

# Whistler Olympic Park/ Whistler Paralympic Park



- Olympic Winter Games gross venue capacity: 12,000 in each of three stadiums
- Paralympic Winter Games gross venue capacity: 6,000
- elevation: 840 metres–930 metres

## Olympic venue description

The compact, one-square-kilometre Olympic Games core area includes three separate stadiums (cross-country skiing, biathlon, ski jumping) located about 400 metres apart.

Approximately 15 kilometres of Olympic competition trails for cross-country skiing and biathlon have been built and tested through the 2007-08 opening season.

The biathlon stadium's range consists of 30 lanes with a fully electronic target system able to detect and report the precise time and hit or miss of each bullet fired.

The two ski jumps (normal hill and large hill) include one of the world's most sophisticated ski jump snow refrigeration and track setting systems.

## Paralympic venue description

All Paralympic cross-country skiing and biathlon events will use parts of both the Olympic cross-country and biathlon competition trails and stadiums. Competition courses include a 5-kilometre course for the standing classes and a specially designed 3.75-kilometre course for the sit-ski classes.

A portable 10-metre air and laser rifle biathlon range will be set up in the cross-country stadium for the biathlon events.

## Olympic Winter Games medal events:

### 28 medal events

- ski jumping (3 events)
- Nordic combined (3 events)
- cross-country skiing (12 events)
- biathlon (10 events)

## Paralympic Winter Games medal events:

### 32 medal events

- cross-country skiing (20 events)
- biathlon (12 events)

More information on Vancouver 2010 sports and disciplines at Whistler Olympic Park/Whistler Paralympic Park is available at [vancouver2010.com](http://vancouver2010.com)

## Timeline

Construction of the permanent elements of Whistler Olympic Park/Whistler Paralympic Park began in April 2005 and will be completed by fall 2008. Temporary construction and facilities set-up for the 2010 Winter Games will commence in summer 2009.

The permanent construction project included the competition facilities described above; technical sport buildings at each of the stadiums; maintenance building; sewer, water and power services; access roads; internal roads; parking lots; day lodge and other related infrastructure facilities.

## VANOC investment

Construction of Whistler Olympic Park/Whistler Paralympic Park is estimated at \$119.7 million. The governments of Canada and British Columbia have agreed to jointly fund the construction.

## Post-Games use

While VANOC is operating the venue through the 2010 Winter Games, the Whistler Olympic Park/Whistler Paralympic Park will be operated post-Games under the direction of the Whistler Legacies Society, supported by an endowment trust established by the federal and provincial governments as part of their 2010 Winter Games venues investment.

The venue will showcase Nordic sports by hosting national and international competitions and supporting Nordic sport programs in the local communities. There is also a significant opportunity for post-Games recreational use with an additional 40 kilometres of recreational trails.

## Sustainable attributes

- Provincial (BC EAO) and federal (CEAA) environmental assessment review — of wildlife, plants, archeological sites, wetlands and waterways
- Smart site selection — venue located on previously harvested forest, adjacent to a former mine, with significant commercial and public recreational use
- Minimized site disturbance and overall footprint — approximately 50 per cent reduction of overall venue footprint compared to initial design; design changes to avoid disturbing old growth forest and wetlands within core competition venue; reduced stream crossings
- On-site waste wood re-use and innovative on-site composting for landscaping material

More sustainability facts about this venue and others are available at [vancouver2010.com/sustainability](http://vancouver2010.com/sustainability).

## Sport governing bodies

### International Federations:

International Biathlon Union (IBU)  
International Paralympic Committee (IPC)  
International Ski Federation (FIS)

### Canadian Federations:

Biathlon Canada  
Cross Country Canada  
Nordic Combined Ski Canada  
Ski Jumping Canada

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## QUICK FACTS

### Whistler Olympic Park/ Whistler Paralympic Park

- First time in Olympic history that **all four Nordic disciplines** (biathlon, ski jumping, Nordic combined, cross-country skiing) are occurring at the same venue.
- The **only snowmaking system** at the venue is for the ski jump landing hill.
- The venue has approximately **five kilometres of roller ski trails** and **six kilometres of lit trails** to enhance training opportunities for athletes.
- The venue will host **30 per cent** of the Olympic medal events and **50 per cent** of the Paralympic medal events.

## Biathlon

- The men's biathlon was first held as an official Olympic event at the **Squaw Valley 1960 Games**.
- The first women's biathlon event was added to the Olympic program at the **Albertville 1992 Games**.
- Paralympic biathlon was introduced at the **1988 Winter Games** in Innsbruck.
- Olympic biathletes shoot at targets from a distance of **50 metres**; the targets used for prone shooting are **barely larger than a "twoonie"** or a silver dollar.

## QUICK FACTS

### Cross-Country Skiing, Nordic Combined, Ski Jumping

- **Ski jumping and Nordic combined** individual events and cross-country skiing have **been contested since the first Olympic Winter Games** in Chamonix in 1924.
- The large hill ski jumping competition was added to the Olympic program for the **Innsbruck 1964 Games**.
- Paralympic cross-country skiing appeared at the inaugural 1976 Paralympic Winter Games in **Örnsköldsvik, Sweden**.
- Athletes ski at an average speed of just under **25 km/h** during cross-country ski races, reaching **maximum speeds near 60 km/h**.
- During the men's 50-kilometre race, the athletes will **climb approximately 2,000 vertical metres** (more than twice the vertical of the men's downhill course at Whistler Creekside). The winning time for this race is expected to be approximately two hours, with an average speed of almost **25 km/h**.
- Takeoff speed for ski jumpers on the in-run can reach **89 km/h (normal hill)** and **96 km/h (large hill)**.
- A ski jumper's V-style flight position provides maximum aerodynamic lift as **30 per cent of the lift is derived from the skis** and the remainder from the body.
- Ski jumpers are judged 50 per cent on **style** and 50 per cent on **distance**.