

## **1. Policy Statement:**

Any competitor participating in competitions that are governed by the Boccia International Sports Organisation (BISFed) as the International Federation (IF) for Boccia, must be a national of the country of the NPC which is entering such competitor.

In specific and/or exceptional circumstances this rule may be interpreted or reconsidered by BISFed as outlined in section 3 below.

## **2. Application:**

This Policy applies to athletes participating in BISFed Sanctioned Competitions as well as to any athlete assistant in the BC3 Class where the assistant also receives a medal (all being referred to as 'competitors').

The term 'country' wherever used in this policy shall mean any country, state, territory or part of a territory which in its absolute discretion is accepted by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) as constituting the area of jurisdiction of a recognised IPC member organisation, i.e. the respective National Paralympic Committee.

The appropriate evidence that a competitor is a national of any country will generally be that he or she holds an official passport issued by the respective country. The concepts of 'nationality' and 'residence' or 'domicile' are separate and distinct. Evidence of legal residence or domicile will not be accepted as evidence of 'nationality.'

## **3. Specific and Exceptional circumstances for participation in BISFed sanctioned Competitions.**

- 3.1. **Competitors with two or more nationalities:** A competitor who under this policy is a national of two or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as he/she may elect. However, after having represented one of the countries that he/she would be eligible for under this policy in a BISFed sanctioned Competition he/she may not represent another country (unless he/she meets the conditions set forth in paragraph 3.2 below).
- 3.2. **Competitors changing or acquiring a new nationality:** This section applies to a competitor who has represented one country in the Paralympic Games or in a BISFed sanctioned Competition, and who subsequently changes his/her nationality or acquires a new nationality, or who holds two or more IPC recognised nationalities at the same time and wishes to change the country he/she represents to one of his/her other existing nationalities. In such circumstances the competitor may participate in a BISFed sanctioned Competition **provided that a waiting period of at least three (3) years has passed since the competitor last represented his/her former country.**