

Foreword

PyeongChang 2018 Debrief

Welcome to the debrief of the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018 which I am delighted is hosted in Beijing as a single integrated event, organised together by the IOC and IPC.

Following February's successful Olympic Winter Games, March's Paralympic Winter Games broke multiple records.

The Games attracted a record 567 athletes from 49 delegations who competed in 80 medal events across six sports. Three National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) took part in a Winter Games for the first time, including North Korea who sent out a strong message of peace through sport with their participation.

Thanks to the tireless work of NPCs and International Federations, the performances of the Paralympians were incredible, capturing the imagination of those who consumed the Games in their record numbers via TV, traditional media, digital media, or as spectators.

Underlining the growing strength of the Paralympic Movement, 26 NPCs won a medal – more than ever before – and a record 20 countries won gold. China, Croatia, Kazakhstan and South Korea all won their first Paralympic winter titles and the image of Eui Hyun Sin celebrating his Paralympic success for the host nation on the penultimate day of competition will live long into the memory.

Covering the action in PyeongChang with the support of Olympic Information Services was 629 accredited media – 15 per cent more than the Sochi 2014 Paralympics – while 47 broadcast rights holders screened sensational OBS TV pictures to more than 100 countries, the most ever. Close to 1 billion people engaged with the Games via social media, reaching more people than the London 2012 and Sochi 2014 Paralympics combined.

Nearly 343,000 tickets were sold, smashing the previous record of 316,200 sales set four years ago. The number of tickets sold was also double the number sold for the Torino 2006 Paralympics emphasising the growing interest in the Paralympic Winter Games.

By the time the Games closed on 18 March there was a far greater awareness of Para sport in South Korea which I am sure will now act as a catalyst to furthering social inclusion in the country.

For the IPC, this debrief is a follow up of the highly successful IPC Academy Campus 2018 and forms the climax of the IPC Excellence Programme bringing together many of the functional areas behind the organisation of the Games. The aim is for all participants to analyse and discuss what worked well in PyeongChang and what made them a record breaking success.

As with all Games editions, it is also vitally important to pinpoint and address key learnings and innovations that can be taken forward to future Games editions as part of the IPC's knowledge management programme.

Finally, on behalf of the IPC and Paralympic Movement, I would like to thank President Lee and the PyeongChang 2018 Organising Committee for all their efforts in organising truly outstanding Paralympic Winter Games. As I said in my Closing Ceremony speech "you raised the bar for Beijing" and I hope all participants in this Debriefing can take away findings that can contribute further to future Paralympic Games success.



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