



Adaptive Snowboarding

Adaptive Snowboarding Defined

- Adaptive Snowboarding provides opportunities for athletes with **physical disabilities** to participate in both recreational and competitive snowboard activities.
- Three (3) disability categories for Adaptive Snowboarding:
 1. Visual Impairments
 2. Standing (amputees, incomplete spinal cord injury, cerebral palsy)
 3. Sitting* (paraplegics)

**currently no equipment to support this category*
- WSF is the recognized International Federation (IF) by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) for the sport of Adaptive Snowboarding.

Adaptive Snowboarding Committee Members

- At the 2008 WSF GA, the *WSF Appointment of Standing Committee Members* statement of policy was ratified by the Board of Directors.
- Following this ratification the below Adaptive Snowboard Committee members were appointed for a one year term (2008/09):
 - **Marco Sampaoli** – Italy
 - **Bibian Mentel** – Netherlands
 - **Lucas Grossi** – USA
 - **Bob Williams** – New Zealand



Adaptive Snowboarding Committee Call-out to Committee Members

- New members are encouraged to approach their National Snowboard Association to be nominated for a position.
- Criteria for Committee members:
 - Have experience in the able-body and/or disabled snowboard industry
 - Understanding of the International processes involved in Paralympic Winter Sport
 - Be committed and dedicated to the program and the committee
 - Work towards a common goal of having Adaptive Snowboard included in the Paralympic Winter Games
- Targeted countries for committee participation: **AUT, GBR, AUS, FRA, JAP, NOR**



Adaptive Snowboarding Committee Revised Structure

- The committee's purpose is to make recommendations for the development of Adaptive Snowboarding at an international level.
- Recommendations consist of:
 - Competition rules and regulations
 - International athlete, coach, administrators, etc. recruitment and awareness
 - Event promotion and logistics

Adaptive Snowboarding Committee Goals

- Develop and maintain a quadrennial (4 year cycle) of National Championships, World Cups and World Championships.
 - With representation from at least 8 countries at all international events
- Have Adaptive Snowboarding (with the WSF as the IF) included into the Winter Paralympic Program by the IPC.



Adaptive Snowboarding Competition Format

- Single Person (also known as “sling-shot”) Snowboardcross
- The sling-shot format consists of a “best-of” 2 of 3 time trial runs.
- Athletes compete and use the same venue as able-body Snowboardcross events at the regional series level.
- All WSF Adaptive Snowboard competitions must comply with *WSF Adaptive Snowboard International Competition Rules (ICR)*.
- A Classification system must be applied to all Adaptive Snowboard competitions to ensure equality among all athletes.

Adaptive Snowboarding Classification Sub-Committee

- As a division of the Adaptive Snowboard Committee, the Committee has recognized the need to have a Classification sub-committee.
 - The Chairperson of the Adaptive Snowboard Committee oversees the organization of both committees.
- The sub-committee consists of experts in the area of Internationally recognized Classifiers and Snowboard Technical experts.
- Purpose: is to create a classification system that is recognized among Adaptive Snowboard athletes and the IPC.
- Members that have been appointed to the sub-committee:
 - CAN: Courtney Pollock (Classifier) & Danny Buntain (Snowboard Technical)
 - NZL: Adam Dooney (Snowboard Technical) & Gillian Hall (Classifier)
 - USA: Bob Harney (Classifier)



Adaptive Snowboarding

2008/09

- Canadian Adaptive Snowboard Program (CASP)
National Championship
 - Nations Present: 5 (GBR, FRA, CAN, USA, NZL)
- WSF Italian Slalom Event
 - Nations Present: 2 (ITA & FRA) 8 athletes
- 2009 WSF Adaptive Snowboard World Championships
 - Hosted by Snow Sports New Zealand (Libby Blackley)
 - Date: July 26-31,2009
 - Location: Cardrona Alpine Resort Wanacka, New Zealand
 - Goal: 8 Nations attend and compete



Adaptive Snowboarding International Status

- WSF Member Nations with active athletes competing and practising Adaptive Snowboarding:
 1. Canada
 2. USA
 3. Italy
 4. New Zealand
 5. Australia
 6. France
 7. Netherlands
 8. Belgium
 9. Great Britain



Adaptive Snowboarding International Status

- Targeted Nations that we currently do not have any representation or athletes:
 - Japan
 - Norway
 - Belgium
 - Russia
 - Austria
 - Australia (have an athlete but need a representative)
 - Great Britain (have an athlete but need a representative)
 - France (have an athlete but need a representative)

Adaptive Snowboarding National Paralympic Committees

- The following National Paralympic Committees (NPC) attending an Adaptive Snowboard information session:
 - NPC FIN
 - NPC AUS
 - NPC NED
 - USOC (Olympic and Paralympic Committee)
 - NPC CZE
 - NPC BEL
 - NPC GBR
 - NPC NZL
 - NPC AUT
- They are all interested in getting involved and working with the WSF NSA's to help develop the sport.



Adaptive Snowboarding Status as the IF

To be officially recognized as an IF in the Paralympic Winter Games, the IF must agree to the following:

1. Adopt the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)
 - This would apply to all its member nations and their high performance athletes and events
2. All IF Members need to be recognized by their National Paralympic Committees

Adaptive Snowboarding Status for 2014

- Process to becoming a Paralympic recognized sport:
 - Develop and maintain a quadrennial (4 year cycle) of World Cups and World Championships with representation from at least 8 countries.
 - Have a minimum of 8 WSF Member Nations (across 3 continents) supporting and implementing “widely and regularly practiced” adaptive snowboarding programs; example:
 - National Championships
 - Regular training programs
 - Coaching development
 - Athletes’ training and competing
- The commitment needs to come from the WSF Member Nations for the WSF to be successful in becoming recognized as the Adaptive Snowboarding IF



Questions?

