

# MANIFESTO

Candidate Name:Robyn Smith (she/her)Nationality:Australian



## "I am a citizen of the world advocating Inclusion for All - bringing a collective voice through lived experience."

### Who am I?

I am Robyn Smith (she/her), a female leader and woman in sport. I am a passionate advocate for the wonderful and positive impacts that sport brings to change the lives of people, especially people who are underrepresented and marginalised because of a disability. I believe disability should not determine a person's place and value in our society but be embraced for the diversity they bring to our society, no matter the disability, gender, or ethnicity.

For 30 years I have been involved with sport – from the grassroots of small country towns to elite and professional sports; at local clubs and through State, National and International Sporting Organisations; for many athlete groups, including people with disabilities; and most currently for athletes with intellectual impairment. **Sport is in my DNA.** 





#### **Current roles:**

- Vice President Virtus World Intellectual Impairment Sport (formerly INAS)
- CEO Sport Inclusion Australia
- CHAIR Australian Sporting Alliance for People with Disability
- CEO Virtus Oceania Asia Games 2022

#### **Dear Paralympic Friends,**

It is an honour to be your candidate for the 2022 IPC Member at Large; contributing my leadership, strategic partnerships and the lived experience to bring a collective voice to represent all the nations and stakeholders of the Paralympic Games Family.

As a global community we played a small role in the success of Tokyo 2020 - a success in its own right and a first ever Games in a pandemic! In another first, Brisbane Australia was awarded the hosting rights for Olympics and Paralympic Games in 2032 – giving the IPC a decade to influence and enhance sport inclusion for athletes with disability. Securing a seat on the IPC Board will provide automatic representation on the Brisbane 2032 OCOG from its formation. Your vote can immediately translate to opportunities for growing the para-sport movement over the next decade and beyond.

# My vision - Inclusion for All.

#### Why I should be elected?

) To be your representative, bringing a collective voice that can be amplified and heard when we present as one.

I wish to be your representative, firstly for all athletes, secondly for the growth of the para-sport movement across many of our sister nations. Seeking to grow inclusion for people with disabilities using sport to challenge perception, change attitudes and be the change in sport for humanity.

With your vote, I will advocate on your behalf for people of disability and provide a voice for all nations that can benefit from being part of a collective, making us stronger together.

) If elected, we gain a guaranteed seat on the Brisbane 2032 OCOG. Your vote will have an immediate impact on a decade long planning cycle benefitting the entire Paralympic community.

PIC will be addressing its next Strategic Plan 2023 - 2026, and I will provide strategic direction, leadership, and an inclusive athlete-first focused outlook without bias to enhance the para-sport movement globally and fulfil humanitarian objectives.

I will look for ways that nations that are underrepresented, nations whose people with disability experience more marginalisation, nations who believe in sport changing lives for the better, can speak up and share their ideas, through me.

I will actively listen to all stakeholders and through collaboration commit to ensuring we achieve our strategic, financial and humanitarian objectives. The collective groups of the IPC: the NPCs, IFs, IOSDs, and the IPC itself can come together stronger in our diversity, to foster a global vision of sport for humanity.

#### **OUR MISSION - What we can achieve together:**

#### Equity

Building stronger partnerships with stakeholders to drive more participation of athletes, NPCs, IOSDs and IFs. We must build partnerships with global corporations, media and broadcast, government, and non-government agencies to promote the Paralympic ideals, so the **para-sport movement can have a more equitable share of resources and funding to benefit from inclusion in a more sustainable manner.** 

#### Included

**Leveraging the brand of the IPC as a collective to lead social change already underway to improve human rights.** Through IPC's extensive reach, we can help people find dignity, meaning, and hope – from refugees seeking the dignity of competition, to developing countries striving to find purpose and strengthen pathways, to developed countries looking to serve more diverse athlete populations equitably and ensure a high-quality of life after sport.

#### **Track Record**

As your candidate, I will share my expertise and experience on intentional leadership around inclusion, equity, dignity, and diversity. Having brought to the world stage events like Global Games in Brisbane, I have successfully encouraged decision makers to include and support people with disability. I have **opened doors** for para-sport to be included into local, state, and federal agenda in my nation and others. My track record can be reproduced in your nations too.

#### Voice

My leadership style is one with shared spotlight, as I **advocate for the Inclusion of All people with disability from nations.** This is a global position that needs global and collective solutions. I will also practice an athlete-centric approach to ensure the athlete voice contributes to decision making.



