



Position Description for a Member of the Athletes' Council

Organisational Background

The PNZ Athletes' Council ("Council") is a consultative committee established by Paralympics New Zealand (PNZ) to act as the athletes' voice within PNZ, providing governance and management advice on matters impacting on Paralympians and Para athletes.

The purpose of the Athlete's Council is to represent New Zealand Paralympians and Para athletes while empowering athlete participation and voice within New Zealand and the Paralympic Movement internationally, including:

- a. Supporting the work of PNZ on all matters relating to Paralympic Games operations, performance, and policy, including providing advice and advancing projects that achieve Council and PNZ outcomes.
- b. Representing Paralympians and Para athletes' rights and interests and to participate in PNZ consultation and decision-making.
- c. Safeguarding the balance between active Paralympians and Para athletes' well-being and the performance requirements in high performance sport.
- d. Connecting with other athletes' Councils to discuss issues relating to active Paralympians and Para athletes within the Paralympic movement.
- e. Advocating for Paralympian and Para athlete voice in PNZ member organisations.

Person Specifications

To be eligible for election or appointment to the Athletes' Council an athlete must:

- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Be either a Paralympian who has represented New Zealand in at least one of the previous three (3) Paralympic Games (winter or summer) or a Para athlete (current or past carded athlete) who has represented New Zealand at a World Championships, Commonwealth Games or other international competitions within the past twelve (12) years.
- Not have received any sanctions in relation to World anti-doping, or any sports betting or breach of rules/regulations.
- Be able to demonstrate the relevant skills, knowledge, and experience necessary to assist the Council to fulfil its purpose: These include:
 - A commitment to the PNZ purpose.
 - A passion and commitment for Paralympic values and interests in New Zealand, and internationally.
 - Clear written and verbal communication with highly developed interpersonal and relationship skills.
 - The ability to connect with, and foster relationships across, a diverse range of stakeholder groups.
 - Capability to work individually and as a member of a team with and without direct supervision.
 - The ability to manage confidential information and contrasting opinions.
- Be able to attend no less than three meetings a year either in person or virtually.
- Sign the PNZ Code of Conduct Policy.