

Paralympic facts 残奥会常识

Vocabulary: The Paralympic Games 残奥会

The game is up for the 2012 Olympics and the Paralympic Games now **take the stage**. But what are the differences between the two?

Firstly, the Olympic rings are not used in the Paralympics, which are instead represented by the red, blue and green **agitos** and by the **motto** 'Spirit in motion'.

Did you know that the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee are separate entities? The two Games have only been held together since 1988 - previously they'd been hosted in completely different locations.



Paralympic athletes undergo a vigorous classification process which depends on variations of **disability**. For instance, swimming has 14 classes: S1-S10 cover **physical impairment**, S11-S13 are for athletes with **visual impairments** and S14 is for those with an **intellectual disability**.

The Paralympic versions of some sports are completely different to their Olympic counterparts. Blind football, for instance, is **a whole new ball game**: the ball used is less bouncy and contains **ball bearings** so that it makes a noise when it moves.

And what is the role of a **'tapper'**? Tappers alert blind swimmers that the end of the pool is close by tapping the swimmer on the head with a long pole that has a ball on the end. This ensures the swimmer can swim confidently without being afraid of a crash at the end of the pool. Blind and partially sighted runners, on the other hand, can be assisted by a guide who is attached to them with a rope. The guide must be careful not to cross the finishing line before the athletes, as this crime is punishable by **disqualification**.

Lastly, the list of **banned substances** is the same for Olympic athletes and Paralympians. If an athlete needs additional medication, they must apply for an exemption. The director of operations at UK Anti-Doping, Nicole Sapstead, says: "Obviously there are athletes with **spinal injuries** and they need **pain relief**. But mostly it is the same as the Olympics - things like asthma and diabetes."

Now that you're **ahead of the game** as far as Paralympic facts are concerned, enjoy the action!

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. What is the motto of the Paralympic Games?
2. True, false or not given? The Olympic Games and Paralympic Games have always been held in the same place.
3. How is the ball used in blind football different to a regular ball?
4. Find a word in the article that means 'forbidden'.
5. Which expression means 'in a position of advantage'?

Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. My _____ is 'never say never'.

tapper	motto	agito	impairment
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2. Matthew has a _____ so he can't see very well.

spinal injury	physical impairment	intellectual impairment	visual impairment
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3. I agreed to make lunch for five people, but now that there are 40 guests it's _____.

a hole in the ball	a new ball	a whole new ball game	a whole ball
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4. Don't break the rules or you may _____.

need additional medicine	take the stage	be assisted	be disqualified
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5. Cameras are _____ from the museum.

disqualified	banned	ahead	bearings
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Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. What is the motto of the Paralympic Games? Spirit in motion.
2. True, false or not given? The Olympic Games and Paralympic Games have always been held in the same place. False. They have been held in different cities. Since 1988 they've been hosted in the same location.
3. How is the ball used in blind football different to a regular ball? It's less bouncy and it contains ball bearings to make it audible.
4. Find a word in the article that means 'forbidden'. Banned.
5. Which expression means 'in a position of advantage'? To be ahead of the game.

Exercise 练习

1. My motto is 'never say never'.
2. Matthew has a visual impairment so he can't see very well.
3. I agreed to make lunch for five people, but now that there are 40 guests it's a whole new ball game.
4. Anna thought about selling the house, but in the end she couldn't go through with it. She loves it there.
5. My brother-in-law is highly-organised and likes to follow a strict schedule, even when he's on holiday.

Glossary 词汇表

the game is up	结束了，完结了
to take the stage	上场，亮相
agitos	残奥会旗帜或会徽专用语，（拉丁语）“我前进”。
a motto	座右铭
a disability	残疾，障碍
a duty	一项责任
a physical impairment	肢体缺陷
a visual impairment	视觉障碍
an intellectual disability	智力障碍
a whole new ball game	完全彻底不同的事物
ball bearings	滚珠轴承
a tapper	轻敲者（提醒视力受限运动员即将到达终点）
a disqualification	取消参赛资格
banned substances	违禁药物
a spinal injury	脊椎损伤
pain relief	止痛方式
ahead of the game	处于领先或有利的地位