

Achieving Gender Equity in Wheelchair Rugby

World Wheelchair Rugby Gender Equity Strategy, 2025-2032

As we achieve success in each area of focus, we improve the chances for success in the other areas. Action in one area in isolation is unlikely to achieve the full benefit.



AREAS OF FOCUS	GOALS	ACTIONS	ACTIONS
 <p>PROMOTION Creating awareness and interest for wheelchair rugby as a sport for women+</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More women+ know about wheelchair rugby and want to get involved • All content promoting wheelchair rugby includes more women+ from diverse backgrounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share the development pathway with women+ so they know the opportunities available and the performance requirements at each level • Promote stories of women+ through social media, websites, or as part of your wheelchair rugby programming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect feedback from women+ to understand their motivations for participating in the sport in your country • Design recruitment and promotional materials to engage the unique motivations of women+
 <p>ENVIRONMENT & EXPERIENCE Creating the environment to deliver experiences that meet the needs of women+</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More welcoming environments & experiences for women+ at all levels of the sport • Education to build more inclusion through skill development and tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an IDEA committee in your country to implement this strategy and ensure accountability • Providing access to gender inclusive facilities and create an environment free of bullying and discrimination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to educational materials and training • Collect feedback from women+ who participate in your programs
 <p>EVENTS & COMPETITION Creating the conditions for a more fair, accessible development pathway for women+ to compete in high-performance wheelchair rugby competition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the requirements for the IPC Paralympic Game Program inclusion for women+ • Host one international event per year for women+ • Greater representation of women+ in competitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize and host a regular stand-alone women's world championship • Organize and host women's national championships across 18 member countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased number of exhibitions and showcases for women+'s competition • Embrace alternative formats and exhibitions to increase women+'s participation
 <p>COMMUNITY Creating programs at the local club level to engage women+ in the sport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of participants and programs that engage women+ • Create more connections in the community amongst peers and allies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host a "try event" for women+ in your area • Incorporate best practices into your existing club and provincial/state programming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider events with a more social and community building focus
 <p>LEADERSHIP & SUPPORT Helping women+ in leadership and support roles across the sport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More women+ entering and advancing within these roles • Incorporate more intentional support and consideration to women+ with a disability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and implement policies to recruit, retain, and advance women+ in leadership and support roles • Create a peer mentorship program for women+ that will connect them with more senior individuals in similar roles for guidance and support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible, ensure promotional materials show images of women+ in support roles • Implement the actions for leadership and support roles in the local club-level gender equity Playbook

Foundational Supports Funding, Education, Policy Development & Implementation, Strategic Partnerships, Community Engagement and Measurement & Accountability

* To simplify the document and increase ease of reading, we are using the term women+ to include girls, women, and non-binary individuals, with the goal of inclusivity.