



To:
NPCs widely and regularly practicing Athletics

Bonn, 23 January 2020

London 2020 World Para Athletics Marathon World Cup

Dear NPC/NF,

World Para Athletics are pleased to inform you that we will be returning to the Virgin Money London Marathon as they host the 2020 World Para Athletics Marathon World Cup as part of the 2020 Virgin Money London Marathon on 26 April 2020, in London, Great Britain.

Event Details

The 2020 WPA Marathon World Cup will mirror the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games marathon medal event programme and serves as an opportunity for athletes to gain qualification slots for their respective NPC (see the Tokyo 2020 Qualification Guide for further information). The events are as follows with the published Entry Standards:

Event	Eligible Class(es)	Minimum Entry Standard (MES)
Men's Marathon T12	T11/12	3:00:00
Men's Marathon T46	T45/46	3:00:00
Men's Marathon T54	T52/53/54	1:35:00
Women's Marathon T12	T11/12	3:35:00
Women's Marathon T54	T53/54	1:58:00

International Paralympic Committee

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www.paralympic.org
info@worldparaathletics.org

Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible for entry, an athlete must:

- hold an active World Para Athletics Licence for the 2020 season;
- hold a Review 2021 (or later) or Confirmed Sport Class Status*; and
- have a valid Minimum Entry Standard achieved at a World Para Athletics recognised marathon event between 01 January 2019 and 1 March 2020 in accordance with the Athlete Licensing Programme Policies valid for the 2018-2020 seasons; or
- have been allocated a Direct Invitation.

*Classification will be offered prior to the race (25 April) for athletes with a Visual Impairment. VI athletes may therefore enter with a New or Review Sport Class Status.

Guide-runners

NPCs may enter a maximum of two (2) Guide-runners per athlete for athletes in Sports Classes T11/12. All Guide-runners must hold an active World Para Athletics Licence for the 2020 season.

Maximum Entry per NPC

An NPC may enter a maximum of six (6) eligible athletes per individual medal event provided having met the Entry Standard of that event.

Ranking Invitations

Ranking Invitations will be issued to the top 10 ranked athletes in the 2019 Rankings in the Men's and Women's T12 and Men's T46 medal events, provided they meet the Athlete Eligibility Requirements. The London Marathon will invite athletes in the T52/53/54 medal events as part of the Elite Wheelchair race.

Invitation slots are allocated to the individual athlete and are not transferable to another athlete. All invitations will be at the discretion of World Para Athletics and the London Marathon. World Para Athletics and the London Marathon may, at their own discretion, invite additional athletes.

Direct Invitation

World Para Athletics reserves the right to directly invite athletes under the following criteria:

- To enable greater representation by nation or region;
- To ensure events featured on the programme will have sufficient representation for viability;
- To enable greater representation by gender;

- To ensure top athletes that may have not had the opportunity to formally qualify due to extraordinary circumstances.

To be considered for a direct invite, the athlete must hold a WPA Athlete Licence for the 2020 season. Applications for a direct invite must be submitted in writing to World Para Athletics by the athletes NPC before 21 February 2020 along with a proof of performance (Half-Marathon or Marathon).

World Para Athletics also reserve the right to issue a direct invite to athletes outside of the maximum six (6) athletes per NPC, per individual medal event, to secure the best and competitive fields.

Event Viability Criteria

A minimum of five (5) athlete entries from three (3) NPCs is necessary to sustain a World Cup medal event status.

World Para Athletics shall review the event viability following the close of the final entry on 5 March 2020. In the case an event did not meet the above viability criteria by final entry, World Para Athletics reserve the right to either cancel such events or run them as non-medal events.

In the case the entry number of an event drops below the aforementioned event viability criteria due to withdrawals after 5 March 2020, the event shall still be run as a Medal Event and the medals will be allocated under the ‘minus one’ rule.

Timeline

01 January 2019	Start of the qualification period for athletes to achieve MQS performances.
23 January 2020	Ranking Invitations communicated to NPCs.
23 January 2020	World Para Athletics open the online entry system (www.paralympic.org/entries).
21 February 2020	Deadline for NPCs to request in writing a Direct Invitation slot.
01 March 2020	End of the period for athletes to achieve MES performances to be eligible to compete.
5 March 2020	Deadline for entry through the World Para Athletics online entry system.

Logistics

Accommodation

The official race headquarters is:

The Tower Guoman Hotel

St. Katharine's way,

London E1 9LD

http://www.guoman.com/en/hotels/united_kingdom/london/the_tower/index.html

Accommodation (bed and breakfast) for athletes, guide-runners, and team officials is charged at £251 for a double/twin room (per night). Single rooms are charged at £219 (per night). Accommodation fees are payable directly to the London Marathon. Please return the attached booking form to Michelle Weltman (Michelle.Weltman@londonmarathonevents.co.uk) as soon as possible, and no later than 05 March 2020.

Meals

Lunch and dinner for athletes, guide-runners will be available in the official race hotel, starting on Thursday 23 April and ending on Sunday 29 April at a cost of £20 per meal. Breakfast is included in the accommodation fee.

Transport

Athletes will be expected to arrive in London no later than the 24 April and depart on the 27 April. NPCs will be responsible for air travel to and from London Heathrow for all Athletes, Guide-runners and Team Officials. London Marathon will provide ground transportation from **London Heathrow Airport (LHR)** to the official race hotel between 22 - 24 April, and back to London Heathrow Airport on 27 April. Athletes and Team Officials arriving and departing outside of the official arrival/departure dates and to/from other ports of entry will be responsible for their own travel to the hotel.

NPCs must communicate their travel plans with the LOC as soon as possible and no later than 27 March 2020 using the attached form.

Team Officials

The number of Team Officials permitted per NPC will be dependent on the number of Athletes entered into the competition and will be at the discretion of World Para Athletics and the London Marathon.

Accreditation to accompany athletes to the start line and assist athletes at the finish will be limited due to the space available on buses and in the start/finish tents.

NPCs will be responsible for all costs in relation to air travel, accommodation and meals for Team Officials. Accommodation in the official hotel will be dependent on availability.

Classification

Classification will take place for VI athletes on the 25 April 2020. All athletes with a New or Review Sport Class Status (except those with a fixed review date later than 2020) will be required to undergo classification prior to the competition.

Visas

If you require a visa to travel to London please contact Michelle Weltman (Michelle.Weltman@londonmarathonevents.co.uk) as soon as possible and no later than 28 February 2020.

Prize Structure

Prize money will be awarded by the London Marathon to the top three (3) athletes in each viable event who meet the athlete eligibility criteria.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Haozhe Gao".

Haozhe Gao
Head of World Para Athletics
International Paralympic Committee

Cc.

Laura Danning World Para Athletics Competition Manager

Michelle Weltman Para athlete Lead, Virgin Money London Marathon