



## **International Sports Federation for Persons with Intellectual Disability**

### **PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2010**

#### **Progress towards London 2012**

I am pleased to confirm that, following further work to develop a sports specific classification system for Table Tennis, the ITTF has formally confirmed the inclusion of players with intellectual disability (Class 11) in the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

The decision was taken following collaboration between INAS-FID, ITTF, researchers at the Catholic University in Leuven and IPC and it represents another important step in our preparation for Paralympic re-inclusion.

INAS-FID would like to thank everybody involved in developing this classification system, which will be used for the first time at the INAS Open European Championships in Poland during November. The full press release can be found on the [INAS-FID website](#).

In early October, the IPC/INAS-FID research group met again in Leuven, Belgium, to review progress to date and continue the work to finalise classification systems in swimming and athletics. This work, too, is progressing well.

#### **INAS Moving Forward**

This project continues to develop and, over the autumn, you will see many changes taking place. Please contribute actively to what is a really exciting development.

As part of the project, the Executive Committee have published a document for consultation which details a number of proposals which will help the organisation meet the challenges of the future. We very much appreciate your feedback ahead of the next Executive meeting which takes place at the end of November. You can find the document on the [INAS-FID website](#).

INAS-FID has recently adopted a new corporate email address system. For all general enquiries, please use: [enquiries@inas.org](mailto:enquiries@inas.org) and, for all eligibility and classification enquiries, please use: [eligibility@inas.org](mailto:eligibility@inas.org).

Specific staff and volunteers can be contacted by emailing [firstname.lastname@inas.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@inas.org). A full list of contacts is available on the INAS-FID website. For further information on all of these developments, please contact [nick.parr@inas.org](mailto:nick.parr@inas.org)

#### **Technical Staff and Sport Directors**

I am pleased to announce that two new members have been appointed to the INAS-FID Technical Committee: Didier Simons (Belgium) has been appointed Sport Director for Cycling and Tiziana Berti (Italy) has been appointed Sport Director for Judo.

Didier is a former Paralympic athlete and is the International Classifier for UCI, whilst Tiziana is a former Judo athlete and is the Technical Director for Judo in Italy.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Global Games Meeting**

On 6/7/8 October, a meeting took place in Genoa, Italy, between the organisers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Games and INAS-FID technical staff. The meeting provided an opportunity to look at proposed venues, consider event organisation and examine proposed sponsorship, media and marketing opportunities.

The 2011 Global Games will take place between 24 September and 04 October 2011. Entry forms for the event will be available in January 2011 and the final closing date is likely to be at the end of June. Nations should register their interest no later than 30<sup>th</sup> October using the form available on the [INAS-FID website](#).

IMPORTANT: Athletes competing in the 2011 Global Games must appear in the classification Master List no later than the final entry deadline (ie, by the end of June). There is likely to be a large number of applications and it is important, therefore, that all related paperwork is submitted to the Secretariat as early as possible.

Please remember that there is no 'guest' entry in INAS-FID events.

## **2011/2012 Calendar and Call for Bids**

The 2011/2012 events calendar is now available on the [INAS-FID website](#). In line with the INAS-FID handbook, all events are subject to an open bid process and all events that are still open for bidding are shown on the calendar.

The handbook also includes information on bid specification and event hosting and this, too, can be found on the [INAS-FID website](#).

## **Athlete Classification Application Form & TSAL**

In February 2010, a new (shorter) classification application form was introduced by INAS-FID. Please note that, after 15 November 2010, only applications made on this new form will be accepted. Applications made using older forms will be returned to the member nation.

Many nations continue to submit the TSAL on paper as part of the application. Please remember that, where possible, we prefer this to be completed online at [www.inas-fid.org](http://www.inas-fid.org).

Where the TSAL is completed online, it is not necessary to send a paper copy, as this may lead to athlete information being entered twice.

## **Athlete 'Registration' Cards**

The Eligibility Committee has decided that, following the introduction of the INAS-FID Classification Master List in 2009, we will no longer issue the blue 'Registration Cards' to athletes. This is to ensure a consistent approach to determining eligibility and accreditation checks across all competitions and is effective immediately.

The Master List, which is updated regularly and is available at [www.inas-fid.org/athletreg](http://www.inas-fid.org/athletreg), is the definitive list of athletes who have successfully completed the primary eligibility check.

The blue 'Registration Cards' issued previously will no longer be accepted as a means of identification and, athletes should instead arrive at accreditation at INAS events and competitions, carrying a passport or other formal photo-identification document.

Athletes who do not present formal identification documents at accreditation may be denied entry to the event.

## **National Eligibility Officers**

In February 2010, as part of the revised eligibility policy, INAS-FID requested that all member nations identify a National Eligibility Officer. Although this became mandatory in the summer, a number of nations have still not notified us of their appointed officer.

Nations who have failed to register their NEO with us are unable to apply for athlete classification and are, therefore, urged to do so as soon as possible. A full list of registered NEO's can be found on the [INAS-FID website](#).

## **Regional Classification Workshops**

The workshop due to take place in Cairo, Egypt, was unfortunately cancelled. We hope to reschedule this early in 2011. The next workshop will take place within the INAS-Europe Conference and General Assembly, due to take place in Reims, France, on 05 November. A workshop in the Americas region will take place in 2011. Details for each of these workshops can be found on the [INAS-FID website](#).

## **New INAS-FID Website and Newsletter**

As part of the 'INAS Moving Forward' project, INAS-FID will shortly launch a new website and newsletter. We want to showcase much more of the sporting activities we manage and the athletes we support and, to this end, we are looking for athlete stories, photos and videos of events and competitions, and other news from our member nations.

I would like to ask each member nation to submit, by email, a profile of at least one athlete including photos. You might include information about how they got involved in sport, what they have achieved in INAS-FID competition and what INAS-FID means to them.

We are also looking for videos and photos from any other events, featuring athletes with an intellectual disability. However, in all cases, please ensure that you have gained consent for INAS-FID to use these in our publicity and state this clearly within your email.

Submissions should be sent to [enquiries@inas.org](mailto:enquiries@inas.org).

## **INAS-FID Conference and General Assembly**

INAS-FID has recently published details of the 2010 General Assembly which takes place in Canberra, Australia on April 17<sup>th</sup> and is preceded on April 16<sup>th</sup> by the 2010 conference.

Details of elections and how to submit motions are available on the [INAS-FID website](#).

## **Membership**

INAS-FID is very pleased to welcome Mali, Cameroon and Kenya as new members of the organisation. This brings our total current membership to 59 nations.

We are aware that INAS-FID has not yet issued its membership fee renewals for 2010 and we would like to re-assure members that this will be done as soon as possible. The delay has been due to problems transferring the INAS-FID bank account from Budapest to Paris, however this is almost complete and membership fee requests will be issued in early November.

## **Anti-Doping Committee**

Dr Babak Shadgan, who has been involved in INAS-FID's work in the area of anti-doping for many years, has decided to step down from his role in the anti-doping committee. INAS-FID would like to place on record its thanks and appreciation for his contribution over recent years.

## **Vacancies**

INAS-FID is currently trying to increase its volunteer team through recruitment to a number of existing and new positions. These include:

- Three new Eligibility Committee members (especially from non-European regions)
- Translators
- Legal Advisor
- Sport Director – Swimming
- Anti-Doping Committee member

Further information about each of these posts can be found on the [INAS-FID website](#).

## **Future newsletters**

This is likely to be the last so-called 'President's Newsletter' as, from the autumn, a new monthly newsletter will be prepared by the Secretariat. This will feature a greater range of event reports, results, news and information. I look forward to it!

**Dr Bob Price**  
**INAS-FID President**