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# Global Project for Inclusive Skating

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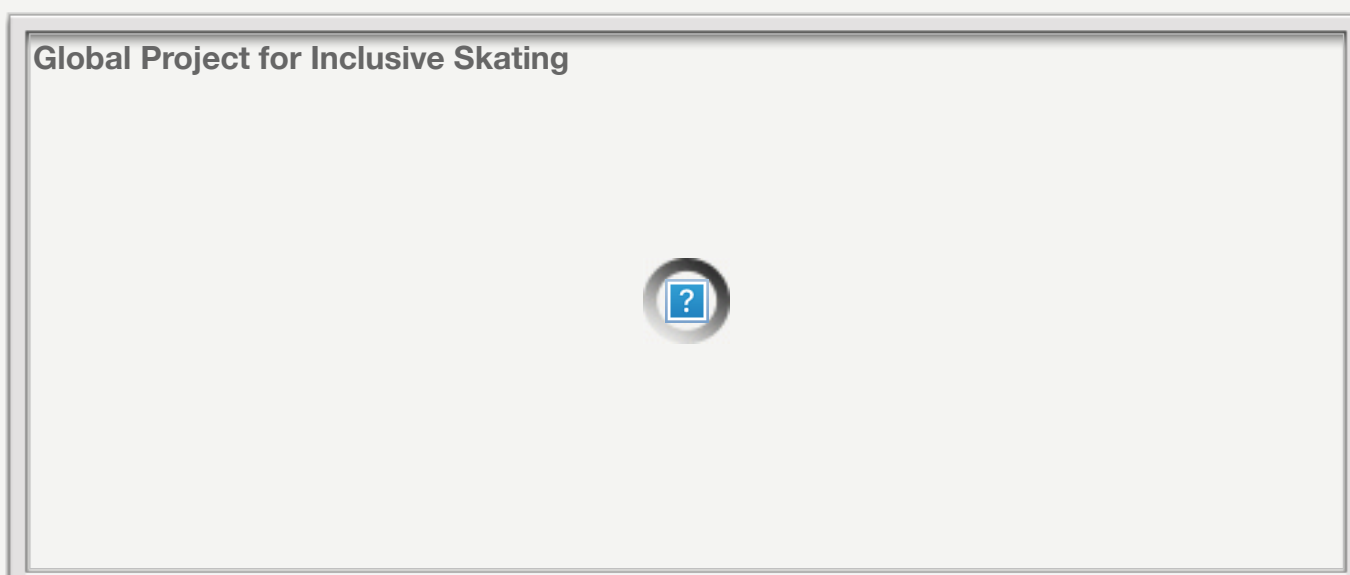
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Global Project for Inclusive Skating

**It's a 'Blue Riband' sport of the Winter Olympic Games – but ice skating has never been accepted into the Winter Paralympics or held a World Inclusive skating Championships– yet!**

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Surprisingly, of all the winter sports, ice skating does not feature in the prestigious Winter Paralympic Games. As a centrepiece arena in the Olympics, ice rinks and ice sports barely register in the Paralympics. There have been many valid reasons why this has happened, not least the difficulty of judging ice skating for athletes with any kind of disability, physical or mental challenge, using the traditional “relative” judging system (RJS).

However, with the Inclusive Skating competition system, the door has been opened for a radically new way to approach the sport of ice skating for challenged athletes. Inclusive Skating competitions allow athletes to be evaluated on an “absolute” mark, something which can then be realistically adjusted by an internationally agreed impairment compensation reflecting the athlete’s specific disability. This impairment compensation is based on an internationally accepted system known as the Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment, edited by Rondinelli and devised by the American Medical Association, that converts impairments to a % whole person impairment (WPI).

The Inclusive Skating competition system allows skaters with any form of impairment to compete because the technical rules have been adjusted to meet their needs. Skaters then compete fairly against each other through an impairment compensation that is added to the skating score.

The system has now been successfully tested at many international competitions since 2012.

This website has been created in order to generate widespread awareness throughout the global ice skating community for this exciting project, and to provide a focal point for information exchange. The ultimate aim of the project is to hold World Inclusive Skating Championships, to apply for and achieve recognition by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) for ice skating, in all its disciplines, as Winter Paralympic events. The dream would be the development of World Championships and Inclusive Olympic Events for skaters and all athletes with disability!



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