



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

Sports Department
Ref. No. 2012/CCHD/ccmc
By e-mail only

**International Committee of Sports
for the Deaf (ICSD)**

P.O. Box 3441
Frederick MD 21705
États-Unis d'Amérique

office@ciss.org

Lausanne, 29 November 2012

Status of the organisation ICSD

To whom it may concern,

This note is intended to serve as a clarification of the IOC's position regarding deaf sports. The IOC has recognised the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) since 1955. ICSD remains the leading body for the world of deaf sport.

It is only at the Deaflympics that deaf athletes compete solely alongside each other. Since 1985, the IOC has granted the patronage to the Deaflympics and the event continues to represent the highest-possible stage for deaf-only competition.

At the international level, the IOC confirms that the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) holds an independent status by not being part of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). This independence was sought and accepted by all parties concerned (IOC, IPC and ICSD) at the beginning of 1996, taking into account the specific nature of this disability. In addition, please note that the IPC and ICSD are both independent Recognised Organisations by the IOC.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation,

Christophe Dubi
Sports Director

cc: Nikolay Nikolov, President Bulgarian Deaf Sports Federation