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Goalball

Goalball is the one Paralympic sport where spectators have to remain absolutely silent during the match. The only time they can show their appreciation is when a goal is scored.

It might seem like strange behaviour but there is good reason for it. The visually impaired athletes who play the sport need to concentrate on the sound and location of the ball, which is fitted with bells.



The aim of the game is to get the ball into the opponent's goal. The team, r up of three players, defend their goal by laying on the court to block the ba path. Teams alternate in throwing the ball and a player may not take three consecutive throws for their team.

Matches last 14 minutes and are played in seven-minute halves by both me and women's teams.

Competition dates: 23-29 October 2000.

Venue: Ross Pavilion, Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush Bay.

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