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PARALYMPICS AUSTRALIA ATHLETES’ COMMISSION UPDATE

Nominations for Summer Athlete Representations close *Wednesday 31st July 5pm AEST.*

Current Summer Paralympian AC Nomination Form Link: – <https://forms.office.com/r/YsTBFnaj0x>

If you have a keen interest in making a difference for our great community, we encourage you think about nominating to be on the Paralympics Australia Athletes’ Commission. Nominations for the 7 current Summer Paralympic member positions opened 100 days before the Opening Ceremony of the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games and will close one month prior to the Opening Ceremony. Voting will take place during the Paris Paralympic Games in 2024.

**Key dates for voting:**

- 20th May nominations opened (100 days out from opening ceremony)
- 31st July nominations close (1 month from opening ceremony)
- 28th August voting opens (day of opening ceremony)
- Voting closes after at least 5 days.
- AC members announced before closing ceremony.

Your Athlete’s Commission meets at least 4 times a year online and in-person, as well as regularly communicating on important matters in-between meetings. We are here to represent the views of Paralympic athletes across all sports, to enable greater engagement between PA and Para-athletes, and to help inform PA on decisions relating on athlete-facing matters.

PA’s Athlete Commission (PA AC) is also a key driving force of the Mob, connecting the present to the past and the future with a strong focus on nurturing wellbeing – not just related to sport.

Over the last few months, we have helped athletes on welfare matters, consulted with PA staff and Board, worked on the pin project, supported the Captains and Deputy Chef selection process for Paris 2024, been involved in discussions, planning and putting names forward for Brisbane 2032 committees and working groups, supported athletes representing on other committees, boards and commissions – including for the AIS, ASC, NSOs, and the IPC., and presented at Paris Workshops, the PA Staff Town Hall and PA Staff House Party, and to the PA Board.

The PA AC is made up of 11 Paralympians who have a shared passion and interest in the Australian Paralympic Movement and are deeply committed to working for and representing all athletes (retired and currently competing). For the current list of AC members please go to <https://www.paralympic.org.au/about-us/our-athlete-commission/>

The AC would like to acknowledge and thank the incredible hard work and dedication of the 7 current AC Summer Athlete representatives who are stepping down to make way for this summer vote.

They have done an amazing job and made so many important advancements for us all as a mob during their tenure on the Athletes' Commission. Heartfelt thanks to:

Angie Ballard, Blake Cochrane, Carol Cooke, Curtis McGrath, Danni Di Toro, Ella Sabljak, Prue Watt

And similarly, thanks to Annie Williams who is stepping down from one of the AC retired athlete positions, and has not only been instrumental in the set up and continuation of our AC, but was our incredible inaugural Chair.

We encourage you to engage with us – update us on how you are going, ask for any support, discuss any issues arising, or if you want to get involved, please don’t hesitate to email us at paathletescommission@paralympic.org.au