

---

**1. SPORT:**GOALBALL

---

**2. DESCRIPTION:**

Goalball was invented in 1946 by an Austrian, Hanz Lorenzen, and German Sepp Reindle, in an effort to help in the rehabilitation of blinded war veterans. The game was introduced to the world in 1976 at the Paralympics in Toronto, Canada, and has been played at every Paralympic Games since. As well, every four years, a World Championships has been held with the first being in Austria in 1978. Women first competed in Goalball during the 1984 Paralympic Games in New York, USA. Since that time the popularity of Goalball has increased to where it is now played competitively in all regions of the world.

Goalball is open to athletes who are blind and partially sighted. While Goalball competitors with varying degrees of sight compete together in open competition all competitors are required to wear "black-out" masks. The masks ensure that none of the competitors have any light perception or vision and as such compete on an equal footing in spite of varying degrees of sight.

A game of Goalball is played by two teams of three players with a maximum of three substitutes on each team. Competition is divided into men's and women's divisions.

Goalball is a game played by two teams of three players with a maximum of three substitutes on each team. The game is conducted on the floor of a gymnasium within a rectangular court, which is divided into two halves by a centre line. Goals are erected at either end. The game is to be played with a bell ball. The object of the game is for each team to roll the ball across the opponent's goal line while the other team attempts to prevent this from happening.

During the game spectators must remain absolutely silent so that players can follow the direction of the ball. Spectators may however applaud or cheer after a goal is scored and at the end of each half.

---

**2. PARTICIPANTS:**

**a. Competitors:** 4 teams - 6 athletes (male or female)/team

**b. Coaches:** 1 coach

---

**3. CLASSIFICATION:**

- 4.1 Athletes must be 21 years of age or under.
- 4.2 All blind and partially sighted athletes who meet the IBSA Classification guidelines are eligible to compete in the game of Goalball.

**B1:** Total absence of perception of the light in both eyes, or some perception of the light but with inability to recognize the form of a hand at any distance and in any direction.

**B2:** From the ability to recognize the form of a hand to a visual acuity of 2/60 and/or a visual field of less than 5 degrees.

**B3:** From a visual acuity of above 2/60 to a visual acuity of 6/60 and/or a visual field of more than 5 degrees and less than 20 degrees.

---

## 5 ELIGIBILITY:

### 5.1 Competitors:

Athletes on a Goalball team must meet all eligibility requirements outlined below to be eligible to participate in the Ontario Paralympic Summer Championships:

- i. The athlete must be a member in good standing of Paralympics Ontario's member organizations Ontario Blind Sports Association.
- ii. The athlete must have competed in a qualifying event at either a sanctioned Paralympics Ontario competition or event (e.g. Talent identification camp), or a PSO competition or event.

### 5.2 Coaches

- i. Selected through OBSA

---

## 6 FACILITY

- i. One regulation-size volleyball court is required.
- ii. Extra space surrounding the court of play to accommodate officials, timers, teammates, coaches, support and spectators.

---

## 7 COMPETITION:

### 7.1 Rules:

i. International Blind Sports Association (IBSA) International Goalball rules shall be applied and followed. The complete rules can be found at the link below:

<http://www.ibsa.es/eng/deportes/goalball/IBSA%20Goalball%20Rules%202006-2010.pdf>

## 7.2 Schedule:

i. Drawing and Seeding will be conducted with the assistance of the Goalball Sport Technical Support Person.

Pool Play - each team will play each of the other teams in the pool. Teams will be awarded two (2) points for a win; one (1) point for a tie; and 0 points for a loss.

The team with the most points will play the team with the least points in one semi-final game; and the team with second-highest points will play the team with the third-highest points in the other semi-final game.

At the end of the semi-finals, there will be a Gold Medal game and a Bronze Medal game.

Specific schedules will be determined and provided at a later date

## 7.3 Practice/Warm-Up:

i. If travel schedules permit practice times will be made available

The competition schedule will allow for appropriate warm-up time for all athletes. Exact warm-up times will be made available once the competition schedule is finalized

## 7.4 Duration of Games

i. Each game will consist of two (2) ten-minute halves with stopped time.

---

## 8 TIE BREAKING:

8.1 In case of a tie, after the end of the regular time, two additional overtime periods of three minutes each are played. If the match is still tied at the end of overtime, free throws are executed, the number of which is equal to the minimum number of registered players.

---

## 9 EQUIPMENT:

- 9.1 Regulation Goalballs are required (weighing 1.25 kg. and containing noise bells.)
- 9.2 Raised lines (string under tape) to outline the court and to help orient the player.
- 9.3 Goals are approximately 1.3 meters high and run the width of the court.

---

## **10. OFFICIALS:**

- 10.1 A minimum of 3 game referees are required. NOTE: Goalball officials are at a minimum within Canada, therefore the host committee should be prepared to bring them in.
- 10.2 Minor officials – locally trained volunteers for scorekeeping and timing can make up the following roles: four goal judges, one scorer, one timer, one ten-second timer, and one shot recorder.

---

## **11. PROTEST PROCEDURES:**

- 11.1 Field of Play – refer to IBSA Goalball Rules and on-site sport technical representative

---

## **12. MEDALS:**

Gold: 6                      Silver: 6                      Bronze: 6

---

## **13. COMPETITIVE UNIFORMS**

Each club team is responsible for providing their own competitive team uniform. All teams must have a home and away set of uniforms.