



Election Nomination Form

World ParaVolley General Assembly

November 28, 2026

Online

DEADLINE: October 10, 2026

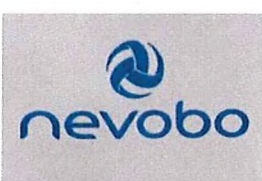
NOMINATION FORM FOR NATIONAL MEMBER ORGANIZATION

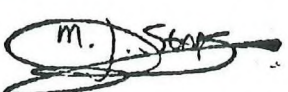
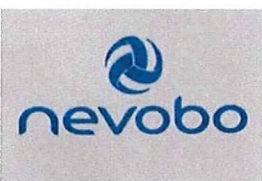
Please type in the form. Do not complete by hand. PDF or Word please.

Name of World ParaVolley member organization submitting the nomination(s):
NEVOBO – DUTCH VOLLEYBALL FEDERATION

Position being sought (one form per nominee)
☒ Vice-President (4 years) ☐ Sport Director (4 years)
☐ Marketing Director (4 years)

Nominated candidate for election
FAMILY NAME (block capitals): STINISSEN
Given name(s): ELVIRA JOHANNA

Confirmation of nomination	
Family name and given name(s) of Member Organization President:	
FAMILY NAME (block capitals): SPRENGER Given names(s): PETER Signature:  Date (dd-mm-yyyy): 07-10-2026	Official Stamp: 

Family name and given name(s) of Member Organization Secretary General or CEO:	
FAMILY NAME (block capitals): STAPS Given names(s): JOËLLE Position: CEO Signature:  Date (dd-mm-yyyy): 07-10-2026	Official Stamp: 

By signing this form, the above-mentioned officials confirm the Member Organization's endorsement of the individual nominated for election to the World ParaVolley Board of Directors.

A complete nomination consists of the following documents, submitted in English as the official language of World ParaVolley:

- ☐ Nomination form (one per candidate)
- ☐ Letter of support from nominating organisation
- ☐ Curriculum Vitae of the candidate (including statement of relevant experience)
- ☐ Candidate information sheet and vision statement related to the position being sought (see next page)

Incomplete or late nominations cannot be accepted.

NOMINATION DEADLINE: October 10, 2026

Send via e-mail to:

World ParaVolley President president@worldparavolley.org

World ParaVolley Vice President vicepresident@worldparavolley.org

World ParaVolley General Manager generalmanager@worldparavolley.org

CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEET

Candidate details:

Name: ELVIRA STINISSEN

Nationality: DUTCH

Nominating Organisation: NEVOBO – DUTCH VOLLEYBALL FEDERATION

Current Role: Vice-president of World ParaVolley

Languages spoken and written, and ability level:

DUTCH – NATIVE SPEAKER

ENGLISH – C2 LEVEL ENGLISH (Advanced Professional Proficiency)

Why should I be elected?

Serving as Vice President of World ParaVolley has been every bit as inspiring as I hoped it would be. Over the past two years, I have had the opportunity to work with an extraordinary group of people who share a genuine passion for our sports and a strong ambition to move our organisation forward.

The amount of work taking place across World ParaVolley is enormous. There is always another opportunity to explore, an issue to resolve or a next step to take. I genuinely enjoy giving my time and energy to that work. It matters to me, I learn from it every day and I am proud to be part of the team carrying it forward.

For more than 25 years, sitting volleyball has shaped my life. I played for the Dutch national team for almost 20 years, captained it for ten and competed at three Paralympic Games. Today, I still play at club level. I combine this athlete perspective with my professional experience in public policy and my background in national and international sport governance.

Together, these experiences help me understand both the heart of sport and the strong organisation needed to help it thrive.

What the first two years have given me

The Vice Presidency has greatly broadened my understanding of World ParaVolley. Sitting volleyball was already deeply familiar to me, but I have now experienced much more of Beach ParaVolley and gained a clearer view of the different realities faced by athletes, Members and Zones around the world.

Working closely with classification has deepened my understanding of both its importance and complexity. My involvement in Safe Sport has shown me how essential it is to protect people, act carefully and fairly, and strengthen trust across our community.

Above all, the role has brought me closer to the people who carry our sports every day. Our athletes, Members, Zones, volunteers, classifiers, referees, coaches, Commissions and partners bring an incredible amount of expertise and commitment. World ParaVolley must value them, support them and help their passion grow.

Building a stronger organisation

What happens on court depends on a strong organisation behind it. Good governance, clear direction and effective structures provide the foundation from which our sports can grow.

Over the past two years, we have taken major steps to strengthen World ParaVolley both on and off the court. Together with our Members and Zones, we developed a new Strategic Plan, strengthened our international competition programme, created a clear strategy for the development of Beach ParaVolley Standing and restructured the Sport Department to better support all our disciplines. At the same time, we continued to professionalise our governance and core organisational processes, including Safe Sport, and anti-doping. Together, these changes have created stronger foundations for the next phase of World ParaVolley's growth.

These are shared achievements, created by people across World ParaVolley. I enjoy contributing to this work. Through my role at the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport and my experience in sport boards and advisory bodies, I am used to connecting different perspectives, creating direction and translating ambitions into action.

Growing through partnerships

The past two years have also confirmed how much we can achieve through partnerships. Our developing relationship with FIVB shows what becomes possible when we combine networks, expertise and ambition.

World ParaVolley has a great deal to offer: outstanding athletes, specialised knowledge and sports that demonstrate how inclusive volleyball can be. Partnerships with FIVB, IPC and other organisations can create opportunities for our Members and athletes that we cannot realise alone. I can contribute by helping build these relationships, recognising where our ambitions connect and turning their potential into concrete action.

Working together

I greatly value working in a Board that brings together different backgrounds and perspectives. Athlete experience keeps us connected to the heart of our sports, while refereeing, medical, legal, organisational and professional expertise help us view challenges from different angles.

We do not always begin with the same opinion, and that is valuable. By listening, challenging ideas and combining our knowledge, we make stronger decisions. The same applies across our organisation. Africa, Asia-Oceania, Europe and Pan America each face different opportunities and challenges. Understanding those differences helps us make better global decisions and learn from what is already working.

Why do I want to continue?

These first two years have strengthened my belief in World ParaVolley's potential and in what we can achieve together. We have taken important steps, built stronger foundations and created new opportunities. The combination – pride in what our community already achieves and a strong belief in what is still possible – is why I want to continue. The work feels meaningful, the momentum is real and there is much more we can build together.

I would continue to bring energy, experience, commitment and a willingness to invest the time the role requires. I will listen, ask questions, connect people and perspectives, and help turn opportunities into action.

The best results in sport are never individual results. They are achieved when people bring their different strengths together and remain committed to a shared purpose. I am grateful for the trust our Members gave me in 2024. I hope they will renew that trust and give me the opportunity to continue serving as Vice President of World ParaVolley for the next four years.

Manifesto and vision statement related to the position being sought

ELVIRA STINISSEN: Candidate for Vice President of World ParaVolley

"Building on what we started. Bringing our sports to more people".

Building on what we started

In 2024, I shared a simple ambition: more countries, more athletes and more exposure. I identified three priorities to help us move in that direction: place our Zones at the centre of growth, strengthen partnerships and build a future-proof organisation. Together, World ParaVolley, our Members, Zones, athletes, volunteers, Commissions and partners have made important progress on all three.

These shared achievements give us stronger foundations. We should continue building on them while taking the next step.

1. GROW – Zones at the centre

Our Zones are taking an increasingly central role in the growth of ParaVolley. They help shape the future of our sports, and our Strategic Plan gives them a clear role in expanding membership and developing ParaVolley within their regions.

Cooperation between the four Zones is also growing. Africa, Asia-Oceania, Europe and Pan America face different realities and opportunities. Sharing those perspectives helps us learn from one another and develop approaches that fit each region.

The next step is to expand the range of events across all regions, welcome more World ParaVolley Members, strengthen athlete representation and improve gender diversity throughout our sports. Our Zones are essential to achieving that growth.

2. STRENGTHEN – Partnerships that open doors

Our partnership with FIVB has taken important steps forward. We signed a new Memorandum of Understanding, and dedicated people from both organizations are now working together to turn our shared ambition into action.

The Volleyball Experience has showcased sitting volleyball at major FIVB events. The visit of the FIVB President to the final day of our Sitting Volleyball World Championships was another strong signal of our growing relationship.

The next step is to translate this partnership into more concrete opportunities. FIVB's global community can help us connect with more countries and advance our shared ambition to make volleyball accessible to as many people as possible, including people with disabilities.

That is the value of partnership: opening doors, creating opportunities and achieving more together than we can alone. We should also build relationships with organizations and sponsors that share our values and ambitions.

"Working with Elvira has been a real partnership built on trust, ambition and action. She has a clear vision, the drive to turn ideas into reality, and a unique ability to bring people together around a common goal. Through our collaboration between FIVB and World ParaVolley, I have seen firsthand her determination and commitment to creating meaningful progress. Elvira is someone you can count on to move things forward". **Paulo Barone, Head of Development & Sustainability FIVB**

3. FUTURE-PROOF – Strong foundations for our ambitions

Together, we developed our new Strategic Plan, strengthened our international competition programme, created a clear strategy for Beach ParaVolley Standing and

restructured the Sport Department to better support all our disciplines. We also continued to professionalize our governance and core organizational processes.

The next step is to complete our transition to an association, embed these structural changes and prepare World ParaVolley for further professionalization and sustainable growth. These first three priorities are now firmly established. We must continue advancing them. At the same time, the progress we have made creates room for a fourth priority.

"It has been inspiring to see the energy and fresh perspective that Elvira has brought to the World ParaVolley leadership team. Our sports are all about the athletes, and Elvira has ensured that the direction and priority always comes back what really matters... Getting more people to play, and the quality and maximising the experience of those who already do. Elvira has worked tirelessly on the new strategic plan and I have full confidence in her ability to deliver and "slide" the organization forward again!" **Matt Rogers, Teamleader Coachings Commission World Paravolley and assistant Technical Delegate LA 2028**

4. ENGAGE – Bringing our sports to more people

We deliver exciting events with outstanding athletes. Yet our audiences still consist mainly of people who already know ParaVolley. Our sports can inspire and attract many more people, and our stronger organization, Zones and partnerships now give us a better foundation from which to reach them.

Fan engagement will therefore be my fourth priority.

Reaching and engaging new audiences is a challenge shared across international and Paralympic sport. FIVB, IPC and the international federations within APSO are also exploring how to turn visibility into lasting engagement. We should learn from one another, identify opportunities to work together and strengthen our collective reach and impact.

From exposure to engagement

For World ParaVolley, the next step is to move from exposure to engagement. People should not only see our sports; they should choose to follow, experience and remember them.

At our World Championships in China, the largest media team ever assembled at a World ParaVolley event brought our matches, athletes and stories far beyond the venue through strong imagery, interviews, storytelling and livestreaming. It demonstrated what focused investment can achieve.

We should build on that experience. Audience development should become an integral part of event planning: delivering compelling competitions, telling powerful athlete stories, using media strategically and working with partners that can extend our reach.

Fan engagement is not only about filling seats. It is about building a larger community: more people watching our athletes, following our competitions, experiencing our events and connecting with ParaVolley. Companies and organizations that share our commitment to inclusion and to strengthening the position of people with disabilities can become valuable partners. Together, we can reach new audiences and create an impact that extends beyond competition.

My role as Vice President

I see clear opportunities for World ParaVolley, and I can help connect the people, organizations and ideas needed to realise them. My experience as an athlete and in sport

governance and public policy, combined with everything I have learned as Vice President, enables me to contribute from different perspectives.

These ambitions require a shared effort from our athletes, Members, Zones, volunteers, Commissions, Board and partners. My contribution will be to:

- Listen to different perspectives, connect people and help create clear direction.
- Strengthen and embed the foundations we have built together.
- Develop partnerships and sponsorships that create concrete opportunities.
- Help bring our sports to more people around the world.

After more than 25 years in ParaVolley, I still feel excited when someone experiences our sport for the first time and says: "Wow. This is great sport and amazing to watch!" I want many more people to have that experience!

Over the next four years, I want to continue identifying opportunities, connecting people and helping turn our shared ambitions into action. I am grateful for the trust our Members gave me in 2024. I hope they will renew that trust and give me the opportunity to continue serving as Vice President of World ParaVolley.

"It is always a pleasure to collaborate with Elvira, whom I have known for several years. She is authentic, warm, and approachable and these qualities are underpinned by sound judgement, integrity, competence and a calm, level-headed approach. She has a great ability to foster strong relationships, build consensus, contribute to strategic decision-making and advocate credibly for para sport and Para athletes. Elvira is an excellent candidate for the position of World ParaVolley Vice President". **Debbie Alexander, President APSO and IPC Board Member**

World ParaVolley

Jürgen Schrapp – President

Phil Allen – General Manager

Utrecht, the Netherlands, 7 October 2026

Subject: Support letter for nomination of Elvira Stinissen for Vice-President of WPV

Dear World ParaVolley Members,

The Dutch Volleyball Federation (Nevobo) is proud to support the re-election of Elvira Stinissen as Vice President of World ParaVolley for the 2026–2030 term. When Nevobo nominated Elvira in 2024, we did so because of her exceptional combination of experience as a Paralympic athlete, sports administrator, policy adviser and international sports leader. Over the past two years, she has demonstrated how valuable that combination is in practice.

Elvira has fulfilled her role as Vice President with great energy, commitment and a genuine willingness to listen and connect. She understands both the visible and less visible sides of international sport: the athletes and competitions, as well as the governance, partnerships and organisational foundations needed for sustainable development.

We know Elvira not only through her international work, but also through her continued contribution to Dutch volleyball. As Chair of Nevobo's Policy Advisory Team, she brings together perspectives from athletes, clubs, administrators and policymakers. At the same time, she remains an active sitting volleyball player at club level. This keeps her closely connected to the everyday reality of the sport and to the people who make it happen.

Nevobo strongly believes in cooperation across the international volleyball and Paralympic communities. Strong relationships between World ParaVolley, national volleyball federations, National Paralympic Committees, dedicated ParaVolley federations and the FIVB can create more opportunities for athletes, strengthen competitions and bring ParaVolley to new countries and audiences. We value the progress made in this cooperation and Elvira's ability to connect organisations, ambitions and people.

ParaVolley is an important part of the global volleyball family. Nevobo remains committed to supporting its development, both in the Netherlands and internationally, and to promoting a volleyball community in which people with and without disabilities can participate and excel. We at Nevobo are convinced that Elvira's experience, enthusiasm and collaborative leadership make her an excellent Vice President. She combines a long-term vision with the drive to turn ideas into action, while always recognising that progress is achieved together.

Nevobo therefore wholeheartedly supports Elvira Stinissen's candidacy and hopes that the World ParaVolley Members will renew their trust in her for the next four years.

For the record, we confirm that our candidate Elvira Stinissen is in good safe sport standing with the Dutch Volleyball Federation (Nevobo).

Yours sincerely,



Peter Sprenger
President



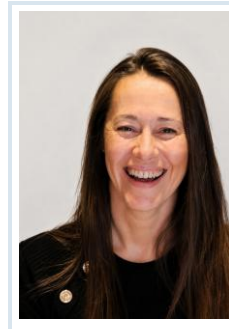
Joëlle Staps
Chief Executive Officer



ELVIRA STINISSEN

INTERNATIONAL SPORT GOVERNANCE • PUBLIC POLICY • PARALYMPIC LEADERSHIP

The Netherlands | [\[REDACTED\]](#) | [linkedin.com/in/elvira-stinissen](https://www.linkedin.com/in/elvira-stinissen)



BOARD LEADER. POLICY STRATEGIST. PARALYMPIAN.

Sport has shaped who I am — as a Paralympian, a board leader and a policy professional. I bring more than 25 years of experience in sport, combining an athlete's perspective with strategic leadership and public policy expertise. I believe in bringing people together, creating clarity and turning ideas into action. At the heart of my work is a simple ambition: to make sport stronger, more inclusive and accessible to everyone.

CORE EXPERTISE

- International sport governance
- Strategy & organisational development
- Public policy & advocacy
- Stakeholder diplomacy
- Inclusion & Para sport
- Integrity & safeguarding
- Board leadership
- Partnership development

LANGUAGES

Dutch

Native

English

C1 | (Advanced Professional Proficiency: (speaking & reading))

EDUCATION

MA Public Administration & Organisational Science

Utrecht University | 2006–2008

BA Interdisciplinary Social Sciences

Utrecht University | 2003–2006

INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE

Vice President | 2024 - Present

World ParaVolley

Board responsibility for strategy, governance, partnerships and organisational priorities within the international federation.

Vice Chair | 2013–2019

IPC Athletes' Council

Represented athletes within the Paralympic Movement and contributed to international policy and governance discussions.

Board Member | 2016–2020

European Paralympic Committee

Board Member | 2021–Present

Sports Advisory Council, The Hague

Chair, Advisory Committee | 2023–Present

Nevobo

Interim Chair, Athletes' Committee | 2013–2018

World ParaVolley

Member, Classification Review Commission | 2017–2018

World ParaVolley

PARALYMPIC CAREER

Dutch National Sitting Volleyball Team

2001–2018 | Captain 2008–2018

- Three Paralympic Games
- Bronze – Beijing 2008
- Two-time World Champion
- World Cup gold and silver
- Four-time European Champion

LEADERSHIP APPROACH

Strategic, direct and action-oriented. Connects different perspectives, creates clarity in complex environments and builds commitment around shared goals.

SELECTED STRENGTHS

- Athlete-centred decisions
- Cross-cultural collaboration
- Clear, persuasive communication
- Trust and coalition building
- From vision to implementation

ADDITIONAL GOVERNANCE

Member, Award Committee | 2021–2022

World ParaVolley

Chair, Sitting Volleyball Policy Advisory Team | 2012–2016

Nevobo

Vice Chair / Member, National Athletes' Committee | 2011–2013
The Netherlands

Participation Ambassador | 2012–2016

Randstad Netherlands

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Coordinating Policy Advisor – Sport | 2013–Present

Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, the Netherlands

- Develops and coordinates national policy on equal access, disability sport and participation.
- Advises senior leadership and political office-holders on complex sport policy and implementation.
- Connects government, sport organisations, municipalities, knowledge partners and civil society.
- Leads cross-organisational programmes and networks from strategy through delivery.

Founder | 2012–2019

Sport-Ability

- Delivered keynotes, workshops and advisory assignments on inclusive sport and Paralympic leadership.

Policy Coordinator – Sitting Volleyball | 2013–2015

Nevobo

- Embedded sitting volleyball within the national volleyball structure and connected domestic development with international priorities.

Consultant / Account Manager | 2009–2013

Sportservice Zuid-Holland

- Advised municipalities, clubs and regional partners; built disability-sport networks and managed multi-partner projects.

Business Consultant | 2008–2009

Atos Consulting

- Supported organisational harmonisation, process improvement and implementation.