



## FRAME RUNNING SCOTLAND Newsletter – April 2022

### Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2022. Many of you will be receiving our newsletter for the first time. In addition to the information provided on our website [rrscotland.org](http://rrscotland.org), we email to our distribution list special notices and three newsletters per year. Being on our distribution list helps us communicate with our growing Frame Running community. If you would like anyone to be added or you removed please email [info@rrscotland.org](mailto:info@rrscotland.org).



### 2022 Event and Competition Season

Hi Hip Hooray! Following two years of cancellations, all events and competitions are back this year. We have produced a 2022 Competition Schedule and it is published on our website. To help you identify suitable events, competitions have been grouped into **Development Competitions, Intermediate Competitions and Performance Competitions**. Development Competitions are open to all Frame Running athletes; beginner, recreational and experienced.

### Approaching Events (April – July)

There are many athletics competitions across the country including Frame Running events, both local and national. In this newsletter we particularly highlight approaching Development Competitions that are open to all Frame Running athletes. These development competitions are very welcoming, supportive and encouraging to all. They are wonderful for trying your first competition and for regulars catching up with frame running and para-athlete friends. Bring the family/friends and support your frame running athlete/s.

**Pitreavie Frame Running Festival**  
**Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> May**  
**Pitreavie, Dunfermline**

**Forth Valley Flyers Championship**  
**Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Grangemouth**



### Exciting New Initiatives for 2022

Over the coming months we will be releasing information on exciting new initiatives we will be launching this year. Including:

- the development of a Scotland Frame Running **Equipment Hub** to loan frames and equipment to support the growth of both new and existing clubs. The Hub will also facilitate clubs to interchange frame sizes as their requirements change (i.e. as children grow and need the next size frame).
- the formation of a **Development Squad** to complement at the development level Scottish Athletics and British Athletics performance pathways. Following this year's May to July competitions, Clubs will be asked to nominate athletes for selection consideration and Frame Running Scotland will then select the squad.

*Watch for the launch announcements.*

## Classification Clinic

British Athletics are holding a National Classification clinic at Grangemouth on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July. Frame Running is included. Attendance is by invitation only. This will be the only classification clinic to be held in Scotland in 2022 and clubs are encouraged to contact Pamela Robson, Scottish Athletics National Disability Pathway Officer to discuss potential athletes for classification.

### What is Classification?

*Classification determines which athletes are eligible to compete in a sport and how athletes are grouped together for competition. In Para sports, athletes are grouped by the degree of activity limitation resulting from the impairment. This, to a certain extent, is similar to grouping athletes by age, gender or weight.*

### What is the purpose of classification?

*Classification aims to minimise the impact of the impairment on athletes' performance so that the sporting excellence determines which athlete or team is ultimately victorious. Ensuring that athletes are classified prior to competing is crucial to safeguarding the integrity and credibility of the competition.*

*It is important to underline that the competitive structure provided by classification systems is not only key for elite sport but also necessary for promoting grassroots participation in Para sports for people with an impairment.*

### Is there one classification system for all sports?

*No, each Para Sport must have and publish their own classification system. For example, the classification system and classes for swimming will be different for those in athletics, boccia or sailing. This is because each sport is different and, therefore, the effect of the impairment on each sport will be different. Frame Running has a specification classification system with the Para-Athletics classification rules.*

### How is Classification performed?

*Classification for individuals with Cerebral Palsy and similar neurological conditions are performed by a minimum of two trained classifiers. The classification assessment will test the individual's levels of function, coordination and movement. Classifiers will also do a technical assessment and will observe individual athletes in competition.*

## Paris Paralympics 2024 – Frame Running not to be included

Frame Running Scotland was shocked and dismayed when in November 2021, Frame Running was not included in the announced Paris 2024 medal programme. Frame Running had unequivocally met the Paralympic medal event eligibility criteria. The athletes and CPISRA (Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association) had achieved all milestones and deliverables requested by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC).

Following the announcement Scottish Athletics, British Athletics and CPISRA all requested further information and right of appeal. The IPC responded there is no appeal process and stated "WPA was unable to include ..... proposed Frame Running events due to the reduction in the number of medal events allotted to Para athletics by the IPC". The justification seems disingenuous as it results in Frame Running (T72) being the only class to meet the medal event criteria to not have any event in which to compete whilst some classes are able to compete in up to 7 events.

Frame Running is a new type of World Para Athletics (WPA) event due to the utilisation of a Running Frame. However, the athletes do not represent a new WPA impairment group. The grouping last competed at Paralympics Seoul 1988 pushing wheelchairs backyards ("foot pushers") and has remained as an eligible WPA classification grouping. In effect, the Frame Running athletes have been excluded from the Paralympics for over 30 years and continue to be excluded by this shameful decision.

Since the announcement both the IPC and WPA have publicly stated their commitment to Frame Running and all of us involved in Frame Running continue to encourage and support the development of Frame Running including the target of Los Angeles Paralympics 2028 inclusion.

## Contact Information:

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