



8th to 20th August

MEDIA GUIDE



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INTRODUCTION



The European Para Championships is a multisport event. It will be staged every four years and will always be hosted by a major European city in the year preceding the Paralympic Games. In 2023, the European Championships of ten different parasports will be organized simultaneously in one host city, for the very first time. This inaugural edition will take place in Rotterdam, the Netherlands from Tuesday 8 to Sunday 20 August 2023. At the event, 1,500 Paralympic athletes from forty-five different European countries will compete to become European Champions.

All sports that are part of the European Para Championships 2023 have a direct connection to the Road to the Paris 2024 Paralympics. Paralympic Qualifying Points can be earned during this event. Some sports even involve direct qualification for Paris 2024. By combining multiple European Para Championships on one occasion, we will create cross-pollination between sports federations, associations and other stakeholders.

The mission of the European Para Championships is to create a new standard for Paralympic sports events worldwide and to inspire people – with or without disabilities, rich or poor, young or old and regardless of background – to take up sports and exercise. We believe that only cooperation can help us succeed in this mission. By making connections, thinking big and believing in opportunities where others see limitations, we want to give adaptive sports the attention it deserves.

It is important to emphasize that the European Para Championships will not be a one-off event. Besides organizing the inaugural edition in Rotterdam, the Netherlands in 2023, the organizing committee develops the concept, scenario and event in such a manner that it will serve as a solid basis for guaranteeing the continuity of the event on the European sports calendar in 2027, 2031 and beyond.



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MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE EVENT

General information

www.epc2023.com

Media information *

www.europeanparachampionships.pr.co/

* More information, right free content, photos, press releases and more during the event.



WELCOME MESSAGE JEROEN STRAATHOF

A warm welcome to the Netherlands, a warm welcome to Rotterdam, a warm welcome to the European Para Championships. A new initiative that deserves everyone's full attention. Our enthusiasm, in the long run-up to the first edition, has only grown and we are confident that the 10 parasports that will converge in the Netherlands from 8 to 20 August will get the platform they deserve.

As a former participant in the Summer, Winter and Paralympic Olympic Games, I know the magic of events where athletes from various sports come together. Being together with athletes from other sports is hugely inspiring. The opportunity to talk with each other, to learn from each other's experiences, to share successes and disappointments; it makes you grow as an athlete. It also helps advance the sport itself.

Ten sports

The ten sports - para archery, para badminton, boccia, para cycling, goalball, para judo, shooting para sport, para taekwondo, wheelchair basketball and wheelchair tennis - played at these European Para Championships all have their own ambitions, routines and trajectories. The path they have taken towards these championships, which will lead them next towards the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games, is made a lot more interesting by this joint event. Bringing all these sports together also gets them more attention than they are able to generate individually.

With these European Para Championships, we offer the sport to the public on a silver platter. Too often still, parasports are organised in a modest accommodation, a proverbial backstreet hall on an industrial estate of a rural municipality. Instead, for this tournament, the most beautiful venues have been selected; in a number of cases, finals literally take place in the heart of Rotterdam city centre. So that not only sports fans, but also Rotterdammers, day trippers and tourists can get acquainted with parasports. This is what truly helps create awareness that parasports have now also become top-class sports.

It is no coincidence that this event is being held in the Netherlands. For years, my home country has been cradle of the paralympic movement. In 1980, the Paralympic Games were held in Arnhem and the surrounding area. Parasports have been getting attention here for decades, so it was the right breeding ground for this tournament.

Parasports in the spotlight

Finally, I want to turn to you, journalists and other media representatives. You are essential in making this event a success. It is crucial that the 10 sports featured at this event are all put in the spotlight. There are dozens of stories that

could, and should, be told. These are not just sports stories, by the way. Together with host city Rotterdam, several social initiatives for people with disabilities will be initiated, prior to but also during the European Para Championships. And not just in Rotterdam, but all over the country; each one more than worth the effort. This way, an event like the European Para Championships can also act as a flywheel for important social developments.

All that remains for me is to express my wish that together, we will enjoy a beautiful, sporty celebration from 8 to 20 August in Rotterdam. See you in Rotterdam!

Jeroen Straathof

*European Para Championships
Tournament Director*



WELCOME MESSAGE RAYMON BLONDEL

As Chairman of the European Paralympic Committee, I am delighted to welcome you to the first European Para Championships. This is an outstanding opportunity to show to a wide audience what top-level sport for people with disabilities means and the incredibly high levels of performance that they achieve.

This multi-sport event is more than an amalgamation of 10 separate European title tournaments. The strength of these European Para Championships lies in the joint efforts of all involved to make this August a great sporting month. Together, with ten international sports federations and their affiliated sports associations in the Netherlands. The result of this championship, I am convinced, will be much greater than the sum of its parts.

The sports federations themselves will also experience the magic of such a joining of forces, and will benefit from it. Whereas individually organising a European Championship for many sports often attracts only a limited fan and media following, and it is difficult to set up a big event, there is now much more attention and interest for such a European title match. Not only family and friends, and a group of enthusiasts, but also new viewers and many more media followers will take note of, for example, boccia, para badminton and shooting para sport. This naturally leads to a more inclusive world.



Certainly also for you, journalists and media representatives, it is an opportunity to see 10 different paralympic sports. And to be able to tell the fascinating stories of athletes who, like able-bodied top athletes, make the most of their physical abilities. This leads to high-calibre sport and stories with a powerful message.

The 10 sports to be held at these European Para Championships are all part of the Olympic programme. That was so in Tokyo 2021 and it will be so in Paris 2024. That this event is a direct qualifying moment for the Paris Paralympic Games for most of the sports also shows how much its importance is recognised by all parties.

Naturally, a word of thanks goes to the initiators of this championship. As European Paralympic Committee, we are patrons, but without the tireless and determined Eric Kersten and his Team TOC, as delivery partner, the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS) and host city



Rotterdam, this first edition would never have been feasible. We also wish to thank the many other partners, suppliers, ambassadors and sponsors for their support and commitment.

By the way, it is heartening, and at the same time enormously hopeful, that several candidate cities have already applied for the next edition of the European Para Championships, in 2027. This is all the more special as the first edition has yet to be held. It does indicate that the time is ripe for this championship and that it will not remain a one-off experiment. On the contrary, even in the run-up to August we received enquiries from federations wanting to know if they could still join in. It is quite possible that the next European Para Championships may consist of 11, 12 or even 15 sports. And that prospect makes us very happy.

But even this first edition, from 8 to 20 August, already promises to be a great feast. Personally, I am really looking forward to it and I am sure the organisers and participants are too. We can't help but have a great time together in Rotterdam.

Raymon Blondel

*President of the
European Paralympic Committee*



The media centre for the European Para Championships will be located in Rotterdam Ahoy.

Address:

Rotterdam Ahoy

Ahoyweg 10

3084 BA Rotterdam

 OPENING HOURS

The media centre will be open and operational starting from 08 August 2023 till 20 August 2023 with the following opening hours:

Daily: **8:00 – 22:00 hrs** (or until one hour after the last match finishes).

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

In the media centre coffee, tea, water, soda and snacks will be served.

For meals and further drinks you are advised to use the different catering points and restaurants in Ahoy during the event at your own expense.

FACILITIES

At the media centre you can find the following facilities:

- » Welcome desk
- » Working desks
- » Power
- » Free internet connection (WIFI and wired)
- » Printer
- » Lockers (limited amount)
- » Coffee/tea and snacks

 LOCKERS

There will be 20 lockers available to store equipment. You can ask for a locker on a daily basis and return the key at the end of that same day. You have to pay a deposit of 10 euros, at the welcome desk of the media centre. You can't make a reservation in advance.



MEDIA FACILITIES OTHER VENUES

Wheelchair Tennis – TV Victoria

At TV Victoria, where wheelchair tennis will take place, is a small media room available. There will be no lockers over there. Coffee/tea and snacks available.

Para Cycling – Willem Alexander Baan

There will be a media room available at the Willem Alexander Baan. The media room is located in the finish tower. From this room you have a view of the race venue.

Para Archery – Kop van Zuid

During the finals of para Archery on august 19th and 20th, a media room will be set up in Hotel New York. This hotel is close to the event venue.

Wheelchair Tennis & Boccia – Schouwburgplein

At this moment, no media room will be available at the finals of wheelchair tennis & boccia on Schouwburgplein. Media are invited to head back to Rotterdam Ahoy for a space to work.

RESULTS/ SCHEDULES

Information, schedules and results, per day, per sport, can be found in the app of the European Para Championships. There will be no printed startinglists, schedules or results because of sustainability.

Go to www.epc2023.com/app to download the app or scan the QR code:



All media are required to wear accreditation within the venues. This counts for Rotterdam Ahoy and all outdoor venues. The accreditation center is located near the main entrance of Ahoy.

Opening hours accreditation centre

Date	Opening hours
Sunday 6 August	07:00 – 18:00
Monday 7 August	07:00 – 18:00
Tuesday 8 August	07:00 – 18:00
Wednesday 9 August	07:00 – 18:00
Thursday 10 August	08:00 – 18:00
Friday 11 August	08:00 – 18:00
Saturday 12 August	08:00 – 18:00
Sunday 13 August	08:00 – 18:00

Date	Opening hours
Monday 14 August	08:00 – 18:00
Tuesday 15 August	08:00 – 18:00
Wednesday 16 August	08:00 – 18:00
Thursday 17 August	08:00 – 18:00
Friday 18 August	08:00 – 18:00
Saturday 19 August	08:00 – 18:00
Sunday 20 August	08:00 – 18:00

ACCREDITATION PICKUP

Accreditations can be picked up during opening hours at Rotterdam Ahoy. You don't need to show your passport or ID for pick up. It's not possible to enter the media centre or outdoor sport venues without accreditation. Please pick up your accreditation before first entering any of our venues.

ACCREDITATION BADGE

The accreditation badge indicates the name of the person, the country they are representing and their function. It also indicates the zones they have access to and the sports for which they have permission to access these zones. For example, if you have access to the sport para badminton and zone 2, you are only allowed to access the field of play of para badminton and not the field of play of other sports.

Sports abbreviations

B	Boccia	PJ	Para Judo
G	Goalball	S	Shooting Para Sport
PA	Para Archery	PT	Para Taekwondo
PB	Para Badminton	WB	Wheelchair Basketball
PC	Para Cycling	WT	Wheelchair Tennis

Zones

1	Access all areas	6	Press area
2	Field of play	7	Mixed zone
3	Athlete home	8	TV compound
4	Crew area	9	Hospitality
5	Volunteers area		

The public areas, such as the stands, are always accessible for all sports, not just the sport that is indicated on the accreditation.

ACCREDITATION PURPOSE AND RULES

Accreditation is an operational tool which ensures that all stakeholders of European Para Championships can access the necessary venues in order to perform their tasks.

The purpose of the European Para Championships accreditation is to:

- ▶ Provide an inclusive, safe and efficient European Para Championships event environment.
- ▶ Identify people, their role and privileges (zones and services) within a venue.
- ▶ Provide an effective operating environment for individuals to perform their respective role.
- ▶ Assist with venue access and capacity requirements.

The European Para Championships accreditation rules:

(For all accreditation terms and conditions see appendix A)

- ▶ The accreditation is valid for the duration of the European Para Championships.
- ▶ To pick up your accreditation you will need to access the media centre by showing your confirmation e-mail.
- ▶ The accreditation card must always be worn clearly displayed whilst performing a role.
- ▶ Access to areas is restricted in accordance with the pass.
- ▶ At control points it is mandatory to show your accreditation.
- ▶ Numbers represent the accreditation zones at the European Para Championships. Numbers on the accreditation badge are the accreditation zones that someone is entitled to go to.
- ▶ The accreditation is strictly personal. Errors in personal data are your own responsibility. If you damage or lose your accreditation, you owe the organisation € 25,-.

ACCREDITATION ZONES

Accreditation zones European Para Championships

The locations are divided in different zones, numbered 2 till 9. Each accreditation zone has multiple locations. If you are allowed to enter a zone, the number is indicated on the accreditation badge.

Without further notice all media are allowed at mixed zones.

Photographers (2,6,7), videographer (2,6,7) and written press (6,7) are allowed in specific zones. This zone gives you permission to enter the media facilities at the venues, such as media centre, media tribunals and mixed-zones.



Area access definition

Zone 2 Field of play	Zone 3 Athlete room	Zone 4 Crew area
Zone 5 Volunteers area	Zone 6 Press area	Zone 7 Mixed zone
Zone 8 TV Compound	Zone 9 Hospitality	

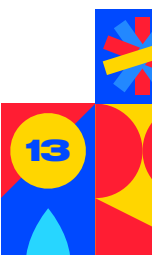
FIELD OF PLAY

Each venue will have the option for a select group of non rights holding media/photographers to be on Field of play (FOP). You can only enter this section of the venue when you are wearing a bib and a valid accreditation. The final number of accredited media may need to be restricted because of space constraints. The Local Organising Committee's decision on accreditation will be final. If you have any questions please contact press@europeanparachampionships.com

TYPES OF MEDIA

European Para Championships is looking forward to hosting media attending the events in Rotterdam. In order to do this we distinguish different kind of media. Please note that you have to wear your accreditation at all time, without this we cannot allow you in the different areas.

A limited amount of media can apply for Field of Play (FOP) access. If granted you need to collect a bib for the day (the OC will determine which media is allowed on the FOP). When you receive a bib please be so kind to wear this at all time inside the location. To receive your bib, you must accept the conditions. In case of loss or non return of the bib, we are allowed to keep the deposit. There is a deposit for the photographer bib of 50 euros.



We distinguish the following media:

- ▶▶ **Writing press, reporters**
What do you need: Only accreditation, no bib.
- ▶▶ **Host Broadcast**
What do you need: Accreditation and bib with HB on it.
- ▶▶ **Right holders Broadcast**
What do you need: Accreditation and bib with RHB on it.
- ▶▶ **Non right holders Videographer**
What do you need: Accreditation and bib with NRH on it
- ▶▶ **Team media video**
What do you need: Accreditation and bib with Social Media on it. They are allowed to make atmospheric footage of the sport venues, competitions and athletes.
- ▶▶ **Video analyst**
What do you need: Accreditation and bib with Video analyst on it. Video analyst are allowed to shoot the competition on the FOP. Team videographers are not allowed to share this footage, this is only allowed for internal usage.
- ▶▶ **Photographer**
What do you need: Accreditation and bib.
- ▶▶ **Freelancer**
What do you need: Accreditation. Written press are allowed on the stands at the FOP.

MIXED ZONES

All types of accredited media are allowed at the mixed zones. It is not allowed to obtain interviews at the FOP.

PROCEDURE

The media accreditation can be collected at the accreditation centre which is located in Ahoy. To pick up your accreditation you must show:

1. Your confirmation e-mail for media accreditation European Para Championships

There are no exceptions to this rule. The confirmation e-mail will give you access for one time only, after this you will need to show your accreditation to access zones which require one.

DISTRIBUTION OF BIBS

The distribution of bibs will be done at the media centre in Ahoy. You have to pay a deposit of 50 euros at arrival, you will get the deposit back after handing in the bib. Without a bib you don't have access to the Field of Play (FOP).

Types of bibs, only front

Photo	All photographers
EPC HB	Host Broadcast
RHB	Right holders Broadcast
NRH	Non right holders
Social media	All team videographers
Video analyst	Team video analyst



SHUTTLE

There will be a small transport shuttle available from the (team/media) hotels to Ahoy and the other locations, only when the hotel is situated in the city centre. The shuttle runs only on request and within **8.30am** and **10pm**.

To use this shuttle service, reservation is required. This is possible up to 1 day in advance, 6 p.m. at the latest. It is not possible to make reservations on the day itself.

You can make a reservation for the EPC shuttle by:

Phone number	+31 41 223 69 00 (between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.)
Email:	transport@europeanparachampionships.com

FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT

There is a possibility in Rotterdam to travel by public transport for free. At the media centre day-passes for media are available. There will be a limited total of day-passes, only valid in Rotterdam.

Each day-pass is valid for just one day. Please ask for a public transport card at the welcome desk of the media centre.

FROM THE AIRPORT

All media have to arrange their own transport from the airport to Rotterdam city center (or Ahoy). You can take the train from Schiphol to Rotterdam. There is an intercity train that takes approx. 50 minutes. And there is (at a small extra cost) a 'intercity direct' train, that takes 26 minutes to the city center of Rotterdam.

When you arrive at Rotterdam The Hague Airport you can take bus 33 to Rotterdam Central Station. This takes you approx. 30 minutes.

Of course, taxis are also available at both airports. Costs for a taxi ride from Schiphol can be significant. We recommend travelling by public transport.

When you arrive at Rotterdam The Hague Airport the taxi stand will be situated right beside the building. Rotterdam Airport Taxi will arrange the transportation from and to the airport.

You can make a reservation by:

Phone number	+31 10 262 04 06
Website	www.rotterdam-airport-taxi.nl

TO ROTTERDAM AHOY

Rotterdam Ahoy can be reached by public transport. The metro stop 'Zuidplein' is closest to the venue. This stop is accessible by wheelchair, and can be reached by RET metro lines D & E and RET bus lines 44, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 72, 75, 76, 82, 84, 142, 143, 144, 146, 183, 187, 283, 290 and 668.

From the stop 'Zuidplein', it is roughly 400 meters to the entrance of Ahoy.

PARKING

Media can park their car at P5 at Ahoy. More information will follow via email.

We would like to assist you in finding an accommodation. But every individual media person is responsible for booking own accommodation and bearing any cancellation fees. Underneath, you can find more information.

MEDIA HOTELS

There is no official media hotel. But we recommend the following bookingsite: www.booking.com
You can also choose to book a room directly at the hotel.

We have contacted Hilton, Mainport/Intel and Postillion that media working at the European Para Championships will be interested to book a room. There is, however, no special price.

Hilton Rotterdam	Mainport Hotel (Intel)	Postillion Hotel WTC Rotterdam
Weena 10	Leuvehaven 77	Meent 110
3012 CM Rotterdam	3011 EA Rotterdam	3011 AA Rotterdam
Phone: +31 10 710 8000	Phone: +31 10 217 5757	Phone: +31 10 405 4462

We want to point out that it is a very busy period; therefore, we advise everybody to book their accommodations on time.

> LOCATIONS

Rotterdam, the second largest city in the Netherlands, will host the inaugural edition of the European Para Championships in 2023. The main hub, and therefore the venue for multiple sports, is Rotterdam Ahoy. In addition to this exceptional world-class indoor location, the European Para Championships 2023 will also use various outdoor venues in the heart of Rotterdam.

These 'city center courts' ensure that the parasports come to the people, instead of the other way around. In this way, we present unique para sports in a high-quality way to Rotterdam and its residents and visitors. This allows them to get acquainted with parasport of the highest level.



ROTTERDAM AHOY

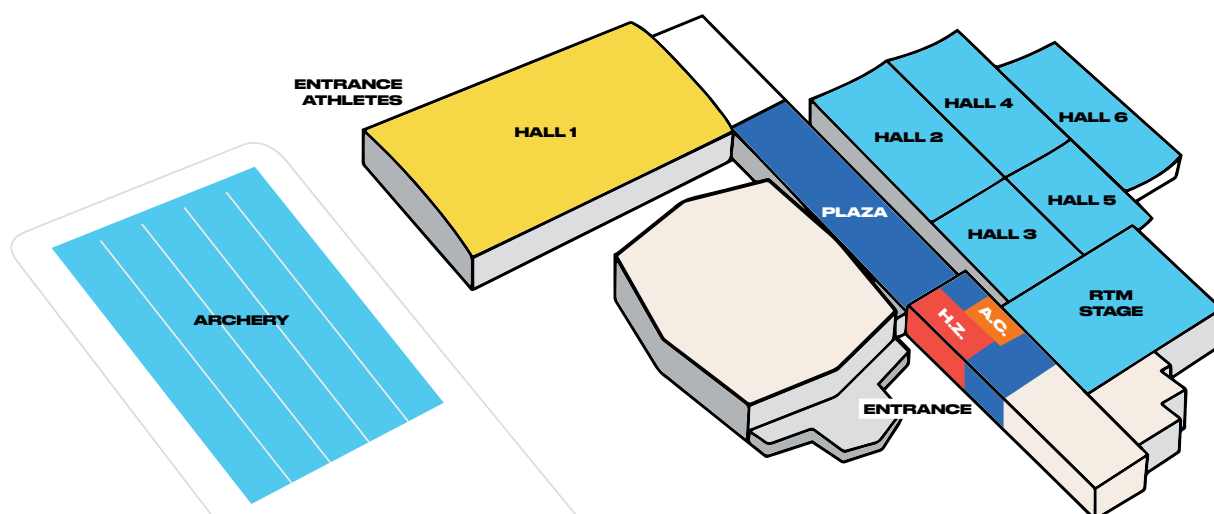
Ahoyweg 10, 3084 BA Rotterdam

Most of the competitions will take place in Rotterdam Ahoy, without a doubt one of the best and most professional event venues in the Netherlands. Very well known as the 'biggest on earth' since 1971. It offers a base for international artists, top sports professionals, politicians and celebrities. It switches effortlessly from a Justin Bieber concert to the ABN AMRO Open. Another perfect example of Rotterdam Ahoy's extensive possibilities is the Eurovision Song Contest, which took place there in May 2021. Of course, Rotterdam Ahoy is also perfectly accessible for disabled visitors. The same applies to any other locations that will be used during the event. In Ahoy a lot of matches will be played. Also the opening ceremony will be held here, on 7 August (20:00h).

ROTTERDAM AHOY – OUTSIDE

Ahoyweg 10, 3084 BA Rotterdam

Rotterdam Ahoy will not only host competition inside - the immediate surroundings of the multi-purpose facility will be transformed into sports arenas, hosting the competition rounds of Para Archery.



	HALL 1	ATHLETE HOME
	HALL 2	PARA BADMINTON
	RTM STAGE + HALL 3	WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL
	HALL 4	GOALBALL
	HALL 5	PARA JUDO PARA TAEKWONDO
	HALL 6	BOCCIA PARA SHOOTING SPORT
	PLAZA	MERCHANDISE INFO POINT FOOD & DRINKS MEDIA CENTRE
	H.Z.	HOSPITALITY ZONE
	A.C.	ACCREDITATION CENTRE
	AHOY OUTDOOR	PARA ARCHERY

CITY CENTRE COURT - KOP VAN ZUID

Koninginnenhoofd 1, 3072 AD Rotterdam

The Kop van Zuid, in the heart of Rotterdam, will be the theatre for the final day of Para Archery, on Saturday 19 August. At this unique venue, located next to Hotel New York, the best European Para Archers will show their skills and compete for medals under the watchful eye of fans, right in the centre of the city.

CITY CENTRE COURT - SCHOUWBURGPLEIN

Schouwburgplein, Rotterdam

The Schouwburgplein, right in the centre of the city of Rotterdam, will host the wheelchair tennis and boccia finals during the European Para Championships. For fans, it is now easier than ever to be present at the apotheosis of these two European Championships and watch their favorite athletes play.

CITY CENTRE COURT - WILLEM ALEXANDER BAAN

Nely Gambonplein 1, 2761 EH Zevenhuizen

A few of the Para Cycling races will be organized around the Willem Alexander Baan, a rowing venue. The road race will be held around the Willem Alexander Baan and the time trial will start in Zevenhuizen and will also finish at the Willem Alexander Baan.

CITY CENTRE COURT - TV VICTORIA

Kralingseweg 226, 3062 CG Rotterdam

The competition days of wheelchair tennis (8 to 10 August) will take place on the courts of TV Victoria, in Rotterdam. Here, the foundations will be laid for the wheelchair tennis finals, which will take place on 12 and 13 August in the city centre, on the City Centre Court Schouwburgplein.

CITY CENTRE COURT - SCHEEPVAARTKWARTIER

Scheepvaartkwartier, Rotterdam

Para Cycling's Team relay will be organized in the Scheepvaartkwartier in the heart of the city of Rotterdam. This is where the European champions will be crowned in this event on Friday 17 August.

COMPETITION INFORMATION/SCHEDULE

All sports that are part of the European Para Championships 2023 have a direct connection to the Road to the Paris 2024 Paralympics. Paralympic Qualifying Points can be earned during this event. Some sports even involve direct qualification for Paris 2024. This inaugural edition features 10 different sports.

Information, schedules and results, per day, per sport, can be found in the app of the European Para Championships. There will be no printed startingslists, schedules or results because of sustainability.



PARA ARCHERY

Wednesday August 16 - Sunday August 20 2023

Para archery is a sport that is open to individuals with a range of disabilities, including those with physical impairments or visual impairments. The sport involves using a bow and arrow to hit a target meters away. Para archery has been an official Paralympic sport since 1960 and has grown in popularity in recent years. Athletes in para archery compete in different classifications based on their level of impairment, ensuring that everyone has a fair chance to compete. Para archery is a thrilling and challenging sport that requires strength, accuracy, and focus, and is a shining example of how sport can be inclusive and accessible for all. In para archery, the rules are similar to those of able-bodied archery, with a few modifications to ensure fairness and safety. In Para archery, the target size and distance archers stand from the target differs based on the competition category. In individual events, archers shoot 72 arrows at the 10-circle target, divided into 12 ends of six arrows each. Each athlete is allowed four minutes per round. The top-scoring athletes advance to 15-arrow head-to-head matches, which are single-elimination. An archer using a recurve bow shoots at a target 1.22m in diameter, 70m away from the shooting line. A compound archer shoots at a target 80cm in diameter and stands 50m away.

TIMETABLE

Date	Tournament	
Tuesday 15 Aug (09:00 - 18:30)	Competition day 1	Rotterdam Ahoy - Outside
Wednesday 16 Aug (09:00 - 18:30)	Competition day 2	Rotterdam Ahoy - Outside
Thursday 17 Aug (09:30 - 16:30)	Competition day 3	Rotterdam Ahoy - Outside
Friday 18 Aug (09:00 - 12:00)	Competition day 4	Rotterdam Ahoy - Outside
Saturday 19 Aug (08:30 - 17:05)	Finals	City Centre Court - Kop van Zuid
Sunday 20 Aug (09:30 - 18:00)	Finals	City Centre Court - Kop van Zuid

Divisions/categories	
Individuals Men's and Women's:	Recurve Open, Compound Open, W1
Individuals VI:	1, 2/3
Teams Mixed (1M + 1W):	Recurve Open, Compound Open, W1
Teams Men's and Women's:	Double Recurve Open, Double Compound Open, Double W1



PARA BADMINTON

Tuesday August 15 - Sunday August 20 2023

Para badminton is a modified version of badminton that is designed for athletes with physical impairments. The rules and equipment are similar to those of traditional badminton, but with some modifications to make the game more accessible to players with different types of disabilities. The sport was first introduced in the 1990s, and in 1998 the first World Championships were held in Amersfoort, the Netherlands. Since then, the sport has grown in popularity and is now governed by the Badminton World Federation (BWF). 63 countries across five regions currently practice Para badminton. One of the main differences between para badminton and able badminton is the classification system used to group players based on their level of impairment. Para badminton players are classified into six different categories, based on the type and severity of their disability. Para badminton players compete in singles (men/women), doubles (men/women) and mixed doubles.



TIMETABLE

Date	Tournament	
Tuesday 15 Aug (09:00 - 20:00)	Competition day 1	Rotterdam Ahoy
Wednesday 16 Aug (09:00 - 20:00)	Competition day 2	Rotterdam Ahoy
Thursday 17 Aug (09:00 - 20:00)	Competition day 3	Rotterdam Ahoy
Friday 18 Aug (09:00 - 20:00)	Competition day 4	Rotterdam Ahoy
Saturday 19 Aug (09:00 - 20:00)	Competition day 5	Rotterdam Ahoy
Sunday 20 Aug (10:00 - 17:00)	Finals	Rotterdam Ahoy

Divisions/categories	
Individuals Men's and Women's:	Wheelchair WH 1, Wheelchair WH 2, Standing Lower SL 3, Standing Lower SL 4, Standing Upper SU 5, Short Stature SH 6
Individuals VI:	Wheelchair WH 1 – WH 2, Standing Lower SL 3 – SL 4, Standing Upper SU 5, Short Stature SH 6
Teams Mixed (1M + 1W):	Wheelchair WH 1 – WH 2, Standing Lower/Upper SL 3 – SU 5, Short Stature SH 6
Teams Men's and Women's:	Wheelchair WH 1 – WH 2, Standing Lower/Upper SL 3 – SU 5, Short Stature SH 6



BOCCIA

Tuesday August 8 - Sunday August 13 2023

Boccia is a game of strategy and accuracy that was originally designed to be played by people with cerebral palsy. Now, the sport includes athletes with impairments that affect motor skills. The sport is played on a flat, smooth surface, where players must throw or roll coloured balls as close as possible to a white target ball, known as the 'jack.' The player, pair or team with the most balls near the jack is the winner. Boccia is played on a rectangular playing field 12.5 meters long and 6 meters wide. The individual and pair matches consist of four ends, while team matches have six ends. After each end, the athlete, pair or team with the ball closest to the jack receive one point, and an additional point for every ball that is closer to the jack than their opponent's. The origins of the sport date back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, but the modern version of the sport was developed in Italy in 16th century. It was included in the Paralympics in 1984 and is currently played in more than 70 countries around the world.

TIMETABLE

Date	Tournament	
Tuesday 8 Aug (09:30 - 18:15)	Competition day 1	Rotterdam Ahoy
Wednesday 9 Aug (09:30 - 18:00)	Competition day 2	Rotterdam Ahoy
Thursday 10 Aug (09:30 - 17:15)	Competition day 3	Rotterdam Ahoy
Friday 11 Aug (09:30 - 17:00)	Competition day 4	Rotterdam Ahoy
Saturday 12 Aug (09:30 - 18:30)	Finals day 1	City Centre Court - Schouwburgplein
Sunday 13 Aug (09:30 - 18:20)	Finals day 2	City Centre Court - Schouwburgplein

Divisions/categories	
Individuals Men's and Women's:	BC1, BC2, BC3, BC4
Team Mixed:	BC1/BC2
Pairs Mixed:	BC3, BC4



PARA CYCLING

Thursday August 17 - Sunday August 20 2023

Para-cycling is a highly diverse sport that includes different types of bikes designed to cater to various types of disabilities and mobility levels of athletes. Handbikes can be used by athletes with impairments or complete paralysis of the legs, while tricycles are suitable for athletes with upper limb impairments. Tandems are ideal for athletes with visual impairments and are ridden with a non-impaired partner. In addition to the classification system, para-cycling also has different race formats, such as individual time trials, road races, and criterium races. Athletes from different classes can participate together in the same race, but with adjusted start times to account for their different mobility levels. There are different classification systems used in para-cycling, depending on the type and degree of disability of the athlete. The Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) divides athletes into eight different classes. Para cycling was developed in the 1980s and was first open to vision impaired athletes who competed in tandems with a sighted pilot. Over the following years, Para cycling started to include those with cerebral palsy, amputations and other physical impairments.

TIMETABLE

Date	Tournament	
Thursday 17 Aug (20:00 - 21:30)	Para Cycling Team Relay	City Centre Court - Scheepvaartkwartier
Friday 18 Aug (09:00 - 17:20)	Para Cycling Time Trial	City Centre Court - Willem Alexander Baan
Saturday 19 Aug (09:00 - 18:00)	Para Cycling Road Races	City Centre Court - Willem Alexander Baan
Sunday 20 Aug (09:00 - 18:00)	Para Cycling Road Races	City Centre Court - Willem Alexander Baan

Divisions/categories		
Time trial Men's and Women's:	B, T1, T2, C1-C5, H1-H5	
Road Race Men's and Women's:	B, T1, T2, C1-C5, H1-H5	
Team Relay Men's and Women's:	H1-H5	



GOALBALL

Thursday August 10 - Sunday August 13 2023

Goalball is a paralympic sport designed for athletes with visual impairments. It was invented in 1946 to help rehabilitate veterans who had lost their sight during the Second World War. The sport was first introduced at the 1976 Paralympic Games in Toronto, Canada and is now practiced worldwide. Goalball is played by two teams of three players. The aim of the game is to throw the ball into the opponent's goal, while defending your own team's goal. The ball has a bell on the inside, so players can hear where the ball is and where it is going. The players move around the pitch by sliding on the ground. Players use their bodies to feel the boundaries of the pitch and orientate themselves to the position of the ball. The field is divided into three zones. Players throw the ball from their own zone and try to bounce into the opponent's goal, with the ball having to bounce in the middle zone. The game consists of two halves of 12 minutes each, with a three-minute break between halves. During the game, the crowd must not talk or make noise so as not to confuse the players. Each ball must also be played within 10 seconds, otherwise the team delaying play will receive a penalty. There are three classes of participants in goalball, based on the degree of visual impairment.

TIMETABLE

Date	Tournament	
Thursday 10 Aug (09:30 - 15:45)	Competition Day 1	Rotterdam Ahoy
Friday 11 Aug (09:30 - 15:45)	Competition Day 2	Rotterdam Ahoy
Saturday 12 Aug (09:00 - 16:30)	Competition Day 3	Rotterdam Ahoy
Sunday 13 Aug (09:00 - 16:30)	Finals	Rotterdam Ahoy

Divisions/categories	
Men's:	Group C



PARA JUDO

Tuesday August 8 - Sunday August 10 2023

Judo is a Japanese self-defence sport that can also be practised by athletes with physical disabilities. At the European Para Games, VI judo is on the programme. VI stands for Visually Impaired, judo for athletes with a visual impairment. There are two categories of visual impairment: J1 and J2 (blind or partially sighted). Both the J1 and J2 categories have four weight categories for both men and women. VI judo is an official event at the Paralympics. Because judo is a contact sport, a blind or visually impaired judoka can very well sense which technique his or her opponent wants to use. This allows the judoka to react and anticipate. All regular techniques are allowed in VI judo. The history of VI judo goes back to the 1950s, when the first judo competition for athletes with a visual impairment was organised in England. In the 1970s, other countries also started practising the sport. In 1980, VI judo made its Paralympic debut as a demonstration sport, in 1988 it became an official event for men and since 2004 also for women. Matches consist of one four-minute round for both men and women.

TIMETABLE

Date	Tournament	
Tuesday 8 Aug (10:00 - 15:00)	Finals day 1	Rotterdam Ahoy
Wednesday 9 Aug (10:00 - 15:00)	Finals day 2	Rotterdam Ahoy
Thursday 10 Aug (10:00 - After)	Finals day 3	Rotterdam Ahoy

Divisions/categories	
Men's J 1 (Blind):	-60 kg, -73 kg, -90 kg, +90 kg
Men's J 2 (Partially sighted):	-60 kg, -73 kg, -90 kg, +90 kg
Women's J 1 (Blind):	-48 kg, -57 kg, -70 kg, +70 kg
Women's J 2 (Partially sighted):	-48 kg, -57 kg, -70 kg, +70 kg



SHOOTING PARA SPORT

Thursday August 17 - Sunday August 20 2023

Shooting Para Sport is a Paralympic sport consisting of shooting sports for athletes with physical disabilities. The sport originated after World War II, when wounded soldiers started shooting as part of their rehabilitation. Since then, it has grown into an international sport practised by athletes from all over the world. There are different types of shooting sports within Shooting Para Sport. In all disciplines, the aim is to shoot as accurately as possible at a target. Athletes shoot from different positions and at different distances, depending on the discipline. In shooting Para sport events, athletes with physical impairments compete in rifle and pistol events. Athletes compete in events from distances of 10m, 25m and 50m in men's, women's and mixed competition events. The competition format is very similar to that of able-bodied shooting sport – the goal of shooting is to place a series of shots inside the centre ring ('bullseye') of the target. The target is comprised of 10 concentric scoring rings with a score grade of 1 to 10; the central ring giving 10 points. At the European Para Championships, shooting will take place exclusively with Air Guns (10-metre Air Rifle standing and lying and 10-metre Air Pistol).

TIMETABLE

Date	Tournament	
Thursday 17 Aug (09:15 - 19:45)	Finals day 1	Rotterdam Ahoy
Friday 18 Aug (09:30 - 19:45)	Finals day 2	Rotterdam Ahoy
Saturday 19 Aug (10:30 - 20:30)	Finals day 3	Rotterdam Ahoy
Sunday 20 Aug (09:30 - 18:30)	Finals day 4	Rotterdam Ahoy

Divisions/categories	
Men's:	R1 – 10m Air rifle standing – SH1, P1 – 10m Air pistol – SH1
Women's:	R2 – 10m Air rifle standing – SH1, P2 – 10m Air pistol – SH1
Mixed:	R3 – 10m Air rifle prone – SH1, R4 – 10m Air rifle standing – SH2, R5 – 10m Air rifle prone – SH2, VIS – 10m Air rifle VI Standing – SH-VI, VIP – 10m Air rifle VI prone – SH-VI





PARA TAEKWONDO

Monday August 14 - Wednesday August 16 2023

Para taekwondo is a relatively new sport that was conceived in 2005 and has been growing ever since. Kyorugi is a Paralympic taekwondo discipline for athletes with upper limb impairments, split into two sports classes. Athletes are divided into weight categories. Fights feature three two-minute rounds with one-minute rest intervals. Athletes wear protective equipment – including head protectors – and deliver kicks to their opponent's torso. An electronic scoring system – with sensors fitted on the trunk protector and foot guards – is used. In taekwondo, only kicks to the torso count as valid attacks – any kick to the head is considered a foul. There are several ways for a competitor to win a fight – by building a 20-point lead, being the first to score 40 points or having the most points at the end of the six minutes of regulation time. In the event of a tie at the end of regulation time, an overtime round is held. If there is still a tie at the end of the overtime round, the winner will be decided by the judges based on several criteria, including technical skill, the number of hits registered and fighting spirit.

TIMETABLE

Date	Tournament	
Monday 14 Aug (10:00 - 19:00)	Finals day 1	Rotterdam Ahoy
Tuesday 15 Aug (10:00 - 19:00)	Finals day 2	Rotterdam Ahoy
Wednesday 16 Aug (10:00 - 19:00)	Finals day 3	Rotterdam Ahoy

Divisions/categories		
Men's:	K44 -58kg, K44 -63kg, K44 -70kg, K44 -80kg, K44 +80kg	
Women's:	K44 -47kg, K44 -52kg, K44 -57kg, K44 -65kg, K44 +65kg	



WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL

Friday August 11 - Saturday August 19 2023

As the name suggests, wheelchair basketball is an adaptation of the able-bodied version. The court dimensions and basket height for wheelchair basketball are the same as the able-bodied version, as is the playing time and number of players on court. The wheelchair sport also follows the same scoring structure. A wheelchair basketball player takes one or two pushes while the ball is either resting on his or her lap or held in his or her hand, followed by dribbling the ball, and this sequence may be repeated as often as the player wishes. A travel violation is called when player in possession pushes more than twice without dribbling. The wheelchair is considered a part of the player, you have to be aware of the risk of illegal personal contact with an opponent. In wheelchair basketball players are classified on a point system from 1 to 4.5. While most athletes have normal arm and hand function, the main difference between classes are trunk control and sitting balance, which impact the reach of the player to catch and pass the ball (lower number means more restrictions). A team is composed of five players, and the sum of points must be 14 or less.

TIMETABLE

Date	Tournament	
Friday 11 Aug (09:00 - 20:00)	Competition day 1	Rotterdam Ahoy
Saturday 12 Aug (09:00 - 20:00)	Competition day 2	Rotterdam Ahoy
Sunday 13 Aug (09:00 - 20:00)	Competition day 3	Rotterdam Ahoy
Monday 14 Aug (09:00 - 20:00)	Competition day 4	Rotterdam Ahoy
Tuesday 15 Aug (09:00 - 20:00)	Competition day 5	Rotterdam Ahoy
Wednesday 16 Aug (09:00 - 20:00)	Quarter Finals Men's, Semi Finals Women's	Rotterdam Ahoy
Thursday 17 Aug (12:30 - 20:00)	Semi Finals Men's	Rotterdam Ahoy
Friday 18 Aug (10:00 - 22:00)	5-6 (W), 9-10 (M), 11-12 (M), Bronze Medal Match Women's, Final Women's, Medal Ceremony	Rotterdam Ahoy
Saturday 19 Aug (10:00 - 19:30)	5-6 (M), 7-8 (M), Bronze Medal Match Men's, Final Men's, Medal Ceremony	Rotterdam Ahoy

Divisions/categories

Men's and Women's:

Division A





WHEELCHAIR TENNIS

Tuesday August 8 - Sunday August 13 2023

Controlling the wheelchair is an essential skill for Paralympic tennis players, who must quickly turn it around a point to get in position to return the ball and cover the entire court. Wheelchair tennis follows the rules of able-bodied tennis with one key exception: the ball is allowed to bounce twice before the player hits it back. Athletes are divided into two categories: the 'Open' Class is for athletes with permanent impairment of one or both legs, but with normal arm function, and the 'Quad' Class is for athletes with additional restrictions in the playing arm, which limits the ability to handle the racquet and manoeuvre the wheelchair.

TIMETABLE

Date	Tournament	
Tuesday 8 Aug (09:30 - 18:30)	Competition day 1	City Centre Court - TV Victoria
Wednesday 9 Aug (09:30 - 17:00)	Competition day 2	City Centre Court - TV Victoria
Thursday 10 Aug (11:00 - 18:30)	Competition day 3	City Centre Court - TV Victoria
Saturday 12 Aug (09:30 - 17:00)	Finals Day 1	City Centre Court - Schouwburgplein
Sunday 13 Aug (09:30 - 15:30)	Finals Day 2	City Centre Court - Schouwburgplein

Divisions/categories	
Men's:	Singles, Doubles
Women's:	Singles, Doubles
Quads:	Singles, Doubles

We are committed to make The European Para Championships as accessible as possible to everyone.

Our mission is to inspire people, with or without disabilities, rich or poor, young or old, and regardless of their background, to take up sports and exercise. By making connections, thinking big, and believing in opportunities where others see limitations, the organizers want to give adaptive sports the attention it deserves.

To make the event as accessible as possible to everyone, we have implemented various measures, such as:

ASSISTANCE AT THE ENTRANCE

There will be assistance available at the entrance of both Rotterdam Ahoy and the City Centre Courts to scan tickets and help people to their seats. The staff will be trained to assist people with disabilities, and they will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

DISABLED TOILETS

All event venues will have disabled toilets available for use.

ASSISTANCE DOGS

Assistance dogs are welcome at all venues of the event.

LOW- STIMULUS ROOM

We would like to make sure all of our fans can enjoy the European Para Championships to the fullest – at their own pace. The organization will provide a low-stimulus room in Rotterdam Ahoy for those that would like to make use of such locations.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY

All event venues will be accessible for people who use wheelchairs. There will be ramps and elevators in place.

Rotterdam Ahoy can be reached by public transport. The metro stop 'Zuidplein' is closest to the venue. This stop is accessible by wheelchair.

From the stop 'Zuidplein', it is roughly 400 meters to the entrance of Ahoy.

The European Para Championships Prioritizes Sustainability

The European Para Championships has put sustainability high on its agenda. With the mission to create a new standard for Paralympic sports worldwide, we are determined to inspire people to get moving and play sports. Through collaboration and a forward-thinking approach, we aim to draw attention to Para sports and to create a sustainable sporting event.

At the European Para Championships, we look critically at the impact of sporting events on the planet. The air travel of top athletes, fans and guests and the use of temporary accommodations, for example, lead to climate change. Therefore, we are committed to making well-considered choices that can contribute to a more sustainable future. While not every choice will be fully sustainable in 2023, we strive to become increasingly sustainable in future editions. Therefore, we are working on a long-term sustainability strategy. In the future this will become the most sustainable event possible. We also see this as part of creating a new standard.

As early as 2023, several measures will be taken to promote sustainability:

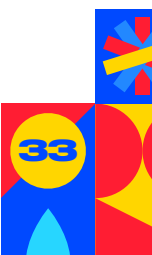
We go for catering that is as sustainable and healthy as possible, offering vegetable and vegetarian options and using local products as much as possible.

We are partnering with RET, allowing those involved to travel by public transport through Rotterdam for free.

After the event, we try as much as possible to give all purchased materials a new destination so that they can be reused or upcycled.

When buying merchandise and promotional materials, we look for items that really have a function. Where possible we use mains electricity and if this is not feasible we use battery packs instead of diesel generators.

We cannot create a sustainable sporting event on our own. We need everyone involved, from visitors and journalist to athletes and from suppliers to hotel partners. We only have indirect influence on many aspects, such as the mobility choices of visitors and athletes. Therefore, we engage in dialogue with various stakeholders to explore what we can achieve together. We also offer as many sustainable options as possible for transportation to the event and to the city center courts and communicate this.



PARTNERS AND SUPPLIERS

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Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport

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Media partners



OCEAN

spring media

TikTok

NICE TO KNOW

EMERGENCY CALLS

In case of an emergency: call **112** for Police, Fire and Ambulance services.

POWER

Electrical sockets in The Netherlands supply electricity 230V (50Hz).

In The Netherlands we have electrical sockets type C and type F.

INTERVIEWS AND (FLASH) QUOTES

Any interaction between media and competitors must be approved by the competitor in person and his or her instructions must be known to the team's manager or PR/PA officer. We facilitate any desired interactions but do not demand any interviews or media performances to take place. We distinguish two sorts of interactions between media and competitor:

- 1) Flash quotes (short reaction just after a competition). We facilitate these in the mixed zone or during press conferences.
- 2) Interview (longer – sit down – interview). Should all go through team's media liaison/public affairs officer.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook	@europarachamps	YouTube	@europarachamps
Instagram	@europarachamps	Tiktok	@europarachamps
Twitter	@europarachamps		
LinkedIn	www.linkedin.com/company/europarachamps		
Website	www.europeanparachampionships.com		

MORE INFORMATION

More information, daily updates (during the event) and photos can be found at:
www.europeanparachampionships.pr.co

TERMS AND CONDITIONS ACCREDITATION

DISCLAIMER MEDIA

WAIVER ELECTRONIC MEDIA RIGHTS FOR WRITTEN PRESS / PHOTOGRAPHERS

Hereby I declare that I have read, understood and that I on behalf of the company which I represent will respect the conditions below:

Media accreditation for all European Para Championships is intended for media working for legitimate and relevant media outlets. Gaining media accreditation is subject to assessment and approval by the European Para Championships. The European Para Championships reserves the right to approve or deny accreditation via the online application process. Accreditation is limited to a maximum of three permanent media representatives for each media outlets (representatives holding a valid press card).

For the assessment of accreditation requests, the following must be submitted upon request:

- ▶▶ Proof of recent work with a legitimate media outlet.
- ▶▶ Proof of covering para events in the past.
- ▶▶ Proof of coverage plans for the event the accreditation applies to.
- ▶▶ Proof of pre-coverage for the event the accreditation applies to.
- ▶▶ Past history of compliance with rules, policies and regulations of para events.

It will be at the sole discretion of the European Para Championships Press Office to evaluate if the accreditation requests are properly filed and complete. Incomplete or untrue data as well as failure to provide the requested documents will cause automatic denial of the requested accreditation.

The approval of an accreditation request as photographer does not automatically give the right to receive a photographer's bib, which is necessary to work in the areas reserved for photographers.

I accept by carrying this type of accreditation that it is forbidden to film/record and broadcast moving images from racing, award ceremonies of the events (even if this is for just 10 sec. for social media only), and to conduct video/audio interviews in the accredited area, with the intention to broadcast these on any linear radio or TV channel, website or any other non-linear media platform (audio & video).

During my presence at the above-mentioned event I will stay always in the dedicated working areas for my assigned media family.

I will respect under all circumstances the instructions of the staff members of the European Para Championships.

I accept that the European Para Championships can withdraw at its sole discretion and at any time and for any reason, my accreditation and the accreditation of the media which I represent. In such instances, the European Para Championships is not required to provide the reasons for such decision and it is not subject to appeal. The European Para Championships is not liable in any way to the individual or to any other person for a decision to revoke an accreditation.

I accept that the European Para Championships may, in its sole discretion, apply, monitor and enforce this policy.





WITH THE ORGANISER

European Para Championships BV is the owner of the concept European Para Championships. It therefore is responsible for the organization of the 2023 European Para Championships, to be held in Rotterdam (the Netherlands) between 8 & 20 August 2023. In that capacity, it is also the right holder of all broadcast, sponsorship and marketing rights related there to. Besides organizing the inaugural edition in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, European Para Championships BV develops the concept, scenario and event in such a manner that it will serve as a solid basis for guaranteeing the continuity of the event on the European sports calendar in 2027, 2031 and beyond.