

Para-Athletes Participation at WIAA State Track and Field Meets

The WIAA believes all students should have the opportunity to participate in education-based activities. The benefits such as learning teamwork, goal setting, commitment, positive social interaction, and persistence are just a few benefits that are regularly used to promote sport as an educational activity. Those same benefits are applicable to students with disabilities. The goal of this program is to enable the para-athlete the ability to contribute in team scoring at the WIAA State Track and Field Meet.

A team trophy will be awarded for the combined scores of the para-athletes and the able-bodied athletes from the same school.

Details of Inclusion in the WIAA State Track and Field Meet:

Eligibility

- A. All para-athletes (wheelchair and ambulatory) must meet the rules established by the WIAA and individual school districts.
- B. All para-athletes must qualify to the state meet through the qualifying meet process.
- C. The para-athlete must meet or exceed the minimum standards established by the WIAA at the qualifying meet. See the QUALIFYING STANDARDS link on the WIAA website.
- D. A wheelchair athlete is anyone with a permanent physical disability. A statement of disability must be on file with the school nurse or designated personnel responsible for student health issues.
- E. An ambulatory athlete shall have a permanent orthopedic, neuromuscular or other physical disability. An ambulatory division will include Visual Impairment, Cerebral Palsy, Dwarfism, Amputees and similar physical disabilities. Permanent orthopedic impairment shall be verified by a licensed physician and maintained on permanent file at the school.

Events: Each competitor is limited to four of the following events:

	<i>Wheelchair</i>	<i>Ambulatory</i>
A. 100 Meter	X	X
B. 200 Meter		X
C. 400 Meter	X	X
D. 800 Meter	X	
E. 1600 Meter	X	
F. Shot put	X	X
G. Discus	X	X
H. Javelin	X	X

Registration of Athletes: All schools must register their para track and field qualifiers for the qualifying meets on the athletic.net website using their school's WIAA four-letter code (found on the WIAA Track and Field page at www.wiaa.com). All official qualifiers to the state meet will be automatically uploaded to the state meet roster registration from the qualifying meet report.

Scoring

1. When possible, a para-athlete will compete against the same gender for individual honors. The para-athlete will vie for team honors within their respective classification and gender.
2. When a para-athlete competes against another athlete of the same gender, and finishes first, two points will be awarded to his/her team.
3. The second place finisher receives one team point. If three para-athletes participate then the points will be awarded three, two and one. This scoring system will continue as illustrated in the table below.

10	8	6	5	4	3	2	1
	8	6	5	4	3	2	1
		6	5	4	3	2	1
			5	4	3	2	1
				4	3	2	1
					3	2	1
						2	1
							1

4. If the para-athlete is competing solo against the standards established by the WIAA then he/she will be awarded one team point for meeting or exceeding the standards for that event.

Track Equipment & Guidelines

A wheelchair participant shall compete in Track events in a manually operated wheelchair that meets legal specifications as follows:

- A wheelchair should have a **maximum** of three wheels.
- The diameter of the two largest wheels (including the inflated tire) shall not exceed 28 inches. Other wheels' diameters shall not exceed 20 inches (including the inflated tire) **and not be smaller than 10 inches.**
- Only one push rim shall be attached to each large wheel.
- The chair's seat, including the cushion, shall not exceed 25 inches in height.

Field Equipment & Guidelines

An athlete may throw from his/her wheelchair or a throwing frame. Both must comply with the following standards:

- The throwing frame sitting surface including the cushion must not exceed 75 cm in height.
- If the frame has a holding bar, it must be fixed (no articulating joints).
- No part of the throwing frame or wheelchair may be outside the circumference of the circle.
- The size of the discus, shot, and javelin for wheelchair participants shall be the same as for all other male and female participants.

Awards

- Team Trophies **presented to 50% of the schools represented in a classification up to a maximum of 4 total trophies.**
- Individual Medals **presented to the individuals represented by gender up to a maximum of 8 medals.**