower class number e.g. B1 identifies the most disabled within the disability group. The higher class number e.g. CP8 indicates a lower level of disability up to the required minimum disability standard.

Class	Examples of Athletes
B+VI	B1/B2/B3 The athletes compete together in an open class on tandem cycles.
LC1	The athletes have only minor leg disabilities or no leg disabilities and other disabilities such as an arm amputation. The class can include athletes with an amputation of more than half of their foot (forefoot) or a leg length difference of 7cm to 12cm.
LC2	The athletes have a disability on one leg, but they are able to pedal normally using both legs (with or without prosthesis). The class can include athletes with a single above or below knee amputation or a leg length difference of more than 12cm.
LC3	The athletes have a disability on at least one leg and pedal only with the other leg. The class can include athletes with a loss of muscle strength in both legs or the limited flexion ability of the knee less than 50 degrees.
LC4	The athletes have more severe disabilities, usually affecting both lower limbs, with or without arm disability.
Division 1	CP 1-4 together – (tricycle) (See Appendix A)
Division 2	CP 5-6 together – (tricycle) (See Appendix A)
Division 3	CP 5-6 together – (bicycle) (See Appendix A)
Division 4	CP 7-8 together – (bicycle) (See Appendix A)
HC A	Complete loss of trunk and leg function and some loss of arm function.
HC B	Complete loss of leg function with limited trunk stability.
HC C	Complete loss of lower limb function or partial loss of leg function with other disabilities.
2 Division 3 Division 4 HC A HC B	CP 5-6 together – (bicycle) (See Appendix A) CP 7-8 together – (bicycle) (See Appendix A) Complete loss of trunk and leg function and some loss of arm function. Complete loss of leg function with limited trunk stability. Complete loss of lower limb function or partial loss of leg function

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Athletes



Name: Jane Armstrong Born: 9 July 1958 Resides: Griffith, ACT Events: Individual Pursuit, 500m Time Trial Classification: LC3 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Right leg extension flexion deformity How Acquired: Knee joint disease



Name: Greg Ball Born: 29 May 1974 Resides: Collingwood Park, QLD Events: 1km Time Trial, Team Sprint Classification: LC4 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Transverse mylitis How Acquired: Illness



Name: Ben Demery Born: 19 September 1986 Resides: Dudley, NSW Events: 1km Time Trial, Tandem Sprint Classification: B/VI Previous Games: Debut Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Birth



Name: Michael Gallagher Born: 14 December 1978 Resides: Mornington, VIC Events: Individual Pursuit, 1km Time Trial, Team Sprint, Road Time Trial, Road Race Classification: LC1 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Erbs palsy right shoulder How Acquired: Accident at birth



Name: Toireasa Gallagher Born: 24 June 1980 Resides: Bathurst, NSW Events: 1km Time Trial, Individual Pursuit, Road Time Trial, Road Race Classification: Pilot for Lindy Hou Previous Games: Athens 2004



Name: Steven George Born: 5 June 1982 Resides: Nobby Beach, QLD Events: 1km Time Trial, Individual Pursuit, Road Race Classification: Pilot for Bryce Lindores Previous Games: Debut



Name: Shaun Hopkins Born: 18 April 1977 Resides: Fairfield, NSW Events: 1km Time Trial, Tandem Sprint Classification: Pilot for Ben Demery Previous Games: Debut



Name: Lindy Hou Born: 18 February 1960 Resides: Beacon Hill, NSW Events: 1km Time Trial, Individual Pursuit, Road Time Trial, Road Race Classification: B/VI Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Hereditary



Name: Felicity Johnson Born: 30 May 1971 Resides: Brooklyn Park, SA Events: 1km Time Trial, Individual Pursuit Classification: B/VI Previous Games: Debut Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Birth

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Name: Tyson Lawrence Born: 9 June 1978 Resides: Ballajura, WA Events: 1km Time Trial, Individual Pursuit, Tandem Sprint Classification: Pilot for Kieran Modra Previous Games: Debut



Name: Mark Le Flohic Born: 4 December 1970 Resides: Bassendean, WA Events: Road Time Trial, Road Race Classification: CP Div2 Tricycle Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Acquired brain injury How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Mel Leckie Born: 7 February 1984 Resides: Broadview, SA Events: Road Time Trial, Road Race Classification: HC B Previous Games: Debut Disability: Complete paraplegia How Acquired: Falling accident



Name: Bryce Lindores Born: 12 September 1986 Resides: Nobby Beach, QLD Events: 1km Time Trial, Individual Pursuit, Road Time Trial, Road Race Classification: B/VI Previous Games: Debut Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Michael Milton Born: 21 March 1973 Resides: Ainslie, ACT Events: 1km Time Trial, Individual Pursuit, Road Time Trial, Road Race Classification: LC3 Previous Games: Debut (Summer Games) Disability: Above left knee amputee How Acquired: Cancer



Name: Kieran Modra Born: 27 March 1972 Resides: Hallet Cove, SA Events: 1km Time Trial, Individual Pursuit, Road Time Trial, Road Race Classification: B/VI Previous Games: Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Birth



Name: Jayme Paris Born: 27 April 1989 Resides: Marayong, NSW Events: 500m Time Trial, Individual Pursuit Classification: CP Div3 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebellar ataxia How Acquired: Birth asphyxia



Name: Katie Parker Born: 19 February 1979 Resides: Bridgewater, SA Events: 1km Time Trial, Individual Pursuit Classification: Pilot for Felicity Johnson Previous Games: Debut



Name: Chris Scott Born: 29 October 1968 Resides: Parkinson, QLD Events: 1km Time Trial, Individual Pursuit, Team Sprint, Road Time Trial, Road Race Classification: CP Div4 Previous Games: Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth

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Staff



Name: Mark Bullen Position: Mechanic Resides: Armidale, NSW Occupation:



Name: Alan Downes Position: Massage Therapist Resides: Banora Point, NSW Occupation: Massage Therapist



Name: Anouska Edwards Position: Physiotherapist Resides: Murarrie, QLD Occupation: Physiotherapist



Name: Mark Fulcher Position: Section Manager Resides: Grasmere, NSW Occupation: Venue Manager



Name: Brett Hidson Position: Manager / Carer Resides: Grange, SA Occupation: Program Manager



Name: Murray Lydeamore Position: Team Official Resides: Craigmore, SA Occupation: Sports Chaplain



Name: Paul Martens Position: Coach / Carer Resides: Cleveland, QLD Occupation: Landscaper



Name: Tom Skulander Position: Coach Resides: Cronulla, NSW Occupation: Sports Administrator



Name: Stuart Smith Position: Mechanic Resides: Ethelton, SA Occupation: Mechanic



Name: James Victor Position: Head Coach Resides: Morningside, SA Occupation: Coach

Media Guide > Equestrian

Equestrian

Equestrian is open to all disability groups, with competition divided into four grades according to an athlete's functional profile. Riders compete individually and in a team event in dressage - which is riding a set pattern involving various changes in pace and direction. There are two individual events – a prescribed pattern and a freestyle event. All riders are judged on their ability to control and manoeuvre the horses. Five athletes will represent Australia in Hong Kong at the 2008 Paralympic Games.

Fast facts – equestrian

- Equestrian has had 13 equestrian athletes since the sport was introduced in Atlanta 1996.
- The largest equestrian team was in Sydney 2000 with 7 athletes. The largest ever away team was in Atlanta in 1996 with 5 athletes.
- In Athens in 2004 Australia had 4 athletes.
- The largest Australian equestrian gold medal haul was in Sydney 2000 with 2 gold.
- Australia has never won an away gold medal in equestrian. The largest equestrian away total medal haul was in Athens 2004 with 2 medals, one silver and one bronze.
- Julie Higgins is Australia's most success equestrian rider, winning 2 gold medals in Sydney 2000 in the freestyle and championships dressage events.
- 3 out of the 5 equestrian athletes are new to the Australian team.
- Of the 5 athletes, there is 1 silver and 1 bronze medal between them, all won by Jan Pike in Athens.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in equestrian

Gold 2	Silver 1	Bronze 3	Total 6

Venue

The Equestrian events will be held in Hong Kong at the Hong Kong Olympic Equestrian Venue (Shatin).

Grade	Examples of athletes
1	The athletes are mainly wheelchair users with either poor trunk balance or limitation of function in all arms and legs. Athletes with no trunk balance but good arm functions are also eligible in this class.
2	The athletes are mainly wheelchair users or those with severe movement disabilities involving trunk balance, but with good to mild arm functions. Athletes with loss of function of both arm and leg on one side of the body are also eligible in this class.
3	The athletes are mainly able to walk without support. They may have either disabilities in both arm and leg on one side of the body, moderate disabilities in both arms and legs or a severe arm disability.
4	The athletes have a disability in only one or two extremities or some visual impairment B2, B3 (See Appendix A)

Sport specific classification for equestrian

Australians to watch on the horses

All of Australia's equestrian athletes compete in dressage events.

Georgia Bruce competed in the Athens Games but did not win a medal. She is looking to medal in the individual freestyle test.

Making her Paralympic debut, **Nicole Kullen** came first in her pet event at the 2007 Myerscough College Para Dressage Championships. At the 2007 IPC Equestrian Dressage World Championships, Nicole finished second in the individual championship and third in the individual freestyle test, the only rider to medal on a borrowed horse.

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Athletes



Name: Grace Bowman Born: 16 July 1990 Resides: Moonta, SA Events: Individual Championship Test, Individual Freestyle Test, Team Test Classification: 1B (P10a) Previous Games: Debut Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Horse riding accident



Name: Georgia Bruce Born: 7 May 1981 Resides: Kuranda, QLD Events: Individual Championship Test, Individual Freestyle Test, Team Test Classification: 4 (P24) Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: No radial bone or thumb on right hand How Acquired: Birth



Name: Sharon Jarvis Born: 31 October 1978 Resides: Donnybrook, WA Events: Individual Championship Test, Individual Freestyle Test, Team Test Classification: 3 (P18b) Previous Games: Debut Disability: Limited movement and strength on left side from waist down How Acquired: Cancer



Name: Nicole Kullen Born: 15 April 1980 Resides: Bunyip, VIC Events: Individual Championship Test, Individual Freestyle Test, Team Test Classification: 1B (P4) Previous Games: Debut Disability: Bi-lateral below knee amputations, no function in both hands and wrists, limited arm function, kidneys removed How Acquired: Meningococcal meningitis septicemia



Name: Jan Pike Born: 10 February 1952 Resides: Winston Hills, NSW Events: Individual Championship, Individual Freestyle Test Classification: 1A (P12a) Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth

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Staff



Name: Emma Bardot Position: Groom (Sharon Jarvis) Resides: Bridgetown, WA Occupation: Student



Name: David Bowman Position: Assistant Coach Resides: Kyneton Occupation: Sales/equestrian coach



Name: Ken Dagley Position: Section Manager Resides: Draper, QLD Occupation: Manager



Name: Doug Denby Position: Subsite Manager Resides: Castle Hill, NSW Occupation: Chartered accountant



Name: Chris Elliot Position: Vet Resides: Shoreham, VIC Occupation: Vet

Media Guide > Equestrian > Staff



Name: Terrina Fairbrother Position: Groom (Jan Pike) Resides: West Swan, WA Occupation:



Name: Sally Francis Position: Assistant Coach Resides: Nar Nar Goon, VIC Occupation: Senior state coach



Name: Judy Fyfe Position: PCA Resides: Cordeaux Heights, NSW Occupation: Teacher



Name: Michelle Goodrick Position: Nurse Resides: Bulla, VIC Occupation: Nurse



Name: Margaret Keyes Position: PCA Resides: Bunyip, VIC Occupation: Carer

Media Guide > Equestrian > Staff



Name: Carolyn Lieutenant Position: Horse owner (Georgia Bruce) Resides: Galston, NSW Occupation:



Name: Mary Longden Position: Head Coach Resides: Bunyip, VIC Occupation: Sports organisation



Name: Nicola Reynoldson Position: Physiotherapist Resides: Launching Place, VIC Occupation: Physiotherapist



Name: Ebony Tucker Position: Groom (Nicole Kullen) Resides: Darnum, VIC Occupation: Horse trainer/coach



Name: Liz Wright-Smith Position: Groom (Grace Bowman) Resides: Woori Yallock, VIC Occupation:

Judo

Judo is for vision impaired athletes. Its touch, balance and sensitivity complement the highly developed skills of these competitors. Athletes compete under the International Judo Federation rules and all events feature knockout competition. The only modification for the Paralympic event is the texture of the mats to indicate competition area and zones.

Fast facts – judo

- Judo has had 2 athletes since Barcelona in 1992 including 1 female.
- The largest Judo team was in Athens 2004 with 2 athletes.
- Australia has 1 gold medal in judo, won by Anthony Clarke in Atlanta.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in judo

Gold 1	Silver 0	Bronze 0	Total 1

Venue

The judo matches will be held at the Beijing Workers' Gymnasium, 13km from the Games Village. The Workers' Gymnasium has been renovated for the Olympic and Paralympic Games and will seat 13,000 people.

Sport specific classification for judo

Athletes with the classes B1, B2 and B3 (vision impaired) (See Appendix A) are eligible to compete. The athletes compete together in an open disability class, being placed in the same weight divisions that operate in Olympic judo.

Australians to watch on the mat

Australia's only judo athlete is **Anthony Clarke**, meaning all hopes of a medal in the sport rely on him. Anthony won a gold medal in the Under 90kg category in Atlanta 1996 and has competed at every Games since. At the 2006 FESPIC Games, he won a bronze medal.

Media Guide > Judo > Athletes and Staff

Athletes



Name: Anthony Clarke Born: 19 June 1961 Resides: Windsor Gardens, SA Event: Under 90kg Classification: B1 Previous Games: Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Car accident

Staff



Name: Neil Ballard Position: Head Coach Resides: Holden Hill, SA Occupation:

Media Guide > Powerlifting

Powerlifting

Strength and power are fundamental qualities in Paralympic powerlifters. The first Paralympic lifting event took place at the second Paralympic Games at Tokyo in 1964. Powerlifting is open to all athletes who meet minimum physical disability requirements. Lifters compete in one of ten weight categories for men and five for women, and competitors participate in one type of lift – the bench press.

Fast facts – powerlifting

- Lifting has had 31 Australian athletes since Tokyo 1964.
- Weightlifting was a Games sport between 1960 and 1992. Powerlifting has been a Games sport from 1988 onwards.
- Australia's largest powerlifting team was in Sydney 2000 with 13 athletes.
- The largest ever away team was in Seoul in 1988 with 7 athletes in a combined powerlifting and weightlifting squad.
- In Athens in 2004 Australia had 4 athletes.
- Australia has never scored better than 1 gold medal at a single Games.
- Australia's best ever lifting performance was in Toronto in 1976 with 1 gold and 1 bronze medal.
- Vic Renalson from New South Wales is Australia's most successful lifter, with 3 gold and 1 silver medal between Tokyo 1964 and Toronto 1976.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in lifting

Gold 3	Silver 7	Bronze 6	Total 16	
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Venue

The Beijing University or Aeronautics and Astronautics Gymnasium will host the powerlifting events. Located 7km from the Paralympic Village, it seats 6000.

Australians to watch on the bench

Darren "Bear" Gardiner is Australia's highest ranked lifter. Darren, who competes in the men's +100kg category, won a bronze medal in Athens, a silver at the 2006 IPC World Powerlifting Championships and a bronze at the Commonwealth Games in 2006.

Deahnne McIntyre will attend her fourth Paralympic Games and is consistently in the hunt for the medals in international competition.

Abebe Fekadu, who came to Australia as a refugee, attends his first Paralympic competition.

Sport Specific Classification for Powerlifting

In powerlifting, athletes with amputations and other disabilities (les autres) compete together against athletes with cerebral palsy, wheelchair athletes and short-stature athletes, in different bodyweight classes.

To become eligible in international powerlifting competition, the athletes have to meet minimum disability criteria as outlined in the relevant publications of the international disability sporting organisations ISOD, CP-ISRA and ISMWSF.

Class	Examples of athletes
Amputees and	
Les Autres (ISOD)	Amputation through or above the ankle of one leg. Slightly reduced function in the legs or slight balance problems.
Cerebral Palsy	
(CP-ISRA)	Minimal but obvious impairment of functions, evidence of spasticity and/ or involuntary movement in at least one lower limb.
Wheelchair Athletes (ISMWSF)	Athletes must have at least 10% loss of function of their lower limbs.

Additionally, the competitor must have the ability to fully extend the arms, with no more loss than 20 degrees of extension in either elbow, to perform an approved lift according to the IPC Powerlifting rules.

Athletes



Name: Abebe Fekadu Born: 20 April 1970 Resides: Bowen Hills, QLD Event: Up to 56kg Previous Games: None Disability: Spinal injury How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Darren Gardiner Born: 19 November 1969 Resides: Maylands, WA Event: Over 100kg Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Left below knee amputee How Acquired: Cancer



Name: Deahnne McIntyre Born: 9 June 1971 Resides: Conder, ACT Event: Over 82.5kg Previous Games: Seoul 1988, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Spina bifida How Acquired: Birth

Staff



Name: Ray Epstein Position: Head coach Resides: Hawthorne, QLD Occupation: CEO of Sporting Wheelies and Disabled



Name: Bill Nancarrow Position: Assistant coach Resides: Kepkock, QLD Occupation:

Media Guide > Rowing

Rowing

Introduced to the Paralympic sports program in 2005, rowing is the youngest Paralympic sport and will be part of the Paralympic Games competition program for the first time in Beijing.

Adaptive rowing is rowing or sculling for athletes with a disability who meet the criteria as set out in the adaptive rowing classification regulations. Adaptive means the equipment is adapted to enable the user to practice the sport rather than the sport being adapted to the user.

Adaptive rowing is open to male and female athletes and is divided into four boat classes which are included in FISA's Worlds Championship program: LTA4+ (4 crew sweep oars), TA2x (2 crew sculls), AW1x (single scull for women) and AM1x (single scull for men). The LTA4+ and TA2x are mixed gender boats. Races are held over 1000m for all four events.

The hull of the adaptive rowing boat is identical to able-bodied boats. Adaptive rowing boats are equipped with special seats, which vary according to the disability of the rower. There are no other specifications on the seat apart from the following: the LTA4+ has a sliding seat; the other three boat classes have fixed seats. The TA 2x seat offers 'complementary support'. The AW1x and AM1x are equipped with a seat which offers 'postural support' to those individuals with compromised sitting balance (i.e. spinal cord injury, cerebral palsy). This ensures that the upper body is supported and kept in a fixed position. Smaller boats are equipped with buoyancy devices called pontoons, which act as stabilisers, attached to the boats riggers to provide additional lateral balance.

Fast facts - rowing

- Rowing makes its Paralympic competition debut in Beijing.
- There will be 4 events in Beijing, (men's and women's single scull, mixed double scull and mixed coxed fours). Australia will contest 2 out of the 4 events.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in rowing

Gold 0	Silver 0	Bronze 0	Total 0

Venue

The Shunyi Olympic Rowing-Canoeing Park will host the rowing events. It seats approximately 27,000 spectators and is the same venue that hosted the rowing, flat water kayaking and open water swimming events in the Olympic Games.

Australians to watch on the water

John Maclean and **Kathryn Ross** have high hopes of a medal in their TA2x event. They have been training together since 2006 and won a silver medal at the 2007 World Championships and gold at the 2008 International Adaptive Regatta in Italy.

Dominic Monypenny is also a chance for a medal in the single sculls AM1x event at his first Paralympic Games. The only Tasmanian athlete in the Australian Team, Dominic won gold at the 2005 and the 2006 World Championships in this class.

Sport specific classification for rowing

Rowing classification is based on a combination of assessment of the degree of impairment and how the impairment affects the way a person can row. This in turn affects the way the boat is set up for competition.

LTA (legs, trunk and arms)

Rowers with a disability who have the use of their legs, trunk and arms and can utilise the sliding seat. LTA rowers must meet minimum disability requirements in at least one of the following three disability groups:

- Vision impairment B1,B2,B3 (see Appendix)
- Physical Disability

TA (trunk and arms)

Rowers who have trunk movement but who are unable to use the sliding seat to propel the boat because of significantly weakened function of the lower limbs.

A (arms only)

Rowers who have no or minimal trunk function (i.e. shoulder function only, force is applied predominantly using the arms and/or shoulders only).

Athletes



Name: John Maclean Born: 27 May 1966 Resides: Penrith, NSW Events: Mixed double sculls TA Classification: TA Previous Games: Sydney 2000 Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Motor accident

Media Guide > Rowing > Athletes and Staff

Athletes



Name: Dominic Monypenny Born: 9 October 1960 Resides: West Launceston, TAS Events: Single sculls A Classification: A Previous Games: Debut Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: 30m fall



Name: Kathryn Ross Born: 25 June 1981 Resides: Warrnambool, VIC Events: Mixed double sculls TA Classification: TA Previous Games: Debut Disability: Deformity of right leg Bide on lawn mower accident

How Acquired: Ride on lawn mower accident

Staff



Name: Pedro Albisser Position: Head coach Resides: Blackheath, NSW Occupation: Coach



Name: Rik Bryan Position: Coach Resides: Evandale, TAS Occupation: Groundsman



Name: Adam Horner Position: Section manager Resides: Belconnen, ACT Occupation: Sport administrator

Media Guide > Wheelchair rugby

Wheelchair rugby

An intense, physical team sport for men and women quadriplegic athletes, wheelchair rugby originated in Canada in 1977. Wheelchair rugby, sometimes known as 'Murderball', combines elements of basketball, football and ice hockey and is played on a basketball court. Teams are made up of four players with up to eight substitutes. The players are classified according to their level of functional ability and are assigned a point value from 0.5 to 3.5 points in half point increments – the higher the points the more functional ability the athletes have. The four players on the court cannot exceed a combined total of 8 points. A volleyball is used and it can be carried, dribbled, or passed in any way except by kicking. The ball must be bounced at least once every 10 seconds and rugby is played in eight-minute quarters.

Fast facts - wheelchair rugby

- Australian wheelchair rugby has had 22 players since Atlanta 1996.
- Wheelchair rugby was introduced as a demonstration sport in Atlanta in 1996 and became an official Paralympic medal sport in Sydney 2000.
- Steve Porter is Australia's longest serving wheelchair rugby player, attending his 4th Games in Beijing.
- Three out of the 11 athletes are new to the Paralympic team.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in wheelchair rugby

	Gold 0	Silver 1	Bronze 0	Total 1
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Results leading up to the Games

Australia's Wheelchair Rugby team – the Steelers – are in excellent form leading into the 8 team Beijing Paralympic tournament. In the past year, the Steelers have twice beaten Canada in the final of an international tournament, and have lifted their international ranking from 6th to 2nd.

The Steelers are ranked highest in their pool, and hope to meet the number one ranked United States in the final, and at least equal their silver medal from Sydney 2000. The greatest threats during pool play will be from the reigning Paralympic champions, New Zealand and the 4th ranked Great Britain. Waiting in the other pool, should Australia make the semi-finals, will be third ranked Canada and the USA.

Venue

The Wheelchair Rugby matches will be played at the University of Science and Technology Beijing Gymnasium. The venue is 4km from the Athletes Village and has an 8,000 seat capacity.

Sport specific classification for wheelchair rugby

Athletes are classified according to a points system ranging from 0.5 – being the most limited functional ability – to 3.5 – being the highest level of functional ability. A maximum of eight points (for four players) is allowed on court at any one time during a game. Athletes must have a disability which affects all four limbs and wheelchair rugby players show different levels of limitations of movement, strength and control in arms, trunk and legs. It is mainly played by athletes with a spinal cord injury affecting both their arms and legs or other disabilities causing different levels of paralysis like cerebral palsy, polio etc.

Both muscle power and functional profiles exist for each class, with a combination of these tests used to arrive at the appropriate classification. Functional profiles follow as an example of the abilities within each class.

Points	Examples of athletes
0.5	Not a major ball handler. Scoops ball onto lap. Forward head bob is present when pushing/pulling back part of the wheel. Poor balance.
1.0	Weak chest pass or forearm pass. Has a longer push on wheel. Forearm or wrist catch. Weak or non-existent chest pass.
1.5	Asymmetry is persistent in arms. Predominantly uses the stronger arm. Good blocker. Good shoulder strength. Limited ball security when passing due to wrist and hand limitations.
2.0	Good chest pass. Can hold the ball with wrists firmly, but no finger function.
2.5	Asymmetrical hands or arms. Major ball handler. Fairly fast play maker. Some limitation of finger function.
3.0	Can dribble and pass the ball well with one hand. Very good at ball handling. Can begin to grip the push rim in order to manoeuvre the wheelchair.
3.5	Has some trunk function, therefore very stable in wheelchair. Usually has very good ball control. Major ball handler and very fast play maker.

Media Guide > Wheelchair rugby > Athletes and Staff

Athletes



Name: Bryce Alman Born: 19 January 1976 Resides: Hughesdale, VIC Classification: 2.0 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Quadriplegia How Acquired: Surfing accident



Name: Ryley Batt Born: 22 May 1989 Resides: Port Macquarie, NSW Classification: 3.5 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Limb deficiency How Acquired: Birth



Name: Grant Boxall Born: 19 July 1976 Resides: Success, WA Classification: 2.5 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Quadriplegia How Acquired: Surfing accident



Name: Shane Brand Born: 5 August 1973 Resides: Preston, VIC Classification: 1.5 Previous Games: None Disability: Quadriplegia How Acquired: Car accident

Media Guide > Wheelchair rugby > Athletes



Name: Cameron Carr Born: 13 August 1977 Resides: Springfield, QLD Classification: 2.0 Previous Games: None Disability: Quadriplegia How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Nazim Erdem Born: 1 August 1970 Resides: Roxburgh Park, VIC Classification: 0.5 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Quadriplegia How Acquired: Swimming accident



Name: George Hucks Born: 18 January 1968 Resides: Klemzig, SA Classification: 3.0 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Spinal neurological disorder How Acquired: Birth



Name: Steven Porter Born: 22 November 1969 Resides: Wynn Vale, SA Classification: 2.5 Previous Games: Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Tetraplegia How Acquired: Spinal injury

Media Guide > Wheelchair rugby > Athletes



Name: Ryan Scott Born: 3 March 1982 Resides: Brighton, SA Classification: 0.5 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Quadriplegia How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Greg Smith Born: 19 August 1967 Resides: Wendouree, VIC Classification: 2.0 Previous Games: Barcelona 1992, Athens 1996, Sydney 2000 (all in athletics) Disability: Quadriplegia How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Scott Vitale Born: 6 July 1985 Resides: Kurwongbah, QLD Classification: 2.0 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Quadriplegia How Acquired: Motorbike accident

Media Guide > Wheelchair rugby > Staff

Staff



Name: Rob Doidge Position: Mechanic Resides: Cranbourne, VIC Occupation:



Name: Brad Dubberley Position: Head Coach Resides: Seven Hills, NSW Occupation: Coach



Name: Kim Ellwood Position: Section Manager Resides: Mullaloo, WA Occupation: Inclusions Officer



Name: Angela Mansell Position: PCA Resides: Prospect, SA Occupation:



Name: Noni Shelton Position: Mechanic Resides: Cranbourne, VIC Occupation:

Sailing

Sailing is open to amputee, cerebral palsy, vision impaired, wheelchair and les autres athletes. Sailors compete in three boat classes – international 2.4mR (single-handed keelboat), SKUD18 (two-handed) and Sonar (three-crew boat). The 2.4mR and Sonar classes have open international events – for able-bodied sailors and sailors with a disability. The SKUD18 is a new class for sailors with a disability, introduced in Beijing. The 2.4mR and Sonar classes are open to most disability groups, while the SKUD18 event is specifically designed for athletes with a severe disability and must have a mixed sex crew. There are slight modifications in sailing equipment for athletes with a disability.

Fast facts – sailing

- The Australian sailing team has had 7 athletes since the sport's introduction in Sydney 2000.
- Australia will have a team of 6 athletes, its biggest ever. Before now, the team of 5 in Sydney was the biggest.
- The largest ever away team was in Athens 2004 with 4 athletes.
- In Athens 2004, Australia finished just outside the medals with 5th place finishes in both events Australia contested (2.4mR and Sonar).
- 3 out of the 5 male athletes are new to the team.
- The only female sailor in the team, Rachael Cox is also making her Paralympic Games debut.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals

Gold 1	Silver 0	Bronze 0	Total 1	
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Performance projections

Sailing partners Rachael Cox and Daniel Fitzgibbon are in good form for a medal in the two person SKUD class. At the IFDS test event in Qingdao in May earlier this year, the pair won a bronze medal, an encouraging sign of things to come.

Venue

Qingdao will be the sailing centre of the Paralympic Games. The sailing events will be held in the Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre.

Sport Specific Classification for Sailing

Sailing is a multi-disability sport where athletes from all disability groups, with the exception of the intellectually disabled, can compete together.

The system is based entirely on the functions required to compete in sailing.

In the sailing system four functional classes have been identified:

- Stability
- Hand Functions
- Inability
- Vision

In each functional class the athletes are categorised under one of several categories depending on their functional limitations, and are finally rated according to a point system, from 1 point – being the most limited functional ability – up to 7 points – being the highest level of functional ability.

Each crew of three sailors is allowed a maximum of 12 points.

Athletes



Name: Russell Boaden Born: 15 December 1969 Resides: Calista, WA Events: Sonar (mixed 3 person keelboat) Classification: 2.4m R/TPB/4 Previous Games: None Disability: Brachial plexus How Acquired: Motorbike accident



Name: Rachael Cox Born: 13 September 1975 Resides: New Farm, QLD Events: SKUD18 (mixed 2 person keelboat) Classification: 2.4m R/TPB Previous Games: None Disability: Incomplete tetraplegia How Acquired: Surfing accident



Name: Daniel Fitzgibbon Born: 15 June 1976 Resides: Capalaba West, QLD Events: SKUD18 (mixed 2 person keelboat) Classification: 2.4m A/TPA/1 Previous Games: None Disability: Quadriplegia How Acquired: Surfing accident



Name: Colin Harrison Born: 20 February 1961 Resides: Hillarys, WA Event: Sonar (mixed 3 person keelboat) Classification: 2.4m R/3 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Right forequarter amputee How Acquired: Cancer

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Name: Aaron Hill Born: 5 April 1984 Resides: Metung, VIC Events: 2.4mR (single person keelboat) Classification: 2.4m R/7 Previous Games: None Disability: Above knee amputee How Acquired: Cancer



Name: Graeme Martin Born: 11 March 1949 Resides: Kardinya, WA Events: Sonar (mixed 3 person keelboat) Classification: 2.4m R/7 Previous Games: Sydney 2000 Disability: Left leg amputee How Acquired: Fire fighting accident

Staff



Name: Sue Crafer Position: Physiotherapist Resides: Neutral Bay, NSW Occupation: Physiotherapist



Name: Adrian Finglas Position: Assistant Coach Resides: Bracken Ridge, QLD Occupation: Coach



Name: Linnea Korssell Position: PCA Resides: QLD Occupation: Nurse

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Name: Timothy Lowe Position: Support Staff Resides: North Narrabeen, NSW Occupation: Shipwright



Name: Sarina Macpherson Position: Team Manager Resides: St Leonards, NSW Occupation: Sport administration



Name: Jeff Milligan Position: Support Staff Resides: Safety Bay, WA Occupation: Storeman



Name: Greg Omay Position: Head Coach Resides: Beaconsfield, WA Occupation: Sport administration/coaching

Media Guide > Shooting

Shooting

Paralympic competition shooting is divided into rifle and pistol events, air and .22-calibre in each. The sport is open to all athletes with a physical disability and there are two classes of competition. There is a combination of men's and women's and mixed events. Shooting is one of the most competitive Paralympic sports and has been part of the Paralympic Games since 1980. Australia's shooting squad is referred to as the Shooting Stars.

Fast facts - shooting

- Australia has had 26 shooting athletes since the sport's introduction in Toronto 1976.
- The largest Australian shooting team was in Sydney 2000 with 11 athletes.
- The largest ever away team was in New York/Stoke Mandeville with 9 athletes.
- In Athens 2004 Australia had 5 athletes.
- The largest Australian shooting gold medal haul was in New York/Stoke Mandeville in 1984 with 9 gold medals.
- In Athens Australia won 1 silver and 1 bronze.
- Libby Kosmala is Australia's most successful Paralympic shooter. Kosmala and Barbara Caspers are Australia's most successful shooters at a single Games, bringing home 4 gold medals each in New York/Stoke Mandeville 1984.
- In Athens, Australia finished 4th on the shooting ladder with 2 medals, both won by Ashley Adams.
- Libby Kosmala was Australia's first ever Paralympic shooter and shooting gold medallist, winning the 2-5 Rifle Class in Toronto 1976. She will compete at her 10th Paralympic Games in Beijing.
- Two of the four shooters are new to the team.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in shooting

Gold 15	Silver 7	Bronze 2	Total 24
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Venue

The shooting events will be held at the Beijing Shooting Range, approximately 25km from the athletes village.

Australians to watch at the range

Queenslander **Ashley Adams** is one of the best shooters in Australia in disabled and able-bodied competition and is strongest in the 10m air rifle standing event. He already has a bronze medal in this event, which he won in Athens, along with a silver medal in the 50m free rifle event. At the 2007 Oceania Shooting Championships, Ashley won two gold and two silver medals.

Libby Kosmala, at 66, is attending her 10th Paralympic Games as an athlete. Including Beijing, she has attended more Paralympic Games than anyone else and is Australia's longest serving athlete at an Olympic or Paralympic Games. She has a total of nine gold and three silver medals to her name and has her strongest chance of medalling in the 10m air rifle standing event. While she hasn't medalled at a Paralympic Games since 1988, Libby continues to perform well in international competition. Recently, she won gold at the 2007 European Shooting Championships and silver at the 2007 Oceania Shooting Championships.

Sport specific classification for shooting

The Shooting classification is divided into two main classes:

Class	Examples of athletes
SH1	Pistol and rifle competitors that do not require a shooting stand.
SH2	Rifle competitors who have no ability to support the weight with their arms and therefore require a shooting stand.

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Athletes



Name: Ashley Adams Born: 12 October 1955 Resides: Blackall, QLD Events: 10m Air Rifle Prone, 10m Air Rifle Standing, 50m Free Rifle Prone, 3X40 50m Free Rifle Classification: SH1C Previous Games: Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Motorbike racing accident



Name: Sebastian Hume Born: 2 October 1987 Resides: Mildura, VIC Events: 10m Air Pistol Classification: SH1A Previous Games: None Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Libby Kosmala Born: 8 July 1942 Resides: Klemzig, SA Events: 10m Air Rifle Standing, 10m Air Rifle Prone, 50m Free Rifle Prone, 3x20 50m Sport Rifle Classification: SH1C Previous Games: Tel Aviv 1968, Heidelberg 1972, Toronto 1976, Arnhem 1980, Stoke Mandeville/New York 1984, Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Birth



Name: Jason Maroney Born: 19 March 1967 Resides: Wangaratta, VIC Events: 10m Air Rifle Standing, 10m Air Rifle Prone Classification: SH2Ca Previous Games: None Disability: Quadriplegia How Acquired: Car accident

Staff



Name: Anne Bugden Position: PCA Resides: Arana Hills, QLD Occupation: Retiree



Name: Michelle Fletcher Position: Assistant Coach Resides: Wolvi, QLD Occupation: Project Support Administrator



Name: Miroslav Sipek Position: Head Coach Resides: Melbourne, VIC Occupation: Shooting coach



Name: Nick Sullivan Position: Team Manager Resides: Brighton, SA Occupation: Sport administrator

Media Guide > Swimming

Swimming

Swimming for athletes with a disability has its origins in physiotherapy and rehabilitation. However, now the races are among the most popular and competitive in Paralympic sport. Swimming is open to athletes from all disability groups. The functional classification system places athletes into two groups in Paralympic events – vision impaired and athletes with a physical disability. Swimmers compete in one of 13 classifications depending on the type of disability and their functional ability. No prostheses may be worn during competition.

Fast facts – swimming

- 177 athletes have represented Australia in swimming at the Paralympic Games since Rome in 1960.
- The largest Australian swim team was in Sydney 2000, with 51 athletes.
- The largest ever away team before the current Beijing team of 35 was in Atlanta 1996 with 30 athletes.
- Australia had 29 swimmers in Athens.
- The largest gold medal haul was in New York/Stoke Mandeville 1984 with 20 gold medals.
- Priya Copper is Australia's leading swimming gold medallist with 9 gold medals between 1992 and 2004. Swimmer Kingsley Bugarin holds the most medals of any Australian in any sport with 19 medals between 1984 and 2000.
- Australia most successful athlete at a single Games of any sport is swimmer Siobhan Paton, who won 6 gold medals in Sydney 2000.
- 8 out of the 17 male athletes are new to the Paralympic team.
- 11 out of the 18 female athletes are new to the Paralympic team.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in swimming

Gold 92	Silver 122	Bronze 111	Total 325
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Venue

The National Aquatics Centre will be home to our swimmers during the Games. With a capacity of 17,000, the Aquatics Centre is known as the Water Cube for its unique architecture. The walls are designed to resemble soap bubbles and the building uses solar energy to heat the pool. The Water Cube, which was designed in Australia, features projections on its wall, changes colour and even emits bubbles from its roof-top.

Australians to watch in the pool

With two gold medals in world record time and a relay gold, two silver and two bronze, **Matt Cowdrey's** medal haul in Athens precedes him. He followed up his Athens performance with five gold, three world records, two silver and one bronze at the 2006 IPC Swimming World Championships. At the age of 19, Matt is a strong medal contender in Beijing and has been named a swimming team leader, despite being one of the 15 teenagers on the Australian Swim Team.

In Athens, **Prue Watt** won five silver medals and one bronze and came home as one of our most successful Paralympians at the Games. At the 2006 IPC Swimming World Championships, Prue again won a silver medal in the 100m butterfly.

Annabelle Williams has steadily climbed up the world rankings to now be in with a real chance for a medal at her first Paralympic Games. At the 2006 IPC Swimming World Championships, Annabelle won a bronze medal in the 50m freestyle and finished the year ranked number two in the 50m freestyle and number three in the 100m freestyle. Earlier this year she broke the world record in the 50m freestyle, highlighting her progress as a potential medallist in Beijing.

Sport specific classification for swimming

Swimming is the only sport that combines the conditions of amputation (limb loss), cerebral palsy (co-ordination and movement restrictions), spinal cord injury (weakness or paralysis involving any combination of the limbs) and other disabilities across classes.

Classes 1-10 - are for swimmers with a physical disability

Classes 11-13 - are for swimmers with a vision impairment

The Prefix S – denotes the class for freestyle, backstroke and butterfly

The Prefix ${\boldsymbol{S}}{\boldsymbol{B}}$ – denotes the class for breaststroke

The Prefix \boldsymbol{SM} – denotes the class for individual medley

The range is from the swimmers with least ability for the stroke – severe disability – (S1, SB1, and SM1) to those with the most physical ability – minimal disability – (S10, SB9, and SM10)

In any one class some swimmers may start with a dive or in the water depending on their condition. This is factored in when classifying the athlete.

The examples are only a guide – some conditions are not mentioned, but the may also fit the following classes.

Media Guide > Swimming

Class	Examples of athletes
S1 SB1 SM1	Athletes with very severe coordination problems in four limbs or have no use of their legs, trunk, hands and minimal use of their shoulders only. Athletes in this class would usually use a wheelchair and may be dependent on others for their everyday needs. These athletes usually swim on their back.
S2 SB1 SM2	Similar disabilities to Class 1 but athletes have more propulsion by use of their arms or legs. An example is an athlete who is able to use their arms with no use of their hands, legs or trunk or has severe coordination problems in four limbs.
S3 SB2 SM3	Athletes in this class have increased functional capability when compared to those in Class S2. Athletes with reasonable arm strokes but no use of their legs or trunk; athletes with severe coordination problems in all limbs and athletes with severe limb loss in four limbs.
S4 SB3 S4	Increasing functional capability compared to Class S3. Athletes who use their arms and have minimal weakness in their hands but have no use of their trunk or legs; athletes with coordination problems affecting all limbs but predominantly in the legs; athletes with limb loss to 3 limbs.
S5 SB4 SM5	Athletes with full use of their arms and hands but no trunk or leg muscles; athletes with coordination problems.
S6 SB5 SM6	Athletes with full use of arms and hands, some trunk control but no useful leg muscles; athletes with coordination problems (usually these athletes walk); athletes with loss of 2 limbs; short statured athletes (<130cm).
S7 SB6 SM7	Athletes with full use of arms and trunk with some leg function; coordination or weakness problems on the same side of the body; loss of 2 limbs.
S8 SB7 SM8	Athletes with full use of arms and trunk with some leg function; athletes with coordination problems mainly in the lower limbs; Both legs amputated just above or below knees; Single amputated above elbow.
S9 SB8 SM9	Athletes with severe weakness in one leg only; athletes with very slight coordination problems; athletes with one limb loss. Unless there is an underlying medical condition all of these athletes will start out of the water.

S10 SB9 SM10	Athletes with very minimal weakness affecting the legs; athletes with restriction of hip joint movement; athletes with both feet deformed; athletes with one leg amputated below the knee; athletes missing a hand. This is the class with the most physical ability.
S11 SB11 SM11	These athletes are considered totally blind. Athletes must wear blackened goggles and they will require someone to tap them when they approach a wall.
S12 SB12 SM12	These athletes can recognise the shape of a hand and have some ability to see; there is a large range of vision ability within this class.
S13 SB13 SM13	Athletes who are the most sighted but are legally considered blind.

Media Guide > Swimming > Athletes and Staff

Athletes



Name: Michael Anderson Born: 12 July 1987 Resides: Repton, NSW Events: 100m Backstroke, 50m and 100m Freestyle Classification: S10 Previous Games: None Disability: Nerve damage in legs, hearing impaired How Acquired: Meningitis



Name: Ben Austin Born: 7 November 1980 Resides: Dee Why, NSW Events: 50m and 100m Freestyle, 100m Butterfly, 200m IM Classification: S8, SM8 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Left arm amputee How Acquired: Birth complications



Name: Daniel Bell Born: 31 August 1984 Resides: Geelong West, VIC Events: 100m Butterfly, 100m Breaststroke Classification: S10, SB9, SM10 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Sarah Bowen Born: 15 April 1984 Resides: Ocean Grove, VIC Events: 100m Breaststroke, 100m Backstroke, 200m IM Classification: S6, SB6, SM6 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Achondroplasia dwarfism How Acquired: Birth



Name: Sam Bramham Born: 23 May 1988 Resides: Ivanhoe, VIC Events: 100m and 400m Freestyle, 100m Butterfly Classification: S9 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Above knee amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Blake Cochrane Born: 25 January 1991 Resides: Scarborough, QLD Events: 100m Backstroke, 100m Breaststroke Classification: S8, SB7 Previous Games: None Disability: Amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Ellie Cole Born: 12 December 1991 Resides: Frankston, VIC Events: 100m and 400m Freestyle, 100m Butterfly, 100m Backstroke, 200m IM Classification: S9, SM9 Previous Games: None Disability: Right leg above knee amputee How Acquired: Cancer



Name: Matt Cowdrey Born: 22 December 1988 Resides: Salisbury Heights, SA Events: 50m, 100 and 400m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 100m Butterfly, 200m IM Classification: S9, SM9 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Arm amputee How Acquired: Birth

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Name: Jay Dohnt Born: 20 November 1989 Resides: Ferryden Park, SA Events: 100m and 400m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 200m IM Classification: S7, SM7 Previous Games: None Disability: Bilateral below knee amputee How Acquired: Meningococcal disease



Name: Amanda Drennan Born: 22 May 1988 Resides: Cowes, VIC Events: 100m and 400m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke Classification: S9 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Above knee amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Jacquiline Freney Born: 6 June 1992 Resides: Lennox Head, NSW Events: 50m, 100m and 400m Freestyle Classification: S8 Previous Games: None Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Samantha Gandolfo Born: 23 June 1993 Resides: Glen Iris, VIC Events: 50m, 100m and 400m Freestyle, 200m IM Classification: S10, SM10 Previous Games: None Disability: Below knee amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Alex Hadley Born: 14 September 1973 Resides: Spotswood, VIC Events: 50m, 100m and 400m Freestyle, 100m Butterfly Classification: S7 Previous Games: Atlanta 1996, Athens 2004 Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Brenden Hall Born: 27 May 1993 Resides: Petrie, QLD Events: 400m Freestyle Classification: S9 Previous Games: None Disability: Right leg through knee amputee, deafness How Acquired: Chicken pox



Name: Marayke Jonkers Born: 13 September 1981 Resides: Maroochydore, QLD Events: 150m IM Classification: SM4 Previous Games: Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Car accident



Name: Peter Leek Born: 27 September 1988 Resides: St Marys, NSW Events: 50m, 100m and 400m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 100m Butterfly, 200m IM Classification: S8, SM8 Previous Games: None Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Matt Levy Born: 11 January 1987 Resides: Northbridge, NSW Events: 50m, 100m and 400m Freestyle, 200m IM Classification: S8, SM8 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Les autres How Acquired: Premature birth

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Name: Katrina Lewis Born: 17 June 1988 Resides: Chapman, ACT Events: 50m Freestyle, 100m Butterfly Classification: S10 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Sian Lucas Born: 17 January 1990 Resides: Richmond, NSW Events: 100m and 400m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke Classification: S10 Previous Games: None Disability: Limited leg movement How Acquired: Accident



Name: Hannah MacDougall Born: 31 July 1987 Resides: East Malvern, VIC Events: 100m Backstroke, 200m IM Classification: S10, SM10 Previous Games: Athens Disability: Below knee amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Jeremy McClure Born: 25 May 1987 Resides: Mount Pleasant, WA Events: 50m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 100m Breaststroke Classification: S12, SB12 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Genetic eye condition



Name: Tarryn McGaw Born: 21 November 1989 Resides: Mt Martha, VIC Events: 50m, 100m and 400m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 100m Butterfly Classification: S10 Previous Games: None Disability: How Acquired: Birth



Name: Ricardo Moffatti Born: 16 December 1986 Resides: The Gap, QLD Events: 50m and 100m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke Classification: S8 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Rhiannon Oliver Born: 13 November 1986 Resides: Tannum Sands, QLD Events: 50m and 100m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 100m Breaststroke Classification: S8, SB7 Previous Games: None Disability: Metaphsyeal dysplasia (short stature) How Acquired: Birth



Name: Stephen Osborne Born: 16 June 1977 Resides: Ferny Grove, QLD Events: 50m and 100m Freestyle, 100m Butterfly Classification: S9 Previous Games: None Disability: Right leg amputee How Acquired: Motorbike accident



Name: Esther Overton Born: 26 March 1990 Resides: Point Cook, VIC Events: 50m Freestyle, 50m Backstroke Classification: S3 Previous Games: None Disability: Arthrogryposis multiplex congenita How Acquired: Birth

Media Guide > Swimming > Athletes



Name: Andrew Pasterfield Born: 23 November 1989 Resides: Castle Hill, NSW Events: 50m and 100m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke Classification: S10 Previous Games: None Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Rick Pendleton Born: 12 January 1985 Resides: Coogee, NSW Events: 100m Breaststroke, 100m Butterfly, 200m IM Classification: S10, SB9 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Left hand amputee How Acquired: Birth



Name: Katrina Porter Born: 29 November 1988 Resides: Floreat, WA Events: 400m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 100m Breaststroke, 50m Butterfly, 200m IM Classification: S7, SB6, SM7 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Arthrogryposis multiplex congenita How Acquired: Birth



Name: Shelley Rogers Born: 7 November 1988 Resides: Dulwich, SA Events: 100m Backstroke, 50m Butterfly, 200m IM Classification: S7, SM7 Previous Games: None Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Sarah Rose Born: 18 February 1986 Resides: Pymble, NSW Events: 50m and 100m Freestyle, 50m Butterfly, 200m IM Classification: S6, SM6 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Short statured How Acquired: Birth



Name: Jeremy Tidy Born: 4 June 1987 Resides: Carramar, WA Events: 50m and 100m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 100m Breaststroke, 100m Butterfly, 200m IM Classification: S10, SB9, SM10 Previous Games: None Disability: Spina bifida How Acquired: Birth



Name: Teigan Van Roosmalen Born: 6 April 1991 Resides: Bateau Bay, NSW Events: 50m, 100m and 400m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 100m Butterfly, 200m IM Classification: S13, SM13 Previous Games: None Disability: Ushers syndrome/Retinitis pigmentosa How Acquired: Hereditary



Name: Prue Watt Born: 1 January 1987 Resides: Forest Hill, VIC Events: 50m, 100m and 400m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 100m Butterfly, 200m IM Classification: S13, SM13 Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Vision impaired How Acquired: Birth

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Name: Annabelle Williams Born: 21 July 1988 Resides: Gold Coast, QLD Events: 50m and 100m Freestyle, 100m Butterfly Classification: S9 Previous Games: None Disability: Left arm amputee How Acquired: Birth

Staff



Name: Jackie Barck Position: Coach Resides: Kurrajong, NSW Occupation: Clerk



Name: Brendan Burkett Position: Sports scientist Resides: Buddina, QLD Occupation: Sports scientist



Name: Graeme Carroll Position: Assistant coach Resides: Frenchs Forest, NSW Occupation: Swim coach



Name: Sandra Eccles Position: PCA Resides: Hoppers Crossing, VIC Occupation: Registered nurse

Media Guide > Swimming > Staff



Name: Sacha Fulton Position: Sports scientist Resides: Mooloolaba, QLD Occupation: PhD student



Name: Amanda Isaac Position: Coach Resides: Watsonia North, VIC Occupation: Swim coach



Name: Melanie Jenkins Position: Section manager Resides: Belconnen, ACT Occupation: Sport administrator



Name: Brendan Keogh Position: Head coach Resides: Arana Hills, QLD Occupation: Swim coach

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Name: Joanne Love Position: Assistant coach Resides: Eaglemont, VIC Occupation: Swim coach



Name: Rob Moon Position: Assistant coach Resides: Frankston, VIC Occupation: Swim coach



Name: Claire Nichols Position: Physiotherapist Resides: Lambton, NSW Occupation: Physiotherapist



Name: Vaughan Nicholson Position: Physiotherapist Resides: Taringa, QLD Occupation: Physiotherapist

Media Guide > Swimming > Staff



Name: Jon O'Neill-Shaw Position: Assistant coach Resides: Coogee, NSW Occupation: Swim coach



Name: Mel Tantrum Position: Assistant coach Resides: Joondalup, WA Occupation: Swim coach



Name: Penny Will Position: Massage therapist Resides: Noosa, QLD Occupation: Soft tissue therapist

Media Guide > Table Tennis

Table Tennis

Paralympic table tennis has the same essential rules as the able-bodied game, with some modifications to accommodate the special requirements of its players. The objective of the game is for the player to cross the ball into the opponent's area, without him or her being able to successfully return it. The game begins with a service and there is a change in service every two points. Athletes are classified into ten classes, five standing and five wheelchair.

A match consists of five sets, each being played to 11 points. In case of a set which is tied at 10-all, the winner is the first to gain a two-point advantage. For every class of male and female players there are singles, doubles and team matches.

Fast Facts – table tennis

- Australia has had 38 table tennis athletes since Rome 1960.
- The largest Australian table tennis team was 17 athletes in Tel Aviv in 1968.
- The largest ever Australian gold medal haul was in both Tokyo 1964 and New York/Stoke Mandeville 1984 with 1 gold medal each.
- The largest ever total medal haul was in Tokyo 1964 with 4 medals.
- Australia has not contested table tennis since Sydney 2000.
- Australia's most successful table tennis player is Marion O'Brien who won a total of 3 medals in 1964 and 1968.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in Table Tennis

Gold 2	Silver 3	Bronze 4	Total 9

Australians to watch at the table

As one of the most popular sports in China, the Chinese team will provide tough competition for the rest of the world in table tennis. **Rebecca Julian** may be Australia's best chance of a medal. In the past two years, Rebecca has won three gold medals at the 2007 Table Tennis Australia AWD National Championships, two silver medals at the 2007 Arafura Games and a silver and a bronze medal at the 2007 Asian and Oceania Table Tennis Championships.

Sport specific classification for table tennis

SITTING CLASSES 1-5

Class 1

Upper limbs, trunk and lower limbs are severely impaired. All trunk movements are secured by holding wheelchair or thigh with the hand or by holding the back of the chair with bent elbow.

Class 2

There is some limitation to upper limb function, and severe impairment of trunk and lower limbs. Reduction of function in playing arm affecting grip and hand function.

Class 3

There is normal or near normal upper limb function. Trunk is moderately to severely affected and lower limbs are severely affected.

Class 4

Upper limbs are not affected. Trunk balance is good in an upright position, but lateral movements are not possible without assistance from the free arm.

Class 5

Full trunk and upper limb movement. Moderate impairment of lower limbs such that the person cannot play standing.

STANDING CLASSES 6 - 10

Class 6

Combination of disabilities in the playing arm and lower limbs with severe dynamic balance problems.

Class 7

Players with both upper limbs effected.

Class 8

Severe disability in one or two lower limbs.

Class 9

Good dynamic balance. Moderate disability in one leg or minimal disability in two legs.

Class 10

Minimal disability.

Venue

The table tennis competition will take place at the Peking University Sports Hall which seats 8,000 people. The gymnasium is 9 km from the Games Village.

Media Guide > Table Tennis > Athletes and Staff

Athletes



Name: Rebecca Julian Born: 2 December 1986 Resides: Mooroolbark, VIC Events: Singles, team (Sarah Lazzaro) Classification: Class 6, F6-10 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Cerebral palsy How Acquired: Birth



Name: Sarah Lazzaro Born: 15 September 1993 Resides: Allansford, VIC Events: Singles, team (Rebecca Julian) Classification: 9, F6-10 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Blount's disease How Acquired: Birth



Name: Cathy Morrow Born: 24 October 1967 Resides: Mentone, VIC Events: Singles Classification: 5 Previous Games: Debut Disability: Incomplete paraplegia How Acquired: Surgery

Staff



Name: Brian Berry Position: Head coach Resides: South Melbourne, VIC Occupation:



Name: Barbara Talbot Position: Section manager Resides: Murray Bridge, SA Occupation:

Wheelchair tennis

Wheelchair tennis appeared as a Paralympic sport in 1992 and it follows traditional rules as well as the same high levels of skill, fitness and strategy. The only modification is that the ball is allowed to bounce twice – the first bounce being within the bounds of the court – before the player hits it. To compete in these competitions, athletes must be medically diagnosed as having a mobility-related disability. Singles and doubles events are included in the Paralympic competition program.

Fast facts - wheelchair tennis

- Australian wheelchair tennis has had 8 athletes since Seoul 1988.
- Michael Connell was Australia's first wheelchair tennis Paralympian in Seoul in 1988 and he won a silver medal in the men's singles.
- In Athens 2004 Australia won 1 silver and 2 bronze medals.
- David Hall is Australia most successful wheelchair tennis player, with 1 gold and 6 other medals.
- David Hall is also Australia most successful wheelchair tennis player at a single Games, winning 1 gold and 1 silver in Sydney 2000.

Australia's Paralympic Games medals in wheelchair tennis

	Gold 1	Silver 4	Bronze 2	Total 7
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Venue

Wheelchair tennis will be held at the Olympic Green Tennis Centre, located 4km from the Games Village. Seating 17,400 people, the centre's unique look was designed to resemble a lotus flower. The Centre has three main courts and ten courts overall.

Media Guide > Wheelchair tennis

Australians to watch on the court

Australia's only female wheelchair tennis player, **Daniela Di Toro**, will be competing at her fourth Games. A bronze in Athens in the singles tournament and a silver in Sydney in the doubles show Dani's versatility. However as the only female on the team, she will only compete in the singles events. She retired in 2005 and returned to competition in 2007.

Sport Specific Classification for Tennis

The only eligibility requirement for individuals to become competitive wheelchair tennis players is that they must be medically diagnosed as having a mobility-related disability.

If, as a result of these functional limitations, this person is unable to play competitive able-bodied tennis (that is having the mobility to cover the court with adequate speed), then this person is eligible to play competitive wheelchair tennis.

There is also a class for quadriplegic athletes.

Media Guide > Wheelchair tennis > Athletes and Staff

Athletes



Name: Daniela Di Toro Born: 16 October 1974 Resides: Thornbury, VIC Events: Open Women's Singles Previous Games: Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Accident



Name: Michael Dobbie Born: 5 February 1980 Resides: Prahan, VIC Events: Open Men's Singles Previous Games: None Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Motorbike accident



Name: Ben Weekes Born: 20 August 1984 Resides: Strathfield, NSW Events: Open Men's Singles, Open Men's Doubles Previous Games: Athens 2004 Disability: Paraplegia How Acquired: Blood clot in spine

Staff



Name: Greg Crump Position: Head coach Resides: Blackburn South, VIC Occupation: Tennis coach



Name: Geoff Quinlan Position: Section manager Resides: Richmond, VIC Occupation: Sport administrator

Media Guide > Support Staff

Administration



Name: Paul Bird Position: Deputy Chef de Mission Resides: Clear Island Waters, QLD



Name: Jenni Cole Position: Classification Resides: Collaroy Plateau, NSW



Name: Nick Dean Position: Deputy Chef de Mission Resides: Rose Park, SA



Name: Michael Hartung Position: Sport and Administration Manager Resides: Homebush Bay, NSW



Name: Jason Hellwig Position: General Manager Resides: Melbourne, VIC

Media Guide > Support Staff > Administration



Name: Natalie Jenkins Position: Games Coordinator Resides: Artarmon, NSW



Name: Alison Keyes Position: Paralympic Attache Resides: Beijing, China



Name: Steve Loader Position: Transport and Logistics Manager Resides: North Sydney, NSW



Name: Chris Nunn Position: Performance Consultant Resides: Evatt, ACT



Name: Darren Peters Position: Chef de Mission Resides: Woonona, NSW



Name: Caroline Walker Position: Games Liaison Officer Resides: Northmead,. NSW

Media Guide > Support Staff > Information and Media

Information and media



Name: Jordan Baker Position: MLO Resides: Elizabeth Bay, NSW



Name: Graham Cassidy Position: Media Manager Resides: Cronulla, NSW



Name: Margie McDonald Position: MLO Resides: Manly, NSW



Name: Karen Michelmore Position: MLO Resides: Jakarta, Indonesia



Name: Tony Naar Position: Chief Information Manager Resides: Riverview, NSW

Media Guide > Support Staff > Medical

Medical



Name: Richard Bennett Position: Psychologist Resides: Sydney Markets, NSW



Name: Ruben Branson Position: Doctor Resides: Elwood, VIC



Name: John Camens Position: Physiotherapist Resides: Unley Park, SA



Name: Alison Campbell Position: Medical Coordinator Resides: East Melbourne, VIC

Media Guide > Support Staff > Medical



Name: Lily Chiu Position: Massage Therapist Resides: Bundoora, VIC



Name: Sally Heads Position: Nurse Resides: Richmond, VIC



Name: Gary Slater Position: Nutritionist Resides: Belconnen, ACT



Name: David Spurrier Position: Physiotherapist Resides: Mitcham, SA



Name: Geoff Thompson Position: Doctor Resides: Nightcliff, NT

Media Guide > Support Staff > Medical



Name: Lari Trease Position: Chief Medical Manager Resides: Mitcham,VIC



Name: Jo Vaile Position: Recovery Specialist Resides: Belconnen, ACT

Media Guide > Appendix A

Appendix A

INTERNATIONAL BLIND SPORTS ASSOCIATION CLASSES (IBSA)

There are 3 classes for athletes with a visual disability

- **B1** An athlete in this class will either have no light perception at all in either eye or may have some light perception but an inability to recognise the shape of a hand at any distance or in any direction.
- **B2** The athlete will have the ability to recognise the shape of a hand and the ability to perceive clearly will be up to 2/60 or the visual field of the athlete is less than 5 degrees.
- **B3** The athlete will have the ability to recognise the shape of a hand and the ability to perceive clearly will be above 2/60 and up to 6/60. The visual field of the athletes varies between more than 5 degrees and less than 20 degrees.

EXPLANATION:

2/60 = a person can see at 2 metres that which is normally seen at 60 metres.

Diminished Visual Field: Looking through a doorway with one eye closed compared with looking through the same door, now closed, using the keyhole.

Cerebral Palsy International Sport and Recreation Association (CP–ISRA) classes

CP-ISRA has created 8 classes to describe athletes with Cerebral Palsy. The classes CP1, CP2, CP3 and CP4 describe athletes using a wheelchair during competition. The classes CP5, CP6, CP7 and CP8 describe athletes who don't use a wheelchair during competition. The range is from CP1 athletes who are the most disabled to CP8 who are the least disabled but still qualify under the requirements of CP-ISRA.

CP1	Athletes use electric wheelchairs or assistance for mobility. They are unable to propel a wheelchair
CP2	Athletes are able to propel a wheelchair but have very poor useful strength in their arms, legs and trunk.
CP3	Athletes show fair trunk movement when pushing wheelchairs, but forward trunk movement is limited during forceful pushing.
CP4	Athletes have minimal limitations or control problems in their arms and trunk while pushing wheelchairs.
CP5	Athletes may need assistive devices for walking but not in standing or throwing. Athletes may have sufficient function to run, but demonstrate poor balance.
CP6	Athletes do not have the capacity to remain still and they show involuntary movements with all four limbs affected. They usually walk without assistive devices
CP7	Athletes have movement and coordination problems on one half of their body. They have good ability in their dominant side of their body. (i.e. hemiplegia)
CP8	Athletes have minimal involvement in one limb only

Media Guide > Appendix B

Competition Venues

Archery	Olympic Green Archery Field
Athletics	National Stadium
Boccia	Fencing Hall (CIEC Hall)
Cycling	Laoshan Velodrome and Urban Road Cycling Course
Equestrian	Chinese Hong Kong Equestrian Park, Hong Kong
Goalball	Beijing Institute of Technology Gymnasium
Football 5-a-side	Olympic Green Hockey Field
Football 7-a-side	Olympic Green Hockey Field
Judo	Workers' Indoor Arena
Powerlifting	Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics Gymnasium
Rowing	Shunyi Olympic Rowing-Canoeing Park
Rowing Sailing	Shunyi Olympic Rowing-Canoeing Park Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre, Qingdao
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Sailing	Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre, Qingdao
Sailing Shooting	Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre, Qingdao Beijing Shooting Range
Sailing Shooting Swimming	Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre, Qingdao Beijing Shooting Range National Aquatics Centre
Sailing Shooting Swimming Table Tennis	Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre, Qingdao Beijing Shooting Range National Aquatics Centre Peking University Sports Hall
Sailing Shooting Swimming Table Tennis Volleyball Wheelchair	Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre, QingdaoBeijing Shooting RangeNational Aquatics CentrePeking University Sports HallChina Agriculture University GymnasiumNational Indoor Stadium and the University of Science
Sailing Shooting Swimming Table Tennis Volleyball Wheelchair Basketball	Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre, QingdaoBeijing Shooting RangeNational Aquatics CentrePeking University Sports HallChina Agriculture University GymnasiumNational Indoor Stadium and the University of Science and Technology Beijing Gymnasium

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