



World Para Swimming

Classification Rules and Regulations

March 2017





World Para Swimming Classification Rules and Regulations

March 2017

Organisation

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Part One: General Provisions

1 Scope and Application

Adoption

- 1.1 These Classification Rules and Regulations are referred to throughout this document as the 'Classification Rules'. They have been prepared by World Para Swimming to implement the requirements of the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code and International Standards.
- 1.2 The Classification Rules have been adopted by World Para Swimming on 8 March, 2017.
- 1.3 These Classification Rules refer to a number of Appendices. These Appendices form an integral part of the Classification Rules.
- 1.4 These Classification Rules form part of the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations.
- 1.5 The Classification Rules are supplemented by a number of Classification forms that have been prepared to assist Athlete Evaluation. These forms are available from World Para Swimming, and may be amended by World Para Swimming from time to time.

Classification

- 1.6 Classification is undertaken to:
 - a) define who is eligible to compete in Para sport and consequently who has the opportunity to reach the goal of becoming a Paralympic Athlete; and
 - b) group Athletes into Sport Classes which aim to ensure that the impact of Impairment is minimised and sporting excellence determines which Athlete or team is ultimately victorious.

Application

- 1.7 These Classification Rules apply to all Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel who are registered and/or licensed with World Para Swimming, and/or participate in any Events or Competitions organised, authorised or recognised by World Para Swimming.

- 1.8 These Classification Rules must be read and applied in conjunction with all other applicable rules of World Para Swimming, including but not limited to the sport technical rules of World Para Swimming. In the event of any conflict between these Classification Rules and any other rules, the Classification Rules shall take precedence.

International Classification

- 1.9 World Para Swimming will only permit an Athlete to compete at International Competitions if that Athlete has been allocated a Sport Class (other than Sport Class Not Eligible) and designated with a Sport Class Status in accordance with these Classification Rules.
- 1.10 World Para Swimming will provide opportunities for Athletes to be allocated a Sport Class and designated with a Sport Class Status in accordance with these Classification Rules at Recognised Competitions (or other such locations as defined by World Para Swimming). World Para Swimming will advise Athletes, National Bodies and National Paralympic Committees in advance as to such Recognised Competitions (or other such locations).

Interpretation and Relationship to Code

- 1.11 References to an 'Article' mean an Article of these Classification Rules, references to an 'Appendix' mean an Appendix to these Classification Rules, and Capitalised terms used in these Classification Rules have the meaning given to them in the Glossary to these Classification Rules.
- 1.12 References to a 'sport' in these Classification Rules refer to both a sport and an individual discipline within a sport [freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke or individual medley].
- 1.13 The Appendices to these Classification Rules are part of these Classification Rules both of which may be amended, supplemented and/or replaced by the World Para Swimming from time to time.
- 1.14 Headings used in these Classification Rules are used for convenience only and have no meaning that is separate from the Article or Articles to which they refer.
- 1.15 These Classification Rules are to be applied and interpreted as an independent text but in a manner that is consistent with the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code and the accompanying International Standards.

2 Roles and Responsibilities

2.1 It is the personal responsibility of Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, and Classification Personnel to familiarise themselves with all the requirements of these Classification Rules.

Athlete Responsibilities

2.2 The roles and responsibilities of Athletes include to:

- c) be knowledgeable of and comply with all applicable policies, rules and processes established by these Classification Rules;
- d) participate in Athlete Evaluation in good faith;
- e) ensure when appropriate that adequate information related to Health Conditions and Eligible Impairments is provided and/or made available to World Para Swimming;
- f) cooperate with any investigations concerning violations of these Classification Rules; and
- g) actively participate in the process of education and awareness, and Classification research, through exchanging personal experiences and expertise.

Athlete Support Personnel Responsibilities

2.3 The roles and responsibilities of Athlete Support Personnel include to:

- a) be knowledgeable of and comply with all applicable policies, rules and processes established by these Classification Rules;
- b) use their influence on Athlete values and behaviour to foster a positive and collaborative Classification attitude and communication;
- c) assist in the development, management and implementation of Classification Systems; and
- d) cooperate with any investigations concerning violations of these Classification Rules.

Classification Personnel Responsibilities

2.4 The roles and responsibilities of Classification Personnel include to:

- a) have a complete working knowledge of all applicable policies, rules and processes established by these Classification Rules;



- b) use their influence to foster a positive and collaborative Classification attitude and communication;
- c) assist in the development, management and implementation of Classification Systems, including participation in education and research; and
- d) cooperate with any investigations concerning violations of these Classification Rules.

Part Two: Classification Personnel

3 Classification Personnel

- 3.1 Classification Personnel are fundamental to the effective implementation of these Classification Rules. World Para Swimming will appoint a number of Classification Personnel, each of whom will have a key role in the organisation, implementation and administration of Classification for the World Para Swimming.

Head of Classification

- 3.2 World Para Swimming must appoint a Head of Classification. The Head of Classification is a person responsible for the direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of Classification matters for World Para Swimming.
- 3.3 If a Head of Classification cannot be appointed, World Para Swimming may appoint another person, or group of persons collectively (provided such person or group of persons agrees to comply with the Classifier Code of Conduct), to act as the Head of Classification.
- 3.4 The Head of Classification is not required to be a certified Classifier.
- 3.5 The Head of Classification may delegate specific responsibilities and/or the transfer specific tasks to designated Classifiers, or other persons authorised by World Para Swimming.
- 3.6 Nothing in these Classification Rules prevents the Head of Classification (if certified as a Classifier) from also being appointed as a Classifier and/or Chief Classifier.

Chief Classifiers

- 3.7 A Chief Classifier is a Classifier appointed to direct, administer, co-ordinate and implement Classification matters for a specific Competition or at such other location as defined by World Para Swimming. In particular, a Chief Classifier may be required by World Para Swimming to do the following:
- 3.7.1 supervise Classifiers to ensure that the these Classification Rules are properly applied during Classification; and
 - 3.7.2 manage Protests in consultation with World Para Swimming.

- 3.8 A Chief Classifier may delegate specific responsibilities and/or transfer specific tasks to other appropriately qualified Classifiers, or other appropriately qualified World Para Swimming officers or representatives, and/or appropriately qualified persons in the local organising committee of a Competition.

Classifiers

- 3.9 A Classifier is a person authorised as an official and certified by the World Para Swimming to conduct some or all components of Athlete Evaluation as a member of a Classification Panel.

Trainee Classifiers

- 3.10 A Trainee Classifier is a person who is in the process of formal training by World Para Swimming.
- 3.11 World Para Swimming may appoint Trainee Classifiers to participate in some or all components of Athlete Evaluation under the supervision of a Classification Panel (which will include a World Para Swimming Classification Educator), to develop Classifier Competencies.

4 Classifier Competencies, Training and Certification

- 4.1 A Classifier will be authorised to act as a Classifier if that Classifier has been certified by World Para Swimming as having the relevant Classifier Competencies.
- 4.2 World Para Swimming must provide training and education to Classifiers to ensure Classifiers obtain and/or maintain Classifier Competencies.
- 4.3 World Para Swimming must specify and publish Classifier Competencies in a manner that is transparent and accessible. The Classifier Competencies must include that a Classifier has:
- 4.3.1 a thorough understanding of these Classification Rules;
 - 4.3.2 an understanding of Para swimming for which they seek certification to act as a Classifier, including an understanding of the technical rules of the sport(s);
 - 4.3.3 an understanding of the Code and the International Standards; and
 - 4.3.4 a professional qualification(s), level of experience, skills and/or competencies in order to act as a Classifier for World Para Swimming. These include that Classifiers must either:

- a) be a certified health professional in a field relevant to the Eligible Impairment category which World Para Swimming at its sole discretion deems acceptable, such as a physician or physiotherapist for Athletes with a Physical Impairment; ophthalmologist or optometrist for Athletes with a Vision Impairment; and/or a psychologist for Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment; or
 - b) have an extensive coaching or other relevant background in the particular sport(s); or a recognised and reputable academic qualification which encompasses a requisite level of anatomical, biomechanical and sport-specific expertise, which World Para Swimming at its sole discretion deems to be acceptable.
- 4.4 World Para Swimming must establish a process of Classifier Certification by which Classifier Competencies are assessed. This process must include:
- 4.4.1 a process for the certification of Trainee Classifiers;
 - 4.4.2 quality assessment for the period of certification;
 - 4.4.3 a process for handling substandard performance, including options for remediation and/or withdrawal of certification; and
 - 4.4.4 a process for Re-certification of Classifiers.
- 4.5 World Para Swimming must specify Entry-Level Criteria applicable to persons who wish to become Trainee Classifiers. World Para Swimming will provide Entry-Level Education to Trainee Classifiers.
- 4.6 World Para Swimming must provide Continuing Education to Classifiers for the purposes of Certification and Re-certification.
- 4.7 World Para Swimming may provide that a Classifier is subject to certain limitations, including (but not limited to):
- 4.7.1 a limitation on the Impairment type for which a Classifier is certified to act as a Classifier;
 - 4.7.2 a limitation on the components of Athlete Evaluation that a Classifier is certified to conduct;
 - 4.7.3 a limitation on the level of Competition or Event that a Classifier is authorised to act as a Classifier;
 - 4.7.4 the maximum time that a Classifier Certification is valid;

- 4.7.5 that Classifier Certification is subject to review within a specific time frame by reference to the Classifier Competencies;
 - 4.7.6 that a Classifier may lose Classifier Certification if World Para Swimming is not satisfied that the Classifier possesses the required Classifier Competencies; and/or
 - 4.7.7 that a Classifier may regain Classifier Certification if World Para Swimming is satisfied that the Classifier possesses the required Classifier Competencies.
- 4.8 Further information about the World Para Swimming Pathways and Education Programmes can be found here: <https://www.paralympic.org/swimming/education>

5 Classifier Code of Conduct

- 5.1 The integrity of Classification in Para swimming depends on the conduct of Classification Personnel. World Para Swimming has therefore adopted a set of professional conduct standards referred to as the 'Classifier Code of Conduct'.
- 5.2 All Classification Personnel must comply with the Classifier Code of Conduct.
- 5.3 Any person who believes that any Classification Personnel may have acted in a manner that contravenes the Classifier Code of Conduct must report this to World Para Swimming.
- 5.4 If World Para Swimming receives such a report it will investigate the report and, if appropriate, take disciplinary measures.
- 5.5 World Para Swimming has discretion to determine whether or not a Classifier has an actual, perceived and/or potential conflict of interest.

Part Three: Athlete Evaluation

6 General Provisions

- 6.1 World Para Swimming has specified in these Classification Rules the process, assessment criteria and methodology whereby Athletes will be allocated a Sport Class and designated a Sport Class Status. This process is referred to as Athlete Evaluation.
- 6.2 Athlete Evaluation encompasses a number of steps and these Classification Rules therefore include provisions regarding:
 - 6.2.1 an assessment of whether or not an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment for the sport;
 - 6.2.2 an assessment of whether an Athlete complies with Minimum Impairment Criteria for the sport; and
 - 6.2.3 the allocation of a Sport Class (and designation of a Sport Class Status) depending on the extent to which an Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport (with the exception for athletes with Vision Impairment, where the current assessment criteria is not yet sport specific and does not include a requirement that the Athletes are assessed in respect of the 'extent to which the Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport')

7 Eligible Impairment

- 7.1 Any Athlete wishing to compete in a sport governed by World Para Swimming must have an Eligible Impairment and that Eligible Impairment must be Permanent.
- 7.2 Appendices One, Two and Three of these Classification Rules specify the Eligible Impairment(s) an Athlete must have in order to compete in a sport governed by World Para Swimming.
- 7.3 Any Impairment that is not listed as an Eligible Impairment in Appendices One, Two or Three is referred to as a Non-Eligible Impairment. Appendix Four includes examples of Non-Eligible Impairments.

Assessment of Eligible Impairment

- 7.4 World Para Swimming must determine if an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment.

- 7.4.1 In order to be satisfied that an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment, World Para Swimming may require any Athlete to demonstrate that he or she has a Health Condition that leads to an Eligible Impairment. Appendix Four lists examples of Health Conditions that are not Underlying Health Conditions.
- 7.4.2 The means by which World Para Swimming determines that an individual Athlete has an Eligible Impairment is at the sole discretion of World Para Swimming. World Para Swimming may consider that an Athlete's Eligible Impairment is sufficiently obvious and therefore not require evidence that demonstrates the Athlete's Eligible Impairment.
- 7.4.3 If in the course of determining if an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment World Para Swimming becomes aware that the Athlete has a Health Condition, and believes that the impact of that Health Condition may be that it is unsafe for that Athlete to compete or there is a risk to the health of the Athlete (or other Athletes) if that Athlete competes, it may designate the Athlete as Classification Not Completed (CNC) in accordance with Article 10 of these Classification Rules. In such instances World Para Swimming will explain the basis of its designation to the relevant National Body and/or National Paralympic Committee.
- 7.5 An Athlete is required to supply World Para Swimming with Diagnostic Information that must be provided as follows:
 - 7.5.1 The relevant National Body and/or National Paralympic Committee must submit a Medical Diagnostics Form to World Para Swimming, upon completing the registration of an Athlete.
 - 7.5.2 The Medical Diagnostics Form must be completed in English and dated and signed by a certified medical doctor (Physical Impairment) or ophthalmologist (Vision Impairment).
 - 7.5.3 The Medical Diagnostic Form must be submitted with supportive Diagnostic Information if required by World Para Swimming.
- 7.6 World Para Swimming may require an Athlete to re-submit the Medical Diagnostics Form (with necessary supportive Diagnostic Information) if the World Para Swimming at its sole discretion considers the Medical Diagnostic Form and/or the Diagnostic Information to be incomplete or inconsistent.

- 7.7 If World Para Swimming requires an Athlete to provide Diagnostic Information it may consider the Diagnostic Information itself, and/or may appoint an Eligibility Assessment Committee to do so.
- 7.8 The process by which an Eligibility Assessment Committee is formed and considers Diagnostic Information is as follows:
- 7.8.1 World Para Swimming will notify the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee that Diagnostic Information must be provided on behalf of the Athlete. The Head of Classification will explain what Diagnostic Information is required, and the purposes for which it is required.
 - 7.8.2 The Head of Classification will set timelines for the production of Diagnostic Information.
 - 7.8.3 The Head of Classification will appoint an Eligibility Assessment Committee. The Eligibility Assessment Committee must, if practicable, be comprised of the Head of Classification and at least two other experts with appropriate medical qualifications. All members of the Eligibility Assessment Committee must sign confidentiality undertakings.
 - 7.8.4 If the Head of Classification believes that he or she does not hold the necessary competencies to assess the Diagnostic Information, he or she will not participate in the review of the Diagnostic Information, but will assist the Eligibility Assessment Committee.
 - 7.8.5 Wherever possible all references to the individual Athlete and the source(s) of the Diagnostic Information should be withheld from the Eligibility Assessment Committee. Each member of the Eligibility Assessment Committee will review the Diagnostic Information and decide whether such information establishes the existence of an Eligible Impairment.
 - 7.8.6 If the Eligibility Assessment Committee concludes that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment the Athlete will be permitted to complete Athlete Evaluation with a Classification Panel.

- 7.8.7 If the Eligibility Assessment Committee is not satisfied that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment the Head of Classification will provide a decision to this effect in writing to the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee. The National Body or National Paralympic Committee will be given an opportunity to comment on the decision and may provide further Diagnostic Information to the Eligibility Assessment Committee for review. If the decision is subsequently revised, the Head of Classification will inform the National Body or National Paralympic Committee.
- 7.8.8 If the decision is not changed, the Head of Classification will issue a final decision letter to the National Body or National Paralympic Committee and the athlete will be allocated Not Eligible (NE) in accordance with the provisions of Article 18.3 of these Classification Rules.
- 7.8.9 The Eligibility Assessment Committee may make its decisions by a majority. If the Head of Classification is part of the Eligibility Assessment Committee, he or she may veto any decision if he or she does not agree that the Diagnostic Information supports the conclusion that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment.
- 7.9 World Para Swimming may delegate one or more of the functions described above to a Classification Panel.

8 Minimum Impairment Criteria

- 8.1 An Athlete who wishes to compete in a sport must have an Eligible Impairment that complies with the relevant Minimum Impairment Criteria for that sport.
- 8.2 World Para Swimming has set Minimum Impairment Criteria to ensure that an Athlete's Eligible Impairment affects the extent to which an Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.
- 8.3 Appendices One, Two and Three of these Classification Rules specify the Minimum Impairment Criteria applicable to each sport and the process by which an Athlete's compliance with Minimum Impairment Criteria is to be assessed by a Classification Panel as part of an Evaluation Session.
- 8.4 Any Athlete who does not comply with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport must be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) for that sport.

- 8.5 A Classification Panel must assess whether or not an Athlete complies with Minimum Impairment Criteria. This will take place as part of an Evaluation Session. Prior to participating in an Evaluation Session, an Athlete must first satisfy the World Para Swimming that he or she has an Eligible Impairment.
- 8.6 In relation to the use of Adaptive Equipment, World Para Swimming has set Minimum Impairment Criteria as follows:
- 8.6.1 for Eligible Impairments other than Vision Impairment, Minimum Impairment Criteria must *not* consider the extent to which the use of Adaptive Equipment might affect how the Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport;
 - 8.6.2 for Vision Impairment, Minimum Impairment Criteria must consider the extent to which the use of Adaptive Equipment might affect how the Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.

9 Sport Class

- 9.1 A Sport Class is a category defined by World Para Swimming in these Classification Rules, in which Athletes are grouped by reference to the impact of an Eligible Impairment on their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to a sport.
- 9.1.1 An Athlete who does not have an Eligible Impairment or does not comply with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport must be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) for that sport in accordance with the provisions of Article 18 of these Classification Rules.
 - 9.1.2 An Athlete who complies with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport must be allocated a Sport Class (subject to the provisions in these Classification Rules concerning Failure to Attend Athlete Evaluation and Suspension of Athlete Evaluation).

- 9.1.3 Except for the allocation of Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by World Para Swimming (in accordance with Article 18.1), the allocation of a Sport Class must be based solely on an evaluation by a Classification Panel of the extent to which the Athlete's Eligible Impairment affects the specific tasks and activities fundamental to sport. This evaluation must take place in a controlled non-competitive environment, which allows for the repeated observation of key tasks and activities.
- 9.2 Appendices One, Two and Three of these Classification Rules specify the assessment methodology and assessment criteria for the allocation of a Sport Class and the designation of Sport Class Status.

10 Classification Not Completed

- 10.1 If at any stage of Athlete Evaluation World Para Swimming or a Classification Panel is unable to allocate a Sport Class to an Athlete, the Head of Classification or the relevant Chief Classifier may designate that Athlete as Classification Not Completed (CNC).
- 10.2 The designation Classification Not Completed (CNC) is not a Sport Class and is not subject to the provisions in these Classification Rules concerning Protests. The designation Classification Not Completed (CNC) will however be recorded for the purpose of the World Para Swimming Classification Master List.
- 10.3 An Athlete who is designated as Classification Not Completed (CNC) may not compete in the sport of World Para Swimming. See Article 30 for remediation.

Part Four: Athlete Evaluation and the Classification Panel

11 The Classification Panel

11.1 A Classification Panel is a group of Classifiers appointed by World Para Swimming to conduct some or all of the components of Athlete Evaluation including as part of an Evaluation Session.

General Provisions

11.2 A Classification Panel must be comprised of at least of two certified Classifiers. In exceptional circumstances a Chief Classifier may provide that a Classification Panel comprise only one Classifier, subject to that Classifier holding a valid medical qualification.

11.3 A Trainee Classifier may be part of a Classification Panel in addition to the required number of certified Classifiers, and may participate in Athlete Evaluation.

12 Classification Panel Responsibilities

12.1 A Classification Panel is responsible for conducting an Evaluation Session. As part of the Evaluation Session the Classification Panel must:

12.1.1 assess whether an Athlete complies with Minimum Impairment Criteria for the sport (physical assessment);

12.1.2 assess the extent to which an Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport (technical assessment); and

12.1.3 conduct (if required) Observation in Competition.

12.2 Following the Evaluation Session the Classification Panel must allocate a Sport Class and designate a Sport Class Status, or designate Classification Not Completed (CNC).

12.3 Prior to the Evaluation Session, the assessment as to whether an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment must be undertaken by World Para Swimming, unless World Para Swimming requests this to be undertaken by a Classification Panel.

12.4 The Evaluation Session must take place in a controlled non-competitive environment that allows for the repeated observation of key tasks and activities.

- 12.4.1 Although other factors such as low fitness level, poor technical proficiency and aging may also affect the fundamental tasks and activities of the sport, the allocation of Sport Class must not be affected by these factors.
- 12.5 An Athlete who has a Non-Eligible Impairment and an Eligible Impairment may be evaluated by a Classification Panel on the basis of the Eligible Impairment, provided the Non-Eligible Impairment does not affect the Classification Panel's ability to allocate a Sport Class.
- 12.6 The Sport Class allocated to the Athlete will be in accordance with the processes specified in Appendices One, Two and Three.

13 Evaluation Sessions

- 13.1 This Article applies to all Evaluation Sessions.
- 13.2 The Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee is responsible for ensuring that Athletes comply with their duties in relation to the provisions in this Article.
- 13.3 In respect of Athletes:
 - 13.3.1 Athletes have the right to be accompanied by a member of the Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee when attending an Evaluation Session. The Athlete must be accompanied if the Athlete is a minor or has an Intellectual Impairment.
 - 13.3.2 The person chosen by the Athlete to accompany the Athlete at an Evaluation Session should be familiar with the Athlete's Impairment and sport history.
 - 13.3.3 The Athlete and accompanying person must acknowledge the terms of the Athlete Evaluation Agreement Form as specified by World Para Swimming.
 - 13.3.4 The Athlete must verify his or her identity to the satisfaction of the Classification Panel, by providing a document such as a passport, photo ID card, or event accreditation.
 - 13.3.5 The Athlete must attend the Evaluation Session with any sports attire or equipment relevant to the sport for which the Athlete wishes to be allocated a Sport Class.

- 13.3.6 The Athlete must disclose the use of any medication and/or medical device/implant to the Classification Panel.
- 13.3.7 The Athlete must comply with all reasonable instructions given by a Classification Panel.
- 13.4 In respect of the Classification Panel:
 - 13.4.1 The Classification Panel may request that an Athlete provide medical documentation relevant to the Athlete's Eligible Impairment if the Classification Panel believes that this will be necessary in order for it to allocate a Sport Class.
 - 13.4.2 The Classification Panel will conduct Evaluation Sessions in English unless otherwise stipulated by World Para Swimming. If the Athlete requires an interpreter, a member of the Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee will be responsible for arranging for an interpreter. The interpreter is permitted to attend the Evaluation Session in addition to the person referred to in Article 13.3.1 above.
 - 13.4.3 The Classification Panel may at any stage seek medical, technical or scientific opinion(s), with the agreement of the Head of Classification and/or a Chief Classifier if the Classification Panel feels that such opinion(s) is necessary in order to allocate a Sport Class.
 - 13.4.4 In addition to any opinion(s) sought in accordance with Article 13.4.3, a Classification Panel may only have regard to evidence supplied to it by the relevant Athlete, National Body, National Paralympic Committee and World Para Swimming (from any source) when allocating a Sport Class.
 - 13.4.5 The Classification Panel may make, create or use video footage and/or other records to assist it when allocating a Sport Class.

14 Observation in Competition

- 14.1 A Classification Panel may require that an Athlete undertake Observation in Competition Assessment before it allocates a final Sport Class and designates a Sport Class Status to that Athlete.
- 14.2 The methods by which Observation in Competition Assessment may be undertaken, and the matters to be observed, must be determined by World Para Swimming.

- 14.3 If a Classification Panel requires an Athlete to complete Observation in Competition Assessment, the Athlete will be entered in the Competition with the Sport Class allocated by the Classification Panel after the conclusion of the initial components of the Evaluation Session.
- 14.4 An Athlete who is required to complete Observation in Competition Assessment will be designated with Tracking Code: Observation Assessment (OA). This replaces the Athlete's Sport Class Status for the duration of Observation in Competition Assessment.
- 14.5 Observation in Competition Assessment must take place during First Appearance. In this regard:
- 14.5.1 First Appearance is the first time an Athlete competes in an Event during a Competition in a particular Sport Class.
 - 14.5.2 First Appearance within a Sport Class applies to participation in all Events within the same Sport Class.
- 14.6 If an Athlete is:
- a) subject to a Protest following Observation in Competition; and
 - b) the second Evaluation Session is conducted at that same Competition; and
 - c) pursuant to the second Evaluation Session the Athlete is required to undergo Observation in Competition,
- Observation in Competition must take place at the next opportunity within the Sport Class allocated to the Athlete by the Protest Panel with Tracking Code Observation Assessment (OA).
- 14.6.1 The Classification Panel must allocate a Sport Class and replace the Athlete's Tracking Code Observation Assessment (OA) by designating a Sport Class Status upon completion of First Appearance (or completion of any Observation in Competition conducted as part of a Protest). If changes to an Athlete's Sport Class or Sport Class Status are made following Observation in Competition, the changes are effective immediately.
- 14.7 The impact of an Athlete changing Sport Class after First Appearance on medals, records and results is detailed in the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations.

15 Sport Class Status

- 15.1 If a Classification Panel allocates a Sport Class to an Athlete, it must also designate a Sport Class Status. Sport Class Status indicates whether or not an Athlete will be required to undertake Athlete Evaluation in the future; and if the Athlete's Sport Class may be subject to Protest.
- 15.2 The Sport Class Status designated to an Athlete by a Classification Panel at the conclusion of an Evaluation Session will be one of the following:
- Confirmed (C)
 - Review (R)
 - Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD)

Sport Class Status New

- 15.3 An Athlete is allocated Sport Class Status New (N) by World Para Swimming prior to attending the Athlete's first Evaluation Session. An Athlete with Sport Class Status New (N) must attend an Evaluation Session prior to competing at any International Competition, unless World Para Swimming specifies otherwise.

Sport Class Status Confirmed

- 15.4 An Athlete will be designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) if the Classification Panel is satisfied that both the Athlete's Eligible Impairment and the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport are and will remain stable (with the exception for Athletes with Vision Impairment as referred to in Article 6.2.3).
- 15.4.1 An Athlete with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) is not required to undergo any further Athlete Evaluation (save pursuant to the provisions in these Classification Rules concerning Protests (Article 19), Medical Review (Article 31) and changes to Sport Class criteria (Article 15.7)).

A Classification Panel that consists of only one Classifier may not designate an Athlete with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) but must designate the Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R).

Sport Class Status Review

- 15.5 An Athlete will be designated Sport Class Status Review (R) if the Classification Panel believes that further Evaluation Sessions will be required.

- 15.5.1 A Classification Panel may base its belief that further Evaluation Sessions will be required based on a number of factors, including but not limited to situations where the Athlete has only recently entered Competitions sanctioned or recognised by World Para Swimming; has a fluctuating and/or progressive Impairment/Impairments that is/are permanent but not stable; and/or has not yet reached full muscular skeletal or sports maturity.
- 15.5.2 An Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R) must complete Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at any subsequent International Competition, unless World Para Swimming specifies otherwise.

Sport Class Status Review with Fixed Review Date

- 15.6 An Athlete may be designated Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD) if the Classification Panel believes that further Athlete Evaluation will be required but will not be necessary before a set date, being the Fixed Review Date.
 - 15.6.1 An Athlete with Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD) will be required to attend an Evaluation Session at the first opportunity after the relevant Fixed Review Date.
 - 15.6.2 An Athlete who has been allocated Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD) may not attend an Evaluation Session prior to the relevant Fixed Review Date save pursuant to a Medical Review Request and/or Protest.
 - 15.6.3 A Classification Panel that consists of only one Classifier may not designate an Athlete with Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD) but must designate the Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R).

Changes to Sport Class Criteria

- 15.7 If World Para Swimming changes any Sport Class criteria and/ or assessment methods defined in the Appendices to these Rules, then:
 - 15.7.1 World Para Swimming may re-assign any Athlete who holds Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) with Sport Class Status Review (R) and require that the Athlete attend an Evaluation Session at the earliest available opportunity; or
 - 15.7.2 World Para Swimming may remove the Fixed Review Date for any Athlete and require that the Athlete attend an Evaluation Session at the earliest available opportunity; and
 - 15.7.3 in both instances the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee shall be informed as soon as is practicable.

16 Multiple Sport Classes

16.1 This Article applies to Athletes who are potentially eligible to be allocated more than one Sport Class.

Multiple Eligible Impairments

16.2 An Athlete who has a Physical and Vision Impairment, a Physical and Intellectual Impairment, or a Vision and Intellectual Impairment may be eligible to be allocated more than one Sport Class in relation to those Eligible Impairments. In such instances:

16.2.1 the Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee must notify World Para Swimming as to the Athlete's Eligible Impairments and the Athlete's eligibility to be allocated more than one Sport Class in respect of those Impairment types, and provide all necessary medical diagnostic information as required;

16.2.2 the Athlete must be offered the opportunity to participate in an Evaluation Session in respect of each Sport Class relevant to his or her multiple Impairments, either at the relevant Competition or the subsequent Competition;

16.2.3 at the conclusion of the Evaluation Sessions referred to in Article 16.2.2 the Athlete must choose the Sport Class that he or she wishes to compete in ('the preferred Sport Class'). If the allocation of any Sport Class is subject to Observation in Competition the Athlete must select the preferred Sport Class before making any First Appearance; and

16.2.4 the Athlete will be permitted to compete in the preferred Sport Class and details of the Athlete's preferred Sport Class will be published.

Changing Sport Class

16.3 An Athlete who has a Physical and Vision Impairment, a Physical and Intellectual Impairment, or a Vision and Intellectual Impairment may request to change his or her preferred Sport Class:

a) at the end of the season when the Athlete's first Evaluation Session was completed; or

b) after the close of the Paralympic Summer or Winter Games (whichever is applicable), and before the start of the next season thereafter.

- 16.4 A request to change a preferred Sport Class must be made to World Para Swimming by the Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee. The application must be submitted to World Para Swimming in accordance with the time frame identified under Article 16.5.
- 16.5 If the change request is accepted, World Para Swimming will amend the Classification Master List in accordance with the Sport Class and Sport Class Status designated to the Athlete in the initial assessment.
- 16.6 Nothing in this Article 16 precludes an Athlete from making a Medical Review Request at any time in respect of any Sport Class.

17 Notification

- 17.1 The outcome of Athlete Evaluation must be notified to the Athlete and/or National Body or National Paralympic Committee and published as soon as practically possible after completion of Athlete Evaluation.
- 17.2 World Para Swimming must publish the outcome of Athlete Evaluation at the Competition following Athlete Evaluation, and the outcomes must be made available post Competition via the Classification Master List at World Para Swimming website.

Part Five: Sport Class Not Eligible

18 Sport Class Not Eligible

General Provisions

18.1 If World Para Swimming determines that an Athlete:

18.1.1 has an Impairment that is not an Eligible Impairment; or

18.1.2 does not have an Underlying Health Condition,

World Para Swimming must allocate that Athlete Sport Class Not Eligible (NE).

18.2 If a Classification Panel determines that an Athlete who has an Eligible Impairment does not comply with Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport that Athlete must be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) for that sport.

Absence of Eligible Impairment

18.3 If World Para Swimming determines that an Athlete does not have an Eligible Impairment, that Athlete:

18.3.1 will not be permitted to attend an Evaluation Session; and

18.3.2 will be allocated with Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) by World Para Swimming.

18.4 If another International Sport Federation has allocated an Athlete with Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) because the Athlete does not have an Eligible Impairment World Para Swimming may likewise do so without the need for the process detailed in Article 7 of these Classification Rules.

18.5 An Athlete who is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by World Para Swimming or a Classification Panel (if delegated by World Para Swimming) because that Athlete has

18.5.1 an Impairment that is not an Eligible Impairment; or

18.5.2 a Health Condition that is not an Underlying Health Condition;

has no right to request such determination be reviewed by a second Classification Panel and will not be permitted to participate in any sport.

Absence of Compliance with Minimum Impairment Criteria

- 18.6 A second Classification Panel must review by way of a second Evaluation Session any Athlete who is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) on the basis that a Classification Panel determines that the Athlete does not comply with Minimum Impairment Criteria. This must take place as soon as is practicable.
- 18.6.1 Pending the second Evaluation Session the Athlete will be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated Sport Class Status Review (R). The Athlete will not be permitted to compete before such re-assessment.
- 18.6.2 If the second Classification Panel determines the Athlete does not comply with Minimum Impairment Criteria (or if the Athlete declines to participate in a second Evaluation Session at the time set by the Chief Classifier); Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) will be allocated and the Athlete designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C).
- 18.7 If an Athlete makes (or is subject to) a Protest on a previously allocated Sport Class other than Not Eligible (NE) and is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by a Protest Panel, the Athlete must be provided with a further and final Evaluation Session which will review the decision to allocate Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) made by the Protest Panel.
- 18.8 If a Classification Panel allocates Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) on the basis that it has determined that an Athlete does not comply with Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport the Athlete may be eligible to compete in another sport, subject to Athlete Evaluation for that sport.
- 18.9 If an Athlete is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE), this does not question the presence of a genuine Impairment. It is only a ruling on the eligibility of the Athlete to compete in the sport of World Para Swimming.

Part Six: Protests

Protests

19 Scope of a Protest

- 19.1 A Protest may only be made in respect of an Athlete's Sport Class. A Protest may not be made in respect of an Athlete's Sport Class Status.
- 19.2 A Protest may not be made in respect of an Athlete who has been allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE).

20 Parties Permitted to Make a Protest

A Protest may only be made by one of the following bodies:

- 20.1 a National Body (see Articles 21-22); or
- 20.2 a National Paralympic Committee (see Articles 21-22); or
- 20.3 World Para Swimming (see Articles 23-24).

21 National Protests

- 21.1 A National Body or a National Paralympic Committee may only make a Protest in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction at a Competition or venue set aside for Athlete Evaluation.
- 21.2 If the outcome of Athlete Evaluation is published during a Competition (pursuant to Article 17 of these Classification Rules) a National Protest must be submitted within one (1) hour of that outcome being published. If the outcome of Athlete Evaluation is published following Observation in Competition a National Protest must be submitted within fifteen (15) minutes of that outcome being published.
- 21.3 If an Athlete is required by a Classification Panel to undergo Observation in Competition Assessment, a National Body or a National Paralympic Committee may make a Protest before or after First Appearance takes place. If a Protest is made before First Appearance takes place the Athlete must not be permitted to compete until the Protest has been resolved.

22 National Protest Procedure

- 22.1 To submit a National Protest, a National Body or a National Paralympic Committee must show that the Protest is bona fide with supporting evidence and complete a Protest Form, that must be made available by World Para Swimming at the Competition and via World Para Swimming website, and must include the following:
- 22.1.1 the name and SDMS ID of the Protested Athlete;
 - 22.1.2 the details of the Protested Decision and/or a copy of the Protested Decision;
 - 22.1.3 an explanation as to why the Protest has been made and the basis on which the National Body or National Paralympic Committee believes that the Protested Decision is flawed;
 - 22.1.4 reference to the specific rule(s) alleged to have been breached; and
 - 22.1.5 the Protest Fee 150€ by World Para Swimming.
- 22.2 The Protest Documents must be submitted to the Chief Classifier of the relevant Competition within the timeframes specified by World Para Swimming. Upon receipt of the Protest Documents the Chief Classifier must conduct a review of the Protest, in consultation with World Para Swimming, of which there are two possible outcomes:
- 22.2.1 the Chief Classifier may dismiss the Protest if, in the discretion of the Chief Classifier, the Protest does not comply with the Protest requirements in this Article 22; or
 - 22.2.2 the Chief Classifier may accept the Protest if, in the discretion of the Chief Classifier, the Protest complies with the Protest requirements in this Article 22.
- 22.3 If the Protest is dismissed the Chief Classifier must notify all relevant parties and provide a written explanation to the National Body or National Paralympic Committee as soon as practicable. The Protest Fee will be forfeited.
- 22.4 If the Protest is accepted:
- 22.4.1 the Protested Athlete's Sport Class must remain unchanged pending the outcome of the Protest but the Protested Athlete's Sport Class Status must immediately be changed to Review (R) unless the Protested Athlete's Sport Class Status is already Review (R);
 - 22.4.2 the Chief Classifier must appoint a Protest Panel to conduct a new Evaluation Session as soon as possible, which must be either at the Competition the Protest was made or at the next Competition); and

- 22.4.3 World Para Swimming must notify all relevant parties of the time and date the new Evaluation Session is to be conducted by the Protest Panel.

23 World Para Swimming Protests

- 23.1 World Para Swimming may, in its discretion, make a Protest at any time in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction if:
- 23.1.1 it considers an Athlete may have been allocated an incorrect Sport Class; or
 - 23.1.2 a National Body or National Paralympic Committee makes a documented request to World Para Swimming. The assessment of the validity of the request is at the sole discretion of World Para Swimming

24 World Para Swimming Protest Procedure

- 24.1 If World Para Swimming decides to make a Protest, World Para Swimming must advise the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee of the Protest at the earliest possible opportunity.
- 24.2 The Head of Classification must provide the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee with a written explanation as to why the Protest has been made and the basis on which the Head of Classification considers it is justified.
- 24.3 If World Para Swimming makes a Protest:
- 24.3.1 the Protested Athlete's Sport Class must remain unchanged pending the outcome of the Protest;
 - 24.3.2 the Protested Athlete's Sport Class Status must immediately be changed to Review (R) unless the Protested Athlete's Sport Class Status is already Review (R); and
 - 24.3.3 a Protest Panel must be appointed to resolve the Protest as soon as is reasonably possible.

25 Protest Panel

- 25.1 A Chief Classifier may fulfil one or more of the Head of Classification's obligations in this Article 25 if authorised to do so by the Head of Classification.
- 25.2 A Protest Panel must be appointed by the Head of Classification in a manner consistent with the provisions for appointing a Classification Panel in these Classification Rules.
- 25.3 A Protest Panel must not include any person who was a member of the Classification Panel that:
- 25.3.1 made the Protested Decision; or
 - 25.3.2 conducted any component of Athlete Evaluation in respect of the Protested Athlete within a period of 12 months prior to the date of the Protested Decision, unless otherwise agreed by the National Body or National Paralympic Committee (whichever is relevant) and World Para Swimming.
- 25.4 The Head of Classification must notify all relevant parties of the time and date for the Evaluation Session that must be conducted by the Protest Panel.
- 25.5 The Protest Panel must conduct the new Evaluation Session in accordance with these Classification Rules. The Protest Panel may refer to the Protest Documents when conducting the new Evaluation Session.
- 25.6 The Protest Panel must allocate a Sport Class and designate a Sport Class Status. All relevant parties must be notified of the Protest Panel's decision in a manner consistent with the provisions for notification in these Classification Rules.
- 25.7 The decision of a Protest Panel in relation to both a National Protest and an World Para Swimming Protest is final. A National Body, National Paralympic Committee or World Para Swimming may not make another Protest at the relevant Competition.

26 Provisions Where No Protest Panel is Available

- 26.1 If a Protest is made at a Competition but there is no opportunity for the Protest to be resolved at that Competition:
- 26.1.1 the Protested Athlete must be permitted to compete in the Sport Class that is the subject of the Protest with Sport Class Status Review (R), pending the resolution of the Protest; and

- 26.1.2 all reasonable steps must be taken to ensure that the Protest is resolved at the earliest opportunity.

27 Special Provisions

- 27.1 World Para Swimming may make arrangements (subject to the approval of the IPC) for some or all of the components of Athlete Evaluation to be carried out at a place and at a time away from a Competition. If so, World Para Swimming must also implement Protest provisions to enable Protests to take place in respect of any Evaluation Sessions carried out away from a Competition.

Application during Major Competitions

28 Ad Hoc Provisions Relating to Protests

- 28.1 The IPC and/or World Para Swimming may issue special ad hoc provisions to operate during the Paralympic Games or other Competitions.

Part Seven: Misconduct during Evaluation Session

29 Failure to Attend Evaluation Session

- 29.1 An Athlete is personally responsible for attending an Evaluation Session.
- 29.2 An Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee must take reasonable steps to ensure that the Athlete attends an Evaluation Session.
- 29.3 If an Athlete fails to attend an Evaluation Session, the Classification Panel will report the failure to the Chief Classifier. The Chief Classifier may, if satisfied that a reasonable explanation exists for the failure to attend and subject to the practicalities at a Competition, specify a revised date and time for the Athlete to attend a further Evaluation Session before the Classification Panel.
- 29.4 If the Athlete is unable to provide a reasonable explanation for non-attendance, or if the Athlete fails to attend an Evaluation Session on a second occasion, no Sport Class will be allocated and the Athlete will not be permitted to compete at the relevant Competition.

30 Suspension of Evaluation Session

- 30.1 A Classification Panel, in consultation with the Chief Classifier, may suspend an Evaluation Session if it cannot allocate a Sport Class to the Athlete, including but not limited to, in one or more of the following circumstances:
 - 30.1.1 a failure on the part of the Athlete to comply with any part of these Classification Rules;
 - 30.1.2 a failure on the part of the Athlete to provide any medical information that is reasonably required by the Classification Panel;
 - 30.1.3 the Classification Panel believes that the use (or non-use) of any medication and/or medical procedures/device/implant disclosed by the Athlete will affect the ability to conduct its determination in a fair manner;
 - 30.1.4 the Athlete has a Health Condition that may limit or prohibit complying with requests by the Classification Panel during an Evaluation Session, which the Classification Panel considers will affect its ability to conduct the Evaluation Session in a fair manner;

- 30.1.5 the Athlete is unable to communicate effectively with the Classification Panel;
 - 30.1.6 the Athlete refuses or is unable to comply with any reasonable instructions given by any Classification Personnel to such an extent that the Evaluation Session cannot be conducted in a fair manner; and/or
 - 30.1.7 the Athlete's representation of his or her abilities is inconsistent with any information available to the Classification Panel to such an extent that the Evaluation Session cannot be conducted in a fair manner.
- 30.2 If an Evaluation Session is suspended by a Classification Panel, the following steps must be taken:
- 30.2.1 an explanation for the suspension and details of the remedial action that is required on the part of the Athlete will be provided to the Athlete and/or the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee;
 - 30.2.2 if the Athlete takes the remedial action to the satisfaction of the Chief Classifier or Head of Classification, the Evaluation Session will be resumed; and
 - 30.2.3 if the Athlete fails to comply and does not take the remedial action within the timeframe specified, the Evaluation Session will be terminated, and the Athlete must be precluded from competing at any Competition until the determination is completed.
- 30.3 If an Evaluation Session is suspended by a Classification Panel, the Classification Panel may designate the Athlete as Classification Not Completed (CNC) in accordance with Article 10 of these Classification Rules.
- 30.4 A Suspension of an Evaluation Session may be subject to further investigation into any possible Intentional Misrepresentation.

Part Eight: Medical Review

31 Medical Review

- 31.1 This Article applies to any Athlete who has been allocated a Sport Class with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) or Review with Fixed Review Date (FRD).
- 31.2 A Medical Review Request must be made if a change in the nature or degree of an Athlete's Impairment changes the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities required by a sport in a manner that is clearly distinguishable from changes attributable to levels of training, fitness and proficiency.
- 31.3 A Medical Review Request must be made by the Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee (together with a €100 non-refundable fee and any supporting documentation). The Medical Review Request must explain how and to what extent the Athlete's Impairment has changed and why it is believed that the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities required by a sport has changed.
- 31.4 A Medical Review Request must be received by World Para Swimming as soon as reasonably practicable.
- 31.5 The review panel must decide whether or not the Medical Review Request is upheld as soon as is practicable following receipt of the Medical Review Request.
- 31.6 Any Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who becomes aware of such changes outlined in Article 31.2 but fails to draw those to the attention of their National Body, National Paralympic Committee or World Para Swimming may be investigated in respect of possible Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 31.7 If a Medical Review Request is accepted, the Athlete's Sport Class Status will be changed to Review (R) with immediate effect.
- 31.8 If a Medical Review Request does not include sufficient evidence to explain how and to what extent the Athlete's Impairment has changed and why it is believed that the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities required by a sport has changed, the Medical Review will not be accepted and the Athlete's Sport Class Status will not be changed.

Part Nine: Intentional Misrepresentation

32 Intentional Misrepresentation

- 32.1 It is a disciplinary offence for an Athlete to intentionally misrepresent (either by act or omission) his or her skills and/or abilities and/or the degree or nature of Eligible Impairment during Athlete Evaluation and/or at any other point after the allocation of a Sport Class. This disciplinary offence is referred to as 'Intentional Misrepresentation'.
- 32.2 It will be a disciplinary offence for any Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel to assist an Athlete in committing Intentional Misrepresentation or to be in any other way involved in any other type of complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation, including but not limited to covering up Intentional Misrepresentation or disrupting any part of the Athlete Evaluation process.
- 32.3 In respect of any allegation relating to Intentional Misrepresentation a hearing will be convened by World Para Swimming to determine whether the Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel has committed Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 32.4 The consequences to be applied to an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation will be one or more of the following:
- 32.4.1 disqualification from all events at the Competition at which the Intentional Misrepresentation occurred, and any subsequent Competitions at which the Athlete competed;
 - 32.4.2 being allocated with Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated a Review with Fixed Review Date (FRD) Sport Class Status for a specified period of time ranging from 1 to 4 years;
 - 32.4.3 suspension from participation in Competitions in all sport for a specified period of time ranging from 1 to 4 years; and
 - 32.4.4 publication of their names and suspension period.
- 32.5 Any Athlete who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation on more than one occasion will be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible with Fixed Review Date Status for a period of time from four years to life.

- 32.6 Any Athlete Support Personnel who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation on more than one occasion will be suspended from participation in any Competition for a period of time from four years to life.
- 32.7 If another International Sports Federation brings disciplinary proceedings against an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel in respect of Intentional Misrepresentation which results in consequences being imposed on that Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel, those consequences will be recognised, respected and enforced by World Para Swimming.
- 32.8 Any consequences to be applied to teams, which include an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation, will be at the discretion of World Para Swimming.
- 32.9 Any disciplinary action taken by World Para Swimming pursuant these Classification Rules must be resolved in accordance with the applicable Board of Appeal of Classification Bylaws.

Part Ten: Use of Athlete Information

33 Classification Data

- 33.1 World Para Swimming may only Process Classification Data if such Classification Data is considered necessary to conduct Classification.
- 33.2 All Classification Data Processed by World Para Swimming must be accurate, complete and kept up-to-date.

34 Consent and Processing

- 34.1 Subject to Article 34.3, World Para Swimming may only Process Classification Data with the consent of the Athlete to whom that Classification Data relates.
- 34.2 If an Athlete cannot provide consent (for example because the Athlete is under age) the legal representative, guardian or other designated representative of that Athlete must give consent on their behalf.
- 34.3 World Para Swimming may only Process Classification Data without consent of the relevant Athlete if permitted to do so in accordance with National Laws.

35 Classification Research

- 35.1 World Para Swimming may request that an Athlete provide it with Personal Information for Research Purposes.
- 35.2 The use by World Para Swimming of Personal Information for Research Purposes must be consistent with these Classification Rules and all applicable ethical use requirements.
- 35.3 Personal Information that has been provided by an Athlete to World Para Swimming solely and exclusively for Research Purposes must not be used for any other purpose.
- 35.4 World Para Swimming may only use Classification Data for Research Purposes with the express consent of the relevant Athlete. If World Para Swimming wishes to publish any Personal Information provided by an Athlete for Research Purposes, it must obtain consent to do so from that Athlete prior to any publication. This restriction does not apply if the publication is anonymised so that it does not identify any Athlete(s) who consented to the use of their Personal Information.

36 Notification to Athletes

- 36.1 World Para Swimming must notify an Athlete who provides Classification Data as to:
- 36.1.1 that fact that World Para Swimming is collecting the Classification Data; and
 - 36.1.2 the purpose for the collection of the Classification Data; and
 - 36.1.3 the duration that the Classification Data will be retained.

37 Classification Data Security

- 37.1 World Para Swimming must:
- 37.1.1 protect Classification Data by applying appropriate security safeguards, including physical, organisational, technical and other measures to prevent the loss, theft or unauthorised access, destruction, use, modification or disclosure of Classification Data; and
 - 37.1.2 take reasonable steps to ensure that any other party provided with Classification Data uses that Classification Data in a manner consistent with these Classification Rules.

38 Disclosures of Classification Data

- 38.1 World Para Swimming must not disclose Classification Data to other Classification Organisations except where such disclosure is related to Classification conducted by another Classification Organisation and/or the disclosure is consistent with applicable National Laws.
- 38.2 World Para Swimming may disclose Classification Data to other parties only if such disclosure is in accordance with these Classification Rules and permitted by National Laws.

39 Retaining Classification Data

- 39.1 World Para Swimming must ensure that Classification Data is only retained for as long as it is needed for the purpose it was collected. If Classification Data is no longer necessary for Classification purposes, it must be deleted, destroyed or permanently anonymised.
- 39.2 World Para Swimming must publish guidelines regarding retention times in relation to Classification Data.
- 39.3 World Para Swimming must implement policies and procedures that ensure that Classifiers and Classification Personnel retain Classification Data for only as long as is necessary in order for them to carry out their Classification duties in relation to an Athlete.

40 Access Rights to Classification Data

- 40.1 Athletes may request from World Para Swimming:
 - 40.1.1 confirmation of whether or not that World Para Swimming Processes Classification Data relating to them personally and a description of the Classification Data that is held;
 - 40.1.2 a copy of the Classification Data held by World Para Swimming; and/or
 - 40.1.3 correction or deletion of the Classification Data held by World Para Swimming.
- 40.2 A request may be made by an Athlete or a National Body or a National Paralympic Committee on an Athlete's behalf and must be complied with within a reasonable period of time.

41 Classification Master Lists

- 41.1 World Para Swimming must maintain a Classification Master List of Athletes, which must include the Athlete's name, gender, year of birth, country, Sport Class and Sport Class Status. The Classification Master List must identify Athletes that enter International Competitions
- 41.2 World Para Swimming must make available the Classification Master List to all relevant National Bodies on the World Para Swimming website.

Part Eleven: Appeals

42 Appeal

42.1 An Appeal is the process by which a formal objection to how Athlete Evaluation and/or Classification procedures have been conducted is submitted and subsequently resolved.

43 Parties Permitted to Make an Appeal

43.1 An Appeal may only be made by one of the following bodies:

43.1.1 a National Body; or

43.1.2 a National Paralympic Committee.

44 Appeals

44.1 If a National Body or National Paralympic Committee considers there have been procedural errors made in respect of the allocation of a Sport Class and/or Sport Class Status and as a consequence an Athlete has been allocated an incorrect Sport Class or Sport Class Status, it may submit an Appeal.

44.2 The Board of Appeal of Classification (BAC) will act as the hearing body for the resolution of Appeals.

44.3 An Appeal must be made and resolved in accordance with the applicable BAC Bylaws.

45 Ad Hoc Provisions Relating to Appeals

45.1 The IPC and/or World Para Swimming may issue special ad hoc provisions to operate during the Paralympic Games or other Competitions.

Part Twelve: Glossary

Adaptive Equipment: Implements and apparatus adapted to the special needs of Athletes, and used by Athletes during Competition to facilitate participation and/or to achieve results.

Appeals: The means by which a complaint that World Para Swimming has made an unfair decision during the Classification process is resolved.

Athlete: For purposes of Classification, any person who participates in sport at the international level (as defined by World Para Swimming) or national level (as defined by each National Federation) and any additional person who participates in sport at a lower level if designated by the person's National Federation.

Athlete Evaluation: The process by which an Athlete is assessed in accordance with these Classification Rules in order that an Athlete may be allocated a Sport Class and Sport Class Status.

Athlete Support Personnel: Any coach, trainer, manager, interpreter, agent, team staff, official, medical or para-medical personnel working with or treating Athletes participating in or preparing for training and/or Competition.

BAC: The IPC Board of Appeal of Classification.

Chief Classifier: A classifier appointed by World Para Swimming to direct, administer, coordinate and implement Classification matters for a specific Competition according to these Classification Rules.

Classification: Grouping Athletes into Sport Classes according to how much their Impairment affects fundamental activities in each specific sport or discipline. This is also referred to as Athlete Classification.

Classification Data: Personal Information and/or sensitive Personal Information provided by an Athlete and/or a National Body and/or any other person to a Classification Organisation in connection with Classification.

Classification Intelligence: Information obtained and used by an International Sport Federation in relation to Classification.

Classification Master List: A list made available by the World Para Swimming that identifies Athletes who have been allocated a Sport Class and designated a Sport Class Status.

Classification Not Completed: the designation applied to an Athlete who has commenced but not completed Athlete Evaluation to the satisfaction of Para Sport.

Classification Organisation: Any organisation that conducts the process of Athlete Evaluation and allocates Sport Classes and/or holds Classification Data.

Classification Panel: A group of Classifiers, appointed by World Para Swimming, to determine Sport Class and Sport Class Status in accordance with these Classification Rules.

Classification Personnel: Persons, including Classifiers, acting with the authority of a Classification Organisation in relation to Athlete Evaluation, for example administrative officers.

Classification Rules: Also referred to as Classification Rules and Regulations. The policies, procedures, protocols and descriptions adopted by World Para Swimming in connection with Athlete Evaluation.

Classification System: The framework used by World Para Swimming to develop and designate Sport Classes within a Para sport.

Classifier: A person authorised as an official by World Para Swimming to evaluate Athletes as a member of a Classification Panel.

Classifier Certification: The processes by which World Para Swimming must assess that a Classifier has met the specific Classifier Competencies required to obtain and maintain certification or licensure.

Classifier Competencies: The qualifications and abilities that World Para Swimming deems necessary for a Classifier to be competent to conduct Athlete Evaluation for sport(s) governed by World Para Swimming.

Classifier Code of Conduct: The behavioural and ethical standards for Classifiers specified by World Para Swimming.

Code: The Athlete Classification Code 2015 together with the International Standards for: Athlete Evaluation; Eligible Impairments; Protests and Appeals; Classifier Personnel and Training; and Classification Data Protection.

Competition: A series of individual events conducted together under one ruling body.

Compliance: The implementation of rules, regulations, policies and processes that adhere to the text, spirit and intent of the Code as defined by the IPC. Where terms such as (but not limited to) 'comply', 'conform' and 'in accordance' are used in the Code they shall have the same meaning as 'Compliance.'



Continuing Education: The delivery of higher knowledge and practical skills specified by World Para Swimming to preserve and/or advance knowledge and skills as a Classifier in the sport(s) under its governance.

Diagnostic Information: Medical records and/or any other documentation that enables World Para Swimming to assess the existence or otherwise of an Eligible Impairment or Underlying Health Condition

Eligible Impairment: An Impairment designated as being a prerequisite for competing in Para sport, as detailed in these Classification Rules.

Eligibility Assessment Committee: An ad hoc body formed to assess the existence or otherwise of an Eligible Impairment.

Entry Criteria: Standards set by World Para Swimming relating to the expertise or experience levels of persons who wish to be Classifiers. This may be, for example, former Athletes or coaches, sports scientists, physical educators and medical professionals, all of whom have the qualifications and abilities relevant to conduct all, or specific parts of, Athlete Evaluation.

Entry-level Education: the basic knowledge and practical skills specified by World Para Swimming to begin as a Classifier in the sport(s) under its governance.

Evaluation Session: the session an Athlete is required to attend for a Classification Panel to assess that Athlete's compliance with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport; and allocation of a Sport Class and Sport Class Status depending on the extent to which that Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to that sport. An Evaluation Session may include Observation in Competition.

Event: A single race, match, game or singular sport contest.

First Appearance: The first time an Athlete competes in an Event during a Competition in a particular Sport Class.

Fixed Review Date: A date set by a Classification Panel prior to which an Athlete designated with a Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date will not be required to attend an Evaluation Session save pursuant to a Medical Review Request and/or Protest.

Head of Classification: A person appointed by World Para Swimming to direct, administer, co-ordinate and implement Classification matters for World Para Swimming.

Health Condition: A pathology, acute or chronic disease, disorder, injury or trauma.

Impairment: A Physical, Vision or Intellectual Impairment.

Intellectual Impairment: A limitation in intellectual functioning and adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social and practical adaptive skills that originates before the age of eighteen (18).

Intentional Misrepresentation: A deliberate attempt (either by fact or omission) to mislead an International Sport Federation or National Body as to the existence or extent of skills and/or abilities relevant to a Para sport and/or the degree or nature of Eligible Impairment during Athlete Evaluation and/or at any other point after the allocation of a Sport Class.

International Competitions: A Competition where the IPC, an International Sport Federation or a Major Competition Organisation is the governing body for the Competition and/or appoints the technical officials for the Competition.

International Sport Federation: A sport federation recognised by the IPC as the sole world-wide representative of a sport for Athletes with an Impairment that has been granted the status as a Para sport by the IPC. The IPC and the International Organisations of Sports for the Disabled act as an International Sport Federation for certain sports.

International Standards: A document complementing the Code and providing additional technical and operational requirements for Classification.

IPC: International Paralympic Committee.

Maintaining Certification: The advanced training, education and practice necessary for continued competency as a Classifier.

Major Competition Organiser: An organisation that functions as the ruling body for an International Competition.

Medical Diagnostics Form: a form that a National Body or National Paralympic Committee must submit in order for an Athlete to undergo Athlete Evaluation, identifying the Athlete's Health Condition if so required.

Medical Review: The process by which World Para Swimming identifies if a change in the nature or degree of an Athlete's Impairment means that some or all of the components of Athlete Evaluation are required to be undertaken in order to ensure that any Sport Class allocated to that Athlete is correct.

Medical Review Request: A request made by a National Body or National Paralympic Committee for Medical Review, made on behalf of an Athlete.

Models of Best Practice: An ad hoc guidance document prepared by the IPC to assist in the implementation of the Code and International Standards.

National Body: Refers to the national member of an International Sport Federation.

National Laws: The national data protection and privacy laws, regulations and policies applicable to a Classification Organisation.

National Paralympic Committees: The national member of the IPC who is the sole representative of Athletes with an Impairment in that country or territory. These are the national members of the IPC.

National Protest: A Protest made by a National Body or a National Paralympic Committee in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction.

Non-Competition Venue: Any place or location (outside of a Competition) designated by World Para Swimming as being a place or location where Athlete Evaluation is made available to Athletes in order that they may be allocated a Sport Class and designated with a Sport Class Status.

Observation in Competition: The observation of an Athlete in a Competition by a Classification Panel so that the Classification Panel can complete its determination as to the extent to which an Eligible Impairment affects that Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.

Paralympic Games: Umbrella term for both Paralympic Games and Paralympic Winter Games.

Permanent: The term Permanent as used in the Code and Standards describes an Impairment that is unlikely to be resolved meaning the principle effects are lifelong.

Personal Information: Any information that refers to, or relates directly to, an Athlete.

Physical Impairment: an Impairment that affects an Athlete's biomechanical execution of sporting activities, comprising Ataxia, Athetosis, Hypertonia, Impaired Muscle Power, Impaired Passive Range of Movement, Limb Deficiency, Leg Length Difference and Short Stature.

Process/Processing: The collection, recording, storage, use or disclosure of Personal Information and/or sensitive Personal Information.

Protested Athlete: An Athlete whose Sport Class is being challenged.

Protested Decision: The Sport Class decision being challenged.

Protest Documents: The information provided in the Protest Form together with the Protest Fee.

Protest Fee: The fee prescribed by World Para Swimming, payable by the National Body or National Paralympic Committee when submitting a Protest.

Protest Form: The form on which a National Protest must be submitted.

Protest: The procedure by which a reasoned objection to an Athlete's Sport Class is submitted and subsequently resolved.

Protest Panel: A Classification Panel appointed by the Chief Classifier to conduct an Evaluation Session as a result of a Protest

Re-certification: The process by which World Para Swimming must assess that a Classifier has maintained specific Classifier Competencies.

Recognised Competition: a Competition that is sanctioned or approved by World Para Swimming.

Research Purposes: Research into matters pertaining to the development of sports within the Paralympic Movement, including the impact of Impairment on the fundamental activities in each specific sport and the impact of assistive technology on such activities.

Signatories: Any organisation that accepts the Code and commits to implement it and the International Standards by way of its Classification Rules.

Sport Class: A category for Competition defined by World Para Swimming by reference to the extent to which an Athlete can perform the specific tasks and activities required by a sport.

Sport Class Status: A designation applied to a Sport Class to indicate the extent to which an Athlete may be required to undertake Athlete Evaluation and/or be subject to a Protest.

Team Sport: a sport in which substitution of players is permitted during a Competition.

Tracking Code Observation Assessment (OA): a designation given to an Athlete that replaces the Athlete's Sport Class Status until Observation in Competition has been completed.

Underlying Health Condition: a Health Condition that may lead to an Eligible Impairment.

Vision Impairment: an Impairment of the eye structure, optical nerves or optical pathways, or visual cortex of the central brain that adversely affects an Athlete's vision.

Appendix One: Sport Classes for Athletes with Physical Impairment

1 Introduction and Methodology

- 1.1 World Para Swimming has designated a number of Sport Classes for Athletes with Activity Limitations that result from Physical Impairment.
- 1.2 World Para Swimming designates its Sport Classes according to the swimming stroke used in the Event: the freestyle, backstroke and butterfly strokes are referred to as “S” strokes, and the breaststroke as an “SB” stroke. The medley event is referred to as “SM” (Sport Class designation “SM” is not subject to a separate assessment (see Article 12.2)).
- 1.3 Article 12.1 details the components of an Evaluation Session in Para Swimming. Physical assessment and technical assessment are mandatory for all Athletes with Physical Impairment, except at the discretion of the Classification Panel on a case-by-case basis. Observation in Competition is only required if a Classification Panel believes that it is necessary in order to complete an Evaluation Session.
- 1.4 In relation to the degree of Activity Limitation that the Athlete shows as a result of Impairment, a “point scoring” system will apply. These points are scored on the basis of all parts of an Evaluation Session assessment and the final point score determines what Sport Class the Athlete will compete in.
- 1.5 Prior to (or as part of) an Evaluation Session, an Athlete must demonstrate the presence of an Eligible Impairment that meets the Eligibility Criteria set by World Para Swimming (see Article 2).

2 Eligibility Criteria

- 2.1 To be eligible in the sport of World Para Swimming:
 - Athletes must be affected by at least one of the Eligible Impairments listed in the first column of table 1; and
 - The Impairment must result directly from a health condition (e.g. trauma, disease, dysgenesis), and must be documented by medical records.

Table 1 – Eligible Impairment types. In order to compete in World Para Swimming an Athlete must be affected by at least one of the eight (8 Impairment types listed in the first column of this table.

| Eligible Impairment | Examples of Health Conditions |
|---|---|
| <p>Impaired Muscle Power</p> <p>Athletes with Impaired Muscle Power have a Health Condition that either reduces or eliminates their ability to voluntarily contract their muscles in order to move or to generate force.</p> | <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Impaired Muscle Power include spinal cord injury (complete or incomplete, tetra-or paraplegia or paraparesis), muscular dystrophy, post-polio syndrome and spina bifida.</p> |
| <p>Limb Deficiency</p> <p>Athletes with Limb Deficiency have total or partial absence of bones or joints as a consequence of trauma.</p> | <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Limb Deficiency include: traumatic amputation, illness (for example amputation due to bone cancer) or congenital limb deficiency (for example dysmelia).</p> |
| <p>Leg Length Difference</p> <p>Athletes with Leg Length Difference have a difference in the length of their legs.</p> | <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Leg Length Difference include: dysmelia and congenital or traumatic disturbance of limb growth.</p> |
| <p>Short Stature</p> <p>Athletes with Short Stature will have a reduced length in the bones of the upper limbs, lower limbs and/or trunk.</p> | <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Short Stature include achondroplasia, growth hormone dysfunction, and osteogenesis imperfecta.</p> |
| <p>Hypertonia</p> <p>Athletes with hypertonia have an increase in muscle tension and a reduced ability of a muscle to stretch caused by damage to the central nervous system.</p> | <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Hypertonia include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and stroke.</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Ataxia</p> <p>Athletes with Ataxia have uncoordinated movements caused by damage to the central nervous system.</p> | <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Ataxia include: cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, stroke and multiple sclerosis.</p> |
| <p>Athetosis</p> <p>Athletes with Athetosis have continual slow involuntary movements.</p> | <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Athetosis include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and stroke.</p> |
| <p>Impaired Passive Range of Movement</p> <p>Athletes with Impaired Passive Range of Movement have a restriction or a lack of passive movement in one or more joints.</p> | <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Impaired Passive Range of Movement include arthrogryposis and contracture resulting from chronic joint immobilisation or trauma affecting a joint.</p> |

3 Minimum Impairment Criteria and Methodology of Assessment

- 3.1 The physical and technical assessment tests used by World Para Swimming as part of Athlete Evaluation comprise a number of individual tests, each of which is designed to produce a point score. The tests are composite tests which are designed to assess:
- The extent of Impairment and Activity Limitation; and
 - The extent to which Activity Limitation has an effect upon sporting performance.
- Testing focuses on the primary Impairment of the Athlete.
- 3.2 The cumulative total of the individual point scores will be the Athlete’s final point score. This final point score will determine the Athlete’s Sport Class (as detailed in Article 12 of this Appendix).
- 3.3 The Physical and Technical Assessment includes:
- Muscle Testing (section 4)
 - Coordination Testing (section 5)
 - Joint Mobility/Range of Motion Assessment (section 6)
 - Measurement of Loss of Limb/Limb Deficiency (section 7)
 - Measurement of Body Height (section 8)

- Measurement of Leg Length Difference (section 9)
- The Water Test (section 10)
- Dive and Push Off Test (section 11)

These are explained in detail in this Appendix.

The sections 4-9 are commonly referred to as the ‘Physical Assessment’. Sections 10 and 11 are commonly referred to as the ‘Technical Assessment’. Not all tests are required for each individual Athlete. It is at the discretion of the Classification Panel to make a selection of the tests based on the Eligible Impairment.

- 3.4 World Para Swimming reserves the right to specify from time to time the means by which the Physical and Technical Assessment should be executed.
- 3.5 The point basis for the Physical and Technical Assessment Tests operates on the basis that the highest theoretical score obtainable pursuant to the Tests is the score that an Athlete who does not have any Impairment would score (no Activity Limitation) (Table 2).
- 3.6 Based on the results of the Physical and Technical Assessment Tests, an Athlete will be allocated a point score, as detailed for the relevant Test(s). An Athlete must lose a minimum of fifteen (15) points in the Physical Assessment to continue to the Technical Assessment. If following the Technical Assessment, the Athlete loses less than fifteen (15) points, the athlete is deemed Not Eligible (NE). The point score translates into a Sport Class as identified in section 12.

Table 2 – Maximum number of points in physical and technical assessment

| | Maximum number of points for S Strokes | Maximum number of points for SB Stroke |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Arms | 130 | 110 |
| Legs | 100 | 120 |
| Trunk | 50 | 40 |
| Start/Dive | 10 | 10 |
| Turn/Push-off | 10 | 10 |
| Minimum Impairment Criteria | 285 | 275 |

4 Physical Assessment - Muscle Testing

4.1 Muscle Testing comprises a six grade assessment (0-5) following Daniels and Worthingham (2007), amended as follows:

- Only the Functional Range of Movement as identified (see section 6 for detail) is considered;
- Resistance must be applied close to the joint; and
- Grade assessment (scoring) is amended as explained in Table 3.

Table 3 – *Muscle Testing in World Para Swimming following Daniels and Worthingham (amended) [Note: ‘range of movement’ refers to the Functional Range of Movement as defined in section 6]*

| | |
|---------|---|
| Grade 5 | Normal strength, examiner cannot break the finish position at the end of the tested range of movement (e.g., elbow flexors are tested by going to full flexion and trying to pull the elbow into extension) |
| Grade 4 | Muscle goes through range of movement and can tolerate moderate resistance without breaking in the end position. When maximum resistance is applied there is a clear break |
| Grade 3 | Muscle goes through range of movement against only the resistance of gravity, but application of resistance causes movement to break |
| Grade 2 | Muscle can move joint through range of movement in a position that minimizes gravity |
| Grade 1 | Flicker or trace of contraction |
| Grade 0 | No movement and no contraction |

4.2 The position of the muscle being tested is referred to in Table 4. However, the testing position may need to be adapted to the Athlete’s Impairment, e.g. Athlete’s Range of Movement may be limited by rods or surgical instrumentation and therefore consideration must be given when conducting the Muscle Function test for the five Trunk muscle groups.

4.3 In case the testing position may need to be modified to determine the relevant points score for the muscle grade, the testing position must be recorded on the Classification sheet.

Table 4 – Testing positions for muscle testing

| Segment | | Swimmer Position | Action |
|----------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Shoulder | Flexion | With gravity: seated – with shoulder flexed to 90°, the elbow is extended and the forearm is pronated Without gravity: side lying – elbow is extended and the forearm is pronated | Resistance is provided over the distal humerus just above the elbow in a downward direction |
| | Extension ¹ | With gravity: prone/seated – with arms at sides and shoulder internally rotated Without gravity: side lying – elbow is extended and the forearm is pronated | The swimmer extends the shoulder to end range and resistance is provided over the posterior arm just above the elbow in a downward direction |
| | Adduction | With gravity: seated – with shoulder abducted to 90° and elbow flexed to 90° Without gravity: supine – seated – with shoulder abducted to 90° and elbow flexed to 90° | The swimmer horizontally adducts the shoulder to end range and resistance is applied in a downward and outward direction |
| | External Rotation ¹ | With gravity: prone – with head turned toward test side, shoulder abducted to 90° with arm fully supported on a table, forearm hanging vertically over the edge of a table Without gravity: seated – elbow flexed to 90° | The swimmer moves the arm to end range and resistance is applied with one hand at the wrist on the dorsal aspect |
| | Internal Rotation | With gravity: prone – with head turned toward test side, shoulder abducted to 90° with arm fully supported on a table, forearm hanging vertically over edge of a table | The swimmer moves the arm to end range and resistance is applied with one hand at the wrist on the ventral aspect. |

| | | | |
|-------|------------------------|---|---|
| | | Without gravity: seated – elbow flexed to 90° | |
| Elbow | Flexion | <p>With gravity: seated – with the elbow flexed to 90°, forearm in supination and shoulder in slight flexion</p> <p>Without gravity: side lying – elbow is extended and the forearm is pronated</p> | The swimmer flexes the elbow to mid-range and resistance is given over the forearm proximal to the wrist |
| | Extension | <p>With gravity: prone – with the arm in 90° of abduction and the forearm flexed and hanging vertically over the side of the table, or seated with arm up and hand on the head as starting position</p> <p>Without gravity: side lying – elbow is flexed at 90° and the forearm is pronated</p> | The swimmer extends the elbow to end of available range or until the forearm is horizontal to the floor, resistance is given over the dorsal surface of the forearm |
| | Pronation | <p>With gravity: seated – with the arm at the side, the elbow flexed to 90° and forearm in supination</p> <p>Without gravity: supine – arm at side with elbow flexed at 90°</p> | The swimmer moves the forearm into pronation and resistance is applied at the distal wrist |
| Wrist | Flexion | <p>With gravity: seated – with the forearm supported on a table, the forearm is supinated, with the wrist in neutral or slightly extended</p> <p>Without gravity: seated – with the forearm supported on a table, the forearm in neutral, with the wrist in neutral or slightly extended</p> | The swimmer flexes the wrist keeping the digits and thumb relaxed as resistance is applied to the palm of the test hand, resistance is given evenly across the hand in a straight-down direction into wrist extension |
| | Extension ¹ | With gravity: seated – with the forearm supported on the | The swimmer extends the wrist straight up through |

| | | | |
|--------|------------------------------|---|--|
| | | table, the forearm is fully pronated Without gravity: seated – with the forearm supported on the table, with the forearm in neutral | the range and resistance is applied over the 2nd-5th metacarpals in a forward and downward direction |
| | Ulnar Abduction ² | Seated – with the forearm supported on a table, the forearm is pronated, with the wrist in neutral or slightly extended | The swimmer abducts the wrist as resistance is applied to ulnar side of the hand |
| Finger | Flexion | With gravity: seated – with the wrist supported on a table, the forearm is pronated and the wrist in neutral Without gravity: seated – with the wrist supported on the table, with the forearm and wrist in neutral | Each finger should be tested separately; the swimmer bends the fingers as resistance is applied to extend the fingers |
| | Extension | With gravity: seated – with the wrist supported on a table, the forearm is supinated and the wrist in neutral Without gravity: seated - with the wrist supported on the table, with the forearm and wrist in neutral | Each finger should be tested separately; the swimmer keeps the fingers extended as resistance is applied to flex the fingers |
| | Adduction | Seated – with the wrist supported on a table. The forearm is pronated and the wrist in neutral, the fingers are extended and in adduction. | Each finger should be tested separately; the examiner grasps the middle phalanx on each of the two adjoining fingers. Resistance is given in the direction of abduction for each finger tested; the examiner is trying to "pull" the fingers apart |
| Trunk | Flexion Upper | With gravity: supine – legs extended | The swimmer flexes the upper abdominals and the scapula needs to be raised off the table Modification to scoring of Table 3: 5- hands behind |

| | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|---|--|
| | | | head, 4-hands across chest, 3- hands outstretched |
| | Flexion Lower | With gravity: supine – legs extended | The swimmer flexes the lower abdominals and the whole trunk need to be raised off the table Modification to scoring of Table 3: 5- hands behind head, 4-hands across chest, 3- hands outstretched |
| | Extension Upper | Prone – trunk to be raised off table, hands behind head | The swimmer extends the thoracic spine and the head and shoulders are raised off the table. Modification to scoring of Table 3: 5- lock in, 4- up without lock, 0-3- arms at side |
| | Extension Lower | Prone – toes off table, hands behind head | The swimmer extends lumbar spine and raises head, shoulders, and chest off the table Modification to scoring of Table 3: 5- lock in, 4- up without lock, 0-3- arms at side |
| | Rotation ¹ | With gravity: supine – legs extended | Swimmer flexes abdominals and rotates to one side, the scapula is raised off the table, both sides are tested Modification to scoring of Table 3: 5- hands behind head, 4-hands across chest, 3- hands outstretched |
| Hip | Flexion | With gravity: supine – one knee flexed at 45°, the other knee is flexed from supine up to the chest Without gravity: side lying – the lower knee is flexed for stability, the test leg uppermost | The swimmer flexes the hip to end range and resistance is applied over the distal thigh just proximal to the knee joint. |

| | | | |
|------|------------------------|--|---|
| | Extension | <p>With gravity: prone – on bench with legs stretched</p> <p>Without gravity: side lying – the lower knee flexed for stability, the test leg uppermost</p> | The swimmer extends the hip to end range and resistance is applied on the posterior leg, just proximal to the knee joint |
| | Abduction ² | <p>With gravity: side-lying – with the test leg extended and uppermost, the lower leg is flexed for stability</p> <p>Without gravity: supine – legs stretched</p> | The swimmer abducts the hip to end range and resistance is given across the lateral surface of the knee |
| | Adduction | <p>With gravity: side-lying – with the test limb extended resting on the table, the uppermost limb is supported by the examiner in 25° of abduction</p> <p>Without gravity: supine</p> | The swimmer adducts the hip until the lower limb contacts the upper one and resistance is applied on the medial surface of the distal femur, just proximal to the knee joint |
| | External Rotation | <p>With gravity: seated – with the hands placed flat on the sides for support</p> <p>Without gravity: supine – hip and knee flexed at 90°, supported by examiner if needed</p> | The swimmer externally rotates the hip and resistance is applied at the medial ankle just above the malleolus in a laterally directed force. The other hand may provide counter pressure over the lateral aspect of the distal thigh just above the knee |
| | Internal Rotation | <p>With gravity: seated – with the hands placed flat on the sides for support</p> <p>Without gravity: supine – hip and knee flexed at 90°, supported by examiner if needed</p> | The swimmer internally rotates the hip and resistance is applied at the lateral ankle just above the malleolus in a medially directed force. The other hand may provide counter pressure over the medial surface of the distal thigh just above the knee. |
| Knee | Flexion | <p>With gravity: prone – with limbs straight and toes hanging over the edge of the table. Or seated with the hands resting</p> | The swimmer flexes the knee of the tested limb to 45° and resistance is applied around the posterior surface of the leg just above the ankle in the direction of knee |

| | | | |
|-------|----------------------|---|--|
| | | on the table for stability Without gravity: side lying – tested limb uppermost | extension |
| | Extension | With gravity: seated – with the hands resting on the table for stability Without gravity: side lying – with the test leg uppermost, non-tested limb may be flexed for stability. | The swimmer extends the knee not beyond zero degrees and resistance is applied over the anterior surface of the distal leg just above the ankle in a downward direction. |
| Ankle | Dorsiflexion | With gravity: seated – knee flexed at 90°, ankle in neutral Without gravity: side-lying – with test limb resting on the table | The swimmer actively dorsiflexes the foot while resistance is applied over the dorsal surface of the foot |
| | Plantarflexion | With gravity: prone – knee flexed at 90°, ankle in neutral Without gravity: side-lying – with test limb resting on the table | The swimmer plantar flexes the ankle while resistance is applied over the plantar surface of the foot |
| | Pronation/EVERsion | With gravity: seated – with the ankle in slight plantarflexion Without gravity: side-lying | The swimmer everts the foot to end range and resistance is applied over the dorsum and lateral side of the foot at the level of the metatarsal heads |
| | Supination/Inversion | With gravity: seated – with the ankle in slight plantarflexion Without gravity: side-lying | The swimmer inverts the foot to end range and resistance is applied over the dorsum and medial side of the foot at the level of the metatarsal heads |

¹: only for S Sport Class

²: only for SB Sport Class

5 Physical Assessment - Coordination Testing

- 5.1 Coordination Testing should be undertaken for Athletes with coordination Impairment (Hypertonia, Ataxia or Athetosis) or an eligible neurological disorder that exhibits in a similar fashion, including spasticity.
- 5.2 All coordination tests must be carried out as repetitions of sequences of movements and with variable speed. The resulting pattern of movement will be allocated a score in the range 0-5 as follows (Table 5).

Table 5 – Scoring of Coordination Testing

| | |
|---|---|
| 5 | Controlled movement over the full range |
| 4 | At increasing pace, nearly full range of movement with slight spasticity and slight increase in muscle tone and/or slight coordination problems |
| 3 | At increasing pace, moderate range of movement, moderate spasticity with tone restricting movement and/or moderate coordination problems |
| 2 | Severely restricted range of movements with severe spasticity-hypertonic muscle stiffness and/or severe coordination problems |
| 1 | Very severely restricted range of movement due to severe hypertonic muscle stiffness and/or very minimally coordinated movements |
| 0 | no movement |

- 5.3 Assessment should be done in positions identified in Table 6 and consideration will be given to the following:
- An assessment of the overall range of movement assessment for all muscle/joint groups should be undertaken at the commencement of the coordination test;
 - Alternating movements of the pair of muscles/joints should be performed at a steady pace, and at increasing pace. Fast movements should be used if the Impairment of coordination is not obvious on moderate pace movements;
 - Simultaneous movements of the lower limbs should be assessed for consideration of the SB Sport Class allocation (specifically motion of the breaststroke kick);
 - Athletes should be tested in prone, semi-reclined and supine position as illustrated in Table 6. Testing positions may be adapted to the Athlete’s Impairment, but the modifications must be recorded on the Classification sheet.

- The effect of spasticity may vary dependent on the position of the Athlete’s body, and this should be accounted for during the assessment;
- Testing may be repeated with the neck turned to the side in order that the influence of the postural reflexes (the Asymmetrical Tonic Neck Reflex or ATNR) on the ability to carry out swimming strokes may be assessed;
- Athletes with athetosis or ataxia may show significant coordination difficulties, which may be less significant when they are in the swimming pool (because of the compensating effect of water resistance). This will be accounted for during the Technical Assessment - Water Test (see Section 10).
- All movements are alternated with the exception of; finger adduction, hip adduction, abduction and rotation and ankle pronation and supination

Table 6 – Testing positions for coordination testing

| Physical Assessment - Coordination | Testing Position(s)* |
|--|--|
| Shoulder – flexion, extension ¹ , adduction, internal- external ¹ rotation | Supine |
| Elbow – flexion, extension, pronation | Supine |
| Wrist – flexion, extension ¹ , ulnar abduction ² | Supine |
| Fingers – flexion, extension, adduction | Supine |
| Trunk – upper flexion/extension; lower flexion/extension, rotation ¹ | Not tested – the point score is allocated based on the average scores of the upper and lower limbs multiplied by the number of segments tested in the trunk. This point score will be rounded to a whole point score |
| Hip – flexion, extension, abduction ² , adduction | Semi-reclined |
| Hip – internal/external ² rotation | Prone |
| Knee – flexion, extension | Prone |
| Ankle – dorsiflexion, plantarflexion, pronation, supination | Semi-reclined |

¹: only for S Sport Class

²: only for SB Sport Class

6 Physical Assessment - Passive Functional Range of Movement Testing

6.1 Passive Functional Range of Movement Testing uses a series of measurement designed to assess the extent of movement possible in a number of joints. A goniometer should be used for all measurements. The degree of movement possible to each joint receives a point score (Table 7). This degree of movement measurement is called the Passive Functional Range of Movement for Swimming (“PFROMS”). Scores are allocated as follows:

Table 7 – Scoring Passive Functional Range of Movement

| | |
|---|---|
| 5 | No restriction in the functional range of movement |
| 4 | PFROMS restricted between 75 and 100% ($\geq 75\% < 100\%$) |
| 3 | PFROMS restricted between 50 and 75% ($\geq 50\% < 75\%$) |
| 2 | PFROMS restricted between 25 and 50% ($\geq 25\% < 50\%$) |
| 1 | PFROMS restricted between 1 and 25% ($1\% < 25\%$) |
| 0 | No movement |

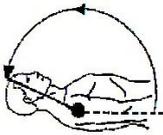
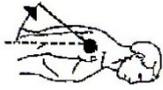
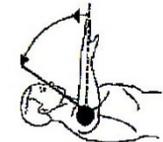
Example table 7; Shoulder flexion has a functional range of movement from 0 to 161 degrees (see table 8). If an Athlete can flex the shoulder up to 124 degrees, scoring will be $(124/161) \times 100 = 77.02\%$, which equals score 4. If an Athlete can flex the shoulder up to 93 degrees: $(93/161) \times 100 = 57.76\%$, which equals score 3.

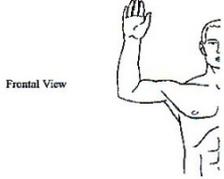
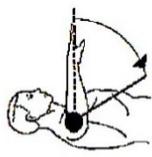
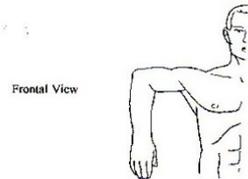
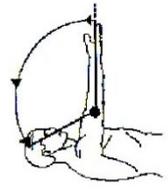
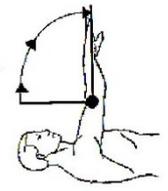
6.2 The following must be taken into consideration during testing:

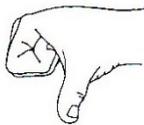
- Measurement should be over the Passive Functional Range of Movement in the joint, with the proximal joint stabilized in neutral position;
- When measuring the knee joint, the hip should be in a position of flexion.
- Athletes with loss of limb (amputation or dysmelia) may have loss of Passive Functional Range of Movement. This will require an additional assessment of Passive Functional Range of Movement, and any restrictions will be taken into consideration.
- Any change of position for medical reasons must be recorded on the Classification sheet.

6.3 Assessment should be done in positions identified in Table 8.

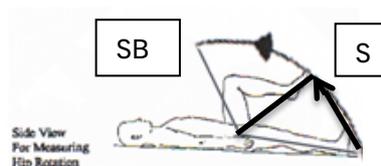
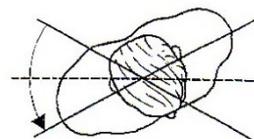
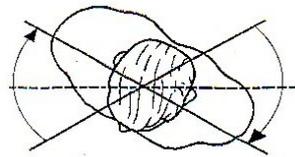
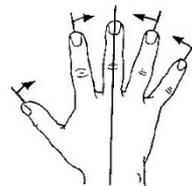
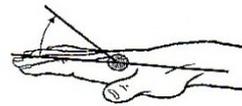
Table 8 – Testing positions for Passive Functional Range of Movement testing

| Segment | | Swimmer Position | Range PFROM |
|----------|--------------------------------|--|-------------|
| Shoulder | Flexion | Supine – elbow extended, palm facing trunk  | 0 - 161 |
| | Extension ¹ | Prone – elbow extended, palm facing trunk  | 0 - 33 |
| | Adduction | Supine – arms at side, palm up  | 0 – 33 |
| | External Rotation ¹ | Supine – shoulder abducted 90°, elbow flexed 90°, forearm pronated  | 0 – 57 |

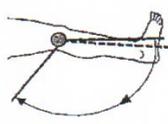
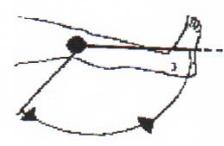
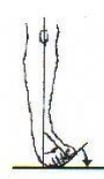
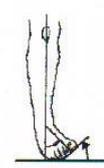
| | | | |
|-------|-------------------|--|-------------|
| | |  <p>Frontal View</p> | |
| | Internal Rotation | <p>Supine – shoulder abducted 90°, elbow flexed 90°, forearm pronated</p>   <p>Frontal View</p> | 0 - 57 |
| Elbow | Flexion | <p>Supine – arm in anatomic position</p>  | 0 - 121 |
| | Extension | <p>Supine – arm in anatomic position</p>  | 90 – 0 Flex |
| | Pronation | <p>Seated or standing – shoulder adducted, elbow flexed at 90°, forearm neutral</p> | 0 - 81 |

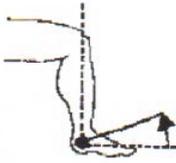
| | | | |
|--------|--|---|-------------------------|
| | |  | |
| Wrist | Flexion | Seated – shoulder adducted, elbow flexed at 90°, forearm pronated, arm supported by table, hand off table | 0 - 49 |
| |  | | |
| | Extension ¹ | Seated – shoulder adducted, elbow flexed at 90°, forearm pronated, arm supported by table, hand off table | 0 – 41 |
| |  | | |
| | Ulna Abduction ² | Seated – shoulder adducted, elbow flexed at 90°, forearm pronated, arm supported by table | 0 – 30 |
| Finger | Flexion | Seated – shoulder abducted, elbow flexed at 90°, forearm pronated | 1 point for each finger |
| |  | | |
| | Extension | Seated – shoulder abducted, elbow flexed at 90°, forearm pronated, arm | 1 point for |

| | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| | | supported by table | each finger |
| | Adduction | Seated – shoulder abducted, elbow flexed at 90°, forearm pronated, arm supported by table | 0 - 5 |
| Trunk | Rotation Right ¹ | Seated | 0 - 49 |
| | Rotation Left ¹ | Seated | 0 - 49 |
| Hip | Flexion | Supine – legs extended, flexion with knee bended | S: 0 – 41 SB: 0 – 121 |
| | Extension | Prone or on side – legs extended | 0 – 45 Flex 45 (Flex) – 15 Ext |



| | | | |
|------|--------------------------------|--|---------|
| | |  | |
| | Abduction ² | Supine – leg extended | 0 – 33 |
| | |  | |
| | Adduction | Supine – leg extended | 0 – 25 |
| | |  | |
| | External Rotation ² | Seated – hip and knee flexed at 90° | 0 - 41 |
| | |  | |
| | Internal Rotation | Seated – hip and knee flexed at 90° | 0 – 33 |
| Knee | Flexion | Supine – legs extended | 121 – 0 |

| | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|---|
| | |  | |
| | Extension | Supine – legs extended | 0 – 120 Flex |
| | |  | |
| Ankle S Sport Class | Dorsiflexion | Seated – knee flexed | 40 – 8 Flex |
| | |  | |
| | Plantar flexion | Seated – knee flexed | 8 – 41 Flex |
| | |  | |
| | Eversion (pronation, abduction, dorsiflexion) | Seated | 0 – 30 Inv (see art. 6.4 for exceptions) |
| | |  | |
| | Inversion (supination, adduction, plantarflexion) | Seated | 0 – 30 (see art. 6.4 for exceptions) |
| | |  | |
| Ankle | Dorsiflexion (knee in | Seated – knee flexed | 0 – 21 |

| | | | | |
|-------------|-------|------------------------|--|--------|
| SB Class | Sport | flexion) |  | |
| | | Plantar flexion | Seated – knee flexed | 0 – 41 |
| | | Pronation (Eversion) | Seated | 0 – 21 |
| | | Supination (Inversion) | Seated | 0 – 33 |

¹: only for S Sport Class

²: only for SB Sport Class

7 Physical Assessment - Measurement of Loss of Limb/Limb Deficiency

7.1 Measurement of loss of limb/Limb Deficiency should be taken in centimetres and a segmometer should be used to conduct the assessment. Measurements are taken from the distal point of the limb extremity to the nearest measuring point above. Measurements should be indicated on the body chart of the Classification sheet illustrated below (Figure 1).

Figure 1 – Measurement of loss of limb/Limb Deficiency.

Note 1:

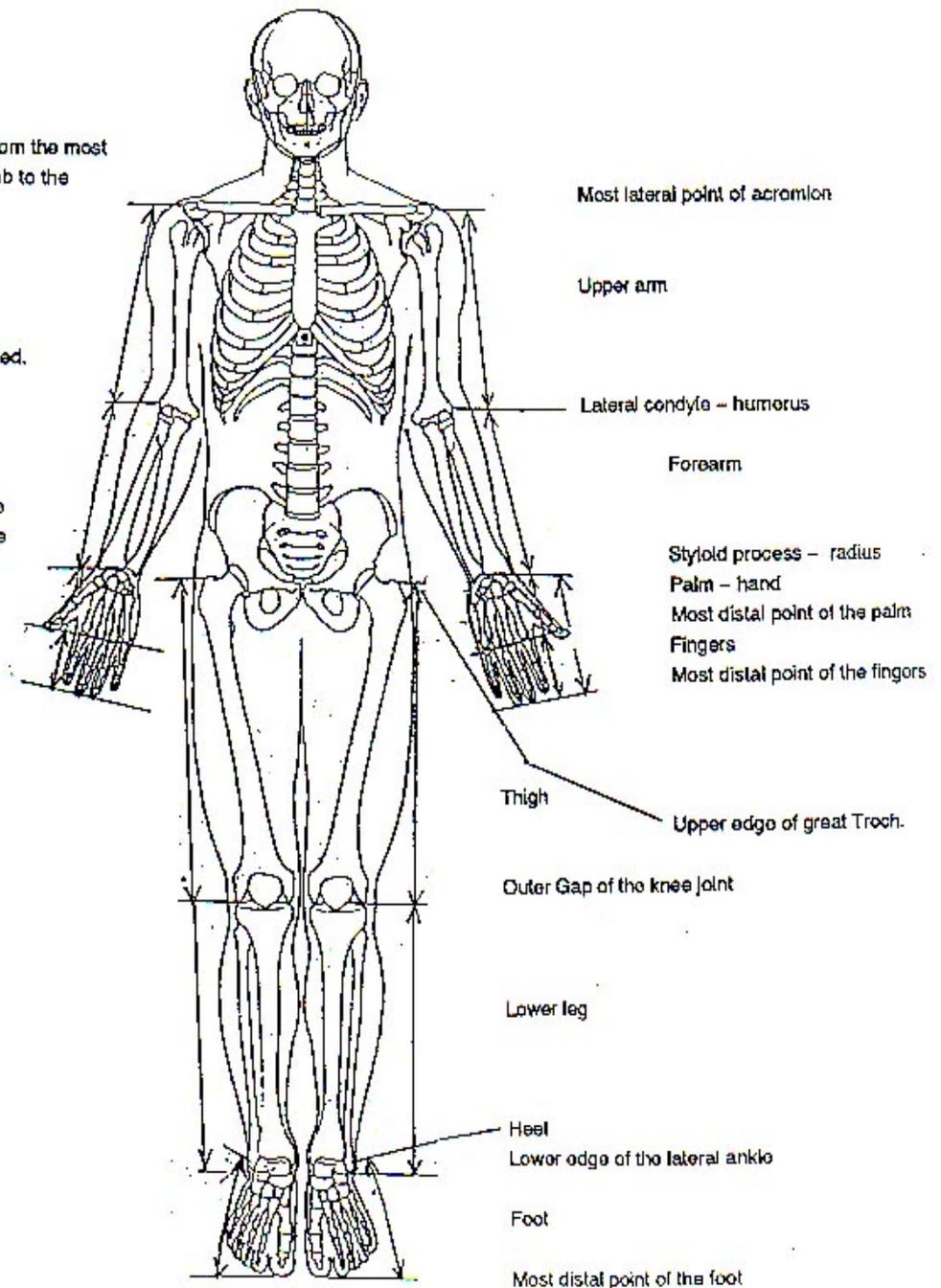
The measuring must be done from the most distal point of the amputated limb to the next anatomical point above

Note 2:

The relevant part of the other arm or leg must also be measured.

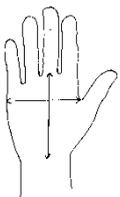
Example:

If a person has a right side below knee amputation, the stump will be measured from the most distal point of the stump to the outer gap of the knee joint. Additionally the left lower leg must be measured from the lower edge of the lateral ankle to the outer gap of the knee joint. From the figures of the two measurements, it can be worked out what part of the lower leg is remaining [1/4, 1/3, 1/2, 2/3, 3/4]



7.2 The following should be taken into consideration when measuring loss of limb/Limb Deficiency:

- Access to X-rays provided by the Athlete may assist the Classification Panel to properly identify distal points of the extremities.
- When a corresponding segment is not available for comparison the formulas of Table 9 and 10 apply.
- When assessing dysmelia ensure that each limb segment is measured on both sides.
- If the Athlete has a hand or foot amputation/dysmelia trace the hand/foot dimension of both hands/feet on a plain piece of paper. Record the measurements on this sheet along with the Athlete's name/nation/date of birth and identify right and/or left. Include this information with the Classification sheet.
- Calculating palm/hand measurements must be done carefully, especially when assessing Minimal Impairment Criteria. To calculate eligibility, trace both hands with the forearms flat to ensure the base of the hand and top of the wrist is noted. Palm area is calculated by measuring from the base of the wrist to the base of the middle finger X measuring across the palm to the base of the web space between the thumb and index (metacarpophalangeal joint). Remaining fingers are then considered separately for point allocation.
- Foot measurements are taken from the base of the heel (calcaneus) in a line to the top of the big toe and across the foot at the widest available point to calculate area.



7.3 Detail on the scoring system is provided in Table 9. The following applies:

- For S-strokes, each upper limb has a maximum of 65 points (hand: 28; forearm: 24; upper arm: 13), each lower limb has a maximum of 50 points (foot: 20; lower leg: 10; upper leg: 20) (Figure 2).
- For SB-stroke, each upper limb has a maximum of 55 points (hand: 26; forearm: 22; upper arm: 7), each lower limb has a maximum of 60 points (foot: 28; lower leg: 18; upper leg: 14) (Figure 3).

Figure 2 - Point distribution for limb segments in S-strokes

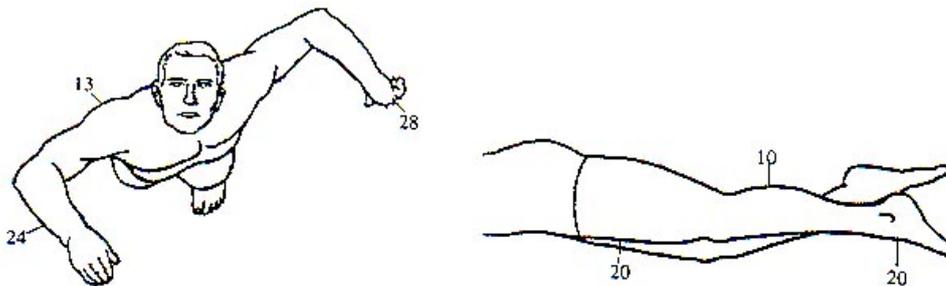


Figure 3 - Point distribution for limb segments in SB-stroke

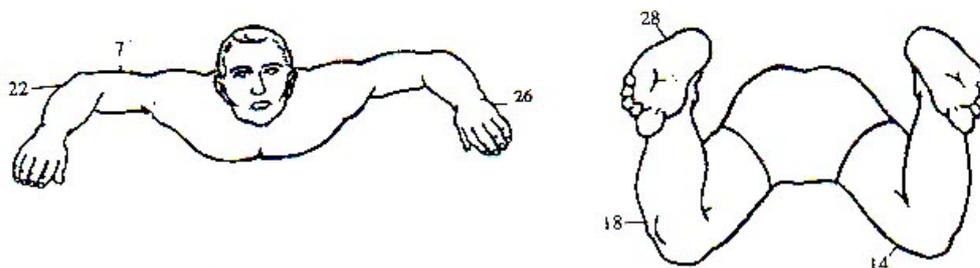


Table 9 – Scoring for loss of limb

| UPPER LIMBS | S Strokes | | SB Stroke | |
|----------------------------|-----------|------|-----------|------|
| | Right | Left | Right | Left |
| Upper arm amputation | | | | |
| Full upper arm remaining | 13 | 13 | 7 | 7 |
| Points for one limb | | | | |
| No upper arm remaining | 0 | | 0 | |
| 1/4 upper arm remaining | 3 | | 1 | |
| 1/3 upper arm remaining | 4 | | 2 | |
| 1/2 upper arm remaining | 6.5 | | 3 | |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| 2/3 upper arm remaining | 8 | | 3.5 | |
| 3/4 upper arm remaining | 9 | | 4 | |
| | | | | |
| Lower arm amputation | Right | Left | Right | Left |
| Upper arm remaining | 13 | 13 | 7 | 7 |
| Lower arm remaining | 24 | 24 | 22 | 22 |
| Points for one limb | | | | |
| No lower arm remaining | $13 + 0 = 13$ | | $7 + 0 = 7$ | |
| 1/4 lower arm remaining | $13 + 4 = 17$ | | $7 + 5.5 = 12.5$ | |
| 1/3 lower arm remaining | $13 + 7 = 20$ | | $7 + 7 = 14$ | |
| 1/2 lower arm remaining | $13 + 11 = 24$ | | $7 + 11 = 18$ | |
| 2/3 lower arm remaining | $13 + 15 = 28$ | | $7 + 14 = 21$ | |
| 3/4 lower arm remaining | $13 + 17 = 30$ | | $7 + 15 = 22$ | |
| | | | | |
| Hand amputation | Right | Left | Right | Left |
| Upper arm remaining | 13 | 13 | 7 | 7 |
| Lower arm remaining | 24 | 24 | 22 | 22 |
| Palm remaining | 18 | 18 | 16 | 16 |
| Points for one limb | | | | |
| No palm remaining | $13 + 24 + 0 = 37$ | | $7 + 22 + 0 = 29$ | |
| 1/4 palm remaining | $13 + 24 + 4.5 = 41.5$ | | $7 + 22 + 4 = 33$ | |
| 1/3 palm remaining | $13 + 24 + 6 = 43$ | | $7 + 22 + 6 = 35$ | |
| 1/2 palm remaining | $13 + 24 + 9 = 46$ | | $7 + 22 + 8 = 37$ | |
| 2/3 palm remaining | $13 + 24 + 12 = 49$ | | $7 + 22 + 10 = 39$ | |
| 3/4 palm remaining | $13 + 24 + 13.5 = 50.5$ | | $7 + 22 + 12 = 41$ | |
| | | | | |

| Finger amputation | Right | Left | Right | Left |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Upper arm remaining | 13 | 13 | 7 | 7 |
| Lower arm remaining | 24 | 24 | 22 | 22 |
| Palm remaining | 18 | 18 | 16 | 16 |
| Fingers remaining | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Points for one limb | | | | |
| No fingers remaining | $13 + 24 + 18 + 0 = 55$ | | $7 + 22 + 16 + 0 = 45$ | |
| One finger remaining | $13 + 24 + 18 + 2 = 57$ | | $7 + 22 + 6 + 2 = 47$ | |
| Two fingers remaining | $13 + 24 + 18 + 4 = 59$ | | $7 + 22 + 16 + 4 = 49$ | |
| Three fingers remaining | $13 + 24 + 18 + 6 = 61$ | | $7 + 22 + 16 + 6 = 51$ | |
| Four fingers remaining | $13 + 24 + 18 + 8 = 63$ | | $7 + 22 + 16 + 8 = 53$ | |
| | | | | |
| LOWER LIMBS | S Strokes | | SB Stroke | |
| Thigh amputation | Right | Left | Right | Left |
| Full thigh remaining | 20 | 20 | 14 | 14 |
| Points for one limb | | | | |
| No thigh remaining | 0 | | 0 | |
| 1/4 thigh remaining | 4 | | 2 | |
| 1/3 thigh remaining | 8 | | 3 | |
| 1/2 thigh remaining | 12 | | 5 | |
| 2/3 thigh remaining | 16 | | 9 | |
| 3/4 thigh remaining | 18 | | 11 | |
| | | | | |
| Lower leg amputation | Right | Left | Right | Left |
| Full thigh remaining | 20 | 20 | 14 | 14 |
| Lower thigh remaining | 10 | 10 | 18 | 18 |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Points for one limb | | | | |
| No lower leg remaining | $20 + 0 = 20$ | | $14 + 0 = 14$ | |
| 1/4 lower leg remaining | $20 + 1 = 21$ | | $14 + 4 = 18$ | |
| 1/3 lower leg remaining | $20 + 3 = 23$ | | $14 + 5 = 19$ | |
| 1/2 lower leg remaining | $20 + 5 = 25$ | | $14 + 7 = 21$ | |
| 2/3 lower leg remaining | $20 + 7 = 27$ | | $14 + 12 = 26$ | |
| 3/4 lower leg remaining | $20 + 8 = 28$ | | $14 + 14 = 28$ | |
| | | | | |
| Foot amputation | Right | Left | Right | Left |
| Full thigh remaining | 20 | 20 | 14 | 14 |
| Full lower leg remaining | 10 | 10 | 18 | 18 |
| Full foot remaining | 20 | 20 | 28 | 28 |
| | | | | |
| Points for one limb | | | | |
| No foot remaining | $20 + 10 + 0 = 30$ | | $14 + 18 + 0 = 32$ | |
| 1/4 foot remaining | $20 + 10 + 5 = 35$ | | $14 + 18 + 7 = 39$ | |
| 1/3 foot remaining | $20 + 10 + 10 = 40$ | | $14 + 18 + 9 = 41$ | |
| 1/2 foot remaining | $20 + 10 + 14 = 44$ | | $14 + 18 + 13 = 45$ | |
| 2/3 foot remaining | $20 + 10 + 18 = 48$ | | $14 + 18 + 18 = 50$ | |
| 3/4 foot remaining | $20 + 10 + 20 = 50$ | | $14 + 18 + 21 = 53$ | |

7.4 Measurements for dysmelia and multiple amputations in absence of the ability to measure body height are detailed in Table 10.

Table 10 - Measurements for dysmelia and multiple amputations in absence of the ability to measure body height

| Measurement from Head to Buttock in seated position (assessment conducted with Athlete seated on the bench against a flat wall and measurement from head to base of the buttocks) | | | | | | | | | | =cm (X) | | | | | |
|---|-------|--------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------|--|------|--------|--------|---------------------------|------|-----------------------|------|--|--|
| Estimated body height in Males | | | | | | | | | | = X / 0.52 | | =cm (A) | | | |
| Estimated body height in Females | | | | | | | | | | = X / 0.533 | | =cm (A) | | | |
| Body Segment Parameters = B | | | Estimated Length A x B = C | Measured Length = D | | Estimated % of Limb present D / C = E | | S | SB | Points for remaining limb | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | S points = S x E | | SB points = SB x E | | | |
| Segment | Male | Female | | Right | Left | Right | Left | Points | Points | Right | Left | Right | Left | | |
| Arm | 0.189 | 0.193 | | | | | | 13 | 7 | | | | | | |
| Forearm | 0.145 | 0.152 | | | | | | 24 | 22 | | | | | | |
| Hand | 0.128 | 0.11 | | | | | | 28 | 26 | | | | | | |
| Thigh | 0.245 | 0.242 | | | | | | 20 | 14 | | | | | | |
| Leg | 0.242 | 0.234 | | | | | | 10 | 18 | | | | | | |
| Foot | 0.152 | 0.151 | | | | | | 20 | 28 | | | | | | |
| Trunk | 0.520 | 0.533 | | | | | | 25 | 20 | | | | | | |
| Subtract 2 points for every finger missing and allow for reduced movement when arriving at totals | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | Σ = | Σ = | Σ = | Σ = | | |
| POINTS TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CLASSIFICATION FORM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

8 Physical Assessment – Short Stature

- 8.1 Minimum Impairment Criteria for Athletes with Short Stature is a maximum body height of 137cm for female Athletes and 145cm for male Athletes.
- 8.2 Height measurement is the assessment, using a full length stadiometer, with Athlete standing against a flat wall barefooted; heel-hip-shoulders-head against the wall Athlete looking forward (standing in medically neutral position), measurement from head to bottom of the feet. The average of two (2) measures is taken. If the difference between these two (2) measures is greater than 1%, one additional measure is taken, and the median measure is recorded on the Classification sheet as the height measurement.
- 8.3 Short stature resulting from an Achondroplasia type of Impairment is a specific profile and does not require point allocation:
- 8.3.1 These Athletes are allocated class S6 – SB6 if:
- a maximum body height of 130cm (inclusive) (female Athletes)
 - a maximum body height of 137cm (inclusive) (male Athletes)
- 8.3.2 These Athletes, if not meeting the requirements for S6 – SB6 (8.3.1), are allocated class S7 – SB7 if
- a maximum body height of 137cm (inclusive) (female Athletes)
 - a maximum body height of 145cm (inclusive) (male Athletes)
- 8.3.3 If there is a minimum additional loss of Muscle Power and/or loss of Range of Movement of twenty-five (25) points, the testing methods described under Section 4 and/or 6 are applied and a ‘class-1’ principle applies.
- 8.4 All other cases of short stature (e.g. Osteogenesis Imperfecta, Growth Hormone Dysfunction) are assessed under Section 4 and/or 6 of these Rules, and a ‘class -1’ principle applies (e.g. measurements under section 4 and/or section 6 would lead to class 8, and the Athlete has a maximum body height of 137 cm (female) or 145cm (male), the final Sport Class will be 7).
- 8.5 Short stature swimmers will be subject to an annual review (in accordance with article 15.6 of these Rules) until the age of 18 years.

9 Physical Assessment - Leg Length Difference

- 9.1 A point score is allocated to an Athlete if the Athlete has lower limbs which are of a different length. All measurements are to be made in millimetres.
- 9.2 All lower limb length measurements are performed in the supine position, from the great trochanter to the outer gap of the knee and the outer gap of the knee to the edge of the lateral ankle.
- 9.3 Points allocated for lower Leg Length Difference is as follows:

Table 11 – Scoring for Leg Length Difference

| Difference in Limb Length (in millimetres) | Point Allocation |
|--|------------------|
| 0-79 | 0 |
| 80-89 | 1 |
| 90-99 | 2 |
| 100-109 | 3 |
| 110-119 | 4 |
| 120-129 | 5 |
| 130-139 | 6 |
| 140-149 | 7 |
| 150-159 | 8 |
| 160-169 | 9 |
| 170-179 | 10 |
| 180-189 | 11 |
| 190-199 | 12 |
| 200 and more | 13 |

- 9.4 If Leg Length Difference occurs in combination with other Impairments, points allocated for Leg Length Difference (Table 11) are deducted in addition to the other point scores obtained.

10 Technical Assessment – Water Test

- 10.1 For the purpose of World Para Swimming, Technical Assessment in Classification is further referred to as the “Water Test”. The purpose of the Water Test is to assess the effect of the Impairment on the technical swimming stroke(s), assessed for the different body segments: upper limb, trunk, and lower limb. The results of the Physical Assessment (conducted pursuant to the means detailed in sections 3-9 above) serve the basis of observation of the Athlete in the pool under controlled circumstances as set forth under 10.4.
- 10.2 In case of underdeveloped or poor swim technique it is at the discretion of the Classification Panel to assess the ability of a swimmer to proceed to the Water Test under this provision, and
- Stop the Athlete assessment for safety reasons, in which case no Sport Class (and Status) will be allocated, or
 - Have the Physical Assessment outcomes prevail for the allocation of a Sport Class, or
 - Conduct the Water Test and finalise the Evaluation Session, in which case Sport Class Status ‘Confirmed’ cannot be allocated.
- Comments must be recorded on the Classification sheet when the above occurs.
- 10.3 Athletes need to present with all equipment and starting devices.
- 10.4 The Water Test follows a set protocol, in that every Athlete who is required to undertake it performs a standardised series of movements and/or routines (‘skills’), including:
- Perform an actual race start - that is, a dive, or a standing, sitting, kneeling or water start/feet start;
 - Perform a Face float with arms in the streamline position;
 - Perform a Face float with arms in streamline position with flutter kick if this is required to assess kicking propulsion/stability;
 - Perform a Back float with arms overhead in streamline position: if an Athlete is unable to streamline due to the Impairment, arms may be streamlined at the side of the body;

- Perform a Back float with arms overhead in streamline position with flutter kick if this is required to assess kicking propulsion/stability;
 - Rotate from face float to back float for safety reasons;
 - Complete a minimum of 50m Freestyle with an additional 5m of swimming following the turn;
 - Complete a minimum of 50m of Breaststroke;
 - Complete a Breaststroke kick in prone position with arms in streamline position if this is required to assess kicking propulsion/stability;
 - Complete a Breaststroke kick in supine position with arms in streamline overhead or at side if this is required to assess kicking propulsion/stability;
 - Complete a minimum of 50m Butterfly.
 - Complete a minimum of 50m of Backstroke.
- 10.5 Water test protocols are performed when swimming at race pace. The Athlete has 20m following the start to reach race pace.
- 10.6 The Water Test also serves the purpose of identifying rule exceptions (section 13).
- 10.7 At the discretion of the Classification Panel:
- Not necessarily all of the elements of the above test need to be executed, or
 - Athletes may be asked for elements of the above test to be repeated or additional technical skills to be demonstrated.
- 10.8 The Water Test assesses the following components in an integrated manner:
- Drag: the impact of Impairment on drag is assessed by observing the position in the water and the ability for the Athlete to keep this position through the performance.
 - Balance and Stability: the ability of the Athlete to control the body through the full swim and breathing cycle, with special attention to body streamline, body roll, trunk wavering and leg kick for balance.
 - Propulsion: the ability of generating speed in the performance, including the ability of changing stroke rhythm, using upper and/or lower limbs. For the assessment of upper limbs, special attention should be given to the differentiation of function between arm (upper and lower part) and hand function.
- 10.9 Assignment of scores is based on the following principle:
- The starting number for the Technical Assessment point allocation is the result of the Physical Assessment. Parallel to the Physical Assessment tests each body segment will be assessed against a 5-point scale.

- No more than two (2) points should be added or subtracted from a joint function (e.g. Muscle Power, Range of Movement or Coordination) based on the Technical Assessment.
- If it is determined during the Technical Assessment that a body segment or limb cannot be used at all for functional purpose in the S and/or SB strokes, the body segment or limb should be allocated a zero (0) point score.
- Any change in point values should be detailed on the Classification sheet.
- The sum of scores is an overall ‘Technical Assessment Score’ that leads to the allocation of a Sport Class as defined in section 12.

10.10 The scores on the ‘Technical Assessment’ take precedent over the scores of the ‘Physical Assessment’ in case of discrepancies, except for conditions referred to under rule 10.2.

11 Dive and Push Off Test

11.1 The ‘Dive/Push Table’ details the points to be allocated to an Athlete pursuant to the dive start and push off (i.e. turn).

Note: If an Athlete chooses to start from the water but is physically capable to perform a dive start, the points should be allocated based on the dive start.

Table 12 – Dive/Push off Scoring

| Score | Dive | Push Off |
|-------|---|---|
| 0 | Start in the water with assistance | No push off |
| 1 | Start in the water without assistance | Push off only with only one single joint from upper limbs |
| 2 | Falls in the water | Push off with only one single joint from lower limbs |
| 3 | Poor functional dive with one leg | Poor functional push off with one leg |
| 4 | Poor functional dive with both legs | Poor functional push off with both legs |
| 5 | Minimal/satisfactory functional dive with one leg | Minimal/satisfactory functional push off with one leg |
| 6 | Minimal/satisfactory functional dive with both legs | Minimal/satisfactory push off with both legs |
| 7 | Dive with non-functional arms (dragging or above elbow amp) | Turning without arms (dragging or above elbow amp) |

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| 8 | Good functional dive with one leg | Good functional push off with one leg |
| 9 | Good functional dive with both legs, or Dive with one non-functional arm (dragging or above elbow amp) | Good functional push off with both legs, or turning with one non-functional arm (dragging or above elbow amp) |
| 10 | No restrictions, normal dive | No restrictions, normal push off |

11.2 Attention should be paid to the following conditions that might lead to lower scores allocated for ‘dive’

- Evidence of restricted power in the legs and/or feet
- Evidence of loss of momentum due to arm restriction
- Deficiencies in coordination of push off and timing
- Assessment of body position and power when combined upper-lower limb Impairment is present
- Absence of a streamlined entry in the water due to absence of explosive power in legs and feet

12 Sport Class Allocation

12.1 Following the physical/technical assessment, the Athlete is allocated a Sport Class on the basis of the following scores:

Table 13 – Sport Classes on the basis of point scores obtained after the physical/technical assessment

| Sport Class | Point Score | Sport Class | Point Score |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| S1 | 40-65 | SB1 | 40-65 |
| S2 | 66-90 | SB2 | 66-90 |
| S3 | 91-115 | SB3 | 91-115 |
| S4 | 116-140 | SB4 | 116-140 |
| S5 | 141-165 | SB5 | 141-165 |
| S6 ^a | 166-190 | SB6 ^a | 166-190 |
| S7 ^b | 191-215 | SB7 ^b | 191-215 |
| S8 | 216-240 | SB8 | 216-240 |
| S9 | 241-265 | SB9 | 241-275 |
| S10 | 266-285 | | |

a. S6/SB6 also includes Athletes with short stature identified under 8.3.1

b. S7/SB7 also includes Athletes with short stature identified under 8.3.2

12.2 Individual Medley Sport Class allocation will be calculated based on the Athlete’s Sport Class for the S-strokes and the SB-stroke. The calculation is rounded to a whole number; for example a calculation resulting in 6.5 will be rounded up to Sport Class SM7.

12.2.1 If the athlete is allocated equivalent to or higher as a S5 Sport Class, the allocation of the individual medley class will be calculated as follows;

$$\frac{3 \times \text{S class} + 1 \times \text{SB class}}{4} = \text{SM class}$$

12.2.2 If the athlete is allocated equivalent to or lower as a S4 Sport Class, the allocation of the individual medley class will be calculated as follows;

$$\frac{2 \times \text{S class} + 1 \times \text{SB class}}{3} = \text{SM class}$$

13 Exceptions

13.1 Due to the nature of their Impairment, certain Athletes are authorised exceptions to the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations. It is the mandate of the Classifiers to allocate these exceptions. This will be done while conducting the water test (art. 10.6). An overview is provided in Table 14.

Table 14 – Codes of Exception

| Exception | Description | Reference to World Para Swimming Rules & Regulations |
|------------------------|---|--|
| starts | | |
| H | Hearing Impairment (light or signal required) | 5.4.4.3 |
| Y | Starting device | 3.1.3.7; 3.3.1.3 |
| E | Unable to grip for backstroke start | 3.3.1.3n |
| A | Assistance required | 3.1.3.7; 3.1.3.2 |
| During the Swim | | |
| 0 | No exception | |
| 1 | One hand start | 3.3.1.1 |
| 2 | Right hand touch | 3.4.6.3; 3.5.4.3 |
| 3 | Left hand touch | 3.4.6.3; 3.5.4.3 |

| | | |
|----|--|------------------|
| 4 | Right hand touch with simultaneous intent to touch with other | 3.4.6.1; 3.5.4.1 |
| 5 | Left hand touch with simultaneous intent to touch with other | 3.4.6.1; 3.5.4.1 |
| 6 | Simultaneous intent to touch | 3.4.6.4; 3.5.4.4 |
| 7 | Part of upper body must touch | 3.4.6.2; 3.5.4.2 |
| 8 | Right foot must turn out | 3.4.5.1 |
| 9 | Left foot must turn out | 3.4.5.1 |
| 12 | Leg drag or show intent to kick (will apply to any Athlete who has points deducted in legs) | 3.4.4.1 |
| + | Butterfly kick is able to be performed <i>(to get a '+' the swimmer has to have score 3 or more on either hip flexion or knee extension in at least one leg in either the physical and/or technical assessment portion(s) of the Classification evaluation)</i> <i>NOTE: '+' only is possible in combination with '12'</i> | |

13.2 Application of exceptions in strokes

- Freestyle: no exceptions allowed
- Backstroke: only exception '1' may apply
- Butterfly: exceptions '2-7' may apply
- Breaststroke: exceptions '2-12' may apply

13.3 Any request for change of exception codes granted previously, must be submitted through the Medical Review Request procedure of these rules and regulations (Article 31). If the request is upheld, a full re-assessment of the athlete in accordance with these rules and regulations will take place (incl. the possible change of sport class and sport Class Status).

Appendix Two: Sport Classes for Athletes with Vision Impairment

1 Introduction

- 1.1 World Para Swimming has designated Sport Classes for Athletes with Vision Impairment, which are defined in this Appendix.
- 1.2 World Para Swimming is currently revisiting the Sport Classes for Athletes with Vision Impairment and is aiming towards sport-specific Classification systems on the basis of Activity Limitations that result from Impairment. Until such a system is approved, the processes detailed in this Appendix apply to Athlete Evaluation in respect of Sport Classes for Athletes with Vision Impairment.
- 1.3 The Sport Class allocated to Athletes with Vision Impairment applies to all Events offered by World Para Swimming.
- 1.4 All provisions of the World Para Swimming Classification Rules apply to the assessment of Athletes with Vision Impairment, unless otherwise specified in these Classification Rules.

2 Eligible Impairment Types

| Eligible Impairment | Examples of Health Conditions |
|--|---|
| <p>Vision Impairment</p> <p>Athletes with Vision Impairment have reduced or no vision caused by damage to the eye structure, optical nerves or optical pathways, or visual cortex of the brain.</p> | <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Vision Impairment include retinitis pigmentosa and diabetic retinopathy.</p> |

3 Minimum Impairment Criteria

- 3.1 To be eligible to compete in Sport Classes S/SB/SM11-13 in World Para Swimming, the Athlete must meet both of the criteria below:
 - 3.1.1 The Athlete must have at least one of the following Impairments:
 - Impairment of the eye structure;

- Impairment of the optical nerve/optic pathways;
 - Impairment of the visual cortex.
- 3.1.2 The Athlete's Vision Impairment must result in a visual acuity of less than or equal to LogMAR 1.0 or a visual field restricted to less than 40 degrees diameter.
- 3.2 It is the Athlete's and NPC's responsibility to provide sufficient evidence of the Athlete's Vision Impairment. This must be done by way of submitting medical diagnostic information completed by an ophthalmologist as described in the Article 7.5.
- 3.3 The medical diagnostic information must comprise the completed Medical Diagnostics Form (available on the World Para Swimming website) and additional medical documentation as indicated on the Medical Diagnostics Form. Failure to present with complete medical diagnostic information might lead to Athlete Evaluation being suspended in accordance with Article 10 of these Rules.
- 3.4 Medical Diagnostic Information must be typewritten and submitted in English and may not be older than 12 months prior to the date of Evaluation Session.

4 Assessment Methods

- 4.1 All Athlete Evaluation and Sport Class allocation will be based on the assessment of visual acuity in the eye with better visual acuity when wearing the best optical correction.
- 4.2 Depending on an Athlete's visual acuity, visual acuity is tested using the LogMAR chart for distance visual acuity testing with Illiterate "E" and/or the Berkeley Rudimentary Vision Test.
- 4.3 Athletes who compete using any corrective devices (e.g. glasses, lenses) must attend an Evaluation Session with these devices and their prescription.
- 4.4 An Athlete found to be using corrective devices during Competition that were not declared during Evaluation Session may be subject to further investigation of Intentional Misrepresentation (see Article 32).
- 4.5 Athletes must declare any change in their optical correction to World Para Swimming before any Competition. If the Athlete has a Sport Class Status Review with Fixed Review Date or Confirmed, the Athlete's Sport Class Status will be changed to Review. The Athlete will then undergo Evaluation Session prior to the next Competition under the provisions of these Rules. Failure to do so may result in an investigation of

Intentional Misrepresentation (see Article 32).

- 4.6 Any Athlete Support Personnel accompanying the Athlete during an Evaluation Session must remain out of sight of the visual acuity charts during the assessment.
- 4.7 Under the current provisions set forth in this Appendix, Observation Assessment does not apply to Athletes with Vision Impairment.
- 4.8 World Para Swimming will inform the Local Organising Committee of the equipment and room requirements for the assessment of Athletes with Vision Impairment after the Classification Panels have been appointed. It is the Local Organising Committee's responsibility to provide all equipment required by World Para Swimming.
- 4.9 Failure to provide all equipment required by World Para Swimming may result in the Classification decisions not being accepted by World Para Swimming.

5 Sport Classes Profiles for Athletes with Vision Impairment

5.1 Sport Class S/SM/SB11

- 5.1.1 Visual acuity is poorer than LogMAR 2.60.
- 5.1.2 All Athletes (with the exception of those with prosthesis in both eyes) shall be required to wear opaque (blackened in) goggles for each individual and relay Event for the full duration of the Event. Athletes whose facial structure will not support goggles shall be required to cover the eyes with an opaque covering.
- 5.1.3 All Athletes shall be required to have a tapper.

5.2 Sport Class S/SM/SB12

- 5.2.1 Visual acuity ranges from LogMAR 1.50 to 2.60 (inclusive), and/or;
- 5.2.2 The visual field is constricted to a diameter of less than 10 degrees.

5.3 Sport Class S/SM/SB13

- 5.3.1 Visual acuity ranges from LogMAR 1.40 to 1 (inclusive), and/or;
- 5.3.2 The visual field is constricted to a diameter of less than 40 degrees.

6 Exceptions

- 6.1 Due to the nature of their Impairment, certain Athletes are authorised exceptions to the

World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations. It is the mandate of the Classifiers to allocate these exceptions. The following exceptions apply for Athletes with Vision Impairment:

| Exception | Description | Reference to World Para Swimming Rules & Regulations |
|-----------|---|--|
| B | Blackened goggles | 3.8.8 |
| T | Tapper | 2.1.5.1 |
| H | Hearing Impairment (light or signal required) | 5.4.4.3 |

- 6.2 Any request for change of exception codes granted previously, must be submitted through the Medical Review Request procedure of these rules and regulations (Article 31).

Appendix Three: Sport Classes for Athletes with Intellectual Impairment

1 Introduction

- 1.1 World Para Swimming has designated a Sport Class – Sport Class S14 – for Athletes with Activity Limitations that result from an Intellectual Impairment. These Athletes are referred to as ‘Athletes with Intellectual Impairment’ in this Appendix.
- 1.2 The processes detailed in this Appendix apply to the conduct of Athlete Evaluation in respect of the Sport Class designated by World Para Swimming for Athletes with Intellectual Impairment.
- 1.3 World Para Swimming designates its Sport Classes according the swimming stroke used in the Event: Freestyle, Backstroke and Butterfly are referred to as S-strokes, and Breaststroke as SB-stroke. The Individual Medley event is referred to as SM (Sport Class designation SM is not subject to a separate Observation Assessment, see Article 3.5.1).

2 Eligible Impairment Types

| |
|---|
| Eligible Impairment |
| <p>Intellectual Impairment</p> <p>Athletes with an intellectual Impairment have a restriction in intellectual functioning and adaptive behaviour in which affects conceptual, social and practical adaptive skills required for everyday life. This Impairment must be present before the age of 18.</p> |

- 2.1 Prior to Athlete Evaluation, an Athlete must comply with the following Eligibility Criteria set by World Para Swimming.
 - Inclusion in the INAS Classification Master List
 - Completion of the Training History and Sport Limitation Questionnaire (TSAL-Q) provided by World Para Swimming
- 2.2 Athletes must be included on the INAS Classification Master List no later than the date of final entry for a Competition, or, in absence of such entry deadline, on the day before the beginning of Athlete Evaluation. This is a pre-condition to participate in Athlete

Evaluation by World Para Swimming.

- 2.3 To be listed on the INAS Classification Master List, Athletes must meet the eligibility criteria defined by INAS.
- 2.4 A completed Training History and Sport Limitation Questionnaire (TSAL-Q) needs to be submitted to World Para Swimming no later than the date of final entry for competition, or in absence of such entry deadline, the TSAL-Q must be made available to the Chief Classifier on the day before the beginning of Athlete Evaluation.
- 2.5 If a completed TSAL-Q is not provided before Athlete Evaluation, Athlete Evaluation will be suspended as defined in Article 30 of these Rules.

3 Assessment Methods and Minimum Impairment Criteria

- 3.1 The process of Athlete Evaluation requires the Athlete to undergo the:
 - Sport Cognition Test Battery
 - Observation Assessment during competition.
- 3.2 Athlete Support Personnel is not permitted to give instructions to the Athlete unless if explicitly permitted by the Classification Panel. Unauthorised instructions to the Athlete during Athlete Evaluation, may lead to investigations relating to Article 30.
- 3.3 Sport Cognition Test Battery
 - 3.3.1 The Sport Cognition Test Battery consists of a series of tests on four different components of sport cognition, which are memory and learning, executive functioning, visual perception and fluid intelligence, and processing speed and attention-concentration skills. Additionally, visual-motor ability is controlled for in a separate exercise.
 - 3.3.2 The following table provides a short description of the components and tests.

| COMPONENT | Tests | Task | Scoring | Cut –off Score |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Memory and Learning | Corsi (memory capacity) | To remember a sequence of blocks and to repeat the sequence in the same order | Average length of a sequence | 6.69 |
| Executive Functioning | Tower of London (executive functioning) | To copy the frame structure by moving balls in the least number of moves possible | Number of items solved correctly | 12.43 |
| Visual Perception & Fluid Intelligence | Block Design (visual spatial ability) | To copy patterns with 3D white/red cubes | Raw total performance score | 58.31 |
| | Matrix Reasoning (visual inductive reasoning capacity) | To indicate out of 5 pictures which one belongs at the place of the question mark in the matrix | Amount of items solved correctly | 28.91 |
| Processing Speed & Attention-Concentration Skills | Simple Reaction Time | To tap the space bar as fast as possible when circle appears | Mean Reaction Time over 12 trials | 372.13 |
| | Complex Reaction Time (distraction from other stimuli) | To tap the space bar as fast as possible only when circle appears, not when other shape appears | Mean Reaction Time over 12 trials | 487.26 |
| | Simple Visual Search | To tap the circle appearing on the screen in random position as fast as possible | Mean Reaction Time over 12 trials | 512.32 |
| | Complex Visual search | To tap objects on the screen once you can distinguish them from the surrounding | Mean Reaction Time over 12 trials | 7542.51 |

3.4 Minimum Impairment Criteria

3.4.1 For the Sport Cognition Test Battery, the following scoring mechanism applies:

3.4.1.1 For the test items Corsi, Tower of London, Block Design and Matrix Reasoning:

- A score of 1 is given to each test is given if the individual score for the Athlete is higher than the cut-off score.
- A score of 0 is given to each test is given if the individual score for the Athlete is lower than the cut-off score.

3.4.1.2 For the test items Simple Reaction Time, Complex Reaction Time, Simple Visual Search, Complex Visual Search:

- A score of 1 is given if the Athlete scores lower than the cut-off score for 2 or more of the tests.
- A score of 0 is given if the Athlete scores lower than the cut-off score for a maximum of 1 test.

3.4.2 An Athlete fails the Sport Cognition Test Battery, if the total score is 2/5 or higher.

3.4.3 An Athlete who scores 2/5 or more proceeds automatically to Observation Assessment. This Athlete will be entitled to enter for the Event, at minimum until 'Observation Assessment' is finalised.

3.5 Observation Assessment

3.5.1 Observation Assessment takes place during First Appearance, and is specific to S and SB strokes. Once the Athlete has been classified for both S and SB strokes, the Athlete is automatically considered eligible for the SM Event.

3.5.2 Observation Assessment will be required:

- for any Athlete who scores 2/5 or more on the Sport Cognition Test Battery, and/or
- for any Athlete whose latest scores on the different test of the Sport Cognition Test Battery are, to the appreciation of the Classification Panel, different from any previous assessments.

3.5.3 Observation Assessment may be done in respect of any Athlete who underwent an Evaluation Session at a Competition at the discretion of the Classification Panel, without any advance notice to the Athlete.

3.5.4 Observation Assessment consists of a video race analysis. A video race analysis is made for the purpose of determining the relative stroking speed as described below. This index is scored from 0 to 5 as identified below (Relative Stroking Speed Indices).

3.5.5 An Athlete fails to meet the Observation Assessment criteria if he/she scores 'five' (5) on the Observation Assessment.

3.5.6 It is at the discretion of the Classification Panel:

- to match the swim performance characteristics (relative stroking speed) for any Athlete against the data available from the TSAL-Q; and/or

- to match the swim performance characteristics (relative stroking speed) for any Athlete against the data on the component Processing Speed & Attention-Concentration Skills; and/or
- to observe any Athlete to validate Sport Cognition Test Battery data against swim performance characteristics.

3.5.7 In case of inconsistencies, at the discretion of the Classification Panel, an Athlete may be subject to re-assessment on the Sport Cognition Test Battery. An explanation of any such decision must be provided to the Athlete by way of the Classification Sheet.

3.6 Video Analysis

3.6.1 Mid pool swimming speed and stroke rate should be measured in several specific sections of the race. Stroke rate (strokes/min) is determined by measuring the time of 3 to 5 complete swimming arm stroke cycles. At least two measurements of these parameters should be made in the 100m races and 4 measurements in the 200m races. A stroke cycle in front crawl or backstroke is taken as hand entry to the following entry of the same hand. For breaststroke several potential reference points are available depending on the angle of the camera. (e.g. head breaking surface, beginning closing legs, beginning spreading hands). Mid pool speed is swimming speed not influenced by starting, turning or finishing. This is measured as the time for the swimmer (head) to cover a known distance in the middle of a swimming length. The minimal distance needed to determine midpool speed is 7.5m. Preferably 12.5m to 15m are taken. The first 25m section of the race should be avoided.

3.6.2 One or two digital video cameras should be placed at a fixed point and perpendicular to the swimming direction so that particular reference points are in view. Reference points should be found on fixed markers at the edges of the pool in the same plane as the swimmers are swimming.

Relative Stroking Speed indices

| | Regression equations | P5 | P25 | P50 | P75 | P95 |
|-------------------|--|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| MEN | | | | | | |
| 200mCrawl | Relative Speed = Real mid pools speed - (-3.59397+0.35696*stra-0.00855*stra2+0.00006875*stra3) | -.2535 | -.1061 | -.0005 | .0960 | .2630 |
| 100m Breaststroke | Relative speed = Real speed - (0.55664+0.01661*stra-0.00007148*stra2) | -.3082 | -.0893 | .0127 | .1028 | .2123 |
| 100-m Backstroke | Relative Speed = Real Speed - (0.70478+0.01554*Stra) | -.1488 | -.0797 | -.0057 | .0733 | .1623 |
| WOMEN | | | | | | |
| 200-m Crawl | Relative Speed = Real Speed - (-10.98848+0.83351*Stra-0.01916*Stra2+0.00014848*Stra3) | -.2122 | -.0662 | .0071 | .0808 | .1943 |
| 100 Breaststroke | Relative Speed = Real Speed - (1.11129-0.01403*Stra+0.00025391*Stra2) | -.2105 | -.0778 | .0079 | .0791 | .1902 |
| 100 Backstroke | Relative Speed = Real Speed - (0.66938+0.01634*stra-0.00011496*stra2) | -.1965 | -.0641 | .0017 | .0754 | .1693 |

Scoring 0-5: 0 = <P5; 1 = ≤P25; 2 = ≤P50; 3 = ≤P75; 4 = ≤P95; 5 = >P95

4 Sport Class and Sport Class Status Allocation

- 4.1 The Classification Panel will consider the information from the TSAL-Q, the Sport Cognition Test Battery, and Observation Assessment to allocate a Sport Class. It is at the discretion of the Classification Panel to also match the Athlete presentation with the INAS eligibility file or findings from previous Athlete Evaluation.
- 4.2 If the Athlete meets the criteria of the Sport Cognition Test Battery and the Observation Assessment in that Event, the Athlete is allocated the following Sport Class:
- Freestyle, Backstroke and Butterfly: S14
 - Breaststroke: SB14
 - Individual Medley: SM14
- 4.3 Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) for the Sport Classes S/SB/SM14 is only allocated if the Athlete has undergone Evaluation Session in respect of these Sport Classes at least twice with at least a six month interval unless exceptional; circumstances arise.
- 4.4 The Sport Classes S/SB/SM14 and the Sport Class Status are specific to the events as specified in 4.2. Therefore, it is possible that an Athlete is Eligible for one Event and Not Eligible (NE) for another Event, or that the Sport Class for one Event can be designated with a Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) before a Sport Class in another Event.
- 4.5 The Classification Panel will determine that the Athlete is Not Eligible (NE), if the Classification Panel finds after the Observation Assessment that:
- an Athlete fails to meet the criteria of the Sport Cognition Test Battery and/or the Sport Specific Tests, and/or
 - there are inconsistencies between the Sport Cognition Test Battery, Observation Assessment, the TSAL-Q, previous Athlete Evaluation or the INAS Eligibility File.
- 4.6 An Athlete that is Not Eligible in any "S" Sport Class will automatically be Not Eligible (NE) in all "S" Sport Classes.
- 4.7 If a Classification Panel determines that an Athlete is Not Eligible, the provisions in Article 18 apply.

5 Codes for Exception

- 5.1 Due to the nature of their Impairment, certain Athletes are authorised exceptions to the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations. It is the mandate of the Classifiers to allocate these exceptions. The following exception applies for Athletes with Intellectual Impairment:

| Exception | Description | Reference to World Para Swimming Rules & Regulations |
|-----------|---|--|
| H | Hearing Impairment (light or signal required) | 5.4.4.3 |

- 5.2 Any request for change of exception codes granted previously, must be submitted through the Medical Review Request procedure of these rules and regulations (Article 31).

Appendix Four

1 Non-Eligible Impairment Types for all Athletes

Examples of Non-Eligible Impairments include, but are not limited to the following:

- Pain;
- Hearing impairment;
- Low muscle tone;
- Hypermobility of joints;
- Joint instability, such as unstable shoulder joint, recurrent dislocation of a joint;
- Impaired muscle endurance;
- Impaired motor reflex functions;
- Impaired cardiovascular functions;
- Impaired respiratory functions;
- Impairment metabolic functions; and
- Tics and mannerisms, stereotypes and motor perseveration.

2 Health Conditions that are not Underlying Health Conditions for all Athletes

A number of Health Conditions do not lead to an Eligible Impairment and are not Underlying Health Conditions. An Athlete who has a Health Condition (including, but not limited to, one of the Health Conditions listed in the above Appendix One, Appendix Two and/or Appendix Three) but who does not have an Underlying Health Condition will not be eligible to compete in World Para Swimming.

Health Conditions that primarily cause pain; primarily cause fatigue; primarily cause joint hypermobility or hypotonia; or are primarily psychological or psychosomatic in nature do *not* lead to an Eligible Impairment.

Examples of Health Conditions that primarily cause pain include myofascial *pain*-dysfunction syndrome, fibromyalgia or complex regional pain syndrome.

An example of a Health Condition that primarily causes fatigue is chronic fatigue syndrome.

An example of a Health Condition that primarily causes hypermobility or hypotonia is Ehlers-Danlos syndrome.

Examples of Health Conditions that are primarily psychological or psychosomatic in nature include conversion disorders or post-traumatic stress disorder.



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