

Wheelchair tennis

Players use various techniques to accurately strike and return the ball to the opponent's court to score points. Watch the agility of their chair work (wheelchair control techniques) as well as the speedy and intensive rallies.

Rules:

The basic rules are almost the same as for regular tennis.

Matches are played as the best of three sets. In regular tennis, players must return the ball before it bounces twice, whereas in wheelchair tennis the ball may bounce up to two times.

As long as the first bounce falls within the court, the second bounce may occur outside the court. Players may return the ball from either inside or outside the court.

Classification:

Athletes with lower limb impairments are eligible for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. They compete in three classes: men's, women's and mixed-gender quads for those with both lower and upper limb impairments. Each class features singles and doubles tournaments.

Column:

A fusion of clever play and techniques!

The biggest attraction in wheelchair tennis is the various strokes that the players can deliver while skillfully using their wheelchairs. You'll be amazed at how quickly they can move to where their opponent's ball will land as well as their control and powerful smash of the ball that accurately follows the intended course. Many players compete in an electric wheelchair due to cervical cord injuries.

The Japanese team have successively won individual singles titles at previous Paralympic Games, and a bigger formation of players is expected to deliver better results at the Tokyo 2020 Games.

Trivia:

Players who are not capable of regular overhand service may serve by hitting the ball after bouncing it on the ground.

Venue:

At the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, wheelchair tennis will be held at Ariake Tennis Park.