ParalympicsGB

BEIJING 2022

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE

BEIJING 2022 PARALYMPICS WINTER GAMES

4–13 MARCH





CONTENTS

ParalympicsGB

FOREWORDS 04
FACTS AND STATS 08
PARALYMPICSGB MEDALLISTS 10
HISTORY OF THE GAMES 12
ABOUT BEIJING 2022 13
GUIDELINES TO REPORTING 14
COMPETITION SCHEDULE 18
PARALYMPICS ATHLETE SCHEDULE 20
SPORTS SECTION CONTENTS 24
PARTNERS 50

EARL OF WESSEX

FOREWORD



As the moment gets closer to this year's Paralympic Winter Games in Beijing getting under way, I want to wish you the very best of luck. While parts of the experience will be slightly surreal, I sincerely hope these won't detract from the main purpose which is, of course, the competition. You can be sure that your family, friends and supporters will be there in spirit, following it all on a screen and expending plenty of energy and frustration by shouting at it fruitlessly!

We all send you massive congratulations on being selected; you now have the chance to compete against the very best in the world and, indeed, to win. More importantly we want you to go out there to achieve your best, to make us proud and to inspire the next generation.

Whatever happens, I hope you have a brilliant experience in China. The Paralympic Games is a unique event and the Chinese will undoubtedly try to make it a memorable one for you and your fellow competitors. Enjoy every moment and, once again, good luck!

HRH The Earl of Wessex and Forfar KG GCVO Patron ParalympicsGB

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

PRESIDENT

FOREWORD



Representing your country at a Paralympic Games is the pinnacle of any athlete's sporting career and this achievement, set against the ongoing challenges of the Covid pandemic, is something each and every member of ParalympicsGB should be immensely proud of. At a time when disabled people globally continue to be disproportionately affected by the Covid pandemic the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games is a timely and powerful demonstration to show what can be achieved.

We recognise every individual member of the ParalympicsGB team has faced physical and mental challenges to train and compete during the pandemic - often with the added uncertainty that the Games would go ahead at all. I am proud of the innovation and adaptations everyone involved has made in responding to this challenge – at home, in training centres and at competitions.

We must also acknowledge how demanding it has been for our Chinese hosts and the International Paralympic Committee to devise a Games that is safe and secure for all those involved. I would like to pay tribute to all those involved in getting ParalympicsGB to the start line and give our thanks on behalf of the British Paralympic Association which includes all our corporate partners and Parallel Club members.

The competition at the Beijing 2022 will undoubtedly be the toughest we have faced but I know every athlete and the staff at their National Governing Body will have left no stone unturned in their pursuit of performances to inspire the nation once again. PyeongChang 2018 set the bar incredibly high for ParalympicsGB with some truly memorable performances, but I am confident that every team member will play their part to ensure we continue to establish ourselves as an ever more competitive Winter sports nation.

We witnessed the power of the world coming together at Tokyo 2020 and celebrating Paralympians competing once again at the highest level in their sport. Due to the unique circumstances of a delayed Summer Games, we have the opportunity to do it all again just six months later. This gives ParalympicsGB the opportunity to build on that momentum to not only show the world the elite sporting ability of our nation but to also amplify the importance of the Paralympic movement to challenge perceptions and break down barriers for disabled people everywhere.

I cannot believe that more than two decades have passed since my first Paralympic Winter Games in Nagano in 1998 so I am especially delighted that we are expecting to be more competitive across more sports than ever before in Beijing. In my sixth Winter Games it is a great honour to be leading a team that truly is Impossible to Ignore.

Professor Nick Webborn OBE, ParalympicsGB President Beijing 2022

CHEF DE MISSION

FOREWORD



The Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games will be my seventh Games, and my first as Chef de Mission. Not only do I feel a great honour and privilege in this role, but I am delighted to be surrounded by such a phenomenal group of athletes and support staff – who together make ParalympicsGB such an inspirational team to be a part of.

The last two years have without doubt presented unprecedented challenges and concerns as the Covid pandemic took hold around the globe. Preparing for these Games was never going to be easy, and I am immensely proud of the resilience, focus and determination displayed by athletes and staff alike. The International Paralympic Committee and the Beijing Organising Committee have also worked tirelessly to ensure a safe and secure environment for all, and we are all very grateful for their efforts.

The ParalympicsGB team won six medals at Sochi 2014 and seven in PyeongChang 2018 – and I believe this year's ParalympicsGB team will be competitive across the board and once again have the capability to shine and excel on the biggest stage of all. As a nation, we are continuously striving to further enhance our status and standing in winter sports and the creation of world-class performance environments that nurture and develop our talented athletes underlines our commitment to drive this progress.

The ParalympicsGB team for Beijing 2022 features 24 athletes - the biggest team Great Britain has taken to a Paralympic Winter Games since Lillehammer in 1994. With representation in five of the six sports that will be contested at the Games – wheelchair curling, alpine skiing, snowboard, cross country and biathlon – the ParalympicsGB team contains an exciting mix of debutants and experienced Paralympians across all disciplines.

We believe that the Paralympics Games – both Winter and Summer - present us with an opportunity to celebrate not just sporting success, but the resilience of the human spirit on a global scale. Our campaign, Impossible to Ignore, recognises the power of Paralympic sport to challenge perceptions and break down barriers for all disabled people, and we are, as ever, grateful to the media who work incredibly hard to bring the sporting endeavours of ParalympicsGB athletes to a wider audience and help make them Impossible to Ignore.

Phil Smith,
ParalympicsGB Chef de Mission Beijing 2022



PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

FACTS AND STATS

BEIJING TEAM SIZE

24 BIGGEST SINCE LILLEHAMMER 1994 WHEN TEAM SIZE WAS 27

SPORTS

5 ALPINE SKIING, NORDIC SKIING (BIATHLON AND CROSS COUNTRY), SNOWBOARD AND WHEELCHAIR CURLING

OLDEST

56 OLDEST, DAVID MELROSE WHEELCHAIR CURLING DOB 2ND MARCH 1966

MENNA FITZPATRICK AND MILLIE KNIGHT WON ALL SEVEN MEDALS AT PYEONGCHANG 2018

MOST GAMES

6 – STEVE THOMAS (2004, 2008, 2012, 2016 SAILING, 2006 ICE HOCKEY, 2022 CROSS COUNTRY SKIING)

MOST WINTER GAMES

3 – GREGOR EWAN, JAMES WHITLEY, MILLIE KNIGHT (ALL SOCHI 2014, PYEONGCHANG 2018 AND BEIJING 2022)

YOUNGEST

19 YOUNGEST, NEIL SIMPSON ALPINE SKIING DOB 8TH DEC 2002

DEBUT ATHLETES: 15 (63 PER CENT)

RETURNING PARALYMPIANS

37% RETURNING PARALYMPIANS: 9

BIGGEST EVER GAMES

THE BEIJING 2022 PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES ARE EXPECTED TO BE THE BIGGEST EVER FEATURING AN ESTIMATED 600 ATHLETES FROM MORE THAN 50 COUNTRIES.

MOST DECORATED PARALYMPICSGB WINTER ATHLETES EVER

• MENNA FITZPATRICK	4	1	2	1
• JADE ETHERINGTON	4	3	1	
• MATT STOCKFORD	4	4		
• RICHARD BURT	4	1	3	

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

PARALYMPICSGB MEDALLISTS

2018, Pyeongchang

Athletes & Event	Medal Achieved
Menna Fitzpatrick & Jennifer Kehoe (guide), Alpine Skiing, Women's Slalom	Gold
Millie Knight & Brett Wild (guide), Alpine Skiing, Women's Downhill	Silver
Millie Knight & Brett Wild (guide), Alpine Skiing, Women's Super-G	Silver
Menna Fitzpatrick & Jennifer Kehoe (guide), Alpine Skiing, Women's Super Combined	Silver
Menna Fitzpatrick & Jennifer Kehoe (guide), Alpine Skiing, Women's Giant Slalom	Silver
Menna Fitzpatrick & Jennifer Kehoe, Alpine Skiing, Women's Super-G	Bronze
Millie Knight & Brett Wild (guide), Alpine Skiing, Women's Slalom	Bronze

2014, Sochi

Athletes & Event	Medal Achieved
Kelly Gallagher & Charlotte Evans (guide), Alpine Skiing, Women's Super-G	Gold
Jade Etherington & Caroline Powell (guide), Alpine Skiing, Women's Downhill	Silver
Jade Etherington & Caroline Powell (guide), Alpine Skiing, Women's Slalom	Silver
Jade Etherington & Caroline Powell (guide), Alpine Skiing, Women's Super Combined	Silver
Jade Etherington & Caroline Powell (guide), Alpine Skiing, Women's Super-G	Bronze
Aileen Nelson (cap), Gregor Ewan, Jim Gault, Angie Malone, Bob McPherson – Wheelchair Curling	Bronze

2006, Turin

Athletes & Event	Medal Achieved
Frank Duffy (cap), Ken Dickson, Tom Killin, Angie Malone, Michael McCreadie – Wheelchair Curling	Silver

1994, Lillehammer

Athletes & Event	Medal Achieved
James Barker, Alpine Skiing, Men's Downhill	Bronze
Matthew Stockford, Alpine Skiing, Men's Super-G	Bronze
Richard Burt, Alpine Skiing, Men's Giant Slalom	Bronze
Richard Burt, Alpine Skiing, Men's Super-G	Bronze
Peter Young, Alpine Skiing, Men's 5km Classical Technique	Bronze

1992, Tignes-Albertville

Athletes & Event	Medal Achieved
Richard Burt, Alpine Skiing, Men's Giant Slalom	Silver
Richard Burt, Alpine Skiing, Men's Super-G	Bronze
Matthew Stockford, Alpine Skiing, Men's Downhill	Bronze
Matthew Stockford, Alpine Skiing, Men's Giant Slalom	Bronze
Matthew Stockford, Alpine Skiing, Men's Super-G	Bronze

1984, Innsbruck

Athletes & Event	Medal Achieved
Silver: Ken Robertson, Ice Sledge Speed Racing, Men's 300m	Silver
Silver: Denise Smith, Ice Sledge Speed Racing, Women's 100m	Silver
Silver: Denise Smith, Ice Sledge Speed Racing, Women's 300m	Silver
Silver: Denise Smith, Ice Sledge Speed Racing, Women's 500m	Silver
Bronze: John Watkins, Alpine Skiing, Men's Alpine Combination	Bronze
Bronze: Peter Young, Cross-Country Skiing, Men's Short Distance 10km	Bronze
Bronze: Ann Peskey, Ice Sledge Speed Racing, Women's 100m	Bronze
Bronze: Ann Peskey, Ice Sledge Speed Racing, Women's 300m	Bronze
Bronze: Ann Peskey, Ice Sledge Speed Racing, Women's 500m	Bronze
Bronze: Ken Robertson, Ice Sledge Speed Racing, Men's 100m	Bronze

HISTORY OF THE GAMES

Winter sport for disabled athletes has soared in popularity and profile over the course of the last 70 years, gradually developing after World War II as considerable numbers of injured soldiers and civilians looked to return to the ski slopes at the end of the conflict.

The introduction of three-track skiing (skiing on one leg on one ski and using two crutches that incorporate small skis) led to the first competition in February 1948 with 17 participants from across Austria – with the event proving so popular that the inaugural Austrian Championships for three-track skiing were held the following year.

In 1974, the first world multi-impairment skiing championships were held in Grand Bornand, France, featuring alpine (downhill only) and Nordic (cross-country only) skiing for amputee and visually impaired athletes.

And two years later came the maiden Paralympic Winter Games, held in Örnsköldsvik, Sweden in 1976 and featuring 53 athletes from 16 different nations.

The first Games featured alpine and Nordic skiing for visually impaired and amputee athletes, also featuring a demonstration event in sledge racing. Sit-skiing for both alpine and Nordic events was introduced at Innsbruck 1988 while in Lillehammer six years later, Ice Sledge Hockey (now Para ice hockey) featured on the programme for the first time.

At Turin 2006, wheelchair curling made its Paralympic Winter Games debut to help lay the foundations for a booming modern era of success, with the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi the biggest in history at the time. A total of 547 athletes competed from 45 countries across 72 medal events, attracting more than 300,000 spectators on the ground with a cumulative worldwide TV audience of 2.1 billion.

But those figures were usurped once again by PyeongChang 2018 four years later, an event that featured 569 athletes from a total of 49 different nations to set the stage for Beijing 2022 which is anticipated to be the biggest ever with an estimated 600 athletes from 50 countries expected to compete.

Host Cities History

1976 Örnsköldsvik, Sweden	Countries: 16	Athletes: 53
1980 Geilo, Norway	Countries: 18	Athletes: 229
1984 Innsbruck, Austria	Countries: 22	Athletes: 419
1988 Innsbruck, Austria	Countries: 22	Athletes: 377
1992 Tignes-Albertville, France	Countries: 24	Athletes: 365
1994 Lillehammer, Norway	Countries: 31	Athletes: 471
1998 Nagano, Japan	Countries: 31	Athletes: 561
2002 Salt Lake City, USA	Countries: 36	Athletes: 416
2006 Turin, Italy	Countries: 38	Athletes: 474
2010 Vancouver, Canada	Countries: 44	Athletes: 502
2014 Sochi, Russia	Countries: 45	Athletes: 547
2018 PyeongChang, South Korea	Countries: 49	Athletes 569

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

ABOUT BEIJING 2022

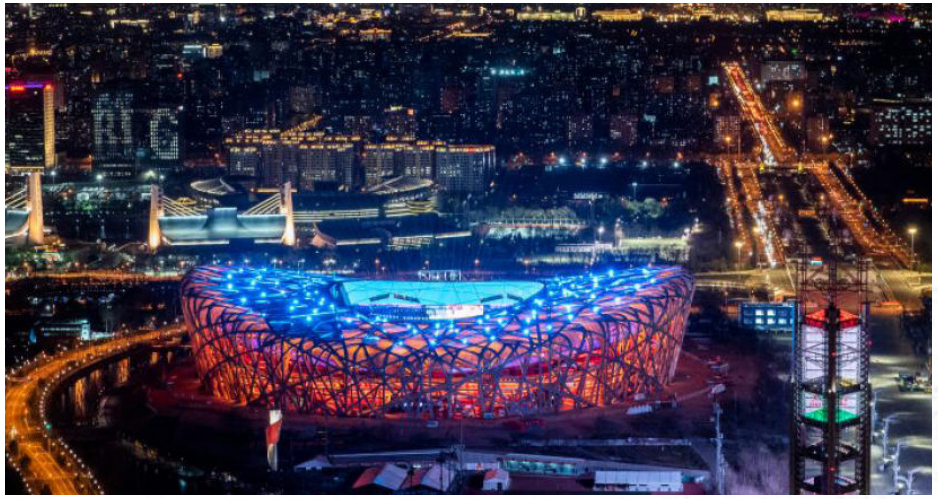
This year's Paralympic Winter Games will break new ground as Beijing becomes the first ever city to host both a Summer and Winter Games. After hosting a memorable summer showpiece back in 2008, the Chinese capital was awarded the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games 14 years later after beating Almaty, Kazakhstan, in the bidding process.

Oslo also made the final shortlist for 2022 but after pulling out of the running in 2014, it was Beijing that edged out Almaty by the narrow margin of four votes to bring the Games to China once again. That means it will be back-to-back Games in Asia for the first time in Winter Paralympic history, with Nagano, Japan, becoming the first Asian city to host the Winter Games back in 1998. Beijing lies in the north-east of China and is home to over 21 million residents, with the Paralympic Winter Games being distributed among three principal regions around the city this month. The vibrant, modern hub of Beijing city centre will be one of the three main 'Clusters' at the Games alongside Yanqing District and Zhangjiakou.

The Paralympic Village, Beijing National Stadium – better known as the iconic 'Bird's Nest' – and **Beijing National Aquatics Centre** which has been renamed the "Ice Cube" for the Games are all located in the city centre, with the latter venue playing host to the wheelchair curling competition. And the Bird's Nest, which seats a capacity of 80,000 people, will host the Games' Opening and Closing Ceremonies on March 4 and 13.

The **Beijing National Indoor Stadium** is where the Para ice hockey event will take place, while Yanqing District and Zhangjiakou – situated around 50 and 100 miles from the capital respectively – are where snowsport athletes will compete. Yanqing, located north-west of Beijing, will play host to Para alpine skiing at the **Yanqing Alpine Skiing Centre** while Zhangjiakou – to the north-east – will welcome athletes in snowboarding and the Nordic skiing disciplines of cross-country and biathlon.

Cross-country skiing will take place at the **National Cross-Country Centre, National Biathlon Centre** will host the biathlon event while for snowboarding, it's the **Genting Snow Park** where medals will be won and lost. Each of the three 'Clusters' has its own athlete village and media centre, all connected by advanced transport systems to facilitate accessibility for athletes, media and beyond.



GUIDELINES TO REPORTING

The BPA has produced this reference guide to assist the media reporting on Paralympic sport and athletes. While the profile of Paralympic sport has grown considerably in recent years, inaccuracies still exist. This guide is designed to encourage and support accurate and appropriate reporting and to help ensure that the correct terminology and language is used.

The Paralympic Games is the world's second largest sporting event by athlete number, featuring elite performers who train as hard and as often as their Olympic counterparts. We believe it is crucial that Paralympic athletes are portrayed or referred to as elite athletes first and foremost, rather than seen primarily as people who have overcome great adversity. While that may be part of the story, Paralympic athletes do not want their impairment to define them or their achievements.

Performance, sporting ambition, training, competition and the emotions associated with winning and losing are all relevant subjects that our athletes and sports would expect to focus on. Anything specifically relating to, or focussing on, an elite athlete's impairment is generally considered unnecessary, and certainly secondary, and should really only be considered within a sporting context.

We hope this guide will provide you with the information you need to report on Paralympic sport and Paralympians, both accurately and appropriately. The correct language can help shift perceptions of disabled people. With your help and support in raising the profile of British Paralympic athletes and their phenomenal sporting achievements, the BPA can achieve its vision of positively influencing the way that British society thinks, feels and behaves towards disabled people in general.

Thank you for supporting us by using the right language in your articles and output.

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

LANGUAGE: DESCRIBING ATHLETES

DESCRIPTION	TERM	INCORRECT
An athlete who has competed at a Paralympic Games	Paralympian.	Para-Olympian, Para athlete, Olympian
A disabled athlete who is likely to be selected for a Paralympic Games	Paralympic hopeful.	Paralympian
A disabled athlete.	Disabled athlete, or just athlete.	Paralympian, Paralympic hopeful – these terms don't describe disabled people that compete in sport at any other level
A Paralympian who has retired	Retired Paralympian.	Former Paralympian, ex-Paralympian.

THE OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

In rare cases (for example, Italy's Assunta Legnante), athletes have competed in both the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Assunta is both an Olympian and Paralympian.
The title Paralympian is a specific one and like other important titles such as Lord, Professor, Doctor or Baroness, should be used in its appropriate context. Paralympians are athletes who have competed at a Paralympic Games. Paralympian is a title for life; it is not removed after retirement.

Both the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games are large international multi-sport events, held in the same city, often in the same venues, just as few weeks apart. However there are a number of differences – both Games have separate histories, identities and global governing bodies. The International Paralympic Committee governs the Paralympic Games.

DESCRIPTION	CORRECT	INCORRECT	WHY NOT?
The team name for the Paralympic team of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	ParalympicsGB.	Team GB.	Team GB refers solely to the Olympic team
The organisation responsible for the Paralympic movement in the UK.	British Paralympic Association, BPA.	BOA.	The British Olympic Association and British Paralympic Association are separate organisations, although often collaborate
The Paralympic Games.	The Paralympic Games.	Para Olympics, Para-Olympics, Paraplegic Olympics, Olympic Games	The term "paralympics" derives from "parallel olympics"

The British Paralympic Association is the National Paralympic Committee for the UK. National Governing Bodies (NGBs) look after specific sports.

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

DESCRIBING MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Paralympic athletes want to be referred to as elite athletes first and foremost and as disabled people secondarily - if at all. Where you feel you need to refer to an athlete's impairment, a passing reference is preferable to going into detail.

DESCRIPTION	CORRECT	INCORRECT	WHY NOT?
To describe a person who has an impairment.	Disabled person.	Person with a disability.	This is in line with the equality act 2010.
To describe a person who is not disabled.	Non-disabled person.	Able-bodied, normal.	"Non-disabled" gives a clearer distinction as to what you are describing than "able bodied".
A phrase to describe an impairment.	a person/athlete who has a spinal cord injury, a person/athlete with paraplegia.	A spinal injury athlete, a paraplegic.	A person might have an impairment or medical condition but it does not actually define them as a person. Avoid describing the person as an impairment.

Language is important and can help shift perceptions of disabled people. please support us by using the right language in your articles.

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

COMPETITION SCHEDULE

		Friday 04	Saturday 05	Sunday 06	Monday 07
National Stadium		Opening Ceremony			
National Indoor Stadium	Para Ice Hockey		**Preliminary Games** **RPC-KOR** 09:35-11:35 **USA-CAN** 13:05-15:05 **CZE-ITA** 16:35-18:35 **SVK-CHN** 20:05-22:05	**Preliminary Games** **CAN-RPC** 09:35-11:35 **KOR-USA** 13:05-15:05 **ITA-SVK** 16:35-18:35 **CHN-CZE** 20:05-22:05	
National Aquatics Centre	Wheelchair Curling		**Round Robin** **SUI-SWE/CHN-CAN** **SVK-USA/NOR-GBR** 14:35-17:00 **LAT-KOR/USA-GBR** **EST-RPC/CAN-SUI** 19:35-22:00	**Round Robin** **SVK-NOR/CHN-SWE** 09:35-12:00 **GBR-RPC/SUI-KOR** **CAN-LAT/EST-USA** 14:35-17:00 **EST-CHN/SWE-RPC** **KOR-NOR/SVK-LAT** 19:35-22:00	**Round Robin** **USA-CAN/LAT-EST** **SUI-GBR/RPC-KOR** 09:35-12:00 **NOR-EST/KOR-CHN** **RPC-SVK/LAT-SWE** 14:35-17:00 **CHN-SUI/GBR-SVK** **SWE-CAN/USA-NOR** 19:35-22:00
Yanqing National Alpine Skiing Centre	Para Alpine Skiing		**Downhill M/W** All Classification 10:00-13:00	**Super-GM/W** All Classification 10:00-14:30	
Zhangjiakou National Biathlon Centre	Para Cross-Country Skiing			**Men's 18km Sitting** 10:00-11:35 **Women's 15km Sitting** 11:50-13:00	**Men's 20km Classic** Standing/Vision Impaired 10:00-12:00 **Women's 15km Classic** Standing/Vision Impaired 12:15-14:00
	Para Biathlon		**Women's & Men's 6km** Sitting 10:00-11:15 Standing 12:15-13:20 Vision Impaired 14:00-15:05		
Zhangjiakou Genting Snow Park	Para Snowboard			**Cross M/W** Qualification 11:00-13:00	**Cross M/W** Finals 11:30-14:30

Tuesday 08	Wednesday 09	Thursday 10	Friday 11	Saturday 12	Sunday 13	Medals
					Closing Ceremony	
Preliminary Games **USA-RPC** 09:35-11:35 **CAN-KOR** 13:05-15:05 **ITA-CHN** 16:35-18:35 **CZE-SVK** 20:05-22:05	**Qualifying final 1** **A3-B2** 16:35-18:35 **Qualifying final 2** **A4-B1** 20:05-22:05	**Play-Offs 7th-8th** **B3-B4** 18:05-20:05	**Semi-final 1** 12:05-14:05 **Play-Offs 5th-6th** 16:05-18:05 **Semi-final 2** 20:05-22:05	**Bronze Medal** 20:05-22:05	**Gold Medal** 12:05-14:40	1
Round Robin **RPC-USA/SUI-LAT** **GBR-EST/KOR-CAN** 09:35-12:00 **SVK-KOR/SWE-EST** **LAT-NOR/RPC-CHN** 14:35-17:00 **GBR-SWE/CAN-SVK** **CHN-USA/NOR-SUI** 19:35-22:00	**Round Robin** **RPC-LAT/NOR-SWE** **EST-KOR/CHN-SVK** 09:35-12:00 **SWE-SVK/USA-SUI** **NOR-CHN/CAN-GBR** 14:35-17:00 **KOR-GBR/EST-CAN** **USA-LAT/SUI-RPC** 19:35-22:00	**Round Robin** **CAN-NOR/CHN-GBR** **SVK-SUI/SWE-USA** 09:35-12:00 **SUI-EST/KOR-USA** **CAN-RPC/GBR-LAT** 14:35-17:00 **LAT-CHN/RPC-NOR** **KOR-SWE/SVK-EST** 19:35-22:00	**Semi-final 1v4 and 2v3** 14:35-17:00 **Bronze Medal** 19:35-22:00	**Gold Medal** 14:35-17:30		1
Super Combined M/W All Classification Super G 10:00-12:00 Slalom 14:15-15:15		**Giant Slalom M** All Classification 10:00-11:50 14:00-15:30	**Giant Slalom W** All Classification 10:00-11:15 13:15-14:30	**Slalom M** All Classification 10:00-11:30 13:30-15:00	**Slalom W** All Classification 10:00-10:50 12:45-14:20	30
	Sprint free M/W Qualification 10:00-11:50 **Semi-final & Final** 12:00-15:05			**Men's 12.5km Free** Standing/Vision Impaired 10:00-11:15 **Women's 10km Free** Standing/Vision Impaired 11:20-12:15 **Women's 7.5km & Men's 10km Sitting** 12:30-13:40	**Mixed Relay 4 x 2.5km** All Classification 10:00-10:40 **Open Relay 4 x 2.5km** All Classification 12:00-14:00	20
Women's & Men's 10km Sitting 10:00-11:30 Standing 12:00-13:25 Vision Impaired 14:00-15:25			**Women's & Men's 12.5km** Sitting 10:00-11:25 Standing 12:20-13:30 Vision Impaired 14:05-15:20			18
				Banked Slalom M/W Finals 12:00-15:00		8

PARALYMPICS ATHLETE SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 5 MARCH	
ALPINE SKIING - DOWNHILL ALL CLASSES **10AM-1PM (UK 2AM-5AM)**	**Menna Fitzpatrick, Millie Knight, Dan Sheen, Neil Simpson, Alex Slegg, James Whitley**
BIATHLON MEN'S SITTING 6KM **10AM-11:15 AM (UK 2AM-3:15AM)**	**Steve Arnold, Callum Deboys, Scott Meenagh, Steve Thomas**
WHEELCHAIR CURLING GBR V NORWAY (RR 1) **2:35PM-5PM (UK 6AM-9AM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
WHEELCHAIR CURLING GBR V USA (RR 2) **7:35PM-10PM (UK 11:35AM-2PM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
SUNDAY 6 MARCH	
ALPINE SKIING - Super G ALL CLASSES **10AM-2:30PM (UK 2AM-6:30AM)**	**Shona Brownlee, Menna Fitzpatrick, Millie Knight, Dan Sheen, Neil Simpson, Alex Slegg, James Whitley**
CROSS COUNTRY SKIING MEN'S SITTING 18KM **10AM-11:35AM (UK 2AM-3:35AM)**	**Steve Arnold, Callum Deboys, Scott Meenagh, Steve Thomas**
SNOWBOARDING - CROSS QUALIFYING **11AM-1PM (UK 3AM-5AM)**	**James Barnes-Miller, Ollie Hill, Andy Macleod, Owen Pick**
WHEELCHAIR CURLING GBR V RPC (RR3) **2:35PM-5PM (UK 6:35AM-9AM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**

MONDAY 7 MARCH	
SNOWBOARDING - CROSS FINALS **11:30AM-2:30PM (UK 3:30AM-6:30AM)**	**James Barnes-Miller, Ollie Hill, Andy Macleod, Owen Pick**
WHEELCHAIR CURLING GBR V SUI (RR4) **9:35AM-NOON (UK 1:35AM-4AM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
WHEELCHAIR CURLING GBR V SVK (RR5) **7:35PM-10PM (UK 11:35AM-2PM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
TUESDAY 8 MARCH	
ALPINE SKIING - SUPER COMBINED Super G **10AM-NOON (UK 2AM-4AM)**	**Shona Brownlee, Menna Fitzpatrick, Millie Knight, Dan Sheen, Neil Simpson, Alex Slegg, James Whitley**
ALPINE SKIING - SUPER COMBINED SLALOM **2:15PM-3:15PM (UK 6:15AM-7:15AM)**	**Shona Brownlee, Menna Fitzpatrick, Millie Knight, Dan Sheen, Neil Simpson, Alex Slegg, James Whitley**
BIATHLON MEN'S 10KM SITTING **10AM-11:30AM (UK 2AM-3:30AM)**	**Steve Arnold, Callum Deboys, Scott Meenagh, Steve Thomas**
WHEELCHAIR CURLING GBR V EST (RR6) **9:35AM-NOON (UK 1:35AM-4AM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
WHEELCHAIR CURLING GBR V EST (RR7) **7:35PM-10PM (UK 11:35AM-2PM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH	
CROSS COUNTRY SKIING SPRINT QUALIFICATIONS **10AM-11:50AM (UK 2AM-3:50AM)**	**Steve Arnold, Callum Deboys, Scott Meenagh, Steve Thomas, Hope Gordon**
CROSS COUNTRY SKIING SPRINT FINALS **NOON-3:05PM (UK 4AM-7:05AM)**	**Steve Arnold, Callum Deboys, Scott Meenagh, Steve Thomas, Hope Gordon**

WHEELCHAIR CURLING GBR V CAN (RR8) **2:35PM-5PM (UK 6:35AM-9AM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
WHEELCHAIR CURLING GBR V KOR (RR9) **7:35PM-10PM (UK 11:35AM-2PM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
THURSDAY 10 MARCH	
ALPINE SKIING - MEN'S GIANT SLALOM ALL CLASSES - SESSION 1 **10AM-11:50AM (UK 2AM-3:50AM)**	**Dan Sheen, Neil Simpson, Alex Slegg, James Whitley**
ALPINE SKIING - MEN'S GIANT SLALOM ALL CLASSES - SESSION 2 **2PM-3:30PM (UK 6AM-7:30AM)**	**Dan Sheen, Neil Simpson, Alex Slegg, James Whitley**
WHEELCHAIR CURLING GBR V CHINA (RR 10) **9:35AM-NOON (UK 1:35AM-4AM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
WHEELCHAIR CURLING GBR V CHINA (RR 11) **2:35PM-5PM (UK 6:35AM-9AM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
FRIDAY 11 MARCH	
ALPINE SKIING - WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM ALL CLASSES **10AM-11:15AM (UK 2AM-3:15AM)**	**Shona Brownlee, Menna Fitzpatrick, Millie Knight**
ALPINE SKIING - WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM ALL CLASSES **1:15PM-2:30PM (UK 5:15AM-6:30AM)**	**Shona Brownlee, Menna Fitzpatrick, Millie Knight**
BIATHLON MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SITTING 12.5KM **10AM-11:25AM (UK 2AM-3:25AM)**	**Steve Arnold, Callum Deboys, Scott Meenagh, Steve Thomas**

WHEELCHAIR CURLING BRONZE MEDAL **7:35PM-10PM (UK 11:35AM-2PM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
SATURDAY 12 MARCH	
ALPINE SKIING - MEN'S SLALOM ALL CLASSES **10AM-11:30AM (UK 2AM-3:30AM)**	**Dan Sheen, Neil Simpson, Alex Slegg, James Whitley**
ALPINE SKIING - MEN'S SLALOM ALL CLASSES **1:30PM-3PM (UK 5:30PM-7PM)**	**Dan Sheen, Neil Simpson, Alex Slegg, James Whitley**
CROSS COUNTRY SKIING MEN'S 10KM AND WOMEN'S 7.5KM SITTING **12:30PM-1:40PM (UK 4:30AM-5:40AM)**	**Steve Arnold, Callum Deboys, Scott Meenagh, Steve Thomas, Hope Gordon**
SNOWBOARDING - Banked Slalom MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FINALS **NOON-3PM (UK 4AM-7AM)**	**James Barnes-Miller, Ollie Hill, Andy Macleod, Owen Pick**
WHEELCHAIR CURLING GOLD MEDAL **2:35PM-5:30PM (UK 6:35AM-9:30AM)**	**Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith**
SUNDAY 13 MARCH	
ALPINE SKIING - WOMEN'S SLALOM ALL CLASSES **10AM-10:50AM (UK 2AM-2:50AM)**	**Shona Brownlee, Menna Fitzpatrick, Millie Knight**
ALPINE SKIING - WOMEN'S SLALOM ALL CLASSES **12:45PM-2:20PM (UK 4:45AM-6:20AM)**	**Shona Brownlee, Menna Fitzpatrick, Millie Knight**
CROSS COUNTRY SKIING - OPEN RELAY 4x2.5KM ALL CLASSES **NOON-2PM (UK 4AM-6AM)**	**Steve Arnold, Callum Deboys, Scott Meenagh, Steve Thomas**

ParalympicsGB

SPORTS SECTION CONTENTS

Para Alpine Skiing	25
Para Snowboard	33
Para Nordic Skiing	38
Wheelchair Curling	44

PARA ALPINE SKIING





Great Britain's alpine skiers helped ParalympicsGB to their most successful Paralympic Winter Games ever after accounting for all seven medals at PyeongChang 2018.

The alpine skiers hit the ground running immediately as Millie Knight claimed silver in the women's visually impaired downhill on day one alongside guide Brett Wild. It was a fantastic start on the slopes at the Jeongseon Alpine Centre for the then 18-year-old who would go on to claim silver in the Super-G and bronze in the slalom to take her tally at her second Games to three medals. Menna Fitzpatrick, then 19, and her guide Jennifer Kehoe claimed ParalympicsGB's only gold after a fantastic display in the women's visually impaired slalom ensured there were two British skiers on the podium.

Fitzpatrick won the first of her four medals on day two with bronze behind her compatriot Knight in the Super-G before also adding silvers in the giant slalom and super combined.
That haul ensured Fitzpatrick and Kehoe finished the Games in South Korea as ParalympicsGB's most decorated Winter Paralympians. Elsewhere, Sochi Super-G Paralympic champion Kelly Gallagher and guide Gary Smith came eighth four years after their famous triumph while also finishing fifth in the giant slalom, sixth in the slalom and seventh in the super combined.

James Whitley scooped two top-ten finishes in the slalom and downhill to give him plenty of confidence ahead of Beijing while Chris Lloyd made his Games debut.

First year at a Paralympic Games:

Örnsköldsvik 1976

Brief history:

Skiing became increasingly popular following the end of the Second World War, when injured servicemen sought to return to the sport.

The first documented championships for disabled skiers were held in Bad Gastein, Austria, in 1948 and featured 17 athletes.

At the first Paralympic Winter Games in Örnsköldsvik, Sweden, in 1976 athletes competed in slalom and giant slalom.

Downhill was added to the Paralympic programme in 1984 in Innsbruck, Austria, and Super-G was added in 1994 at Lillehammer.

Sit-skiing – or mono-skiing – was introduced as a demonstration sport at the Innsbruck 1984 Paralympics and became a medal event at the Nagano 1998 Paralympic Games.

The first Para alpine skiing medal ever won by GB was a bronze for John Watkins in the men's alpine combination at the 1984 Winter Games. In 1992 GB secured one silver medal and four bronze medals in alpine events and, in 1994, GB won a further five bronze medals in Para alpine skiing.

At Sochi 2014 Kelly Gallagher and guide Charlotte Evans won Great Britain's first ever gold medal on snow with victory in the Super G competition.

In 2018, visually impaired skier Menna Fitzpatrick and her guide Jennifer Kehoe became Britain's most decorated Winter Paralympians with four medals, including gold in the women's slalom, in PyeongChang.

PyeongChang 2018 medal table:

	G	S	B
Slovakia	6	4	4
France	4	5	5
Germany	4	2	1

GB medals at PyeongChang 2018:

Menna Fitzpatrick and Jennifer Kehoe (guide)

- Gold: Women's Slalom
- Silver: Women's Giant Slalom
- Silver: Women's Super Combined
- Bronze: Women's Super-G

Millie Knight and Brett Wild (guide)

- Silver: Women's Downhill
- Silver: Women's Super-G
- Bronze: Women's Slalom

Rules:

Alpine disciplines at the Paralympic Winter Games are downhill, slalom, giant slalom, Super Giant slalom (Super-G) and super combined. Results are factored to take each athlete's degree of impairment into account when calculating a time. While there are different factors for the different disciplines in each of the three sport classes, the same factors are used for men and women. Athletes and spectators see the factored time after each run. In all events the winning competitor is the one who, without missing any gates, records the fastest factored time over the course. Paralympic alpine skiing conforms to some of the parameters that have been laid down by the ISF (International Skiing Federation) in terms of the difference in altitude and the number of gates along the course.

Downhill:
The most spectacular of the Para alpine skiing disciplines. The vertical drop (altitude distance between the start and finish gates) varies from 450m to 800m, with competitors required to pass through a series of red gates that are used as checkpoints during the descent.

Super-G:
Developed in the early 1980s as an event between free downhill descent and the giant slalom. Today, it is much closer in terms of speed and technical features to the downhill discipline. Super-G competitions are held on a slope with a vertical drop variation of 400m to 600m, with the course marked with a minimum of 30 alternating blue and red gates, positioned to enforce changes of direction.

Giant Slalom:
Gates are closer than those in the speed events and the vertical drop varies from 300m to 400m. The competition is contested over two rounds using the same slope but with different courses. The starting order in the second heat is created by reversing the first 30 classified places from the first heat or, in some cases, the first 15 classified places.

Slalom:
The vertical drop difference can vary from 140m to 220m. The competition is carried out over two heats on the same slope but with different courses, in the same way as giant slalom. The number of gates on the course varies. The slalom requires considerable agility and dexterity since the slopes in slalom competitions are very steep, with thick snow often artificially iced in order to avoid any premature deterioration of the competition surface.

Super Combined:
An event which incorporates elements from other events but is itself a standalone event. Contested on a single day, it comprises one run of either downhill or Super-G and one run of either giant slalom or slalom.
The most common format is one Super-G run and one slalom run. The times are combined and a ranking list drawn up.

Classification

Para alpine skiing is open to athletes who have a classifiable visual or physical impairment. Athletes can have varying degrees of visual impairment, from B3 down to B1, which is the classification for athletes with the highest degree of visual impairment. Athletes with physical impairments can have any combination of limb deficiency or amputation that affect one or more of their limbs, or have impaired muscle power or coordination impairments. There are three separate categories where medals can be won: one for visually impaired athletes and two for athletes with a physical impairment. Further information on each of the classes within Para Alpine can be found on the IPC website Para Alpine Skiing Rules & Classification **(LINK)**

1 - Visually Impaired (VI)
Visually impaired athletes use exactly the same equipment as non-disabled athletes but require the assistance of a sighted guide. The guide usually wears a fluorescent bib and skis ahead of the competitor, providing verbal instructions via Bluetooth headset to communicate the contours and direction of the course.

2 - Standing
Standing athletes use the same equipment page as non-disabled athletes but, depending on their physical impairment, may use either one or two skis and none, one or two ski poles. Some athletes may use outriggers (similar to a crutch with a small ski on the end of it) instead of poles to aid balance. Depending on their classification, an athlete may wear a prosthesis while competing.

3 - Sitting
Athletes with more severe lower limb impairments (for example spinal cord injuries or double amputations) may use a sit-ski. This is a moulded seat mounted on a metal frame with a suspension system beneath the seat to maximise ski-snow contact. Sit-skis can be mounted on a single ski (called a mono- ski) or on two skis (a dual-ski). Athletes use two short outriggers to help with balance and turning.

ATHLETE BIOGRAPHIES

MILLIE KNIGHT



DOB: 15/01/1999
FROM: CANTERBURY, KENT
TWITTER: @knight_millie
INSTAGRAM: @knight_millie

Millie first tried alpine skiing in 2006 while on holiday in France, just as her vision started to deteriorate. She was encouraged by her Mum, who acted as her guide in the first races she competed in after joining the British Disabled Ski Team Development Squad in late 2012. Millie made her Paralympic debut at Sochi 2014, and at aged 15 became ParalympicsGB's youngest ever competitor at any Winter Paralympics. She was also chosen to carry the flag for Great Britain at the Opening Ceremony. Millie was unable to compete in the speed events in Sochi because of her age, but she raced in the technical events (the slalom and the giant slalom) guided by Rachael Ferrier, ranking fifth in both. Since Sochi, Millie's career has gone from strength to strength. Working with guide Brett Wild since 2016, she won the 2017 World Cup Globe in the Giant Slalom, Super-G and Downhill. In January 2017, she also claimed Downhill gold at the World Championships in Tarvisio, Italy as well as silver in the Giant Slalom, Slalom and Super Combined, although Millie's season was then marred by a crash which resulted in concussion. At the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games Millie and Brett won silver medals in Downhill and Super-G as well as a bronze medal in the Slalom on the final day of action. Millie claimed gold in the Super Combined race at the delayed 2021 World Championships which took place in Lillehammer, Norway in January 2022. The result came a year after Millie had suffered a further concussion after a crash in training. Following the World Championships, Millie and Brett raced at the World Cup finals in Sweden, where they won Super-G gold and were awarded the 2021/22 season Super-G Crystal Globe.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2018 PyeongChang Paralympic Winter Games
Downhill: Silver, Super-G: Silver, Slalom: Bronze
2014 Sochi Paralympic Games
Slalom: 5th, Giant slalom: 5th
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to January 2022)
Super combined: Gold, Super-G: bronze
2017 World Championships, Tarvisio, Italy
Downhill: Gold, Super combined: Silver, Giant slalom: Silver, Slalom: Silver
2015 World Championships, Panorama, Canada
Giant slalom: Silver, Slalom: Bronze

MENNA FITZPATRICK



DOB: 05/05/1998
FROM: MACCLESFIELD
TWITTER: @Mennafitz
INSTAGRAM: @mennafitz

Menna Fitzpatrick learned to ski when she was five-years-old, skiing behind her dad on family holidays.
Menna made her senior international debut for Great Britain in 2012 and in March 2016, she and guide Jennifer Kehoe made history by becoming the first British skiers to win the overall World Cup title and Crystal Globe.
It came in the then 17-year-old's first season competing at World Cup level, with the duo also picking up the Giant Slalom Crystal Globe, silver in the overall Super-G and bronze in the overall Downhill and Slalom events.
At the 2017 World Championships in Tarvisio, Italy, Menna and Jen claimed bronze in the giant slalom, while they began the 2017/18 season in superb fashion, winning two silvers and two bronzes at the opening World Cup in Kuhtai.
At the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Paralympic Games Menna became Britain's most successful Winter Paralympian as she claimed Slalom gold, Super Combined silver, Giant Slalom silver and Super-G bronze at her debut Games.
At the 2019 World Championships in Sella Nevea, Italy Menna and Jen won five medals, including gold in the visually impaired Downhill and the Super-G.
Menna joined forces with new guide Katie Guest in 2021 and the pair went on to win Slalom gold and Super Combined silver at the delayed 2021 World Championships in Lillehammer, Norway.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2018 PyeongChang Paralympic Winter Games
Slalom: Gold, Super Combined: Silver, Giant Slalom: Silver, Super-G: Bronze
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to 2022)
Slalom: Gold, Super Combined: Silver
2019 World Championships, Sella Nevea, Italy & Kranjska Gora, Slovenia
Downhill: Gold, Super-G: Gold, Slalom: Silver, Super Combined: silver, Giant Slalom: bronze
2017 World Championships, Tarvisio, Italy
Giant slalom: Bronze, Super-G: 4th, Slalom: 4th, Downhill: 5th, Super Combined: 5th

SHONA BROWNLEE



DOB: 17/04/1979
FROM: LIVINGSTON, SCOTLAND
TWITTER: @sitskishona
INSTAGRAM: @sitskishona

Shona sustained an injury during a military training exercise in 2012 which resulted in a below knee amputation six years later. Having never skied prior to injury, she learned to ski in Bavaria through the Battle Back programme, an MoD-funded initiative providing adventurous training opportunities to wounded, injured and sick service personnel.
Shona was given the opportunity to join the Armed Forces Para-Snowsport Team where she gained her first experiences of ski racing at military alpine skiing championships. She began to race competitively in sit-ski in 2019 and by the end of the 2019/20 season had won three gold medals at the British Championships, two gold medals at the Europa Cup finals and finished third overall in the Europa Cup.
Shona claimed Super-G silver and Giant Slalom bronze at the World Para Snowsports Championships in Lillehammer, Norway in January 2022 and secured her place at her first Paralympic Winter Games in Beijing.
Away from the piste, Shona competes in triathlon – she finished second at the 2021 British Para Triathlon Championships – she is also a talented musician, having completed a Masters degree in music and pursued a career as a musician in the RAF.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2021 World Para Snowsports Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to 2022)
Super G: silver, Giant Slalom: Bronze

JAMES WHITLEY



DOB: 17/11/1997
FROM: WILMINGTON, EAST SUSSEX
TWITTER: @jameswhitley97
INSTAGRAM: @james_whitley97

James, who was born without both hands, started skiing on family holidays as a young child - but the sport truly became a passion after he met Nick Webborn, ParalympicsGB's Chief Medical Officer at London 2012, during rehabilitation after suffering serious injuries in a boating accident. In 2013 he competed at his first World Championship in La Molina, Spain, where he finished 16th in Giant Slalom. A year later he made his debut for ParalympicsGB at Sochi 2014 where he produced confident performances in the technical events, ranking 14th in the Giant Slalom and 15th in the Slalom. Since then, key achievements have included top-ten finishes at the World Championships as well as multiple Europa Cup titles. At the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games James finished in the top ten in both the Downhill and Slalom races and also competed in the Giant Slalom, Super-G and Super Combined. After PyeongChang, James stepped back from the sport to go to university, but still produced some great results at the 2019 World Championships in Kranjska Gora and Sella Nevea including fifth in Super Combined and 8th in Slalom. James returned to the team in 2021 at the delayed 2021 World Championships in Lillehammer, Norway, finishing just outside the top 10 in Slalom and Downhill, and in the top 20 in Giant Slalom and Super-G. In his spare time James is also a passionate sports car racer with his sights set on Le Mans.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2018 PyeongChang Paralympic Games
Downhill: 10th, Slalom: 10th, Giant Slalom: 11th, Super-G: 22nd, Super Combined: 11th
2014 Sochi Paralympic Games
Giant slalom: 14th, Slalom: 15th
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway
Downhill: 13th, Super-G: 17th, Giant Slalom: 18th, Slalom: 11th
2019 World Championships, Italy/Slovenia
Super Combined: 5th, Slalom: 8th, Super-G: 10th, Giant Slalom: 13th, Downhill: 14th
2017 World Championships, Tarvisio, Italy
Slalom: 7th
2015 World Championships, Panorama, Canada
Slalom: 9th
2013 World Championships, La Molina, Spain
Giant slalom:16th

DAN SHEEN



DOB: 10/12/1981
FROM: ELLESMERE PORT, CHESHIRE
INSTAGRAM: @sitskidan

Dan first began skiing in 2015 when he was invited on a ski trip to the USA by BLESMA (British Limbless Serviceman's Association). Seven years previously, Dan had been injured while serving in Afghanistan. On his return from the USA, Dan knew he wanted to continue skiing so got in touch with the Armed Forces Para Snowsport Team. It was with this charity that Dan was able to progress with his skiing and start competing.
Within four years Dan had progressed from novice to World Cup racer. He was selected for the GB Para alpine squad for the 2021/22 season and competed at his first World Championships in Lillehammer, Norway in January 2022, finishing 13th in the Slalom. Dan will make his Games debut at Beijing 2022.

NEIL SIMPSON



DOB: 08/12/2002
FROM: BANCHORY, SCOTLAND

Neil was born with nystagmus which causes involuntary eye movements and he competes in the visually impaired B3 Category. He started skiing at the age of four on Aberdeen's dry ski slope, joining Gordon Skiers club and began training at The Lecht and Glenshee in Scotland.
After competing in the 2018 British Para Alpine Championships and winning two golds, Neil was selected for the GB Para Alpine team later that year.
His first major podium finish came when he was placed third in the Giant Slalom at the 2020 World Cup in Slovenia – gold in the slalom quickly followed. Further medals came his way at the Para Alpine World Cup in Austria in January 2021. Neil, who is guided by his brother Andrew, then claimed Super Combined silver at his maiden World Championships in Lillehammer, Norway in January 2022. Beijing 2022 will be Neil's first Paralympic Games.
He was nominated for the BBC Young Sports Personality of the Year award in 2020.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to 2022)
Super Combined: Silver, Downhill: 4th, Super-G: 4th, Slalom: 6th

ALEX SLEGG



DOB: 11/08/1991
FROM: AMESBURY, UK
TWITTER: @AlexSlegg
INSTAGRAM: @sitskialex

Alex Slegg lost the use of his right leg in 2013 after an injury sustained whilst serving in the British Army required emergency surgery to remove herniated discs in his spine.
His first ever experience of skiing was through the Battle Back programme for wounded soldiers in 2016 during his four years of rehabilitation. He joined the Armed Forces Para Snowsport Team in 2017, setting his sights on learning to ski race and competing at the Beijing Paralympic Games in 2022.
Alex entered his first international race in 2018 and enjoyed success in the following seasons with bronze, silver and gold medals while climbing the international rankings. Alex made his World Championships debut at the delayed Lillehammer 2021 competition. Beijing 2022 will be Alex's first Paralympic Games.

BRETT WILD (GUIDE)



DOB: 24/12/1992
FROM: GLASGOW
TWITTER: @BrettWild
INSTAGRAM: @brettwildskiracer

Both of Brett Wild's parents are ski instructors and he started skiing at the age of three while on a family holiday.
A submariner for the Royal Navy, Brett raced for the Scottish junior development squad in his teens and has represented both the Navy and Combined Services teams.
Brett began guiding Millie Knight after a three-day trial in Austria and the pair made their debut together at the World Cup Finals in Aspen in March 2016, where they won the Super-G and downhill events as well as finishing third in the Giant Slalom.
In 2017 the pair claimed an historic Downhill victory at the World Championships as well as securing the World Cup title for the same discipline for the 2016/17 season.
At the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games Millie and Brett won silver medals in Downhill and Super-G as well as a bronze medal in the Slalom on the final day of action.
Further success came at the delayed 2021 World Championships which took place in Lillehammer, Norway in January 2022. Millie and Brett claimed gold in the Super Combined race and followed up at the World Cup finals in Sweden, where they won Super-G gold and were awarded the 2021/22 season Super-G Crystal Globe.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2018 PyeongChang Paralympic Winter Games
Downhill: Silver, Super-G: Silver, Slalom: Bronze
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to January 2022)
Super Combined: Gold, Super-G: bronze
2017 World Championships, Tarvisio, Italy
Downhill: Gold, Super Combined: Silver, Giant Slalom: Silver, Slalom: Silver

ANDREW SIMPSON (GUIDE)



DOB: 13/03/2000
FROM: BANCHORY, SCOTLAND

Andrew started skiing at Aberdeen Snowsport Centre when he was just five-years-old. After family ski holidays he joined Gordon Skiers, training in Scotland at The Lecht and Glenshee.
He started racing in local competitions in Scotland and continued with Scottish and British races at home and abroad. He competed in races from Under-10s category up to his first year in FIS races.
The Scottish Visual Impairment ski club in Edinburgh assisted Andrew with techniques for guiding his brother Neil when Neil was initially classified. Andrew's debut race with Neil was in 2018 at the GB Para Alpine Championships where they won a gold in Giant Slalom. In the 2019/20 season he guided Neil in the Para Alpine World Cup races with slalom gold and Giant Slalom bronze before the season was shortened by the Covid pandemic.
At the rescheduled 2021 World Championships - which took place in January 2022 in Lillehammer, Norway – Andrew and Neil won silver in the Super Combined.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to 2022)
Super Combined: Silver, Downhill: 4th, Super-G: 4th, Slalom: 6th

GARY SMITH (GUIDE)



DOB: 24/03/1984
FROM: LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE

Gary Smith first tried skiing as part of an RAF skiing expedition in 2002 in Les Arcs, France. He quickly became hooked and, within four years, he was racing for the RAF squad.
Following skier Charlotte Evans' retirement, Gary began guiding for Paralympic champion Kelly Gallagher, working as a full-time athlete with support from the Royal Air Force.
Soon after pairing up, the duo claimed a gold, silver and two bronze medals at the IPC World Cup Finals in Aspen, Colorado in March 2016, though they missed the 2017 World Championships after Kelly sustained a significant injury in training.
Gary and Kelly competed together at the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games with a fifth-place finish in the Giant Slalom, their best result on the slopes of Jeongseon. Gary will guide Menna Fitzpatrick at Beijing 2022.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2018 PyeongChang Paralympic Games
Super-G: 8th, Super combinedl: 7th, Giant slalom: 5th, Slalom: 6th

PARA SNOWBOARD





Para Snowboard will be back for a third Winter Paralympic Games in Beijing after a hugely successful display in PyeongChang.

Having made its debut in Sochi across men's and women's Snowboard Cross, there were ten gold medals up for grabs four years ago. And there will now be eight available in the Chinese capital this year, including six in men's events and two in women's.

The two events that will be contested are Banked Slalom and Snowboard Cross.

First year at a Paralympic Games:

Sochi 2014

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

Brief history:

Seven years after a group of athletes started campaigning to get Para snowboard included in the Winter Paralympics, it was announced in 2012 that the sport would feature in Sochi in 2014.

There were two events at those games, with America's Evan Strong and the Netherlands' Bibian Mentel-Spee making history with Snowboard Cross gold in the men's and women's events respectively.

The sport continued to grow with the first World Championships held in 2015 and a second in 2017, and there were ten events featured at the PyeongChang Paralympics in 2018.

America were the most successful nation with five gold medals, with Brenna Huckaby triumphing in the women's SB-LL1 Banked Slalom and Snowboard Cross.

Mentel-Spee won two gold medals in the SB-LL2 category with ten different countries winning medals - as ParalympicsGB athletes competed in the sport for the first time.

ParalympicsGB flagbearer Owen Pick competed in both SB-LL2 events, with Ben Moore and James Barnes-Miller in action in the SB-UL classification events

PyeongChang 2018 medal table:

	G	S	B
USA	5	5	3
Netherlands	2	2	1
Australia	1	0	1
Finland	1	0	1
Japan	1	0	1

Rules:

Snowboard Cross (head-to-head):
During qualification, each athlete completes three runs down the course with their best run determining the final order based on ascending time. There is only one rider on the course at a time during qualification. Finals comprise 16 men and eight women, with two competitors per heat or such other numbers as determined by the jury.

The finalists race against each other to determine the final rankings. The ideal Snowboard Cross may allow the construction of any features excluding: gap jumps, corner jumps, spines and double spines, cutting banks, giant slalom turns and negative banks.

Banked Slalom:
Each athlete completes three runs down the course with their best run determining the final order, based on the ascending time. There is only one rider on the course at a time. The course may be a medium pitched slope of varying terrain, with plenty of bumps and dips, and preferably a U-shape/natural valley.

Classification
Athletes will compete in three classifications at Beijing 2022 – two for athletes with impairments affecting their lower limbs (SB-LL1 and SB-LL2) and one for athletes with upper limb impairments (SB-UL). The SB-LL1 class is for athletes with a higher level of impairment compared to SB-LL2. More information on classification in Para Snowboard can be found on the IPC website World Para Snowboard classification **(LINK)**

ATHLETE BIOGRAPHIES

JAMES BARNES-MILLER



DOB: 31/08/1989
FROM: BROADSTAIRS, KENT
TWITTER: @stubber89
INSTAGRAM: @stubbergram

James Barnes-Miller was a keen skateboarder as a youngster and first tried snowboarding while on holiday with friends in Bulgaria in 2010.
This led to another snowboarding trip to The Netherlands, where James met Para snowboarder and future PyeongChang 2018 teammate Owen Pick who encouraged him to get in contact with the British Para Snowsport team.
In 2017 James finished fourth in Snowboard Cross at the World Championships in Big White, Canada – his debut at that level.
James became the first snowboarder to represent Great Britain at the Paralympic Games when he left the gate for his Snowboard Cross qualification run at PyeongChang 2018. James ultimately finished seventh in the Snowboard Cross SB-UL and tenth in the Banked Slalom.
Following Pyeongchang, James has established himself as one of the leading riders on the international circuit, backed up after winning the Crystal Globe as the overall World Cup Snowboard Cross leader in 2020.
At the delayed 2021 World Championships in Lillehammer, James was once again one of the standout performers, winning two individual medals, a silver and a bronze in the Snowboard Cross and Banked Slalom events as well as a bronze in the team Snowboard Cross event.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2018 PyeongChang Paralympic Winter Games
Snowboard Cross: 7th, Banked Slalom: 10th
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to January 2022)
Snowboard Cross: Silver, Banked Slalom: Bronze, Snowboard Cross team: Bronze
2017 World Championships, Big White, Canada
Snowboard Cross: 4th, Banked Slalom: 9th

OWEN PICK



DOB: 07/09/1991
FROM: BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK
TWITTER: @OwenJamesPick
INSTAGRAM: @owenpick

Owen Pick took up snowboarding on a trip to Colorado and soon after followed up with a snowboard instructor's course.
He was injured when he stepped on an improvised explosive device (IED) while serving for the British Army in Afghanistan at the age of 18, after which Owen opted to have his right leg amputated.
His first Para Snowboard race came in 2014 and he quickly impressed, becoming part of the British team and picking up an eighth-place finish at the 2015 X Games.
In 2017 Owen claimed his first World Championship medal when he finished second behind Finland's Matti Sur-Hamari in Big White, Canada.
Owen competed for ParalympicsGB at the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games, finishing in 9th place in both Snowboard Cross and Banked Slalom.
Ahead of competing Owen was given the honour of being selected as ParalympicsGB's flagbearer at the opening ceremony.
In 2019 Owen retained his World Championship silver medal for Banked Slalom, which helped propel him to the top of the World Cup standings and saw him pick up the Crystal Globe title in March 2020.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2018 PyeongChang Paralympic Winter Games
Snowboard Cross: 9th, Banked Slalom: 9th
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to January 2022)
Snowboard Cross: 14th
2019 World Championships, Pyha, Finland
Banked Slalom: Silver
2017 World Championships, Big White, Canada
Banked Slalom: Silver, Snowboard Cross: 6th

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

OLLIE HILL



DOB: 08/05/1989
FROM: READING, BERKSHIRE
INSTAGRAM: @olliemx131

From an early age Ollie was into extreme sports, having started skiing before he turned four while on holiday, and then eventually converting to snowboarding at the age of eight having already tried his hand at skateboarding.
A promising motocross rider in his teens, Ollie was involved in an accident in December 2018 which resulted in his right leg being amputated below the knee.
Having come across the Para Snowboarding team while recovering in hospital, Ollie eventually earned a place on the squad in summer 2020 and hasn't looked back since.
In just his third World Cup Snowboard Cross race, Ollie finished up on the podium in second position and was second overall in the World Cup standings in his rookie season.
Set to make his Paralympic debut in Beijing, Ollie comes into the Games in top form after winning a maiden World Championship medal when he combined with James Barnes-Miller to take bronze in the Snowboard Cross team event, after just missing out on the podium in the Banked Slalom.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to January 2022)
Snowboard Cross: 6th, Banked Slalom: 4th, Snowboard Cross Team: Bronze

ANDY MACLEOD



DOB: 29/06/1992
FROM: STIRLING, SCOTLAND
INSTAGRAM: @adventureandygb

Andy lost his right leg after a cycling accident in 2011 when he was hit by a car.
Already interested in snowboarding prior to the accident while at university, he soon began competing and was selected to be a torch bearer for both the London 2012 Olympic Games and the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.
Joining the Para Snowboard team in 2018 Andy made an immediate impression with a top 10 finish in his maiden World Cup race in Landgraaf, Netherlands.
He has continued to post some great results and most recently finished in the top 16 in both the Snowboard Cross and Banked Slalom events at the 2021 World Championships.
Andy will make his Paralympic debut in Beijing.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to January 2022)
Snowboard Cross: 15th, Banked Slalom: 14th

PARA NORDIC SKIING





Para Nordic skiing consists of two disciplines, cross-country skiing and biathlon.

Great Britain had its first representation in the sport in 20 years at the 2018 Games, as Scott Meenagh raced six times at PyeongChang, covering 60km, with his best result coming in the men's 12.5km sitting biathlon where he finished 13th.
While Sochi 2014 was dominated by the Russian Federation, PyeongChang saw an array of fresh talent come through, with both the United States and Canada winning a total of four gold medals in the cross-country events.

But Russian athletes competing under the Neutral Paralympic Athletes flag took the top spot in the biathlon, claiming a total of 11 medals – five gold, five silver and one bronze. Ukraine and Germany finished second and third on the medal table respectively, with the former winning four gold medals, five silver and five bronze and the latter claiming three golds and two bronzes.
Four years later, veteran visually impaired Canadian skier Brian McKeever was one of the stars of the Games as he added three more gold medals to his collection to become the most decorated cross-country skier in Paralympic history.

Oksana Masters also overcame a dislocated elbow to claim golds in the women's cross-country sprint and middle distances sitting races, while she also added two biathlon silvers and one cross-country bronze to become the most successful US Para Nordic skier in history.

First year at a Paralympic Games:

Örnsköldsvik 1976 (Cross-Country)
Innsbruck 1988 (Biathlon)

Brief history:

Cross-Country skiing first appeared at the Örnsköldsvik 1976 Paralympic Winter Games. Biathlon for athletes with a physical impairment was introduced at the Innsbruck 1988 Paralympic Games. Athletes with a visual impairment were added into the biathlon programme in 1992.

Meenagh became Great Britain's first Para Nordic skier since Terry Ahrens turned out for ParalympicsGB at Nagano in 1998, ending a two decade wait, with his best result coming in the men's 12.5km sitting biathlon where he finished 13th.

PyeongChang 2018 medal table Biathlon:

	G	S	B
Neutral	5	5	1
Ukraine	4	5	5
Germany	3	0	2

PyeongChang 2018 medal table Cross-Country:

	G	S	B
USA	4	3	2
Canada	4	1	5
Ukraine	3	2	3

Rules:

Cross-Country and Biathlon:

Skiers in Cross-Country and Biathlon compete in different sport classes depending on the activity limitation that their impairment causes. Like Alpine classes, there are three categories in which medals can be won: Standing, Sitting and Visually Impaired. Standing athletes will have either/a combination of upper and lower limb impairment. Sit skiers have a more severe lower limb impairment and an impairment of the trunk.

ATHLETE BIOGRAPHIES

SCOTT MEENAGH



DOB: 16/09/1989
FROM: CUMBERNAULD, SCOTLAND
TWITTER: @SMeenagh
INSTAGRAM: @smeenagh89

Scott Meenagh was inspired to try Para Nordic skiing after getting a taste of winter sport during Sochi 2014, which he experienced as part of the Paralympic Inspiration Programme.
Prior to that Scott competed in Para rowing at an international level. He started Nordic Skiing in December 2014 and made the switch from rowing full-time in March 2016.
Scott made his competitive debut for Great Britain at the World Cup in Vuokatti, Finland in December 2016.
At the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games Scott became the first British Para Nordic skier to represent his country at that level. He raced six times at PyeongChang, covering 60km, with his best result coming in the men's 12.5km sitting Biathlon where he finished 13th.
As a youngster Scott played rugby competitively and represented West of Scotland and Scotland Under-18s.
He was injured when he stepped on an improvised explosive device (IED) while serving in Afghanistan at the age of 21.
Since making his Paralympic debut in Pyeongchang Scott has continued to impress on the international circuit, claiming a host of top 10 results at the 2019 World Championships in Prince George, Canada.
Despite an interrupted 2021 season, Scott finished eighth in the Long Distance Cross Country event at the delayed 2021 World Championships, taking place in Lillehammer, Norway in January 2022.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2018 PyeongChang Paralympic Winter Games
Biathlon Sprint: 18th
Cross Country Long Distance: 17th
Biathlon Middle Distance: 13th
Cross Country Sprint: 16th
Biathlon Long Distance: 14th
Cross Country Middle Distance: 14th
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to January 2022)
Biathlon Sprint: 12th
Biathlon Middle Distance: 15th
Biathlon Long Distance: 9th
Cross Country Sprint: 13th

CALLUM DEBOYS



DOB: 13/06/1996
FROM: PRESTWICK, SCOTLAND
INSTAGRAM: @deboysc

Callum was involved in a serious motorcycle road traffic accident while travelling to work in June 2017, in which he broke both legs and resulting in an above knee amputation of his left leg five days later.
Once recovered, Callum was introduced to Para Nordic skier and now ParalympicsGB teammate, Scott Meenagh, who was Great Britain's sole Para Nordic competitor at the 2018 Pyeongchang Games.
This eventually led to Callum joining Scott and the Armed Forces Para Snowsports team on a trip to Germany, where he would begin his journey in Para Nordic skiing.
Less than a year after taking up the sport, and in just his second race, Callum achieved the Paralympic qualification time at the 2019 World Championships in Prince George, Canada after finishing 14th in the Middle Distance Cross Country event.
Callum has also started to compete in the Biathlon events and is set to make his Paralympic debut at Beijing in both Cross Country and Biathlon.
Despite his participation in the 2021 World Championships being derailed by a bout of Covid-19, Callum comes into the Games high in confidence following a ninth-place finish in the sprint Biathlon race at the 2022 Östersund World Cup.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2019 World Championships, Prince George, Canada
Sprint Cross Country: 15th
Middle Distance Cross Country: 14th
Long Distance Cross Country: 13th

STEVE ARNOLD



DOB: 09/07/1979
FROM: SHIPTON BELLINGER, HAMPSHIRE
TWITTER: @stevearnold79
INSTAGRAM: @stevearnold79

A former Staff Sergeant in the army, Steve lost his legs when he stepped on an IED while serving for the army in Afghanistan in 2011.
Within a year Steve had turned his attention to hand cycling where he competed as vice-captain for Great Britain at the Invictus Games and took part in the Race Across America alongside other injured military veterans.
It wasn't long before Steve joined the British Cycling programme, but after failing to qualify for the 2016 Rio Paralympics Games, he turned his attention towards Para Nordic skiing, taking up the sport in January 2017.
Narrowly missing out on selection for Pyeongchang four years ago, Steve will make his Paralympic debut at Beijing competing in both the Biathlon and Cross Country events.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2019 World Championships, Prince George, Canada
Biathlon Sprint: 14th
Biathlon Middle Distance: 11th
Biathlon Long Distance: 11th
Cross Country Sprint: 13th
Cross Country Middle Distance: 13th
Cross Country Long Distance: 11th
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to January 2022)
Biathlon Sprint: 19th
Biathlon Middle Distance: 17th
Biathlon Long Distance: 18th
Cross Country Sprint: 20th

STEVE THOMAS



DOB: 05/01/1977
FROM: BARRY, WALES
TWITTER: @StephenThomas99
INSTAGRAM: @stephenthomas99

Despite only taking up Para Nordic skiing in 2018, Steve is no stranger to the Paralympic Games.
Growing up in Wales as a semi-professional rugby player, Steve had both his legs amputated after contracting meningitis aged 18.
He soon went on to make his Paralympic debut at the 2004 Games in Athens as a member of Great Britain's sailing team, before trying his hand at sledge hockey just two years later at the 2006 Turin Winter Paralympic Games.
Having competed at a further three Summer Games, Beijing 2008, London 2012 and Rio 2016, Steve retired only to reverse that decision, and start to represent Great Britain in Para Nordic skiing for the first time in December 2018.
Set to compete at his sixth Paralympic Games, Steve will line up in the Sprint Cross Country events.

MAJOR RESULTS:
Para Nordic Skiing
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to January 2022)
Cross Country Sprint: 21st
Cross Country Middle Distance: 21st
2019 World Championships, Prince George, Canada
Cross Country Sprint: 16th
Sailing
Rio 2016 Paralympic Games
Three-person keelboat (sonar): 9th
London 2012 Paralympic Games
Three-person keelboat (sonar): 5th
2008 Beijing Paralympic Games
Mixed three-person sonar: 6th
2004 Athens Paralympic Games
Mixed three-person sonar: 6th

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

HOPE GORDON



DOB: 04/11/1994
FROM: GOLSPIE, SCOTLAND
TWITTER: @HopeGordon_
INSTAGRAM: @hopegordon_

Already a talented member of Great Britain's highly competitive Para Canoe squad, Hope will swap her paddle for ski poles when she makes her Paralympic debut in Beijing.
Winning two silver medals as recently as September at the 2021 Canoe Sprint World Championships, Hope joined up with the Para Nordic squad just a month later where she took to the snow for the first time in Germany.
Her rapid rise in the sport saw her compete at her maiden World Cup event in Canada within a matter of months, before being selected to compete at the rescheduled World Championships in January 2022 where she competed in the Cross Country sprint event.
Hope will make history in Beijing where she will become Great Britain's first ever female Para Nordic skier.

MAJOR RESULTS:
Para Nordic Skiing
2021 World Championships, Lillehammer, Norway (delayed to January 2022)
Cross country sprint: 16th
Para Canoe
2021 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships, Copenhagen, Denmark
KL3: Silver
VL3: Silver
2019 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships, Szeged, Hungary
KL3: 5th

WHEELCHAIR CURLING





Wheelchair curling is a team sport played on ice with similar rules to its Olympic counterpart.

After missing out on the podium at Vancouver 2010, the ParalympicsGB wheelchair curling team were able to bounce back in style at Sochi 2014 by claiming a bronze medal – Great Britain's second Paralympic medal in the sport after securing silver at Turin 2006.
However, the ParalympicsGB team were not able to add to their medal tally at PyeongChang 2018. Once again led by skip Aileen Neilson, the British team of Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, Bob McPherson and alternate Angie Malone finished seventh in the round-robin stages.
ParalympicsGB won five of their 11 matches, opening with a win over eventual silver medallists Norway.
After a loss to Switzerland, Great Britain won three games in a row, including against defending champions Canada, but six defeats overall left the team outside the four play-off spots.
Attention then turned to a home World Championship, where Scotland more than held their own among the world's best curlers in Stirling.
David Melrose joined the team and helped the hosts to seven wins in the round-robin stage to qualify for the play-offs.
Scotland edged Slovakia 7-6 before dominating Norway 7-3 in the semi-final to ensure they would make the podium in front of home fans.
The side fell at the final hurdle as China claimed the gold but Scotland earned a seventh World Championship medal and improved on their bronze in 2017.
At the 2021 edition, Scotland got revenge over China in the round-robin stages as the squad for Beijing 2022 got a taste of what competition will feel like at the Beijing National Aquatics Centre.

First year at a Paralympic Games:

Turin 2006

Brief history:

The first World Wheelchair Curling Championships was held in January 2002 and, in March that year, the International Paralympic Committee granted official medal status to wheelchair curling for mixed-gender teams.

PyeongChang 2018 medal table:

	G	S	B
China	1	0	0
Norway	0	1	0
Canada	0	0	1

Rules:

Wheelchair Curling
Wheelchair curling is a team sport with similar rules to its Olympic counterpart – although no sweeping is permitted. Each team must include male and female players and a female athlete must be on the ice at all times. The team is made up of four players and a qualified alternate may be brought into play at the beginning of an end to substitute one of their teammates.

A team declares its delivery rotation, and the skip and vice-skip positions, prior to the start of a game and maintains that rotation and those positions throughout that game.

The object of the sport is to slide stones with handles across the ice, aiming for them to come to a stop on a target, called the house, which is marked by four concentric circles.

The lead delivers the first stone and the play continues with each athlete delivering two stones, alternating with the opposing team. Placing the stone inside the house means earning a possible point.

Two teams take turns to deliver stones down the ice attempting to get closer to the centre of the house than their opponents. The team that places the most stones closest to the centre of the house wins the point.
Curling stones are made of smooth granite and must conform to precise parameters: a circumference of 91.44cm and a minimum height of 11.43cm. The weight, including the handle, must not exceed 19.96kgs. Delivery of the stone may be undertaken by the conventional arm/hand release or by the use of an extender cue.

Each game is played over eight ends with an extra end played should the teams be tied.

Classification
Wheelchair curling has only one sport class and athletes must have an eligible impairment affecting their lower limbs, although some may also have impairment in their arms. All athletes must use a wheelchair in competition though not all athletes use a wheelchair in daily life. More information on classification in wheelchair curling can be found here WCF Classification Rule - October 2014 (LINK)

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

ATHLETE BIOGRAPHIES

GREGOR EWAN



DOB: 28/06/1971
FROM: DUNDEE, SCOTLAND
TWITTER: @gregorcurling

Former boxer Gregor Ewan has experience of landing knockout blows on the Winter Paralympic stage.
The Scot was part of the team skippered by Aileen Neilson which took home bronze from Sochi in 2014 but a seventh-placed finish in PyeongChang four years later left him with a sense of unfinished business which the veteran feels has made him 'more determined' ahead of his third Games.
Ewan has embarked on several lifestyle changes since his most recent Paralympic appearance, losing eight stone and cutting down on painkillers after being dropped from the Scotland squad in 2018.
Both have given him a new lease of life on the ice and the Moray Wheelchair Curling Club member, who is inspired by Muhammad Ali and first tried the sport in 2007 after becoming a wheelchair user following years of heavy lifting on building sites, will hope his hard work pays off in Beijing.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2014 Sochi Paralympic Games:
Bronze
2017 World Championships, Gangneung, South Korea:
Bronze
2011 World Championships, Prague, Czech Republic:
Silver

MEGGAN DAWSON-FARRELL



DOB:18/09/1992
FROM: TULLIBODY, SCOTLAND
TWITTER: @SpiderMonkey165
INSTAGRAM: @spidermonkey165

Almost 5,000 miles separate Hampden Park and the Beijing National Aquatics Centre but for wheelchair curler Meggan Dawson-Farrell, starring in the global spotlight at this year's Paralympic Winter Games will feel like home.
Scottish star Dawson-Farrell, from Tullibody, represented Scotland as a wheelchair racer at the 2014 Commonwealth Games and eight years on from the Glasgow bonanza, has officially secured her status as a Paralympic athlete.
But it's the Chinese ice, not Summer Paralympic track, that the 29-year-old will be targeting after boldly deciding to switch sports following her seventh-place finish in the T54 1,500m at Hampden Park in 2014.
Dawson-Farrell suffered a pressure sore in her leg after the Games that took her out of action for five months, triggering her decision to give wheelchair curling a go as she recovered in 2017.
It proved a match made in heaven since taking to the ice and half a decade later, she will now form part of ParalympicsGB's five-strong team set to descend on the Beijing National Aquatics Centre – this year's wheelchair curling venue – where she'll hope to play a key role.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2014 Commonwealth Games, Glasgow, Scotland (T54 1,500m): Seventh

DAVID MELROSE



DOB: 02/03/1966
FROM: DUNS, SCOTTISH BORDERS
TWITTER: @DavidMelrose10

David Melrose's life changed drastically when he sustained a spinal injury while on duty as a firefighter after a steel beam fell and struck him.
Before that incident, Melrose was a fit man, previously playing football up to semi-professional level before taking up golf, and being a wheelchair user had its initial challenges.
But then came curling which changed his life again. As he says himself, he felt "reborn" and was given new purpose when selected on the Great Britain curling performance programme in Stirling.
After an incredibly successful debut at the 2019 World Curling Championships, where Melrose and his team picked up a silver medal, he cast his eye to Beijing and a maiden Paralympic Games.
Now he has reached the Games, he has one thing on his mind – gold. He has already set out his goal of not only winning a gold medal but of returning home and choosing the post-box that would be painted the same colour in his name.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2019 World Championships, Stirling, Scotland:
Silver

HUGH NIBLOE



DOB: 09/01/1982
FROM: STRANRAER, SCOTLAND
TWITTER: @shug9
INSTAGRAM: @shug9

Hugh Nibloe admitted that dominoes were his only competitive outlet prior to taking up wheelchair curling.
The 40-year-old missed sporting competition after being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis between 2005 and 2006, having played rugby for his school team and Wigtownshire RFC before joining the merchant navy.
But a chance meeting in a pub in Stranraer while playing dominoes with the then-coach of the Stranraer Wheelchair Curling Club, Brian Park, started a journey that has now brought him to the Paralympic Winter Games in Beijing.
This will be Nibloe's second Games, having also represented ParalympicsGB four years ago in South Korea.
And armed with that experience of helping his team finish seventh, Nibloe has been appointed team skip and is ready to push for a podium spot this time around. in the Sprint Cross Country events.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2017 World Championships, PyeongChang, South Korea:
Bronze
2019 World Championships, Stirling, Scotland:
Silver

PARALYMPICSGB GUIDE
BEIJING 2022 WINTER PARALYMPIC GAMES

GARY SMITH



DOB: 05/03/1969
FROM: EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND
TWITTER: @Garys35

Competing at Beijing 2022 may have come as a surprise to Gary Smith as he was drafted in as recently as the beginning of February when Charlotte McKenna withdrew due to injury.
Describing himself as a shy and laid-back character, Smith - who used to work for the NHS - got involved with curling after years of travelling the world playing wheelchair basketball.
Unfortunately, injury forced him to retire, and to fill the competitive void he decided to take up curling after seeing his first basketball coach Tom Killin represent Scotland and Great Britain in several Paralympics.
Now it's Smith's turn and he will be hoping to celebrate his 53rd birthday in style when the competition gets underway at the Ice Cube on 5th March.
This won't be the first taste of international curling for Smith who represented Scotland at the 2020 World Championships in Wetzikon, Switzerland finishing ninth.

MAJOR RESULTS:
2020 World Championships, Wetzikon, Switzerland:
Ninth

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