

Goalball Referee Nationality

The Goalball Nationality Code states that referees must have completed the current IBSA Goalball Official's Certification Program and have their membership fees up to date. An Official must be a national of the nation of the country that he/she is representing. An Official must fulfill the following requirements in order to be part of the Referees team at sanctioned events.

1. A Referee who is a national (passport holder) of two or more nations at the same time may represent either one of them, as he/she may elect. However, after having represented one nation in the Paralympic Games, in World or Regional Championships/Games recognized by the Goalball Committee or where relevant the IOSD or IF, he/she may not represent another nation unless he/she meets the conditions set forth in paragraph 2 below that apply to persons who have changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality.
 - (a) At the Paralympic Games, World Championships and Paralympic Qualifier, a Referee who is a national of two or more nations at the same time would not be allowed to referee either country of which he/she is a citizen/passport holder.
 - (b) A referee with dual citizenship that decides not to represent the country in which he/she resides, must declare which country he/she will be representing at the time of the initial call for availability, nine months prior to the tournament.
 - (c) A referee must declare any possible perceived citizenship conflicts to the Technical Delegate once it has been confirmed that he/she has been selected for a tournament
2. A referee who has represented one nation in the Paralympic Games, in World or Regional Championships/Games recognized by the Goalball Committee or where relevant IOSD or IF, and who has changed his/her nationality or acquired a new nationality, will not participate in the Paralympic Games, World or Regional Championships/Games to represent his/her new nation until three years after such change or acquisition. This period may be reduced or even cancelled with the agreement of the NPCs/ IBSA members concerned and the approval of the Goalball Committee.
3. If an associated state, province or overseas department, a nation or colony acquires independence, if a nation becomes incorporated within another nation by reason of a change of border, or if a new NPC/IBSA member is recognized by the Goalball Committee, a Referee may continue to represent the nation to which he belongs or belonged. However, he/she may, if he/she prefers, choose to represent his/her nation or be entered in the Paralympic Games, World or Regional Championships/Games by his/her new NPC/IBSA member if one exists. This particular choice may be made only once.
4. In all cases not expressly addressed in the Goalball Nationality Code, in particular in those cases in which a Referee would be in a position to represent a nation other than that of which he/she is a national, or to have a choice as to the nation which he/she intends to represent, the Goalball Committee may take all decisions of a general or individual nature, and in particular issue specific requirements relating to nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of the competitors, including the duration of any waiting period. All disputes relating to the

determination of the nation which a Referee may represent in the Paralympic Games, World or Regional Championships/Games will be resolved by the Goalball Committee.