



IPC GOVERNING BOARD BIOGRAPHIES

- Name: Luca Pancalli PLY
- IPC position: Member at Large
- Elected: In 2017 and 2021 as Member at Large
- Position (outside of IPC GB): President of the Italian Paralympic Committee
- Nationality: Italian
- Languages spoken: Italian and English
- Paralympic Games participated in: Stoke Mandeville 1984, Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992 and Atlanta 1996
- Paralympic medals won: 8 gold, 6 silver, 1 bronze
- Social media channels: [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#)



When and why did you first become involved in the Paralympic Movement?

I was 17 when I had an accident during the horse-riding test of a Junior Modern Pentathlon World Championships in Austria. I consider myself part of the Paralympic Movement since then.

What has been your career path?

After the Atlanta 1996 Paralympics, my last Games as an athlete, I officially became a lawyer at the end of University. Then, I got involved in the sports movement, especially for people with disabilities because I wanted to give my contribution to something that had so many problems at the time. I was elected Vice President of the Italian Federation for Sports for the Disabled and have been President of NPC Italy since 2005. I was also involved in the Olympic Movement as Vice President of NOC Italy and also special commissioner of the Italian Football Federation. In the meantime, the Italian Paralympic Movement has grown; we are no longer a federation anymore but a National Committee at the same level as the Olympic Committee.

INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

Adenauerallee 212-214, 53113 Bonn, Germany / paralympic.org
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What do you enjoy most about the role that you have on the IPC Governing Board?

I love to be in contact with many realities of our Movement, to see that we all have different approaches and ideas, but at the end we all have the same passion. It is a great responsibility, especially now that the IPC needs some big changes and is growing very, very fast.

What is your personal highlight(s) from all the Paralympic Games you have attended?

Every edition has its own story and magic. Maybe my best memories as an athlete go back to Atlanta 1996; the atmosphere for me was different because I knew it was my last Games.

Why for you are the Paralympic Games the most transformational event on earth?

Because we can concretely show that limits do not exist, or better: limits exist, but people have the extraordinary power to adapt themselves and overcome them. This power can be used in all the aspects of our lives to live better!

Beyond the Games, what are your passions?

I like eating Italian food and drinking good wine! I also like traveling with my family with my camper. Naturally, I am still a swimming pool lover.

Over the next decade, what changes would you like to see that would improve the lives of the 1.2 billion persons globally who have a disability?

In general, we should guarantee the respect towards people with disabilities all over the world. I would like to see an easier access to adaptive equipment, a growing attention and awareness towards the themes of disabilities, and a positive change of perspective of society towards us.

Who for you embodies the Paralympic Movement?

I do not think that someone in particular embodies the entire Paralympic Movement. I believe that it is a collective concept: we are a family!

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