

**To
National Anti-Doping Organisations,
Regional Anti-Doping Organisations,
International Federations on the sport
program of the Paris 2024 Paralympic
Games,
National Paralympic Committees,
IPC Regional Organisations, International
Organisations of Sports for the Disabled**

Bonn/Montreal, 22 February 2024

Dear colleagues,

With the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games fast approaching, we are reaching out to inform you about the anti-doping activities undertaken by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), which require coordinated efforts in the lead-up to this event.

The IPC has established a Paris 2024 Anti-Doping Taskforce to assist Anti-Doping Organisations (ADOs) in implementing effective and coordinated testing programs for athletes likely to compete at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. The establishment of this Taskforce is partly in response to recommendations contained in the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Independent Observers' Reports connected to Paralympic Games events, including the [Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games](#).

Further to these recommendations, the IPC intends to use the work of the Taskforce to:

- Raise awareness and understanding among ADOs about the risks of doping in Para sport, guiding their testing pools and long-term test planning.
- Provide education on Para athletes specific anti-doping needs and their classifications.
- Build or strengthen relationships between the National and Regional Anti-Doping Organisations (NADOs/RADOs) and the National Paralympic Committees (NPCs).

The IPC recognizes that ADOs have demanding schedules and have already established their Test Distribution Plan (TDP) for 2024, which should take account of the upcoming Games in Paris. It is intended that the Taskforce will assist the IPC in providing ADOs with information to help ensure that what resources ADOs do have are targeted in a way that maximizes both detection and deterrence of doping in Para sport leading up to the Games.

As such, the Taskforce's work will primarily focus on sports and countries that present a higher risk, based on various risk factors as determined by the Taskforce.

It is neither the Taskforce's mandate nor intention to replace existing anti-doping programs, but rather to collaborate, build and strengthen knowledge and capacity for implementing effective testing and education programs for Para athletes in the lead-up to the Games.

The Taskforce is being led by the IPC and comprises other anti-doping experts as follows:

- Five representatives from NADOs
 - One representative of the Japan Anti-Doping Agency (JADA)
 - One representative of the South African Institute for Drug Free Sport (SAIDS)
 - One representative of the National Anti-Doping Agency of Germany (NADA)
 - One representative of Drug Free Sport New Zealand (DFSNZ)
 - One representative of the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA)
- One representative from an International Federation (IF), namely World Rugby; and
- One representative from an Athlete Passport Management Unit (APMU), namely Nordic APMU.

Ex-officio members include an Athlete representative (from World Badminton Federation) to observe and provide the athlete's perspective to how the Taskforce goes about its work and a member of the IPC Anti-Doping Committee, who will be assisting IPC with the delivery of the anti-doping program at the Games. As required, input will also be sought from classification experts to assist the Taskforce's understanding of doping risk across different types of disabilities.

More specifically, the Taskforce will provide expert advice and support to the IPC in the following activities:

- Collect and review relevant information, including intelligence, regarding the selected sports and/or countries.
- Identify higher-risk Paralympic Summer sports and countries through a risk analysis on which it will focus its efforts.
- Conduct a gap analysis of testing across the selected sports and countries before the Paris 2024 Games.
- Analyse world rankings in the selected sports to identify athletes likely to qualify for the Games.
- Prepare sport-specific risk assessment advice to assist NADOs and IFs in planning whom, when, and what to test.
- Provide recommendations to NADOs and IFs of athletes to include in a whereabouts pool and/or be subject to target testing, for their consideration.
- Gather and distribute relevant information and materials as resources to support ADOs, e.g. The Doping Control Guide for Testing Athletes in Para Sport.
- Meet with individual ADOs as required, to further build communication channels and relationships, and to understand their respective needs and challenges.
- Further to the above, the IPC will also collaborate with WADA to deliver, in the coming weeks, a webinar aimed to enhance awareness and understanding of the doping risk across Para sports and to share the IPC's expectations of testing leading into the Games.

This Taskforce has already begun its work and aims to send out its first batch of athlete test recommendations by the end of February 2024, six months prior to the start of the Games.

To facilitate the Taskforce's activities, WADA and the IPC kindly request that the IFs, NADOs and RADOs provide their full cooperation when contacted for information and/or recommendations for testing.

All information should be shared in accordance with the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code (Code), the International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information (ISPPPI) and data protection requirements. ADOs are kindly asked to keep WADA's Anti-Doping Administration and Management System (ADAMS) records complete and to enter all testing data promptly as per the International Standard for Testing and Investigations (ISTI).

As the Paris 2024 Games approach, ADOs are also kindly reminded to follow up with the relevant WADA-accredited laboratories if results for prospective athletes (and/or participating athletes) have not been reported or the agreed reporting date with the laboratory has passed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the IPC at antidopingtaskforce@paralympic.org.

The IPC and WADA wish to thank you for your cooperation and commitment to clean Para sport.

Yours sincerely,



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Chief Executive Officer, IPC



Olivier Niggli
Director General, WADA

Cc: Jude Ellis, IPC Head of Anti-Doping