



BADMINTON

BADMINTON will make its Paralympic debut at the Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020. The International Paralympic Committee announced the addition of the sport to the Paralympic program in 2014.

BASIC RULES

Badminton is played on an indoor court, with single, double or mixed events offered. Every time there is a serve, a point is scored and the side winning a rally serves the next point. Players must serve diagonally and hit the shuttle below the waist. Games are played to 21 points. If the score reaches 20-20, players must win by two points. The best two out of three wins the game.

Paralympic badminton is played according to the laws and regulations of the *Badminton World Federation*, with allowances made for certain classifications.

- **Wheelchair badminton** is played on half court for singles and full court for doubles. The main difference is that in all levels of the game, the front service line to the net is always considered 'out'.
- **Standing division** depends on the disability. This category will play either on a half or full court in singles but doubles are always on a full court.
- **Short stature** division has players in the short stature (dwarfism) category who play on the standard full court for all events.

EQUIPMENT

Equipment needed for the sport of badminton are the racket, a shuttlecock, the badminton net and the court. Depending on the athlete's impairment, sport specific equipment may be needed such as a wheelchair, prosthetics or a crutch to assist an athlete during play.

GETTING STARTED

We encourage you to start by connecting with a local adaptive sports organization that offers badminton or getting involved with a local badminton club. To find a list of clubs in your area, please visit www.TeamUSA.org/USA-Badminton/membership/member-clubs.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification determines which athletes are eligible to compete and how athletes are grouped together for competition. If an athlete has a Paralympic eligible impairment, the athlete may be eligible for a classification appointment. Once an athlete is ready to compete regionally or nationally, an athlete should seek classification.

For more information on Para badminton, please visit <https://www.teamusa.org/usa-badminton/para-athletes/overview>.

PARALYMPIC ELIGIBLE IMPAIRMENTS

- Ataxia, Athetosis and Hypertonia
- Impaired Muscle Power
- Impaired Passive Range of Movement
- Limb Deficiency
- Leg Length Difference
- Short Stature

PARALYMPIC CLASSIFICATIONS

Wheelchair classes:

- **WH1:** Players in this class require a wheelchair to play badminton. Players usually have impairments in both lower limbs and trunk function.
- **WH2:** A player in this class could have an impairment in one or both lower limbs and minimal or no impairment of the trunk

Standing classes:

- **SL3:** The player could have impairment in one or both lower limbs and poor walking/running balance.
- **SL4:** The player has a lesser impairment compared to Sport Class SL3. The player could have impairment in one or both lower limbs and minimal impairment in walking/running balance.
- **SL5:** The players in this class have an impairment of the upper limbs. The impairment could be on the playing or non playing hand.

Short Stature class:

- **SH6**—These are players who have a short stature due to a genetic condition often referred to as "dwarfism".