

**The 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens**

Two weeks after the completion of the Olympic Games, the best Paralympic athletes came to Athens to compete in the Paralympic Games. The general philosophy of the Paralympic Games is to follow the rules of the Olympic sports as much as possible.

Such a philosophy is already implied in the name of the event. The term *Paralympic* derives from the word *Olympic* and the prefix *Para-*, a Greek preposition which means 'close to'. The Paralympic Games is an elite sports event in terms of both, the organisation and the actual competition.

**Attendance and schedule**

From the 17th to the 28th of September 2004 Athens welcomed 4,000 Paralympic athletes from about 130 countries, as well as over 2,000 team officials. All were accommodated at the Paralympic Village. About 3,000 media representatives covered

the ATHENS 2004 Paralympic Games, while approximately 1,000 technical officials and 15,000 volunteers provided assistance.



The event was also attended by 2,500 members of the Paralympic Family (representatives of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), the National Paralympic Committees (NPCs), etc.).

The Paralympic Games were held at the same Olympic Venues which were provided with the necessary facilities to accommodate the athletes and spectators. At the same time, infrastructure was upgraded in all cities so as to ensure their accessibility to all.

[www.athens2004.gr](http://www.athens2004.gr)

1 Find a word or phrase in the texts that means the following.

- started =
- combining =
- places where people meet
- e.g. for a sports event =
- developed =
- suggested =
- has its source or origin =
- equipment, buildings, services
- provided for a particular purpose =
- provide a room or place to sleep =
- audience =
- the ability to reach or use a place =

**The 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens**

Two weeks after the completion of the Olympic Games, the best Paralympic athletes came to Athens to compete in the Paralympic Games. The general philosophy of the Paralympic Games is to follow the rules of the Olympic sports as much as possible.

Such a philosophy is already implied in the name of the event. The term *Paralympic* derives from the word *Olympic* and the prefix *Para-*, a Greek preposition which means 'close to'. The Paralympic Games is an elite sports event in terms of both, the organisation and the actual competition.

**Attendance and schedule**

From the 17th to the 28th of September 2004 Athens welcomed 4,000 Paralympic athletes from about 130 countries, as well as over 2,000 team officials. All were accommodated at the Paralympic Village. About 3,000 media representatives covered

the ATHENS 2004 Paralympic Games, while approximately 1,000 technical officials and 15,000 volunteers provided assistance.



The event was also attended by 2,500 members of the Paralympic Family (representatives of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), the National Paralympic Committees (NPCs), etc.).

The Paralympic Games were held at the same Olympic Venues which were provided with the necessary facilities to accommodate the athletes and spectators. At the same time, infrastructure was upgraded in all cities so as to ensure their accessibility to all.

1 Find a word or phrase in the texts that means the following.

- started =
- combining =
- places where people meet
- e.g. for a sports event =
- developed =
- suggested =
- has its source or origin =
- equipment, buildings, services
- provided for a particular purpose =
- provide a room or place to sleep =
- audience =
- the ability to reach or use a place =