



## Specialized Equipment (“Personal Performance Gear”) Winter Sports on the Paralympic Games Program

### **General Rule**

An athlete has the right to select and use his or her specialized equipment (personal performance gear) during the actual sport competitions at the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, Paralympic Games, Parapan American Games and other protected competitions.

### **Basis for Rule**

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the Pan American Sports Organization (PASO) authorize National Olympic Committees, in this case the USOC, to prescribe and determine the clothing and uniforms to be worn, and the equipment to be used, during the Olympic and Pan American Games, including during competition and during ceremonies. An exception to this general authorization is that athletes have the right to select and use their own specialized equipment, from items included on the Olympic and Pan American Games sports list, during the actual sport competitions. Specialized equipment is defined as having a material effect on the performance of athletes, due to the specialized characteristics of the equipment. The IOC and PASO also authorize the USOC to designate for each sport what equipment shall be classified as specialized equipment. *Olympic Charter, Rules 27-28, Bye-law 2.3; PASO Statute, Section 30.3.*

Although the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) does not have a specific provision relating to use of specialized equipment, the USOC has determined that Paralympic athletes should be allowed to select and use specialized equipment, from items included on the Paralympic and Parapan American Games sports list, during the Paralympic and Parapan American Games.

Additionally, the USOC has determined that selection and use of specialized equipment should also apply to all protected competitions as defined in the USOC Bylaws, Section 1.3(w) provided such use does not contravene a specific provision of the sport’s International Federation.

### **Designation**

After input from each sport’s NGB/PSO/HPMO and respective AAC representative, the USOC has designated the items on this list as specialized equipment.

## BOBSLED & SKELETON

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Gloves	Shoes
Goggles	Speedsuit (Skeleton only)
Helmet/Visor	

## ICE SLEDGE HOCKEY

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Gloves	Sleds
Goalie equipment (blocker, glove, leg pads, face protection)	Sticks (all components)
Helmet/Visor	

## SKIING – ALPINE (includes SNOWBOARD)

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Adaptive equipment (includes Outriggers, Sit Skis)	Helmet
Audio amplifier (for use by visually impaired athletes)	Mouthguards
Bindings	Orthotic/AFO/Brace (all components)
Boots	Poles (n/a to Snowboarding)
Gloves	Prosthetics (all components)
Goggles (eyewear)	Skis/Snowboards

## SKIING – NORDIC (includes CROSS COUNTRY and BIATHLON)

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Ammunition (applicable to Biathlon)	Helmet
Audio amplifier (for use by visually impaired athletes)	Poles
Bindings	Rifle (all components)(applicable to Biathlon)
Boots	Skis (includes Sit Skis)
Gloves	Wax
Goggles (eyewear)	

## WHEELCHAIR CURLING

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Delivery stick	Pants
Gloves	Wheelchair (all components)
Hot packs	