

Decision Framework for Allocation of Nordic Skiing Quota Slots Milano Cortina 2026 Paralympic Winter Games

1. Purpose

This framework aims to ensure a transparent, fair, and consistent approach to allocating athlete quota slots between Snow Australia (Para Cross-Country Skiing) and Biathlon Australia (Para Biathlon) for the Milano Cortina 2026 Paralympic Winter Games

2. Key Principles

- Compliance with the IPC Qualification Regulations and relevant sport-specific rules.
- Fairness and transparency in allocation.
- Athlete-focused approach that supports high performance and Games readiness.
- Stakeholder collaboration and respect for the roles of both National Federations.

3. Decision Criteria

Athlete quota slots received by Paralympics Australia for the sport of Nordic Skiing for the Milano Cortina 2026 Paralympic Winter Games will be allocated to National Federations based on the following considerations:

- 1 Athlete Medal Potential** – The realistic chance of achieving a medal or top-8 finish at the Games.
- 2 Representation** – Ensure Australia is represented in both Para Biathlon and Para Cross-Country Skiing.
- 3 Strategic Value** - How best to maximise Australia's overall success at the Games, considering the combined impact of both disciplines.
- 4 Independent Input** – Input from a Sport decision panel (which may include the Chef de Mission - chairperson, a former para-nordic athlete unaffiliated with either National Federation, a representative from Snow Australia & a representative from Biathlon Australia) to help ensure balanced and athlete-focused decisions.

4. Process Steps

- ✓ The Chef de Mission will consult with both Snow Australia and Biathlon Australia to gather data on athlete readiness and medal potential.
- ✓ The Chef de Mission will seek input from any subject matter experts to ensure balanced, sport-informed decision-making.
- ✓ Paralympics Australia, in consultation of the Sport decision panel, will apply its own criteria to determine which National Federation the PA Selection Committee will seek a nomination from to fill each available athlete quota slot.
- ✓ Decisions will be communicated clearly to both National Federations and athletes in advance of the nomination date.

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