



**WORLD ARMWRESTLING FEDERATION**

# **PARA-ARMWRESTLING**

## **Classification Code**

### **Rules and Regulations**

Adopted February 2016. Updated December 2017.



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## **Part One: General Provisions**

### **1 Scope and Application**

#### **Adoption**

- 1.1 These Classification Rules and Regulations are referred to throughout this document as the 'Classification Rules'. They have been prepared by World Armwrestling Federation (WAF) to implement the requirements of the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code and International Standards.
- 1.2 The Classification Rules have been adopted by WAF on February 2016.
- 1.3 These Classification Rules refer to a number of Appendices. These Appendices form an integral part of the Classification Rules.
- 1.4 These Classification Rules form part of the WAF Rules and Regulations.
- 1.5 The Classification Rules are supplemented by a number of Classification forms that have been prepared to assist Athlete Evaluation. These forms are available from WAF, and can be amended by WAF from time to time.

#### **Classification**

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

#### **Application**

- 1.7 These Classification Rules apply to all Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel who are registered and/or licensed with World Armwrestling Federation, WAF Continental Federations and WAF National Federations, and/or participate in any Events or Competitions organised, authorised or recognised by WAF.
- 1.8 These Classification Rules must be read and applied in conjunction with all other applicable rules of WAF, including but not limited to the sport technical rules of WAF. In the event of any conflict between these Classification Rules and any other rules, the Classification Rules shall take precedence.

#### **International Classification**

- 1.9 WAF will only permit an Athlete to compete in an International Competition if that Athlete has been allocated a Sport Class (other than Sport Class Not Eligible) and designated with a Sport Class Status in accordance with these Classification Rules.



- 1.10 Athlete Evaluation that is conducted in full compliance with these Rules is referred to as International Classification. WAF will provide opportunities for Athletes to be allocated a Sport Class and designated with a Sport Class Status in accordance with these Classification Rules at Recognised Competitions (or other such locations as defined by WAF). World Armwrestling Federation will advise Athletes and National Bodies in advance as to such Recognised Competitions (or other such locations).
- 1.11 WAF will only recognize Sport Class and Sport Class Status if allocated by way of International Classification.
- 1.12 WAF will provide Athletes with an opportunity to undertake International Classification by appointing Classifiers certified pursuant to Article Two to conduct Athlete Evaluation at Recognised Competitions, and by providing reasonable notice of such International Classification opportunities to Athletes and National Bodies.
- 1.13 An Athlete will only be permitted to undergo International Classification if he or she:
- a) is registered and/or licensed with WAF pursuant to the relevant provisions in the WAF Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and
  - b) has been entered in a Recognised Competition where International Classification is to take place.

### **Interpretation and Relationship to Code**

- 1.14 These Rules shall be interpreted and applied at all times in a manner that is consistent with the IPC Classification Code. These Rules shall come into full force and effect on the Effective Date as specified by WAF. Amendments to these Rules shall be approved and shall come into effect in the manner prescribed by WAF. WAF may at any time amend, update or otherwise alter the text, meaning and effect of the Appendices independently of these Rules.
- 1.15 References to an 'Article' mean an Article of these Classification Rules, references to an 'Appendix' mean an Appendix to these Classification Rules, and Capitalised terms used in these Classification Rules have the meaning given to them in the Glossary to these Classification Rules.
- 1.16 References to a 'sport' in these Classification Rules refer to both a sport and an individual discipline within a sport Armwrestling.
- 1.17 The Appendices to these Classification Rules are part of these Classification Rules both of which may be amended, supplemented and/or replaced by the WAF from time to time.
- 1.18 Headings used in these Classification Rules are used for convenience only and have no meaning that is separate from the Article or Articles to which they refer.
- 1.19 These Classification Rules are to be applied and interpreted as an independent text but in a manner that is consistent with the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code and the accompanying International Standards.

## **2 Roles and Responsibilities**

- 2.1 It is the personal responsibility of Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel and Classification Personnel to familiarise themselves with all the requirements of these Classification Rules.
- 2.2 The roles and responsibilities of Athletes include to:
- c) be knowledgeable of and comply with all applicable policies, rules and processes established by these Classification Rules;
  - d) participate in Athlete Evaluation in good faith;
  - e) ensure when appropriate that adequate information related to Health Conditions and Eligible Impairments is provided and/or made available to WAF;
  - f) cooperate with any investigations concerning violations of these Classification Rules; and
  - g) actively participate in the process of education and awareness, and Classification research, through exchanging personal experiences and expertise.

### **Athlete Support Personnel Responsibilities**

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



## **Classification Personnel Responsibilities**

- 2.4 The roles and responsibilities of Classification Personnel include to:
- a) have a complete working knowledge of all applicable policies, rules and processes established by these Classification Rules; use their influence to foster a positive and collaborative Classification attitude and communication;
  - b) assist in the development, management and implementation of Classification Systems, including participation in education and research; and
  - c) cooperate with any investigations concerning violations of these Classification;
  - d) 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, WAF will have sole discretion to withdraw any applicable certification or authorisation. WAF 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.

## **Part Two: Classification Personnel**

### **3 Classification Personnel**

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

WAF should appoint the following Classification Personnel, each of whom will have a key role in the administration, organisation and execution of Classification for Armwrestling:

#### **Head of Classification**

3.2 The Head of Classification for Armwrestling will be appointed by WAF to be responsible for the direction, administration, coordination and implementation of all Classification matters for Armwrestling.

3.3 If a Head of Classification cannot be appointed, WAF may appoint another person, or group of persons collectively (provided such person or group of persons agrees to comply with the Classifier Code of Conduct), to act as the Head of Classification.

3.4 The Head of Classification is not required to be a certified Classifier.

3.5 The Head of Classification may delegate specific responsibilities and/or the transfer specific tasks to designated Classifiers, or other persons authorised by WAF.

3.6 Nothing in these Classification Rules prevents the Head of Classification (if certified as a Classifier) from also being appointed as a Classifier and/or Chief Classifier.

3.7 The Head of Classification in conjunction with WAF Management is responsible for appointing Classification Panel(s) that will conduct International Classification at Recognised Competitions.

#### **Classifiers**

3.8 A Classifier is a person authorised as an official and certified by the WAF to conduct some or all components of Athlete Evaluation as a member of a Classification Panel.

## Chief Classifiers

- 3.9 A Chief Classifier is a Classifier appointed by WAF to direct, administer, co-ordinate and implement Classification matters for a specific Competition or at such other location as defined by WAF. In particular, a Chief Classifier may be required by WAF to do the following:
- 3.8.1 identify those Athletes who will be required to attend an Evaluation Session;
  - 3.8.2 supervise Classifiers to ensure that these Classification Rules are applied **appropriately** during Classification at specific Competition;
  - 3.8.3 manage Protests in consultation with WAF ; and
  - 3.8.4 liaise with the relevant Competition organisers to ensure that all travel, accommodation and other logistics are arranged in order that Classifiers may carry out their duties at the Competition.
- 3.9 A Chief Classifier may delegate specific responsibilities and/or transfer specific tasks to other appropriately qualified Classifiers, or other appropriately qualified WAF officers or representatives, and/or appropriately qualified persons in the local organising committee of a Competition.

## Trainee Classifiers

- 3.10 A Trainee Classifier is a person who is in the process of formal training by WAF.
- 3.11 WAF may appoint Trainee Classifiers to participate in some or all components of Athlete Evaluation under the supervision of a Classification Panel, in order to develop Classifier Competencies.
- 3.12 WAF may appoint Trainee Classifiers in order that they may be certified as a Classifier and proficiencies so as to be certified by WAF as a Classifier. They will be required to perform any such other duties as WAF requires.

## 4 Classifier Competencies, Training and Certification

- 4.1 A Classifier will be authorised to act as a Classifier if that Classifier has been certified by WAF as having the relevant Classifier Competencies.
- 4.2 WAF must provide training and education to Classifiers to ensure Classifiers obtain and/or maintain Classifier Competencies.
- 4.3 WAF must specify and publish Classifier Competencies in a manner that is transparent and accessible.
- 4.4 WAF certifies Classifiers who have abilities and qualifications relevant to conduct Athlete Evaluation in respect of Athletes with Physical, Visual and/or Hearing Impairment.
- 4.5 The Classifier Competencies must include that a Classifier has:
  - 4.5.1 a thorough understanding of these Classification Rules;
  - 4.5.2 an understanding of the sport of Armwrestling for which they seek certification to act as a Classifier, including an understanding of the technical rules of the sport;
  - 4.5.3 an understanding of the Code and the International Standards; and
  - 4.5.4 a professional qualification(s), level of experience, skills and/or competencies in order to act as a Classifier for WAF. These include that Classifiers must either:
    - a) a certified health professional in a field relevant to the Impairment category which WAF 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 audiologist for Athletes with Hearing Impairment; or
    - b) an extensive coaching or other relevant background in the sport of Armwrestling or a recognised and reputable academic qualification which encompasses a requisite level of anatomical, biomechanical and sport-specific expertise, which WAF at its sole discretion deems to be acceptable.
- 4.6 WAF establishes a process of Classifier Certification by which Classifier Competencies are assessed. This process includes:
  - 4.6.1 a process for the certification of Trainee Classifiers;
  - 4.6.2 quality assessment for the period of certification;
  - 4.6.3 a process for handling substandard performance, including options for remediation and/or withdrawal of certification; and
  - 4.6.4 a process for Re-certification of Classifiers.

- 4.7 WAF specifies Entry-Level Criteria applicable to persons who wish to become Trainee Classifiers. WAF will provide Entry-Level Education to Trainee Classifiers.
- 4.8 WAF must provide Continuing Education to Classifiers for the purposes of Certification and Re-certification.
- 4.9 WAF may provide that a Classifier is subject to certain limitations, including (but not limited to):
  - 4.9.1 a limitation on the Impairment type for which a Classifier is certified to act as a Classifier;
  - 4.9.2 a limitation on the components of Athlete Evaluation that a Classifier is certified to conduct;
  - 4.9.3 a limitation on the level of Competition or Event that a Classifier is authorised to act as a Classifier;
  - 4.9.4 the maximum time that a Classifier Certification is valid;
  - 4.9.5 that Classifier Certification is subject to review within a specific time frame by reference to the Classifier Competencies;
  - 4.9.6 that a Classifier may lose Classifier Certification if WAF is not satisfied that the Classifier possesses the required Classifier Competencies; and/or
  - 4.9.7 that a Classifier may regain Classifier Certification if WAF is satisfied that the Classifier possesses the required Classifier Competencies.

## **5 Classifier Code of Conduct**

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

## Part Three: Athlete Evaluation

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.

### 6 General Provisions

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

### 7 Eligible Impairment

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



## Assessment of Eligible Impairment

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

- 7.8 The process by which an Eligibility Assessment Committee is formed and considers Diagnostic Information is as follows:
- 7.8.1 The Head of Classification will notify the relevant National Body or that Diagnostic Information must be provided on behalf of the Athlete. The Head of Classification will explain what Diagnostic Information is required, and the purposes for which it is required.
  - 7.8.2 The Head of Classification will set timelines for the production of Diagnostic Information.
  - 7.8.3 The Head of Classification will appoint an Eligibility Assessment Committee. The Eligibility Assessment Committee must, if practicable, be comprised of the Head of Classification and at least two other experts with appropriate medical qualifications. All members of the Eligibility Assessment Committee must sign confidentiality undertakings.
  - 7.8.4 If the Head of Classification believes that he or she does not hold the necessary competencies to assess the Diagnostic Information, he or she will not participate in the review of the Diagnostic Information, but will assist the Eligibility Assessment Committee.
  - 7.8.5 Wherever possible all references to the individual Athlete and the source(s) of the Diagnostic Information should be withheld from the Eligibility Assessment Committee. Each member of the Eligibility Assessment Committee will review the Diagnostic Information and decide whether such information establishes the existence of an Eligible Impairment.
  - 7.8.6 If the Eligibility Assessment Committee concludes that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment the Athlete will be permitted to complete Athlete Evaluation with a Classification Panel.
  - 7.8.7 If the Eligibility Assessment Committee is not satisfied that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment the Head of Classification will provide a decision to this effect in writing to the relevant National Body. The National Body will be given an opportunity to comment on the decision and may provide further Diagnostic Information to the Eligibility Assessment Committee for review. If the decision is subsequently revised, the Head of Classification will inform the National Body .
  - 7.8.8 If the decision is not changed, the Head of Classification will issue a final decision letter to the National Body or .
  - 7.8.9 The Eligibility Assessment Committee may make its decisions by a majority. If the Head of Classification is part of the Eligibility Assessment Committee, he or she may veto any decision if he or she does not agree that the Diagnostic Information supports the conclusion that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment.
- 7.9 WAF may delegate one or more of the functions described above to a Classification Panel.

## 8 Minimum Impairment Criteria

- 8.1 An Athlete who wishes to compete in a sport of Armwrestling must have an Eligible Impairment that complies with the relevant Minimum Impairment Criteria for that sport.
- 8.2 WAF has set Minimum Impairment Criteria to ensure that an Athlete's Eligible Impairment affects the extent to which an Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.
- 8.3 Appendices One, Two and Three of these Classification Rules specify the Minimum Impairment Criteria applicable to each sport and the process by which an Athlete's compliance with Minimum Impairment Criteria is to be assessed by a Classification Panel as part of an Evaluation Session.
- 8.4 Any Athlete who does not comply with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport must be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) for that sport.
- 8.5 A Classification Panel must assess whether or not an Athlete complies with Minimum Impairment Criteria. This will take place as part of an Evaluation Session. Prior to participating in an Evaluation Session, an Athlete must first satisfy the WAF that he or she has an Eligible Impairment.
- 8.6 In relation to the use of Adaptive Equipment, WAF has set Minimum Impairment Criteria as follows:
  - 8.6.1 for Eligible Impairments other than Vision Impairment, Minimum Impairment Criteria must *not* consider the extent to which the use of Adaptive Equipment might affect how the Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport;
  - 8.6.2 for Vision Impairment, Minimum Impairment Criteria must consider the extent to which the use of Adaptive Equipment might affect how the Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.

## 9 Sport Class

- 9.1 A Sport Class is a category defined by WAF in these Classification Rules, in which Athletes are grouped by reference to the impact of an Eligible Impairment on their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to a sport. **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.**
- 9.1.1 An Athlete who does not have an Eligible Impairment or does not comply with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport must be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) for that sport in accordance with the provisions of Article 18 of these Classification Rules.
- 9.1.2 An Athlete who complies with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport must be allocated a Sport Class (subject to the provisions in these Classification Rules concerning Failure to Attend Athlete Evaluation and Suspension of Athlete Evaluation).
- 9.1.3 Except for the allocation of Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by WAF (in accordance with Article 18.1), the allocation of a Sport Class must be based solely on an evaluation by a Classification Panel of the extent to which the Athlete's Eligible Impairment affects the specific tasks and activities fundamental to sport of Armwrestling. This evaluation must take place in a controlled non-competitive environment, which allows for the repeated observation of key tasks and activities.
- 9.2 Appendices One, Two and Three of these Classification Rules specify the assessment methodology and assessment criteria for the allocation of a Sport Class and the designation of Sport Class Status.

## 10 Classification Not Completed

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

## Part Four: Athlete Evaluation and the Classification Panel

### 11 The Classification Panel

- 11.1 A Classification Panel is a group of Classifiers appointed by WAF to conduct some or all of the components of Athlete Evaluation in accordance with these Rules including as part of an Evaluation Session.

#### General Provisions

- 11.2 A Classification Panel must be comprised of at least of two certified Classifiers. If the circumstances so require, the Head of Classification may designate that a Classification Panel may consist of one suitably accredited and qualified Classifier, who has been certified by WAF to conduct Physical Assessment. A Classification Panel consisting of one Classifier may only allocate a Sport Class designated with Sport Class Status Review (R).
- 11.3 WAF and Competition organisers will whenever possible ensure that at least two Classification Panels are able to conduct Athlete Evaluation for each Impairment category (Physical Impairment, Visual and Hearing Impairment, assuming that Events are offered for all three Impairment categories).
- 11.4 A Trainee Classifier may be part of a Classification Panel in addition to the required number of certified Classifiers, and may participate in Athlete Evaluation.
- 11.5 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.

## 12 Classification Panel Responsibilities

- 12.1 A Classification Panel is responsible for conducting an Evaluation Session. As part of the Evaluation Session the Classification Panel must:
  - 12.1.1 assess whether an Athlete complies with Minimum Impairment Criteria for the sport of Armwrestling;
  - 12.1.2 assess the extent to which an Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport of Armwrestling; and
  - 12.1.3 conduct (if required) Observation in Competition.
- 12.2 Following the Evaluation Session the Classification Panel must allocate a Sport Class and designate a Sport Class Status, or designate Classification Not Completed (CNC).
- 12.3 Prior to the Evaluation Session, the assessment as to whether an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment must be undertaken by WAF, unless WAF requests this to be undertaken by a Classification Panel.
- 12.4 The Evaluation Session must take place in a controlled non-competitive environment that allows for the repeated observation of key tasks and activities.
  - 12.4.1 Although other factors such as low fitness level, poor technical proficiency and aging may also affect the fundamental tasks and activities of the sport, the allocation of Sport Class must not be affected by these factors.
- 12.5 An Athlete who has a Non-Eligible Impairment and an Eligible Impairment may be evaluated by a Classification Panel on the basis of the Eligible Impairment, provided the Non-Eligible Impairment does not affect the Classification Panel's ability to allocate a Sport Class.
- 12.6 The Sport Class allocated to the Athlete will be in accordance with the processes specified in Appendices One, Two and Three of this Code.
- 12.7 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 WAF any actual or perceived bias or Conflict of Interest that may be relevant to their appointment as a member of any Classification Panel.
- 12.8 WAF will wherever possible 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.

## 13 Evaluation Sessions

- 13.1 This Article applies to all Evaluation Sessions.
- 13.2 The Athlete's National Body is responsible for ensuring that Athletes comply with their duties in relation to the provisions in this Article. The Athlete and his or her National Body are jointly responsible for ensuring that the Athlete attends Athlete Evaluation.
- 13.3 In respect of Athletes:
- 13.3.1 Athletes have the right to be accompanied by a member of the Athlete's National Body when attending an Evaluation Session. 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 National Body or must be otherwise authorised in advance by the Chief Classifier to attend the Athlete's Evaluation.
  - 13.3.2 The Athlete must accept the terms of the Armwrestling Evaluation Consent Form prior to participating in Athlete Evaluation. The Athlete and accompanying person must acknowledge the terms of the Athlete Evaluation Consent Form as specified by WAF .
  - 13.3.3 The Athlete must verify his or her identity to the satisfaction of the Classification Panel, by providing a document such as a passport, ID card, WAF License Card or Accreditation that verifies the Athlete's identity to the satisfaction of the Classification Panel.
  - 13.3.4 The Athlete must attend Athlete Evaluation with all sports equipment and attire used in Competition.
  - 13.3.5 The Athlete must disclose the use of any medication and/or medical device/implant to the Classification Panel. The Athlete must disclose either prior to, or at, Athlete Evaluation details of any medication used by him/her and/or medical device/implant to the Classification Panel.
  - 13.3.6 The Athlete must comply with all reasonable instructions given by a Classification Panel.
  - 13.3.7 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.



- 13.4 In respect of the Classification Panel:
- 13.4.1 The Classification Panel may request that an Athlete provides medical documentation relevant to the Athlete's Eligible Impairment if the Classification Panel believes that this will be necessary in order for it to allocate a Sport Class.
  - 13.4.2 The Classification Panel will conduct Evaluation Sessions in English unless otherwise stipulated by WAF. If the Athlete and/or the Athlete Support Personnel require an interpreter, the National Body will be responsible for arranging the attendance of an interpreter. The interpreter is permitted to attend the Evaluation Session in addition to the person referred to in Article 13.3.1 above.
  - 13.4.3 The Classification Panel may at any stage seek medical, technical or scientific opinion(s), with the agreement of the Head of Classification and/or a Chief Classifier if the Classification Panel feels that such opinion(s) is necessary in order to allocate a Sport Class.
  - 13.4.4 In addition to any opinion(s) sought in accordance with Article 13.4.3, a Classification Panel may only have regard to evidence supplied to it by the relevant Athlete, National Body, and WAF (from any source) when allocating a Sport Class.
  - 13.4.5 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 and may be used for research and education purposes with the Athlete's prior consent.
  - 13.4.6 The Classification outcomes will be published at the Competition by the Chief Classifier or a person authorised by the Chief Classifier.

## 14 Observation in Competition

- 14.1 A Classification Panel may require that an Athlete undertake Observation in Competition Assessment before it allocates a final Sport Class and designates a Sport Class Status to that Athlete. Observation Assessment, if required by the Classification Panel for the respective Athlete, is conducted during the Athlete's First Appearance.
- 14.2 The methods by which Observation in Competition Assessment may be undertaken, and the matters to be observed, are set out in Appendices.
- 14.3 If a Classification Panel requires an Athlete to complete Observation in Competition Assessment, the Athlete will be entered in the Competition with the Sport Class allocated by the Classification Panel after the conclusion of the initial components of the Evaluation Session.
- 14.4 An Athlete who is required to complete Observation in Competition Assessment will be designated with Tracking Code: Observation Assessment (OA). This replaces the Athlete's Sport Class Status for the duration of Observation in Competition Assessment. After 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.
- 14.5 Observation in Competition Assessment must take place during First Appearance. In this regard:
  - 14.5.1 First Appearance is the first time an Athlete competes in an Event during a Competition in a particular Sport Class. 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, except if otherwise stipulated in the Appendices to these Rules.
  - 14.5.2 First Appearance within a Sport Class applies to participation in all Events within the same Sport Class.

14.6 If an Athlete is:

- a) subject to a Protest following Observation in Competition; and
- b) the second Evaluation Session is conducted at that same Competition; and
- c) pursuant to the second Evaluation Session the Athlete is required to undergo Observation in Competition,

Observation in Competition must take place at the next opportunity within the Sport Class allocated to the Athlete by the Protest Panel with Tracking Code Observation Assessment (OA).

- 14.6.1 The Classification Panel must allocate a Sport Class and replace the Athlete's Tracking Code Observation Assessment (OA) by designating a Sport Class Status upon completion of First Appearance (or completion of any Observation in Competition conducted as part of a Protest). If changes to an Athlete's Sport Class or Sport Class Status are made following Observation in Competition, the changes are effective immediately.

- 14.7 The impact of an Athlete changing Sport Class after First Appearance on medals, records and results is detailed in the WAF Rules and Regulations.

## 15 Sport Class Status

- 15.1 If a Classification Panel allocates a Sport Class to an Athlete, it must also designate a Sport Class Status. 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.
- 15.2 The Sport Class Status designated to an Athlete by a Classification Panel at the conclusion of an Evaluation Session will be one of the following:
- Confirmed (C)
  - Review (R)
  - Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD)

### Sport Class Status New

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

### Sport Class Status Confirmed

- 15.4 An Athlete will be designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) if the Classification Panel is satisfied that both the Athlete's Eligible Impairment and the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and Activity Limitations fundamental to the sport of Armwrestling are and will remain stable (with the exception for Athletes with Vision Impairment as referred to in Article 6.2.3).
- 15.5 An Athlete with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) is not required to undergo any further Athlete Evaluation (save pursuant to the provisions in these Classification Rules concerning Protests (Article 19), Medical Review (Article 31) and changes to Sport Class criteria (Article 15.7)).
- 15.6 A Classification Panel that consists of only one Classifier may not designate an Athlete with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) but must designate the Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R).
- 15.7 Any Athlete who has been allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) will be designated with Sport Class Confirmed (C) if that Athlete is not entitled to a further Athlete Evaluation under these Rules.
- 15.8 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.
- 15.9 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 Part Six of these Rules relating to Protests under Exceptional Circumstances.

## **Sport Class Status Review**

15.10 An Athlete will be designated Sport Class Status Review (R) if the Classification Panel believes that further Evaluation Sessions will be required before the Athlete can be designated as Sport Class Status Confirmed (C).

15.10.1 A Classification Panel may base its belief that further Evaluation Sessions will be required based on a number of factors, including but not limited to situations where the Athlete has only recently entered Competitions sanctioned or recognised by WAF; has a fluctuating and / or progressive Impairment/Impairments that is/are permanent but not stable; and/or has not yet reached full muscular skeletal or sports maturity.

An Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R) must complete Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at any subsequent International Competition, unless WAF specifies otherwise.

15.10.2 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.

15.10.3 An Athlete who has been designated with Sport Class Status Review (R) must complete Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at a Recognised Competition where Classification is offered, save where the provisions in these Rules relating to the Fixed Review Date apply.

15.10.4 The Sport Class of any Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R) may be subject to Protest by a National Body as prescribed in Part Six of these Rules.

## **Sport Class Status Review with Fixed Review Date**

15.11 An Athlete may be designated Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD) if the Classification Panel believes that further Athlete Evaluation will be required but will not be necessary before a set date, being the Fixed Review Date.

15.11.1 An Athlete with Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD) will be required to attend an Evaluation Session at the first opportunity after the relevant Fixed Review Date.

15.11.2 An Athlete who has been allocated Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD) may not attend an Evaluation Session prior to the relevant Fixed Review Date save pursuant to a Medical Review Request and/or Protest.

15.11.3 A Classification Panel that consists of only one Classifier may not designate an Athlete with Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD) but must designate the Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R).

- 15.11.4 The Athlete will retain the Sport Class assigned to that Athlete and be permitted to compete with that Sport Class.
- 15.11.5 The Athlete may, at his or her request, attend Athlete Evaluation before the Fixed Review Date (FRD) pursuant to the Medical Review process described in these Rules.
- 15.11.6 The Fixed Review Date will be the first day of the WAF World or Continental Para-Armwrestling Championship indicated by the Classification Panel or an alternative date set by the Classification Panel.

### **Changes to Sport Class Criteria**

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

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

- 15.13 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:
  - 15.13.1 Advise the Athlete and the relevant National Body or Bodies as to the error or breach that has taken place with a brief statement of the reasons for that belief; and
  - 15.13.2 Immediately amend the Athlete's Sport Class Status, and advise the Athlete and the relevant National Body or Bodies. WAF will make the appropriate amendment to the Classification Master List.

## 16 Multiple Sport Classes

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

### Multiple Eligible Impairments

- 16.2 WAF 's general principle is that an Athlete is allocated one Sport Class only, which is either based on a Physical, Visual or Hearing Impairment.
- 16.3 *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.*

### Athletes with Visual Impairment

- 16.4 Recognition of Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment of other Sports  
If brought to the attention of WAF that an Athlete with Visual Impairment and Sport Class Status Review with Fixed Review Date or Confirmed with WAF holds a different and more recently allocated Sport Class with another IF or Sport, then WAF 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 WAF will not be changed, but the Sport Class Status will be changed to Review.

### Athletes with Physical Impairment

- 16.5 An Athlete who has a Physical Impairment may be allocated more than one Sport Class relevant to that Physical Impairment subject to any applicable WAF Rules and Regulations.
- 16.6 Any such Athlete must not be allocated more than one Sport Class if the combination of those Sport Classes would allow the Athlete to compete sitting in one Event, and standing in another Event, at the same Competition.

### Changing Sport Class

- 16.7 An Athlete who has a Physical and Vision Impairment, a Physical and Hearing Impairment, or a Vision and Hearing Impairment may request to change his or her preferred Sport Class:
- 16.7.1 at the end of the season when the Athlete's first Evaluation Session was completed; or
- 16.7.2 before the start of the next season.



- 16.8 A request to change a preferred Sport Class must be made to WAF by the Athlete's National Body. The application must be submitted to WAF in accordance with the time frame identified under Article 16.7.
- 16.9 Nothing in this Article 16 precludes an Athlete from making a Medical Review Request at any time in respect of any Sport Class.

## **17 Notification**

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

## Part Five: Sport Class Not Eligible

### 18 Sport Class Not Eligible

#### General Provisions

18.1 If WAF determines that an Athlete:

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

18.1.2 does not have an Underlying Health Condition,

WAF must allocate that Athlete Sport Class Not Eligible (NE).

18.2 An Athlete must have an Eligible Impairment, and that Eligible Impairment must comply with the Minimal Disability Criteria set by WAF 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.

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

#### Absence of Eligible Impairment

18.4 If WAF determines that an Athlete does not have an Eligible Impairment, that Athlete:

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

18.4.2 will be allocated with Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) by WAF.

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

18.6 An Athlete who is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by WAF or a Classification Panel (if delegated by WAF ) because that Athlete has

18.6.1 an Impairment that is not an Eligible Impairment; or

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

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

## **Absence of Compliance with Minimum Impairment Criteria**

- 18.7 A second Classification Panel must review by way of a second Evaluation Session any Athlete who is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) on the basis that a Classification Panel determines that the Athlete does not comply with Minimum Impairment Criteria. This must take place as soon as is practicable.
- 18.7.1 Pending the second Evaluation Session the Athlete will be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated Sport Class Status Review (R). The Athlete will not be permitted to compete before such re-assessment. If there is no opportunity for a separate Athlete Evaluation to be undertaken at that Competition, WAF will take all reasonable steps to ensure the second Athlete Evaluation is undertaken at the earliest opportunity.
- 18.7.2 If the second Classification Panel determines the Athlete does not comply with Minimum Impairment Criteria (or if the Athlete declines to participate in a second Evaluation Session at the time set by the Chief Classifier); Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) will be allocated and the Athlete designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C).
- 18.7.3 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. There is no further right to Protest unless made under Exceptional Circumstances pursuant to Articles.
- 18.8 If an Athlete makes (or is subject to) a Protest on a previously allocated Sport Class other than Not Eligible (NE) and is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by a Protest Panel, the Athlete must be provided with a further and final Evaluation Session which will review the decision to allocate Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) made by the Protest Panel.
- 18.9 If a Classification Panel allocates Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) on the basis that it has determined that an Athlete does not comply with Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport the Athlete may be eligible to compete in another sport, subject to Athlete Evaluation for that sport. While an Athlete with Sport Class NE will be not eligible to compete within the sport of WAF, it will not affect his or her ability to compete in other Para-sports, subject to their rules on Classification.
- 18.10 If an Athlete is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE), this does not question the presence of a genuine Impairment. It is only a ruling on the eligibility of the Athlete to compete in the sport of WAF. 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 Armwrestling.
- 18.11 A National Body 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.

## Part Six: Protests

### 19 Scope of a Protest

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

### 20 Parties Permitted to Make a Protest

- 20.1 A Protest may only be made by one of the following bodies:
  - 20.1.1 a National Body (see Articles 21-22); or
  - 20.1.2 WAF (see Articles 23-24).

### 21 National Protests

- 21.1 A National Body 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).
  - 21.1.1 A National Body may only make a Protest in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction at a Competition or venue set aside for Athlete Evaluation.
  - 21.1.2 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”.
  - 21.1.3 No National Body may make a Protest in respect of any Athlete who entered the relevant Competition with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C).
  - 21.1.4 The National Body making a Protest is responsible for ensuring that all Protest process requirements are observed.
- 21.2 If the outcome of Athlete Evaluation is published during a Competition (pursuant to Article 17 of these Classification Rules), a National Protest must be submitted within one (1) hour of that outcome being published. If the outcome of Athlete Evaluation is published following Observation in Competition a National Protest must be submitted within fifteen (15) minutes of that outcome being published.

- 21.3 If an Athlete is required by a Classification Panel to undergo Observation in Competition Assessment, a National Body or a may make a Protest before or after First Appearance takes place. If a Protest is made before First Appearance takes place the Athlete must not be permitted to compete until the Protest has been resolved.

## 22 National Protest Procedure

- 22.1 To submit a National Protest, a National Body (an Athlete cannot submit a Protest) must show that the Protest is bona fide with supporting evidence and complete a Protest Form, that must be made available by WAF at the Competition and via WAF website, and must include the following:
- 22.1.1.1 the name, Nation and sport of the Protested Athlete;
  - 22.1.1.2 the details of the Protested Decision and/or a copy of the Protested Decision;
  - 22.1.1.3 an explanation as to why the Protest has been made and the basis on which the National Body or believes that the Protested Decision is flawed;
  - 22.1.1.4 reference to the specific rule(s) alleged to have been breached; and
  - 22.1.1.5 the Protest Fee of 50 Euro set by WAF.
- 22.2 The Chief Classifier, or a person designated by WAF for the relevant Competition, will be the person authorised to receive Protests on behalf of WAF.
- 22.3 The Protest Documents must be submitted to the Chief Classifier of the relevant Competition within the timeframes specified by WAF. Upon receipt of the Protest Documents the Chief Classifier must conduct a review of the Protest, in consultation with WAF, of which there are two possible outcomes:
- 22.3.1.1 the Chief Classifier may dismiss the Protest if, in the discretion of the Chief Classifier, the Protest does not comply with the Protest requirements in this Article 22; or
  - 22.3.1.2 the Chief Classifier may accept the Protest if, in the discretion of the Chief Classifier, the Protest complies with the Protest requirements in this Article 22.
- 22.4 If the Protest is dismissed the Chief Classifier must notify all relevant parties and provide a written explanation to the National Body as soon as practicable. The Protest Fee will be forfeited.

- 22.5 If the Protest is accepted:
- 22.5.1.1 the Protested Athlete's Sport Class must remain unchanged pending the outcome of the Protest but the Protested Athlete's Sport Class Status must immediately be changed to Review (R) unless the Protested Athlete's Sport Class Status is already Review (R);
  - 22.5.1.2 the Chief Classifier must appoint a Protest Panel to conduct a new Evaluation Session as soon as possible, which must be either at the Competition the Protest was made or at the next Competition; and
  - 22.5.1.3 WAF must notify all relevant parties of the time and date the new Evaluation Session is to be conducted by the Protest Panel.
- 22.6 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.
- 22.7 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.

## **23 WAF Protests**

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

## **24 WAF Protest Procedure**

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

## 25 Protest Panel

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

## 26 Resolving a Protest

- 26.1 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".
- 26.2 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.
- 26.3 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 eighteen (18) months prior to the date of the Protest Decision.



- 26.4 WAF 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.
- 26.5 The Protest Panel will conduct Athlete Evaluation in respect of the Protested Athlete according to the provisions concerning Athlete Evaluation in these Rules.
- 26.6 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.
- 26.7 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.
- 26.8 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 National Body. 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 WAF.
- 26.9 The decision of the Protest Panel is final and is not subject to any further Protest. The Athlete is given the opportunity to a re-assessment if the Sport Class allocated by the Protest Panel is Not Eligible.
- 26.10 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 (IPC Handbook, Section 2, Chapter 1.3).
- 26.11 The details of the Protested Decision:
- 26.11.1 An explanation as to why the Protest has been made and the basis on which the National Body believes that the Protested Decision is flawed;
  - 26.11.2 All documents and other evidence referred to the Protest;
  - 26.11.3 The signature of the authorised National Body; and
  - 26.11.4 A Protest Fee of 50 EUR if not otherwise regulated.
- 26.12 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 National Body as soon as is practicable. The Protest fee will be retained by WAF.

26.13 If the Chief Classifier declines a Protest, the National Body 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 National Body resubmits a Protest, all Protest procedure requirements will apply. A second Protest fee must be paid.

## 27 Provisions Where No Protest Panel is Available

27.1 If a Protest is made 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**):

- 27.1.1 the Protested Athlete must be permitted to compete in the Sport Class that is the subject of the Protest with Sport Class Status Review (R), pending the resolution of the Protest; and
- 27.1.2 If the Athlete has been allocated Sport Class Status Confirmed (C), that will be amended to Sport Class Status Review (R);
- 27.1.3 WAF 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.

## 28 Special Provisions

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

## 29 Protests under Exceptional Circumstances

29.1 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.

29.2 Examples of exceptional circumstances that may arise, that may warrant an Athlete participating in Athlete Evaluation include, but are not limited to:

- 29.2.1 An obvious and permanent change in the degree of Impairment of an Athlete;
- 29.2.2 An Athlete demonstrating significantly less or greater ability prior to or during Competition which does not reflect the Athlete's current Sport Class;
- 29.2.3 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

29.2.4 Sport Class allocation criteria having changed since the Athlete's most recent evaluation.

29.3 The procedure for the making of a Protest in Exceptional Circumstances shall be as follows:

29.3.1 The Chief Classifier shall advise the Athlete and relevant National Body that a Protest is being made in Exceptional Circumstances;

29.3.2 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;

29.3.3 The Athlete's Sport Class Status will be amended to Review (R) with immediate effect;

29.3.4 The process for making such a Protest shall be the same as that stated in these Rules in respect of Protests made by National Bodies save that the Chief Classifier is not required to pay a Protest fee.

## **Application during Major Competitions**

### **30 Ad Hoc Provisions Relating to Protests**

30.1 The IPC or/and WAF may issue special ad hoc provisions to operate during the Major Competitions.

## **Part Seven: Misconduct during Evaluation Session**

### **31 Failure to Attend Evaluation Session**

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

### **32 Suspension of Evaluation Session**

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

- 32.1.5 the Athlete refuses or is unable to comply with any reasonable instructions given by any Classification Personnel to such an extent that the Evaluation Session cannot be conducted in a fair manner. Such manner shall be referred to as a case of Non-Cooperation (according IPC Classification code); and/or
  - 32.1.6 the Athlete's representation of his or her abilities is inconsistent with any information available to the Classification Panel to such an extent that the Evaluation Session cannot be conducted in a fair manner.
- 32.2 If an Evaluation Session is suspended by a Classification Panel, the following steps must be taken:
- 32.2.1 an explanation the reason for the suspension and details of the remedial action that is required on the part of the Athlete will be provided to the Athlete and/or the relevant National Body;
  - 32.2.2 if the Athlete takes the remedial action to the satisfaction of the Chief Classifier or Head of Classification, the Evaluation Session will be resumed; and
  - 32.2.3 if the Athlete fails to comply and does not take the remedial action within the timeframe specified, the Evaluation Session will be terminated, and the Athlete must be precluded from competing at any Competition until the determination is completed.
- 32.3 If an Evaluation Session is suspended by a Classification Panel, the Classification Panel may designate the Athlete as Classification Not Completed (CNC) in accordance with Article 10 of these Classification Rules.
- 32.4 A Suspension of an Evaluation Session may be subject to further investigation into any possible Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 32.5 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.

## Part Eight: Medical Review

### 33 Medical Review

- 33.1 This Article applies to any Athlete who has been allocated a Sport Class with Sport Class Status
- 33.1.1 Confirmed (C); or
  - 33.1.2 Review with Fixed Review Date (FRD).
- 33.2 A Medical Review Request must be made if a change in the nature or degree of an Athlete's Impairment changes the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities required by a sport in a manner that is clearly distinguishable from changes attributable to levels of training, fitness and proficiency.
- 33.3 A A Medical Review Request must be made by completing the WAF Medical Review Request Form and by following its instructions. The Athlete and his or her NPC / NF must ensure that the Medical Review Request abides by the following provisions:
- 33.3.1 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;
  - 33.3.2 It must be completed by an appropriately qualified health professional and include all relevant supporting documentation in English or with a certified English translation;
  - 33.3.3 A non-refundable fee must be paid.
- 33.4 Medical Review Request must be made by the Athlete's National Body (together with a €100 non-refundable fee and any supporting documentation). The Medical Review Request must explain how and to what extent the Athlete's Impairment has changed and why it is believed that the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities required by a sport has changed.
- 33.5 A Medical Review Request must be received by WAF as soon as reasonably practicable. Each Medical Review Request will be assessed by WAF to ensure that all requisite information, documentation and fee have been provided.
- 33.6 The Head of Classification must decide whether or not the Medical Review Request is upheld as soon as is practicable following receipt of the Medical Review Request.
- 33.7 Any Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who becomes aware of such changes outlined in Article 32.7 but fails to draw those to the attention of their National Body, or WAF may be investigated in respect of possible Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 33.8 If a Medical Review Request is accepted, the Athlete's Sport Class Status will be changed to Review (R) with immediate effect.

## Part Nine: Intentional Misrepresentation

### 34 Intentional Misrepresentation

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).

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



- 34.7 If another International Sports Federation brings disciplinary proceedings against an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel in respect of Intentional Misrepresentation which results in consequences being imposed on that Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel, those consequences will be recognised, respected and enforced by WAF.
- 34.8 Any consequences to be applied to teams, which include an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation, will be at the discretion of WAF.
- 34.9 Any disciplinary action taken by WAF pursuant these Classification Rules must be resolved in accordance with the applicable Board of Appeal of Classification Bylaws.
- 34.10 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 Hearing 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.
- 34.11 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 charged with Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 34.12 Assisting Intentional Misrepresentation. 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



## **Part Ten: Use of Athlete Information**

### **35 Classification Data**

- 35.1 WAF may only Process Classification Data if such Classification Data is considered necessary to conduct Classification.
- 35.2 All Classification Data Processed by WAF must be accurate, complete and kept up-to-date.

### **36 Consent and Processing**

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

### **37 Classification Research**

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

### **38 Notification to Athletes**

- 38.1 WAF must notify an Athlete who provides Classification Data as to:
  - 38.1.1 that fact that WAF is collecting the Classification Data; and
  - 38.1.2 the purpose for the collection of the Classification Data; and
  - 38.1.3 the duration that the Classification Data will be retained.

## **39 Classification Data Security**

### **39.1 WAF must:**

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

## **40 Disclosures of Classification Data**

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

## **41 Retaining Classification Data**

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

## **42 Access Rights to Classification Data**

42.1 Athletes may request from WAF :

42.1.1 confirmation of whether or not that WAF Processes Classification Data relating to them personally and a description of the Classification Data that is held;

42.1.2 a copy of the Classification Data held by WAF ; and/or

42.1.3 correction or deletion of the Classification Data held by WAF .

42.2 A request may be made by an Athlete or a National Body or a on an Athlete's behalf and must be complied with within a reasonable period of time.

## **43 Classification Master Lists**

43.1 WAF must maintain a Classification Master List of Athletes, which must include the Athlete's name, gender, year of birth, country, Sport Class and Sport Class Status. The Classification Master List must identify Athletes that enter International Competitions.

43.2 WAF must make available the Classification Master List to all relevant National Bodies on the WAF website.

## **Part Eleven: Appeals**

### **44 Appeal**

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

### **45 Parties Permitted to Make an Appeal**

- 45.1 Appeal may only be made by one of the following bodies:
- 45.1.1 a National Body.

### **46 Appeals**

- 46.1 If a National Body considers there have been procedural errors made in respect of the allocation of a Sport Class and/or Sport Class Status and as a consequence an Athlete has been allocated an incorrect Sport Class or Sport Class Status, it may submit an Appeal.
- 46.2 WAF has designated the Inter 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.
- 46.3 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.
- 46.4 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.

### **47 Ad Hoc Provisions Relating to Appeals**

- 47.1 The IPC and/or WAF may issue special ad hoc provisions to operate during the Paralympic Games or other Competitions.

## Part Twelve: Glossary

<b>Activity Limitation</b>	Difficulties an individual may have in executing activities.
<b>Adaptive Equipment</b>	Implements and apparatus adapted to the special needs of Athletes, and used by Athletes during Competition to facilitate participation and/or to achieve results.
<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 Para-Armwrestling at either International Level (as defined by WAF ) 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 Classification Rules in order that an Athlete may be allocated a Sport Class and Sport Class Status.
<b>Athlete Support Personnel</b>	Any coach, trainer, manager, interpreter, agent, team staff, official, medical or para-medical personnel working with or treating Athletes participating in or preparing for training and/or Competition.
<b>BAC.</b>	The IPC Board of Appeal of Classification.
<b>Chief Classifier</b>	A classifier appointed by WAF to direct, administer, co-ordinate and implement Classification matters for a specific Competition according to these Classification Rules.
<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 Data</b>	Personal Information and/or sensitive Personal Information provided by an Athlete and/or a National Body and/or any other person to a Classification Organisation in connection with Classification.
<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 Intelligence:</b>	Information obtained and used by an International Sport Federation in relation to Classification.
<b>Classification Master List</b>	The list, made available by WAF that identifies the Athletes that participated in International Classification.
<b>Classification Not Completed</b>	The designation applied to an Athlete who has commenced but not completed Athlete Evaluation to the satisfaction of WAF.
<b>Classification Organisation</b>	Any organisation that conducts the process of Athlete Evaluation and allocates Sport Classes and/or holds Classification Data.

<b>Classification Panel</b>	A group of Classifiers, appointed by WAF, to determine Sport Class and Sport Class Status in accordance with these Classification 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>Classification Rules</b>	Also referred to as Classification Rules and Regulations. The policies, procedures, protocols and descriptions adopted by WAF in connection with Athlete Evaluation.
<b>Classification System</b>	The framework used by WAF to develop and designate Sport Classes within a WAF.
<b>Classification:</b>	Grouping Athletes into Sport Classes according to how much their Impairment affects fundamental activities in each specific sport or discipline. This is also referred to as Athlete Classification.
<b>Classifier</b>	A person authorised as an official by WAF to evaluate Athletes as a member of a Classification Panel.
<b>Classifier Certification</b>	The processes by which WAF must assess that a Classifier has met the specific Classifier Competencies required to obtain and maintain certification or licensure.
<b>Classifier Code of Conduct.</b>	The behavioural and ethical standards for Classifiers specified by WAF.
<b>Classifier Competencies</b>	The qualifications and abilities that WAF deems necessary for a Classifier to be competent to conduct Athlete Evaluation for sport of Armwrestling governed by WAF.
<b>Code</b>	The Athlete Classification Code 2015 together with the International Standards for: Athlete Evaluation; Eligible Impairments; Protests and Appeals; Classifier Personnel and Training; and Classification Data Protection.
<b>Competition</b>	A series of individual events conducted together under one ruling body.
<b>Compliance</b>	The implementation of rules, regulations, policies and processes that adhere to the text, spirit and intent of the Code as defined by the IPC. Where terms such as (but not limited to) 'comply', 'conform' and 'in accordance' are used in the Code they shall have the same meaning as 'Compliance'.
<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>Continuing Education</b>	The delivery of higher knowledge and practical skills specified by WAF to preserve and/or advance knowledge and skills as a Classifier in the sport(s) under its governance.
<b>Diagnostic Information</b>	Medical records and/or any other documentation that enables WAF to assess the existence or otherwise of an Eligible Impairment or

	Underlying Health Condition.
<b>Effective Date</b>	The date upon which these Rules come into force.
<b>Eligibility Assessment Committee</b>	An ad hoc body formed to assess the existence or otherwise of an Eligible Impairment.
<b>Eligible Impairment</b>	An Impairment designated as being a prerequisite for competing in WAF, as detailed in these Classification Rules.
<b>Entry Criteria</b>	Standards set by WAF relating to the expertise or experience levels of persons who wish to be Classifiers. This may be, for example, former Athletes or coaches, sports scientists, physical educators and medical professionals, all of whom have the qualifications and abilities relevant to conduct all, or specific parts of Athlete Evaluation.
<b>Entry-level Education</b>	The basic knowledge and practical skills specified by WAF to begin as a Classifier in the Armwrestling under governance of WAF.
<b>Evaluation Session</b>	The session an Athlete is required to attend for a Classification Panel to assess that Athlete's compliance with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport; and allocation of a Sport Class and Sport Class Status depending on the extent to which that Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to that sport. An Evaluation Session may include Observation in Competition.
<b>Event</b>	A sub-set of a Competition that requires specific technical and sporting skills.
<b>First Appearance</b>	The first time an Athlete competes in an Event during a Competition in a particular Sport Class.
<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 event date set in the next year WAF calendar where classification is organised by WAF.
<b>Head of Classification</b>	A Classifier responsible for all direction, administration, coordination and implementation of Classification matters for Para-Armwrestling.
<b>Hearing Impairment</b>	A partial or total inability to hear. Hearing impairments are classified in terms of the severity and type of hearing impairment. The severity of the hearing impairment is categorized based on the minimum sound that can be heard with your better ear. The higher the decibel (dB), the louder the sound.
<b>Impairment</b>	Problems in body function or structure such as a significant deviation or loss.
<b>Impairment</b>	A Physical, Vision or Hearing Impairment.



<b>Intentional Misrepresentation</b>	A deliberate attempt (either by fact or omission) to mislead an International Sport Federation or National Body as to the existence or extent of skills and/or abilities relevant to a WAF and/or the degree or nature of Eligible Impairment during Athlete Evaluation and/or at any other point after the allocation of a Sport Class.
<b>International Classification</b>	Athlete Evaluation that is conducted in full compliance with these Rules.
<b>International Competitions</b>	A Competition where the IPC, an International Sport Federation or a Major Competition Organisation is the governing body for the Competition and/or appoints the technical officials for the Competition.
<b>International Sport Federation</b>	A sport federation recognised by the IPC as the sole world- wide representative of a sport for Athletes with an Impairment that has been granted the status as a WAF by the IPC. The IPC and the International Organisations of Sports for the Disabled act as an International Sport Federation for certain sports.
<b>International Standards</b>	A document complementing the Code and providing additional technical and operational requirements for Classification.
<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>Maintaining Certification</b>	The advanced training, education and practice necessary for continued competency as a Classifier.
<b>Major Competition Organiser</b>	An organisation that functions as the ruling body for an International Competition.
<b>Medical Diagnostics Form</b>	a form that a National Body or must submit in order for an Athlete to undergo Athlete Evaluation, identifying the Athlete's Health Condition if so required.
<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 WAF 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>Medical Review Request</b>	A request made by a National Body for Medical Review, made on behalf of an Athlete.
<b>Minimum Disability Criteria</b>	The standards set by WAF 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 Para-Armwrestling.
<b>Models of Best Practice</b>	An ad hoc guidance document prepared by the IPC to assist in the implementation of the Code and International Standards.
<b>National Body</b>	A team entity of which an Athlete is a member. Such an entity may be National Federation, or other representative team body.
<b>National Laws</b>	The national data protection and privacy laws, regulations and policies applicable to a Classification Organisation.
<b>National Protest</b>	A Protest made by a National Body in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction.
<b>Non-Competition Venue</b>	Any place or location (outside of a Competition) designated by WAF as being a place or location where Athlete Evaluation is made available to Athletes in order that they may be allocated a Sport Class and designated with a Sport Class Status.
<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 Para-Armwrestling either prior to or during an Event.
<b>Observation in Competition</b>	The observation of an Athlete in a Competition by a Classification Panel so that the Classification Panel can complete its determination as to the extent to which an Eligible Impairment affects that Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.
<b>Paralympic Games</b>	Umbrella term for both Paralympic Games and Paralympic Winter Games.
<b>Permanent</b>	The term Permanent as used in the Code and Standards describes an Impairment that is unlikely to be resolved meaning the principle effects are lifelong.
<b>Personal Information</b>	Any information that refers to, or relates directly to, an Athlete.
<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.

<b>Process/Processing</b>	The collection, recording, storage, use or disclosure of Personal Information and/or sensitive Personal Information.
<b>Protest</b>	The procedure by which a formal objection to an Athlete's Sport Class is submitted and subsequently resolved.
<b>Protest Documents</b>	The information provided in the Protest Form together with the Protest Fee.
<b>Protest Fee</b>	The fee prescribed by WAF, payable by the National Body or when submitting a Protest.
<b>Protest Form</b>	The form on which a National Protest must be submitted.
<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>Protested Athlete</b>	An Athlete whose Sport Class is being challenged.
<b>Protested Decision</b>	The Sport Class decision being challenged.
<b>Re-certification</b>	The process by which WAF must assess that a Classifier has maintained specific Classifier Competencies.
<b>Recognised Competition</b>	An umbrella term for Para-Armwrestling Competitions and WAF Sanctioned Competitions as defined in the WAF Constitution.
<b>Recognised Competition.</b>	A Competition that is sanctioned or approved by WAF.
<b>Research Purposes</b>	Research into matters pertaining to the development of sports within the Paralympic Movement, including the impact of Impairment on the fundamental activities in each specific sport and the impact of assistive technology on such activities.
<b>Signatories</b>	Any organisation that accepts the Code and commits to implement it and the International Standards by way of its Classification Rules.
<b>Sport Class</b>	A category defined by WAF in which Athletes are categorized by reference to an Activity Limitation resulting from Impairment.
<b>Sport Class</b>	A category for Competition defined by WAF by reference to the extent to which an Athlete can perform the specific tasks and activities required by a sport.
<b>Sport Class Status</b>	A Category allocation to each Athlete to indicate evaluation requirements and Protest opportunities.
<b>Team Sport</b>	A sport in which substitution of players is permitted during a Competition.
<b>Technical Assessment</b>	The assessment of an Athlete's ability to perform the tasks and activities required to participate in the sport of Para-Armwrestling.
<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>Tracking Code Observation Assessment (OA)</b>	A designation given to an Athlete that replaces the Athlete's Sport Class Status until Observation in Competition has been completed.
<b>Underlying Health Condition</b>	A Health Condition that may lead to an Eligible Impairment.
<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>WAF</b>	World Armwrestling Federation (WAF), the international governing organization for the sport of Armwrestling and Para-Armwrestling.

# Appendix One

## Athletes with Physical Impairment

1. This Appendix details the Sport Classes that are to be allocated to Athletes with Physical Impairments who wish to compete in WAF Competitions. WAF has developed a system to enable a fair and transparent grouping of Athletes within these Sport Classes, which depends on the extent to which an Athlete fits within the specific Sport Profile for each Sport Class. WAF designates its Sport Classes for Athletes with Physical Impairment as follow:
  - 1.1 According with the sitting or standing position used in the Event: the sitting position at the sit-down armwrestling table are referred to as "**PID**", and the standing position at the stand-up (standard) armwrestling table are referred to as "**PIU**".
  - 1.2 According with the upper limbs impairment and with the sitting or standing position used in the Event: the sitting position at the sit-down armwrestling table are referred to as "**PIDH**", and the standing position at the stand-up (standard) armwrestling table are referred to as "**PIUH**".
  - 1.3 The following Sport Classes has been designated by the WAF for Athlete's with a Physical Impairment:

<b>Impairment</b>	<b>Sport Class</b>	<b>Armwrestling table</b>
Physical Impairment Sitting	PID	Sit-down
Physical Impairment Standing	PIU	Stand-up
Physical Impairment Sitting for the athletes with upper limbs impairment	PIDH	Sit-down
Physical Impairment Standing for the athletes with upper limbs impairment	PIUH	Stand-up

## Eligible Impairment Types

- 1.4 Eligibility Criteria. To be eligible in the sport classes PID, PIU, PIDH and PIUH in Para-Armwrestling:
  - 1.4.1 Athletes must be affected by at least one of the Impairments listed in the first column of Table 1; and
  - 1.4.2 The Impairment must result directly from a health condition (e.g. trauma, disease, dysgenesis), and must be documented by medical records.

**Table 1 – Eligible Impairment types**

Impairment Type	Examples of health conditions likely to cause such Impairments	Impairment 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.  <b>b735</b>
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.  <b>b760</b>
Athetosis	Cerebral palsy, stroke, traumatic brain injury	Involuntary contractions of muscles <i>Inclusions:</i> Athetosis, chorea <i>Exclusions:</i> Sleep related movement disorders.  <b>b7650</b>
Limb deficiency	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.  <b>s720, s730, s740, s750</b>  Note: These codes would have the extension 0.81 or 0.82 to indicate total or partial absence of the structure respectively.
Impaired Passive Range of Movement (PROM)	Arthrogryposis, ankylosis, post burns joint contractures	<i>Functions of mobility of single or several joints, vertebral, shoulder, elbow, wrist, hip, knee, ankle, small joints of hands and feet; mobility of joints generalized; impairments such as in hypermobility of joints, frozen joints, frozen shoulder, arthritis.</i>  <i>Exclusions:</i> Hypermobility of joints.  <b>b7100 – b7102</b>
Impaired Muscle Power	Spinal cord injury, muscular dystrophy, brachial plexus injury, Erb's palsy, polio, spina bifida, Guillain-Barré syndrome	<i>Functions associated with the power of specific muscles and muscle groups, muscles of one limb, one side of the body, the lower half of the body, all limbs, the trunk and the body as a whole; impairments such as weakness of small muscles in feet and hands, muscle paresis, muscle paralysis, monoplegia, hemiplegia, paraplegia, quadriplegia and akinetic mutism.</i>  <b>b730</b>

Leg Length Difference	Congenital or traumatic causes of bone shortening in one leg	<p>Aberrant dimensions of bones of right lower limb OR left lower limb but not both.</p> <p><i>Inclusions:</i> shortening of bones of one lower limb</p> <p><i>Exclusions:</i> shortening of bones of both lower limbs; any increase in dimensions</p> <p><b>s75000, s75010, s75020</b></p>
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## Non-Eligible Impairments

1.5 The following impairment types are non-eligible Impairments in the Physical Impairment classes PID, PIU, PIDH and PIUH in Para-Armwrestling, defined by the respective ICF Reference:

- 1.5.1 Mental functions (v140-189), including impairments of psychomotor control (b1470), quality of psychomotor functions (b1471), visuospatial perception (b1565), higher-level cognitive functions required for organization and planning movement (b1641); mental functions required for sequencing and coordinating complex, purposeful movements (b176)
- 1.5.2 Hearing functions (b230-249)
- 1.5.3 Pain (b280-0289)
- 1.5.4 Joint instability (b715), including unstable shoulder joint and joint dislocation
- 1.5.5 Muscle endurance functions (b740)
- 1.5.6 Motor reflex functions (b750)
- 1.5.7 Involuntary movement reaction functions (b755)
- 1.5.8 Tics and mannerism (b7652)
- 1.5.9 Stereotypies and motor perseveration (b7653)
- 1.5.10 Cardiovascular functions (b410-429)
- 1.5.11 Respiratory functions (b440-449)
- 1.5.12 Functions related to metabolism and the endocrine system (b540-b559)
- 1.5.13 Visual impairment (b201)

## **Sport Class Profiles for Athletes with Physical Impairment**

### **Sport Class PID – for sitting athletes**

- 1.6 This sport class includes athletes are not able to stand and/or walk without a wheelchair or two crutches, have normal sitting balance, arm and hand function for the competing arm. With the good trunk function, they can stretch out to the sides to armwrestle.
- 1.7 The sport class includes athletes with lower spinal cord injuries with lower paraplegia or polio, double above knee amputation, Dysmelia of the lower limbs comparable to double above knee amputation, spinal cord injury, muscular dystrophy with lower paraplegia, Cerebral Palsy with severe to moderate diplegia, hemiplegia or athetosis/ataxia.

#### **Minimum eligible criteria.**

- 1.8 Not all athletes with an eligible impairment type are permitted to compete in sitting / sit-down position in Para-Armwrestling. To be eligible the athlete's impairment must also cause sufficient activity limitation in standing.
  - 1.8.1 An athlete may compete in sitting /sit-down position in Para-Armwrestling if they are not able to stand and/or walk without two crutches.
  - 1.8.2 A permanent impairment that alters the biomechanical execution of the walking action in a way that is demonstrable and which will adversely affect performance.
  - 1.8.3 The effect of the impairment is considered without aids or prosthetics Is not able to step sideways.
  - 1.8.4 Stands with hyper lordosis and hip posterior tilt if not using crutches.
  - 1.8.5 When sitting, the athlete is not able to make bend fully to the side at normal speed and raise again with normal speed.
  - 1.8.6 There also is reduction of speed in forward/backward movement.
  - 1.8.7 Neurological level of the spinal cord lesion is at S1-2.
  - 1.8.8 All athletes with polio or other causes must be comparable to the impairments mentioned above.

#### **All athletes with more functions than mentioned above play in the standing classes**

## **Sport Class PIDH – for sitting athletes with upper limbs impairment**

- 1.9 This sport class includes athletes are not able to stand and/or walk without a wheelchair or two crutches, have normal sitting balance, arm and hand function for the competing arm and upper limbs impairment. With the good trunk function, they can stretch out to the sides to armwrestle.
- 1.10 The sport class includes athletes with lower spinal cord injuries with lower paraplegia or polio, double above knee amputation, Dysmelia of the lower limbs comparable to double above knee amputation, spinal cord injury, muscular dystrophy with lower paraplegia, Cerebral Palsy with severe to moderate diplegia, hemiplegia or athetosis/ataxia.

### **Minimum eligible criteria**

- 1.11 Not all athletes with an eligible impairment type are permitted to compete in sitting / sit-down position in Para-Armwrestling. To be eligible the athlete's impairment must also cause sufficient activity limitation in standing.
  - 1.11.1 An athlete may compete in sitting /sit-down position in Para-Armwrestling if they are not able to stand and/or walk without two crutches.
  - 1.11.2 A permanent impairment that alters the biomechanical execution of the walking action in a way that is demonstrable and which will adversely affect performance.
  - 1.11.3 The effect of the impairment is considered without aids or prosthetics.
  - 1.11.4 Is not able to step sideways.
  - 1.11.5 Stands with hyper lordosis and hip posterior tilt if not using crutches.
  - 1.11.6 When sitting, the athlete is not able to make bend fully to the side at normal speed and raise again with normal speed.
  - 1.11.7 There also is reduction of speed in forward/backward movement.
  - 1.11.8 Neurological level of the spinal cord lesion is at S1-2.
  - 1.11.9 All athletes with polio or other causes must be comparable to the impairments mentioned above.
  - 1.11.10 All athletes with more functions than mentioned above play in the standing classes.
  - 1.11.11 Single upper limbs amputation.
  - 1.11.12 Dysmelia of the upper limbs comparable to single upper limbs amputation.
  - 1.11.13 Polio with severe impairment of the upper limbs.
  - 1.11.14 Reduced muscle power of the upper limbs as a result of Muscular dystrophy, Spina bifida, Guillain-Barre syndrome.
  - 1.11.15 Severe joint restriction in the upper limbs.
  - 1.11.16 Cerebral Palsy with moderate to slight diplegia, hemiplegia or athetosis/ataxia.
  - 1.11.17 Traumatic brain injury or multiple sclerosis with loss of function of upper limbs.



## **Sport Class PIU – for standing athletes.**

1.12 The sport class PIU includes athletes who are able to stand and/or walk without crutches or at least with one crutch, have normal standing balance, arm and hand function for the competing arm.

### **Minimum eligible criteria**

1.13 The minimal disability in standing classes is assessed for sport class PIU as follows:

1.14 If, in the lower extremity and back, the disability usually reduces the normal function related to para-armwrestling:

1.14.1 In the back (trunk), the impairment affects proper rotation which is visibly apparent and influences play;

1.14.2 The impairment of the lower extremity may mildly affect the balance and displacement and rotation of the hips.

1.15 If, in the upper extremity, it may be divided into the playing arm or non-playing arm:

1.15.1 In playing arm, there should be a very mild impairment;

1.15.2 In the non-playing arm, there may be a severe to moderate impairment.

1.16 The impairment of the playing arm may very mildly affect reach, speed of the swing and strength of the grip during the match.

1.17 The impairment of the non-playing arm very mildly affects the compensatory and reinforcement motions.

## **Sport Class PIUH – standing athletes with upper limbs impairment**

- 1.18 The sport class PIUH includes athletes who are able to stand and/or walk without crutches or at least with one crutch, have normal standing balance, arm and hand function for the competing arm.

### **Minimum eligible criteria**

- 1.19 The minimal disability in standing classes is assessed for sport class PIUH as follows:
- 1.20 If, in the lower extremity and back, the disability usually reduces the normal function related to para-armwrestling:
- 1.20.1 In the back (trunk), the impairment affects proper rotation which is visibly apparent and influences play;
  - 1.20.2 The impairment of the lower extremity may mildly affect the balance and displacement and rotation of the hips.
- 1.21 If, in the upper extremity, it may be divided into the playing arm or non-playing arm:
- 1.21.1 In playing arm, there should be a very mild impairment;
  - 1.21.2 In the non-playing arm, there may be a severe to moderate impairment.
- 1.22 The impairment of the playing arm may very mildly affect reach, speed of the swing and strength of the grip during the match.
- 1.23 The impairment of the non-playing arm very mildly affects the compensatory and reinforcement motions.
- 1.24 Single upper limbs amputation.
- 1.25 Dysmelia of the upper limbs comparable to single upper limbs amputation.
- 1.26 Polio with severe impairment of the upper limbs.
- 1.27 Reduced muscle power of the upper limbs as a result of Muscular dystrophy, Spina bifida, Guillain-Barre syndrome.
- 1.28 Severe joint restriction in the upper limbs.
- 1.29 Cerebral Palsy with moderate to slight diplegia, hemiplegia or athetosis/ataxia.
- 1.30 Traumatic brain injury or multiple sclerosis with loss of function of upper limbs.

## **Assessment Methodology**

- 1.31 The Para-Armwrestling Classification Regulations state that Athlete Evaluation may encompass three components: Physical Assessment, Technical Assessment and Observation Assessment. Physical Assessment and Technical Assessment are mandatory for all Athletes with Physical Impairment. Observation Assessments only required if a Classification Panel believes that it is necessary in order to complete Athlete Evaluation.
- 1.32 Prior to (or as part of) Physical and Technical Assessment, an Athlete must demonstrate the presence of a qualifying Impairment that meets the Eligibility Criteria set by WAF.

## **Assessment Criteria for the Allocation of a Sport Class and the Designation of Sport Class Status**

## Appendix Two

### Athletes with Vision Impairment

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

### Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment

2. 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 Para-Armwrestling.
  - 2.1 WAF has designated Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment, which are defined in this Appendix.
  - 2.2 WAF 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.
  - 2.3 The processes detailed in this Appendix apply to Athlete Evaluation in respect of Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment.
  - 2.4 The Sport Class allocated to Athletes with Visual Impairment applies to all events offered by WAF.
  - 2.5 All provisions of the WAF Classification Rules apply to the Assessment of Athletes with Visual Impairment, except if otherwise specified in this Appendix.

## Eligibility Criteria

- 2.6 To be eligible to compete in Sport Class **VI** in Para-Armwrestling, the Athlete must meet both of the below criteria.
- 2.7 The Athlete must have at least one of the following eligible impairments,
  - 2.7.1 impairment of the eye structure;
  - 2.7.2 impairment of the optical nerve/optic pathways;
  - 2.7.3 impairment of the visual cortex of the central brain.
- 2.8 The Athlete's eligible Impairment must result in a visual acuity poorer than LogMAR 1.80 (Near Blindness) or Blind (NLP).
- 2.9 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.
- 2.10 It is the Athlete's and WAF 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.
- 2.11 The medical diagnostic information must comprise the completed Medical Diagnostics Form (Visual Impairment Certificate Form) and additional medical documentation as indicated on the Medical Diagnostics Form. Failure to present with complete medical diagnostic information might lead to Athlete Evaluation being suspended in accordance with Article 4.7 of these Rules.

Medical Diagnostic Information must be typewritten and submitted in English and may not be older than 12 months prior to the date of Athlete Evaluation.

## **Minimum Impairment Criteria for Athletes with a vision Impairment**

- 2.12 Minimum Impairment Criteria for Athletes with a vision Impairment have been set based on the Athlete's corrected vision. (The difference in approach for Athletes with vision Impairment must be seen within the historical context of Classification for these Athletes, which is an assessment with 'best correction' as used in the context of medical diagnostics for visual acuity.)

## **Assessment Methods**

- 2.13 All Athlete Evaluation and Sport Class allocation in VI Class will be based on the assessment of visual acuity in the eye with better visual acuity when wearing the best optical correction.
- 2.14 Athletes who compete using any corrective devices (e.g. glasses, lenses) must attend classification with these devices and their prescription.
- 2.15 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.
- 2.16 Athletes must declare any change in their optic correction to 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.
- 2.17 Any Athlete Support Personnel accompanying the Athlete in the Assessment room must remain out of sight of the visual acuity charts during Assessment.
- 2.18 Under the current provisions set forth in this Appendix, Observation Assessment does not apply to Athletes with Visual Impairment.
- 2.19 WAF 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 WAF.

2.20 Failure to Medical records and reports supporting the information on the Medical Diagnostic Form. Depending on the nature of the impairment, this includes:

2.20.1 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 Perimeter, Stimulus III/4, Humphrey Field Analyser (HFA), Twinfield (Oculus), Octopus (Interzeag), Rodenstock Peristat, Medmont (MAP).

2.20.2 Electroretinography (ERG/EOG).

2.20.3 Visual Evoked Potentials (VEP).

2.20.4 Cerebral Magnet Resonance Imaging (MRI).

2.20.5 Records of any eye surgery performed, and results of the outcome, if applicable.

## **Assessment Criteria for the Allocation of a Sport Class and the Designation of Sport Class Status**

## Appendix Three

### Sport Classes for Athletes that are Deaf and/or Hearing Impaired

- 3.1 Appendix three 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 Para-Armwrestling.
- 3.2 Introduction. WAF has designated Sport Class HI for Deaf and/or Hearing Impaired Athletes. These Athletes are referred to as Deaf Athletes.
- 3.3 The processes detailed in this Appendix apply to Athlete Evaluation in respect of Sport Classes for Deaf Athletes.

### Eligibility Criteria

- 3.4 Participants in WAF sanctioned Competitions and Championships for Deaf Athletes must have profound impairment including deafness, 81 dB or greater pure tone average (PTA) in the better ear (three-tone pure tone average at 500, 1000 and 2000 Hertz, air conduction, ISO 1969 Standard). Unable to hear and understand even a shouted voice.
- 3.5 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.
- 3.6 Definition and Proof of Deafness
- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 Exemption
- 3.9 If the athlete has Cochlear Implant in one ear, they do not need to be tested in that ear but the audiologist must clearly state 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.
- 3.10 Every Member National Federation 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.
- 3.11 Process to get on WAF Athlete Master List.



- 3.12 Each new athlete must use the official WAF Audiogram form. The form can be downloaded from [www.waf-armwrestling.com](http://www.waf-armwrestling.com).
- 3.13 All four (4) types of audiogram testing below must be filled out entirely for EACH ear including:
- 3.13.1 Air Conduction
  - 3.13.2 Bone Conduction
  - 3.13.3 Tympanograms (Tympanometry)
  - 3.13.4 Acoustic Reflexes (Reflexometry)
- 3.14 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 Audiologist. The WAF Audiogram form will be submitted to the World Armwrestling Federation.

### **Assessment Criteria for the Allocation of a Sport Class and the Designation of Sport Class Status**

## Appendix Four

### Non-Eligible Impairment Types for all Athletes

- 4.1 Examples of Non-Eligible Impairments include, but are not limited to the following:
  - 4.1.1 Pain;
  - 4.1.2 Hearing impairment;
  - 4.1.3 Low muscle tone;
  - 4.1.4 Hypermobility of joints;
  - 4.1.5 Joint instability, such as unstable shoulder joint, recurrent dislocation of a joint;
  - 4.1.6 Impaired muscle endurance;
  - 4.1.7 Impaired motor reflex functions;
  - 4.1.8 Impaired cardiovascular functions;
  - 4.1.9 Impaired respiratory functions;
  - 4.1.10 Impairment metabolic functions; and
  - 4.1.11 Tics and mannerisms, stereotypes and motor perseveration.

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

- 4.2 A number of Health Conditions do not lead to an Eligible Impairment and are not Underlying Health Conditions.
- 4.3 An Athlete who has a Health Condition (including, but not limited to, one of the Health Conditions listed in the above Appendices Appendix One, Appendix Two and/or Appendix Three) but who does not have an Underlying Health Condition will not be eligible to compete in WAF.
- 4.4 Health Conditions that primarily cause pain; primarily cause fatigue; primarily cause joint hypermobility or hypotonia; or are primarily psychological or psychosomatic in nature do *not* lead to an Eligible Impairment.
- 4.5 Examples of Health Conditions that primarily cause pain include myofascial *pain*-dysfunction syndrome, fibromyalgia or complex regional pain syndrome.
- 4.6 An example of a Health Condition that primarily causes fatigue is chronic fatigue syndrome.
- 4.7 An example of a Health Condition that primarily causes hypermobility or hypotonia is Ehlers- Danlos syndrome.
- 4.8 Examples of Health Conditions that are primarily psychological or psychosomatic in nature include conversion disorders or post-traumatic stress disorder.