



International
Paralympic
Committee

IPC CLASSIFICATION CODE

Rules and Regulations, Policies and Procedures for Athlete Classification

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International Paralympic Committee

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This IPC Classification Code is the revised version of the IPC Classification Code first published in 2007. This version incorporates revisions that were approved by the IPC General Assembly in 2015. The revised 2015 IPC Classification Code is effective as of 1 January 2017.



Introduction

The Vision of the Paralympic Movement is “to enable Paralympic Athletes to achieve sporting excellence and inspire and excite the World.” The unique systems of Classification used in Para-Sports perform two critical functions to support the realisation of this vision: (1) define who is eligible to compete in Para-sport and consequently has the opportunity to reach the goal of becoming a Paralympic Athlete; and (2) group Athletes into Sport Classes which aim to ensure that the impact of Impairment is minimised and sporting excellence determines which athlete or team is ultimately victorious. It is important to note that the competitive structure provided by Classification Systems is not only important for elite sport but also is essential for promoting grassroots participation in Para-sports by people with impairments.

Classification has matured enormously since the movement first began. Initially classification was based on medical evaluation, placing little emphasis on assessing the impact on sport. In the 1980s and 1990s many athletes and classifiers recognized this shortcoming and drove the development of functional classification systems, focused more fully on sport performance. Over this period there were no unifying principles to guide the development of new classification systems and the rate of development varied greatly across Paralympic sports. The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Governing Board recognized, in order to secure the future of the Movement, Para-sports required a more harmonized approach to Classification. In 2003 the Governing Board approved the Classification Strategy, which led to the publication of the first edition of the Classification Code and International Standards in 2007. This document is the foundation for the evolution to very sport-specific classification systems.

This second edition of the Code is consistent with the first; aiming to provide a clear statement of the purpose of Paralympic classification, as well as a framework of policies and procedures that will uphold confidence in Classification Systems across the Movement. This edition of the Code places particular emphasis on using accessible language so that athletes fully understand why they participate in Classification and promotes their active participation in the classification process. The Code upholds that classification works best when athletes and classifiers work cooperatively to determine the most appropriate sports class. The Code also includes five International Standards which provide specific, operational guidance in key areas of classification.

The rapid pace of development in technology, training methods and medical advances present significant opportunities for classification. This second edition of the Code provides a framework, which aims to permit the Movement – athletes, classifiers, administrators and scientists – to manage the challenges and seize the opportunities to allow the realization of the Vision of the Paralympic Movement for the future.



1 Scope and Application

IPC and the Paralympic Movement

- 1.1 The IPC is the global governing body of the Paralympic Movement. Its members are National Paralympic Committees (NPCs), International Sport Federations (IFs), International Organisations of Sport for the Disabled (IOSDs) and Regional Organizations. IFs and IOSDs are collectively referred to as ‘International Federations’ in this Code. In addition, the IPC acts as the IF for a number of sports.

[Comment to 1.1: detailed information on the Membership structure and the sports under IPC Governance is available from the IPC website.]

- 1.2 The Code applies to all members of the Paralympic Movement and to all athletes competing in Para-Sport at international competitions in IPC or IF events.

IPC Classification Committee

- 1.3 The IPC Classification Committee is responsible for recommending policies, guidelines and procedures with respect to the Code, and coordinates any Code review process as requested by the IPC Governing Board. The IPC Medical & Scientific Director is responsible for the administration of the provisions of the Code. The IPC Medical & Scientific Director may delegate specific responsibilities to such person or persons at his/her discretion.

The Classification Code

- 1.4 The IPC Classification Code (the Code) is the fundamental document upon which Classification in para-sports in the Paralympic Movement must be based. The Code is intended to be specific enough to achieve harmonization on Classification issues where standardization is required and general enough in other areas to permit flexibility regarding the implementation of its principles.
- 1.5 The IPC requires International Federations to develop and implement Classification Rules in accordance with the Code, and to ensure that National Paralympic Committees act in a manner that is consistent with the Code. National Paralympic Committees must comply with the Code.

International Standards

- 1.6 The Code is supplemented by International Standards that provide the technical and operational requirements for Classification. The International Standards relate to:
- 1.6.1 Eligible Impairments
 - 1.6.2 Athlete Evaluation



- 1.6.3 Protests and Appeals
- 1.6.4 Classifier Personnel and Training
- 1.6.5 Classification Data Protection

Compliance with the International Standards is mandatory.

Models of Best Practice

- 1.7 Models of Best Practice are examples of excellence related to Classification. Signatories are strongly encouraged to adopt all or parts of the Models of Best Practice.

Classification Rules and Regulations

- 1.8 Each International Federation that governs a Para-Sport must have its own Classification Rules and Regulations. Classification rules are an integral part of the rules of the sport within which Classification takes place. All participants in the sport accept these rules as a condition of participation.
- 1.9 Classification Rules and Regulations shall include provisions related to:
 - 1.9.1 Eligible Impairments and Minimum Impairment Criteria (in accordance with the International Standard for Eligible Impairments)
 - 1.9.2 Athlete Evaluation, Sport Class and Sport Class Allocation (in accordance with the International Standard for Athlete Evaluation)
 - 1.9.3 Protests and Appeals (in accordance with the International Standard for Protests and Appeals)
 - 1.9.4 Data Protection (in accordance with the International Standard for Classification Data Protection)

2 Definition and Purpose of Paralympic Classification

- 2.1 Paralympic Classification (referred to in the Code as “Classification”) is a defining feature of Paralympic Sport. The purpose of Classification is to ensure that the impact of Impairment on the outcome of Competition is minimised.
- 2.2 To achieve this purpose, an International Federation must develop and implement a Classification System that complies with the Code and the International Standards. Specifically, a Classification System must:
 - 2.2.1 Clearly state which type(s) of Impairment an Athlete may have in order to be eligible for the Sport. The types of Impairment which are eligible for a sport must come from the list of Eligible Impairments presented in the International Standard for Eligible Impairments.



- 2.2.2 Describe processes and procedures for assessing whether an Athlete has an eligible type of Impairment. The description must conform with the requirements presented in the International Standard for Eligible Impairments.
- 2.2.3 Describe Minimum Impairment Criteria for each Eligible Impairment type. Minimum Impairment Criteria must be written in a way that can be objectively assessed and which conforms to the International Standard for Athlete Evaluation.
- 2.2.4 Describe how Athletes are allocated a Sport Class on how much the Athlete's Impairment will affect their sports performance. All Athletes within a given Sport Class must be affected by Impairments that impact sports performance to similar extent. Methods used must comply with the International Standard for Athlete Evaluation.

3 Classification Personnel

- 3.1 Classification Personnel are fundamental to the effective implementation of Classification Rules.
- 3.2 An International Federation must appoint a number of Classification Personnel, each of whom will have a key role in the organization, implementation and administration of Classification for the International Federation. This includes Classifiers, Classification Panels, Head of Classification and Chief Classifier. Further detail is provided in the International Standard for Classification Personnel and Training.

Classifier Code of Conduct

- 3.3 The integrity of Classification in the Paralympic Movement is dependent on the professional conduct of Classification Personnel.
- 3.4 International Federations must have within their Classification Rules (and/or other relevant rules) a clear set of professional conduct standards that all Classification Personnel must comply with when acting as a Classifier or a Trainee Classifier. These standards are referred to as a 'Classifier Code'.
- 3.5 International Federations must implement a Classifier Code of Conduct which provides at a minimum that Classification Personnel must:
 - 3.5.1 comply with all relevant ethical standards;
 - 3.5.2 act as neutral evaluators in determining Sport Class and Sport Class Status for all Athletes;
 - 3.5.3 perform their duties courteously, competently, consistently and objectively for all Athletes regardless of team affiliation or national origin;



- 3.5.4 declare any actual, perceived or potential Conflicts of Interest; and
- 3.5.5 must not assume any roles and responsibilities in the sport that conflicts with their duties as Classification Personnel.
- 3.6 International Federations must have within their Classification Rules (and/or other relevant rules) procedures for reporting and investigating complaints of non-compliance with the Classifier Code of Conduct that must include procedures for taking disciplinary measures against Classification Personnel found to be in violation of the Classifier Code of Conduct.

4 Athlete Evaluation, Sport Class and Sport Class Allocation

- 4.1 Athlete Evaluation is the process by which an Athlete is assessed in accordance with an International Federation's Classification Rules. It must be done in accordance with the International Standard for Athlete Evaluation.
- 4.2 Each IF shall ensure that a process is in place whereby Athletes will be allocated a Sport Class and Sport Class Status in accordance with the International Standard for Eligible Impairments and the International Standard for Athlete Evaluation. This process shall be contained in the Classification Rules of each International Federation.
- 4.3 The IF Classification Rules shall detail the assessment methodology and assessment criteria for the allocation of a Sport Class.
- 4.4 A Sport Class is a category defined by each IF in the Classification Rules of the sport, in which Athletes are categorised in reference to the ability to perform the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport in a non-competitive environment.
- 4.5 A Sport Class and Sport Class Status will be allocated to each Athlete in accordance with the International Standard for Athlete Evaluation and the International Standard for Eligible Impairments following Athlete Evaluation.
- 4.6 Following the allocation of a Sport Class, the Athlete also is allocated a Sport Class Status. A Sport Class Status indicates evaluation requirements (see International Standard on Athlete Evaluation) and Protest opportunities (see International Standard on Protests and Appeals).

5 Protests and Appeals

Protests

- 5.1 A Protest is the procedure by which a reasoned objection to an Athlete's Sport Class is submitted and subsequently resolved. Protests must be conducted in accordance with the International Standard for Protests and Appeals. Each IF must include a Protest



Process in its Classification Rules in accordance with the International Standard for Protests and Appeals.

Appeals

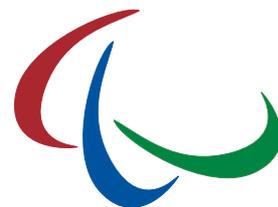
- 5.2 An Appeal is the process to resolve Classification procedural disputes. Appeals should be conducted in accordance with the International Standard for Protests and Appeals. Each IF must include an Appeal Process in its Classification Rules in accordance with the International Standard for Protests and Appeals.

6 Intentional Misrepresentation

- 6.1 The International Federation must provide policies and procedures on how to identify and manage allegations of Intentional Misrepresentation in the IF Classification Rules.
- 6.2 An Athlete must not intentionally misrepresent his or her skills and/or abilities and/or the degree or nature of Physical, Visual or Intellectual Impairment to a Classification Panel. If an Athlete attempts to deceive the Classification Panel during the course of Athlete Evaluation, he or she is guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 6.3 An Athlete who intentionally misrepresents his or her skills and/or abilities and/or the degree or nature of Physical, Visual or Intellectual Impairment by any other act or omission is guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation.

[Comment to art. 6.3: This includes misrepresentation away from Athlete Evaluation, including misrepresentation after allocation of a Sport Class such as a failure to make a medical notification as to a change in circumstances that an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel knows does or may affect a Sport Class.]

- 6.4 Any Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel, who knowingly assists, covers up, disrupts the evaluation process with the intention of deceiving or misleading the Classification Panel, or is in any other way involved in any other type of complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation is guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 6.5 The Consequences that will be applied to an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation shall be one or more of the following sanctions: (a) Disqualification from all Events at the Competition at which the Intentional Misrepresentation occurred; (b) Ineligibility from Athlete Evaluation or other participation In Competitions for a specified period of time ranging from 12 to 48 months; (c) Provisional Suspension from all Competitions.
- 6.6 The Consequences that will be applied to an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving



Intentional Misrepresentation on more than one occasion is up to a lifetime period of Ineligibility from Athlete Evaluation or other participation In Competitions.

- 6.7 Any Consequences to be applied to teams, which include an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation, will be at the discretion of the relevant IF.

7 Intelligence Gathering and Investigations

- 7.1 Each International Federation must have policies and procedures in place to ensure that Classification intelligence captured or received is handled securely and confidentially, taking into account the nature of the source and the circumstances in which the intelligence has been received, and that source of intelligence are protected.
- 7.2 All data must be dealt with in accordance with the International Standard for Classification Data Protection.

8 Data Storage and Data Protection

- 8.1 Each International Federation must ensure that a process is in place whereby Athlete data is stored and protected in accordance with the International Standard for Classification Data Protection.

9 Classification Master List

- 9.1 To assist in the process of Classification, International Federations must maintain a Classification Master List of Athletes, which should include minimally the Athlete's name, gender, year of birth, country, Sport Class and Sport Class Status. The Classification Master List must identify Athletes that enter International Competitions.
- 9.2 International Federations must make available their Classification Master List to their respective National Federations (NFs) and relevant NPCs, and to the IPC.

10 Education and Research

Education and Awareness

- 10.1 International Federations must implement Classification Education and Awareness Programmes that should include reference to:
- 10.1.1 The Code



- 10.1.2 International Standards
- 10.1.3 Current Sport Classification Rules
- 10.1.4 Athlete rights and responsibilities

Athletes must be actively involved in the development and delivery of such education and awareness programmes.

- 10.2 Signatories to the Code shall co-ordinate their efforts in developing and circulating Classification information and education.

Classification Research

- 10.3 IFs must develop sports-specific Classification Systems through multidisciplinary scientific research. Such research must focus on the relationship between impairment and key performance determinants.

[Comment to art. 10.3: Athlete input must be solicited to assist in research and improvement in Classification Systems.]

- 10.4 Classification Research must comply with internationally recognized ethical standards and research practices.

11 Changes to Classification Systems

- 11.1 International Federations must provide appropriate notice to National Federations, National Paralympic Committees of anticipated changes to Classification Systems and any other change(s) that might impact on athlete's Sport Class allocation. The aforementioned parties must be provided a rationale for change, the proposed timelines for implementation and any transition rules, as applicable. The same parties must be provided an opportunity to submit feedback and comments.
- 11.2 International Federations must notify the IPC before Classification System changes and any other change(s) that might impact on athlete's Sport Class allocation with the rationale for change, the proposed timelines for implementation, transition rules, as applicable, and an overview of the process of consultation that is initiated as part of the System review process. The IPC must be provided an opportunity to submit feedback and comments.

12 Governance, roles and responsibilities

International Paralympic Committee (IPC)

- 12.1 The roles and responsibilities of the IPC include:



- 12.1.1 To develop, maintain and monitor implementation of the Code, International Standards and Models of Best Practice.
 - 12.1.2 To develop, maintain and implement example rules which conform to the Code.
 - 12.1.3 To require, as a condition of membership, that all IPC Members, including International Federations and National Paralympic Committees, are in compliance with the Code.
 - 12.1.4 To monitor compliance with the Code of International Federations, National Paralympic Committees and Major Competition Organizers.
- 12.2 The IPC will take appropriate action to ensure compliance with the Code and International Standards by the Signatories, including:
- 12.2.1 To promote, conduct, commission, seek funding and coordinate Classification education and research.
 - 12.2.2 To adopt and implement Classification Rules for the Paralympic Games which conform to the Code.
 - 12.2.3 To withhold some or all funding of IFs and NPCs in case of non-compliance.
 - 12.2.4 To suspend membership and rights to participate in the Paralympic Games of organizations that are not in compliance with the Code.

International Federations (IFs)

- 12.2 The roles and responsibilities of International Federations include:
- 12.2.1 To develop, implement and regularly review Classification Rules, including Eligibility Criteria, in compliance with the Code.
 - 12.2.2 To develop and implement a policy for its members to comply with the Code and establish procedures to address non-compliance with the Code.
 - 12.2.3 To initiate Classification education and research.
 - 12.2.4 To recommend as a condition of membership that Classification Rules in National Federations should be in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Code.

National Paralympic Committees (NPCs)

- 12.3 The roles and responsibilities of the National Paralympic Committees include:
- 12.3.1 To ensure that national Classification Rules conform with the Code and make recommendations for compliance with the Code.
 - 12.3.2 To develop and implement a policy for its members to comply with the Code and establish procedures to address non-compliance with the Code.



- 12.3.3 To promote the development of a national Classification Strategy.

Major Competition Organizers

- 12.4 The Roles and Responsibilities of Major Competition Organizers include:

- 12.4.1 To implement Classification procedures for Competitions which conform with the Code.
- 12.4.2 To take appropriate action to achieve compliance with the Code.

Athlete and Support Personnel

- 12.5 The Roles and Responsibilities of Athletes include:

- 12.5.1 To be knowledgeable of and comply with all applicable policies and rules adopted pursuant to the Code.
- 12.5.2 To be available for and to take responsibility for Athlete Evaluation when requested.
- 12.5.3 To ensure that adequate information related to the Eligible Impairment and diagnostic evidence is made available where appropriate.
- 12.5.4 To disclose any inconsistent application of the International Federation Classification rules adopted pursuant to the Code, and to cooperate with any investigations concerning Classification violations.
- 12.5.5 To actively participate in the process of education and awareness, and Classification research, through exchanging personal experiences and expertise.

- 12.6 The Roles and Responsibilities of Athlete Support Personnel include:

- 12.6.1 To be knowledgeable of and comply with all applicable policies and rules adopted pursuant to the Code.
- 12.6.2 To use their influence on Athlete values and behaviour to foster a positive and collaborative Classification attitude.
- 12.6.3 To assist in the development, management and implementation of Classification Systems.
- 12.6.4 To disclose any inconsistent application of the International Federation Classification rules adopted pursuant to the Code, and to cooperate with any investigations concerning Classification violations.

13 Acceptance, Implementation, Compliance and Modifications

Acceptance of the Code and International Standards



- 13.1 It is intended that the following entities, each of which are designated as a “Signatory,” must accept the Code by signing a declaration of acceptance upon approval by each of their respective governing bodies: IPC, International Federations and the National Paralympic Committees.
- 13.2 Major Competition Organizers and other sport organizations that may not be under the control of a Signatory may, upon the IPC’s invitation, also accept the Code.
- 13.3 A list of all acceptances must be made public by the IPC.

Implementation of the Code

- 13.4 Each Signatory must implement applicable Code provisions through policies, statutes, rules or regulations.
- 13.5 In implementing the Code, each Signatory is encouraged to use the Models of Best Practice recommended by the IPC.

Acceptance and Implementation Deadlines

- 13.6 Each Signatory must accept the revised Code, by signing a declaration of acceptance, on or before 1 January 2017.
- 13.7 Each Signatory must implement the Code on or before 1 January 2018.

Monitoring Compliance with the Code

- 13.8 To facilitate monitoring, each Signatory must report on its compliance with the Code as requested by the IPC, and must explain reasons for any non-compliance.
- 13.9 Explanations for non-compliance with the Code may be considered, and, in extraordinary situations, a temporary extension may be granted.
- 13.10 The non-compliant Signatory must submit an action plan with clearly outlined timelines and Measurable goals for compliance subject to approval by the IPC Governing Board. Non-compliance with the Code results in sanctions that may include:
 - 13.10.1 Disciplinary actions against the Signatory.
 - 13.10.2 Exclusion from the Paralympic Games and any other IPC Sanctioned Events.
 - 13.10.3 Suspension of IPC Membership.
- 13.11 The imposition of sanctions may be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

Modifications to the Code

- 13.12 The IPC Governing Board shall be responsible for overseeing the evolution and development of the Code. Athletes and Signatories shall be invited to participate in this process.



- 13.13 The Code and International Standards may be reviewed on a regular basis including following the Paralympic Games and Paralympic Winter Games.
- 13.14 The IPC Classification Committee, upon request of the IPC Governing Board initiates proposed amendments to the Code. It must ensure a consultative process is in place to both receive and respond to recommendations and to facilitate review and feedback from Athletes, Signatories and other parties.
- 13.15 Amendments to the Code must, after appropriate consultation, be approved by the IPC General Assembly. Amendments to the International Standards must be approved by the IPC Governing Board with consultation at the discretion of the IPC Governing Board.
- 13.16 The IPC must implement any applicable amendment to the Code within one year of approval by the IPC General Assembly.

Withdrawal of Acceptance of the Code

- 13.17 Any Signatory may withdraw acceptance of the Code after providing the IPC six months written notice of their intent to withdraw.

14 Interpretation of the Code

- 14.1 The official text of the Code must be maintained by the IPC and must be published in English.
- 14.2 The Code must be interpreted as an independent and autonomous text and not by reference to the existing law or statutes of the IPC.
- 14.3 The headings used for the various Parts and Articles of the Code are for convenience only and must not be deemed part of the substance of the Code or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.
- 14.4 The Introduction, Glossary and International Standards must be considered integral parts of the Code.
- 14.5 The Comments annotating various provisions of the Code and International Standards must be used to interpret the Code.
- 14.6 The Code does not apply retrospectively to matters pending before the date the Code is accepted by an IPC Member and implemented in its rules.



APPENDIX: GLOSSARY

<i>Ability</i>	A quality or state of being able to perform.
<i>Activity Limitation</i>	Difficulties an individual may have in executing activities in a sport specific environment.
<i>Appeal</i>	The process to resolve procedural disputes concerning Classification.
<i>Athlete</i>	For purposes of <i>Classification</i> , any person who participates in sport at the International Level (as defined by each <i>IF</i>) or national level (as defined by each <i>National Federation</i>) and any additional person who participates in sport at a lower level if designated by the person's National Federation.
<i>Body Function</i>	Physiological functions of body systems (including psychological functions)
<i>Body Structure</i>	Anatomical parts of the body such as organs, limbs and their components.
<i>Athlete Evaluation</i>	The process by which an <i>Athlete</i> is assessed in accordance with the Classification rules of the <i>IF</i> .
<i>Athlete Support Personnel</i>	Any coach, trainer, manager, interpreter, agent, team staff, official, medical or para-medical personnel working with or treating <i>Athletes</i> participating in or preparing for training and/or Competition.
<i>Chief Classifier</i>	The Internationally certified <i>Classifier</i> responsible for all direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of <i>Classification</i> matters for a specified <i>Competition</i> .
<i>Classification</i>	A structure for <i>Competition</i> to ensure that an <i>Athlete's</i> Impairment is relevant to sport performance, and to ensure that the <i>Athlete</i> competes equitably with other <i>Athletes</i> .
<i>Classification Master List</i>	The list, made available by the <i>IF</i> , that identifies the <i>Athletes</i> that participated in International <i>Classification</i> .
<i>Classification Panel</i>	A group of <i>Classifiers</i> , appointed by the International Federation, to determine Sport Class and Sport Class Status in accordance with the Classification rules.



<i>Classification Rules and Regulations</i>	The policies, procedures, protocols and descriptions that are in connection with Athlete Evaluation and the grouping of Athletes for Competition.
<i>Classification Strategy</i>	The development of a universal Classification Code with the overall Objective to support and co-ordinate the development and implementation of accurate, reliable, Consistent and credible sport focused Classification rules.
<i>Classifier</i>	A person authorized as an Official by an IF to evaluate Athletes as a member of a Classification Panel.
<i>Code</i>	The Classification Code.
<i>Code of Conduct</i>	A set of rules to outline the responsibilities, to guide behaviour and decisions and to identify best practice for an individual Classifier.
<i>Competency</i>	A skill, knowledge, ability or behavioural characteristic that is associated with excellent performance.
<i>Competition</i>	A series of individual Events conducted together under one ruling body.
<i>Conflict of Interest</i>	A Conflict of Interest will arise where a pre-existing personal or professional relationship gives rise to the possibility of that relationship affecting the Classifier's ability to make an Objective decision or assessment.
<i>Consistent</i>	Free from variation or inconsistency.
<i>Cultural Diversity</i>	The knowledge, skills, and attributes/beliefs that enable people to work well with, respond effectively to, and be supportive of people in cross-cultural settings.
<i>Diagnosis</i>	A process of identifying a medical condition or disease by its signs, symptoms, and from the results of various diagnostic procedures.
<i>Eligible Impairment</i>	An Impairment belonging to one of the categories of Impairments for which the Paralympic Movement offers sport opportunities as defined in the IPC Policy on Eligible Impairments in the Paralympic Movement (IPC Handbook)
<i>Eligibility</i>	Minimal Eligibility criteria and Eligible Impairment requirements set as minimal condition to enter Competition in a specific Sport.



<i>Evidence-Based</i>	Practices or procedures on the basis of accepted (scientific) methods that have been shown valid, effective and reliable.
<i>Governance</i>	The management or leadership responsible for the decision-making process.
<i>Head of Classification</i>	A Classifier responsible for all direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of Classification matters for the IF.
<i>Health Condition</i>	A general term for pathology, disease (acute or chronic), disorder, injury or trauma.
<i>Impairment</i>	Deficits in Body Function or structure such as a significant deviation or loss.
<i>In Competition</i>	The Athlete has the status of being selected for a specific Competition.
<i>Ineligibility</i>	Consequence of not meeting the Eligibility criteria.
<i>International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)</i>	Provides a unified and standard language and framework for description of health and health related states. The language and taxonomic structure for the Code derive from ICF. .
<i>International Competition</i>	A Competition where an International sports organization (IPC, IF, Major Competition Organization, or another International sport organization) is the governing body for the Competition or appoints the technical officials for the Competition.
<i>International Federation</i>	A sport federation recognized by the IPC as the sole world-wide representative of a sport for Athletes with a disability that has been granted the status as a Paralympic Sport by the IPC.
<i>International Standard</i>	A document complementing the Code and providing additional technical and operational requirements for Classification.
<i>IPC</i>	International Paralympic Committee.
<i>IPC Classification Committee</i>	The IPC Standing Committee that is responsible for recommending policies, guidelines and procedures with respect to Classification within the Paralympic Movement.
<i>IPC Code of Ethics</i>	The ethical standard that will be applied Consistently within the Paralympic Movement, and will be applicable to all IPC Sanctioned Events, Competitions and activities.
<i>Major Competition</i>	The continental associations of National Paralympic Committees



<i>Organization</i>	and other International multi-sport organizations that function as the ruling body for any continental, regional or other International Competition.
<i>Measurable</i>	Comparable to a standard.
<i>Minimum Degree of Impairment</i>	The determination that the Impairment is severe enough to consider the Impairment permissible in a particular Sport.
<i>Models of Best Practice</i>	Examples of excellence related to Classification.
<i>National Competition</i>	A Competition where the National Federation or National Paralympic Committee is the governing body for the Competition or appoints the technical officials for the Competition.
<i>National Federation</i>	The organization recognized by an IF as the sole national governing body for its sport.
<i>National Paralympic Committee (NPC)</i>	A national organization recognized by the IPC as the sole representative of Athletes with a disability in that country or territory to the IPC. In addition, the recognized National Federation of the sports for which the IPC is the IF.
<i>Objective</i>	Supported by (scientific) evidence or relevant facts and viewpoints.
<i>Out of Competition</i>	Not In-Competition.
<i>Paralympic Games</i>	Umbrella term for both Paralympic Games and Paralympic Winter Games.
<i>Permanent</i>	Will not resolve in the foreseeable future regardless of physical training, rehabilitation or other therapeutic interventions.
<i>Protest</i>	The procedure by which a reasoned objection to an Athlete's Sport Class is submitted and subsequently resolved.
<i>Protest Panel</i>	A Panel consisting of at minimum an equal number of Classifiers as the Classification Panel, with equal or greater level of Classification, to re-evaluate the after a Protest has been submitted.
<i>Recognized International Federation</i>	International Federations that are not eligible to be IPC members, but contribute to the development of sport opportunities for athletes associated with the Paralympic Movement and have organizational goals that are compatible with the Vision and Mission of the IPC (see Appendix 1 for the list)



<i>Signatories</i>	The governing bodies of IPC, the International Federations and the NPCs that accept the Classification Code.
<i>Sport Class</i>	A category defined by each IF in which Athletes are categorized by reference to an Activity Limitation resulting from Impairment.
<i>Sport Class Status</i>	A category allocated to each Athlete to indicate evaluation requirements and Protest opportunities.