



e-News

Edition 1: Friday 17 April 2009

Introduction

Welcome to the first **e-News** edition for the Australian Paralympic Youth Games – Melbourne 2009.

As the Games draw nearer (there are 171 days to go!), more information will be communicated to participating athletes, States, partners, sporting groups disability organisations and prospective international athletes.

Games Dates

STOP PRESS:

The Games dates have been confirmed, with the 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games to be held from Monday 5 – Saturday 10 October 2009:

Monday 5 October:	Team Arrivals, Competition Commences, Opening Ceremony
Saturday 10 October:	Competition Concludes, Closing Ceremony
Sunday 11 October:	Team Departures

The dates for the Games have been streamlined to provide a quality event experience, while ensuring that the Games can continue to be viable in the currently difficult economic climate. The key difference is that team arrivals will now take place on Monday 5 October 2009 instead of Sunday 4 October 2009.

Please ensure that you amend all travel arrangements to reflect the above dates and continue to inform prospective athletes, team support, officials, family and friends.

Confirmed Sport Competitions

STOP PRESS:

The Sport Competitions for the Games have now been finalised, with the following seven sports on the competition:

- Athletics
- Wheelchair Basketball
- 7 a-side Football (*Cerebral Palsy*)
- Handcycling
- Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Wheelchair Tennis

The above sports were selected following discussions with relevant National or State Sport Organisations, expressions of interest received from each State or Territory and advice from the respective National Paralympic Coach or Program Co-ordinator.

The decision was made not to include Archery, Boccia and Powerlifting in the Games this year following feedback from National Sport Organisations and the Paralympic coaches of these sports.

Additional sport specific information is also provided in this **e-News** edition.

Please ensure that your team selection and preparations consider the above information when finalising your teams.

Games Participation Ages

The 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games is open to athletes with a disability aged 20 years or younger, as at 31 December 2009.

Proof of age will be requested with the submission of each Individual athlete entry (.i.e. copy of Birth Certificate or Passport) to verify each participants age prior to the commencement of the Games.

As a guideline, participating teams are encouraged to identify that athletes aged 12 years or younger will require significant adult supervision and as such, individual consideration should be given by each team for the selection of athletes at or below this age.

Discussions will continue with relevant National or State Sport Organisations to identify sport specific age restrictions and guidelines, which will be widely communicated as they are identified. Similarly, where a sport provides for age group competition, these arrangements will be put in place for the Games.

Sports without specified age groups will be considered to be an Open competition (20 and under) where all eligible athletes are able to participate. Athletes are eligible to compete in one age group per sport for the duration of the Games. Where an athlete wishes to compete in an older age group or higher classification, they must do so for the duration of the Games in the nominated sport, and this information must be indicated on the individual entry form and endorsed by the Games Organising Committee.

Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony of the 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games will be held on Monday 5 October 2009 at the Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre.

The final format, involvement of athletes, entertainment and official protocols are being developed. Further information, including ticket cost for supporters, family and friends, will be provided in future **e-News** editions.

Closing Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony of the 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games will be held on the evening of Saturday 10 October 2009 at the Sebel & Citigate Hotel Albert Park. The Ceremony will involve a sit-down meal and entertainment, along with the presentation of Games awards or trophies.

Further information, including ticket cost for supporters, family and friends, will be provided in future **e-News** editions.

Confirmed Participation Levy

Wheelchair Sports Victoria is pleased to confirm that a Participation Levy (entry fee) for athletes and team support officials to take part in the 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games has been confirmed at AUD\$750 for Australian participants.

This amount is an “Early Bird” fee for the entry and registration of participants in line with the Entry & Registration Process outlined in this edition of **e-News**. This requires a non-refundable payment of 50% of the Participation Levy per athlete and team official no later than Wednesday 1 July 2009.

The Participation Levy includes:

- Up to 6 nights accommodation in the Games Village;
- Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner daily following arrival in Melbourne;
- Games transportation services following arrival in Melbourne;
- Opening & Closing Ceremony tickets;
- Sport specific competition & management; and
- Games welcome pack.

Individual entry and registration will be accepted following 1 July 2009, however such entries will be considered a “Late Entry” and be charged at the applicable rate of AUD\$850.

The Participant Levy cannot be shared between two athletes or officials or reduced on a pro-rata basis should a team representative not stay in Melbourne for the duration of the Games. This is due to bulk booking arrangements that have been put in place for accommodation, catering and transport arrangements across the Games, which in turn provides a more cost effective event for all involved.

While payments will be non-refundable, consideration will be given to transfer an entry to a new participant if a team member is required to withdraw due to injury or illness supported by a medical certificate.

Entry & Registration Process

Thank you to the various organisations that have completed and returned an Expression of Interest Form for participation in the 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games. The information collected has been collated and utilised for continued Games planning and to assist with the next stages of entry and registration for participants.

There are three stages to the entry process for the 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games:

STAGE ONE: Entry by Number Wednesday 1 July 2009

- Registration of an identified number of athletes and team officials
- Provision of names, date of birth and other required information for all team representatives
- Provision of any special accommodation or catering requirements for participants
- Identification of sports that athletes will compete in and roles team officials will fulfil
- Confirmation of Team entries for Basketball and Football
- Provision of Team's arrivals & departures arrangements
- Payment of 50% of the AUD\$750 Participation Levy at the advertised "Early Bird" rate per person – payments are non-refundable, but transferrable

NOTE: *All athletes and team officials registered following 1 July 2009 will be required to pay the identified "Late Entry" Participant Levy advertised at AUD\$850.*

STAGE TWO: Entry by Name Wednesday 2 September

- Confirmation of Individual Entry for each athlete in each nominated sport and events
- Confirmation of any special accommodation or catering requirements for participants
- Confirmation of Team's arrivals & departures arrangements
- Payment of balance of 50% of identified Participation Levy amount (Early Bird or Late Entry)

STAGE THREE: Team Registration Wednesday 23 September

- Conducted via telephone prior to a Team's arrival in Melbourne
- Confirmation of all individual entries by sport and event per athlete
- Confirmation of accommodation arrangements and rooming lists
- Confirmation of catering requirements (including special meal requirements)
- Confirmation of Team's Arrivals & Departures information

Further information will be provided in the Entry & Registration Pack including copies of all entry forms and paperwork required to be completed. If Teams are collecting information prior to the distribution of information, you should consider collecting all relevant personal, medical and sport related information for each participant, including but not limited to date of birth, access needs, dietary requirements and sport classification.

Games Code of Conduct

The 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games will require each participating athlete, team official, technical official and Games workforce member to sign a Games Code of Conduct.

The Games Code of Conduct will be prepared and forwarded to all athletes and officials and will require signature from both the athlete and a parent/guardian where the athlete will be aged under 18 years at the time of signing. The submission of a signed Code of Conduct Form will be a minimum entry requirement for the Games.

More information on the Games Code of Conduct will be provided in future **e-News** editions and included in the pending Entry & Registration Pack.

Athlete Classification

Preliminary planning has commenced with the Australian Paralympic Committee to manage Athlete Classification for the Games.

More information will be provided in future **e-News** editions including the classification levels for each sport and Classification schedules at the Games. Athletes are encouraged to be classified prior to the Games should the opportunity to do so be available.

Sport & Event Program

A Draft Sport & Event Program has been developed and will be reviewed in conjunction with the Australian Paralympic Committee, Wheelchair Sports Australia and the relevant National or State Sport Organisations.

A more detailed Games wide program will be released in coming **e-News** editions, well ahead of the close of Stage One of the Entry & Registration process, in order to facilitate the entry of each athlete in their chosen sport(s).

Sport Specific Information

The following information outlines some sport specific competition details. Please note that discussions are continuing with each National or respective State Sport Organisation for the on-going planning and delivery of each sport. As such, more information regarding each competition will be provided in future **e-News** editions.

Athletics

Proposed Competition Dates:	Thursday 8 – Friday 9 October 2009
Proposed Competition Venue:	Olympic Park, Melbourne
Age Groups:	To be confirmed – <i>Proposed to be U/14, U/16, U/18 and U/20 (Male & Female)</i>
Entry Standards:	To be confirmed and communicated shortly – <i>Proposed to be in line with either Athletics Australia or Wheelchair Sports Australia standards for Junior Events.</i>
Sport Specific Rules:	Rules for each sport will be conducted in accordance with identified International Paralympic Committee and/or International Federation rules. Sport specific rule references and appropriate variations will be communicated in future e-News editions.

Wheelchair Basketball

Proposed Competition Dates:	Monday 5 – Saturday 10 October 2009
Proposed Competition Venue:	Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre
Age Groups:	Open Age Group (Mixed)
Entry Limits:	One Team per State, Territory of visiting Nation
Entry Standards:	No entry standards have been identified for this sport. It is however recommended that athletes have participated in the sport at a local or State competition or program prior to the Games.
Sport Specific Rules:	Rules for each sport will be conducted in accordance with identified International Paralympic Committee and/or International Federation rules. Sport specific rule references and appropriate variations will be communicated in future e-News editions.

7 a-side Football (Cerebral Palsy)

Proposed Competition Dates:	Tuesday 6 – Saturday 10 October 2009
Proposed Competition Venue:	Albert Park Reserve, Parks Victoria
Age Groups:	Open Age Group (Male only)
Entry Limits:	One Team per State, Territory of visiting Nation
Entry Standards:	No entry standards have been identified for this sport. It is however recommended that athletes have participated in the sport at a local or State competition or program prior to the Games.
Sport Specific Rules:	Rules for each sport will be conducted in accordance with identified International Paralympic Committee and/or International Federation rules. Sport specific rule references and appropriate variations will be communicated in future e-News editions.
Other Information:	This competition is open to Male athletes only.

Handcycling

Proposed Competition Dates:	Wednesday 7 October 2009
Proposed Competition Venue:	Albert Park Reserve, Parks Victoria
Age Groups:	Open Age Group (Mixed) currently proposed
Entry Standards:	No entry standards have been identified for this sport. It is however recommended that athletes have participated in the sport at a local or State competition or program prior to the Games.
Sport Specific Rules:	Rules for each sport will be conducted in accordance with identified International Paralympic Committee and/or International Federation rules. Sport specific rule references and appropriate variations will be communicated in future e-News editions.

Swimming

Proposed Competition Dates:	Wednesday 7 – Thursday 8 October 2009
Proposed Competition Venue:	Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre
Age Groups:	To be confirmed – <i>Proposed to be U/14, U/16, U/18 and U/20 (Male & Female)</i>
Entry Standards:	To be confirmed and communicated shortly – <i>Proposed to be in line with either Swimming Australia or Wheelchair Sports Australia standards for Junior Events.</i>
Sport Specific Rules:	Rules for each sport will be conducted in accordance with identified International Paralympic Committee and/or International Federation rules. Sport specific rule references and appropriate variations will be communicated in future e-News editions.

Table Tennis

Proposed Competition Dates:	Wednesday 7 – Thursday 8 October 2009
Proposed Competition Venue:	Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre
Age Groups:	Open Age Group (Mixed)
Entry Standards:	No entry standards have been identified for this sport. It is however recommended that athletes have participated in the sport at a local or State competition or program prior to the Games.
Sport Specific Rules:	Rules for each sport will be conducted in accordance with identified International Paralympic Committee and/or International Federation rules. Sport specific rule references and appropriate variations will be communicated in future <i>e-News</i> editions.
Other Information:	Competition opportunities will be offered for both Wheelchair classes (TT1-5) and Ambulant classes (TT6-10) athletes during the Games.

Wheelchair Tennis

Proposed Competition Dates:	Tuesday 6 October 2009
Proposed Competition Venue:	Tennis World, Albert Reserve, Albert Park
Age Groups:	Open Age Group (Mixed)
Entry Standards:	No entry standards have been identified for this sport. It is however recommended that athletes have participated in the sport at a local or State competition or program prior to the Games.
Sport Specific Rules:	Rules for each sport will be conducted in accordance with identified International Paralympic Committee and/or International Federation rules. Sport specific rule references and appropriate variations will be communicated in future <i>e-News</i> editions.

Discussions are continuing with key sport stakeholders including the relevant National or State Sport Organisations and the Australian Paralympic Committee. It is proposed that updates will be provided as soon as sport specific arrangements are confirmed for each sport.

Unveiling the A-Star Logo

The 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games will be recognised by a young, vibrant and dynamic Games logo and brand. Developed by Vanzella Design, the Games A-Star Logo encapsulates numerous stars in a mix of colour and movement – characteristics that align perfectly with the participants of the Games.

The A-Star logo will be featured on all Games publications, communication and merchandise and along with the Games themselves, will be the launching pad for the young Paralympic stars of tomorrow.

Games Village

The Sebel & Citigate Hotel in Albert Park has been confirmed as the official Games Village for the 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games.

The Village provides for twin and triple share hotel accommodation in modern rooms all under the one roof. Each room has sufficient space for the comfort of athletes and team officials and bathrooms are generally accessible for all athletes, with some additions such as shower chairs or bath boards to be included at Games time to further facilitate access.

All breakfasts will be served on site at the Village as well as the majority of evening meals. The Village also has an indoor heated pool and other recreational facilities. The Closing Ceremony for the Games will also be staged at the Village. Investigations are continuing into the provision of a range of Village services for athletes. More information will be provided in future **e-News** once arrangements have been put in place.

To visit the Sebel & Citigate Albert Park online, please go to <http://www.mirvachotels.com/citigate-albert-park-melbourne>.

Want to Participate...?

The following disability sport organisations are coordinating the entry of athletes from each State or Territory, bringing together athletes from a wide range of disability groups to unite and compete under their respective State name and flag:

STATE or TERRITORY	COORDINATING ORGANISATION	CONTACT DETAILS
New South Wales & ACT	Wheelchair Sports NSW Contact: Jennifer Scattene	Ph: (02) 9809 5260 Web: wsnsw.org.au
Northern Territory	Disabled Sports Association NT Contact: Jan Pallazzi	Ph: (08) 8942 2637 Web:
Queensland	Sporting Wheelies & The Disabled Contact: Amy Sherwin	Ph: (07) 3253 3333 Web: sportingwheelies.org.au
South Australia	Wheelchair Sports SA Contact: Jay Dohnt	Ph: (08) 8349 6366 Web: wheelchairsports-sa.org.au
Tasmania	Para Quad Tasmania Contact: Kevin Faulkner	Ph: (03) 6272 7513 Web: paraquadtas.org.au
Victoria	Wheelchair Sports Victoria Contact: Joseph Rotella	Ph: (03) 9473 0133 Web: wsv.org.au
Western Australia	Wheelchair Sports WA Contact: Gary Lees	Ph: (08) 9440 4245 Web: wheelchairsportswa.org.au

Games Website

The official website for the 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games is currently under development. In the meantime, Games related information can be found on the Wheelchair Sports Victoria website by going to <http://www.wsv.org.au/events/australian-paralympic-youth-games.html>.

For More Information

For more information, please contact the 2009 Australian Paralympic Youth Games office at Wheelchair Sports Victoria as follows:

Phone: (03) 9473 0133
Email: gwarnecke@wsv.org.au
Fax: (03) 9473 0134



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