

# Strategic Plan

2023-2025



---

## Who are we?

World AbilitySport will be the leading international sports organisation governing and promoting sport and recreation for those with a physical impairment.

Our forbears were founding members of the Paralympics and today the new organisation is one of only three International Organisations of Sport for the Disabled (IOSDs) recognised by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) to represent impairment groups.

World AbilitySport will also be the International Federation of Wheelchair Fencing and Powerchair Hockey providing an annual international competition calendar including regional and world championships.

We are made up of over 60 worldwide members and a community of volunteers including an advisory board, specialist committees and networks.

We create opportunities for people to take part in recreational sport through the development of grassroots adaptive sport, as well as hosting competitive opportunities up to elite World Championship and Paralympic Games qualification level.

---

## Our Vision

**Inspiring the global growth of sport  
and recreation opportunities for  
persons with a physical impairment  
to improve their quality of life.**

# Our mission

- **To support member countries in developing sport and recreation opportunities for their members**
- **To increase and improve worldwide participation in sports and recreation for persons with a physical impairment**
- **To grow participation in the sports we govern**
- **To develop and promote pathways for athletes with physical impairments to progress from grassroots to elite competition level**

---

# Strategic priorities

2023-2025

- 1. Deliver world class Games and events**
- 2. Promote wheelchair fencing and powerchair hockey**
- 3. Expand recreation initiatives**
- 4. Develop ‘Sport for Change’ initiatives**
- 5. Support Members and associated communities**
- 6. Ensure long term sustainability**

---

# What we plan to deliver

- **Sport events**
- **Governance of wheelchair fencing and powerchair hockey**
- **Recreational events**
- **Co-operating with other International Federations and organisations to develop sport e.g., frame running, wheelchair cricket, slalom**
- **Conferences and workshops**
- 
- **Member resources**



# **Delivering world-class Games and events**

## Delivering world-class Games and events

---

### Objectives

- To develop a portfolio of events that together provide a broad spectrum of opportunity across sports (Paralympic and non-Paralympic), classes, disciplines, and geographies.
- The Games continue to be the premier event and provide development and performance experience for up-and-coming and elite athletes.
- Develop a programme of smaller, more niche events, such as ‘Beach Games’, ‘Combat Games’ and ‘Winter Games’ to broaden the scope of sports and athletes benefitting from our events.
- Embed events cycle 2024-34.
- To enhance competitive opportunities and pathways for the full breadth of the sports we are involved with.
- To enhance awareness, opportunity, and participation in both established and new sports as part of the Games programme.



## Delivering world-class Games and events

---

### Actions

- Plan and implement the first World AbilitySport Games in 2023, then continue with the bid process and delivery of the 2025 edition.
- Open conversations with Buckinghamshire, national stakeholders and Stoke Mandeville Stadium (WheelPower. British Wheelchair Sport) to “bring the Games home”.
- Assess viability of a Winter Games and Beach Games and implement the first editions in 2023.
- Plan and implement 2024 Youth Games, begin bid process and planning for 2026 Youth Games.
- Work with members and other partners to increase competition opportunities for the athletes we represent.
- Work with World Para Athletics to ensure that the implementation of the new frame running classification system is completed.
- Work with World Para Athletics to promote the development of frame running and secure Paralympic inclusion of T72 athletes at Los Angeles and T71 athletes at Brisbane 2032.

## Delivering world-class Games and events

---

# Outcomes

### 2023

- World Games, Winter Games, Beach Games
- Wheelchair fencing World Championships, six wheelchair fencing World Cups
- Powerchair hockey European Championships

### 2024

- Youth Games
- Three wheelchair fencing Regional Championships, six wheelchair fencing World Cups
- Two powerchair hockey events

### 2025

- World Games
- Wheelchair fencing World Championships, six wheelchair fencing World Cups
- Two powerchair hockey events

### Other:

- Work with World Para Athletics to deliver educational workshops, online training and webinars in frame running each year
- Increase athlete participation and universality frame running

# Develop wheelchair fencing and powerchair hockey

## **Develop wheelchair fencing and powerchair hockey**

---

### **Objectives**

- To support the development of wheelchair fencing and powerchair hockey into a strong, more independently run subsidiaries under the governance of World Abilitysport.
- Plan and implement an event calendar for wheelchair fencing and powerchair hockey.
- To continue to contribute to scientific evidence in sport for people with a physical impairment.

### **Actions**

- Plan and implement a programme of international events and competitions for Wheelchair Fencing and Powerchair Hockey in line with their strategic plans.
- Develop policies, processes, and procedures to ensure the sports are well run and compliant with the conditions of governance of an international federation.

## **Develop wheelchair fencing and powerchair hockey**

---

### **Outcomes**

- Publish strategic plans for wheelchair fencing and powerchair hockey
- Deliver educational workshops, online training, and webinars each year.
- Deliver competition programme for wheelchair fencing and powerchair hockey each year.
- Increase numbers, universality, infrastructure and standard of coaches, officials and classifiers involved in wheelchair fencing and powerchair hockey.

# Expand recreation initiatives

## Expand recreation initiatives

---

### Objectives

- To enable and encourage more people with physical impairments to benefit from physical activity.
- To provide development, social and education experience to encourage and increase participation in outdoor activity.
- To provide activity camps that embrace both skills and personal development.
- Provide opportunities for activity camps for the whole breadth of physical impairments, linking with recreation partners to deliver opportunities.
- Evolve adult, family, and youth camps across geographic regions.

### Actions

- Plan and deliver pan-disability family, youth, and adult recreation camps in the Great Britain each year.
- Plan and deliver inaugural international recreation camp in 2024, 2025

## Expand recreation initiatives

---

# Outcomes

2023

- Family recreation camp, youth recreation camp, adult recreation camp in the UK.

2024

- International recreation camp.
- Family recreation camp, youth recreation camp, adult recreation camp in Great Britain.

2025

- Two international recreation camps.
- Camps in Great Britain delivered by members and delivery partners.





# Develop Sport for Change

## Develop Sport for Change

---

### Objectives

- Utilise sport and sporting events to empower individuals with physical impairments.
- Provide opportunities for individuals to express their autonomy, skill sets and capabilities.
- Encourage experiences that lead to new skills, knowledge, personal development, and confidence.
- Contribute to improving employment opportunities for people with physical impairments.

### Actions

- Ensure that recruitment policies and procedures for staff and volunteers are compatible with the “Sport for Change” philosophy
- Incorporate “Sport for Change” criteria within event portfolio profiles.
- Provide opportunities for people with physical disabilities to volunteer at World AbilitySport events.

## Develop Sport for Change

---

### Outcomes

- Recruit staff and volunteers pro-actively from the community we represent
- Personal development opportunities to be offered to participants of adult recreation camps

**Support our members  
and wider community**

## Support our members and wider community

---

### Objectives

- Increase training and development opportunities for athletes, coaches, and team staff who have physical impairments.
- Grow and extend resources available to our members to help them develop grassroots sport for people with physical impairments.
- Grow the network of researchers building the evidence base surrounding physical activity and health for persons with a physical disability.
- Actively promote gender equity in all our activities.

### Actions

- Plan and deliver the 2023 and 2025 World AbilitySport Physical Activity for Health Conferences.
- Broaden the knowledge base of the our Scientific Committee to include all physical impairments as defined in the IPC International Standard for Eligible Impairments - Sept 2016 points 2.1 to 2.8. to support delivery of the conference series.
- Continue developing frame running coaching and awareness material in accordance with the International Frame Running Committee strategic plan.
- Continue to develop physical disability awareness material for our members and other International Federations.
- Ensure gender equity is always included in all actions.

## Support our members and wider community

---

# Outcomes

- 2023 and 2025 World AbilitySport Physical Activity for Health Conferences.
- Physical impairment awareness training rolled out digitally in an additional two languages each year.
- Work with at least one International Federation each year to make physical impairment awareness material sports specific.
- Increase the amount of education material we provide digitally.
- Increase in the number of female representation across all areas of the organisation.

# Ensure financial sustainability

## Ensure financial sustainability

---

### Objectives

- Continue to seek out partners who will run the Games programme in a financially prudent fashion without diluting Games experience for the athletes.
- Ensure cost-effective methods of operation.
- Apply for and secure project specific funding.
- Develop relationships with key partners and strategically make use of available resources.
- Explore sponsorship options for long term partnerships and a sustainable income.

### Actions

- Continue to apply for large grants such as Erasmus and Agitos Foundation for specific development projects, which will include an element of core funding.
- Develop a global network of sport, recreation, and conference partners.
- Increase membership levels by 5% each year.
- Continue the consultation process with members regarding the merger of CPISRA and IWAS.
- Seek a long term large sponsor.



## **Ensure financial sustainability**

---

### **Outcomes**

- A minimum of three new national members each year.
- Transition to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and the new constitution approved no later than the 2024 General Assembly.
- Secure project specific funding.
- Secure large sponsorship by 2025.



[www.worldabilitysport.org](http://www.worldabilitysport.org)



[@worldabilitysport](https://www.facebook.com/worldabilitysport)



[@worldabilityspo](https://twitter.com/worldabilityspo)