



## Media Centre

### Top 50 Moments of 2017: No. 24 - A star is born

08.12.2017

Mongolian's meteoric rise to become Para taekwondo world champion



Enkhtuya Khurelbaatar became world Para taekwondo champion in 2017 ©•



By Lee Reaney | For the IPC

[Enkhtuya Khurelbaatar](#) put a definitive stamp on a dominant two-year run when she won the women's 49kg K44 at the World [Para Taekwondo](#) Championships.

It was her first world title, and it is unlikely to be the Mongolian's last.

Her World Championship caps a meteoric rise to the top of her division – she was unranked just two years earlier – and is No. 24 on the [International Paralympic Committee's \(IPC\) Top 50 Moments of 2017](#).

Khurelbaatar won the last two Asian Championships and the 2016 Oceania Open in addition to her world crown.

Her dominant performances at the Worlds in London, Great Britain, included a victory over Mexico's No. 3 Claudia Romero. Khurelbaatar credits the many people supporting her for her success, including the Mongolian [Taekwondo](#) Federation and her teammates – like fellow world champion [Bolor-Erdene Ganbat](#) .

#### LATEST NEWS



**09.12.2017** [Sherif Osman elected first World Para Powerlifting Athlete Liaison](#)



**09.12.2017** [Canmore kicks off Nordic skiing season](#)



**09.12.2017** [Top 50 Moments of 2017: No. 23 – Fernandez reaches World No.1](#)

**08.12.2017** [Mexico City 2017: Closing Ceremony speech](#)



**08.12.2017** [Mexico City 2017: Paul Kehinde dethrones Lei Liu on final day](#)

[More news...](#)

The Mongolian [Taekwondo](#) Federation has training camps for its athletes, where Para athletes train with their able-bodied counterparts.

“We eat, sleep, and train,” said Khurelbaatar. “And I like to practice my back-leg roundhouse.”

She has her eyes firmly set on Tokyo 2020, where the sport will make its Paralympic debut.

“It is the only thing on my mind,” she said. “There is no thought about the difficult training – it’s just gold in 2020.”

Khurelbaatar hopes that her success will inspire others with an impairment to take up sports.

“[Para taekwondo](#) has opened my eyes to the world,” Khurelbaatar said. “I have far more self-confidence now. I hope to open the minds of women with impairments and show that you can be something – in sport, at work, in life – even with an impairment.”

She added: “If being a role model attracts more women to the sport, if it gets more people involved in sport in Mongolia, it shows that hard work and sweat will lead you to accomplishment.”

The countdown of the IPC’s Top 50 Moments continues until 31 December.

#### Related News

- [Top 50 Moments of 2017: No. 29 – I’mPOSSIBLE goes global](#)
- [Top 50 Moments of 2017: No. 28 - Norway end Russian reign](#)
- [Top 50 Moments of 2017: No. 27 – World ParaVolley launches Super 6](#)
- [Top 50 Moments of 2017: No. 26 - Para stars dance](#)
- [Top 50 Moments of 2017: No. 25 - Nemati on top of the world](#)

Like 63 | Share | Tweet | G+ | [print](#) | send

#### Worldwide Paralympic Partners



#### International Partners



[FAQ](#) | [IMPRINT](#) | [JOBS](#)

Powered by [Atos](#)

#### The Paralympic Games

[Summer Games](#)  
[Winter Games](#)  
[Sochi 2014](#)  
[Rio 2016](#)  
[All the results & medallist since 1960](#)  
[Games video archive](#)

#### About the IPC

[Who we are](#)  
[Anti-Doping](#)  
[Medical](#)  
[Partners](#)  
[IPC Strategic Plan 2015-2018](#)  
[IPC Handbook](#)  
[Publications and Documents](#)

#### Media Centre

[News](#)  
[Features & Interviews](#)  
[The Paralympian](#)  
[Videos](#)  
[Athlete of the Month](#)  
[Media Office](#)

#### Sports

[Summer Sports](#)  
[Winter Sports](#)  
[Biographies](#)

#### NPCS

[Africa](#)  
[America](#)  
[Asia](#)  
[Europe](#)  
[Oceania](#)



Official Website of the Paralympic Movement • IPC | [Homepage](#) | [Paralympic Games](#) | [The IPC](#) | [Results, Ranking & Records](#) | [Media Centre](#) | [Videos](#) | [Sports](#)  
 International Paralympic Committee (IPC)  
 Adenauerallee 212-214, 53113 Bonn, Germany  
 Telephone: +49-228-2097-200 • Fax: +49-228-2097-209 • E-mail: [info@paralympic.org](mailto:info@paralympic.org)