

September 4, 2002

PROPOSAL
IOC Disability and Sport Commission or Working Group

The Disability in Sport Initiative within the Center for the Study of Sport in Society at Northeastern University, in the United States is proposing the establishment of an IOC Disability and Sport Commission or Working Group. The IOC has the opportunity to establish a body that could give direct consistent attention with respect to the inclusion and integration of athletes with disabilities within the Olympic Movement. The overall aim of such an entity, similar to the IOC Women and Sport Working Group, would be to focus on education, planning and policy issues related to athletes with disabilities within the Olympic Movement. The proposed entity would have the following function and purpose:

1. Indicate IOC continuing commitment to evolving and growing opportunities for athletes with disabilities within the Olympic Movement.
2. Organize increased communication and collaboration between IOC, IPC, SOI and CISS.
3. Organize education and awareness about athletes with disabilities as part of the Olympic Movement.
4. Increase IOC communications about athletes with disabilities.
5. Promote existing opportunities for athletes with disabilities.
6. Planning for future events and opportunities for athletes with disabilities as part of the Olympic Movement.
7. Develop and implement strategies for more recognition of athletes with disabilities.
8. Develop and implement strategies for including athletes with disabilities within current IOC Olympic services.
9. In collaboration with third party researchers, establish and promote standards for effective inclusion of opportunities for athletes with disabilities within the Olympic Movement.
10. Organize an IOC World Congress on Disability and Sport