

# Para Flying Disc Sports

## Classification Rules and Regulations

Version 1.0

## Notes and Version History

Version	Date	Approval	Notes
1.0	2025-11-30	Board of Directors	Initial Rules creation for compliance with IPC Athlete Classification Code and Standards (2025).

WFDF would like to thank the contributions and efforts of the Para Sport Commission in the creation of these Classification Rules and Regulations.

While Spirit of the Game, non-discrimination and inclusion are fundamental values and principles within WFDF and its disciplines, Classification is a fundamental aspect of the Paralympic Movement and sport for Athletes with impairments and competition. These Classification Rules and Regulations apply only at Covered Competitions.

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# Chapter 1: Purpose of Classification and Scope of These Classification Rules

## 1. Adoption

- 1.1 These Classification Rules have been prepared by the World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) to implement the requirements of the IPC Classification Code and International Standards.
- 1.2 The Classification Rules have been adopted by WFDF on November 30, 2025 and will be effective from January 1, 2026 (**Effective Date**).
- 1.3 The Classification Rules form part of WFDF's rules and regulations, and may be amended by WFDF from time to time.
- 1.4 The Classification Rules refer to a number of Appendices, which are an integral part of the Classification Rules.
- 1.5 The Classification Rules are supplemented by a number of Classification forms that have been prepared to assist in Classification. These forms are available from WFDF and may be amended by WFDF from time to time.

## 2. The Purpose of Classification

- 2.1 The purpose of Classification is to enable athletes with Eligible Impairments to participate in competitive Para sport with a pathway to sporting excellence, the pinnacle of which is the Paralympic Games.
- 2.2 Classification establishes a unique framework that promotes fair and meaningful competition by minimising the impact of athletes' impairments on the outcome of competition so that the outcome is determined by factors other than impairment. Classification is therefore essential to the Paralympic Movement as Para sport cannot exist without Classification.

*[Comment to Article 2.2: The term 'impairment' refers to a loss or abnormality in body structure or physiological function (including mental functions). "Abnormality" here strictly refers to a significant variation from established statistical norms (i.e. as a deviation from a population mean within measured standard norms) and should be used only in this sense. Examples of impairments include loss of an arm or leg or loss of vision. In the case of an injury to the spine, an impairment would be the resulting paralysis.]*

- 2.3 To achieve its purpose, Classification performs two (2) critical functions:
  - 2.3.1 the determination of which athletes are eligible to compete in Para Flying Disc sport; and
  - 2.3.2 the grouping of eligible athletes into Sport Classes based on the extent to which their impairment(s) impact(s) their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to Para Flying Disc sport.
- 2.4 Classification is not designed to group athletes into classes based on their sport performance. Rather, the unit of Classification is an athlete's impairment, and impairments are classified based on the extent to which they impact an athlete's ability to perform the fundamental activities in Para sport. An athlete who improves their sport performance will become more competitive within their allocated Sport Class, but improved performance does not of itself provide a basis for changing an athlete's Sport Class.

## 3. Scope and Application of these Classification Rules

- 3.1 These Classification Rules apply to the following competitions within (each, a **Covered Competition**):

- 3.1.1 the Paralympic Games;
  - 3.1.2 World Championships;
  - 3.1.3 Continental Championships;
  - 3.1.4 Sanctioned Events;
  - 3.1.5 any Competition where Observation Assessment may take place as part of a Classification process.
- 3.2 Subject to Article 3.1, these Classification Rules will be binding on:
- 3.2.1 WFDF and its representatives, including its board members, directors, officers and employees who are involved in any aspect of Classification;
  - 3.2.2 each of WFDF's National Federations and all National Representatives;
  - 3.2.3 all Participants;
  - 3.2.4 all Classification Personnel;
  - 3.2.5 all persons participating in Evaluation Sessions (whether in person or virtually); and
  - 3.2.6 any other person who agrees in writing to be bound by the Classification Rules.
- 3.3 Each of the above-mentioned Persons is deemed, as a condition of their participation or involvement in Para sport, to have agreed to and be bound by these Classification Rules, and to have submitted to the authority of WFDF to enforce these Classification Rules.

#### **4. Interpretation**

- 4.1 Defined terms (denoted by initial capital letters) in these Classification Rules have the meaning given to them in Appendix 4.
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 These Classification Rules have been adopted pursuant to the provisions of the IPC Classification Code and International Standards, and are to be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with those documents. Aimed at implementing a global and harmonised approach to Classification, the Classification Rules are to be applied and interpreted as an independent and autonomous text and not by reference to the existing law or statutes of IPC Members, RIFs, or governments. When applying and interpreting the Classification Rules, all courts, arbitral tribunals and other adjudicating bodies should be aware of and respect the distinct nature of the Classification Rules, which implement the IPC Classification Code and International Standards, and the fact that the rules represent the consensus of a broad spectrum of stakeholders around the world as to what is necessary to protect and ensure fair and meaningful competition.
- 4.4 These Classification Rules must be read and applied in conjunction with all other applicable rules of WFDF, including but not limited to the sport technical rules. In the event of any conflict between these Classification Rules and any other rules of WFDF, these Classification Rules will take precedence.
- 4.5 Comments to these Classification Rules are deemed to be part of these Classification Rules and will be used to interpret these Classification Rules.

#### **5. Use of the IPC's 'Para' mark**

- 5.1 The word 'Para' is a registered trade mark of the IPC, which the IPC protects and registers for the benefit of the Paralympic Movement. Any use of the 'Para' mark must be in accordance with the IPC Constitution and the IPC's Intellectual Property Regulations.
- 5.2 The right to use the 'Para' mark is conferred on International Federations and RIFs that have agreed to comply with the IPC Classification Code and the International Standards. However, International Federations and RIFs can only use the 'Para' mark in relation to those specific sports and disciplines for which the International Federation/RIF has agreed to comply with the IPC Classification Code and the International Standards.
- 5.3 WFDF has the right to use the 'Para' mark in relation to:
  - 5.3.1 Para Ultimate (Wheelchair Ultimate)
  - 5.3.2 Para Disc Golf
- 5.4 Sports and federations that are not International Federations or RIFs are not permitted to use the 'Para' mark under any circumstances.

# Chapter 2: Classification

## Part I: Introduction

### 6. Stages of Classification

6.1 Classification comprises four (4) main assessment stages, each of which will be conducted by WFDF (or its representatives):

<b>UHC Assessment</b>	<b>Stage 1:</b> an assessment to verify that the Athlete has (or has had) at least one (1) medically and/or clinically diagnosed Underlying Health Condition, based on a review of Diagnostic Information provided by the Athlete's National Federation ( <b>UHC Assessment</b> ) (see Part IV.A).
<b>Evaluation Session</b>	<b>Stage 2:</b> an assessment to verify (i) that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment that is consistent with one (1) or more Underlying Health Conditions reported in the UHC Assessment, and (ii) that there are no inconsistencies with such reported Underlying Health Condition(s) ( <b>Eligible Impairment Assessment</b> ) (see Part IV.B.1).
	<b>Stage 3:</b> an assessment as to whether the Athlete's Eligible Impairment meets the applicable Minimum Impairment Criteria for that Eligible Impairment ( <b>MIC Assessment</b> ) (see Part IV.B.2).
	<b>Stage 4:</b> the allocation to the Athlete of:  i. a Sport Class based on an assessment of the extent to which the Athlete's Eligible Impairment(s) impact(s) their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to Para sport ( <b>Sport Class Assessment</b> ); and  ii. a Sport Class Status to indicate whether and when the Athlete may be required to undergo Classification in the future, (see Part IV.B.3).

6.2 The UHC Assessment will always be performed first (1st). The decision-making process will follow the four (4) stages sequentially in the order set out above.

## Part II: Bodies Responsible for Classifying Athletes

### 7. UHC Assessor

7.1 WFDF is responsible for conducting UHC Assessments, which it may do through any of the following persons or bodies (each referred to as a **UHC Assessor**):

7.1.1 Physical/Visual/Intellectual Impairments: Head of Classification, appointed or other Classifiers, and/or WFDF staff.

7.2 The process by which the UHC Assessor(s) will carry out UHC Assessments is detailed in Appendix 1.

7.3 All persons acting as UHC Assessors must (i) have the skills and experience required to conduct UHC Assessments, and (ii) sign appropriate confidentiality undertakings.

### 8. Classification Panel

8.1 WFDF will appoint Classification Panels to conduct Evaluation Sessions in accordance with this Article

8.

8.2 Except as provided in Article 8.3:

8.2.1 each Classification Panel must consist of a minimum of two (2) Classifiers;

8.2.2 at least one (1) member of the Classification Panel must be of a different nationality to the Athlete being assessed; and

8.2.3 where reasonably practicable, members of the Classification Panel must be of different nationalities to each other.

*[Comment to Article 8.2: These provisions are intended to help manage potential conflicts of interest, whether perceived or actual. Conflicts of interest are addressed more broadly in Chapter 6 Part III, with further examples. For the avoidance of doubt, subject to Article 43.2 regarding the composition of a Protest Panel, a Classification Panel may consist of Classifiers who conducted previous Evaluation Sessions of the Athlete being assessed. However, while not mandatory, where reasonably practicable WFDF will not appoint any Classifier who was involved in any assessment or evaluation of the relevant Athlete for Classification purposes (whether at the national or international level) within a period of 12 months prior to the date of the anticipated Evaluation Session.]*

8.3 In exceptional circumstances, WFDF may authorise a Classification Panel to consist of a sole (1) Classifier and/or Classifiers who are each of the same nationality as the Athlete being assessed, provided that:

8.3.1 any Sport Class issued to the Athlete must be accompanied by the Sport Class Status 'Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R-NAO)', with all resulting consequences; and

8.3.2 any sole Classifier must be certified to conduct all of the assessments within the Evaluation Session.

*[Comment to Article 8.3: For example, 'exceptional circumstances' may arise if there are genuine and unavoidable operational difficulties at a Competition (such as travel delays, Classifier illness, or conflicts of interest) that result in an insufficient number of Classifiers being available to constitute Classification Panels with two (2) or more persons, or of different nationalities to the Athlete being assessed.]*

8.4 All members of the Classification Panel must sign appropriate confidentiality undertakings.

## Part III: Eligible Impairments

### 9. Eligible Impairments

9.1 The Eligible Impairments that are catered for by WFDF are set out in Appendix 1, 2 and 3.

9.2 Any impairment that is not listed as an Eligible Impairment in Article 9.1 is a '**Non-Eligible Impairment**'.

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

9.3.1 pain;

9.3.2 hearing impairment;

9.3.3 low muscle tone;

9.3.4 hypermobility of joints;

- 9.3.5 joint instability, such as unstable shoulder joint or recurrent dislocation of a joint;
  - 9.3.6 impaired muscle endurance or stiffness;
  - 9.3.7 impaired motor reflex functions;
  - 9.3.8 impaired cardiovascular functions;
  - 9.3.9 impaired respiratory functions;
  - 9.3.10 impaired metabolic functions;
  - 9.3.11 tics and mannerisms, motor stereotypies, and motor perseverations;
  - 9.3.12 vestibular impairment;
  - 9.3.13 impairments in muscle metabolism resulting in fatigue; and
  - 9.3.14 impairments stemming from psychological and/or psychosomatic causes.
- 9.4 An Athlete who has both an Eligible Impairment and a Non-Eligible Impairment may be evaluated by a Classification Panel on the basis of their Eligible Impairment, provided that their Non-Eligible Impairment does not affect the Classification Panel's ability to conduct an Evaluation Session (including Observation Assessment, if required) and allocate a Sport Class.

*[Comment to Article 9.4: For example, an Athlete with osteoarthritis might have Impaired Passive Range of Movement (an Eligible Impairment) and pain (a Non-Eligible Impairment). If the presence of pain restricts a Classification Panel's ability to conduct an Evaluation Session the Athlete might not be allocated a Sport Class, notwithstanding that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment.]*

## **Part IV: The Classification Process**

### **A. Stage 1: UHC Assessment**

#### **10. Diagnostic Information**

- 10.1 In order to begin the Classification process, an Athlete must provide their National Federation with all relevant Diagnostic Information required to enable WFDF to assess the existence of an Underlying Health Condition and Eligible Impairment.
- 10.2 The Athlete's National Federation is responsible for providing all relevant Diagnostic Information to WFDF, and for ensuring that all Diagnostic Information is complete, accurate, authentic, and relevant, and that WFDF is informed of any changes to that information.
- 10.3 WFDF (including the UHC Assessor) may request from the Athlete's National Federation any additional information that it deems necessary to carry out the Classification process, including Diagnostic Information.
- 10.4 Unless WFDF specifies otherwise, Diagnostic Information must be provided in its original format (i.e., the original document or a copy thereof) along with an English translation (if the original format is in another language).

#### **11. Conducting the UHC Assessment**

- 11.1 The UHC Assessor will conduct the UHC Assessment for the purposes set out at Article 6.1, i.e., to

verify that the Athlete has (or has had) at least one (1) medically and/or clinically diagnosed Underlying Health Condition.

- 11.2 The UHC Assessor will conduct the UHC Assessment based only on the Diagnostic Information provided by the Athlete's National Federation.
- 11.3 At any stage the UHC Assessor may, with the agreement of WFDF, seek the assistance of such other medical, clinical, technical, and/or scientific experts as it considers necessary for it to conduct the UHC Assessment.
- 11.4 If the UHC Assessor consists of more than one (1) member:
  - 11.4.1 the individual members of the UHC Assessor must initially review the Athlete's Diagnostic Information independently of each other; and
  - 11.4.2 if the members are unable to reach a unanimous decision, the UHC Assessor must make its decision by majority.
- 11.5 If the UHC Assessor is satisfied that the Athlete has (or has had) at least one (1) medically and/or clinically diagnosed Underlying Health Condition:
  - 11.5.1 the UHC Assessor must notify WFDF of the outcome of its assessment in writing;
  - 11.5.2 WFDF will provide the Diagnostic Information and the UHC Assessor's written outcome to the Classification Panel and will then proceed with scheduling an Evaluation Session;
  - 11.5.3 unless the Athlete already has a relevant Sport Class and Sport Class Status, the Athlete will automatically be allocated the designation 'New (N)'; and
  - 11.5.4 an Athlete with the designation 'New (N)' must attend an Evaluation Session prior to competing at a Covered Competition, unless WFDF specifies otherwise (in which case WFDF may assign an entry Sport Class to the Athlete).
- 11.6 If the UHC Assessor is not satisfied that the Athlete has (or has had) at least one (1) medically and/or clinically diagnosed Underlying Health Condition:
  - 11.6.1 The UHC Assessor must notify WFDF of the outcome of its assessment and provide a written explanation for the decision.
  - 11.6.2 WFDF will:
    - 11.6.2.1 provide a copy of the UHC Assessor's written explanation to the Athlete's National Federation;
    - 11.6.2.2 designate the Athlete as 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition (Re-evaluation)' with the resulting consequences specified in Article 12; and
    - 11.6.2.3 arrange for a second UHC Assessor to repeat the UHC Assessment as soon as reasonably practicable in accordance with Article 11.7.
- 11.7 If a second (2nd) UHC Assessor is required pursuant to Article 11.6.2:
  - 11.7.1 The second (2nd) UHC Assessor may comprise one (1) or more members. Any member of the first (1st) UHC Assessor cannot serve as a member of the second (2nd) UHC Assessor.
  - 11.7.2 The second (2nd) UHC Assessor must review all of the Diagnostic Information provided by the Athlete's National Federation. Before reaching a final decision, the second UHC Assessor

must also review the written explanation of the first UHC Assessor.

- 11.7.3 If the second (2nd) UHC Assessor is satisfied that the Athlete has (or has had) at least one (1) medically and/or clinically diagnosed Underlying Health Condition, Article 11.5 applies.
- 11.7.4 If the second (2nd) UHC Assessor is not satisfied that the Athlete has (or has had) at least one (1) medically and/or clinically diagnosed Underlying Health Condition:
  - 11.7.4.1 The second UHC Assessor must notify WFDF of the outcome and provide a written explanation for the decision.
  - 11.7.4.2 WFDF will provide a copy of the second (2nd) UHC Assessor's written explanation to the Athlete's National Federation as soon as reasonably practicable.
  - 11.7.4.3 The Athlete must be designated as 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition', and the consequences in Article 12 will continue to apply.

## **12. Designation of 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition'**

- 12.1 Subject to Medical Reviews (Article 36) and changes to Classification systems (Article 59.3), an Athlete designated as 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition (Re-evaluation)' or 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition':
  - 12.1.1 is not eligible to compete in Covered Competitions in Para sport; and
  - 12.1.2 must disclose such designation if undergoing further Classification (whether in Para sport or in another sport). Such designation may be automatically recognised by other International Federations in their respective sports, in their absolute discretion.

*[Comment to Article 12.1: If an Athlete who has been designated 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition (Re-evaluation)' or 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition' subsequently (i) competes or attempts to compete in Covered Competitions, or (ii) undergoes or attempts to undergo further Classification (including in respect of another sport), in each case without disclosing such designation, they may be investigated in respect of potential Intentional Misrepresentation.]*

*If an Athlete is found not eligible, this does not question or determine the presence of a disability, but is a ruling on the eligibility of the Athlete to compete in Para sport.]*

- 12.2 Subject to Article 11.7, the designation of an Athlete as 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition (Re-evaluation)' or 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition' is not subject to review or Protest but may be Appealed in accordance with Part II of Chapter 3.
- 12.3 WFDF will include all Athletes designated as 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition (Re-evaluation)' or 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition' on its Classification Master List in accordance with Article 35.

*[Comment to Article 12.3: This requirement applies regardless of whether the Athlete is currently licensed by WFDF.]*

## **B. Evaluation Session**

### **B.1 Stage 2: Eligible Impairment Assessment**

## **13. Conducting the Eligible Impairment Assessment**

- 13.1 The Eligible Impairment Assessment will be conducted for the purposes set out at Article 6.1, i.e., to

verify that (i) the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment that is consistent with one (1) or more Underlying Health Conditions reported in the UHC Assessment, and (ii) there are no inconsistencies with such reported Underlying Health Condition(s).

- 13.2 As a preliminary step, the Classification Panel must review the documentation relating to the UHC Assessment, namely the Athlete's Diagnostic Information and the written outcome of the UHC Assessor.
- 13.3 Appendix 1, 2 and 3 set out how a Classification Panel will evaluate whether an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment, including the criteria to be assessed for each Eligible Impairment and the full details of any impairment-based testing and/or other clinically recognised testing that will be used as part of the Eligible Impairment Assessment, and how the results of such testing will be evaluated.
- 13.4 The Eligible Impairment Assessment must take place in person, except in respect of Intellectual Impairments where the Eligible Impairment Assessment may be conducted based on evaluation of the Diagnostic Information provided as part of the UHC Assessment.
- 13.5 When conducting the Eligible Impairment Assessment, if the Classification Panel considers that there are any inconsistencies with the Underlying Health Condition(s) reported in the UHC Assessment, the Classification Panel will:
  - 13.5.1 designate the Athlete as 'Classification Not Completed (CNC)';
  - 13.5.2 prepare a written explanation identifying the inconsistencies and noting any additional information that is required, a copy of which must be provided to WFDF and the Athlete's National Federation;
  - 13.5.3 if it considers it appropriate, specify a deadline by which such additional information must be provided by the Athlete's National Federation; such information must be provided in its original format (i.e. the original document or a copy thereof) along with an English translation (if the original format is in another language), unless WFDF specifies otherwise; and
  - 13.5.4 if the additional information is not provided by the specified deadline or does not otherwise satisfy the Classification Panel, or if the Classification Panel does not require any additional information, refer the matter back to the UHC Assessor (which, if possible, should be the same UHC Assessor as before) for reconsideration in accordance with Part IV.A above, along with the written explanation and any additional information provided.
- 13.6 The Eligible Impairment Assessment will continue (either by the same or a new Classification Panel) only once that Classification Panel is satisfied by the additional information provided and/or the UHC Assessor completes the reassessment.
- 13.7 Upon completion of the Eligible Impairment Assessment:
  - 13.7.1 If the Classification Panel is satisfied that (i) the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment that is consistent with one (1) or more Underlying Health Conditions reported in the UHC Assessment, and (ii) there are no inconsistencies with such reported Underlying Health Condition(s), it will proceed to the MIC Assessment.
  - 13.7.2 If the Classification Panel is not satisfied as in Article 13.7.1, the Athlete must be designated as 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment (Re-evaluation)', with the resulting consequences specified in Article 14.

*[Comment to Article 13.7.2: When designating an Athlete as 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment (Re-evaluation)' or 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment', the Classification Panel must record the Eligible Impairment(s) for which the Athlete was assessed, for example, 'Not Eligible –*

*Eligible Impairment' for Impaired Muscle Power and Impaired Passive Range of Movement.]*

- 13.8 The Classification Panel must notify WFDF of the outcome of the Eligible Impairment Assessment and provide a written explanation for the decision. WFDF will provide a copy of the Classification Panel's written explanation to the Athlete's National Federation.
- 13.9 If the Athlete is designated as 'Not Eligible - Eligible Impairment (Re-evaluation)', the Athlete is entitled to undergo a second Eligible Impairment Assessment by a second Classification Panel as soon as reasonably practicable:
- 13.9.1 Any member of the first Classification Panel cannot serve as a member of the second Classification Panel.
- 13.9.2 Before reaching a final decision, the second Classification Panel must also review the written explanation of the first Classification Panel.
- 13.9.3 If the second Classification Panel is satisfied that (i) the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment that is consistent with one (1) or more Underlying Health Conditions reported in the UHC Assessment, and (ii) there are no inconsistencies with such reported Underlying Health Condition(s), it will proceed to the MIC Assessment.
- 13.9.4 If the second Classification Panel is not satisfied as in Article 13.9.3, the Athlete must be designated as 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment', and the consequences in Article 14 will continue to apply.
- 13.9.5 The Athlete's right to a second Eligible Impairment Assessment may be waived by the Athlete if they do not wish to undergo a second assessment (in which case Article 13.9.4 will be deemed to apply).

**14. Designation of 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment'**

- 14.1 Subject to Medical Reviews (Article 36) and changes to Classification systems (Article 59.3), an Athlete designated as 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment (Re-evaluation)' or 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment':
- 14.1.1 is not eligible to compete in Covered Competitions based on such Eligible Impairment(s) in Para sport; and
- 14.1.2 must disclose such designation if undergoing further Classification (whether in Para sport or in another sport). Such designation may be automatically recognised by other International Federations in their respective sports, in their absolute discretion.

*[Comment to Article 14.1: If an Athlete who has been designated 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment (Re-evaluation)' or 'Not Eligible - Eligible Impairment' subsequently (i) competes or attempts to compete in Covered Competitions, or (ii) undergoes or attempts to undergo further Classification (including in respect of another sport), in each case without disclosing such designation, they may be investigated in respect of potential Intentional Misrepresentation.*

*If an Athlete is found not eligible, this does not question or determine the presence of a disability, but is a ruling on the eligibility of the Athlete to compete in Para sport.]*

- 14.2 Subject to Article 13.9, the designation of an Athlete as 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment (Re-evaluation)' or 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment' is not subject to review or Protest but may be Appealed in accordance with Part II of Chapter 3.
- 14.3 WFDF will include all Athletes designated as 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment (Re-evaluation)' or 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment' on its Classification Master List in accordance with Article 35.

*[Comment to Article 14.3: This requirement applies regardless of whether the Athlete is currently licensed by WFDF.]*

## **B.2 Stage 3: MIC Assessment**

### **15. Conducting the MIC Assessment**

- 15.1 The MIC Assessment will be conducted for the purposes set out at Article 6.1, i.e., to assess whether the Athlete's Eligible Impairment meets the applicable Minimum Impairment Criteria for that Eligible Impairment.
- 15.2 The MIC Assessment will be determined based solely on an evaluation of the Athlete's Eligible Impairment (i.e. impairment-based testing and/or other clinically recognised testing) and not based on an assessment of tasks or activities performed in the sport, nor any other aspect of the Athlete's sport performance.
- 15.3 Appendix 1, 2 and 3 set out how a Classification Panel will assess whether an Athlete's Eligible Impairment meets the Minimum Impairment Criteria.
- 15.4 The MIC Assessment must take place in person.
- 15.5 Upon completion of the MIC Assessment:
  - 15.5.1 If the Classification Panel is satisfied that the Athlete's Eligible Impairment meets the applicable Minimum Impairment Criteria, it will proceed to the Sport Class Assessment.
  - 15.5.2 If the Classification Panel is not satisfied that the Athlete's Eligible Impairment meets the applicable Minimum Impairment Criteria, the Athlete will be designated as 'Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria (Re-evaluation)', with the resulting consequences specified in Article 16.
- 15.6 The Classification Panel must notify WFDF of the outcome of the MIC Assessment and provide a written explanation for the decision. WFDF will provide a copy of the Classification Panel's written explanation to the Athlete's National Federation.
- 15.7 If an Athlete is designated as 'Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria (Re-evaluation)', the Athlete is entitled to undergo a second MIC Assessment by a second Classification Panel as soon as reasonably practicable:
  - 15.7.1 Any member of the first Classification Panel cannot serve as a member of the second Classification Panel.
  - 15.7.2 Before reaching a final decision, the second Classification Panel must also review the written explanation of the first Classification Panel.
  - 15.7.3 If the second Classification Panel is satisfied that the Athlete's Eligible Impairment meets the applicable Minimum Impairment Criteria, it will proceed to the Sport Class Assessment.
  - 15.7.4 If the second Classification Panel is not satisfied that the Athlete's Eligible Impairment meets the applicable Minimum Impairment Criteria, the Athlete will be designated as 'Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria', and the consequences in Article 16 will continue to apply.
  - 15.7.5 The Athlete's right to a second MIC Assessment may be waived by the Athlete if they do not wish to undergo a second assessment (in which case Article 15.7.4 will be deemed to apply).

## **16. Designation of ‘Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria’**

16.1 Subject to Medical Reviews (Article 36) and changes to Classification systems (Article 59.3), an Athlete designated as ‘Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria (Re-evaluation)’ or ‘Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria’:

16.1.1 is not eligible to compete in Covered Competitions based on the same Eligible Impairment(s) in Para sport; and

16.1.2 must disclose such designation if undergoing further Classification (whether in Para sport or in another sport).

*[Comment to Article 16.1: If an Athlete who has been designated ‘Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria (Re-evaluation)’ or ‘Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria’ subsequently (i) competes or attempts to compete in Covered Competitions based on such Eligible Impairment(s) in that sport, or (ii) undergoes or attempts to undergo further Classification (including in respect of another sport), in each case without disclosing such designation, they may be investigated in respect of potential Intentional Misrepresentation.*

*If an Athlete is found not eligible, this does not question or determine the presence of a disability, but is a ruling on the eligibility of the Athlete to compete in Para sport.]*

16.2 However, the Athlete may be eligible to compete in Covered Competitions:

16.2.1 in Para sport based on a different Eligible Impairment if they meet the Minimum Impairment Criteria for that Eligible Impairment; and/or

16.2.2 in a different sport based on the same Eligible Impairment(s) if: (i) the other sport caters for the Eligible Impairment(s); and (ii) the Athlete meets the other sport’s Minimum Impairment Criteria for the Eligible Impairment(s).

16.3 Subject to Article 15.7, the designation of an Athlete as ‘Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria (Re-evaluation)’ or ‘Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria’ is not subject to review or Protest but may be Appealed in accordance with Part II of Chapter 3.

16.4 WFDF will include all Athletes designated as ‘Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria (Re-evaluation)’ or ‘Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria’ on its Classification Master List in accordance with Article 35.

*[Comment to Article 16.4: This requirement applies regardless of whether the Athlete is currently licensed by WFDF.]*

### **B.3 Stage 4: Sport Class and Sport Class Status allocation**

#### **B.3.1 Sport Class**

## **17. Conducting the Sport Class Assessment**

17.1 Subject to the suspension or termination of an Evaluation Session (Article 29) and the failure to attend an Evaluation Session (Article 30), if an Athlete has been assessed to have an Eligible Impairment that meets the Minimum Impairment Criteria, the Athlete must be allocated a Sport Class.

17.2 The Sport Class Assessment will be conducted for the purposes set out at Article 6.1, i.e., to assess the extent to which the Athlete’s Eligible Impairment(s) impact(s) their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to Para sport.

17.3 Appendix 1, 2 and 3 set out the assessment methodology and assessment criteria that the Classification Panel will use in evaluating which Sport Class to allocate to an Athlete.

- 17.4 When assessing which Sport Class to allocate to an Athlete, the Classification Panel must:
- 17.4.1 base its assessment solely on the extent to which the Athlete's Eligible Impairment(s) impact(s) their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to Para sport; and
- [Comment to Article 17.4.1: The Classification Panel must therefore distinguish factors such as fitness level and/or technical proficiency in order to ensure that these do not affect the Sport Class allocated. For this purpose, it may be helpful for the Classification Panel to consider an Athlete's training history and age.]*
- 17.4.2 with the exception of the Observation Assessment, conduct all parts of the Sport Class Assessment in a controlled non-competitive environment, meaning an environment that allows for the repeated observation of key tasks and activities.
- 17.5 The Sport Class Assessment must take place in person.
- 17.6 Use of Adaptive Equipment:
- 17.6.1 When conducting the Sport Class Assessment, the Classification Panel must evaluate the Athlete when they are using the Adaptive Equipment that they will use in competition (if any). The use of Adaptive Equipment permitted by WFDF's rules (whether mandatory or optional) is an integral component of the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities required by Para sport. Therefore, the Sport Class Assessment must take into account the optimal use of such equipment (such as strapping or gloves) during competition, whether an Athlete chooses to use it or not.
- [Comment to Article 17.6.1: For example, if the rules of the sport permit Athletes competing in a wheelchair to use abdominal strapping, and an Athlete opts not to use such strapping which leads to poor sitting balance, the Athlete should not be allocated a different Sport Class (reserved for Athletes with impairments that have a different impact on their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport) on the basis of their decision not to use an optional piece of Adaptive Equipment.]*
- 17.6.2 WFDF, whether through the Classification Panel or otherwise, may assess whether any Adaptive Equipment proposed to be used by the Athlete in competition complies with these Classification Rules and/or other WFDF rules on the use of Adaptive Equipment. If the Athlete's equipment does not comply with such rules, the Athlete will not be permitted to use that equipment as part of the Sport Class Assessment, and the Classification Panel will not take use of that equipment into consideration when making its determination as to the Athlete's Sport Class.
- 17.7 Following completion of the initial stages of the Sport Class Assessment set out above, the Classification Panel will either:
- 17.7.1 allocate the Athlete a provisional Sport Class that is subject to confirmation at an Observation Assessment in accordance with Article 17.8 below, using the tracking code 'OA' for 'Observation Assessment'; or
- 17.7.2 allocate the Athlete a final Sport Class, in which case the Athlete must also be allocated a Sport Class Status.
- 17.8 Observation Assessment:
- 17.8.1 The purpose of an Observation Assessment is to observe and evaluate the Athlete in a

competitive environment in order to ensure that what is observed in competition is consistent with what was observed in the previous stages of Classification.

17.8.2 Details of the Observation Assessment process are set out in Appendix 1, 2 and 3.

17.8.3 If an Observation Assessment is required:

17.8.3.1 Except in exceptional circumstances, the same Classification Panel that conducted the preceding stages of the Athlete's Evaluation Session must also conduct the Observation Assessment.

17.8.3.2 The Observation Assessment must be conducted in person at the Covered Competition where the Athlete competes in their provisional Sport Class for the first time (**First Appearance**). The Athlete may compete at First Appearance with their provisional Sport Class.

17.8.3.3 First Appearance applies to participation in all events within the same provisional Sport Class. The Classification Panel may require the Athlete to be observed at one (1) or more events during their First Appearance.

17.8.3.4 During First Appearance, the Observation Assessment will be conducted during the preliminary rounds.

17.8.3.5 Whenever possible, the Observation Assessment should not take place at the final of an event.

17.8.4 Following an Observation Assessment, the Classification Panel may:

17.8.4.1 allocate the Athlete a final Sport Class and Sport Class Status; or

17.8.4.2 require the Athlete to redo any prior stages of the Evaluation Session and/or undergo a further Observation Assessment.

17.8.5 The Classification Panel cannot, based on the results of the Observation Assessment alone, allocate the Athlete a Sport Class that is different from the one (1) provisionally allocated in accordance with Article 17.7.1.

17.9 If an Athlete with a provisional Sport Class is ultimately allocated a different final Sport Class:

17.9.1 **For Individual Sports:** such change will be effective immediately

and/or

17.9.2 **For Team Sports:**

17.9.2.1 for Team Sport competitions with preliminary rounds, such change must be implemented immediately, and the Athlete may not participate further in the competition or in any other Covered Competition until the change has been implemented; and

17.9.2.2 for Team Sport competitions that do not have preliminary rounds, such change must be implemented either immediately (in which case the Athlete may not participate further in the competition or in any other Covered Competition until the change has been implemented) or immediately after the end of the relevant competition, as specified in WFDF's rules.

17.10 Athletes may only compete in the Sport Class(es) allocated to them.

## 18. Eligibility for multiple Sport Classes

In Para Flying Disc sports, Athletes may not be allocated multiple Sport Classes in a single discipline.

### B.3.2 Sport Class Status

## 19. Sport Class Statuses

- 19.1 A Sport Class Status indicates whether and when an Athlete will be required to undergo Classification in the future.
- 19.2 The available Sport Class Statuses are as follows:
- 19.2.1 Confirmed (C);
  - 19.2.2 Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R–NAO);
  - 19.2.3 Review with a Fixed Review Date (R–FRD); or
  - 19.2.4 Expired (E).

## 20. Allocation of Sport Class Statuses

- 20.1 Sport Class Statuses must be allocated in accordance with the below:
- 20.1.1 **‘Confirmed (C)’**: A Classification Panel may allocate an Athlete the Sport Class Status ‘Confirmed (C)’ if it is satisfied that the Athlete’s Sport Class is unlikely to change given the nature of the Athlete’s Eligible Impairment and the extent to which the Athlete’s Eligible Impairment(s) impact(s) their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to Para sport.
- 20.1.2 **‘Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R–NAO)’**:
- 20.1.2.1 An Athlete will automatically be allocated the Sport Class Status ‘Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R–NAO)’ where:
    - (a) their Classification Panel consisted of: (i) a sole Classifier; and/or (ii) Classifiers who were each of the same nationality as the Athlete (see Article 8.3.1);
    - (b) WFDF has accepted a Medical Review request (see Article 36.9); and/or
    - (c) a National Federation Protest has been accepted or an International Federation Protest has been made (see Article 43.1.1).
  - 20.1.2.2 A Classification Panel may also decide to allocate an Athlete the Sport Class Status ‘Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R–NAO)’ if:
    - (a) the Athlete is ‘borderline’ (i.e. they narrowly meet the Minimum Impairment Criteria or they are on the boundary of two (2) Sport Classes); and/or
    - (b) the Classification Panel believes that a further Evaluation Session will be required at the Next Available Opportunity within the current calendar year.

*[Comment to Article 20.1.2.2: A further Evaluation Session might be required for a number of reasons, including where the Athlete has only recently started competing in Covered Competitions, has one (1) or more fluctuating and/or progressive or regressive impairment(s), and/or has not reached full muscular skeletal or sports*

*maturity.]*

20.1.2.3 WFDF may also change an Athlete's Sport Class Status to 'Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R-NAO)' where it has identified that changes to its Classification Rules may affect the Athlete's (in)eligibility, Sport Class, and/or Sport Class Status (see Article 59.3.2).

20.1.3 **'Review with a Fixed Review Date (R-FRD)'**:

20.1.3.1 A Classification Panel may allocate an Athlete the Sport Class Status 'Review with a Fixed Review Date (R-FRD)' where it believes that a further Evaluation Session will be required, but not within the current calendar year. The Classification Panel must set a date (no earlier than the end of the current calendar year) after which the Athlete must attend a new Evaluation Session at the Next Available Opportunity (the **Fixed Review Date**).

20.1.3.2 WFDF may also change an Athlete's Sport Class Status to 'Review with a Fixed Review Date (R-FRD)' where it has identified that changes to its Classification Rules may affect the Athlete's (in)eligibility, Sport Class and/or Sport Class Status (see Article 59.3.2). In such circumstances, WFDF will set an appropriate Fixed Review Date.

20.1.3.3 The Fixed Review Date will typically be no more than four (4) years after the Athlete's previous Evaluation Session took place.

20.1.4 **'Expired (E)'**:

20.1.4.1 An Athlete will automatically be allocated the Sport Class Status 'Expired (E)' when they retire, in accordance with WFDF's rules.

20.1.4.2 WFDF's requirement related to an Athlete's retirement in this context is defined as not competing in any Covered Competition in an eight (8) calendar year period.

20.1.4.3 "An Athlete with Sport Class Status 'Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R-NAO)' will automatically be allocated the Sport Class Status 'Expired (E)' if they have not completed a further Evaluation Session within a four (4) calendar year period.

20.1.4.4 An Athlete with Sport Class Status 'Review with a Fixed Review Date (R-FRD)' will automatically be allocated the Sport Class Status 'Expired (E)' if they have not completed a further Evaluation Session within a four (4) calendar year after the Fixed Review Date has passed."

## 21. **Impact of Sport Class Status on participation in Covered Competitions**

21.1 An Athlete allocated the Sport Class Status 'Confirmed' is not required to undergo any further Classification, except if their Sport Class Status is subsequently changed as a result of: (i) an International Federation Protest, accepted National Federation Protest, or successful Appeal; (ii) an accepted Medical Review request; and/or (iii) changes to WFDF's Classification system under Article 59.3.

21.2 Unless WFDF specifies otherwise, if an Athlete has been allocated the Sport Class Status:

21.2.1 'Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R-NAO)', the Athlete must complete an Evaluation Session prior to competing at any Covered Competition.

- 21.2.2 'Review with a Fixed Review Date (R-FRD)', the Athlete may compete in Covered Competitions up until the Fixed Review Date, but thereafter must complete an Evaluation Session prior to competing at any further Covered Competitions.
- 21.3 If an Athlete has been allocated the Sport Class Status 'Expired (E)', the Athlete cannot compete at any Covered Competition unless and until: the Athlete completes a new Evaluation Session and being allocated a Sport Class and Sport Class Status.
- 21.3.1 Athletes with Sport Class Status 'Expired (E)' who previously had a Sport Class Status of 'Confirmed (C)' may return to competition in their original Sport Class with Sport Class Status 'Confirmed (C)' without the need to undergo further Classification.

#### **B.4 General provisions applicable to all Evaluation Sessions**

### **22. General requirements for WFDF**

- 22.1 WFDF will provide National Federations with reasonable notice of Classification opportunities, including the location, dates, and the sports and impairment types that will be assessed.
- 22.2 WFDF will provide the Classification Panel with any information that becomes available to it that might be relevant to the Classification Panel conducting an Evaluation Session.
- 22.3 WFDF will retain copies of any forms, reports, or other written records from UHC Assessors and Classification Panels, which may be provided by WFDF to future UHC Assessors and Classification Panels that evaluate the Athlete.

### **23. Attendance at Evaluation Sessions**

- 23.1 In addition to the Athlete and the members of the Classification Panel, the following individuals may attend Evaluation Sessions:
- 23.1.1 the Athlete's accompanying National Representative and (if required) interpreter, subject to the requirements in Article 24.2;
- 23.1.2 Trainee Classifiers and any other authorised persons involved in the training of such Trainee Classifiers, as determined by WFDF (or the Chief Classifier, acting on behalf of WFDF);
- [Comment to Article 23.1.2: WFDF will be respectful of Athletes when determining the number of Trainee Classifiers/trainers participating in an Evaluation Session.]
- 23.1.3 observers appointed by the IPC as part of the IPC's monitoring of Compliance with the IPC Classification Code and the International Standards; and
- 23.1.4 any person from whom the Classification Panel seeks medical, clinical, technical, and/or scientific advice in accordance with Article 27.
- 23.2 Except if specified otherwise in these Classification Rules, the Athlete and the members of the Classification Panel must attend Evaluation Sessions in person.
- 23.3 Any other person entitled to attend an Evaluation Session pursuant to Article 23.1 may attend the Evaluation Session in person. Alternatively, they may attend the Evaluation Session virtually, whether by telephone or video (or other virtual technology), provided that they can do so without adverse impact on the Evaluation Session, and provided that they comply with all of the same requirements as those attending in person.

[Comment to Article 23.3: An Evaluation Session would be adversely impacted if, for example, the internet connection of the person attending the Evaluation Session virtually was so weak or intermittent that the Evaluation Session was continually interrupted.]

## **24. Responsibilities of National Federations and Athletes in relation to Evaluation Sessions**

- 24.1 An Athlete's National Federation is responsible for ensuring that the Athlete complies with the responsibilities applicable to them in relation to Evaluation Sessions.
- 24.2 Athletes may be accompanied during the Evaluation Session by a maximum of:
- 24.2.1 one (1) National Representative whose role is to support the Athlete and facilitate their Classification process (Athletes who are Minors or lack legal capacity in accordance with the laws applicable in their country of residence must be accompanied by such a National Representative); and
  - 24.2.2 if required, one (1) interpreter (to be arranged and paid for by the Athlete's National Federation, and who will be deemed a National Representative).
- 24.3 The Athlete and any accompanying National Representative(s) (including any interpreter) must sign the WFDF Evaluation Agreement Form.
- 24.4 The Athlete and any accompanying National Representative(s) (including any interpreter) must prove their identity to the satisfaction of the Classification Panel (for example, by providing a document such as a passport, identification card, WFDF licence card, and/or event accreditation).
- 24.5 An Athlete must give their best efforts during an Evaluation Session and must comply with all reasonable instructions given to them by a Classification Panel.
- 24.6 The Athlete must (i) attend the Evaluation Session with any sports attire and Adaptive Equipment permitted under WFDF's rules that they intend to use in any Covered Competition; and (ii) disclose their intended use of such attire and Adaptive Equipment to the Classification Panel.
- 24.7 Medication, medical devices/implants, and procedures:
- 24.7.1 an Athlete must disclose to the Classification Panel the use of any medication and/or medical device/implant (including any audio aids and/or refractive or optical correction such as eyeglasses or corrective lenses) and any medical procedure that may affect the Classification Panel's ability to conduct an Evaluation Session; and
- [Comment to Article 24.7.1: For the avoidance of doubt, the Athlete's obligation to disclose their use of any medication, medical device/implant, and medical procedure under this Article is entirely separate to their obligations under any applicable anti-doping rules, including but not limited to in respect of therapeutic use exemptions and disclosures on a doping control form. Any such disclosure by an Athlete to the Classification Panel in no way equates to a disclosure or application for the purposes of such separate anti-doping rules, and vice versa.]*
- 24.7.2 an Athlete must attend the Evaluation Session (i) with all disclosed medical devices/implants; and (ii) if required by WFDF's rules or otherwise requested by the Classification Panel, with any or all disclosed medication(s) and/or related medical prescription(s).

## **25. Responsibilities of the Classification Panel in relation to Evaluation Sessions**

- 25.1 Classification Panels are responsible for conducting Evaluation Sessions.
- 25.2 Except as provided in Article 13.6, or in other exceptional circumstances, the same Classification Panel must conduct all of the stages of an Evaluation Session in relation to an Athlete.

*[Comment to Article 25.2: For example, 'exceptional circumstances' may arise if there are genuine and*

*unavoidable operational difficulties (such as Classifier illness) that mean the same Classification Panel is not available to conduct all aspects of the Evaluation Session.]*

- 25.3 Unless WFDF specifies otherwise, the Classification Panel must conduct Evaluation Sessions in English.
- 25.4 The Classification Panel must inform the Athlete of the names and roles of all persons attending the Evaluation Session on behalf of WFDF (whether they are attending in person or virtually).
- 25.5 When conducting an Evaluation Session, the Classification Panel may only consider the information provided to it by the relevant Athlete, National Federation, or WFDF, and any additional information obtained under Article 27 below.
- 25.6 The Classification Panel must record their assessments at each stage of Classification in writing and provide a copy of such records to WFDF.

## **26. Consideration of prior Evaluation Sessions**

- 26.1 If the Classification Panel is evaluating an Athlete who has previously undergone one (1) or more Evaluation Sessions:
  - 26.1.1 before reaching a final decision, the Classification Panel must review the applicable forms, reports, or other records from previous Classification Panel(s); and
  - 26.1.2 in relation to the Evaluation Session, the Classification Panel must not consult with any of the members of previous Classification Panels regarding their prior evaluation of the Athlete. For the avoidance of doubt, the Classification Panel may seek expert assistance in accordance with Article 27, including from any persons who provided equivalent assistance to previous Classification Panels.

*[Comment to Article 26.1.2: For the avoidance of doubt, subject to Article 43.2 regarding the composition of a Protest Panel, a Classification Panel may consist of Classifiers who conducted previous Evaluation Sessions of the Athlete. In those circumstances, such Classifiers should not discuss their previous evaluation of the Athlete with the new Classification Panel (beyond reviewing the documentation referred to in Article 26.1.1).]*

## **27. Classification Panel requests for additional information or expertise**

- 27.1 At any stage the Classification Panel may request that an Athlete's National Federation provide any additional information (including Diagnostic Information) that the Classification Panel believes is necessary for it to complete the Evaluation Session. If the Athlete's National Federation provides such information within the timeframe specified by the Classification Panel, the Evaluation Session may continue. If the Athlete's National Federation is unable or fails to provide such information within the timeframe specified by the Classification Panel, the Classification Panel may suspend the Evaluation Session in accordance with Article 29.
- 27.2 At any stage the Classification Panel may, with the agreement of WFDF, seek the assistance of such other medical, clinical, technical, and/or scientific experts as it considers necessary for it to complete the Evaluation Session.

## **28. Requirement to redo prior stages of the Evaluation Session**

- 28.1 The Classification Panel may at any time require the Athlete to redo any prior stages of the Evaluation Session if it considers it necessary to do so.

## **29. Suspension or termination of an Evaluation Session**

29.1 A Classification Panel, in consultation with WFDF (or the Chief Classifier, acting on behalf of WFDF), may suspend an Evaluation Session if it is unable to complete the Evaluation Session for any reason, including in one (1) or more of the following circumstances:

- 29.1.1 failure on the part of the Athlete to comply with any part of these Classification Rules;
- 29.1.2 failure on the part of the Athlete or the Athlete's National Federation to provide any information that is reasonably required by the Classification Panel;
- 29.1.3 the Classification Panel believes that any use (or non-use) of any medication or medical device/implant or any medical procedure disclosed by the Athlete may interfere with the Classification of the Athlete;
- 29.1.4 the Athlete has a Health Condition or impairment that limits or prevents them from complying with the requests of the Classification Panel during an Evaluation Session, which the Classification Panel considers will affect its ability to conduct an Evaluation Session in accordance with these Classification Rules;
- 29.1.5 the Athlete is unable to communicate effectively with the Classification Panel, even in the presence of an interpreter;
- 29.1.6 in the reasonable opinion of the Classification Panel, the Athlete is physically or mentally unable to comply with the instructions of the Classification Panel;
- 29.1.7 the Classification Panel believes that the Athlete is not giving their best efforts, or the Athlete refuses to comply with any reasonable instructions given by the Classification Panel;
- 29.1.8 the Athlete or their accompanying National Representative or interpreter (or any other person associated with the Athlete or the Athlete's National Federation) is found to be photographing or recording the Evaluation Session;
- 29.1.9 there are more people attending the Evaluation Session than permitted under these Classification Rules, or the identity of someone attending is not clear;
- 29.1.10 the Classification Panel believes that the Athlete's Eligible Impairment is inconsistent (i.e., is subject to significant fluctuation) such that it is unable to complete the Evaluation Session and allocate the Athlete with an appropriate Sport Class; and/or
- 29.1.11 the Athlete's representation of their abilities is inconsistent with other information available to the Classification Panel.

29.2 If an Evaluation Session is suspended by a Classification Panel, the Classification Panel must designate the Athlete as 'Classification Not Completed (CNC)'. Subject to Article 13.5, the following steps must be taken:

- 29.2.1 the Classification Panel must prepare a written explanation (i) explaining why the 'Classification Not Completed (CNC)' designation has been applied (including, where applicable, identifying any observed inconsistencies in the Athlete's representation of their abilities), and (ii) if applicable, specifying the details of any remedial action that is required for the Evaluation Session to be resumed, a copy of which must be provided to WFDF and the Athlete's National Federation;
- 29.2.2 the Classification Panel must separately record any concerns regarding potential Intentional Misrepresentation, if applicable; and

29.2.3 if an Athlete completes any specified remedial action to the satisfaction of WFDF (or the Chief Classifier, acting on behalf of WFDF), an Evaluation Session will be rescheduled as soon as reasonably practicable.

29.3 If an Evaluation Session is suspended by a Classification Panel and cannot (for any reason) be resumed and completed at the same Classification opportunity by the same Classification Panel, the Evaluation Session must be terminated and the Athlete will remain designated as 'Classification Not Completed (CNC)'.

### **30. Failure to attend an Evaluation Session**

30.1 An Athlete is personally responsible for attending all stages of their Evaluation Session(s). Without limiting the Athlete's personal responsibility, an Athlete's National Federation must take reasonable steps to ensure that the Athlete attends their Evaluation Session(s).

30.2 If an Athlete fails to attend an Evaluation Session as required, the Classification Panel will report the failure to WFDF as soon as reasonably practicable.

30.2.1 If the Athlete is able to provide WFDF with a reasonable explanation for their failure to attend the Evaluation Session, WFDF may reschedule the Evaluation Session to a revised date and time at the same Classification opportunity.

30.2.2 If the Athlete is unable to provide WFDF with a reasonable explanation for their failure to attend the Evaluation Session, the Athlete will be designated as 'Classification Not Completed (CNC)'.

*[Comment to Article 30.2: WFDF is under no obligation to provide unlimited opportunities for an Athlete to attend an Evaluation Session.]*

### **31. Designation of 'Classification Not Completed (CNC)'**

31.1 An Athlete designated as 'Classification Not Completed (CNC)' may not compete in Covered Competitions until they complete an Evaluation Session (except for purposes of completing an Observation Assessment as part of such Evaluation Session).

31.2 A designation of 'Classification Not Completed (CNC)' is not subject to review or Protest or Appeal.

### **32. Location of Evaluation Sessions**

32.1 Evaluation Sessions may take place at any time or place specified by WFDF, with the exception of Observation Assessments, which must take place at a Covered Competition.

*[Comment to Article 32.1: Evaluation Sessions may take place In-Competition or Out-of-Competition to provide Athletes with the greatest possible opportunity to be evaluated by a Classification Panel and allocated a Sport Class. For example, Out-of-Competition Classification opportunities may be provided by WFDF using a competition venue for another sport; at a Covered Competition where the relevant Athlete is not competing; or at a location away from competition, such as a low vision expertise centre or a sports science institute.]*

32.2 In regards to the location of Evaluation Sessions:

32.2.1 Stage 2 (Eligible Impairment Assessment), Stage 3 (MIC Assessment) and Stage 4 (Sport Class Assessment) may take place Out-of-Competition.

32.3 All Evaluations Sessions must be conducted in a manner that complies with these Classification Rules. In particular, the venue at which the Evaluation Session takes place must be properly equipped to conduct all necessary aspects of the Evaluation Session.

32.4 If the allocation of a Sport Class might require an Observation Assessment, WFDF may still allow for part(s) of the Evaluation Session to take place Out-of-Competition, but will (in advance of the Evaluation Session) advise the relevant National Federations that a Classification Panel may conclude that it is unable to allocate a final Sport Class without an Observation Assessment (in which case the Athlete must be designated 'Classification Not Completed (CNC)' and be required to undergo a further Evaluation Session at a later date).

### **33. Photographs and audio-visual technology**

33.1 The Classification Panel may make, create, and/or use photographs and/or audio-visual technology, including but not limited to during any Observation Assessment. Copies of any such materials must be provided to the Athlete or their National Federation on request.

33.2 Subject to Article 33.1, no photography or audio or video recording of the Evaluation Session is permitted. For the avoidance of doubt, this prohibition applies to all persons, regardless of whether they attend the Evaluation Session in person or virtually.

## **Part V: Notification and publication**

### **34. Notification of Classification Outcome**

34.1 WFDF will notify the outcome of Classification to the Athlete concerned and/or their National Federation as soon as reasonably practicable after completion of Classification.

34.2 In the context of a Competition, a Chief Classifier must notify all relevant WFDF technical delegates and event organising committee representatives of the Sport Class (including any provisional Sport Class) and Sport Class Status allocated to each Athlete. If an Observation Assessment takes place, further notification must be provided as soon as reasonably practicable following completion of the Observation Assessment.

34.3 WFDF will make available the following information to participants at the venue for a Covered Competition:

34.3.1 any provisional Sport Class (that is subject to confirmation at an Observation Assessment) allocated to an Athlete entered in the Covered Competition, as soon as reasonably practicable after it is allocated; and

34.3.2 the final Sport Class and Sport Class Status allocated to each Athlete entered in the Covered Competition, as soon as reasonably practicable after completion of their Classification.

### **35. Classification Master List**

35.1 WFDF will maintain, publish, and keep up-to-date a '**Classification Master List**', which will include (at a minimum) the following information regarding: (i) each Athlete; and (ii) any Participant currently suspended by WFDF for Intentional Misrepresentation:

35.1.1 name;

35.1.2 gender;

35.1.3 year of birth;

35.1.4 nationality;

35.1.5 Sport Class and Sport Class Status;

- 35.1.6 any designations (including 'New (N)', 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition', 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment', 'Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria', and 'Classification Not Completed (CNC)'), any 're-evaluation' status attached to a designation, and tracking codes (such as 'OA' for Observation Assessment); and
- 35.1.7 any current designation for intentional Misrepresentation ('IM'), together with the duration and commencement date of the period of ineligibility.
- 35.2 Publication will be accomplished at a minimum by placing the required information on a publicly available website.
- 35.3 WFDF will update the Classification Master List as soon as reasonably practicable following any change to the information.

## Part VI: Change in Circumstances

### 36. Medical Review

- 36.1 A change in the nature or degree of an Athlete's Eligible Impairment might mean that a reassessment is required to ensure that the outcome of the Athlete's previous Classification remains correct (for example, to ensure that an Athlete remains eligible or that the Sport Class allocated to an Athlete remains correct, or to reassess an Athlete previously found to be not eligible). This is known as a '**Medical Review**'.

*[Comment to Article 36.1: For example, a Medical Review request would be appropriate where the effect of surgery, a new medication or device, or some other medical procedure has resulted in changes to an Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities relevant to Para sport. A request may also be appropriate where an Athlete has a new Underlying Health Condition.]*

- 36.2 A Medical Review request must be made by a National Federation on behalf of an Athlete.
- 36.3 A Medical Review **must** be requested by a National Federation if there is a change in the nature or degree of an Athlete's Eligible Impairment.
- 36.4 A Medical Review request must:
  - 36.4.1 explain in detail why the request is being made (including how and to what extent the Athlete's Eligible Impairment has changed, and whether and why it is believed that the outcome of the Athlete's previous Classification is no longer correct); and
  - 36.4.2 be accompanied by all relevant supporting documentation, including updated Diagnostic Information in accordance with Article 10.

*[Comment to Article 36.4: Ordinarily, any Medical Review request will need to be accompanied by detailed medical records.]*

- 36.5 As set out in Article 10, WFDF may request from the Athlete's National Federation any additional information that it deems necessary to assess the Medical Review request, including Diagnostic Information.
- 36.6 The National Federation may be asked to pay the applicable non-refundable Medical Review request fee.
- 36.7 A Medical Review request will be accepted where WFDF determines that the National Federation has complied with Articles 36.4 to 36.6, and WFDF is satisfied that there is a change in the nature or degree

of an Athlete's Eligible Impairment(s) that may impact the Athlete's ability to perform the specific tasks and activities fundamental to Para sport in a manner that is clearly distinguishable from changes attributable to age, levels of training, fitness, and technical proficiency. If this test is not met, the Medical Review request will be dismissed.

- 36.8 WFDF will decide whether to accept a Medical Review request as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of a complete request.
- 36.9 If the Medical Review request is accepted by WFDF, where applicable, the Athlete's Sport Class Status must be changed to 'Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R-NAO)' with immediate effect.
- 36.10 If the Medical Review request is dismissed by WFDF, WFDF will notify the Athlete's National Federation of the decision and provide a written explanation setting out the basis upon which the Medical Review request is dismissed. WFDF's decision is not subject to review or Protest or Appeal.
- 36.11 If an Athlete or other Participant becomes aware of changes in their/the Athlete's circumstances that would require a Medical Review but fails to draw those changes to WFDF's attention, the Athlete and/or other Participant may be investigated in respect of potential Intentional Misrepresentation.

## **Part VII: Competition Formats**

### **37. Combined Class Events**

This section does not apply to WFDF but is kept to keep number consistency according to the Model Rules.

### **38. Performance Compensation Mechanisms**

- 38.1 This section does not apply to WFDF but is kept to keep number consistency according to the Model Rules.

# Chapter 3: Protests and Appeals

## Part I: Protests

### 39. Scope of Protests

- 39.1 A **'Protest'** is a challenge filed against the Sport Class allocated to an Athlete.
- 39.2 For the avoidance of doubt, a Protest cannot be made in respect of (i) an Athlete's Sport Class Status, (ii) any designation of 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition', 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment' or 'Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria' (as in those cases the Athlete already receives an automatic second assessment), (iii) any designation of 'Classification Not Completed (CNC)', or (iv) any other matter where Protests are expressly excluded under the IPC Classification Code.

### 40. Parties permitted to make a Protest

- 40.1 A Protest may only be made by one (1) of the following bodies:
- 40.1.1 a National Federation; or
  - 40.1.2 WFDF.
- 40.2 For the avoidance of doubt, an Athlete cannot make a Protest themselves. A Protest may only be made on behalf of the Athlete by one (1) of the bodies listed under Article 40.1.

### 41. National Federation Protest

- 41.1 A National Federation may only make a Protest in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction. In particular, it cannot make a Protest in respect of a Sport Class allocated to an Athlete from another National Federation. However, it can raise any such concerns about the Sport Class allocated to such Athletes with WFDF, so that WFDF can consider if it wishes to make an International Federation Protest.

*[Comment to Article 41.1: This approach is intended to strike a balance between the rights of the various stakeholders (WFDF, National Federations, Athletes, and others), and forms part of a number of carefully balanced mechanisms in these Classification Rules that provide appropriate tools aimed at ensuring that Athletes are allocated the correct Sport Class.]*

- 41.2 A National Federation Protest may be made where there is a reasonable basis to believe that the Athlete may have been allocated an incorrect Sport Class.
- 41.3 National Federation Protests will be upheld where WFDF determines that the National Federation has complied with the requirements of Article 41.6 and WFDF is satisfied that there is a reasonable basis to believe that the Athlete may have been allocated an incorrect Sport Class. If this test is not met, the National Federation Protest will be dismissed.
- 41.4 A National Federation Protest must be submitted in connection with an Evaluation Session and by the deadline specified by WFDF in Article 41.6.2 below.
- 41.5 If an Athlete is allocated a provisional Sport Class that is subject to confirmation at an Observation Assessment, the National Federation may:
- 41.5.1 make a Protest both prior to and following the Observation Assessment, in which case the Protest made following the Observation Assessment cannot relate to any aspect of the Evaluation Session that preceded the Observation Assessment; or

- 41.5.2 make a Protest only prior to the Observation Assessment, or only following the Observation Assessment (in which case the Protest may relate to both the aspects of the Evaluation Session that preceded the Observation Assessment and the Observation Assessment itself).
- 41.6 To submit a Protest, a National Federation must:
- 41.6.1 complete a Protest form in the format prescribed by WFDF, including the following information:
- 41.6.1.1 the name and sport of the protested Athlete;
- 41.6.1.2 the details of and/or a copy of the protested decision; and
- 41.6.1.3 a detailed explanation of the basis for the National Federation's belief that the Athlete may have been allocated an incorrect Sport Class, including (where applicable) (i) reference to any specific rule(s) alleged to have been breached or misapplied, and (ii) any supporting evidence for that belief;
- 41.6.2 submit the completed Protest form by no later than:
- 41.6.2.1 one (1) hour of the protested decision being published for the pre- or outside-of-Competition Evaluation Period, and/or
- 41.6.2.2 within fifteen (15) minutes of the protested decision being published following the Observation in Competition; and
- 41.6.3 pay the applicable Protest fee of three hundred (300) US dollars.
- 41.6.3.1 In the case the Protest is not accepted, the fee will not be refunded.
- 41.7 Upon receipt of the Protest form, WFDF will conduct a review of the Protest in accordance with Article 41.3. If a Chief Classifier was a member of the Classification Panel whose decision is being protested, that Chief Classifier cannot have any involvement in WFDF's review of the Protest.
- 41.8 WFDF will notify the National Federation of the outcome of the Protest as soon as reasonably practicable, and (if the Protest is dismissed) will also provide a written explanation for the dismissal.

## **42. International Federation Protest**

- 42.1 International Federation Protests may be made where WFDF considers that the Athlete may have been allocated an incorrect Sport Class.

*[Comment to Article 42.1: As indicated in Article 41.1 above, if a National Federation (or any other third party) has concerns that an Athlete from another National Federation has been allocated an incorrect Sport Class, it can raise such concerns with WFDF so that WFDF can consider if it wishes to make an International Federation Protest.]*

- 42.2 WFDF may make a Protest at any time.

- 42.3 If WFDF submits a Protest, it will:

- 42.3.1 notify the relevant National Federation of the Protest as soon as reasonably practicable; and
- 42.3.2 provide a written explanation as to why the Protest has been made.

## **43. Protest Panel procedures**

- 43.1 If a National Federation Protest is accepted or if an International Federation Protest is made:

- 43.1.1 the protested Athlete's Sport Class will remain unchanged pending the outcome of the Protest, and their Sport Class Status must immediately be changed to 'Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R-NAO)', unless that is already their Sport Class Status (in which case it will remain unchanged);
  - 43.1.2 if an Athlete is required to undergo Observation Assessment and a National Federation Protest is accepted before the Athlete's First Appearance, the Athlete cannot compete at that Competition until the National Federation Protest has been resolved;
  - 43.1.3 WFDF will appoint a Protest Panel in accordance with Article 43.2 to conduct a new Evaluation Session as soon as reasonably practicable, and notify all relevant parties of the time and date that the new Evaluation Session will be conducted; and
  - 43.1.4 if the Protest was made In-Competition, the new Evaluation Session should be conducted at that Competition if reasonably practicable.
- 43.2 WFDF will appoint a Protest Panel in a manner consistent with the provisions for appointing a Classification Panel in Article 8. A Protest Panel must not include any Classifier who:
- 43.2.1 was a member of the Classification Panel that made the protested decision;
  - 43.2.2 in the case of a National Federation Protest, was involved in WFDF's review of that Protest;
  - 43.2.3 in the case of an International Federation Protest, was involved in WFDF's decision to make such a Protest; or
  - 43.2.4 was involved in any assessment or evaluation of the protested Athlete for Classification purposes (whether at the national or international level) within a period of 12 months prior to the date of the protested decision, except where both the National Federation and WFDF agree to this.
- 43.3 The Protest Panel must conduct the new Evaluation Session in accordance with Chapter 2 Part IV.B. For these purposes, any reference to the Classification Panel in Chapter 2 Part IV.B will be deemed to include the Protest Panel. Before reaching a final decision, the Protest Panel must review the protested decision and any document submitted as part of the Protest.
- 43.4 All relevant parties must be notified of the Protest Panel's final decision as soon as reasonably practicable.
- 43.5 Subject to Articles 43.6 and 43.7, the decision of a Protest Panel is final, and not subject to further Protest by the National Federation or WFDF. However, the decision of a Protest Panel may be Appealed by the National Federation if the requirements in Article 45 are satisfied.
- 43.6 If WFDF makes a Protest after the expiry of the deadline for National Federation Protests to be made (as per Article 41.6.2 above), the decision of a Protest Panel in relation to the Protest is not final and may be subject to further Protest by the National Federation or WFDF. In these circumstances, the decision of a Protest Panel will be treated as if it were a decision of a first instance Classification Panel. The decision of a Protest Panel may also be Appealed by the National Federation if the requirements in Article 45 are satisfied.
- 43.7 If a Protest Panel designates an Athlete as 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment' or 'Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria' the Athlete will be entitled to undergo a further Eligible Impairment Assessment in accordance with Article 13.9, or a further MIC Assessment in accordance with Article 15.7 (as applicable) by a new Classification Panel. In such circumstances the decision of the Protest Panel will be treated as if it were a decision of a first instance Classification Panel and '(Re-evaluation)' will be added to the Athlete's designation.

43.8 The consequence(s) where an Athlete's Sport's Class is changed following a protest is detailed in the Technical Rules and Regulations.

#### **44. Circumstances where a Protest Panel is not available**

44.1 If a Protest is made In-Competition but there is no opportunity for the Protest to be resolved at that Competition:

44.1.1 the protested Athlete must be permitted to compete in that Competition with the Sport Class that is the subject of the Protest (subject to any other eligibility criteria for that Competition), pending resolution of the Protest; and

44.1.2 all reasonable steps must be taken to ensure that the Protest is resolved as soon as reasonably practicable after that Competition.

*[Comment to Article 44.1: This Article reflects the reality that it might not be possible to resolve a Protest made In-Competition at that same Competition. For example, this might happen where there are a limited number of Classifiers or Evaluation Session slots available, or the Classifiers who are available are precluded from participating in a Protest Panel due to a conflict of interest.]*

## **Part II: Appeals**

### **45. Scope of Appeals**

45.1 An 'Appeal' is a challenge to any aspect of a Classification process on the grounds that:

45.1.1 there was a breach of WFDF's rules during the Classification process; and

45.1.2 that breach could reasonably have caused the Athlete to be incorrectly designated as 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition', 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment', 'Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria', or allocated an incorrect Sport Class and/or Sport Class Status.

45.2 An Appeal will be upheld if a National Federation establishes that the grounds in Article 45.1 are met.

*[Comment to Article 45.2: The limited scope of review available to the Appeal Body is a fundamental aspect of an Appeal. The allocation of a Sport Class and Sport Class Status or designation as not eligible is a specialist sport decision and must be made by persons who are authorised and certified by WFDF to do so. Those decisions must not be changed except by other persons who are similarly authorised and certified. In particular, the right to submit an Appeal must not be seen as an opportunity to simply dispute the opinion of the relevant experts. The Appeal Body will only review the process by which the decisions have been arrived at to ensure that such process has been conducted in accordance with WFDF's rules.]*

### **46. Making an Appeal**

46.1 An Appeal cannot be submitted whilst a Protest is ongoing. However, for the avoidance of doubt, in order to submit an Appeal it is not necessary for the National Federation to have first made a Protest.

*[Comment to Article 46.1: As stated, it is not necessary for a National Federation to have first made a Protest in order to submit an Appeal. This reflects the fact that Protests and Appeals are distinct concepts, with different tests.]*

46.2 An Appeal may only be submitted by a National Federation in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction. For the avoidance of doubt, an Athlete cannot submit an Appeal themselves; rather, an Appeal may only be submitted on behalf of the Athlete by their National Federation.

46.3 WFDF requires appeals to be submitted within fifteen (15) calendar days of notification of the decision from which the appeal arises.

#### **47. Appeal Body**

47.1 Appeals will be heard and determined by the IPC's Board of Appeal of Classification (**BAC**) and will hear and determine Appeals in accordance with the BAC's procedural rules.

47.2 The parties to an Appeal must be provided with, at a minimum, a fair hearing (whether conducted orally or in writing) within a reasonable time by the Appeal Body.

47.3 An Appeal will be heard by a panel of either one (1) or three (3) members of the Appeal Body (where three [3] members are appointed, one [1] member will act as chair of the hearing panel). Members of the Appeal Body may not sit on a particular hearing panel if: (i) they are currently a Classifier for WFDF; and/or (ii) they have had any prior involvement with the matter or any facts arising in the proceedings; and/or (iii) their impartiality or independence could otherwise be reasonably questioned.

47.4 National Federations are required to pay an Appeal fee of six hundred (600) US dollars, which is non-refundable.

#### **48. Appeal decision**

48.1 The Appeal Body must either affirm or set aside the decision under Appeal. The Appeal Body does not have the power to modify, alter, or otherwise change any Athlete Classification, Sport Class, and/or Sport Class Status decision (for example by allocating an Athlete a new Sport Class and/or Sport Class Status).

48.2 The Appeal Body must issue a written reasoned decision after the hearing, as soon as reasonably practicable and ordinarily within 42 calendar days after the hearing). The written decision must set out the reasons for the Appeal Body's decision and the actions that are required as a result. If the decision appealed against is set aside, the written decision must also specify the breach committed and how that breach could reasonably have caused the Athlete to be incorrectly designated as 'Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition', 'Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment', 'Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria', or allocated an incorrect Sport Class and/or Sport Class Status.

48.3 The decision of the Appeal Body must be provided to the appellant and the respondent.

48.4 The decision of the Appeal Body is final and not subject to any further appeal or challenge.

## Chapter 4: Intentional Misrepresentation

### 49. General provisions

- 49.1 Intentional Misrepresentation presents a major threat to the integrity of Classification and Para sport. It is a very serious offence because it constitutes an attempt to: (i) mislead WFDF (and/or its representatives) in relation to any aspect of Classification; and/or (ii) achieve an unfair advantage that undermines fair and meaningful competition. Consequently, potential incidents of Intentional Misrepresentation will be properly investigated, and if evidence indicates that Intentional Misrepresentation has occurred, disciplinary action must be taken.
- 49.2 The processes set out in this Chapter are, and must remain, distinct from the process of Classification. In other words, the rules and procedures set out in this Chapter are not concerned with verifying (and if necessary, correcting) the Sport Class or Sport Class Status allocated to an Athlete, but with preventing (and, if necessary, sanctioning) instances of the specific disciplinary offence of Intentional Misrepresentation.

### 50. Intentional Misrepresentation

- 50.1 The following constitutes Intentional Misrepresentation:

- 50.1.1 a Participant, at any time, whether by act or omission, intentionally misleads or attempts to mislead WFDF or any of its representatives (such as Classification Personnel) in relation to any aspect of Classification; or
- 50.1.2 a Participant, at any time, whether by act or omission, engages in any type of intentional complicity in respect of any violation or attempted violation of: (i) Article 50.1.1 above; or (ii) a period of ineligibility imposed on another Participant pursuant to Article 55.3.3.

- 50.2 Examples of Intentional Misrepresentation falling under Article 50.1.1 include (without limitation) a Participant:

- 50.2.1 submitting forged medical documentation attesting to the existence, nature, and/or degree of an Underlying Health Condition or Eligible Impairment that the Athlete does not have;
- 50.2.2 deliberately underperforming during an Evaluation Session;
- 50.2.3 deliberately tiring themselves out (in the case of Athletes) or deliberately tiring the Athlete out (in the case of other Participants) prior to an Evaluation Session, with the intention of misleading the Classification Panel;
- 50.2.4 unless expressly provided otherwise in WFDF's rules, intentionally undergoing an Evaluation Session without the sports attire or Adaptive Equipment that the Athlete intends to use in competition and/or intentionally failing to disclose the intended use of such sports attire and Adaptive Equipment to the Classification Panel;
- 50.2.5 intentionally failing to disclose the Athlete's use of any medication and/or medical device/implant (including any audio aids and/or refractive or optical correction such as eyeglasses or corrective lenses) and/or any medical procedure to the Classification Panel;
- 50.2.6 otherwise misrepresenting the Athlete's skills, abilities, and/or the existence, nature, and/or degree of the Athlete's impairment before, during, or after an Evaluation Session;
- 50.2.7 disrupting an Evaluation Session, or refusing to cooperate with a Classification Panel during an Evaluation Session, with the intention of misleading the Classification Panel;

- 50.2.8 not providing accurate information as to the Athlete's identity or having another person attend an Evaluation Session in the Athlete's place; and/or
  - 50.2.9 deliberately failing to notify WFDF of any relevant Classification-related information, including that the Athlete has previously undergone Classification (for example, on an earlier occasion, or in the context of another Para sport) and/or that there has been a change in the nature or degree of the Athlete's Eligible Impairment that may necessitate a Medical Review.
- 50.3 Examples of Intentional Misrepresentation falling under Article 50.1.2 include (without limitation):
- 50.3.1 where a Participant induces, instructs, facilitates, assists, encourages, aids, abets, or conspires with another Participant to commit, or attempt to commit, Intentional Misrepresentation;
  - 50.3.2 where, having discovered that a Participant has committed or intends to commit Intentional Misrepresentation, they conceal or cover up the offence, or any information that would assist WFDF in the investigation or prosecution of that offence;
  - 50.3.3 where a Participant induces, instructs, facilitates, assists, encourages, aids, abets, or conspires with another Participant for that other Participant to violate, or attempt to violate, any period of ineligibility imposed on them pursuant to Article 55.3.3; and/or
  - 50.3.4 where, having discovered that another Participant has violated or intends to violate any period of ineligibility imposed on them pursuant to Article 55.3.3, they conceal or cover up the offence, or any information that would assist WFDF in the investigation or prosecution of that offence.
- 50.4 For the avoidance of doubt:
- 50.4.1 A Participant does not need to know that their conduct will constitute a violation of Article 50.1 for their conduct to be intentional.
  - 50.4.2 A Participant can commit Intentional Misrepresentation irrespective of any designation, Sport Class, and/or Sport Class Status allocated to an Athlete.

## **51. Obligations to report and cooperate**

- 51.1 Each Participant, and each National Federation, must:
- 51.1.1 report to WFDF promptly, truthfully, completely, and in good faith any information they possess that a reasonable person would consider might evidence or otherwise reflect:
    - 1.1.1.1 any approach or invitation by any Participant (including themselves) to engage in conduct that might constitute Intentional Misrepresentation; and/or
    - 1.1.1.2 any incident, fact, or matter that might indicate the planning or commission of Intentional Misrepresentation by any Participant (including themselves);
  - 51.1.2 cooperate promptly, truthfully, completely, and in good faith with all investigations carried out by WFDF and/or by the IPC, including by answering any questions and providing access to any information, data, and/or documentation requested as part of that investigation;
  - 51.1.3 cooperate promptly, truthfully, completely, and in good faith with any proceedings brought by WFDF against any Participant for Intentional Misrepresentation; and
  - 51.1.4 not do anything (by act or omission) that has the object or effect of obstructing, preventing, delaying, or otherwise interfering with or frustrating any such investigation or proceeding.

51.2 On request, WFDF will provide the IPC with information on the following, in the form requested by the IPC: (i) all credible reports or other intelligence that WFDF has received which indicate potential Intentional Misrepresentation; (ii) the actions taken in relation to such reports; and (iii) updates in relation to all of its ongoing and completed investigations and proceedings relating to Intentional Misrepresentation.

## **52. Investigations**

52.1 Where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that a Participant might have committed Intentional Misrepresentation, WFDF will initiate an investigation in a timely manner. Grounds do not need to be given to a Participant for the initiation of an investigation, and the decision to initiate an investigation cannot be contested.

52.2 Where a Participant is affiliated with WFDF and one (1) or more other International Federations, WFDF may also assist those other International Federations in relation to any investigation(s) they initiate into suspected Intentional Misrepresentation by the Participant (including, but not limited to, facilitating inquiries and investigations conducted by those other International Federations).

52.3 The IPC may, in its absolute discretion:

52.3.1 offer assistance to WFDF in conducting investigations into suspected Intentional Misrepresentation, including, but not limited to, facilitating inquiries and investigations;

52.3.2 direct WFDF to conduct an investigation in relation to suspected Intentional Misrepresentation that has come to the attention of the IPC (including, but not limited to in circumstances where a Participant is affiliated to WFDF and one (1) or more other International Federations, and a dispute has arisen as to which International Federation has the responsibility to investigate the suspected Intentional Misrepresentation); and/or

52.3.3 conduct its own investigations into suspected Intentional Misrepresentation, whether on its own initiative and/or as requested by WFDF or another International Federation or otherwise. In such circumstances, references to WFDF in the remainder of this Article 52 will, where the context requires, be interpreted as a reference to the IPC.

52.4 The objective for each investigation will be to gather information necessary to determine: (i) whether a Participant has a case to answer for Intentional Misrepresentation; and, if so (ii) whether any other Participant has a case to answer for intentional complicity in that Intentional Misrepresentation. This will include gathering and recording all relevant information, developing that information into evidence, and identifying and pursuing further lines of enquiry that might lead to the discovery of such evidence.

52.5 WFDF will conduct each investigation fairly, objectively, and impartially. It will be open to and consider all possible outcomes at each key stage of the investigation and will seek to gather not only any available evidence of Intentional Misrepresentation but also any available evidence indicating that there is no case to answer.

52.6 Except in exceptional circumstances, WFDF will notify the Participant of the investigation and give the Participant an opportunity to make a written submission as part of the investigation. WFDF will decide when this notification should be made.

*[Comment to Article 52.6: Exceptional circumstances may arise if (for example) WFDF is concerned about the risk of information relating to the investigation leaking, or if WFDF's investigation is subject to any time pressure. Irrespective of whether the Participant is given the opportunity to make a written submission as part of the investigation, they will nevertheless be able to do so following any Notice of Charge, as per Article 53.5.3 below.]*

- 52.7 WFDF may make requests of any Participant, and of any National Federation, to assist an investigation by producing documents, information, and/or other material, including by answering questions.
- 52.8 Where during the course of any investigation WFDF identifies any additional Participants who might also have committed Intentional Misrepresentation, the investigation may be expanded to cover such additional Participants or (alternatively) a separate investigation may be commenced.

*[Comment to Article 52.8: For example, in the context of Team Sports, where WFDF suspects that one (1) member of a team has committed Intentional Misrepresentation, it may expand its investigation to cover: (i) any or all other members of the same team; and/or (ii) any additional Participants connected to that team; or (alternatively) separate investigations may be commenced into each team member/other Participant connected to the team.]*

### **53. Proceedings**

- 53.1 Subject to Article 53.4, if WFDF determines that a Participant has a case to answer for Intentional Misrepresentation, WFDF will bring disciplinary proceedings against the Participant unless there are specific and extenuating circumstances that are notified to and accepted by the IPC. Such proceedings will be governed by the WFDF Code of Ethics and Conduct Policy.
- 53.2 Disciplinary proceedings brought by WFDF for alleged Intentional Misrepresentation will be heard before the Ethics Commission and/or Conduction Committee.
- 53.3 Where disciplinary proceedings are brought, the hearing panel will be comprised of either one (1) or three (3) members of the first instance body (where three [3] members are appointed, one [1] member will act as chair of the hearing panel). Members of the first instance body may not sit on a particular hearing panel if: (i) they are currently a Classifier for WFDF; and/or (ii) they have had any prior involvement with the matter or any facts arising in the proceedings; and/or (iii) their impartiality or independence could otherwise be reasonably questioned.
- 53.4 Disciplinary proceedings may not be commenced against any Participant for Intentional Misrepresentation unless such disciplinary proceedings are commenced within either: (i) ten (10) years from the date that the Intentional Misrepresentation allegedly occurred; or (ii) two (2) years after the discovery of such alleged Intentional Misrepresentation by WFDF, whichever is later.

#### **Notice of Charge**

- 53.5 Where WFDF brings disciplinary proceedings against a Participant for Intentional Misrepresentation, WFDF will prepare and send a Notice of Charge to the Participant, copying: (i) the Participant's National Federation; and (ii) the IPC, which will contain (at a minimum) the following information:
- 53.5.1 the facts alleged in support of the charge and any other relevant information;
- 53.5.2 the sanction(s) that WFDF says should be imposed if the charge is upheld;
- 53.5.3 the Participant's right:
- 53.5.3.1 to admit the charge and to accept the sanctions specified in the Notice of Charge;
  - 53.5.3.2 to admit the charge but dispute (or seek to mitigate) the sanctions specified in the Notice of Charge, and to have the matter of sanctions determined by WFDF's first instance body if not agreed between the parties; or
  - 53.5.3.3 to dispute the charge and to have the charge determined (along with any sanctions, if a charge is upheld) by WFDF's first instance body; and
- 53.5.4 the deadline for the Participant to provide a response to the charge (which must be no fewer

than 14 days from the date of receipt of the Notice of Charge by the Participant).

53.6 Subsequent to sending a Notice of Charge to the Participant, WFDF may adduce further facts and/or other relevant information in support of the charge, provided that the Participant is given a reasonable opportunity to respond to the new facts/information.

53.7 Once the Notice of Charge has been sent to a Participant, WFDF may publicly disclose the identity of the Participant and the nature of the alleged Intentional Misrepresentation.

***Resolution of charges without a hearing***

53.8 Where the Participant:

53.8.1 admits the charge and accepts the sanctions specified in the Notice of Charge (or accepts other sanctions proposed by WFDF); or

53.8.2 fails to respond by the deadline specified in the Notice of Charge (which failure will be deemed to amount to: (i) a waiver of the Participant's right to have the charge and/or sanctions determined by WFDF's first instance body, (ii) an admission of the charge, and (iii) acceptance of the sanctions specified in the Notice of Charge),

a hearing before WFDF's first instance body will not be required and WFDF will proceed to issue a decision in the case in accordance with Article 56.4.

53.9 At any time prior to a final decision by the first instance body, WFDF may decide to withdraw a Notice of Charge for good cause. WFDF will inform the Participant, the National Federation to which the Participant is affiliated, and the IPC of the withdrawal of the charge and the reasons for that withdrawal. WFDF will not publish the decision.

53.10 The IPC may:

53.10.1 within 15 days of receipt of the decision to withdraw a Notice of Charge, request a copy of the full case file pertaining to the decision (together with English translations of all documents within the case file, where not originally in the English language); and

53.10.2 within 21 days of receipt of the full case file (and all necessary translations), appeal the decision to withdraw a Notice of Charge. Any such appeal must be made to WFDF's designated appeal body (see Article 57 below).

***Hearing***

53.11 If the Participant disputes the charge and/or the sanctions specified in the Notice of Charge, they must set out (in summary form) the basis for their position within their response to the Notice of Charge.

53.12 If the Participant wishes to have a hearing to resolve the dispute, they must provide a written request for a hearing to WFDF that is received by WFDF within 14 days of the Participant's receipt of the Notice of Charge (or such longer period as may be specified in the Notice of Charge or agreed by WFDF).

53.13 WFDF may also refer any disputed matter to its first instance body at any time, and at its sole discretion.

53.14 WFDF's first instance body will hear and determine Intentional Misrepresentation cases involving any Participant under its jurisdiction in accordance with its procedural rules.

WFDF ensures that in the context of alleged Intentional Misrepresentation, the procedural rules of the first instance body provide that:

53.14.1 where a party (or any of its witnesses) refuses or fails to appear at a hearing to answer questions (or otherwise appears but refuses or fails to answer questions), the first instance

body may infer that the answer(s) would be adverse to that party;

53.14.2 the first instance body will have the power to decide on the admissibility and relevance of and the weight to be given to any evidence (including the testimony of any fact or expert witness) and will not be bound by any judicial or evidential rules in relation to such matters;

53.14.3 facts may be established by any reliable means; and

53.14.4 the burden of proof will be on the party asserting the claim or fact in issue, and the standard of proof to be met will be the balance of probabilities.

## **54. Confidentiality**

54.1 Subject to Articles 54.2, 56, and 58, all proceedings brought by WFDF against a Participant in respect of alleged Intentional Misrepresentation will be confidential, including all documents, evidence, submissions, and other information relating to the proceedings. Except as provided for in these Classification Rules, neither the parties to the proceedings, nor any third party witness, expert, observer, or other participant in the proceedings or recipient of the first instance body's decision or appeal body's decision will publicly comment on the specific facts of any case (as opposed to general descriptions of the process), except that WFDF may make or issue such comments as it considers necessary in response to any public comments attributed to, or based on information provided by, the Participant who is the subject of the proceedings (or their entourage or representatives).

54.2 At any stage WFDF may, in its discretion (exercised subject to all relevant data protection requirements, including those set out in the Classification Rules, and other applicable laws), decide that information should be shared with any Person or Persons on a confidential and need-to-know basis in order to assist in the discharge of WFDF's functions (including in the investigation and prosecution of any offences under this Chapter) and/or to protect its integrity and reputation, or that of the Paralympic Movement or Para sport. Such Persons would include appropriate personnel within WFDF, other International Federations, and the IPC, as well as other bodies with an investigatory or regulatory function.

## **55. Sanctions**

55.1 A Participant who is found by WFDF to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation will be subject to the sanctions set out in this Article 55.

55.2 If another International Federation brings disciplinary proceedings against a Participant in respect of Intentional Misrepresentation that results in consequences being imposed on that Participant, those consequences will be recognised, respected and enforced by WFDF.

55.3 Sanctions for individual Participants

### ***Disqualification of results***

55.3.1 If a Participant is found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation during or in connection with a Competition, that automatically leads to disqualification of the individual results obtained by the Participant in that Competition with all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of any medals, points, and prizes.

55.3.2 Any other competitive individual results of the Participant obtained from the date the Intentional Misrepresentation occurred may be disqualified (in whole or part) with all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of any medals, points, and prizes. Factors that might be relevant in deciding whether to disqualify any such results include, for example, whether the results were likely to have been affected by the Intentional Misrepresentation, and the seriousness of the Intentional Misrepresentation.

Where an Athlete who has committed Intentional Misrepresentation has earned a qualification slot (whether for themselves or for their National Federation or National Paralympic Committee) through results that have now been disqualified, the relevant reallocation rules will apply concerning the status of that qualification slot.

### ***Period of ineligibility***

55.3.3 A default period of ineligibility of four (4) years, which may be:

55.3.3.1 increased depending on the seriousness of the violation and the nature of any aggravating circumstances up to a period of ineligibility of a lifetime; and/or

55.3.3.2 reduced depending on the seriousness of the violation and the nature of any mitigating circumstances, except that the resulting period of ineligibility imposed must not be less than 12 months (subject to any further reduction or suspension under Articles 55.5.1, 55.5.2, and/or 55.5.3).

55.3.4 Aggravating circumstances may include, but are not limited to:

55.3.4.1 the age and experience of the Participant, and in particular their experience in relation to the Classification process;

55.3.4.2 a lack of remorse on the part of the Participant;

55.3.4.3 a finding that the Participant received or expected to receive a significant benefit as a result of their Intentional Misrepresentation;

55.3.4.4 a finding that the Intentional Misrepresentation affected or had the potential to affect the outcome of a Covered Competition;

55.3.4.5 a finding that the Participant committed Intentional Misrepresentation on multiple occasions and/or over an extended period of time;

55.3.4.6 a finding that the Intentional Misrepresentation was part of a wider scheme involving other Participants; and/or

55.3.4.7 a finding that the Participant engaged in deceptive or obstructive conduct to avoid the detection or adjudication of Intentional Misrepresentation.

*[Comment to Article 55.3.4: The examples of circumstances and conduct described herein are not exclusive and other similar circumstances or conduct may also justify the imposition of a longer period of ineligibility.]*

55.3.5 Mitigating circumstances may include, but are not limited to:

55.3.5.1 the youth or inexperience of the Participant, especially in relation to the Classification process;

55.3.5.2 the Participant's good disciplinary record;

55.3.5.3 genuine remorse on the part of the Participant; and/or

55.3.5.4 a finding that the Intentional Misrepresentation was not committed with an intent to influence the outcome of a Covered Competition.

For the avoidance of doubt, mitigating circumstances do not include any voluntary admissions made or the provision of any Substantial Assistance, which are dealt with separately in Article 55.5.

*[Comment to Article 55.3.5: The examples of circumstances and conduct described herein are not exclusive and other similar circumstances or conduct may also justify the imposition of a reduced period of ineligibility.]*

- 55.3.6 The period of ineligibility will start on the date of the relevant decision or such other date as specified by WFDF (in an agreed case) or the first instance body (in a contested case), and must be recognised, respected, and enforced by all IPC Members and RIFs.

**Financial consequences**

- 55.3.7 WFDF may impose financial sanctions for the proportionate recovery of costs or financial sanctions on account of Intentional Misrepresentation.

**Other sanctions**

- 55.3.8 Such other sanctions as WFDF (in an agreed case) or the first instance body (in a contested case) considers appropriate and proportionate in all the circumstances of the case.

- 55.3.9 WFDF may sanction Participants and National Federations who fail to comply with Article 51.1.

55.4 Multiple violations

- 55.4.1 The period of ineligibility that will be imposed on a Participant who is found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation:

55.4.1.1 for a second (2nd) time, will be twice the period of ineligibility that would otherwise be applicable to the second violation; and

55.4.1.2 for a third (3rd) or subsequent time, will be a lifetime period of ineligibility.

- 55.4.2 An Intentional Misrepresentation violation will only be considered a second Intentional Misrepresentation violation if WFDF can establish that the Participant committed the additional Intentional Misrepresentation violation after receiving the Notice of Charge pursuant to Article 53.5 or after WFDF made reasonable efforts to draw the Notice of Charge to the Participant's attention. If WFDF cannot establish this, the violations will be considered together as one (1) single violation, and the sanction imposed will be based on the violation that carries the more severe sanction, including the application of aggravating circumstances. Results in all Competitions dating back to the earlier Intentional Misrepresentation violation will be disqualified as provided in Articles 55.3.1 and 55.3.2.

*[Comment to Article 55.4.2: The same rule applies where, after the imposition of a sanction, WFDF discovers facts involving an Intentional Misrepresentation violation that occurred prior to notification for a first Intentional Misrepresentation violation – e.g., WFDF will impose a sanction based on the sanction that could have been imposed if the two (2) violations had been adjudicated at the same time, including the application of aggravating circumstances.]*

- 55.4.3 If WFDF establishes that a Participant has committed a second (2nd) or third (3rd) Intentional Misrepresentation violation during a period of ineligibility imposed for a previous Intentional Misrepresentation violation, the periods of ineligibility for the multiple violations will run consecutively rather than concurrently.

55.5 Possible reductions or suspensions to the period of ineligibility

**Voluntary admission**

- 55.5.1 If a Participant voluntarily admits the commission of Intentional Misrepresentation before being notified by WFDF of its investigation into that Participant, and that admission is the only reliable evidence of the Intentional Misrepresentation at the time of admission, the period of ineligibility may be reduced, by a maximum of one half (1/2) of the period of ineligibility otherwise

applicable (i.e., after any adjustment based on aggravating or mitigating factors).

- 55.5.2 If a Participant voluntarily admits the commission of Intentional Misrepresentation within a reasonable period of time after being notified by WFDF of its investigation into that Participant, the period of ineligibility may be reduced by a maximum of a quarter (1/4) of the period of ineligibility otherwise applicable (i.e., after any adjustment based on aggravating or mitigating factors).

### **Substantial Assistance**

- 55.5.3 A part of the period of ineligibility imposed on a Participant who is found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation may be suspended, at the discretion of WFDF, where the Participant has provided Substantial Assistance which results in an International Federation bringing forward a case of alleged Intentional Misrepresentation against another Participant. WFDF will promptly notify the Participant, the Participant's National Federation, and the IPC of any decision made under this Article 55.5.3, and that decision may be appealed by the Participant and/or by the IPC to WFDF's designated appeal body (see Article 57 below) within 21 days from the date of receipt of the decision, except that if the IPC has not previously received a copy of the full case file pertaining to the decision (together with English translations of all documents within the case file, where not originally in the English language), it will have 15 days from its receipt of the notice of the decision to request a copy of that case file (including any translations). In such case, the IPC will have 21 days from its receipt of the full case file (and all necessary translations) to file an appeal.

- 55.5.3.1 For the purposes of Article 55.5.3, a Participant providing '**Substantial Assistance**' must: (i) fully disclose in a signed written statement or recorded interview all information they possess in relation to Intentional Misrepresentation by another Participant; and (ii) fully cooperate with the investigation and adjudication of any case or matter related to that information, including, for example, providing testimony at a hearing if requested to do so by an International Federation or hearing panel. Further, the information provided must be credible and must comprise an important part of any case or proceeding that is initiated.

*[Comment to Article 55.5.3.1: The Substantial Assistance provided may relate to Intentional Misrepresentation alleged to have been committed by a Participant in another Para sport.]*

The extent to which the otherwise applicable period of ineligibility may be suspended will be based on the seriousness of the Intentional Misrepresentation committed by the Participant and the significance of the Substantial Assistance provided by the Participant to the effort to combat Intentional Misrepresentation. No more than three-quarters (3/4) of the otherwise applicable period of ineligibility (i.e., after any adjustment based on: (i) aggravating or mitigating factors; and (ii) any voluntary admission) may be suspended. If the otherwise applicable period of ineligibility is a lifetime, the non-suspended period of ineligibility under this Article must be no less than eight years.

- 55.5.3.2 If so requested by a Participant who seeks to provide Substantial Assistance, WFDF will allow the Participant to provide the information to it subject to a Without Prejudice Agreement.
- 55.5.3.3 If the Participant fails to continue to cooperate and to provide the complete and credible Substantial Assistance upon which a suspension of a period of ineligibility was based, WFDF will reinstate the original period of ineligibility. If WFDF decides to reinstate a suspended period of ineligibility or decides not to reinstate a suspended period of ineligibility, that decision must be promptly notified to the Participant, the Participant's National Federation, and the IPC and may be

appealed by the Participant and/or the IPC to WFDF's designated appeal body (see Article 57 below) within 21 days from the date of receipt of the decision, except that if the IPC has not previously received a copy of the full case file pertaining to the decision (together with English translations of all documents within the case file, where not originally in the English language), it will have 15 days from its receipt of the notice of the decision to request a copy of that case file (including any translations). In such case, the IPC will have 21 days from its receipt of the full case file (and all relevant translations) to file an appeal.

## 55.6 Status during ineligibility

55.6.1 During a period of ineligibility a Participant is prohibited from participating in any capacity in:

55.6.1.1 Classification;

55.6.1.2 any Competition, event, programme, or other activity (other than authorised education programmes) organised, authorised, or recognised by: (a) the IPC; (b) any International Federation or RIF, or any of their respective members; (c) any club or other member of a member of an International Federation or RIF; and/or (d) any professional Para sport league or international or national level Para sport Competition organisation; and

55.6.1.3 any elite or national-level Para sporting activity funded by a governmental agency.

*[Comment to Article 55.6.1: For example, in addition to the prohibition on participating in Classification and all Competitions covered by this Article, subject to Article 55.6.3 below, ineligible Participants are not permitted to participate in a training camp, exhibition, or practice organised by their National Federation. The term "activity" also includes, for example, administrative activities, such as serving as an official, director, officer, employee, or volunteer of their National Federation. Ineligibility imposed by one (1) International Federation or RIF will also be recognised by all other International Federations and RIFs (see Article 55.3.6). A Participant serving a period of ineligibility is prohibited from coaching or serving as an Athlete Support Person in any other capacity at any time during the period of ineligibility. Any performance standard accomplished during a period of ineligibility will not be recognised for any purpose.]*

55.6.2 A Participant will remain subject to all relevant anti-doping requirements throughout any period of ineligibility.

55.6.3 As an exception to Article 55.6.1.2, an Athlete may return to train with a team or to use the facilities of a National Federation or any organisation listed in Article 55.6.1.2(c) during the shorter of: (i) the last two (2) months of their period of ineligibility; or (ii) the last one-quarter (1/4) of the period of ineligibility imposed.

55.6.4 Subject to Article 55.6.3, where a Participant violates any period of ineligibility imposed upon them, any results achieved during that period will be disqualified, and a new period of ineligibility equal in length to the original period of ineligibility (subject to adjustment at the discretion of WFDF based on the Participant's degree of fault and other circumstances of the case) will be added to the end of the original period of ineligibility. In such circumstances, WFDF will promptly notify the Participant, the Participant's National Federation, and the IPC of its decision. The Participant and/or the IPC will have the right to appeal such decision to WFDF's designated appeal body (see Article 57 below) within 21 days from the date of receipt of the decision, except that if the IPC was not a party to the proceedings before the first instance body, it will have 15 days from its receipt of the notice of the decision to request a copy of the full case file pertaining to the decision (together with English translations of all documents within the case file, where not originally in the English language). In such case, the

IPC will have 21 days from its receipt of the full case file (and all relevant translations) to file an appeal.

## 55.7 Consequences for teams

### 55.7.1 Consequences for teams in Team Sports

55.7.1.1 If any Participant who is a member of a team in a Team Sport is found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation during or in connection with a Competition, WFDF may impose an appropriate sanction(s) on the team (e.g., loss of points, disqualification from Competition(s), or other sanction(s)) in addition to any consequences imposed on the individual Participant committing the Intentional Misrepresentation.

55.7.1.2 If two (2) or more Participants who are members of a team in a Team Sport are found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation during or in connection with a Competition, WFDF will impose an appropriate sanction(s) on the team (e.g., loss of points, disqualification from Competition(s), or other sanction(s)) in addition to any consequences imposed on the individual Participants committing the Intentional Misrepresentation.

55.7.1.3 Factors that might be relevant in deciding what sanction(s) (if any) are appropriate in such cases include, for example, whether the results of any Competition(s) were likely to have been affected by the Intentional Misrepresentation, the nature and extent of the role played by the Participant(s) in the team within the context of the Intentional Misrepresentation, and the seriousness of the Intentional Misrepresentation.

### 55.7.2 Consequences for teams in sports which are not Team Sports

55.7.2.1 Intentional Misrepresentation committed by any Participant who is a member of a team during or in connection with a Competition will lead to disqualification of the results obtained by the team in that Competition, with all resulting consequences for the team and its members, including forfeiture of any medals, points, and prizes, unless fairness requires otherwise.

55.7.2.2 Intentional Misrepresentation committed by two (2) or more Participants who are members of a team during or in connection with a Competition automatically leads to disqualification of the results obtained by the team in that Competition, with all resulting consequences for the team and its members, including forfeiture of any medals, points, and prizes.

55.7.2.3 If two (2) or more Participants who are members of a team are found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation during or in connection with a Competition, WFDF may also impose an appropriate additional sanction(s) on the team (e.g., a fine, or other sanction(s)) in addition to any consequences imposed on the individual Participants committing the Intentional Misrepresentation.

55.7.2.4 Factors that might be relevant in deciding what sanction(s) (if any) are appropriate under Article 55.7.2.3 include, for example, whether the results of any Competition(s) were likely to have been affected by the Intentional Misrepresentation, the nature and extent of the role played by the Participants in the team within the context of the Intentional Misrepresentation, and the seriousness of the Intentional Misrepresentation.

## 55.8 Consequences for National Federations

As determined by WFDF.

## 56. Decisions

56.1 The first instance body must notify its decision to the parties in a written reasoned decision, in accordance with its procedural rules. The decision must address and determine, at a minimum, the following issues:

56.1.1 whether the Participant committed Intentional Misrepresentation, the factual basis for such determination, and the specific provisions of WFDF's rules found to have been violated; and

56.1.2 the applicable sanctions imposed by the first instance body.

56.2 WFDF will disclose the first instance body's decision to the Participant, the Participant's National Federation, and the IPC.

56.3 Where WFDF is aware that the Participant who is the subject of the decision is a Participant in any other Para sport, WFDF will also send the decision to the relevant International Federation or RIF (including where that decision is appealed pursuant to Article 57).

56.4 In a case where Article 53.8 applies, WFDF will produce a written reasoned decision covering the issues referred to in Article 56.1, which it will provide as a minimum to the Participant, the Participant's National Federation, the IPC, and any organisation referred to in Article 56.3, which will take effect as if it were a final decision of the first instance body. Alternatively, where it sees fit, WFDF may refer the matter to the first instance body to determine the sanction(s) to be imposed.

## 57. Appeals

57.1 The IPC, WFDF, and the Participant each have the right to appeal decisions of the first instance body to the IPC's Board of Appeal of Classification within twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the first instance body's decision by the appealing party, except that if the IPC was not a party to the proceedings before the first instance body, it will have fifteen (15) days from its receipt of the notice of the decision to request a copy of the full case file pertaining to the decision (together with English translations of all documents within the case file, where not originally in the English language). In such case, the IPC will have twenty-one (21) days from its receipt of the full case file (and all relevant translations) to file an appeal.

57.2 The parties to an appeal must be provided with, at a minimum, a fair hearing (whether conducted orally or in writing) within a reasonable time.

57.3 The appeal will be heard by a panel of either one (1) or three (3) members of the appeal body (where three [3] members are appointed, one [1] member will act as chair of the hearing panel). Members of the appeal body may not sit on a particular hearing panel if: (i) they are currently a Classifier for WFDF; and/or (ii) they have had any prior involvement with the matter or any facts arising in the proceedings; and/or (iii) their impartiality or independence could otherwise be reasonably questioned.

57.4 The appeal body will hear and determine any appeal in accordance with its procedural rules.

## 58. Public Disclosure

58.1 No later than twenty (20) days after it has been determined in an appellate decision under Article 57.1, or such appeal has been waived, or a hearing in accordance with Article 53.11 has been waived, or the assertion of Intentional Misrepresentation has not otherwise been timely challenged, or the matter has been resolved under Article 53.8, or a new period of ineligibility, or reprimand, has been imposed under Article 55.6.4, WFDF will:

- 58.1.1 Publicly Disclose the disposition of the matter, including the identity of the Participant, the nature of the Intentional Misrepresentation involved, and the consequences imposed; and
- 58.1.2 publish an updated version of its Classification Master List to include the details required by Article 35, including the Participant's Intentional Misrepresentation designation, together with the duration and date of commencement of their period of ineligibility.

*[Comment to Article 58.1: Where Public Disclosure as required by this Article would result in a proven breach of other applicable laws, WFDF's failure to make the Public Disclosure will not result in a determination of non-compliance with the IPC Classification Code, the International Standard on Intentional Misrepresentation, or these Classification Rules.]*

- 58.2 Where WFDF is subject to disclosure obligations under Article 58.1 above, it may also decide to make public the written reasons for the determination or decision (subject to any redactions WFDF deems necessary and appropriate) and may comment publicly on the matter.
- 58.3 In any case where it is determined, after a hearing or appeal, that the Participant did not commit Intentional Misrepresentation, the fact that the decision has been appealed may be Publicly Disclosed. However, the decision itself and the underlying facts may not be Publicly Disclosed except with the consent of the Participant who is the subject of the decision. WFDF will use reasonable efforts to obtain such consent, and if consent is obtained, will Publicly Disclose the decision in its entirety or in such redacted form as the Participant may approve.
- 58.4 The mandatory Public Disclosure required in Article 58.1 will not be required where the Participant who has been found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation is a Minor at the time the decision is issued. Any optional Public Disclosure in a case involving a Minor will be proportionate to the facts and circumstances of the case.

# Chapter 5: Changes to Classification Systems

## 59. Changes to Classification systems

- 59.1 Before making any substantive changes to its Classification systems and/or Classification processes, WFDF will:
- 59.1.1 carry out an appropriate assessment of what impact any changes will have on Athletes, National Federations, and NPCs, including consideration of the Paralympic Games cycle, Para sport's competition cycle, and the qualification periods for the Paralympic Games;
- [Comment to Article 59.1.1: In particular, WFDF will as part of its impact assessment carefully consider the appropriate timing for any changes that may affect the (in)eligibility, Sport Class, and/or Sport Class Status of Athletes (for example, changes to the Minimum Impairment Criteria, or to the assessment methodology). Ordinarily, such changes will not be made during WFDF's qualification period for the Paralympic Games.]*
- 59.1.2 provide National Federations (with a copy to the IPC) with:
- 59.1.2.1 appropriate notice of the anticipated changes, along with a rationale for the changes, an explanation of which Athletes or groups of Athletes (if any) may need to be reassessed, the proposed timelines for implementation, and (if applicable) any proposed transition rules; and
- 59.1.2.2 an opportunity to submit feedback before such changes are adopted; and
- 59.1.3 provide the IPC with:
- 59.1.3.1 appropriate notice of the anticipated changes, along with a rationale for the changes, the proposed timelines for implementation, any proposed transition rules (if applicable), a copy of WFDF's impact assessment, and an overview of the consultation undertaken as part of the review process; and
- 59.1.3.2 an opportunity to submit feedback before such changes are adopted.
- 59.2 If WFDF notifies a National Federation of anticipated changes pursuant to Article 59.1.2, the National Federation must ensure that Athletes under its jurisdiction are (i) notified about such changes, and (ii) invited to provide feedback. If WFDF then notifies a National Federation that changes will be implemented, the National Federation must ensure that Athletes under its jurisdiction are notified about such changes.
- 59.3 If WFDF makes changes to its Classification Rules that may affect the (in)eligibility, Sport Class, and/or Sport Class Status of Athletes (for example, changes to the Minimum Impairment Criteria, or to its assessment methodology), it will:
- 59.3.1 take reasonable steps to identify such Athletes and notify them (through their National Federation) that they are entitled to be reassessed; and
- 59.3.2 where applicable, change each such Athlete's Sport Class Status to 'Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R-NAO)' or 'Review with a Fixed Review Date (R-FRD)', as deemed appropriate by WFDF.
- 59.4 If a National Federation considers that changes to these Classification Rules may affect the Classification of any Athlete under its jurisdiction who was previously found to be not eligible, it must notify WFDF accordingly.

59.5 For the avoidance of doubt, if: (i) WFDF makes substantive changes to its Classification systems, Classification processes, and/or these Classification Rules, without first following the processes set out in this Chapter; and/or (ii) a National Federation fails to meet its obligations under this Chapter, that fact alone will not render the amended Classification systems, Classification processes, and/or Classification Rules (or any Classification decision made in accordance with those amended systems, processes, and/or rules) invalid, and the amended systems, processes, and rules (and any Classification decision made under them) will continue to bind all those persons listed in Article 3.2 above.

# Chapter 6: Classification Personnel and Training

## Part I: Classification Personnel Roles and Competencies

### 60. Classification Personnel

60.1 WFDF will appoint the Classification Personnel specified below.

60.2 All Classification Personnel must sign confidentiality undertakings.

#### 60.3 *Head of Classification*

60.3.1 The Head of Classification is responsible for the direction, administration, coordination, and implementation of Classification matters for WFDF.

*[Comment to Article 60.3.1: If WFDF is unable to appoint a Head of Classification for a period of time, WFDF may temporarily appoint a person or persons to perform the role of Head of Classification on an interim basis.]*

60.3.2 WFDF may appoint more than one (1) person to share the role and duties of the Head of Classification. If this occurs, WFDF will communicate this information to its membership and the IPC.

60.3.3 The Head of Classification will, as a minimum, be responsible for performing and/or overseeing the following activities:

60.3.3.1 recruiting and appointing Classifiers;

60.3.3.2 organising and conducting Classifier education, training, Certification, Re-Certification, and development according to WFDF's Classifier pathway;

60.3.3.3 managing, maintaining, and updating a database to track Classifier activity, Certification, and Re-Certification;

60.3.3.4 identifying Classification Research needs and being aware of, supporting and, where appropriate, providing input in relation to the Classification Research on which WFDF's Classification systems are based;

60.3.3.5 ensuring that WFDF's Classification Rules and implementation comply with the IPC Classification Code and International Standards, for example, by planning, designing, executing, and reviewing programmes and policies;

60.3.3.6 collecting feedback and inputting on Classification-related issues that affect WFDF's rules, for example, the Classification Rules and sport technical rules;

60.3.3.7 monitoring and evaluating the status of Classification within Para sport on a regular basis;

*[Comment to Article 60.3.3.7: This may include, for example, the Head of Classification attending (or instructing other Classification Personnel to attend) Covered Competitions where no Classification is due to take place, in order to monitor and evaluate the outcomes of WFDF's Classification systems.]*

60.3.3.8 informing Classifiers of any changes to these Classification Rules;

60.3.3.9 managing, maintaining, and updating the Classification Master List to ensure that WFDF's Classification records are accurate;

60.3.3.10 engaging with WFDF's relevant bodies and committees on Classification matters; and

60.3.3.11 communicating with all relevant external parties (including the IPC) in relation to Classification matters.

60.3.4 The Head of Classification may delegate specific responsibilities to other Classification Personnel within WFDF, and/or to appointed persons in the organising committee of a competition or Classification opportunity.

60.3.5 The Head of Classification may also be appointed as a Classifier and/or Chief Classifier. For the avoidance of doubt, in this situation Article 41.7 of these Classification Rules will apply with equal effect to the Head of Classification.

#### 60.4 **Chief Classifier(s)**

60.4.1 The Chief Classifier is a Classifier appointed to direct, administer, coordinate, and implement Classification matters for a specific Classification opportunity according to the Classification Rules.

60.4.2 In that context, a Chief Classifier may be required by WFDF to do the following, among other things:

60.4.2.1 identify Athletes who require Classification at a specific Classification opportunity, whether In-Competition or Out-of-Competition;

60.4.2.2 supervise Classifiers and Trainee Classifiers to ensure that the Classification Rules are properly applied and to monitor their level of competencies and proficiencies;

60.4.2.3 manage Protests in consultation with WFDF;

60.4.2.4 liaise with the relevant organiser to ensure that all travel, accommodation, and other logistics are arranged so that Classifiers may carry out their duties at the Classification opportunity;

60.4.2.5 communicate with and educate Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel regarding the Classification process;

60.4.2.6 provide a clear explanation of all stages of the Classification process to Classifiers, Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel, including the following matters: (i) any findings made by a UHC Assessor, Classification Panel, Protest Panel, or Appeal Body; (ii) the procedures of the Evaluation Session (including eligibility requirements and Minimum Impairment Criteria), Protest procedures, and the procedure following any designation or tracking code being assigned to an Athlete; and (iii) matters concerning Intentional Misrepresentation, including the behaviours that may constitute that offence, and how potential violations will be investigated and prosecuted;

60.4.2.7 manage the Classification Master List during a particular Classification opportunity;

60.4.2.8 analyse and review the Classification processes during a Classification opportunity and recommend improvements to the Head of Classification; and

60.4.2.9 report all relevant issues at a particular Classification opportunity to the Head of

## Classification.

- 60.4.3 The Chief Classifier may delegate specific responsibilities to other Classification Personnel within WFDF, and/or to appointed persons in the organising committee of a competition or Classification opportunity.
- 60.4.4 A Chief Classifier may also be appointed to act as a Classifier at that same Classification opportunity.
- 60.4.5 WFDF may appoint one (1) or more co-Chief Classifiers for a specific Classification opportunity, as follows:
  - 60.4.5.1 in respect of each Eligible Impairment type (i.e., Physical Impairment, Vision Impairment, and/or Intellectual Impairment ), in which case the relevant co-Chief Classifier will have primary responsibility for conducting the roles listed in Article 60.4.2 above in respect of their Eligible Impairment type(s); and/or
  - 60.4.5.2 where Classification happens at more than one (1) location (in which case the relevant co-Chief Classifier will have primary responsibility for conducting the roles listed in Article 60.4.2 above in respect of their location).
- 60.4.6 References in the Classification Rules to a 'Chief Classifier' will include any co-Chief Classifier(s) appointed by WFDF.
- 60.4.7 Co-Chief Classifiers should liaise regularly with the other co-Chief Classifiers in relation to the performance of their roles.

## 60.5 **Classifiers**

- 60.5.1 A Classifier is a person authorised as an official and Certified by WFDF to evaluate Athletes as a member of a Classification Panel.
- 60.5.2 In order to be Certified by WFDF, Classifiers must demonstrate the minimum Classifier competencies set out in Article 61.2.
- 60.5.3
- 60.5.4 All Classifiers must apply the assessment methods established by the Classification Rules properly and consistently.
- 60.5.5 For the avoidance of doubt, subject to the rules of each National Federation, there is nothing to prevent Classifiers from also becoming National Classifiers and conducting classification at the national level.

## 60.6 **Trainee Classifiers**

- 60.6.1 A Trainee Classifier is a person who is in the process of formal training to become a Classifier. WFDF may also use the designation Trainee Classifier to identify a Classifier who is participating in a component of Classification that is currently the subject of a limitation on the Classifier's Certification and in respect of which the Classifier is undertaking additional training with a view to removing that limitation.
- 60.6.2 WFDF may appoint an educator/mentor for Trainee Classifiers.
- 60.6.3 WFDF may appoint Trainee Classifiers to participate in some or all components of Classification provided that such participation is under the supervision of a Classification Panel.

60.6.4 A Trainee Classifier cannot be appointed as a member of a Classification Panel.

## 60.7 ***UHC Assessors***

60.7.1 As set out in the Classification Rules, WFDF is responsible for conducting UHC Assessments, to be carried out by UHC Assessors.

## 60.8 ***Other Classification Personnel***

WFDF may specify a process for appointing other Classification Personnel beyond those listed above, including specific roles to manage Classification activities or development (including but not limited to Classification Research, education, or administration).

## 60.9 ***National Classifiers***

A National Classifier is a person authorised by a National Federation to conduct some or all aspects of classification at a national level. Unless also Certified as a Classifier by WFDF, a National Classifier cannot under any circumstances conduct international level Classification.

## 61. **Classification Personnel Competencies**

61.1 UHC Assessor competencies include, as a minimum, that a UHC Assessor has:

61.1.1 a thorough understanding of:

61.1.1.1 Para sport and its applicable rules, including the Classification Rules;

61.1.1.2 the IPC Classification Code and International Standards; and

61.1.1.3 the Classification Personnel Code of Conduct and, in particular, the management of potential, perceived and/or actual conflicts of interest;

61.1.2 relevant qualifications to conduct the assessment of the Diagnostic Information (including the review of the medical documents and interpreting diagnostic tests);

61.1.3 expertise in the relevant Health Conditions and their impact on physical and/or intellectual and/or vision abilities;

61.1.4 ability to evaluate complex medical information;

61.1.5 ability to identify the medical documentation required to verify the Underlying Health Condition(s) that may lead to an Eligible Impairment, and other information relevant for conducting the Classification process;

61.1.6 ability to assess and communicate the need to seek the opinion of another UHC Assessor, for example, when additional expertise is required; and

61.1.7 the relevant skillset to provide written reports about the outcomes of the UHC Assessment.

61.2 Classifier competencies include, as a minimum, that a Classifier has:

61.2.1 a thorough understanding of:

61.2.1.1 Para sport and its applicable rules, including the Classification Rules;

61.2.1.2 the IPC Classification Code and International Standards; and

- 61.2.1.3 the Classification Personnel Code of Conduct and, in particular, the management of potential, perceived and/or actual conflicts of interest;
- 61.2.2 the professional qualifications, level of experience and any other skills, competencies, and/or abilities (for example, physical and/or cognitive abilities) WFDF determines the Classifier must have to conduct Classification in accordance with the IPC Classification Code and International Standards;
- 61.2.3 an appropriate level of English to conduct the Classification process;
- 61.2.4 effective interpersonal and teamwork skills; and
- 61.2.5 effective decision-making skills.
- 61.3 The Classifier competencies to be a Medical Classifier also include that the Classifier has:
  - 61.3.1 a medical qualification as a doctor, with experience of Underlying Health Conditions that may lead to Eligible Impairments catered for by the sport; or
  - 61.3.2 a physiotherapy qualification or other related disciplines with experience of individuals with the clinical manifestations of the Eligible Impairments catered for by the sport.
- 61.4 The Classifier competencies to be a Technical Classifier also include that the Classifier has:
  - 61.4.1 at least a basic knowledge of the ways in which an Athlete's Eligible Impairment(s) can affect their ability to execute specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport;
  - 61.4.2 an extensive Para sport background (as determined by WFDF); and
  - 61.4.3 a minimum number of years' coaching experience (as determined by WFDF) or other relevant qualification in Para sport training, physical education, sport sciences, biomechanics, kinesiology, or other reputable academic qualification with a working knowledge of the sport.
- 61.5 In addition to the Classifier competencies, a Chief Classifier must have the following additional minimum competencies:
  - 61.5.1 Four (4) years' experience as a Classifier in Para sport;
  - 61.5.2 knowledge and experience of each stage of the Classification process;
  - 61.5.3 effective communication skills in English, including the ability to provide a clear explanation of all stages of the Classification process to Classifiers, Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel;
  - 61.5.4 the mentorship skills to provide training or mentoring to Classifiers;
  - 61.5.5 effective management skills; and
  - 61.5.6 effective organisation skills.
- 61.6 In addition to the Classifier competencies, the Head of Classification must have the following additional minimum competencies:
  - 61.6.1 A minimum number of four (4) years' experience as a Classifier in a Para sport However, if more than one (1) person is appointed as the Head of Classification, only one (1) such person must meet this requirement;
  - 61.6.2 the competencies described in Articles 61.5.2 to 61.5.6 above;

- 61.6.3 demonstrable leadership skills in matters related to Classification, for example: administration and management of Classification; rules, policy, and procedure development or revision; Classification Research; Classification education and training; and Classifier mentorship; and
- 61.6.4 experience and continuing participation in training and Certification of Classifiers, for example, teaching and supervising/mentoring instructors at workshops and other similar activities.

## Part II: Classification Personnel Recruitment, Training, Development and Certification

### 62. Recruitment and Retention of Classification Personnel

62.1 To ensure the required quality and quantity of Classification Personnel, WFDF publishes various strategies, including:

62.1.1 Strategy to Identify Prospective Trainee Classifiers: WFDF's strategy to identify prospective Trainee Classifiers include collaboration with National Federations, National Paralympic Committees and the Head of Classification, engagement and results through activities like local and national classification opportunities, courses, webinars and continued professional development activities.

62.1.2 Appointment of Classification Personnel: The appointment of WFDF's Classification Personnel will be as follows:

- Head of Classification: Through recruitment from National Federations and the wider stakeholders; appointment via the Board of Directors.
- Classification Panels: Through WFDF Staff and the Head of Classification; appointment based on a variety of factors to provide the best opportunity for the sport and Classifiers (e.g., availability, location, languages spoken, ongoing professional development activities completed, etc.).
- Chief Classifiers: Through WFDF Staff and the Head of Classification; appointment based on a variety of factors to provide the best opportunity for the sport and Classifiers (e.g., availability, location, languages spoken, ongoing professional development activities completed, etc.).

62.1.3 Strategy to Retain and Engage Classification Personnel: WFDF maintains a Hub to centralize communications, updates and continued professional development activities, which are monitored, to retain and engage Classification Personnel.

62.1.4 Strategy to Manage Classifier Wellbeing: WFDF educates stakeholders on the purpose of classification and the role of the Classifiers as a strategy to protect Classifiers from abuse, harassment and bullying. Additionally, continued professional development activities on soft skills are offered to support Classifiers. WFDF's policies on abuse, harassment and bullying include Classification and are communicated to stakeholders.

62.1.5 Strategy to Re-engage Non-Active Classification Personnel: WFDF expects Classifiers to be active at the local and national level, as well as in Recognized Events each competition cycle. If a Classifier is not active, they must complete remedial educational activities and/or courses, as determined by the Head of Classification and WFDF Staff. Additionally, a Classifier may be considered to be inactive should they not participate in any requested continued professional development education activities and/or training courses.

62.1.6 Classifier Pathway (Minimum Experience and/or Experience Levels): The minimum expertise and/or experience levels required to commence training to become and progress as a Classifier are:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Eighteen (18) years of age</li> <li>● Certification in healthcare discipline</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Eighteen (18) years of age</li> <li>● Certification in healthcare discipline</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Active Certification as a Level 2 Classifier</li> <li>● Minimum experience of two</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Active Certification as a Level 3 Classifier</li> <li>● Minimum experience of two</li> </ul>

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<p>approved by WFDF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Preferred interest or experience Para Flying Disc sports or Flying Disc sports</li> <li>● Preferred experience in evaluation of individuals with an impairment and/or experience in assessment techniques used in classification in Para Sport</li> <li>● Open to all</li> </ul>	<p>approved by WFDF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Preferred interest or experience Para Flying Disc sports or Flying Disc sports</li> <li>● Preferred experience in evaluation of individuals with an impairment and/or experience in assessment techniques used in classification in Para Sport</li> <li>● Involvement in multiple national Competitions (does not need to be Recognised)</li> <li>● Intermediate English language proficiency (“B1” or equivalent)</li> <li>● Selection by WFDF and NPC/NF</li> </ul>	<p>(2) Recognised International Competitions appointed and acted as a Level 3 Classifier with “Competent” Competency Evaluations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Display of integrity and ethical conduct in the role of a Classifier and be in good standing (not under any sanctions)</li> <li>● Selection by WFDF</li> </ul>	<p>(2) Recognised International Competitions appointed and acted as a Level 3 Classifier with “Competent” Competency Evaluations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Display of integrity and ethical conduct in the role of a Classifier and be in good standing (not under any sanctions)</li> <li>● Selection by WFDF</li> </ul>

62.1.7 Facilitators (Educator) and Mentors: The qualifications and competencies that are required to perform the role of Facilitator and Mentor for Classification Certification Courses and related activities and programs are:

- Certification as a Level 3 or 4 Classifier;
- Certification as a Facilitator;
- Thorough experience and excellent skills in teaching and facilitating learning.

### **63. Classification Personnel Training and Development**

63.1 WFDF will demonstrate a commitment to the ongoing professional development of Classification Personnel, including by providing appropriate training and education to ensure that they can (i) obtain and/or maintain the competencies required of them by the International Federation; (ii) achieve and/or maintain Certification; and (iii) otherwise develop and enhance their skills and experience in Classification so that any limitations placed on their Certification can be removed and/or they may progress to more senior Classification Personnel roles.

63.2 Where reasonably practicable, WFDF will look to support National Federations and National Paralympic Committees in training and developing National Classifiers. In particular:

63.2.1 where appropriate, WFDF will make materials used to train and educate Classifiers and Trainee Classifiers available to National Federations and National Paralympic Committees for the purpose of training National Classifiers;

63.2.2 WFDF will engage with National Federations and National Paralympic Committees to cooperate and support a pathway to enable National Classifiers to become international Classifiers; and

63.2.3 WFDF will make available to National Federations a schedule of Classifier and Trainee Classifier education sessions with sufficient notice and frequency to enable National Federations to identify and apply for Trainee Classifiers to attend such education sessions.

### **64. Classifier Certification**

64.1 Classifier Certification is the process by which WFDF assesses and confirms that a Classifier has met the Classifier competencies.

64.2 WFDF specifies that a Classifier's Certification are subject to certain limitations, including:

64.2.1 Certification is limited to the type of Eligible Impairment that the Classifier may assess (i.e., Physical Impairments, Vision Impairment and/or Intellectual Impairment);

64.2.2 a limitation on whether the Classifier is Certified as a Medical Classifier or a Technical Classifier (if relevant); and

64.2.3 the limitation period for which the Certification is valid is four (4) years, subject to future Re-Certification.

64.3 Requirements and Processes for Classifier Certification and Re-Certification: To be earn and renew a Certification, a Classifier must attend a Certification Course, completing a theoretical and practical Evaluation as well as Competency Transcript Assessment, showing they demonstrate the necessary skills, knowledge and competencies.

64.3.1.1 Pre-Requisites: To be eligible to attend a Certification Course, the Classifier must:

- Be at least eighteen (18) years of age
- Hold a valid certification in healthcare discipline approved by WFDFI

- Have interest or experience in Para Flying Disc sports and/or Flying Disc sports in general;
- Experience in evaluation of individuals with an impairment and/or experience in assessment techniques used in classification in Para Sport;
- Intermediate English language proficiency (“B1” or equivalent);
- Display of integrity and ethical conduct in the role of a Classifier and be in good standing (not under any sanctions);
- Not hold a position that may be perceived as a conflict of interest.

64.4 Process for Quality Assessment: WFDF completes quality assessment for each Classifier at each Recognised Event through Competency Transcripts completed by the chief classifier, ongoing surveys and continued professional development activities.

64.5 Process for Handling Substandard Performance and Sanctioning: WFDF handles substandard performance (Competency Transcripts evaluated as “Not Competent” and/or feedback from Athletes, Athlete support personnel, WFDF and/or other Classifiers) on a case-by-case basis with the Head of Classification. Based on the case, remedial educational activities and/or courses may be assigned or if necessary, the Certification Level may be downgraded or withdrawn. In addition, WFDF has the right to sanction a Classifier on grounds of breaches of the Rules and Regulations and the appendixes thereof, the Classifier Code of Conduct, the WFDF Code of Ethics, or any other justifiable reason with consequences which can include:

- Verbal warning;
- Written warning;
- Removal and replacement at a Classification Athlete Evaluation Session;
- Continued professional development activities;
- Suspension;
- Downgrade of level;
- Removal of certification.

During the Classification Athlete Evaluations and Competition, WFDF and the Chief Classifier can collectively impose an immediate sanction on a Classifier during classification Athlete Evaluations and Competition:

- First (1st): A verbal warning.
- Second (2nd): If verbal warning is disregarded, removal and replacement from the classification Athlete Evaluations and/or Competition.

64.5.1

64.6 In particular:

64.6.1 a Classifier’s Certification must be reviewed within each four (4) years to ensure that the Classifier has retained the relevant competencies;

64.6.2 a Classifier may have their Certification removed if, without limitation, (i) WFDF is no longer satisfied that the Classifier possesses the required Classifier competencies; and/or (ii) the Classifier breaches the Classification Personnel Code of Conduct; and

64.6.3 a Classifier whose Certification was removed pursuant to Article 64.5.2(i) may regain their Certification if they subsequently satisfy WFDF that they have re-attained the required Classifier competencies.

## Part III: Conflicts of Interest and Code of Conduct

### 65. Identifying and Managing Conflicts of Interest

- 65.1 WFDF will identify, actively manage, record, and keep updated a register of actual, perceived and potential Classification Personnel conflicts of interest. In this context, all Classification Personnel must promptly, accurately, and fully disclose to WFDF all past and current personal and professional role(s), office(s) and relationship(s) that may affect their ability to make an objective decision or assessment when fulfilling their Classification Personnel role, or may create the perception of such. This duty of disclosure on Classification Personnel is an ongoing duty, to allow WFDF to keep its register updated.
- 65.2 WFDF will consider whether any disclosures by Classification Personnel represent an actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest that requires active management. Examples of where an actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest may arise (and will need to be actively managed) include where Classification Personnel are also acting as an office-holder, member of staff of, or otherwise representing and/or working on behalf of a National Federation. Other roles, whether paid or voluntary, with National Federations or National Paralympic Committees may also lead to actual, perceived or potential conflicts of interest.
- 65.3 WFDF in its sole discretion, will determine whether or not any Classification Personnel have an actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest.]
- 65.4 WFDF has the right not to appoint Classification Personnel (or to withdraw appointments of Classification Personnel) who, in the view of WFDF, have an actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest.
- 65.5 In order to manage actual, perceived, or potential conflicts of interest, it is not permitted for the following persons to (i) commence practical training to become a Classifier (i.e., they cannot participate in any Evaluation Sessions e.g., as a Trainee Classifier); (ii) receive or keep their Certification as a Classifier; or (iii) act as a Head of Classification:
- 65.5.1 an international athlete who is currently competing in any Para sport, or who has retired from Para sport less than four (4) years ago;
  - 65.5.2 a national team coach or national team assistant coach involved in Para sport, or who has retired from Para sport less than four (4) years ago; or
  - 65.5.3 other Athlete Support Personnel in Para sport with direct involvement with the national team or international athletes, or who have retired from such involvement in Para sport less than two (2) years ago (including but not limited to a team physiotherapist, medical doctor, psychologist, massage therapist).

*[Comment to Article 65.6: There is a high risk of an actual, perceived, or potential conflict of interest arising in circumstances where Classification Personnel have (or have recently had) a close association or role with a national sport team. The above restrictions are intended to help manage such risks. For example:*

*An international athlete in Para sport cannot become a Classifier in any Para sport while they hold such role. However, once they have retired from such role they can immediately become a Classifier in other Para sports (but not Para sport), and can become a Classifier in Para sport once they have been retired for four (4) years.*

*A national team coach or national team physiotherapist in Para sport may become a Classifier in any Para sport except Para sport. Once they have retired from such role they can also become a Classifier in Para sport after being retired for, respectively, four (4) years or two (2) years.]*

- 65.6 For the avoidance of doubt, Article 65.6 does not prevent persons covered by that provision from training or acting as National Classifiers.

65.7 Classifiers must also not take on any other roles and responsibilities at Covered Competitions and Classification opportunities where they are acting as Classifiers that would impact their ability to carry out the Classification process/their responsibilities. WFDF may assign other roles and responsibilities to Classifiers provided that they can be managed without interfering with the Classifier roles and responsibilities.

## **66. Classification Personnel Code of Conduct**

66.1 All Classification Personnel must comply with the Classification Personnel Code of Conduct.

66.2 The WFDF Classification Personnel Code of Conduct requires Classification Personnel to:

66.2.1 comply with the IPC Classification Code and International Standards, and the International Federation's Classification rules;

66.2.2 comply with the WFDF's integrity code (or similar), if available;

66.2.3 act as neutral evaluators throughout all stages of the Classification process;

66.2.4 have high regard for the dignity of all Athletes;

66.2.5 have high regard for the physical and mental welfare of all Athletes;

66.2.6 perform their duties courteously, respectfully, competently, consistently, and objectively for all Athletes;

66.2.7 respect all Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel and strive to uphold a courteous environment during the Classification process;

66.2.8 ensure that they are fit to perform the role and physical duties reasonably expected of Classification Personnel, and notify WFDF if this ceases to be the case;

66.2.9 maintain excellent hygiene and sanitation during the Classification process;

66.2.10 not abuse their position to obtain advantage or benefit for themselves or third parties;

66.2.11 maintain confidentiality of Athlete information in accordance with the International Federation's Classification rules;

66.2.12 comply with WFDF's safeguarding rules; and

66.2.13 comply with WFDF's other policies, rules and processes.

66.3 The procedures for reporting and investigating complaints of non-compliance with the Classification Personnel Code of Conduct and procedures for taking appropriate action against Classification Personnel in respect of any violation of the Classification Personnel Code of Conduct follow WFDF's Conduct Policy.

## Chapter 7: Roles and Responsibilities

### 67. WFDF

67.1 The roles and responsibilities of WFDF under these Classification Rules include to:

- 67.1.1 increase awareness of the purpose, principles, and scientific rationale behind Classification amongst relevant stakeholders in Para sport;
- 67.1.2 develop, implement, and regularly review and publish Classification rules in Compliance with the IPC Classification Code and International Standards;
- 67.1.3 require, as a condition of membership, that its National Federations and other members comply with these Classification Rules, and to take appropriate action to ensure such compliance;
- 67.1.4 develop and deliver (where appropriate with the involvement of Athletes) Classification education and awareness programmes for National Federations, Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, and Classifiers which must, at a minimum, explain these Classification Rules and that the rules must comply with the IPC Classification Code and the International Standards;
- 67.1.5 promote, initiate, and/or review Classification Research;
- 67.1.6 develop, implement, and maintain a clear Classifier recruitment, training, and development pathway; and
- 67.1.7 cooperate fully, honestly, and in good faith with the IPC in connection with any investigations conducted by the IPC in relation to potential Intentional Misrepresentation or Compliance matters.

### 68. Participants

68.1 It is the personal responsibility of all Participants to:

- 68.1.1 be knowledgeable of and comply with these Classification Rules, and all applicable regulations, policies, rules, and processes adopted pursuant to these Classification Rules;
- 68.1.2 participate in, and cooperate fully, honestly, and in good faith with any Classification process and/or related procedure; and
- 68.1.3 cooperate fully, honestly, and in good faith with any investigations concerning potential Intentional Misrepresentation.

### 69. Athletes

69.1 In addition to the general responsibilities listed in Article 68.1 above, all Athletes must:

- 69.1.1 ensure that WFDF is provided (through their National Federation) with all relevant Diagnostic Information required to enable WFDF to assess the existence of an Underlying Health Condition and Eligible Impairment, and ensure that all such information is complete, accurate, authentic, and relevant, and that WFDF is informed of any changes to that information;
- 69.1.2 as set out in Article 24.5, give their best efforts during an Evaluation Session and comply with all reasonable instructions given to them by a Classification Panel; and

69.1.3 support and facilitate Classification education and research, and the development and implementation of Classification systems.

## **70. Athlete Support Personnel**

70.1 In addition to the general responsibilities listed in Article 68.1 above, all Athlete Support Personnel must:

70.1.1 use their influence on Athlete values and behaviour to foster a positive and collaborative attitude regarding the Classification process and those involved in the Classification of Athletes (e.g. Classifiers); and

70.1.2 facilitate and encourage Athletes to participate in Classification education and research, and the development and implementation of WFDF's Classification systems.

# Chapter 8: Best Practice Classification and Research

## 71. Best Practice Classification

- 71.1 WFDF will ensure that it has sport-specific Classification systems that reflect Best Practice Classification. Best Practice Classification means that the Classification system:
- 71.1.1 adopts the four (4) stages of Classification set out in Article 6.1 and describes the methods used in each of the four (4) stages;
  - 71.1.2 uses the best available evidence at each stage of Classification, in particular by:
    - 71.1.2.1 focusing on the relationship between the impairment and key performance determinants, where the impairment is the unit of classification and impairments are classified based on the extent to which they impact the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to their specific sport;
    - 71.1.2.2 drawing on reliable assessment results from a range of domains (for example, Athlete training history, impairment(s), performance of novel and practised motor tasks, and sport-specific/sports technical performance);
    - 71.1.2.3 using assessments that are, as a minimum, evidence-informed (i.e., scientific evidence indicates that the individual assessments that make up the Classification system will provide information that is accurate and reliable); and
    - 71.1.2.4 relying on as few assumptions as possible (and, where assumptions are relied on, ensuring that those assumptions are defensible);
  - 71.1.3 applies principles of clinical reasoning and critical thinking to enable balanced consideration of the assessments conducted at each stage of Classification;
  - 71.1.4 is consistent with established principles of human movement science, low vision science, cognitive science, and sports performance; and
  - 71.1.5 is consistent with current knowledge of (i) each Eligible Impairment, and (ii) the Underlying Health Conditions that are consistent with those Eligible Impairments.

*[Comment to Article 71.1: Best Practice Classification represents the full utilization of the scientific evidence available today, where evidence-informed assessments are used along with clinical reasoning to draw conclusions from assessment results from a range of domains. Best Practice Classification will evolve over time, with the goal for it to reach the standard of evidence-based Classification, as referred to in Article 72.2.]*

## 72. Classification Research

- 72.1 WFDF will conduct multidisciplinary Classification Research to:
- 72.1.1 ensure that its Classification systems meet (and continue to meet) the requirements for Best Practice Classification; and
  - 72.1.2 monitor the quality of its assessment systems and improve its evidence base.
- 72.2 WFDF will ensure that, where appropriate, stakeholders (including Athletes and Classifiers) have an opportunity to provide input as part of WFDF's plans to conduct Classification Research.
- 72.3 All Classification Research will comply with internationally recognized ethical standards and research practices.

## Chapter 9: Data

### 73. General provision

- 73.1 The Classification Rules require WFDF to Process Classification Data relating to Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, Classification Personnel, and other individuals involved in Para sport.
- 73.2 This Chapter sets out the data protection and privacy standards that WFDF will apply when Processing Classification Data.

### 74. Principles for Processing Classification Data

- 74.1 WFDF will only Process Classification Data in connection with Classification, or other purposes relating to the Classification Rules, and/or the IPC Classification Code, and/or International Standards, including (without limitation) UHC Assessments, Eligible Impairment Assessments, MIC Assessments, Sport Class Assessments, Evaluation Sessions, conducting disciplinary procedures, resolving Protests and Appeals, using or sharing Classification-related intelligence, and for education and awareness.
- 74.2 WFDF will only collect Classification Data that it reasonably requires to achieve the above purposes, and will take steps to delete, destroy, or anonymise Classification Data once it is no longer required for such purposes.
- 74.3 WFDF will use reasonable efforts to ensure Classification Data is:
- 74.3.1 accurate, complete, and up-to-date;
  - 74.3.2 Processed fairly and lawfully, and in a manner that is clear to the relevant individual, such as through the use of written or oral notices;
  - 74.3.3 Processed for specified and legitimate purposes in connection with Classification, or other purposes relating to the Classification Rules, and/or the IPC Classification Code and/or International Standards, and not further Processed for unrelated or incompatible purposes unless those purposes are expressly permitted by law; and
  - 74.3.4 adequate, relevant, and limited to what WFDF reasonably requires in connection with Classification, or other purposes relating to the Classification Rules, and/or the IPC Classification Code and/or International Standards.

*[Comment to Article 74.3: WFDF will abide by certain common principles of data protection when Processing Classification Data. This includes taking reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure that Classification Data remains correct and accurate, is not Processed for additional, unrelated purposes except where applicable laws expressly permit, and is promptly deleted, destroyed, or permanently anonymised as soon as possible. It also includes taking reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure that relevant individuals are informed, for instance through the use of specific or general informational notices, regarding the Processing of their Classification Data.]*

### 75. Lawful grounds for Processing Classification Data

- 75.1 WFDF will ensure that each Processing operation it performs upon Classification Data has a valid legal basis to support it, and that the Processing is otherwise permitted under applicable Data Protection Laws.
- 75.2 Lawful grounds for Processing Classification Data include where the relevant Processing (i) furthers WFDF's legitimate interests, and those interests outweigh the interests of the relevant individual; (ii) takes place with the individual's informed and voluntary consent; (iii) is required or necessary under applicable law to fulfil contractual obligations owed to the individual or to perform tasks carried out in

the public interest; or (iv) complies with other legal grounds available to WFDF under applicable Data Protection Laws.

*[Comment to Article 75.2: WFDF is likely to rely on more than one (1) legal basis to perform the various Processing operations required under the Classification Rules, and/or the IPC Classification Code and/or International Standards. The appropriate ground may depend on a range of factors, such as whether the Classification Data includes Sensitive Personal Information; whether data protection, sport, or other local laws expressly set forth such grounds (in which case, the data may be considered necessary to comply with such laws or necessary to fulfil legitimate interests related to sport); and other circumstances relating to the Processing.]*

- 75.3 Where WFDF relies upon consent to justify its Processing of certain Classification Data, and the relevant individual is not competent by virtue of their age or other factors to provide informed and voluntary consent, a duly authorised representative may provide consent on the individual's behalf.

*[Comment to Article 75.3: In situations where an Athlete is a minor, as determined under applicable law, and so incapable of furnishing consent, their authorised representative, which may include a parent, guardian, or other representative, such as a member of the Athlete's delegation where the Athlete's parent or guardian has expressly agreed to this, may provide consent on the Athlete's behalf.]*

## **76. Processing for Classification Research**

- 76.1 WFDF may Process Classification Data to engage in Classification Research, and in these circumstances, WFDF will ensure that a valid legal basis exists to permit such Processing, which may be the Athlete's informed and voluntary consent or other legal grounds available to WFDF under applicable Data Protection Laws.

*[Comment to Article 76.1: Classification Research is vital for the development of Classification in sport and Athletes are often asked to provide Classification Data to Classification Organisations, including WFDF, for this purpose. In addition to reliance upon consent, Data Protection Laws applicable to WFDF may permit the Processing of Personal Information, including Sensitive Personal Information, on grounds other than consent, provided certain conditions related to the Classification Research are satisfied. In all of these circumstances, WFDF will ensure that its Classification Research is transparent to the relevant Athletes.]*

- 76.2 Where WFDF Processes Classification Data for Research Purposes it will comply with all applicable ethical use and research requirements. Whenever possible, WFDF will conduct Classification Research using Anonymised Data in lieu of Personal Information, in order to best protect the privacy of the relevant Athlete(s).
- 76.3 Personal Information (including Sensitive Personal Information) provided for Research Purposes will not be used to engage in individual Classification and the allocation of a Sport Class to that individual.
- 76.4 In the event that WFDF publishes any Classification Data Processed for Research Purposes, it will seek to ensure that the publication contains only Anonymised Data and does not identify Athletes. If the publication will contain any Personal Information, WFDF will obtain the informed and voluntary written consent of the relevant Athlete(s) prior to such publication.

## **77. Notification to Athletes and Others**

- 77.1 WFDF will notify Athletes and others whose Classification Data it Processes about the following, along with any other disclosures required by applicable Data Protection Laws:
- 77.1.1 to the extent that WFDF is not the Classification Organisation responsible for collecting the Classification Data, the identity of that other Classification Organisation;

- 77.1.2 an appropriate contact point for handling any enquiries within WFDF and/or any other relevant Classification Organisation responsible for collecting the Classification Data;
  - 77.1.3 the types of Classification Data collected and Processed, and the purpose(s) for which the Classification Data may be Processed, which must be sufficiently comprehensive in scope to cover all purposes relating to the Classification Rules, and/or the IPC Classification Code and/or International Standards;
  - 77.1.4 the types of third parties, such as other Classification Organisations, and national or international sports federations, to whom Classification Data may be disclosed;
  - 77.1.5 the individual's rights with respect to the Classification Data under Article 81; and
  - 77.1.6 the expected period of time that the Classification Data will be retained by WFDF, as documented in accordance with Article 80.2.
- 77.2 WFDF will furnish the information listed in Article 77.1 at the time that it collects Classification Data from an individual or at an otherwise appropriate time in accordance with applicable Data Protection Laws, in a format and manner that the individual can reasonably comprehend, using clear and plain language that can be readily understood.
- 77.3 Where WFDF receives Classification Data from third parties it will communicate the information in Article 77.1 as soon as reasonably practicable, unless the Athlete or other individual is already in possession of it, such as where it has been furnished by another Classification Organisation.

## **78. Classification Data Security**

78.1 WFDF will:

- 78.1.1 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
- 78.1.2 take reasonable steps to ensure that any other party that it provides Classification Data to for Processing does so in a manner consistent with this Chapter. Where WFDF engages third parties to Process Classification Data on its behalf or under its instructions, it will subject such third parties to appropriate contractual controls.

*[Comment to Article 78.1.2: WFDF bears ultimate responsibility when outsourcing any Processing to third parties and should only rely upon reputable parties to Process Classification Data. WFDF will ensure that such third parties only Process Classification Data on WFDF's instructions, apply appropriate security measures to the Classification Data, promptly provide notice of any security compromise impacting the Classification Data, and apply other suitable safeguards.]*

## **79. Disclosure of Classification Data**

79.1 WFDF may disclose Classification Data to other Classification Organisations (including the IPC), provided that such disclosure reasonably relates to Processing activities contemplated under the Classification Rules and/or the IPC Classification Code and/or International Standards, and/or the disclosure is in accordance with applicable Data Protection Laws.

*[Comment to Article 79.1: WFDF may wish to disclose Classification Data to another Classification Organisation (including the IPC), such as in connection with Competitions, to ensure the integrity of the Classification process (including in respect of instances or suspected instances of Intentional*

*Misrepresentation), and to otherwise assist in the process of Classification.]*

79.2 WFDF may disclose Classification Data to other parties only if such disclosure is permitted by applicable Data Protection Laws and fulfils purposes relating to the Classification Rules and/or the IPC Classification Code and/or International Standards.

79.3 Notwithstanding the foregoing, WFDF may share Classification Data with law enforcement or other government authorities if required to do so under applicable law.

*[Comment to Article 79.3: In cases where WFDF is compelled by law to disclose Classification Data, it may do so consistent with this Chapter.]*

## **80. Retaining Classification Data**

80.1 WFDF will ensure that Classification Data is only retained for as long as it is reasonably required by WFDF to fulfil purposes relating to the Classification Rules and/or the IPC Classification Code and/or International Standards, and/or the retention of the Classification Data is otherwise required by applicable law. Where the above conditions are not met, Classification Data will be deleted, destroyed, or permanently anonymised.

*[Comment to Article 80.1: WFDF may retain Classification Data as long as it is still useful or necessary to fulfil a purpose relating to the Classification Rules, and/or the IPC Classification Code and/or International Standards.]*

80.2 WFDF will develop guidelines for establishing reasonable and appropriate retention times that reflect the different categories and purposes served of the Classification Data that it Processes.

*[Comment to Article 80.2: WFDF will develop guidelines, which may be reflected in internal policies or procedures, to enable it to allocate suitable retention times for the various types of Classification Data it Processes. In relation to retired or former Athletes, the continued retention of certain categories of Classification Data following an Athlete's retirement may be justified for a certain period of time (for example, where WFDF reasonably believes that the Athlete may return to active competition, or if the Classification Data may reasonably be needed for investigatory or disciplinary purposes). In relation to individual Classifiers, WFDF will make sure that Classifiers do not retain any of the Classification Data that Classifiers Process in that capacity once the Classification Data is no longer necessary to Classification of the relevant Athlete. This includes any notes, comments, video recordings, or records written or captured electronically (e.g., on personal laptops or other storage devices), generated, or compiled by Classifiers during Classification.]*

## **81. Rights Relating to Classification Data**

81.1 Individuals may request from WFDF:

81.1.1 confirmation of whether or not WFDF Processes Classification Data relating to them and the informational disclosures set forth in Article 77.1;

81.1.2 a copy of the Classification Data held by WFDF relating to them in an accessible format; and/or

81.1.3 correction or deletion of the Classification Data relating to them held by WFDF.

*[Comment to Article 81.1: WFDF will provide Athletes with information about the Classification Data it Processes in relation to them, and will respond to requests seeking access to, or correction or deletion of such Classification Data.]*

81.2 WFDF will respond to such requests and should do so within a reasonable period of time, taking into

account the effort required to comply with the request, and in accordance with applicable Data Protection Laws, which may set forth specific timeframes for responding.

- 81.3 Notwithstanding the above, WFDF may refuse to grant such requests where it would interfere with efforts to maintain the integrity of the Classification process, prevent WFDF from complying with the IPC Classification Code, or refusing the request is otherwise permitted under applicable Data Protection Laws.

*[Comment to Article 81.3: In certain contexts, WFDF may refuse a request seeking access to, or correction or deletion of, Classification Data, such as where the request would undermine efforts to ensure the integrity of Para sport, such as investigations and intelligence gathering relating to Intentional Misrepresentation by an Athlete or conducting disciplinary proceedings. Under certain data protection laws, it may be possible to refuse a request, such as where the request is manifestly unfounded, repetitive, or abusive in nature.]*

- 81.4 Data Protection Laws may provide for additional individual rights, besides those arising under Article 81.1, and WFDF will honour such rights where they exist in law.

## Chapter 10: Transitional Provisions

### 82. Transitional Provisions

- 82.1 Any period prior to the Effective Date will be governed by the substantive rules in effect at the time. However, procedural rules will apply retroactively unless specified otherwise.
- 82.2 Any charge for breach of WFDF's previous classification rules that: (i) was pending as of the Effective Date; or (ii) is brought after the Effective Date, will be governed by the substantive rules in effect at the time the alleged breach occurred, and not by the substantive rules set out in these Classification Rules, unless WFDF or the body hearing the case determines that the principle of "lex mitior" appropriately applies under the circumstances of the case (i.e., WFDF or the hearing body determines that: (i) the new substantive rules in these Classification Rules are more lenient than those in force at the time of the breach; and (ii) it would be reasonable and proportionate in all the circumstances to apply the new substantive rules).
- 82.3 WFDF will promptly notify the Participant, the Participant's National Federation, and the IPC of any decision made to apply the principle of "lex mitior" under Article 82.2.
- 82.3.1 That decision may be appealed by the IPC to WFDF's designated appeal body (see Article 57) within twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the decision, except that if the IPC has not previously received a copy of the full case file pertaining to the alleged breach of WFDF's previous classification rules (together with English translations of all documents within the case file, where not originally in the English language), it will have fifteen (15) days from its receipt of the notice of the decision to apply the principle of "lex mitior" to request a copy of that case file (including any translations).
- 82.3.2 In such case, the IPC will have twenty-one (21) days from its receipt of the full case file (and all necessary translations) to file an appeal.
- 82.4 The limitation period set out in Article 53.4 is a procedural rule not a substantive rule, and should be applied retroactively along with all of the other procedural rules in these Classification Rules (provided, however, that Article 53.4 will only be applied retroactively if the limitation period has not already expired as at the Effective Date).

# Appendix 1: Classification of Athletes with Physical Impairments

## A. Para Ultimate

### A1. Eligible Impairments

A1.1. All Physical Impairments must be consistent with an Underlying Health Condition that (i) originates from the central or peripheral nervous system; or (ii) is musculoskeletal.

The Physical Impairments catered for by WFDF are:

Eligible Impairment	Examples of Underlying Health Conditions
<p><b>Impaired Muscle Power</b> Athletes with Impaired Muscle Power have a reduced (or no) ability to contract their muscles to generate force that is consistent with an Underlying Health Condition affecting the structure and function of the central or peripheral nervous system or the muscles (including the muscle origin and muscle insertion).</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Impaired Muscle Power include spinal cord injury (complete or incomplete), spina bifida, plexus injuries, poly(neuropathies) or muscular dystrophies.</p>
<p><b>Impaired Passive Range of Movement</b> Athletes with Impaired Passive Range of Movement have a reduced ability for a joint to be passively moved that is consistent with an Underlying Health Condition affecting a structure of bones, joints, connective tissue, or soft tissues.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Impaired Passive Range of Movement include arthrogyrosis and contractures resulting from joint dysplasia, rheumatoid diseases, or trauma resulting in anatomical changes and/or function of a joint.</p>
<p><b>Limb Deficiency and/or Limb Length Difference</b> Athletes with Limb Deficiency or Limb Length Difference have a total or partial absence of a limb or anatomically irregular limb dimensions that are consistent with an Underlying Health Condition resulting from trauma, illness, or congenital causes affecting the bones and/or joints.</p> <p>This Eligible Impairment can be further divided into the following sub-categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. limb deficiency;</li> <li>b. leg length difference; and/or</li> <li>c. arm length difference.</li> </ol>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Limb Deficiency include traumatic oncologic or vascular amputation, illness (for example amputation due to infectious disease) or congenital limb deficiency (longitudinal or transverse).</p> <p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Limb Length Difference include congenital or traumatic disturbance of limb growth and/or its anatomy.</p>
<p><b>Short Stature</b> Athletes with Short Stature have reduced total body length (including head, trunk, and legs) as a result of congenitally or developmentally reduced length of the bones of the upper and lower limbs (and may also have reduced trunk length) that is consistent with an Underlying Health Condition. Athletes will not be considered to have Short Stature if their reduced total body length is the result of Limb Deficiency or Limb Length Difference only.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Short Stature include achondroplasia, or growth hormone dysfunction.</p>
<p><b>Coordination Impairments</b> Athletes with a Coordination Impairment have one (1) or more of the following three (3) movement</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to one (1) or a combination of Coordination Impairments include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain</p>

Eligible Impairment	Examples of Underlying Health Conditions
<p>disorders that (i) adversely affects the ability to voluntarily produce a full range of skilled movement fluidly, rapidly, and accurately; and (ii) is consistent with an Underlying Health Condition affecting the structure and function of the central nervous system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Hypertonia/Spasticity: an increase in muscle tension that may be velocity-dependent and/or a reduced ability of a muscle to stretch.</li> <li>b. Motor Ataxia: limited precision in direction and velocity of voluntary movement.</li> <li>c. Dyskinesia (athetosis, dystonia, chorea): involuntary movements that interfere with voluntary movements.</li> </ul> <p>[Comment to Coordination Impairments: Coordination is the ability to voluntarily produce skilled movement fluidly, rapidly, and accurately (Connick et al., 2015; Runciman &amp; Derman, 2018).]</p>	<p>injury or cerebrovascular disease.</p>

## A2. UHC Assessment

The UHC Assessor will carry out the UHC Assessments by reviewing the Diagnostic Information submitted for each Athlete per Part IV-A: Stage 1: UHC Assessment, determining an outcome following the relevant process.

## A3. Eligible Impairment Assessment

In the Eligible Impairment Assessment, the Classification Panel assesses whether an Eligible Impairment exists, using the following methods, tests, and criteria:

Eligible Impairment	Method	Criteria
<b>Impaired Muscle Power</b>	Manual muscle testing by the Medical Research Council (MRC) scale.	Loss of muscle power grade based on the MRC scale.
<b>Impaired Passive Range of Movement</b>	Goniometer measurement.	Limited range of movement.
<b>Limb Deficiency</b>	Limb length measurement.	Extent of length difference.
<b>Leg Length Difference</b>	Visual assessment and palpation.	Extent of limb deficiency.
<b>Short Stature</b>	Stadiometer measurement and arm span measurement.	Short stature diagnosis is based on standing height and arm-length measures.
<b>Coordination Impairments (Hypertonia/Spasticity, Motor Ataxia and/ or Dyskinesia)</b>	Spasticity measurement (Ashworth scale), coordination test, and balance test.	Commonly accepted medical criteria for assessment of hypertonia/spasticity, motor ataxia, and dyskinesia.

#### A4. Minimum Impairment Criteria

In the Minimum Impairment Criteria Assessment, the Classification Panel assesses whether the Athlete's Eligible Impairment is such that it meets the Minimum Impairment Criteria.

To be eligible to compete in the sport, the Athlete's Eligible Impairment must meet one (1) or more of the following Minimum Impairment Criteria (MIC):

Impairment Type	Minimum Impairment Criteria
<b>Coordination Impairments (Hypertonia/Spacity, Motor Ataxia and/ or Dyskinesia)</b>	Showing obvious loss of function, clearly detectable with a minimum of grade two (2) on the Ashworth Scale in at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>one (1) lower limb (hip, knee, ankle) and/or</li> <li>one (1) upper limb (wrist, elbow, shoulder)</li> </ul>
<b>Impaired Muscle Power</b>	Loss of at least ten (10) muscle strength points across at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>one (1) lower limb; hip (flexors/ extensors/ adductors/ abductors), knee (flexors/ extensors), ankle (dorsi- /plantar-flexors) and/or</li> <li>one (1) upper limb; shoulder, elbow, wrist according to the MRC scale (max. score of eighty [80]).</li> </ul>
<b>Impaired Passive Range of Movement</b>	Limitation of functional movement at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>one (1) lower limb (hip, knee and/or ankle) and/or</li> <li>one (1) upper limb (shoulder, elbow and/or wrist)</li> </ul> with an extension defect of at least thirty (30°) degrees and/or ankylosis of these joints.
<b>Limb Deficiency</b>	Amputation through at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>one (1) lower limb (i.e., foot - Lisfranc amputation) and/or</li> <li>one (1) upper limb (i.e., wrist)</li> </ul> or dysmelia resulting in the equivalent.
<b>Leg Length Difference</b>	Minimum of seven (7) centimeters between the legs.
<b>Short Stature</b>	Athletes must be older than thirteen (13) years old.  Athletes younger than eighteen (18) years old must prove their chromosomal disorder diagnosis related to Short Stature. The player must meet the criteria below and classification measurements will be completed at each competition until the age of eighteen (18).  For males: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum standing height equal to or under (<math>\leq</math>) 145cm, and</li> <li>Arm length <math>\leq</math> 66cm, and</li> <li>Sum of standing height plus arm length <math>\leq</math> 200cm</li> </ul> For females: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum standing height <math>\leq</math> 137cm, and</li> <li>Arm length <math>\leq</math> 63cm, and</li> <li>Sum of standing height plus arm length <math>\leq</math> 190cm.</li> </ul>

#### A5. Sport Classes

Para Ultimate has five (5) Sport Classes:

- Wheelchair Ultimate:
  - U1;
  - U2;
  - U3;
  - U4;
- Standing Ultimate with Impairment of Short Stature: U5.

### A5.1. Sport Class Assessment Methodology

A5.1.1. The Classificational Panel will conduct the following assessments related to the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport:

Category	Task/Activity	Protocol	Scoring
Throwing	Backhand/ Forehand	<p><b>Accuracy:</b> The athlete must perform five (5) throws of each type (backhand and forehand) at each designated distance towards a target positioned at distances of three (3), five (5), seven (7), ten (10), and twelve (12) meters from the throwing point. Each successful throw is scored at one (1) point, for a maximum of ten (10) points per distance.</p> <p><b>Throwing Power Test:</b> Each athlete must perform three (3) throws for each type of throw, aiming to generate maximum power to cover the greatest distance possible. The distance is measured. At the end of the test, the average of the three (3) measurements for each throw type was calculated, providing an overall value for the average throwing distance.</p>	<p><b>Accuracy</b> Inefficient &lt; 15 Limited 15 – 24 Efficient ≥ 25</p> <p><b>Power</b> Inefficient &lt; 18 Limited 18-24.99 Efficient ≥ 25</p>
		<p>The test is performed in two (2) formats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Body Catching Test:</b> The disc is thrown directly to the athlete's torso, and they must catch it while maintaining wheelchair stability and proper grip control.</li> <li>2. <b>Stationary Catching Test:</b> The disc is thrown slightly away from the body but still within reach of the upper limbs, assessing the athlete's ability to extend and securely grab the disc.</li> </ol> <p>Each athlete must receive a total of ten (10) passes per format from a distance of both five (5) and ten (10) meters. The score is based on the number of successful receptions in each format, without summing the results, to allow separate evaluation of the ability to catch directly on the body and within the extended arm range.</p>	<p><b>Body Catching Test</b> Inefficient ≤ 5 Limited 6 – 8 Efficient 9 – 10</p> <p><b>Stationary Catching Test (Within Arm Range):</b> Total Score (out of 10) Functional Classification Inefficient ≤ 4 Limited 5 – 7 Efficient 8 – 10</p>
Catching	Stationary	<p>The test is performed in two (2) formats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Body Catching Test:</b> The disc is thrown directly to the athlete's torso, and they must catch it while maintaining wheelchair stability and proper grip control.</li> <li>2. <b>Stationary Catching Test:</b> The disc is thrown slightly away from the body but still within reach of the upper limbs, assessing the athlete's ability to extend and securely grab the disc.</li> </ol> <p>Each athlete must receive a total of ten (10) passes per format from a distance of both five (5) and ten (10) meters. The score is based on the number of successful receptions in each format, without summing the results, to allow separate evaluation of the ability to catch directly on the body and within the extended arm range.</p>	<p><b>Body Catching Test</b> Inefficient ≤ 5 Limited 6 – 8 Efficient 9 – 10</p> <p><b>Stationary Catching Test (Within Arm Range):</b> Total Score (out of 10) Functional Classification Inefficient ≤ 4 Limited 5 – 7 Efficient 8 – 10</p>
	With Movement	<p>The test is performed in two (2) formats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Forward Moving Catch:</b> The athlete must move along a designated ten (10) meter lane, advancing in a straight line toward the thrower. During the movement, they must receive a total of five (5) passes thrown. After each reception, the athlete returns to the starting point to repeat the attempt.</li> <li>2. <b>Lateral Moving Catch:</b> The athlete moves laterally across the ten (10) meter lane, alternating entries from the right and left sides in relation to the thrower. In this variation, the athlete also receives a total of five (5) passes.</li> </ol> <p>Each successful catch is worth one (1) point, for a maximum score of ten (10) points.</p>	<p><b>Moving Catch Test:</b> Inefficient &lt; 6 Limited 6 – 8 Efficient 9 – 10</p>
Defending	Handlers	<p>Three (3) athletes must be positioned in a straight line, with a six (6) meter distance between each of them. Two (2) of the athletes, positioned at the ends, must act as attackers and pass the disc to each other, while the third (rd) athlete, positioned in the middle, must act as the defender. Their task is to obstruct the pass between the two (2) attackers by marking the thrower and trying to reduce the likelihood of a successful pass.</p> <p>A pass was considered incomplete if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● the disc was intercepted or deflected by the defender;</li> <li>● the disc was thrown off-target;</li> <li>● the thrower failed to complete the pass within ten (10) seconds.</li> </ul> <p>The test consists of eight (8) consecutive passes between the two (2) throwers, and the defender earned a point for each incomplete pass. For each attempt, defensive effectiveness was scored as one (1) (incomplete pass) or zero (0) (completed pass by the attacker). The final score was the sum of successful defensive actions out of a maximum of eight (8) attempts.</p>	<p>Inefficient 0 Limited 1 – 2 Efficient 3 – 8</p>
	Cutters	<p>A six (6) meter by six (6) meter square is set up, marked by four (4) cones of different colors (red, white, yellow, and green). The athlete began the test from the center of the square, in a neutral position. As soon as the first (1st) color was announced, the stopwatch started, and the player had to reach the corresponding cone, touch it with a wheelchair wheel, and quickly return to the center. As soon as the athlete returned to the center, a new color was announced, and the process was repeated for a total of six (6) movements. The test ended the moment the athlete reached the sixth (6th) announced cone, without the need to return to the center.</p>	<p>Inefficient &gt; 16.0 Limited 12.0– 16.0 Efficient &lt; 12.0</p>
Wheelchair Movement	Speed/ Acceleration	<p>Cones are placed on the ground to mark the distances and to define starting and finishing gates. The test was performed in a straight line, starting from a stationary position. A whistle signals the start, and time is manually measured with a stopwatch. Each athlete performs three (3) trials of each distance.</p>	<p><b>5 m</b> Inefficient &gt; 3.50 Limited 2.80 – 3.50 Efficient &lt; 2.80</p>

Category	Task/Activity	Protocol	Scoring
			<b>10 m</b> Inefficient > 5.00 Limited 4.00 – 5.00 Efficient < 4.00
	<b>Direction</b>	Five (5) cones are arranged in a straight line, each placed two (2) meters apart. Starting from a stationary position, the athlete must weave through the cones as quickly as possible, without touching them and while maintaining good control of the wheelchair. The test begins at the whistle signal, and the total time to complete the course was recorded manually using a stopwatch. Each athlete must perform the test three (3) times to reduce variability caused by possible errors or inconsistencies.	Inefficient > 7.00 Limited 6.00 – 7.00 Efficient < 6.00
	<b>Control</b>	The athlete is placed within a designated area and, upon hearing the starting signal, began rotating in the indicated direction (right or left), maintaining consistent control of the wheelchair. Each direction was tested in three (3) consecutive trials, and the final score was calculated as the average number of full rotations completed in ten (10) seconds.	Inefficient < 5 Limited 5 – 6.99 Efficient ≥ 7
	<b>Endurance</b>	The test is performed on the court with clear reference marks.  The athlete must cover the maximum possible distance within thirty (30) seconds. The test is repeated three (3) times, and the final score is calculated as the average of the distances recorded in the three (3) trials.	Inefficient < 75 m Limited 75 – 89.99 m Efficient ≥ 90 m

A5.1.2. The following scale will be used during the assessments:

- **Inefficient (I):** Can demonstrate execution of the movement but is unable to perform in typical situations (movement is seen rarely, no performance benefit as it requires significant setup time).
- **Limited (L):** Can execute the activity in typical situations but with restrictions, or sport specific activity limitations, in quality, control and safety of the activity. There is difficulty or inability to execute the activity under pressure from the opponent or in challenged situations.
- **Efficient (E):** Can execute the activity under pressure from the opponent or in challenged situations.

A5.1.3. The following assessment scale and description will be used to guide the designation of the Sport Class to allocate to an Athlete:

Category	Task/Activity	U1	U2	U3	U4
<b>Throwing</b>	<b>Backhand</b>	I / L	L	E	E
	<b>Forehand</b>	I / L	L	E	E
<b>Catching</b>	<b>Stationary</b>	I / L	L	L / E	E
	<b>With Movement</b>	I / L	L	L / E	E
<b>Defending</b>	<b>Handlers</b>	I / L	L	L / E	E
	<b>Cutters</b>	I / L	L	L / E	E
<b>Wheelchair Movement</b>	<b>Speed/ Acceleration</b>	I / L	L	L / E	E
	<b>Direction</b>	I / L	L	L / E	E
	<b>Control</b>	I / L	L	L / E	E

Sport Class	U1	U2	U3	U4
<b>Description</b>	Athletes have impairments that <u>majorly</u> affect the core functions in the sport.	Athletes have impairments that <u>moderately</u> affect the core functions in the sport.	Athletes have impairments that <u>minorly</u> affect the core functions in the sport.	Athletes have impairments that <u>minimally</u> affect the core functions in the sport.
<b>Typical Role</b>	Cutter, not a key handler on offense; defender on handler on defense.	Cutter, sometimes handler on offense; defender on handler, sometimes cutters on defense.	Handler and cutter on offense; defender on handlers and cutters on defense.	Key handler and cutter on offense; key defender on handlers and cutters on defense.
<b>Physical (Wheelchair) Activities</b>	Athletes can move on the court, change direction and rotate with <u>limited</u> speed.	Athletes can move on the court, change direction and rotate with <u>moderate</u> speed.	Athletes can move on the court with speed, and make <u>quick</u> changes of directions and rotations.	Has <u>complete</u> trunk movement in the vertical, horizontal and forward planes.  Has no obvious weak/strong side.
<b>Technical (Disc) Activities</b>	Athletes can perform a <u>limited number of throws</u> .  Control of the disc and preparing to throw is consistently slow/challenging.  Catching the disc is limited to the chest area.  Defence is limited to handlers.	Athletes can perform <u>some throws</u> with efficiency.  Control of the disc is sometimes slow/challenging.  Catching the disc, stationary and in movement, is with <u>limited</u> efficiency outside of the chest area.  Defense on handlers is efficient and with limitations on cutters.	Athletes can perform <u>all throws</u> with efficiency.  Control of the disc is easy and quick.  Catching the disc, stationary and in movement, is with <u>moderate</u> efficiency outside of the chest area.  Defense is efficient and with moderate efficiency on key cutters.	Demonstrates <u>no obvious limitations</u> to specific skills/tasks/activities fundamental to the sport.

A5.1.4. Sport Class Assessment is based only on the individual Eligible Impairment for which the Minimum Criteria was met.

#### A5.2. Adaptive Equipment

Athletes may only use the following Adaptive Equipment, based on their Sport Class:

<b>U1-4</b>	Non-motorized wheelchair (mandatory), gloves (optional) and straps (optional).
<b>U5</b>	None.

A5.3. Other Adaptive Equipment may be used if approved by WFDF.

A5.4. Adaptive Equipment used by the Athlete will be documented.

## **A6. Observation Assessment**

A6.1. As part of the Observation Assessment, the Classification Panel will observe how the Athlete moves on the field of play in a competitive and/or non-competitive environment.

A6.2. An Observation Assessment may take place at the discretion of the Classification Panel before a final Sport Class and Sport Class Status can be allocated for all Eligible Impairments and Sport Classes.

A6.3. The Classification Panel will observe the following specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport during the Observation Assessment:

- Throwing;
- Catching;
- Defending;
- Wheelchair Control.

A6.4. The Observation Assessment will be conducted in the following manner:

- The Classification Panel will observe the Athlete at a Covered Competition in the Athlete's First (1st) Appearance;
- The Classification Panel will observe and complete the relevant form, assessing the objective clinical signs and measures related to the outlined tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.

## **B. Para Disc Golf**

The discipline of Para Disc Golf is in development. This section remains to ensure formatting consistency in the future.

## **Appendix 2: Classification of Athletes with Vision Impairment**

WFDF does not currently have a Sport Class for Athletes with Vision Impairments. This section remains to ensure formatting consistency.

## **Appendix 3: Classification of Athletes with Intellectual Impairment**

WFDF does not currently have a Sport Class for Athletes with Intellectual Impairments. This section remains to ensure formatting consistency.

## Appendix 4: Definitions

Terms used in the Classification Rules that begin with capital letters have the meanings set out below. Defined terms from the IPC Constitution are shown in underline. In the event of any inconsistency between a definition in underline below and a definition in the IPC Constitution, the version in the IPC Constitution will prevail.

- **Adaptive Equipment** means any implement, apparatus, and/or technical aid adapted to the special needs of an Athlete to reduce the impact of their impairment(s) and that is permitted by WFDF's rules, except that refractive or optical correction (such as eyeglasses or corrective lenses) are not considered to be Adaptive Equipment.
- **Anonymised Data** means data rendered in such a way that makes it impossible to identify the individual to whom the data relates, whether by the Classification Organisation Processing the data or by any other party.
- **Appeal** has the meaning given to that term in Article 45.1.
- **Appeal Body** means the Ethics Commission or Conduct Committee.
- **Athlete** means any athlete who has participated in any way in the Classification process, who has taken any step to engage in that process (for example by providing Diagnostic Information to their National Federation for the purposes of undergoing Classification), and/or who has entered or participated in any Covered Competition.
- **Athlete Support Person** means any coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff, official, medical, paramedical personnel, parent, or any other person working with, treating, and/or assisting an Athlete.
- **BAC** means the Board of Appeal of Classification, defined below.
- **Best Practice Classification** has the meaning given to that term in Article 71.
- **Board of Appeal of Classification** means the body established by the IPC to hear and determine classification appeals.
- **Certification** has the meaning given to it in Article 64.1, i.e., the process by which WFDF assesses and confirms that a Classifier has met the Classifier competencies. The words 'Certify' and 'Certified' will be interpreted accordingly.
- **Chief Classifier** means a Classifier appointed by WFDF to direct, administer, co-ordinate, and implement Classification matters for a specific Classification opportunity according to the Classification Rules.
- **Classification** means (i) the determination of which athletes are eligible to compete in Para sport; and (ii) the grouping of eligible athletes into Sport Classes based on the extent to which their impairment(s) impact(s) their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the relevant sport, further to the process set out in Part IV of Chapter 2.
- **Classification Data** means Personal Information, including Sensitive Personal Information, relating to an Athlete, Athlete Support Person, other Participant, Classification Personnel, and others involved in Para sport or Classification Processed in connection with Classification, or other purposes related to the Classification Rules, and/or the IPC Classification Code and/or International Standards.
- **Classification Master List** has the meaning given to that term in Article 35.1.
- **Classification Organisation** means any organisation (including, for the avoidance of doubt, WFDF and the IPC) that is responsible for any aspect of Classification and/or holds Classification Data pursuant to the Classification Rules and/or the IPC Classification Code and/or International Standards.
- **Classification Panel** means a specified number of Classifiers, appointed by WFDF to conduct Evaluation Sessions and determine an Athlete's Sport Class and Sport Class Status in accordance with the Classification Rules.
- **Classification Personnel** means Persons acting with the authority of WFDF in relation to Classification, for example Classifiers and administrative officers.
- **Classification Personnel Code of Conduct** means the behavioural and ethical standards for Classification Personnel specified by WFDF, as further detailed in Article 66.
- **Classification Research** means any systematic scientific evaluation, analysis, or investigation, which aims to enhance or understand a Para sport classification system or systems.
- **Classification Rules** means these Classification rules, as may be amended from time to time.
- **Classifier** means a person authorised as an official and certified by WFDF to evaluate Athletes as a member of a Classification Panel.
- **Combined Class Events** means events where Athletes with different Sport Classes compete against

each other, in accordance with Article 37.

- **Competition** means a series of individual events conducted together under one (1) ruling body.
- **Compliance** means the implementation of rules, regulations, policies, and processes that adhere to the text, spirit, and intent of the IPC Classification Code and International Standards.
- **Coordination Impairment** has the meaning given to that term in Appendix 1.
- **Covered Competition** has the meaning given to that term in Article 3.1.
- **Data Protection Laws** means all data protection and privacy laws and regulations applicable to WFDF.
- **Diagnostic Information** means medical records and/or any other documentation that enables WFDF to assess the existence or otherwise of an Underlying Health Condition or Eligible Impairment.
- **Dyskinesia** has the meaning given to that term in Appendix 1.
- **Effective Date** has the meaning given to that term in Article 1.2.
- **Eligible Impairment** means an impairment that is Permanent and that falls within one (1) of the categories catered for by WFDF, as set out in Appendix 1, 2 and 3.
- **Eligible Impairment Assessment** means stage 2 of the Classification process, i.e., the assessment described in Article 6.1.
- **Evaluation Session** means stages 2, 3 and 4 of the Classification process, i.e., the Eligible Impairment Assessment, MIC Assessment, and allocation of Sport Class and Sport Class Status, as further defined in Article 6.1.
- **First Appearance** has the meaning given to that term in Article 17.8.3.2.
- **Fixed Review Date** has the meaning given to that term in Article 20.1.3.
- **Head of Classification** has the meaning given to it in Article 60.3.1, i.e., a person appointed by WFDF who is responsible for the direction, administration, coordination, and implementation of Classification matters for WFDF.
- **Health Condition** means a disease (acute or chronic), disorder, injury, or trauma.
- **Hypertonia** has the meaning given to that term in Appendix 1.
- **Impaired Muscle Power** has the meaning given to that term in Appendix 1.
- **Impaired Passive Range of Movement** has the meaning given to that term in Appendix 1.
- **In-Competition** means the period commencing from the day on which WFDF offers Classification opportunities in relation to a Competition in which the Athlete is scheduled to compete through to the day such Competition ends.
- **Intellectual Impairment** has the meaning given to that term in Appendix 3.
- **Intentional Misrepresentation** has the meaning given to that term in Article 50.1.
- **International Federation** means an international sport federation recognised by the IPC as the sole worldwide representative of a specific Para sport that is on the Paralympic Games Sport Programme.
- **International Federation Protest** means a Protest made by WFDF pursuant to Article 42.
- **International Standard** means a document adopted by the IPC to supplement the IPC Classification Code, as amended from time to time.
- **IPC** means the International Paralympic Committee e.V.
- **IPC Classification Code** means the 2025 IPC Classification Code, as amended from time to time.
- **IPC Constitution** means the Constitution of the IPC, as amended from time to time.
- **IPC Member** means the members of the IPC pursuant to Part II of the Constitution.
- **Limb Deficiency and/or Limb Length Difference** has the meaning given to that term in Appendix 1.
- **Medical Classifier** means a Classifier with specialist medical expertise.
- **Medical Review** has the meaning given to that term in Article 36.
- **MIC Assessment** means stage 3 of the Classification process, i.e., the assessment described in Article 6.1.
- **Minimum Impairment Criteria** means the minimum level of impairment resulting from an Eligible Impairment that is required in order for an Athlete to be eligible to participate in Para sport, as set out in the Classification Rules.
- **Minor** means a natural Person who has not reached the age of eighteen years.
- **Motor Ataxia** has the meaning given to that term in Appendix 1.
- **National Classifier** means a person authorised by a National Federation to carry out some or all aspects of national level classification.
- **National Federation** means a national member of WFDF.
- **National Federation Protest** means a Protest made by a National Federation pursuant to Article 41.
- **National Representative** means any person who is an office-holder or member of staff of, or who

otherwise represents and/or works on behalf of a National Federation.

- **Next Available Opportunity** means the next available opportunity at which the Athlete can attend a new Evaluation Session, as determined by WFDF.
- **Non-Eligible Impairment** has the meaning given to that term in Article 9.2.
- **Observation Assessment** means the observation of an Athlete in Competition by a Classification Panel as part of the Sport Class Assessment so that the Classification Panel can complete its determination regarding the extent to which an Athlete's Eligible Impairment(s) impact(s) their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to Para sport.
- **Operational Independence** (or **Operationally Independent**) means that (a) board members, staff members, commission members, consultants, and officials of WFDF, as well as any Person involved in the investigation and pre-adjudication of the matter, cannot be appointed as members and/or clerks (to the extent that such clerk is involved in the deliberation process and/or drafting of any decision) of the relevant body, and (b) the relevant body must be in a position to conduct the hearing and decision-making process without interference from WFDF or any third party. The objective is to ensure that members of the relevant body, or individuals otherwise involved in the decision of the relevant body, are not involved in the investigation of, or decisions to proceed with, the case.
- **Out-of-Competition** means any period that is not In-Competition.
- **Para athlete** means any athlete competing in a Para sport.
- **Para sport** means any sport in which persons with a disability participate in accordance with classification rules that are compliant with the IPC Classification Code and the related International Standards. In the context of WFDF and Para Flying Disc sport, it includes Para Ultimate, Para Disc Golf and other disciplines that may be developed.
- **Paralympic Games** means the major international event owned and sanctioned by the IPC comprising summer and winter editions usually held in alternating biennial cycles where Para athletes compete in Para sports that are on the Paralympic Games Sport Programme.
- **Paralympic Games Sport Programme** means the Para sports on the programme for the Paralympic Games.
- **Paralympic Movement** has the meaning given to that term in Article 2.1 of the IPC Constitution: 'The Paralympic Movement comprises the IPC, the IPC Members, the Recognised International Federations, and any other Persons that participate in Para sport or are involved in the promotion, organisation, and/or delivery of Para sport'.
- **Participant** means:
  - (i) Athletes;
  - (ii) Athlete Support Personnel;
  - (iii) National Representatives; and
  - (iv) any other persons under the jurisdiction of WFDF who participate in any aspect of Classification.
- **Permanent** means an impairment that is unlikely to be resolved, meaning that the principal effects are lifelong.
- **Person** means natural persons, corporate bodies, and unincorporated bodies (whether or not having separate legal personality), and also includes the legal personal representatives, successors, and permitted assigns of such person, as the context so requires. For the avoidance of doubt, the term Person does not include the IPC.
- **Personal Information** means any information that relates to an identified or identifiable Athlete, Athlete Support Personnel, other Participant, Classification Personnel, or other individual involved in Para sport.
- **Physical Impairment** means the Eligible Impairments listed in Appendix 1.
- **Process(ing)** means the collection, recording, storage, use, or disclosure of Personal Information.
- **Protest** has the meaning given to that term in Article 39.1.
- **Protest Panel** means a Classification Panel appointed by WFDF to conduct an Evaluation Session as a result of a Protest.
- **Public Disclosure** means the dissemination or distribution of information to the general public at a minimum by placing the information on WFDF's website and leaving the information up for the longer of one (1) month or the duration of any period of ineligibility.
- **Re-Certification** means the process by which WFDF will assess that a Classifier has maintained specific Classifier competencies.

- **Recognised International Federation (RIF)** has the meaning given to that term in Article 20.1 of the Constitution: ‘The IPC recognises the importance of creating a Paralympic family network of recognised international federations that are not eligible to become IPC Members but contribute to the development of the Paralympic Movement. Accordingly, the Governing Board may, in its absolute discretion, grant the status of ‘Recognised International Federation’ (RIF) to an international federation that is not part of the Paralympic Games Sport Programme and so is not eligible to become an IPC Member as an International Federation, but still contributes to the development of the Paralympic Movement. For the avoidance of doubt, RIFs are not IPC Members’.
- **Research Purposes** means the general development and integrity of sports within the Paralympic Movement, including but not limited to Classification Research.
- **Sensitive Personal Information** means Personal Information that relates to health or is otherwise deemed to be a sensitive or special category of Personal Information under applicable Data Protection Laws.
- **Short Stature** has the meaning given to that term in Appendix 1.
- **Spasticity** has the meaning given to that term in Appendix 1.
- **Sport Class** means a category for competition in which Athletes are categorised by reference to the extent to which their Eligible Impairment(s) impact(s) their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to Para sport, as set out in the Classification Rules.
- **Sport Class Assessment** has the meaning given to that term in Article 6.1.
- **Sport Class Status** means a status applied to a Sport Class to indicate whether and when an Athlete may be required to undergo Classification in the future.
- **Substantial Assistance** has the meaning given to it in Article 55.5.3.1.
- **Team Sport** means a sport in which the substitution of players is permitted during a competition.
- **Technical Classifier** means a Classifier with technical/sport experience.
- **Trainee Classifier** means a person who is in the process of formal training to become a Classifier.
- **UHC Assessment** means stage 1 of the Classification process, i.e., the assessment described in Article 6.1.
- **UHC Assessor** means any person or body responsible for conducting UHC Assessments in accordance with Article 7.1.
- **Underlying Health Condition** means a verifiable Health Condition that may lead to an Eligible Impairment catered for by WFDF.
- **Vision Impairment** has the meaning given to that term in Appendix 2.
- **Without Prejudice Agreement** means a written agreement between WFDF and a Participant that allows the Participant to provide information to WFDF in a defined time-limited setting with the understanding that, if an agreement for Substantial Assistance is not finalised, the information provided by the Participant in this particular setting may not be used by WFDF against the Participant (or any other Participant) in any Intentional Misrepresentation proceedings, and the information provided by WFDF in this particular setting may not be used by the Participant against WFDF in any Intentional Misrepresentation proceedings. However, and for the avoidance of doubt, such an agreement will not preclude WFDF or the Participant from using any information or evidence gathered from any source other than during the specific time-limited setting described in the agreement.
- **World Championships** means the highest-level international Competition(s) or event(s) owned or sanctioned by WFDF.