

Win Well Para Uplift Steering Group

Terms of Reference

Background

In 2022, the HP sport system created Australia's Win Well High Performance 2032+ Sport Strategy (HP 2032+ Strategy). In the first Horizon of HP 2032+ Strategy implementation, significant work was undertaken to uncover the barriers that Para Athletes face when entering and progressing through high performance pathways.

In July 2024, the Federal Government recognised the work required to overcome Para Athlete barriers by committing a record level of funding for Para sport, with the \$54.9 million over two years doubling existing support.

The activities and initiatives enabled through this increased Federal Government support, in addition to co-contribution from Paralympics Australia (PA), the SIS/SAS (and their State and Territory Governments) and National Sporting Organisations (NSO), will collectively deliver a 'Para Uplift'.

Through the leadership of the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), and in collaboration with all HP system partners, the Federal Government's investment will address better classification opportunities, access to fit-for-purpose training environments, and specialised coaching and performance support, in addition to other initiatives aimed at addressing the barriers Para Athletes experience.

To ensure effective implementation of the Para Uplift, a cross-system Win Well Para Uplift Steering Group (the Steering Group) has been established. This group acts as an advisory group, providing support to the AIS to oversee and monitor Para Uplift activities and initiatives.

Purpose

The Win Well Para Uplift Steering Group will provide advice and guidance to the AIS to ensure that Para Uplift activities and initiatives are effectively addressing the barriers that Para Athletes face upon entry and throughout the HP pathway, with a view to the long-term health of Para sport in Australia.

Scope

The Steering Group has an advisory role, providing support to the AIS to oversee and monitor Para Uplift activities and initiatives. The Steering Group will;

- (a) monitor the progress of Para Uplift initiatives and activities and consider progress against agreed measures of success;
- (b) consider system communication needs, including the development of a Para Uplift cycle of reporting to the system;
- (c) facilitate the discussion and development of system solutions for issues raised by members of the HP sector;

- (d) advise on Para System partner roles and responsibilities, aligned with HP2032+ Strategy roles and responsibilities; and
- (e) provide guidance on next steps and future Para Uplift activities or initiatives.

The AIS will facilitate opportunities for feedback from the HP system to the Steering Group on the implementation of Para Uplift activities and initiatives.

Composition

The Steering Group will be comprised as follows:

- (a) General Manager Performance Systems and Paralympic Partnerships, AIS (Chair);
- (b) Director, AIS;
- (c) Chief Executive Officer, PA;
- (d) Director of Performance Strategy, PA;
- (e) Two SIS/SAS representatives (nominated by a process conducted by the National Institute Network Directors);
- (f) One NSO CEO of Paralympic or Commonwealth Games sport that features a para discipline (appointed through an EOI process);
- (g) One NSO Performance Director from a Paralympic or Commonwealth Games sport that features a para discipline (appointed through an EOI process);
- (h) Two Para Athlete representatives (appointed through an EOI process);
- (i) One High Performance coach with experience in Para sport (appointed through an EOI process).

In recognition of the critical role of safe, welcoming, inclusive, and enjoyable sporting environments as an entry point to Paralympic HP pathways, a representative of the ASC Play Well Strategy will act as an observer to the Steering Group.

AIS Performance will provide secretariat services to the Steering Group.

Steering Group members pursuant to 3(a- d) are *ex officio* members.

In nominating members pursuant to 3(e – i), consideration should be given to ensuring that Paralympic (both Winter and Summer) and Commonwealth Games sports that feature a para discipline are represented.

Steering Group members are appointed for the full term, but (aside from *ex officio* members) may be replaced by the Chair upon failure to attend three (3) consecutive meetings, or otherwise at the Chair's discretion.

The filling of Steering Group member vacancies due to Chair replacement, resignation, or other vacancy however occasioned, must be in accordance with the original procedure from which the individual was nominated.

Term

The term of the Steering Group shall commence on 1 January 2025 and shall cease on 31 December 2026.

Meetings and quorum

The Steering Group will meet as often as required, and at least quarterly.

The Chair of the Steering Group will call meetings.

A quorum for meetings is 50%+1 of Steering Group members. Attendance via videoconferencing is acceptable for attendance and quorum purposes.

Where a Steering Group member cannot attend a scheduled meeting, a proxy may attend on that member's behalf with prior approval of the Chair. Such proxies are acceptable for quorum purposes.

Fees and expenses

Membership of the Steering Group is voluntary, and members are not paid for their services, aside from those Members nominated pursuant to 3(h) and 3(i) above.

The Members nominated pursuant to 3 (h) shall receive a payment of \$2500p/a.

The Member nominated pursuant to 3(i) shall receive a payment of \$2500p/a if not already employed full time within the HP system.

Reasonable expenses incurred by Steering Group members will be reimbursed by the AIS with prior approval of the Chair and upon receipt of a valid tax invoice. Where members are employees of the HP system, travel and ancillary costs will be the responsibility of their organisation if in-person attendance is deemed necessary. Where members are not employees within the HP system, travel and ancillary costs will be funded and coordinated from the AIS if in-person attendance is deemed necessary.

The Steering Group has no budget, and any request to incur expenditure by the Steering Group must be approved by the AIS General Manager Performance Systems and Paralympic Partnerships.

Confidentiality

Neither the Steering Group, nor any individual members, will make any media or public announcements in relation to the work of the Steering Group without prior authorisation of the Chair.

Steering Group members shall treat and keep all information, documents, presentations and meeting discussions as confidential unless advised otherwise, or unless the disclosure is of publicly available material.

Counterparts are acceptable for signing.

Date

Signed

Name

Organisation