



# **Athlete Classification Rules**

as of January 1, 2017

## Purpose and Organization of these Rules

### Purpose

These Athlete Classification Rules (referred to generally as “the Rules”) provide a framework within which the process of “Classification” may take place. The term “Classification” refers to a structure for Competition the aim of which is to ensure that an Athlete’s Impairment is relevant to sport performance, and to ensure that Athletes compete equitably with each other. The purpose of Classification is to minimise the impact of eligible Impairment types on the outcome of competition, so that Athletes who succeed in competition are those with best anthropometry, physiology and psychology and who have enhanced them to best effect.

### Organisation

#### Articles

- Article One** Article One explains that these Rules apply to persons who compete or are otherwise involved in the sport of Taekwondo, and how the Rules should be interpreted.
- Article Two** Article Two explains that qualified personnel referred to in these Rules as “Classifiers” conduct Athlete Evaluation, with other key “Classification Personnel” being involved.
- Article Three** Article Three explains how Classifiers will conduct Athlete Evaluation as part of a Classification Panel.
- Article Four** Article Four explains that the process of Classification is carried out by way of Athlete Evaluation under these Rules, and details the specific processes and protocols to be followed during Athlete Evaluation.
- Article Five** Article Five explains that Classification is undertaken so that Athletes can be designated a Sport Class (which groups Athletes together in Competition) and allocated a Sport Class Status (which indicates when Athletes should be evaluated and how their Sport Class may be challenged).
- Article Six** Article Six explains that one outcome of Athlete Evaluation may be that an Athlete is found not to be eligible to compete in the sport of Taekwondo, and the implications that arise if this is the case.
- Article Seven** Article Seven explains that an Athlete or other party may dispute the allocation of a Sport Class, and the process by which these disputes should be resolved.
- Article Eight** Article Eight explains that the procedure by which a Sport Class is allocated is subject to a limited form of challenge, and how these challenges should be made.
- Article Nine** Article Nine explains that if an Athlete or other party attempts to subvert the Athlete Evaluation process, there will be consequences.
- Article Ten** Article Ten: Glossary to these Rules contains a list of the defined terms used in these Rules.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix One Appendix One deals with Sport Classes for Athletes with Physical Impairment, and sets out the Minimum Disability Criteria and assessment methodologies that apply in order for an Athlete with Physical Impairment to be eligible to compete in the sport of Taekwondo.
- Appendix Two Appendix Two deals with Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment, and sets out the Minimum Disability Criteria and assessment methodologies that apply in order for an Athlete with Visual Impairment to be eligible to compete in the sport of Taekwondo.
- Appendix Three Appendix Three deals with Sport Classes for Athletes with Intellectual Disability, and sets out the Minimum Disability Criteria and assessment methodologies that apply in order for an Athlete with Intellectual Impairment to be eligible to compete in the sport of Taekwondo.
- Appendix Four Appendix Four deals with Sport Classes for Athletes that are Deaf and/or hearing impaired and sets out the Minimum Disability Criteria and assessment methodologies that apply in order for an Athlete who are Deaf and hearing impaired to be eligible to compete in the sport of Taekwondo
- Appendix Five Table of fees
- Appendix Six Intentional misrepresentation
- The WTF subscribes to the IPC Classification Code, Models of Best practices for Intentional Misrepresentation Rules – an excerpt of which is found in this appendix. Where it says IPC please read WTF Para Taekwondo.

## **Article One - Scope and Application**

- 1.1 These Rules are an integral part of the WTF Statutes and are intended to implement the provisions of the IPC Classification Code for the sport of Taekwondo.
- 1.2 These Rules shall apply to -
  - 1.2.1 All Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel who are registered and/ or licensed with WTF as defined in the WTF Para Taekwondo Competition Rules and Poomsae Competition Rules;
  - 1.2.2 All Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel participating in such capacity in Events and Competitions recognised by WTF or any of its members or affiliate organisations or licensees;
- 1.3 It is the personal responsibility of Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel and Classification Personnel to acquaint themselves with all of the requirements of these Rules, the IPC Classification Code (see IPC Handbook, Section 2, Chapter 1.3) and the other sections of the IPC Handbook that apply to Classification, including the IPC Position Statement on Background and Scientific Rationale for Classification in Paralympic Sport (see IPC Handbook, Section 2, Chapter 4.4)

### **International Classification**

- 1.4 Athlete Evaluation that is conducted in full compliance with these Rules is referred to as International Classification. WTF will only recognize Sport Class and Sport Class Status if allocated by way of International Classification.
- 1.5 WTF will provide Athletes with an opportunity to undertake International Classification by appointing Classifiers certified pursuant to Article Two to conduct Athlete Evaluation at Recognized Competitions, and by providing reasonable notice of such International Classification opportunities to Athletes and WTF Member National Associations.
- 1.6 An Athlete will only be permitted to undergo International Classification if he or she:
  - 1.6.1 Is registered as a holder of a Global Athlete Licence with WTF pursuant to the relevant provisions of the WTF, and
  - 1.6.2 Has been entered in a recognised Competition where International Classification is to take place.

### **Interpretation, Commencement and Amendment**

- 1.7 These Rules shall be interpreted and applied at all times in a manner that is consistent with the IPC Classification Code.
- 1.8 These Rules shall come into full force and effect on the Effective Date as specified by WTF.
- 1.9 Amendments to these Rules shall be approved and shall come into effect in the manner prescribed by WTF. WTF may at any time amend, update or otherwise alter the text, meaning and effect of the Appendices independently of these Rules.

## **Article Two – Classification Personnel**

- 2.1 Classification Personnel are fundamental to the effective implementation of these Rules. This Article Two explains how WTF Classification Personnel assist in the delivery of classification under these Rules.

### **Classification Personnel**

- 2.2 WTF should appoint the following Classification Personnel, each of whom will have a key role in the administration, organization and execution of classification for Para Taekwondo:

#### **2.3 Head of Classification**

- 2.3.1 The Head of Classification for WTF will be appointed by WTF to be responsible for the direction, administration, coordination and implementation of all classification matters for Para Taekwondo.
- 2.3.2 WTF may delegate the role of Head of Classification to a nominated person, such persons being identified publicly as such by WTF.
- 2.3.3 The Head of Classification in conjunction with WTF Classification Administrator is responsible for appointing Classification Panel(s) that will conduct International Classification at Recognised Competitions.

#### **2.4 Para Taekwondo Classification Committee**

The Para Taekwondo Classification Committee shall consist of classifiers impairments groups, technical classifiers, and others as deemed appropriate. Ad-hoc members may be appointed by the Head of Classification in conjunction with the WTF Classification Administrator.

#### **2.5 Classification Administrator**

The Classification Administrator (CA) is the person responsible for keeping and updating the WTF Master List of all Athletes which details such matters as Athletes name, Nationality, Sport Class and Sport Class Status. The CA co-ordinates the classification process in collaboration with the Head of Classification and the Classification Committee and is the contact point between Athletes, Coaches, Officials and Classifiers. The CA is responsible for keeping and updating the WTF-Master List of Certified Classifiers. The WTF Masters List of Athletes, Classifiers, Athlete Support Personnel and Translators will be administered through the WTF Global Membership System (GMS).

#### **2.6 Classifiers**

- 2.6.1 A Classifier is a person authorised and certified by WTF as being competent to conduct Athlete Evaluation. WTF will specify from time to time the means by which it shall certify Classifiers.
- 2.6.2 WTF classifiers are required, as appropriate, to assist in the research, development and clarification of the Athlete Classification Rules and Sport Class profiles for Para Taekwondo, participate in Classifier workshops arranged by WTF and/or the IPC from time to time; and attend such Classifier training as requested from time to time by the WTF

## **2.7 Chief Classifiers**

- 2.7.1 A Chief Classifier is a Classifier who is appointed by WTF to act as the senior Classifier present at a specific WTF Sanctioned or promoted Para Taekwondo Competition. The Head of Classification may be appointed as Classifier and/or Chief Classifier.
- 2.7.2 A Chief Classifier is responsible for the direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of classification matters at a Competition. In particular, a Chief Classifier may be required by WTF to do the following:
  - 2.7.2.1 Identify those Athletes who will be competing at that Competition who will require Athlete Evaluation;
  - 2.7.2.2 Supervise Classifiers to ensure that the Rules are applied appropriately during a specific Competition;
  - 2.7.2.3 Manage the Protest process as required by Article Seven.
  - 2.7.2.4 Liaise with the relevant Competition organiser to ensure that all travel, accommodation and other logistics are arranged in order that Classifiers may carry out their duties at the Competition;

## **2.8 Trainee Classifiers**

- 2.8.1 WTF Head of Classification may appoint Trainee Classifiers in order that they may be certified as a Classifier.
- 2.8.2 A Trainee Classifier may actively participate in or observe Athlete Evaluation under supervision of a Classification Panel in order to develop the necessary competencies and proficiencies so as to be certified by WTF as a Classifier.

## **Classifier Competencies, Qualifications and Responsibilities**

- 2.9 WTF certifies Classifiers who have abilities and qualifications relevant to conduct Athlete Evaluation in respect of Athletes with Physical, Visual, Hearing and/or Intellectual Impairment.
- 2.10 WTF requires Classifiers to have one of the below qualifications in order to be considered for certification as WTF Classifier:
  - 2.10.1 a certified health professional in a field relevant to the Impairment category which WTF at its sole discretion deems acceptable, e.g. physicians and physiotherapists for Athletes with Physical Impairment, ophthalmologists and optometrists for athletes with Visual Impairment, and psychologists for athletes with Intellectual Impairment.
  - 2.10.2 an extensive coaching or other relevant background in the sport of Taekwondo or a recognised and reputable academic qualification which encompasses a requisite level of anatomical, biomechanical and sport-specific expertise, which WTF at its sole discretion deems to be acceptable.

- 2.11** Only classifiers that fulfil the requirements of Article 2.10.1 are entitled to conduct a Physical Assessment (for athletes with physical impairment).
- 2.12** All Classification Personnel must comply with the standards of behaviour mandated from time to time in the IPC Code of Ethics and the IPC Classifier Code of Conduct. If any Classification Personnel is found to have breached the terms of either the IPC Code of Ethics or the IPC Classifier Code of Conduct, WTF will have sole discretion to withdraw any applicable certification or authorization. WTF may also make such recommendations as it sees fit to IPC and any other relevant bodies as regards any certification held by the relevant Classification Personnel to act as Classification Personnel in respect of other sports.

## **Article Three - Classification Panels**

A Classification Panel is a body that is appointed by WTF to conduct Athlete Evaluation in accordance with these Rules. A Classification Panel should be comprised of a minimum of two (2) Classifiers, one medical and one technical.

- 3.1** WTF and competition organizers will whenever possible ensure that at least two Classification Panels are able to conduct Athlete Evaluation for each Impairment category (Physical Impairment, Visual Impairment and Intellectual Impairment, assuming that Events are offered for all three Impairment categories). In special circumstances when only one panel is present only New Athletes will be seen and no protests accepted for that competition.
- 3.2** Classification Personnel should have no relationship with any Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel present at a Competition or otherwise that might create any actual or perceived bias or Conflict of Interest. Classification Personnel must disclose to WTF any actual or perceived bias or Conflict of Interest that may be relevant to their appointment as a member of any Classification Panel to the Head of Classification.
- 3.3** WTF will ensure that Classifiers who act as members of a Classification Panel at a Competition will not have any official responsibilities other than in connection with Athlete Evaluation.
- 3.4** A Classification Panel may seek third party expertise of any nature if it considers in its sole discretion that this would assist it in completing the process of Athlete Evaluation.



## **Article Four - Athlete Evaluation**

- 4.1** Athlete Evaluation is the process by which an Athlete is assessed by a Classification Panel in order that the Athlete may be allocated a Sport Class and a Sport Class Status.

### **Athlete Evaluation Process**

- 4.2** The Athlete Evaluation process may encompass the following:
- 4.2.1** Physical Assessment: The Classification Panel should conduct a Physical Assessment of the Athlete, so as to establish that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment that meets the relevant Minimum Disability Criteria; and
  - 4.2.2** Technical Assessment: The Classification Panel should conduct a Technical Assessment of the Athlete which may include, but is not limited to, an assessment of the Athlete's ability to perform, in a non-competitive environment, the specific tasks and activities that are part of the Para Taekwondo in which the Athlete participates; and
  - 4.2.3** Observation Assessment: The Classification Panel may conduct Observation Assessment, which shall involve observing an Athlete performing the specific skills that are part of the Para Taekwondo. This may occur during training or first appearance in competition.
- 4.3** The means by which Physical, Technical and Observation Assessment are to be conducted are specified in the Appendices to these Rules.
- 4.4** Pre-Competition Athlete Evaluation
- Deaf and Intellectually Impaired athletes may enter the competition with predetermined eligibility as per ICSD or INAS Master List. This only applies to event and Championships organized by the WTF.

### **Athlete Evaluation Requirements**

- 4.5** The following requirements apply to Athlete Evaluation:
- 4.5.1** The Athlete and his or her WTF Member National Association are jointly responsible for ensuring that the Athlete attends Athlete Evaluation.
  - 4.5.2** Athlete Evaluation and its associated processes will be conducted in English. If the Athlete and/or the Athlete Support Personnel require an interpreter, the WTF Member National Association will be responsible for arranging the attendance of an interpreter.
  - 4.5.3** One person (in addition to any required interpreter) may accompany an Athlete during Athlete Evaluation. This person should be familiar with the Athlete's Impairment and sporting history and must be a member of the Athlete's WTF Member National Association or must be otherwise authorized in advance by the Chief Classifier to attend the Athlete's Athlete Evaluation.
  - 4.5.4** If the Athlete is a minor, or has an Intellectual Impairment, a parent or guardian should accompany him or her, or a person authorized by a parent or guardian to attend on their behalf. The Classification Panel may request evidence of any such authorization before it proceeds with Athlete Evaluation.

- 4.5.5 The Athlete must accept the terms of the WTF Evaluation Consent Form prior to participating in Athlete Evaluation. The Athlete must provide identification, such as a passport, ID Card, or WTF Global Athlete Licence Card that verifies the Athlete's identity to the satisfaction of the Classification Panel.
- 4.5.6 The Athlete must attend Athlete Evaluation with all sports equipment and attire used in competition.
- 4.5.7 The Athlete must attend Athlete Evaluation with all relevant medical documentation (in English or with a certified English translation), including but not limited to medical reports, medical records and diagnostic information, which relate to the Athlete's Impairment.
- 4.5.8 The Athlete must disclose either prior to, or at, Athlete Evaluation details of any medication used by the Athlete.
- 4.5.9 The Classification Panel may use video footage and/or any other records (including pre-existing video footage and/or records) to assist it in carrying out Athlete Evaluation. In addition, the Classification Panel may video-record any part of Athlete Evaluation if it considers that such recording is necessary to enable it to complete Athlete Evaluation. Any such recording will be used for the purposes of Athlete Evaluation only but may be used for research and education purposes with the Athlete's prior consent.
- 4.5.10 The Classification outcomes will be published at the Competition by the Chief Classifier or a person authorized by the Chief Classifier. This will be done at the end of each classification session by submitting results to the Technical Delegate within one (1) hour of completion of the session.
- 4.5.11 The Athlete is verbally informed of the outcome of Classification and results of all athlete evaluations are published at the end of Classification.

#### **Failure to Attend Athlete Evaluation**

- 4.6 If an Athlete is required to attend Athlete Evaluation, but fails to do so, the Classification Panel will report the fact of the non-attendance to the Chief Classifier. The Chief Classifier may, if satisfied that a reasonable explanation exists for the failure to attend Athlete Evaluation, specify a revised time and date for Athlete Evaluation at the relevant Competition.
- 4.7 If the Athlete fails to attend Athlete Evaluation on this second occasion, or is, in view of the Chief Classifier, unable to provide a reasonable explanation of his or her non-attendance, the Athlete will not be permitted to compete at the relevant Competition.

#### **Suspension of Athlete Evaluation**

- 4.8 A Classification Panel may suspend Athlete Evaluation in one or more of the following circumstances:
  - 4.8.1 if the Athlete fails to meet any of the requirements detailed in these Rules for attendance at Athlete Evaluation (see Article 4.6 above);
  - 4.8.2 if the Classification Panel considers that the use (or non-use) of any medication disclosed by the Athlete will affect its ability to conduct Athlete Evaluation in a fair manner;

- 4.8.3 if an Athlete fails to produce sufficient medical documentation and the Classification Panel considers that the absence of such medical documentation will affect its ability to conduct Athlete Evaluation in a fair manner;
  - 4.8.4 if an Athlete has a health condition (of any nature or description) that limits or prohibits the Athlete from complying with requests made by the Classification Panel during the course of Athlete Evaluation, which the Classification Panel considers will affect its ability to conduct Athlete Evaluation in a fair manner (e.g. pain);
  - 4.8.5 if an Athlete refuses to comply with any reasonable instructions given to him or her by a Classification Panel (or a Chief Classifier or the relevant Head of Classification) during the course of Athlete Evaluation to an extent that Classification Panel considers that this means it cannot conduct Athlete Evaluation in a fair manner. Such behavior shall be referred to as a case of Non-Cooperation. (see IPC Classification Code, Article 10);
  - 4.8.6 if an Athlete's presentation of his or her abilities is inconsistent with other information made available to the Classification Panel to the extent that the Classification Panel considers that this means it cannot conduct Athlete Evaluation in a fair manner.
- 4.9** If a Classification Panel suspends an Athlete Evaluation the following steps will be taken:
- 4.9.1 the Classification Panel will explain the reason for the suspension to the Athlete and the Athlete's WTF National Member Association and detail the remedial action that is required on the part of the Athlete.
  - 4.9.2 the Classification Panel will report the fact of the suspension to the Chief Classifier. The Chief Classifier will specify a time and date for resumption of the Athlete Evaluation on the condition that the Athlete takes the remedial action specified by the Classification Panel.
- 4.10** If the Athlete attends Athlete Evaluation having taken the remedial action to the Classification Panel's satisfaction, the Classification Panel will attempt to complete the Athlete Evaluation and allocate a Sport Class and Sport Class Status. This procedure will be subject to the Classification Panel's right to further suspend Athlete Evaluation according to Article 4.8.
- 4.11** If the Athlete fails to take the remedial action required to the Classification Panel's satisfaction and within the time specified by the Chief Classifier, the Classification Panel will terminate the Athlete Evaluation and WTF will designate the Athlete as being "Classification Not Completed" (CNC) within the Classification Master List for Para Taekwondo. This designation will preclude the Athlete from competing at any Competition until Athlete Evaluation is completed. WTF will stipulate from time to time how this designation impacts on performance recognition.
- 4.12** The Athlete and/or Athlete Support Personnel may be subject to further investigation regarding Intentional Misrepresentation pursuant to Article Nine.

### **Observation Assessment**

- 4.13** Athletes are required to complete Observation Assessment following completion of Physical and Technical Assessment in order that the Athlete can be allocated a Sport Class, the provisions regarding Observation Assessment apply.

- 4.14** Pending completion of Observation Assessment, the Athlete will be allocated a Sport Class with a Tracking Code:
- 4.14.1 If the Athlete has entered the relevant Competition with Sport Class Status New (N), the Athlete will be allocated the Tracking Code Competition New Status (CNS);
  - 4.14.2 If the Athlete has entered the relevant Competition with Sport Class Status Review (R), the Athlete will be allocated the Tracking Code Competition Review Status (CRS);
- 4.15** An Athlete will retain the Sport Class and Tracking Code until Observation Assessment is satisfactorily completed.

### **Observation Assessment and First Appearance**

- 4.16** Observation Assessment is conducted during the Athlete's First Appearance.
- 4.17** First Appearance is the first time that an Athlete competes in an Event during a Competition. First Appearance in one Event within a Sport Class shall apply to all other Events within the same Sport Class.
- 4.18** After satisfactorily completing Observation Assessment, the Classification Panel will allocate the Athlete a Sport Class and designate the Athlete with a Sport Class Status. The Tracking Code will then be removed.

### **Changes of Sport Class Following First Appearance**

- 4.19** If an Athlete makes his or her First Appearance with a Sport Class and Tracking Code, the Athlete may be allocated a different Sport Class after the Observation Assessment is completed.
- 4.20** The impact of an Athlete changing Sport Class after First Appearance on medals, records and results is detailed in the Model of Best Practice on Sport Class Changes following First Appearance (IPC Handbook, Section 2, Chapter 1.3) and the WTF Para Taekwondo Competition Rules.

## Article Five - Sport Class and Sport Class Status

- 5.1 A Sport Class is a sporting competition category that is allocated to an Athlete following Athlete Evaluation. It is allocated based on the existence of an Eligible Impairment and compliance with the Minimum Disability Criteria, and the degree to which Impairment impacts upon sport performance.

### Sport Class

- 5.2 A Sport Class will be allocated to an Athlete by a Classification Panel following Athlete Evaluation. A Sport Class cannot be allocated to an Athlete in any other circumstances.
- 5.3 The decision of the Classification Panel to allocate a Sport Class is final and subject to challenge only as prescribed in Article Seven and Article Eight of these Rules.
- 5.4 A Sport Class that enables an Athlete to compete in the sport of Taekwondo will be allocated if that Athlete has an Eligible Impairment that complies with the Minimum Disability Criteria set by WTF. The requirements regarding Eligible Impairment and Minimum Disability Criteria are detailed in the Appendices to these Rules.
- 5.5 If an Athlete does not have an Eligible Impairment or has an Eligible Impairment that does not comply with the Minimal Disability Criteria, he or she will not be eligible to compete within the sport of Para Taekwondo. If an Athlete is not eligible to compete he or she will be allocated Sport Class “Not Eligible” (see Article Six).
- 5.6 The Sport Class allocated to the Athlete will be in accordance with the Sport Class designations as explained in the Appendices to these Rules.
- 5.7 The WTF conducts Para Taekwondo competitions in two disciplines Kyorugi and Poomsae. Classes competing in Kyorugi will have the “K” prefix. Classes competing in Poomsae will have the “P” prefix. The following Sport Classes are used for Para Taekwondo:

Impairment	Sport Classes
Visual Impairment	P10
Intellectual Disability	P20
Physical Impairments	P30
LD/Prom	K40
W/C Classes	P50
Deaf	KP60
Short Stature	P70

## **Sport Class Status**

- 5.8** An Athlete's Sport Class Status indicates whether or not an Athlete will be required to undertake Athlete Evaluation again in the future, and whether (and by what party) the Athlete's Sport Class may be subject to challenge by way of Protest as prescribed in Article Seven of these Rules.
- 5.9** The Sport Class Status designated to an Athlete will be one of the following:
- Sport Class New (N)
  - Sport Class Review (R)
  - Review with a Fixed review Date (RFD)
  - Sport Class Confirmed (C)
- 5.10** Athletes with Sport Class Status New (N)
- 5.10.1 An Athlete will be designated with Sport Class Status New (N) if a National Body has allocated an Entry Sport Class to him or her, and the Athlete has not completed International Classification yet.
- 5.10.2 An Athlete who has been designated with Sport Class Status New (N) must complete Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at any WTF Sanctioned or promoted Competition where Classification is offered.
- 5.11** Athletes with Sport Class Status Review (R)
- 5.11.1 A Classification Panel will designate an Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R) if he or she has completed Athlete Evaluation and been allocated a Sport Class, but the Classification Panel believes that further Athlete Evaluation will be required before the Athlete can be designated as Sport Class Confirmed (C). This may be, for a range of reasons, for example, because the Athlete has a fluctuating and/or progressive Impairment(s), or, given his or her age, has Impairment(s) that may not have stabilized.
- 5.11.2 Any Athlete who has been allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) will be designated with Sport Class Review (R) if that Athlete is entitled to a further Athlete Evaluation under these Rules (see Article Six)
- 5.11.3 An Athlete who has been designated with Sport Class Status Review (R) must complete Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at a Sanctioned or promoted Competition where Classification is offered, save where the provisions in these Rules relating to the Fixed Review Date apply (see Articles 5.12-15).
- 5.11.4 The Sport Class of any Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R) may be subject to Protest by a National Body as prescribed in Article Seven of these Rules.
- 5.12** Athletes with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C)
- 5.12.1 A Classification Panel will designate an Athlete with Sport Class Confirmed (C) if he or she has completed Athlete Evaluation and has been allocated a Sport Class, and the Classification Panel is satisfied that the Athlete's Impairment and/or Activity Limitations are sufficiently stable so that the Athlete can be allocated Sport Class Status Confirmed.
- 5.12.2 Any Athlete who has been allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) will be designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) if that Athlete is not entitled to a further Athlete Evaluation under these Rules (see Article Six).

- 5.12.3 An Athlete who has been designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) is not required to undergo Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at any Competition.
- 5.12.4 The Sport Class of any Athlete who enters a Competition with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) may be subject to Protest pursuant to the provisions in Articles 7.24-7.26 of these Rules relating to Protests under Exceptional Circumstances.

### **Fixed Review Date**

- 5.13 A Classification Panel that allocates Sport Class Status Review may also, if it considers it appropriate to do so, nominate a "Fixed Review Date".
- 5.14 If a Fixed Review Date is set in this manner, then
  - 5.14.1 the Athlete will not be required to attend Athlete Evaluation at any competition prior to the Fixed Review Date; and
  - 5.14.2 The Athlete will retain the Sport Class assigned to that Athlete and be permitted to compete with that Sport Class.
- 5.15 The Athlete may, at his or her own request, attend Athlete Evaluation before the Fixed Review Date pursuant to the Medical Review Process described in these Rules (see Articles 5.19-5.24).
- 5.16 The Fixed Review Date will be the first day of the Competition Season for WTF indicated by the Classification Panel or an alternative date set by the Classification Panel.

### **Changes to Sport Class criteria**

- 5.17 If WTF changes any Sport Class criteria and/ or assessment methods defined in the Appendices to these Rules, then –
  - 5.17.1 WTF may re-assign any Athlete with Sport Class Status Confirmed with Sport Class Status Review in order for the Athlete to undergo Athlete Evaluation; or
  - 5.17.2 WTF may remove the Fixed Review Date for any Athlete in order for the Athlete to undergo Athlete Evaluation at the earliest available opportunity; and
- 5.18 In both instances the relevant WTF National Member Association shall be informed as soon as is practical.

### **Errors regarding Sport Class Status**

- 5.19 If the Head of Classification believes on reasonable grounds that an Athlete has been designated with a Sport Class Status in manifest error and/or clear breach of these Rules, he or she shall
  - 5.19.1 advise the Athlete and the relevant WTF National Member Association as to the error or breach that has taken place with a brief statement of the reasons for that belief; and
  - 5.19.2 immediately amend the Athlete's Sport Class Status, and advise the Athlete and the relevant WTF National Member Association . WTF will make the appropriate amendment to the Classification Master List.

### **Medical Review: Application to undergo Athlete Evaluation**

- 5.20** An Athlete who has reason to believe that his or her Impairment and Activity Limitations are no longer consistent with the profile for his or her Sport Class should have his or her Sport Class reviewed. The means by which this can take place is referred to in these Rules as “the Medical Review Process” and the means by which a request for such review is referred to as “a Medical Review Request”.
- 5.21** A WTF National Member Association must make a Medical Review Request. A Medical Review Request cannot be made by an Athlete.
- 5.22** A Medical Review Request may be made if an Athlete has been allocated:
- 5.22.1 A Sport Class with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C), or
  - 5.22.2 A Sport Class with Sport Class Status Review (R), if the Athlete has been allocated a Fixed Review Date
- 5.23** A Medical Review Request must be made by completing the WTF Medical Review Request Form and by following its instructions. The Athlete and his or her WTF National Member Association must ensure that the Medical Review Request abides by the following provisions:
- 5.23.1 it must explain that the Athlete’s relevant Impairment has changed since the last Athlete Evaluation to an extent that the Athlete’s Sport Class might not be accurate anymore;
  - 5.23.2 it must be completed by an appropriately qualified health professional and include all relevant supporting documentation in English or with a certified English translation;
  - 5.23.3 a non-refundable fee must be paid. See Appendix Five Table of Fees
- 5.24** Each Medical Review Request will be assessed by WTF to ensure that all requisite information, documentation and fee have been provided. Once the Medical Review Request is complete, the Head of Classification will, in conjunction with such third parties as he or she considers appropriate, decide whether or not the Medical Review Request should be upheld.
- 5.25** If the Medical Review Request is upheld the Athlete’s Sport Class Status will be amended from Confirmed to Review; or the Athlete’s Fixed Review Date will be set aside; and the Athlete will be requested to undertake Athlete Evaluation at the next available opportunity.

### **Provision involving Multiple Sport Classes**

- 5.26** IPC’s general principle is that an Athlete is allocated one Sport Class only, which is either based on a Physical, Visual or Intellectual Impairment.
- 5.27** The Model of Best Practice on Choice of Sport Class for Athletes with Multiple Impairments (IPC Handbook, Section 2, Chapter 1.3) should be considered by any Athlete who believes that he or she is eligible for more than one Sport Class.



## **Recognition of Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment of other Sports**

- 5.28** If brought to the attention of WTF that an Athlete with Visual Impairment and Sport Class Status Review with Fixed Review Date or Confirmed with WTF, holds a different and more recently allocated Sport Class with another IF or Sport, then WTF will adopt the Sport Class that indicates the most visual ability, and amend the Sport Class Status to Review. If the Sport Class by the other IF or Sport allocated is Not Eligible, the Athlete's Sport Class of WTF will not be changed, but the Sport Class Status will be changed to Review.

## **Article Six - Rules Regarding Athletes who are Not Eligible**

- 6.1** An Athlete must have an Eligible Impairment, and that Eligible Impairment must comply with the Minimal Disability Criteria set by WTF in order to be eligible to compete. If a Classification Panel determines that an Athlete does not have such Eligible Impairment, and/or that Eligible Impairment does not comply with the Minimal Disability Criteria, that Athlete will not be eligible to compete.
- 6.2** If a Classification Panel determines that an Athlete is not eligible to compete the Athlete will be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE).
- 6.3** If a Classification Panel allocates an Athlete Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) the Athlete will be entitled to undergo a second Athlete Evaluation by a second separate Classification Panel either at that Competition or as soon as practicable thereafter. Pending this second assessment the Athlete will be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated with Sport Class Status Review (R). The Athlete will not be permitted to compete before such re-assessment.
- 6.4** If there is no opportunity for a separate Athlete Evaluation to be undertaken at that Competition, WTF will take all reasonable steps to ensure the second Athlete Evaluation is undertaken at the earliest opportunity.
- 6.5** If a second Classification Panel confirms that the Athlete is not eligible the Athlete will not be permitted to compete at that Competition or any future Competitions. The Athlete will be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) with Sport Class Status Confirmed and there is no further right to Protest unless made under Exceptional Circumstances pursuant to Articles 7.24-7.26.
- 6.6** A WTF Member National Association may request that an Athlete with Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) undertakes Athlete Evaluation, but only by way of a Medical Review Request as defined in these Rules.
- 6.7** While an Athlete with Sport Class NE will be not eligible to compete within the sport of Para Taekwondo, it will not affect his or her ability to compete in other Para-sports, subject to their rules on Classification.
- 6.8** If an Athlete is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible, this does not question the presence of a genuine Impairment. It is only a ruling on the eligibility of the Athlete to compete in the sport of Para Taekwondo.

## Article Seven - Protests

- 7.1 The term “Protest” is used in these Rules refers to the procedure by which a formal objection to the allocation of a Sport Class is made and subsequently resolved.
- 7.2 A WTF National Member Association may make a Protest in respect of a Sport Class of any Athlete who entered the relevant Competition where Classification is offered with either Sport Class Status New (N) or Sport Class Status Review (R).
- 7.3 The decision that is the subject of the Protest is referred to in this part of the Rules as “the Protested Decision”, and the Athlete in respect of whose Sport Class the Protest is made is referred to as “the Protested Athlete”.
- 7.4 No WTF National Member Association may make a Protest in respect of any Athlete who entered the relevant Competition with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C).
- 7.5 The Chief Classifier for the relevant Competition may make a Protest in respect of any Athlete regardless of their Sport Class Status pursuant to the provisions contained in these Rules regarding Protests under Exceptional Circumstances (see Articles 7.24-7.26).
- 7.6 An Athlete's Sport Class may only be protested once in any individual Competition, unless an additional Protest is made pursuant to the provisions concerning Protests made in Exceptional Circumstances.
- 7.7 The WTF National Member Association making a Protest is responsible for ensuring that all Protest process requirements are observed.

### Protests submissions

- 7.8 A Protest may only be submitted by a WTF National Member Association, an Athlete cannot submit a Protest.
- 7.9 The Chief Classifier, or a person designated by Chief Classifier for the relevant Competition, will be the person authorized to receive Protests on behalf of Para Taekwondo.
- 7.10 If a Classification decision is published during the Classification Evaluation Period, the WTF National Member Association must make a Protest within one (1) hour of the Classification decision being published. If a Protest is made during Competition following completion of an Athlete's Observation in Competition, the Protest must be submitted within fifteen (15) minutes of the Decision being published.
- 7.11 Protests must be made by way of a designated Protest Form that will be made available by WTF at the relevant Competition. The Protest Form will prescribe certain information and documentation that must be submitted with the Protest form. This will include the following:
  - 7.11.1 Name, Nation and Sport of the Athlete whose Sport Class is being protested;
  - 7.11.2 The details of the Protested Decision;
  - 7.11.3 An explanation as to why the Protest has been made and the basis on which the WTF National Member Association believes that the Protested Decision is flawed;
  - 7.11.4 All documents and other evidence referred to in the Protest;
  - 7.11.5 The signature of the authorized WTF National Member Association ; and

#### 7.11.6 A Protest Fee of 300 US Dollars

- 7.12** Upon receipt of the Protest Form the Chief Classifier will conduct a review of the Protest submission. If it appears to the Chief Classifier that the Protest is not made bona fide or is based on mere assertion without credible supporting evidence and/or the Protest submission is otherwise not in compliance with these Rules, the Chief Classifier shall decline the protest and notify all relevant parties. In such cases the Chief Classifier shall provide a written explanation to the WTF National Member Association as soon as is possible. The Protest fee will be retained by WTF.
- 7.13** If the Chief Classifier declines a Protest, the Member National Association may resubmit the Protest if it is able to remedy the deficiencies identified by the Chief Classifier in respect of the Protest. The time frames for submitting a Protest shall remain the same in such circumstances. If a WTF National Member Association resubmits a Protest, all protest procedure requirements will apply. A second Protest fee must be paid.

### **Resolving a Protest**

- 7.14** If the Protest is accepted, the Chief Classifier shall appoint a Classification Panel to conduct Athlete Evaluation in respect of the Athlete. This Classification Panel is referred to as a "Protest Panel".
- 7.15** A Protest Panel should comprise, at a minimum, the same number of Classifiers as those comprised in the Classification Panel that made the Protested Decision. Only if practicable given all the circumstances of the Competition, the Protest Panel should comprise Classifiers of equal or greater level of experience and/or certification as who comprised the Classification Panel that made the Protested Decision.
- 7.16** The Protest Panel must not include any person who was a Member of the Classification Panel that made the Protest Decision. Further, it should not include any person who has been a Member of any Classification Panel that has conducted any Athlete Evaluation in respect of the Protested Athlete within a period of twelve (12) months prior to the date of the Protest Decision.
- 7.17** WTF will supply all documentation submitted with the Protest Form to the Protest Panel. The Chief Classifier will notify all relevant parties of the time and date for the Athlete Evaluation that will be conducted by the Protest Panel.
- 7.18** The Protest Panel will conduct Athlete Evaluation in respect of the Protested Athlete according to the provisions concerning Athlete Evaluation in these Rules.
- 7.19** The Protest Panel may make enquires of the Classification Panel that made the Protested Decision and the Chief Classifier, if such enquiries will enable the Protest Panel to complete Athlete Evaluation in a fair and transparent manner. In addition, it may seek medical, sport, technical or scientific expertise in its conduct of Athlete Evaluation.
- 7.20** The Protest Panel will conclude Athlete Evaluation and, if appropriate, allocate a Sport Class. All relevant parties shall be notified of the Protest Panel's decision as quickly as possible following Athlete Evaluation.

- 7.21** If the Protest is upheld and the Sport Class of the Athlete is changed by the Protest Panel, the Protest Fee will be refunded to the WTF National Member Association. If the Protest is not upheld and if the Sport Class of the Athlete is not changed by the Protest Panel, the Protest fee will be retained by WTF.
- 7.22** The decision of the Protest Panel is final and is not subject to any further Protest. According to Article 6.3, the Athlete is given the opportunity to a re-assessment if the Sport Class allocated by the Protest Panel is Not Eligible.
- 7.23** The consequences of an Athlete changing Sport Class after the resolution of a Protest during Competition on medals, records and results are detailed in the Model of Best Practice on Sport Class Changes following First Appearance as outlined in the WTF Para Taekwondo Competition Rules Article 9.3 and the WTF Para Taekwondo Poomsae Competition Rules Article 6.6.

### **Protests under Exceptional Circumstances**

- 7.24** A Protest in Exceptional Circumstances may be made in respect of an Athlete if the Chief Classifier believes that because of exceptional circumstances, the Athlete should undertake Athlete Evaluation in order that his or her Sport Class may be reviewed.
- 7.25** Examples of exceptional circumstances that may arise that may warrant an Athlete participating in Athlete Evaluation include, but are not limited to:
- 7.25.1 An obvious and permanent change in the degree of Impairment of an Athlete;
  - 7.25.2 An Athlete demonstrating significantly less or greater ability prior to or during Competition which does not reflect the Athlete's current Sport Class;
  - 7.25.3 An error made by a Classification Panel which has led to the Athlete being allocated a Sport Class which is not in keeping with the Athlete's ability; or
  - 7.25.4 Sport Class allocation criteria having changed since the Athlete's most recent evaluation.
- 7.26** The procedure for the making of a Protest in Exceptional Circumstances shall be as follows:
- 7.26.1 The Chief Classifier shall advise the Athlete and relevant WTF National Member Association that a Protest is being made in Exceptional Circumstances;
  - 7.26.2 The Chief Classifier will provide a written summary of the reasons for the making of the Protest, which at a minimum shall explain why the Chief Classifier believes that the Athlete's Sport Class appears to be inconsistent with the Athlete's perceived Impairment(s) and/or Activity Limitation(s) and/ or with these Rules;
  - 7.26.3 The Athlete's Sport Class Status will be amended to Review (R) with immediate effect;
  - 7.26.4 The process for making such a Protest shall be the same as that stated in these Rules in respect of Protests made by WTF National Member Association save that the Chief Classifier is not required to pay a Protest fee.

### **Provisions Where No Protest Panel is Available**

- 7.27** If a Protest is made and accepted at a Competition, but there is no opportunity for the Protest to be resolved at that Competition (because, for example, it is not possible to form an appropriately constituted Protest Panel), the following provisions will apply:
- 7.27.1 If the Athlete has been allocated Sport Class Status Confirmed (C), that will be amended to Sport Class Status Review (R);
  - 7.27.2 The Athlete will be permitted (or required) to compete in his or her current Sport Class, pending the resolution of the Protest;
  - 7.27.3 WTF will take all reasonable steps to ensure that the Protest is resolved at the earliest opportunity, for example, at the next Competition that the Athlete intends competing at and where International Classification is offered.

## **Article Eight – Appeals**

- 8.1** An Appeal is a formal objection to the manner in which Classification procedures have been conducted is submitted and subsequently resolved.
- 8.2** If an Athlete believes that an unfair decision has been made pursuant to these Rules, he or she may apply to have that decision set aside following the Appeal procedure.
- 8.3** A decision will be considered unfair, if it has been made in contravention of the procedures set out in these Rules at Article 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of these Rules; and there is some manifest unfairness associated with the decision such that it should be set aside.
- 8.4** WTF has designated the International Paralympic Committee Board of Appeal on Classification (BAC) to act as the hearing body for all Appeals and all Athletes submitting to Athlete Evaluation irrevocably submit to the exclusive, final and binding jurisdiction of the BAC.
- 8.5** The detailed rules of procedure in respect of Appeals are provided by the IPC in the form of the IPC BAC Bylaws (see IPC Handbook, Section 1, Chapter 2.8). These Rules incorporate the IPC BAC Bylaws, and any Appeal made under these Rules must be made pursuant to the IPC BAC Bylaws.
- 8.6** The outcome of an Appeal will be that either the relevant decision is upheld, or is set aside. An Appeal decision cannot amend a Sport Class or Sport Class Status.

## **Article Nine – Intentional Misrepresentation**

- 9.1** Intentional Misrepresentation is a violation of these Rules, and will be investigated and potentially sanctioned as provided for in the IPC Intentional Misrepresentation Rules (IPC Handbook, Section 2, Chapter 1.3).

### **Misrepresentation during Athlete Evaluation**

- 9.2** An Athlete who intentionally misrepresents his or her skills and/or abilities and/or the degree or nature of Physical, Visual or Intellectual Impairment to a Classification Panel in the course of Athlete Evaluation with the intention of deceiving or misleading that Classification Panel shall be guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation.

### **Misrepresentation after Allocation of Confirmed Sport Class**

- 9.3** If following the allocation of a Sport Class an Athlete undertakes any form of corrective treatment (a “medical intervention”), and the Athlete (or any other Participant) knows (or should know) that the medical intervention was intended to result in improved sport performance, the Athlete must provide details of that medical intervention to the WTF at the earliest reasonable opportunity. If the Athlete’s Sport Class is later changed because the Athlete’s sporting performance has improved as a result of (in whole or in part) that medical intervention, but the Athlete failed to disclose that medical intervention to WTF, the Athlete will be charged with Intentional Misrepresentation.

### **Assisting Intentional Misrepresentation**

- 9.4** Any Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel, who knowingly assists, covers up or is any other way involved in any other type of complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation shall themselves be guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation.



## Glossary of Defined Terms

Term	Definition
<b>Activity Limitation</b>	Difficulties an individual may have in executing activities.
<b>Appeal</b>	A formal objection to the manner in which Classification procedures have been conducted is submitted and subsequently resolved.
<b>Athlete</b>	Any person who participates in the sport of WTFat either International Level (as defined by [Sport]) or National Level (as defined by a National Body) and any other additional person who participates in sport at a lower level if designated by the person's National Body.
<b>Athlete Evaluation</b>	The process by which an Athlete is assessed in accordance with these Rules.
<b>Athlete Support Personnel</b>	Any coach, trainer, manager, interpreter, agent, team staff, official, medical or paramedical personnel working with or treating Athletes participating in or preparing for training and/or Competition.
<b>Classification</b>	A structure for Competition to ensure that an Athlete's Impairment is relevant to sport performance, and to ensure that the Athlete competes equitably with other Athletes.
<b>Classification Evaluation Period</b>	The timeframe prior to the commencement of Events at a Competition within which Physical and Technical Assessment typically takes place.
<b>Classification Master List</b>	The list, made available by WTF that identifies the Athletes that participated in International Classification.
<b>Classification Panel</b>	A group of Classifiers appointed by WTF to determine Sport Class and Sport Class Status in accordance with these Rules.
<b>Classification Personnel</b>	All persons involved in or associated with the process of Athlete Evaluation, including the Head of Classification, Classifiers, Chief Classifiers and Trainee Classifiers.
<b>Classifier</b>	A person authorized by WTF to evaluate Athletes as a member of a Classification Panel.
<b>Competition</b>	A series of individual Events conducted together under the jurisdiction of WTF.
<b>Competition Season</b>	The timeframe within which Competitions are held for a particular sport. For summer sports, the Competition Season runs from January 1 of a calendar year until December 31 of the same calendar year. For winter sports, the Competition Season runs from July 1 of a calendar year until June 30 of the next calendar year.
<b>Conflict of Interest</b>	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.
<b>Effective Date</b>	The date upon which these Rules come into force.

<b>Eligible Impairment</b>	An Eligible Impairment is an Impairment the existence of which is a pre-requisite for an Athlete to meet the Minimum Disability Criteria for the sport of [Sport].
<b>Entry Sport Class</b>	A Sport Class allocated to an Athlete by a National Body prior to an WTF Competition to indicate the Sport Class with which the Athlete intends to compete. An Entry Sport Class is an estimate and has no binding effect upon either the Athlete or the body responsible for organising and managing the relevant Competition.
<b>Event</b>	A sub-set of a Competition that requires specific technical and sporting skills.
<b>Fixed Review Date</b>	A date prior to which an Athlete who has been designated with Sport Class Status Review (R) will not be required to undertake Athlete Evaluation, regardless of whether or not that Athlete competes at any Competition.  Unless otherwise specified by the Classification Panel, the Fixed Review Date is the first day of the Competition Season of WTF, i.e. 1 January for summer sports and 1 July for winter sports.
<b>Head of Classification</b>	A Classifier responsible for all direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of Classification matters for WTF
<b>Impairment</b>	Problems in body function or structure such as a significant deviation or loss.
<b>Intellectual Impairment</b>	A type of Impairment, which is defined as a limitation in intellectual functioning and adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social and practical adaptive skills. This impairment originates before the age of 18.
<b>International Classification</b>	Athlete Evaluation that is conducted in full compliance with these Rules.
<b>IPC</b>	International Paralympic Committee
<b>IPC Classification Code</b>	The IPC Classification Code 2007 and accompanying International Standards and any subsequent version or versions of the same.
<b>IPC Classifier Code of Conduct</b>	A set of rules to outline the responsibilities, to guide behaviour and decisions and to identify best practice for an individual Classifier, which is part of the IPC Classification Code International Standard of Classifier Training.
<b>IPC Code of Ethics</b>	The ethical standard that will be applied consistently within the Paralympic Movement, and will be applicable to all IPC sanctioned Events, Competitions and activities.
<b>IPC Handbook</b>	The IPC Handbook is the primary governance instrument for the IPC in its capacity as both an International Federation and the ruling body for the Summer and Winter Paralympic Games. All persons who are subject to the jurisdiction of the IPC are required to abide by its provisions.
<b>Medical Intervention</b>	Any intervention such as surgery, pharmacological intervention or other treatment, which affects the Athlete's Eligible Impairment

<b>Medical Review</b>	The process by which an Athlete can apply to WTF to undergo Athlete Evaluation, in order that the Athlete's Sport Class may be reviewed to ensure that the Athlete's Sport Class remains a fair allocation.
<b>Minimum Disability Criteria</b>	The standards set by WTF in relation to the degree of Eligible Impairment that must be present in order that an Athlete is deemed to be eligible to compete in the sport of [Sport].
<b>National Body</b>	A team entity of which an Athlete is a member. Such an entity may be National Federation, National Paralympic Committee or other representative team body.
<b>Not Eligible</b>	Consequence of not meeting the eligibility criteria.
<b>Observation Assessment</b>	The means by which a Classification Panel may complete Athlete Evaluation, if it considers that the only fair way in which it can complete Athlete Evaluation is to observe the Athlete performing the specific skills associated with the sport of WTF either prior to or during an Event.
<b>Physical Assessment</b>	The means by which a Classification Panel will determine whether or not an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment and whether that Eligible Impairment complies with the Minimum Disability Criteria.
<b>Physical Impairment</b>	A group of Eligible Impairments affecting an Athlete's biomechanical execution of sporting activities, comprising ataxia, athetosis, hypertonia, impaired muscle power, impaired range of movement, limb deficiency, leg length difference and short stature.
<b>Protest</b>	The procedure by which a formal objection to an Athlete's Sport Class is submitted and subsequently resolved.
<b>Protest Panel</b>	A Classification Panel formed to conduct Athlete Evaluation in respect of an Athlete's Sport Class, where that Sport Class is the subject of a Protest.
<b>Recognised Competition</b>	An umbrella term for WTF Competitions, WTF Sanctioned Competitions and WTF Approved Competitions as defined in WTF Rules and Regulations.
<b>Sport Class</b>	A category defined by WTF in which Athletes are categorized by reference to an Activity Limitation resulting from impairment.
<b>Sport Class Status</b>	A Category allocation to each Athlete to indicate evaluation requirements and Protest opportunities.
<b>Technical Assessment</b>	The assessment of an Athlete's ability to perform the tasks and activities required to participate in the sport of [Sport].
<b>Tracking Code</b>	A temporary designation applied to a Sport Class that indicates that a Sport Class is subject to final determination after Observation Assessment has taken place.
<b>Visual Impairment</b>	An Impairment of the eye structure, optical nerves or optical pathways, or visual cortex of the central brain, which adversely affect an Athlete's vision.

<b>Appendix One</b>	<b>Sport Classes for Athletes with Physical Impairment</b>
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Appendix One deals with Sport Classes for Athletes with Physical Impairment, and sets out the Minimum Disability Criteria and assessment methodologies that apply in order for an Athlete with Physical Impairment to be eligible to compete in the sport of Taekwondo.

## Introduction

- 1.1 WTF has designated Sport Classes for Athletes with Physical Impairment, which are defined in this Appendix.
- 1.2 WTF currently revisits the Sport Classes for Athletes with Physical Impairment towards a sport-specific classification system on the basis of activity limitations that result from Impairment. Until such a system is approved, the processes detailed in this Appendix apply to Athlete Evaluation in respect of Sport Classes for Athletes with Physical Impairment.
- 1.3 The processes detailed in this Appendix apply to Athlete Evaluation in respect of Sport Classes for Athletes with Physical Impairment.
- 1.4 The Sport Class allocated to Athletes with Visual Impairment applies to all events offered by WTF and IPC.
- 1.5 All provisions of the WTF Athlete Classification Rules apply to the Assessment of Athletes with Physical Impairment, except if otherwise specified in this Appendix.
- 1.6 The following Sport Classes has been designated by the WTF for Athlete's with a Physical Impairment

Impairment	Sport Classes
Physical Impairments	P30
LD/Prom	K40
W/C Classes	P50
Short Stature	P70

## Eligibility Criteria

- 2.1 The following physical impairment types in the below Table 1 are eligible for Para Taekwondo under the following conditions
  - 2.1.1 An athlete must be affected by at least one of the impairments listed in the first column of the table
  - 2.1.2 The impairment must result directly from a health condition (e.g. trauma, disease, dysgenesis)

**Table 1**

Impairment Type	Examples of health conditions likely to cause such impairments	Impairments as described in the ICF	Relevant ICF Impairment Codes
Hypertonia	Cerebral palsy, stroke, acquired brain injury, multiple sclerosis	High muscle tone <i>Inclusions:</i> Hypertonia / High muscle tone <i>Exclusions:</i> Low muscle tone	b735

Ataxia	Ataxia resulting from cerebral palsy, brain injury, Friedreich's ataxia, multiple sclerosis, spinocerebellar ataxia	Control of voluntary movement <i>Inclusions:</i> Ataxia only <i>Exclusions:</i> Problems of control of voluntary movement that do not fit description of Ataxia	b760
Athetosis	Cerebral Palsy, stroke, traumatic brain injury	Involuntary contractions of muscles <i>Inclusions:</i> Athetosis, chorea <i>Exclusions:</i> Sleep related movement disorders	b7650
Limb Deficiency (LD)	Amputation resulting from trauma or congenital limb deficiency (dysmelia).	Total or partial absence of the bones or joints of the shoulder region, upper extremities, pelvic region or lower extremities	s720, s730, s740, s750  Note: These codes would have the extension .81 or .82 to indicate total or partial absence of the structure respectively.
Impaired Passive Range of Movement (PROM)	Arthrogryposis, ankylosis, post burns joint contractures	Impaired joint mobility <i>Exclusions:</i> Hyper mobility of joints	b7100-b7102
Impaired Muscle Power	Spinal cord injury, muscular dystrophy, brachial plexus injury, Erb's palsy, Guillain-Barre syndrome	Muscle power	b730
Leg Length Difference	Congenital or traumatic causes of bone shortening in one leg	Aberrant dimensions of bones of right lower limb OR left lower limb but not both. <i>Inclusions:</i> shortening of bones of one lower limb <i>Exclusions:</i> shortening of bones of both lower limbs; any increase in dimensions	s7500, s75010, s75020  Note: for coding purposes aberrant dimensions of bones of right lower limb is indicated by addition of the qualifying code .841 and in the left lower limb, .842
Short Stature	Achondroplasia, growth dysfunction	Aberrant dimensions of bones of upper and lower limbs or trunk which will reduce standing height	s730.343, s750.343, s760.349

## 2.2 Minimum Disability Criteria

### 2.2.1 Neurological impairments (P30)

Must meet MDC as per below;

- Hemiplegic Spasticity Grade 1 to 2
- Monoplegic Grade 1 to 2 spasticity in major joint, either the ankle or the elbow
- Athetosis, Ataxia or Mixed Cerebral Palsy

This Athlete may appear to have near normal function when running but the Athlete must demonstrate a limitation in function to Classifiers based on evidence of spasticity (increased tone), ataxia, athetosis or dystonic movements while performing on the field of play or in training. The Athlete may walk with a slight limp but runs more fluidly.

### 2.2.2 Limb Deficiency (LD), Impaired Passive Range of Movement (PROM) (K40)

This group includes athletes with limb deficiency and impaired muscle strength, or loss of passive range of motion (PROM). The limb deficiency group includes individuals with traumatic amputations or dysmelia. The impaired muscle strength group includes loss of strength secondary to peripheral nervous system (PNS) damage or a brachial plexus lesion. The impaired strength group can also include ambulatory neurological impairments such as mono-plegia, or mild hemiplegia. The loss of PROM can be due to joint contractures, joint abnormalities, or soft tissue restrictions. Finally this group could also include loss of great toe, or all of toes in one foot

Minimal Disability Criteria (MDC) Amputation/Dysmelia :

- Unilateral amputation, through or above wrist (i.e., no carpal bones present in affected limb). Arthrodesed wrist joints are not eligible.
- Unilateral dysmelia in which the length of the affected arm measured from acromion to finger tip is equal in length or shorter than the combined length of the humerus and the radius of the unaffected arm.

Athlete must meet one of the MDC as per below

- 1 Must lose three muscle grades – e.g Daniels and Worthington grade 2 cannot complete one heel rise to 25 degrees. In lying may complete full range of motion with resistance.  
(See Muscle testing Daniels Worthingtons 8th edition pp 229, 231)
- 2 Brachial plexus – loss shoulder abduction loss of three (3) muscle grade points of muscle strength and same for shoulder flexion
- 3 Loss of two (2) grade points of muscle strength in elbow flexion and extension
- 4 Meets one criteria for PROM restriction in either the lower extremity or upper extremity.

### 2.2.3 W/C (P50)

To be developed.

### 2.2.4 Short Statue (P70)

Male athletes must meet all of the following minimal disability criteria MDC:

- Standing height  $\leq 145\text{cm}$ ; AND
- Arm length  $\leq 66\text{cm}$ ; AND
- Sum of standing height plus arm length  $\leq 200\text{cm}$ .

Female athletes must meet all of the following minimal disability criteria MDC:

- Standing height  $\leq 137\text{cm}$ ; AND
- Arm length  $\leq 63\text{cm}$ ; AND
- Sum of standing height plus arm length  $\leq 190\text{cm}$

## Sport Class Profiles for Athletes with Physical Impairment

### 3.1 Sport Class **P31**

#### 3.1.1 Description

The **P31** athlete may appear to have near normal function when running but the Athlete must demonstrate a limitation in function to Classifiers based on evidence of spasticity (increased tone), ataxia, athetosis or dystonic movements while performing on the field of play or in training. The Athlete may walk with a slight limp but runs more fluidly.

The athlete has diplegia, asymmetric diplegia, double hemiplegia or triplegia with signs of spasticity involvement in both legs (grade 3 and 2) more so than in the arms (grade 1 and 2) able to walk and stand independently however shift of gravity often leads to difficulty in maintaining balance.

### 3.2 Sport Class **P32**

#### 3.2.1 Description

The **P32** class is for athletes with dyskinesias, athetosis, dystonia, ataxia as well as athletes who have mild spastic quadriplegia (functional involvement of all four limbs) or a combination of the above.

The athlete is able to walk and run however has difficulty with slow movements, holding postures and in particular static balance.

The athlete's coordination is impaired due to overshooting, involuntary movements and/or posturing of all or some body parts.

### 3.3 Sport Class **P33**

#### 3.3.1 Description

The **P33** is an athlete with spastic hemiplegia or very mild spastic hemi dystonia. Spasticity grade 2 or 3 on only one side of the body. The other side has good functional control.

The lower limbs; the athlete has difficulty with walking on heels and significant difficulties with single leg stance, hopping on the impaired side. Side stepping and galloping towards the impaired side or with the impaired side leading is also affected.

The athlete has obvious asymmetry in both passive and active range of motion on the impaired side versus the non-affected side. Strength on the affected side is reduced.

### 3.4 Sport Class **P34**

#### 3.4.2 Description

The **P34** is the class for the athlete with very mild hemiplegia, diplegia, athetosis, dystonia, hemi-dystonia and very mild ataxia.

### 3.5 Sport Class **K41**

#### 3.5.1 Description

- bilateral dysmelia in which the length of each upper limb is  $\leq 1/3$  (0.193 x standing height).

3.6 Sport Class **K42**

3.6.1 Description

- Unilateral through shoulder amputation or amputation where the residual limb is  $\leq 1/3$  the length of the humerus (acromion to superior head of radius) of the unaffected arm.
- Unilateral dysmelia in which the length of the affected arm from acromion to the most distal aspect is  $\leq 1/3$  the length of the humerus (acromion to superior head of radius) of the unaffected arm.

3.7 Sport Class **K43**

3.7.1 Description

- Bilateral amputations below the elbow but above or through wrist (no carpal bones present in either wrist)
- Bilateral dysmelia in which the combined length of the upper limbs measured from acromion to the distal aspect is  $\leq 0.674 \times$  standing height but  $> 0.386 \times$  standing height ; that is the length from acromion to radial styloid in a normally proportioned body (0.337) multiplied by 2, and the length of a humerus in a normal proportioned body (0.193) multiplied by 2.

3.8 Sport Class **K44**

3.8.1 Description

The **K44** athlete has a MDC of;

- Unilateral amputation, through or above wrist (i.e., no carpal bones present in affected limb).
- Unilateral dysmelia in which the length of the affected arm measured from acromion to finger tip is equal in length or shorter than the combined length of the humerus and the radius of the unaffected arm
- Mild hemiplegia or CNS monoplegia - PNS monoplegia (brachial plexus injury)

3.9 Sport Class **P71 MALE**

The **P71 MALE** has to fulfill the following criteria;

- 3.9.1 Standing height  $\leq 130$ cm; AND
- 3.9.2 Arm length  $\leq 59$ cm; AND
- 3.9.3 Sum of standing height plus arm length  $\leq 180$ cm

3.10 Sport Class **P71 FEMALE** profile

The **P71 FEMALE** has to fulfill the following criteria;

- 3.10.1 Standing height  $\leq 125$ cm; AND
- 3.10.2 Arm length  $\leq 57$ cm; AND
- 3.10.3 Sum of standing height plus arm length  $\leq 173$ cm.

3.11 Sport Class **P72 MALE** profile

The **P72 MALE** has to fulfill the following criteria;

- 3.11.1 Standing height  $\leq 145$ cm; AND



3.11.2 Arm length  $\leq 66\text{cm}$ ; AND

3.11.3 Sum of standing height plus arm length  $\leq 200\text{cm}$ .

3.12 Sport Class **P72 FEMALE** profile

The **P73 FEMALE** has to fulfill the following criteria;

3.12.1 Standing height  $\leq 137\text{cm}$ ; AND

3.12.2 Arm length  $\leq 63\text{cm}$ ; AND

3.12.3 Sum of standing height plus arm length  $\leq 190\text{cm}$ .

Appendix Two deals with Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment, and sets out the Minimum Disability Criteria and assessment methodologies that apply in order for an Athlete with Visual Impairment to be eligible to compete in the sport of Taekwondo.

## Introduction

- 1.1 WTF has designated Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment, which are defined in this Appendix.
- 1.2 WTF currently revisits the Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment towards a sport-specific classification system on the basis of activity limitations that result from Impairment. Until such a system is approved, the processes detailed in this Appendix apply to Athlete Evaluation in respect of Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment.
- 1.3 The processes detailed in this Appendix apply to Athlete Evaluation in respect of Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment.
- 1.4 The Sport Class allocated to Athletes with Visual Impairment applies to all events offered by WTF/IBSA and IPC.
- 1.5 All provisions of the WTF Athlete Classification Rules apply to the Assessment of Athletes with Visual Impairment, except if otherwise specified in this Appendix.

## Eligibility Criteria

- 2.1 To be eligible to compete in Sport Classes **P 11-13** in Para Taekwondo, the Athlete must meet both of the below criteria.
  - 2.1.1 The Athlete must have at least one of the following eligible impairments,
    - impairment of the eye structure;
    - impairment of the optical nerve/optic pathways;
    - impairment of the visual cortex of the central brain.
  - 2.1.2 The Athlete's eligible Impairment must result in a visual acuity of less than or equal to LogMAR 1.0 or a visual field restricted to less than 20 degrees radius.
- 2.2 It is the Athlete's and WTF National Member Association's responsibility to provide sufficient evidence of the Athlete's visual impairment. This must be done by way of submitting medical diagnostic information completed by an ophthalmologist no later than at the beginning of Athlete Evaluation.
- 2.3 The Medical Diagnostic Information must comprise the completed Medical Diagnostic Form (available on the WTF webpage) and attached medical documentation. The submission must include, at a minimum:
  - 2.3.1 Medical Diagnostic Form, with
    - Athlete information
    - Ophthalmologist information and signature
    - Medical diagnosis
    - List of medications currently used
    - List of eye corrections (glasses, contact lenses, etc.) currently used, detailing the type and strength of correction, if applicable
    - Description of any progressive condition, if applicable
    - Visual acuity
    - Visual field

- 2.3.2 Medical records and reports supporting the information on the Medical Diagnostic Form. Depending on the nature of the impairment, this includes:
- Visual Field Records: Visual Field has to be tested by full-field strategy; a 30° central field test will not be accepted. The assessment has to be done by one of the following devices: Goldmann Visual Field Perimetry, Stimulus III/4, Humphrey Field Analyzer (HFA), Twinfield (Oculus), Octopus (Interzeag), Rodenstock Peristat, Medmont (MAP).
  - Electroretinography (ERG/EOG)
  - Visual Evoked Potentials (VEP)
  - Cerebral Magnet Resonance Imaging (MRI)
  - Records of any eye surgery performed, and results of the outcome, if applicable
- 2.4 Medical Diagnostic Information must be typewritten and submitted in English and may not be older than 12 months on the date of Athlete Evaluation.

## Assessment Methods

- 3.1 All Athlete Evaluation and Sport Class allocation will be based on the assessment of visual acuity in the eye with better visual acuity when wearing the best optical correction.
- 3.2 Athletes who compete using any corrective devices (e.g. glasses, lenses) must attend classification with these devices and their prescription.
- 3.3 An Athlete found to be using corrective devices during competition that were not declared during Athlete Evaluation may be subject to further investigation of Non-Cooperation during Evaluation or Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 3.4 Athletes must declare any change in their optic correction to IPC Athletics before any competition. If the Athlete has a Sport Class Status Review with a fixed date or Confirmed, the Athlete's Sport Class Status will be changed to Review. The Athlete will then undergo Athlete Evaluation prior to the next competition under the provisions of these Rules. Failure to do so may result in an investigation of Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 3.5 Any Athlete Support Personnel accompanying the Athlete in the Assessment room must remain out of sight of the visual acuity charts during Assessment.
- 3.6 Under the current provisions set forth in this Appendix, Observation Assessment does not apply to Athletes with Visual Impairment.
- 3.7 WTF will inform the Organizing Committee and Organizing National Association of the equipment and room requirements for the assessment of Athletes with visual impairment after the Classification Panels have been appointed. It is the Organizing Committee's responsibility to provide all equipment required by WTF.
- 3.8 Failure to provide all equipment required by WTF may result in the Classification decisions not being accepted by WTF.

## Sport Class Profiles for Athletes with Visual Impairment

- 4.1 Sport Class: **P 11**
- 4.1.1 Visual acuity is poorer than LogMAR 2.60.
- 4.1.2 All Athletes (with the exception of those with prosthesis in both eyes) shall be required to wear opaque goggles for each individual and relay event for the full duration of the event. Athletes whose facial structure will not support goggles shall be required to cover the eyes with an opaque covering.

4.2 Sport Class: **P 12**

4.2.1 Visual acuity ranges from LogMAR 1.50 to 2.60 (inclusive), and/or

4.2.2 The Athletes has a visual field that is constricted to a radius of less than 5 degrees.

4.3 Sport Class: **P 13**

4.3.1 Visual acuity ranges from LogMAR 1.40 to 1 (inclusive), and/or

4.3.2 The Athlete has a visual field that is constricted to a radius of less than 20 degrees.

Appendix Three deals with Sport Classes for Athletes with Intellectual Disability, and sets out the Minimum Disability Criteria and assessment methodologies that apply in order for an Athlete with Intellectual Impairment to be eligible to compete in the sport of Taekwondo.

## Introduction

- 1.1 WTF has designated a Sport Class – Sport Class **P20** – for Athletes with Activity Limitations that result from an Intellectual Impairment. These Athletes are referred to as Athletes with Intellectual Impairment.
- 1.2 The processes detailed in this Appendix apply to the conduct of Athlete Evaluation in respect of the Sport Class designated by WTF/INAS for Athletes with Intellectual Impairment.

## Eligibility Criteria

### 2.1 WTF Eligibility Criteria

To be considered eligible to compete in WTF World Para Taekwondo Championships as an athlete with an intellectual disability, athletes must fulfil the provisional eligibility criteria as defined by INAS.

### 2.2 INAS Eligibility Criteria

To be considered eligible to compete as an athlete with an intellectual disability, athletes must fulfil the full eligibility criteria as defined by INAS which is based upon the World Health Organization and American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD).

The criteria state that an athlete must demonstrate:

1. Significant impairment in intellectual functioning. This is defined as 2 standard deviations below the mean, that is, a Full Scale score of 75 or lower.
2. Significant limitations in adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social, and practical adaptive skills. This is defined as performance that is at least 2 standard deviations below the mean of, either one of the 3 types of adaptive behaviour (conceptual, social, or practical skills) or an overall score on a standardized measure of conceptual, social and practical skills.
3. Intellectual disability must be evident during the developmental period, which is from conception to 18 years of age

## Sport Class and Sport Class Status

- 3.1 If the athlete meets the requirements for INAS provisional eligibility and is listed on INAS master list for provisional eligibility the athlete will be awarded a Sport Class P20 with Review (R) Sport Class Status. This makes the athlete eligible to compete in WTF World Para Taekwondo Championships.
- 3.2 Athletes that are listed for on INAS master list for full eligibility will be awarded a Sport Class P20 with Confirmed Sport Class Status and will be eligible to compete in WTF World Para Taekwondo Championships and INAS Sanctioned or Promoted Championships.
- 3.3 If INAS determines that an Athlete is Not Eligible (NE), the provisions in Article Six of these Rules shall apply.

Appendix Four deals with Sport Classes for Athletes that are Deaf and/or hearing impaired and sets out the Minimum Disability Criteria and assessment methodologies that apply in order for an Athlete who is Deaf and/or hearing impaired to be eligible to compete in the sport of Taekwondo.

## Introduction

- 1.1 WTF has designated Sport Class **KP60** for Deaf and/or Hearing Impaired Athletes These Athletes are referred to as Deaf Athletes.
- 1.2 The processes detailed in this Appendix apply to Athlete Evaluation in respect of Sport Classes for Deaf Athletes.

## Eligibility Requirements

- 2.1 Participants in WTF promoted or sanctioned Competitions and Championships for Deaf Athletes must be:  
***Deaf, defined as a hearing loss of at least 55dB pure tone average (PTA) in the better ear (three-tone pure tone average at 500, 1000 and 2000 Hertz, air conduction, ISO 1969 Standard)***
- 2.2 It is strictly forbidden for a competitor to use any kind of hearing aid(s)/amplification or external cochlear implant parts during the warm-up and competition within the restricted zone area. This is to prevent giving advantage over those not using amplification in sports.
- 2.3 In order for athletes to be eligible to compete in WTF World Deaf-Taekwondo Championships the athletes must appear as eligible on the ISCD Master List.

## Definition and Proof of Deafness

- 3.1 While 'Deaf' is defined as a hearing loss of at least 55dB PTA in the better ear (3-tone frequency average at 500, 1000 and 2000 Hertz, ISO 1969 Standard), critical hearing levels between 55-65dB shall be carefully examined.

### Exemption

*If the athlete has Cochlear Implant in one ear, they do not need to be tested in that ear but the audiologist must clearly states on which ear the Cochlear Implant is on the Audiogram form. The athlete will still need to be tested on the non-Cochlear Implant ear.*

- 3.2 Every Member National Association is fully responsible to check and examine the hearing level of each of its athletes and the audiogram of each respective athlete for accuracy and genuineness.
- 3.3 Process to get on ICSD Athlete Master List
- 3.4 Each new athlete must use the official ICSD Audiogram form. The form can be downloaded from [www.deaflympics.com/forms/audiogram.pdf](http://www.deaflympics.com/forms/audiogram.pdf)
- 3.5 All four (4) types of audiogram testing below must be filled out entirely for **EACH** ear including:
  - 3.5.1 Air Conduction
  - 3.5.2 Bone Conduction
  - 3.5.3 Tympanograms (Tympanometry)
  - 3.5.4 Acoustic Reflexes (Reflexometry)

***Failure to observe the requirements will result in delayed approval.***

- 3.6 All Audiogram forms should be authorized and belong to the athlete being tested, and the validity of the forms must be guaranteed by the National Deaf Sport Federation. In the absence of a National Deaf Sport Federation the ICSD form can be submitted through the World Taekwondo Federation.

**Appendix Five****Table of fees**

The following fees will apply for these Rules;

Type of Fee	Fee	Refund
Medical Review Request	US\$500	No refund
Protest Fee	US\$300	Refunded in case of changed Sport Class



The WTF subscribes to the IPC Classification Code, Models of Best practices for Intentional Misrepresentation Rules – an excerpt of which is found in this appendix. Where it says IPC please read WTF Para Taekwondo.

IPC Handbook IPC Classification Code Section 2

June 2013 Models of Best Practice Chapter 1.3

Intentional Misrepresentation Rules

## **ARTICLE 1. SCOPE AND APPLICATION**

### **1.1 Introduction**

These International Paralympic Committee (“IPC”) Intentional Misrepresentation Rules (the “IM Rules”) implement Articles 10,11,12,13 and 14 of the IPC Classification Code 2007 (“the Code”) across all Sports for which the IPC acts as International Federation (individually referred to as an “IPC Sport” and collectively as “IPC Sports”) and for IPC Recognised Competitions.

The Code provides that deceptive conduct that compromises the outcome of Athlete Evaluation should be subject to a disciplinary sanction. These IM Rules provide the basis upon which such conduct can be made the subject of a disciplinary process. The IM Rules are to be read in conjunction with, and as being supplemental to, the Classification Regulations of all IPC Sports.

### **1.2 Application**

The IM Rules shall apply to:

- a. All Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel who are subject to the jurisdiction of the IPC and in particular subject to the Classification Regulations of an IPC Sport; and/or
- b. All Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel participating in Events, Recognised Competitions and other activities organised, convened or sanctioned by the IPC. **(all together referred to as “Participants”).**

### **1.3 Core Responsibilities**

It is the personal responsibility of every Participant to be acquainted and comply with all of the requirements of the IM Rules, including being aware of what constitutes Intentional Misrepresentation.

### **1.4 Commencement and Amendment**

1.4.1 The IM Rules shall come into full force and effect on the Effective Date. They shall not apply retrospectively to matters arising prior to the Effective Date.

1.4.2 Amendments to the IM Rules shall be approved and shall come into effect in the manner prescribed by the IPC.

## **ARTICLE 2. INTENTIONAL MISREPRESENTATION**

### **2.1 Misrepresentation during Athlete Evaluation**

An Athlete who intentionally misrepresents his or her skills and/or abilities and/or the degree or nature of Physical, Visual or Intellectual Impairment to a Classification Panel in the course of Athlete Evaluation with the intention of deceiving or misleading that Classification Panel shall be guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation.

### **2.2 Misrepresentation after Allocation of Confirmed Sport Class**

If following the allocation of a Sport Class an Athlete undertakes any form of corrective treatment (a “medical intervention”), and the Athlete (or any other Participant) knows (or should know) that the medical intervention was intended to result in improved sport performance, the Athlete must provide details of that medical intervention to the IPC at the earliest reasonable opportunity. If the Athlete’s Sport Class is later changed because the Athlete’s sporting performance has improved as a result of (in whole or in part) that medical intervention, but the Athlete failed to disclose that medical intervention to IPC, the Athlete will be guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation.

### **2.3 Assisting Intentional Misrepresentation**

Any Participant who knowingly assists, covers up or is any other way involved in any other type of complicity involving Intentional

Misrepresentation shall themselves be guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation.

Each of the acts or omissions set out in Articles 2.1 to 2.3 shall constitute Intentional Misrepresentation. These are referred to collectively as “Intentional Misrepresentation” in the Rules.

## **ARTICLE 3. DISCIPLINARY PROCESS**

### **3.1 Responsibility for Disciplinary Process**

The investigation of the acts referred to in Article 2 of the Rules (referred to in this Article 3 as “Intentional Misrepresentation”) and any resultant disciplinary process shall be undertaken by the IPC.

### **3.2 Initial Investigation**

3.2.1 All matters involving Intentional Misrepresentation will be investigated by the IPC. This investigation will be conducted in order to determine whether it appears that a Participant may have committed Intentional Misrepresentation and may include giving the Participant an opportunity to respond to the allegations raised.

3.2.2 If following the conclusion of any such investigation the IPC concludes that the Participant does not appear to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation the IPC shall advise the Participant of that fact. The IPC shall take no further action against the Participant save that the IPC may issue a warning or may provide advice to the Participant as to their future conduct if it believes that such is warranted.

3.2.3 If following the conclusion of any investigation the IPC concludes that the Participant does appear to be guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation, the IPC shall send the Participant a Notice of Charge in accordance with Article 4.3.

### **3.3 Notice of Charge**

3.3.1 If the IPC believes that a Participant has committed Intentional Misrepresentation then the IPC shall as soon as practicable notify the Participant in writing of:

- a. The Intentional Misrepresentation that the Participant is charged with committing;
- b. A summary of the facts and evidence relied upon by the IPC in support of the charge;
- c. The Sanction that will be applied if it is established that the Participant has committed Intentional Misrepresentation; and
- d. Details of the persons at IPC responsible for dealing with the matter, and full contact details of those persons.

### **This information must be sent to the Participant as part of a “Charge Notice”.**

3.3.2 The Charge Notice must advise the Participant that he may respond by either:

- a. Admitting the charge and accepting the Sanction set out by IPC in the Charge Notice; or
- b. Denying the charge, and having the charge and any Sanction set at a hearing.

3.3.3 If the Participant wishes to exercise his right to a hearing, he must notify the IPC that he wishes to have such a hearing. This notification must be sent to the IPC within 14 days of the Participant’s receipt of the Charge Notice. The notification must state how the Participant responds to the charge in the Notice and must explain the basis for such response.

3.3.4 If the Participant fails to respond to the Charge, fails to notify the IPC that he wishes to have a hearing, or notifies the IPC that he wishes to have a hearing but fails to attend the hearing, a hearing will take place in his absence whereby the issue of whether or not the Participant is guilty of committing Intentional Misrepresentation will be resolved.

### **3.4 Limitation**

No charge may be brought under these IPC IM Rules in respect of Intentional Misrepresentation 3 where ten (10) years or more have passed since the date that the Intentional Misrepresentation is alleged to have occurred.

## **ARTICLE 4. HEARINGS**

### **4.1 Jurisdiction of the Board of Appeal for Classification (“the BAC”)**

The BAC is appointed by the IPC to rule on allegations that Intentional Misrepresentation has been committed. The BAC shall rule on such allegations as provided for in Appendix A to the IM Rules.

### **4.2 Decisions**

4.2.1 At the hearing, the IPC must prove that the Participant has committed the Intentional Misrepresentation specified in the Charge Notice. This must be proved to the comfortable satisfaction of the BAC, which is greater than a mere balance of probability but less than proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

4.2.2 Following the completion of the hearing, the BAC will make a decision as to whether the Participant has committed the acts specified in the Charge Notice. If it decides that the Participant has committed the Intentional Misrepresentation specified in the Charge Notice it shall make a recommendation to the IPC Governing Board as regards the Sanction that should be applied to the Participant. The IPC Governing Board shall be responsible for notifying the Athlete of any Sanction.

#### **4.3 Publication of Decisions**

4.3.1 The decision shall be disclosed publicly by the IPC. The decision shall not be disclosed (a) until the deadline for appeal has passed and no appeal has been filed; or (b) if an appeal is filed, unless and until the decision that Intentional Misrepresentation was committed is affirmed on appeal.

4.3.2 If the IPC finds that Intentional Misrepresentation has not been committed, the decision shall not be disclosed publicly unless the Participant charged consents to such disclosure or requests that the finding be disclosed.

### **ARTICLE 5. SANCTIONS**

#### **5.1 Disqualification of Event Results as a Consequence of Intentional Misrepresentation**

5.1.1 If an Athlete is found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation under Articles 2.1 or 2.3 during or in connection with a Competition, the Athlete shall be Disqualified from that Competition, with the removal of any individual results obtained by the Athlete in that Competition, and all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of all medals, titles, points and prizes. In addition, any results obtained by the Athlete in Competitions taking place after the date upon which the Intentional Misrepresentation occurred may be Disqualified, with all of the resulting consequences, including forfeiture of any medals, titles, points and prizes.

5.1.2 If an Athlete is found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation under Article 2.2, any results obtained by the Athlete in Competitions taking place after the date upon which the Intentional Misrepresentation occurred shall be Disqualified, with all of the resulting consequences, including forfeiture of any medals, titles, points and prizes.

#### **5.2 Removal of Sport Class as a Consequence of an Act of Intentional Misrepresentation Committed During or In Connection with a Competition**

If an Athlete is found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation under Articles 2.1, 2.2 or 2.3 at any time, the Athlete shall forfeit his or her Sport Class, and shall be designated "IM" in the Classification Master List for the relevant Sport for the same time period as that specified pursuant to Article 6.3 below. In accordance with Article 11.3 of the IPC Classification Code this designation shall be recognized and respected by all IPC Sports automatically upon notification of the same, without the need for further action by those Sports.

#### **5.3 Intentional Misrepresentation: Ineligibility for Athlete Evaluation**

If an Athlete is found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation under Articles 2.1, 2.2 or 2.3, the sanction shall be a period of Ineligibility for Athlete Evaluation of twenty-four months.

#### **5.4 Sanctions to be applied to Athlete Support Personnel**

If an Athlete Support Personnel is found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation under Article 2.3 the appropriate sanction shall be a period of Ineligibility for Athlete Evaluation of twenty-four months.

#### **5.5 Second Offences**

If a Participant is found to have committed Intentional Misrepresentation, the period of Ineligibility for Athlete Evaluation is set out in Articles 5.3 and 5.4. If that Participant commits a second Act of Intentional Misrepresentation, the period of Ineligibility for Athlete Evaluation shall be a lifetime period of Ineligibility.

#### **5.6 Commencement of Ineligibility Period**

The period of Ineligibility for Athlete Evaluation shall start on the date of the relevant decision or such other date as specified.

#### **5.7 Status During Ineligibility**

5.7.1 A Participant who has been declared Ineligible for Athlete Evaluation may not take part in Athlete Evaluation at any Competition that is recognised by the IPC Sport

5.7.2 If a Participant who is Ineligible for Athlete Evaluation violates the prohibition against taking part in Athlete Evaluation, and is designated a Sport Class as a result, that Sport Class shall be forfeited, and the Athlete shall be Disqualified, with all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of all medals, titles, points and prizes, and the period of Ineligibility for Athlete Evaluation shall start over again as of the date of the violation.

## **ARTICLE 6. APPEALS**

### **6.1 Appeal Rights**

Decisions made under the IM Rules may be challenged only by appeal as set out in this Article 6. Such decisions shall remain in effect while under appeal unless the body to which the appeal is made orders otherwise.

### **6.2 Appealable Decisions**

6.2.1 A decision that Intentional Misrepresentation was (or was not) committed may be appealed by any of the following parties exclusively as provided in this Article 6:

- a. The Participant who is the subject of the decision being appealed;
- b. The IPC;
- c. The National Paralympic Committee ("NPC") of the Participant's country of nationality;
- d. The Participant's International Federation (if this is not the IPC);

If no appeal is made, the decision shall be final and binding on all of the above Persons.

6.2.2 An appeal pursuant to Article 6.2.1 shall be made to the Court of Arbitration for Sport ("CAS"). CAS decisions are final and binding.

### **6.3 Appeal Procedure**

6.3.1 The time to file an appeal to CAS shall be twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the decision by the appealing party;

6.3.2 CAS decisions shall be disclosed according to the CAS Arbitration Rules.

## **ARTICLE 7. CONFIDENTIALITY**

### **7.1 Reporting of Pending Cases**

The identity of a Participant charged with committing Intentional Misrepresentation shall not be publicly disclosed during the period when the case is pending.

## **ARTICLE 8. MISCELLANEOUS**

### **8.1 Governing Law and Jurisdiction**

The laws of Germany shall govern the IM Rules and all matters and proceedings arising in connection with the IM Rules.

### **8.2 Interpretation**

Save where otherwise indicated, defined terms used in these IM Rules (i.e., those words or phrases starting with capitals) shall have the meaning given to them in the Glossary.

## **APPENDIX A – RULES OF PROCEDURE**

### **INTRODUCTION AND JURISDICTION**

1. The IPC is responsible for establishing the Board of Appeal on Classification ("the BAC") in accordance with the IPC BAC By-laws.

2. Matters involving an allegation made by the IPC that an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel has been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation shall be submitted for determination by the BAC.

### **PRE-HEARING PROCEDURES**

3. The jurisdiction of the BAC shall be triggered if the IPC submits a written request (a "Request for Adjudication") to the Chairperson of the IPC Legal and Ethics Committee (or his or his designate) that the BAC determine one or more charges that the IPC has brought against an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel ("the Respondent").

3.1 A Request for Adjudication shall:

- 3.1.1 Provide the name, nation and Sport of the Respondent;
- 3.1.2 Specify the grounds for the Charge;
- 3.1.3 Identify all documents, fact and expert witnesses, and other evidence to be offered in support of the Charge.

3.2 All Requests for Adjudication shall be submitted in writing by fax, e-mail or surface mail to such person as may be nominated from

time to time by the IPC.

#### **INITIAL ASSESSMENT AND FORMATION OF THE HEARING BODY**

4. Following receipt of the Request for Adjudication, the Chairperson shall conduct a review of the Request for Adjudication to determine whether the content, timing and delivery of the Request for Adjudication complies with Rule 3 above.

4.1 If the Request for Adjudication does not comply with Rule 3, the Chairperson shall issue a written decision dismissing the Request for Adjudication, without prejudice to its being reinstated at a later date.

4.1.1 If the Request for Adjudication complies with Rule 3 the Chairperson shall appoint a Hearing Body.

4.1.2 This process shall be completed within 28 calendar days of the Request for Adjudication being received by the Chairperson.

#### **THE HEARING BODY**

5. The Hearing Body will comprise:

5.1 Hearing Body Chairperson; and

5.2 Two (2) persons appointed by the Hearing Body Chairperson, with appropriate skills and experience.

6. Appointment of members of the Hearing Body shall be within the sole discretion of the Hearing Body Chairperson save that no member shall be appointed if the circumstances of the Hearing are such that a member thereby has a conflict of interest.

6.1 In its sole discretion, the Hearing Body may designate counsel to assist it in the Hearing.

6.2 All members of the Hearing Body shall comply with the IPC Code of Ethics.

6.3 The IPC Legal and Ethics Committee Assistant shall act as Secretary to the Hearing Body.

6.4 The IPC Legal and Ethics Committee Assistant shall advise the Applicant and Respondent as soon as the Hearing Body is appointed.

#### **CONDUCT OF PROCEEDINGS**

7. As soon as practicable after the formation of the Hearing Body, the Hearing Body Chairperson shall issue directions to the IPC and the Respondent in relation to the procedure and timetable to be followed in the proceedings. This shall establish a schedule for the exchange of written submissions and evidence in advance of the hearing. The Hearing Body Chairperson may make such procedural rulings on his own.

7.1 A party intending to rely upon the evidence of a witness or expert shall serve a statement or report setting out the proposed evidence of such witness or expert at a date in advance of the hearing that is specified by the Hearing Body Chairperson.

7.2 The Hearing Body shall have the power to allow, refuse or limit the evidence or appearance at the hearing of any witness or expert.

#### **HEARING**

8. The Hearing Body Chairperson shall decide on the format of the Hearing (in person, or by (partial) telephone conference or by (partial) videoconference), and the IPC Legal and Ethics Committee Assistant shall liaise with the IPC and Respondent to set a date for the hearing of the Hearing, which should take place at the earliest convenience.

8.1 Both parties may, at their own expense, to be represented by counsel and, if necessary, to engage an interpreter approved by the Hearing Body. Both parties may offer documentary evidence, submit a hearing memorandum or brief and (subject to the Hearing Body's discretion) call witnesses.

8.2 The Hearing Body shall consider all evidence and witness testimony, rule on its credibility and relevance, and consider it on that basis.

8.3 In exceptional circumstances, the Hearing Body may adjourn the Hearing and issue a request that the IPC and/or Respondent provide such additional evidence that the Hearing Body believes, in its sole discretion, is required in order to enable the Hearing Body to reach a decision regarding the Hearing.

#### **HEARING CONSEQUENCES**

9. The Hearing Body shall issue a written decision resolving any Hearing within 28 days after the Hearing. The decision shall be provided to the IPC and Respondent, to the IPC and, if applicable, to the Competition Organizing Committee (in the case of Hearings conducted in connection with a Competition). The Hearing Body shall issue a ruling stating the reasons for its decision, including the

evidence relied on, and the actions that are required as a result.]

9.1 The IPC shall be responsible for publishing the decision unless any party has made a reasoned request to the Hearing Body that any decision be kept confidential and the Hearing Body has agreed to this.

#### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

10. Proceedings under these Rules are confidential and not open to the public.

10.1 The Hearing Body may, in its sole discretion, require all persons who attend a Hearing to sign a statement agreeing to maintain the confidentiality of facts or information disclosed during the Hearing. Any individual refusing to sign such a statement shall be excluded from the Hearing.

#### **AD HOC RULES FOR THE PARALYMPIC GAMES**

11. Accelerated procedures shall apply for Requests for Adjudication submitted during the Paralympic Games period, which is defined as the period commencing with the opening of the Paralympic Village and ending on mid-night of the day of the Closing Ceremony.

11.1 The procedures set out above shall apply as varied below.

11.1.1 The initial assessment and formation of the Hearing Body as outlined above shall normally be completed within 24 hours following the receipt of the Request for Adjudication.

11.1.2 The Hearing shall normally be held within 48 hours following the receipt of the Request for Adjudication. The Hearing Body Chairperson shall decide on the time and location of the Hearing. However, if considered appropriate the Hearing Body Chairperson may adjourn the matter to be dealt with after the Games. In such case the Hearing Body Chairperson shall set out a time table for the further steps to be taken by the IPC and Respondent and shall set a date for the Hearing.

11.1.3 The decision of the Hearing Body shall be communicated verbally to the IPC and Respondent immediately following the Hearing Body having reached a final decision. A written decision will be issued as soon as practically possible afterwards. Communications to these parties will be as are determined most appropriate by the Hearing Body Chairperson.