

IPC ALPINE SKIING CLASSIFICATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

Version October 2011

1. Introduction to Classification

1.1 Governance

The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) acts as the International Federation for the Sport of Alpine Skiing. It is responsible for, amongst other things, organising international Competitions and drawing up rules and regulations relevant to the Sport of Alpine Skiing, and ensuring that they are followed. IPC carries out its responsibilities as International Federation under the name “IPC Alpine Skiing”, and the term “IPC Alpine Skiing” should therefore be read in these Classification Regulations as being equivalent to IPC.

IPC has designated these Classification Rules and Regulations as being part of the Sport Rules of Alpine Skiing.

1.2 Structure of Classification Regulations

1.2.1 The Classification Regulations contained in this document provide a framework within which the process of classification may take place. Classification is undertaken so that Athletes can be designated a Sport Class (which groups Athletes together in Competition) and allocated a Sport Class Status (which indicates when Athletes should be evaluated and how their Sport Class may be challenged).

1.2.2 The allocation to an Athlete of a Sport Class is determined by a variety of processes that may include a physical and technical assessment and observation in training and/or competition, as explained in these Classification Regulations.

1.2.3 A Sport Profile explains how an Athlete may be considered eligible to compete within a particular Sport Class. A Sport Class will be allocated to an Athlete based on the degree to which an Athlete satisfies the requirements of the “Sport Profile” for that Sport Class.



- 1.2.4 The Sport Profiles for the Sport Classes that comprise the Sport of Alpine Skiing are set out in Appendix One to these Classification Regulations.

1.3 Purpose of Classification Regulations

- 1.3.1 The term “classification”, as used in these Rules, refers to the process by which Athletes are assessed by reference to the impact of impairment on their ability to compete in Alpine Skiing Events. It is intended to provide a framework for fair Competition and to ensure that the strategies, skills and talent of Athletes and teams determine competitive success. Classification is undertaken to both ensure that a relevant level of impairment is present in an Athlete, and that that impairment has a demonstrable impact upon sport performance.
- 1.3.2 The IPC Alpine Skiing Sport Profiles explain how an Athlete may be eligible to compete in IPC Alpine Skiing sporting event.

1.4 IPC Classification Code

IPC Alpine Skiing has implemented these Classification Regulations in compliance with the IPC Classification Code (the IPC Code). In the event that there is any inconsistency between any provisions of these Classification Regulations and the IPC Code, the provisions appearing in the IPC Code shall prevail.

1.5 Definitions

A Glossary of Defined Terms (which generally appear in capital letters in these Rules) is included within these Classification Regulations, although certain terms are defined in the body of these Classification Regulations.

2. Classifiers

2.1 Classification Personnel

- 2.1.1 The IPC Classification Code and IPC Alpine Skiing recognise Classifiers as games officials.



- 2.1.2 IPC Alpine Skiing should appoint the following personnel. Each will have a key role in the administration, organisation and execution of classification for IPC Alpine Skiing:

Head of Classification

The Head of Classification will be the person responsible for the direction, administration, coordination and implementation of classification matters for IPC Alpine Skiing. In the absence of an individual acting as Head of Classification, the role of Head of Classification may be fulfilled by a person or group of persons designated as such by IPC Alpine Skiing. In such instances the references in these Regulations to Head of Classification shall be deemed to include such person or group of persons.

Classifier

A Classifier will be a person appointed and certified by IPC Alpine Skiing as being competent to evaluate Athletes (as part of a Classification Panel) for international Competition.

Chief Classifier

A Chief Classifier will be a Classifier appointed for a specific IPC Alpine Skiing Competition, responsible for the direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of classification matters at that Competition. The duties of the Chief Classifier may include, but are not limited to, liaising with organising committees and teams before a Competition to identify and notify Athletes who require Athlete Evaluation; liaising with organising committees before a Competition to ensure travel, accommodation and working logistics are provided for Classifiers; supervising Classifiers to ensure that Classification Regulations are applied appropriately during a specific Competition; and supervising Classifiers and trainee Classifiers in their duties as members of Classification Panels.

- 2.1.3 IPC Alpine Skiing Classifiers should be qualified in one or more of the following disciplines:

Medical: a doctor who has experience in dealing with people with the impairments and Activity Limitations described in the Sport Profiles; or



Physiotherapist: a physiotherapist (or practitioner from a related discipline) trained to work with individuals with the impairments and Activity Limitations described in the Sport Profiles.

2.2 Classifiers – Levels and Duties

IPC Alpine Skiing categorises its Classifiers as follows:

2.2.1 **Trainee** - An individual who is being trained by IPC Alpine Skiing, but who is not yet certified as a Classifier. A trainee cannot be a Member of a Classification Panel at an International Competition. The duties of the trainee may include participation in and observation of the classification process to become familiar with the Classification Regulations, developing competencies and proficiencies relevant to Athlete Evaluation, assistance in research, and attending classification meetings at Competitions. A Trainee Classifier is required to adhere to the Classifier's Code of Conduct.

2.2.2 **Level 1 - International Classifier** - a Classifier who has successfully completed IPC Alpine Skiing training and has been certified to be a member of a Classification Panel at an International Competition. The Classifier is required to adhere to the Classifier's Code of Conduct.

The duties of a Level 1 Classifier may include, but are not limited to: being part of a Classification Panel at IPC Alpine Skiing sanctioned events; being part of a Protest Panel at IPC Alpine Skiing sanctioned events; attending classification meetings at Competitions; and assisting in Classifier training and certification as requested by the Head of Classification.

2.2.3 **Level 2 – Senior Classifier** - a Senior Classifier acts in a leadership capacity at Competitions and reports to the Chief Classifier. Senior Classifiers have completed IPC Alpine Skiing training, show leadership, participate in research and development of the classification system, and have sufficient experience to implement the IPC Alpine Skiing Classification Regulations at a Competition. The Classifier is required to adhere to the Classifier's Code of Conduct.

The duties of a Senior Classifier may include, but are not limited to assisting in the research, development and clarification of the Classification Regulations and profiles for IPC Alpine Skiing; participation in Classifier workshops;



assisting in regular reviews of Classification Regulations and Sport Profiles; and supervising and evaluating Classifiers.

2.3 Maintaining Classifier Accreditation

It is the duty of Classifiers to maintain their accreditation. It is the Head of Classifications responsibility to inform classifiers when they need to update or renew their accreditation and or competencies. Classifiers who fail to keep up their competencies will become INACTIVE until such a time as they fulfil the required criteria.

2.3.1 Maintaining Certification

- Classifiers are required to classify Regionally, Nationally or Internationally at least every other year.
- Classifiers should attend training and seminars when available.
- Classifiers should maintain contact with the Head of Classification and respond to communications.
- Classifiers should maintain a log of their classifications.
- It is a Classifiers responsibility to ensure they are up to date with the latest version of the Classification Handbook published on the IPCAS website.
- Classifiers with no evidence of further training or classifying for a period of 4 years will be placed on the Inactive list.

3. Classification Panels and Classification

3.1 Classification Panels

- 3.1.1 A Classification Panel is a group of Classifiers empowered by the Rules of the Sport of Alpine Skiing to evaluate Athletes and allocate Sport Classes.
- 3.1.2 The Head of Classification or the Chief Classifier should appoint a Classification Panel for a particular Competition.
- 3.1.3 A Classification Panel should include a suitably accredited and qualified physician and/or physiotherapist.
- 3.1.4 Members of Classification Panels should have no significant relationship with any Athlete (or any member of Athlete Support Personnel) that might create any actual or perceived bias or Conflict of Interest.



- 3.1.5 Members of a Classification Panel should not have any other official responsibilities within a Competition other than in connection with classification.

3.2 National Classification

All Athletes eligible to participate in IPC Alpine Skiing Competitions should, where possible, be classified by their own National Federation. National classification should be conducted in accordance with the Sport Profiles. National Classifiers should be trained according to IPC Alpine Skiing approved standards.

3.3 International Classification

- 3.3.1 “International Classification” refers to the process of Athlete Evaluation (as explained in these Classification Regulations) that is undertaken at, or before, a major and/or international Competition that has been sanctioned by IPC Alpine Skiing.
- 3.3.2 An Athlete must be allocated a Sport Class by an International Classification Panel prior to being eligible to compete in an international or major Competition sanctioned by IPC Alpine Skiing.
- 3.3.3 An “International Classification Panel” must conduct International Classifications. An International Classification Panel should be comprised of suitably accredited and certified Classifiers. An International Classification Panel must comprise not less than two Classifiers, and a major Competition must have at least two Classification Panels (subject to Section 3.3.4 and 3.3.5 below).
- 3.3.4 An International Classification Panel appointed to conduct Athlete Evaluation in respect of Athletes intending to compete in Sport Classes for Visually Impaired athletes may consist of one Classifier only. This is to be treated as a transition measure, which is intended to cease to be of any effect after sport specific Athlete Evaluation is introduced in respect of Sport Profiles for Visually Impaired Athletes.
- 3.3.5 The Head of Classification or the Chief Classifier may designate that a Classification Panel may consist of one suitably accredited and qualified physician or physiotherapist in special cases, in particular where the



number of available Classifiers is reduced prior to or at a Competition through unforeseen circumstances.

- 3.3.6 An International Classification Panel may seek medical, sport or scientific expertise if it considers that this would assist it in completing the process of Athlete Evaluation.

3.4 Preparing Classification Panels for Competition

- 3.4.1 The Head of Classification should, where possible, appoint a Chief Classifier at least three (3) months prior to a Competition. Classification Panels should, where possible, be appointed two (2) months before a Competition.
- 3.4.2 The Head of Classification may act as the Chief Classifier at a Competition. The Head of Classification and the Chief Classifier should work with the Local Organising Committee for the Competition to identify which Athletes will require Athlete Evaluation at the Competition.
- 3.4.3 The Chief Classifier should provide the Local Organising Committee for the Competition and National Federation teams with an Athlete Evaluation schedule on or before their arrival at the Competition.
- 3.4.4 In respect of Competitions where both physically and visually impaired Athletes are to compete, the Chief Classifier must ensure that Classification Panels are certified to conduct Athlete Evaluation in respect of physically impaired and/or visually impaired Athletes. In respect of major Competitions, this may result in four Classification Panels being required, two in order to conduct Athlete Evaluation for physically impaired Athletes, and two in order to conduct Athlete Evaluation for visually impaired Athletes.
- 3.4.5 A Classification Panel may conduct Athlete Evaluation for both physically and visually impaired Athletes if the Members of the Classification Panel are suitably qualified and certified.

4. Classification: Athlete Evaluation



4.1 Athlete Evaluation

- 4.1.1 “Athlete Evaluation” is the process by which an Athlete is assessed by a Classification Panel in order that the Athlete may be allocated a Sport Class and a Sport Class Status.
- 4.1.2 Athlete Evaluation and its associated processes shall be conducted in English.
- 4.1.3 The Athlete and the relevant National Federation are jointly responsible for ensuring that the Athlete attends Athlete Evaluation.
- 4.1.4 The Athlete must agree to and accept the terms of the IPC Alpine Skiing Athlete Evaluation Consent Form prior to participating in Athlete Evaluation.
- 4.1.5 The Athlete must attend Athlete Evaluation with all necessary sports equipment and in such attire as is specified for the Sport for which the Athlete is being evaluated. The Athlete must provide a recognised form of identification, such as a passport or an ID Card.
- 4.1.6 If an Athlete has a health condition that causes pain, which limits or prohibits full effort, the Classification Panel may decide that Athlete Evaluation will not take place. The Classification Panel may, in its sole discretion, agree to Athlete Evaluation taking place at a later time and date in such circumstances.
- 4.1.7 The Athlete must disclose details of any medication routinely used by the Athlete prior to Athlete Evaluation. The Classification Panel may in its sole discretion decline to proceed with Athlete Evaluation if it considers that the use of such medication will affect its ability to conduct Physical and Medical Assessment. The Classification Panel may agree to Athlete Evaluation taking place at a later time and date in such circumstances.
- 4.1.8 If an Athlete fails to disclose the use of medication as required by Section 4.1.7 the Chief Classifier may set aside the Athlete’s Sport Class and/or Sport Class Status, and require that the Athlete repeat Athlete Evaluation. If this results in a change in Sport Class the consequences set out in Section 5.6 below shall apply.
- 4.1.9 One person may accompany athletes during Athlete Evaluation, who should be familiar with the Athlete’s



impairment and sporting ability. An interpreter may also accompany the Athlete.

- 4.1.10 Video footage and/or photography may be utilised by the Classification Panel for all classification purposes connected to the Competition.

4.2 Athlete Evaluation Process

The Athlete Evaluation process shall encompass the following:

4.2.1 Physical Assessment

The Classification Panel should conduct a physical assessment of the Athlete in accordance with the Sport Profiles for the Sport Classes within IPC Alpine Skiing, so as to establish that the Athlete exhibits an impairment that qualifies the Athlete for participation in the Sport.

4.2.2 Technical Assessment

The Classification Panel should conduct a technical assessment of the Athlete which may include, but is not limited to, an assessment of the Athlete's ability to perform, in a non-competitive environment, the specific tasks and activities that are part of the sport in which the Athlete participates.

The means by which Technical Assessment should take place should be specified in the Sport Profile for the relevant sport Class. Classifiers may apply certain conditions to the Athlete in order to observe how the Athlete performs the activity under simulated sport conditions.

4.2.3 Specified Means of Physical and Technical Assessment

These Regulations may specify certain means of conducting Physical and Technical Assessment. These means are included as Appendix Two to these Regulations and may be amended and/or updated from time to time by IPC Alpine Skiing.

4.2.4 Observation Assessment

The Classification Panel may, if it considers it necessary, conduct Observation Assessment, which shall involve observing an Athlete performing the specific skills that are



part of the Sport. Observation Assessment may take place by way of, but must conclude no later than, First Appearance.

4.2.5 Observation Assessment and Visually Impaired Athletes

Observation Assessment is not required in respect of Visually Impaired Athletes who undergo Athlete Evaluation pursuant to the Sport Profiles for Visually Impaired Sport Classes.

5. Classification: Sport Class and Sport Class Status

5.1 Sport Class and Sport Class Status

5.1.1 Sport Class

5.1.1.1 A Sport Class is a category in which Athletes are designated by reference to an Activity Limitation resulting from impairment, and the degree to which that impairment impacts upon sport performance. A range of function will exist within each Sport Class.

5.1.1.2 A Sport Class will be allocated to an Athlete following completion of Athlete Evaluation.

5.1.1.3 An Athlete that does not have a Sport Class prior to international or major Competition must be allocated an "Entry Sport Class" prior to Athlete Evaluation. An "Entry Sport Class" is a Sport Class allocated to an Athlete by a National Federation prior to an international or major Competition in order to indicate the Sport Class within which the Athlete intends competing. All Athletes allocated an Entry Sport Class for a Competition must complete Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at that Competition.

5.1.2 Sport Class Status

5.1.2.1 A Sport Class Status will be allocated to an Athlete following allocation of Sport Class.

5.1.2.2 Sport Class Status indicates the extent to which an Athlete will be required to undertake Athlete Evaluation, and whether (and by what party) the Athlete's Sport Class may be subject to Protest.

5.1.3 Sport Class Status Designations



The following Sport Class Status designations shall be used to indicate Sport Class Status

5.1.3.1 Sport Class Status New (N)

Sport Class Status New (N) is assigned to an Athlete who:

- has not been evaluated by an International Classification Panel but has been allocated an Entry Sport Class by a National Federation (following National classification) in order that Athlete Evaluation may take place; or
- has been previously evaluated by an International Classification Panel and allocated Sport Class NE, and wishes to undertake Athlete Evaluation.
- has been evaluated by an International Classification Panel at a previous international Competition and found to be either Non Cooperative during Evaluation, or Intentionally Misrepresenting Skills during Evaluation.

N Athletes must complete Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at an international or major Competition sanctioned by IPC Alpine Skiing.

5.1.3.2 Sport Class Status Review (R)

Sport Class Status Review (R) is assigned to an Athlete who has been previously evaluated by an international Classification Panel but is subject to re-evaluation. The Athlete must attend Athlete Evaluation and the Sport Class may be changed before a Competition. R Athletes include, but are not limited, to Athletes who have fluctuating and/or progressive impairments, or, because of their age, have impairments that may not have stabilised.

R Athletes must complete Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at IPC Alpine Skiing sanctioned events at which the IPCAS STC has provided an International Classification Panel.

5.1.3.3 Sport Class Status Confirmed (C)

Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) is assigned to an Athlete who has been evaluated by an International Classification Panel and the International Classification Panel has determined that the Athlete's Sport Class will not change. An Athlete with a Confirmed Sport Class will not have that Sport Class altered before or during Competition, and will not be required to complete Athlete Evaluation at Competitions sanctioned by IPC Alpine Skiing. An Athlete with a C Sport Class must,



however, undergo Athlete Evaluation if a Protest is made under Exceptional Circumstances.

5.1.3.4 Restrictions on Allocating Confirmed Status

An Athlete who wishes to compete within a Sport Class for Physically Impaired Athletes cannot be assigned a Confirmed Sport Class:

- until Observation Assessment and/or First Appearance requirements, if required by a Classification Panel, are satisfied;
- if the Classification Panel which designated the relevant Sport Class consisted of one Classifier only.

For the avoidance of doubt this Section does not apply to Athletes who wish to compete within a Sport Class for Visually Impaired Athletes.

5.2 Ineligibility and Sport Class NE

- 5.2.1 If an Athlete does not have a relevant impairment (according to the rules of the Sport in which the Athlete is seeking to participate), or has an Activity Limitation resulting from a relevant impairment that is not permanent and/or does not limit the Athlete's ability to compete equitably in elite sport with Athletes without impairment, the Athlete will be considered ineligible to compete.
- 5.2.2 In these circumstances, the Athlete will be assigned Sport Class Not Eligible (NE).
- 5.2.3 If an International Classification Panel allocates an Athlete Sport Class Not Eligible at a Competition, the Athlete will be entitled to undergo Athlete Evaluation by a second Classification Panel either at that Competition or as soon as practicable thereafter. If the second Classification Panel confirms that the Athlete's Sport Class is NE the Athlete will not be permitted to compete at that Competition, and will have no further right to Protest.
- 5.2.4 Section 5.2.3 shall not apply to an Athlete Evaluation conducted following a Protest made under Exceptional Circumstances.



5.3 Allocation of Sport Class to Visually Impaired Athletes

- 5.3.1 If an Athlete wishes to compete within a Sport Class designated for Visually Impaired Athletes, the Athlete must complete Physical Assessment and Technical Assessment only. Athlete Evaluation will be completed once Physical Assessment and Technical Assessment have been completed to the satisfaction of the Classification Panel. The Classification Panel will then allocate the Athlete a Sport Class and Sport Class Status.
- 5.3.2 The Athlete will not be required to undertake Observation Assessment and will not be subject to First Appearance requirements.

5.4 First Appearance

- 5.4.1 “First Appearance” means the first time that an Athlete competes during a Competition. First Appearance in one Event shall apply to all Events within the same Sport Class.
- 5.4.2 The Local Organising Committee for a Competition shall provide all teams with details of which Athletes who enter a Competition with Sport Class Status N or R are scheduled to make First Appearance, and when they are scheduled to make First Appearance.

5.5 Allocation of Sport Class to Physically Impaired Athletes

- 5.5.1 Following completion of Physical Assessment and Technical Assessment the Athlete will be:
- a) allocated a Sport Class and Sport Class Status; or
 - b) if Observation Assessment is required, allocated an Initial Sport Class and Sport Class Status.
- 5.5.2 An Athlete will be permitted to compete at a Competition following the allocation of an Initial Sport Class and Sport Class Status.
- 5.5.3 If the Athlete is required by the Classification Panel to complete Observation Assessment, this should take place either before or during First Appearance.



- 5.5.4 Following completion of Observation Assessment for Athletes with Initial Sport Class New Status (which may be completed by the Athlete making a First Appearance in a Competition):
- a) the Athlete's Initial Sport Class will either be upheld or amended by the Classification Panel; and
 - b) the Classification Panel will change the Athlete's Initial Sport Class Status to either Review or Confirmed.
- 5.5.5 Following completion of Observation Assessment for Athletes with Initial Sport Class Review Status (which may be completed by the Athlete making a First Appearance in a Competition):
- a) the Athlete's Initial Sport Class will either be upheld or amended by the Classification Panel; and
 - b) the Athlete's Initial Sport Class Status will be maintained as Review or changed to Confirmed by the Classification Panel.
- 5.5.6 Sections 5.5.4 and 5.5.5 shall be subject to sub-section 5.1.3.4 in relation to the allocation of a Confirmed Sport Class.
- 5.5.7 The Sport Class and Sport Class Status allocated to the Athlete following completion of Athlete Evaluation will be notified to the National team representative for the Athlete and the Local Organising Committee for the Competition as soon as possible following First Appearance.

5.6 Changes in Sport Class after First Appearance

- 5.6.1 An Athlete's Initial Sport Class may be changed following First Appearance.

If an Athlete with an Initial Sport Class makes a First Appearance in an Event, that Event shall be called in this sub-section "the First Appearance Event". If the Athlete's Initial Sport Class is changed following First Appearance:

- a) The change of Sport Class is effective at the end of the First Appearance Event;
- b) The Athlete's results achieved (including the award of any medals) in the First Appearance Event shall stand;
- c) The Chief Classifier will inform the Technical Delegate and the Local Organising Committee for a Competition;



- d) The Athlete will only be eligible to compete in such Events as remain available within the Athlete's revised Sport Class;
- e) The Local Organising Committee for a Competition may make adjustments to start lists and schedule in accordance with the sports and/or Classification Regulations of IPC Alpine Skiing; and
- f) The Local Organising Committee for a Competition must advise other teams/nations and any other relevant parties of any associated changes as soon as logistically possible.

5.7 Final Confirmation at the end of the Competition

The Chief Classifier for the Competition must confirm each Sport Class and Sport Class Status assigned by the Classification Panels before the end of each Competition. The results from Classification at each Competition will be published for all countries on the IPC Alpine Skiing website, normally within four (4) weeks of the end of the event.

6. Classification: Failing to Comply with Evaluation Rules

6.1 Athlete Failure to attend Evaluation

- 6.1.1 If an Athlete fails to attend evaluation, the Athlete will not be allocated a Sport Class or Sport Class Status, and will not be permitted to compete at that Competition in that sport.
- 6.1.2 Should the Chief Classifier be satisfied that a reasonable explanation exists for the failure to attend evaluation, an Athlete may be given a second and final chance to attend evaluation.
- 6.1.3 Failure to attend evaluation includes not attending the evaluation at the specified time or place; or not attending the evaluation with the appropriate equipment/clothing and/or documentation; or not attending evaluation accompanied by the required Athlete Support Personnel.



6.2 Non-Cooperation during Evaluation

- 6.2.1 An Athlete who, in the opinion of the Classification Panel, is unable or unwilling to participate in an Athlete Evaluation shall be considered non co-operative during evaluation.
- 6.2.2 If the Athlete fails to co-operate during Athlete Evaluation, the Athlete will not be allocated a Sport Class or Sport Class Status, and will not be permitted to compete at the respective Competition in the respective sport.
- 6.2.3 Should the Chief Classifier be satisfied that a reasonable explanation exists for the failure to co-operate during the evaluation then the Athlete may be given a second and final opportunity to attend and co-operate.
- 6.2.4 Any Athlete found to have been non co-operative during an evaluation will not be permitted to undergo any further evaluation for that sport for a minimum of twelve (12) months starting from the date upon which the Athlete failed to cooperate.

6.3 Intentional Misrepresentation

- 6.3.1 An Athlete, who, in the opinion of the Classification Panel, is intentionally misrepresenting skill and/or abilities will not be allocated a Sport Class or Sport Class Status, and will not be permitted to compete at that Competition in that sport.

In addition:

- The Athlete will not be allowed to undergo any further evaluation for that sport for a minimum of two (2) years from the date upon which the Athlete intentionally misrepresented skills and/or abilities;
- The Chief Classifier will remove the Sport Class and Sport Class Status allocated to the Athlete from the IPC Alpine Skiing classification master list;
- The Athlete will be designated as IM (intentional misrepresentation) in the IPC Alpine Skiing classification master list and on the IPC Alpine Skiing web list;
- The Athlete will not be allowed to undergo any further evaluation for any sport within IPC Alpine Skiing for a period of two (2) years from the date upon which the Athlete intentionally misrepresented skills and/or abilities; and
- The National Federation will be informed of the decision.



- 6.3.2 An Athlete who, on a second and separate occasion, intentionally misrepresents skills and/or abilities will receive a lifetime ban from IPC Alpine Skiing events and will be subject to other sanctions deemed appropriate to IPC Alpine Skiing.

6.4 Failure to Attend/Misrepresentation and Consequences for Athlete Support Personnel

- 6.4.1 IPC Alpine Skiing shall enforce sanctions on Athlete Support Personnel who assist or encourage an Athlete to fail to attend Athlete evaluation; to fail to cooperate; intentionally misrepresent skills and/or abilities or disrupt the evaluation process in any other way.
- 6.4.2 Those who are involved in advising Athletes to intentionally misrepresent skills and/or abilities will be subject to sanctions, which are at least as severe as the sanctions given to the Athlete.
- 6.4.3 In this circumstance, reporting the Athlete Support Personnel to the appropriate parties is an important step in deterring intentional misrepresentation by the Athlete.

6.5 Publication of Penalties

IPC Alpine Skiing will disclose details of penalties imposed upon Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel.

7. Classification: Protests and Appeals

7.1 Protests

- 7.1.1 The term “Protest” is used in these Rules as it is in the IPC Classification Code International Standard for Protests and Appeals. It refers to the procedure by which a formal objection to an Athlete’s Sport Class is made and subsequently resolved.
- 7.1.2 A successful Protest will result in Athlete Evaluation being conducted by a Classification Panel, which will be referred to as a “Protest Panel”.
- 7.1.3 An Athlete's Sport Class may only be protested once in any individual Competition. This restriction does not apply to Protests submitted in Exceptional Circumstances.



- 7.1.4 IPC Alpine Skiing may only resolve a Protest in respect of a Sport Class allocated by IPC Alpine Skiing.
- 7.1.5 Protests should be resolved in a manner that minimizes the impact on Competition participation, and Competition schedules and results.
- 7.1.6 Protests may be submitted only during a Competition (save for Protests made in Exceptional Circumstances).

7.2 When Protests May Take Place

- 7.2.1 Any National Federation, or the Chief Classifier, following completion of Athlete Evaluation and allocation of Sport Class, may protest athletes with Sport Class New Status (N). Following the resolution of the Protest, the Athlete shall be designated:
 - Review Status (R); or
 - Confirmed Status (C); or
 - Not Eligible to Compete (NE)
- 7.2.2 Any National Federation or the Chief Classifier following completion of Athlete Evaluation and allocation of Sport Class may protest athletes with Sport Class Status Review (R). Following the resolution of the Protest, the Athlete shall remain Review Status or be designated:
 - Confirmed (C) Status; or
 - Not Eligible to Compete (NE)
- 7.2.3 Athletes with Sport Class Confirmed Status (C) may be protested only in Exceptional Circumstances.

7.3 Protest Procedures during Competitions

- 7.3.1 Protests must be submitted by a National Federation representative authorised to submit Protests (for example, the Chef de Mission or Team Manager) and/or the Chief Classifier.
- 7.3.2 The Chief Classifier for the event, shall be the person authorised to receive Protests on behalf of IPC Alpine Skiing at an event.
- 7.3.3 An Athlete's Sport Class may be protested, either by the Athlete's National Federation or a different National Federation within one (1) hour of the Classification Panel's



decision regarding Sport Class being published. If the Classification Panel makes its decision following First Appearance, a Protest can only be made within fifteen (15) minutes of the decision being published.

- 7.3.4 Protests must be submitted in English on a designated Protest form that should be made available by the Chief Classifier at a Competition. The information and documentation to be submitted with the Protest form must include the following:
- The name, nation and sport of the Athlete whose Sport Class is being protested;
 - Details of the decision being protested;
 - The reason for the Protest;
 - Any documents and other evidence to be offered in support of the Protest;
 - The signature of the National Federation representative or the Chief Classifier, where applicable; and
 - A fee of one hundred (100) Euros (unless there is a different amount specified for that Competition).
- 7.3.5 Upon receipt of the Protest form, the Chief Classifier shall conduct a review to determine if there is a valid reason for a Protest and if all the necessary information is included. If it appears to the Chief Classifier that if there is no valid reason for a Protest, or the Protest form has been submitted without all necessary information, the Chief Classifier shall decline the protest and notify all relevant parties. IPC Alpine Skiing will retain the Protest fee.
- 7.3.6 If the Protest is declined the Chief Classifier shall explain why to the National Federation as soon as is possible.
- 7.3.7 If the Protest is accepted, the Chief Classifier shall appoint a Protest Panel to conduct Athlete Evaluation. The Protest Panel shall consist of, at a minimum, the same number of Classifiers as those involved in the most recent allocation of the Athlete's Sport Class, and shall comprise Classifiers of equal or greater level of certification as those involved in the most recent allocation of the Athlete's Sport Class.
- 7.3.8 The Members of the Protest Panel should have had no direct involvement in the evaluation that led to the most recent allocation of the Athlete's Sport Class, unless the most recent evaluation took place more than eighteen (18) months prior to the Protest being submitted.



- 7.3.9 The Chief Classifier will notify all relevant parties of the time and date for the Athlete Evaluation that will be conducted by the Protest Panel.
- 7.3.10 All documentation submitted with the Protest form shall be provided to the Protest Panel. Protest Panels should conduct the initial evaluation without reference to the Classification Panel that allocated the Athlete's most recent Sport Class.
- 7.3.11 The Protest Panel may seek medical, sport or scientific expertise in reviewing an Athlete's Sport Class (including the initial Classification Panel).
- 7.3.12 Athlete Evaluation following a Protest shall follow the same process as described in these Regulations. All relevant parties shall be notified of the Protest decision as quickly as possible following Athlete Evaluation. IPC Alpine Skiing will retain the Protest fee unless the Protest is upheld.
- 7.3.13 The decision of the Protest Panel is final and is not subject to any further Protest.

7.4 Protests in Exceptional Circumstances

A Chief Classifier may make a Protest in Exceptional Circumstances in respect of any Athlete at any time during or prior to a Competition.

Exceptional circumstances may result from:

- A change in the degree of impairment of an Athlete;
 - An Athlete demonstrating significantly less or greater ability prior to or during Competition which does not reflect the Athlete's current Sport Class;
 - 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
 - Sport Class allocation criteria having changed since the Athlete's most recent evaluation.
- 7.4.1 The procedure for the making of a Protest in Exceptional Circumstances shall be as follows:
- The Chief Classifier shall advise the Athlete and relevant National Federation and/or National Paralympic Committee that a Protest is being made in Exceptional Circumstances;



- The processes and procedures referred to in Articles 7.3 (where relevant) will apply to Protests made in Exceptional Circumstances.

7.4.2 Athlete Evaluation following a Protest shall follow the same process as described in these Regulations. All relevant parties shall be notified of the Protest decision as quickly as possible following Athlete Evaluation.

7.4.3 The decision of the Protest Panel is final and is not subject to any further Protest.

7.5 Responsibility for Ensuring Compliance with Protest Rules

7.5.1 A National Federation making a Protest is solely responsible for ensuring that all Protest process requirements are observed.

7.5.2 If the Chief Classifier declines a Protest because no valid reason for a Protest has been identified by the National Federation, or the Protest form has been submitted without all necessary information, the National Federation 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.

7.5.3 If a National Federation resubmits a Protest, all protest procedure requirements will apply. For the avoidance of doubt, a second Protest fee must be paid (which will be refunded if the Protest is upheld).

7.6 Appeals

The term "appeal" refers to a procedure by which a formal objection to the manner in which classification procedures have been conducted is submitted and subsequently resolved.

IPC Alpine Skiing has designated the International Paralympic Committee Board of Appeal on Classification (BAC) to act as the appeal body for IPC Alpine Skiing. The detailed rules of procedure in respect of Appeals to the BAC are provided by the IPC. The IPC will be responsible for establishing the BAC in accordance with the IPC BAC Bylaws, which are part of the IPC Handbook.



The BAC shall have jurisdiction to review classification decisions in order to:

- Ensure that all appropriate Sport Class allocation procedures have been followed; and/or
- Ensure that all appropriate Protest procedures have been followed.

8. Ad Hoc Rules for Paralympic Games and Major Events

These Classification Regulations may be amended, supplemented or superseded by the Classification Guide for a Paralympic Winter Games or Major Competition. The Classification Guide for a Paralympic Winter Games or Major Competition shall detail the timeframes within which the Classification Guide will take precedence over these Regulations.



Glossary

Activity Limitation	Difficulties an individual may have in executing activities that may include attainment of high performance skills and techniques in the field of sporting performance.
Athlete	For purposes of Classification, any person who participates in sport at the International Level (as defined by each International Federation) or National Level (as defined by each National Federation) and any additional person who participates in sport at a lower level if designated by the person's National Federation.
Athlete Evaluation	The process by which an Athlete is assessed in order to be allocated a Sport Class and Sport Class Status.
Athlete Support Personnel	Any coach, trainer, manager, interpreter, agent, team staff, official, medical or paramedical personnel working with or treating Athletes participating in or preparing for training and/or Competition.
Competition	A series of individual Events conducted together under one ruling body.
Conflict of Interest	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.
Event	An "Event" is a sub-set of a Competition that requires specific technical and sporting skills (for example, Biathlon and Cross Country Skiing are separate Events).
International Competition	A Competition where an international sports organization (IPC, IF, Major Competition Organization, or another international sport organization) is the governing body for the Competition or appoints the technical officials for the Competition.
International	A sport federation recognized by the IPC as the



Federation (IF)	sole world-wide representative of a sport for Paralympic Athletes that has been granted the status as a Paralympic Sport by the IPC. IPC is an International Federation for a number of Paralympic Sports.
IPC	International Paralympic Committee.
Local Organising Committee for Competition	An administrative body formed for the purposes of organising and administering a specific Competition or series of Competitions.
National Competition	A Competition where the National Federation or National Paralympic Committee is the governing body for the Competition or appoints the technical officials for the Competition.
National Federation	The organization recognized by an IF as the sole national governing body for its sport.
National Paralympic Committee (NPC)	A national organization recognized by the IPC as the sole representative of Athletes with a disability in that country or territory to the IPC. In addition, the recognized National Federation of the sports for which the IPC is the IF.
Paralympic Games	Umbrella term for both Paralympic Games and Paralympic Winter Games.
Protest	The procedure by which a formal objection to an Athlete's Sport Class and/or Sport Class status is submitted and subsequently resolved.



APPENDIX TWO: IPC ALPINE SKIING SPORT PROFILES - ATHLETES WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT, B1-3

1. Introduction

- 1.1. IPC Alpine Skiing has designated Sport Classes – Sport Class B1-B3 – for Athletes with Visual Impairment. These Athletes are referred to as ‘Athletes with Visual Impairment’ in this Appendix.
- 1.2. IPC Alpine Skiing currently revisits the Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment towards a sport-specific classification system on the basis of activity limitations that result from Impairment. Until such a system is approved, the processes detailed in this Appendix apply to Athlete Evaluation in respect of Sport Classes for Athletes with Visual Impairment.
- 1.3. The processes detailed in this Appendix apply to the conduct of Athlete Evaluation in respect of the Sport Class designated by IPC Alpine Skiing for Athletes with Visual Impairment.
- 1.4. The Sport Class allocated to Athletes with Visual Impairment applies to all events.
- 1.5. All B Class athletes must race with a guide.
- 1.6. Under the current provisions set forth in this Appendix, Observation Assessment does not apply to Athletes with Visual Impairment.

2. Eligibility Criteria

- 2.1. To be eligible to compete in Sport Classes B1-B3, the Athlete must be affected by at least one of the following impairments, resulting from disease/disorder:
 - 2.1.1. impairment of the eye structure;
 - 2.1.2. impairment of the optical nerve/optic pathways;
 - 2.1.3. impairment of the visual cortex of the central brain.
- 2.2. The impairment must be diagnosed by an ophthalmologist and sufficient medical documentation in support of the diagnosis must be presented no later than at the beginning of Athlete Evaluation. For this purpose, the Athlete must bring the fully completed ‘Medical Diagnostics Form’. This form should include, at a minimum:
 - 2.2.1. Athlete Identification
 - 2.2.2. Ophthalmologist Identification
 - 2.2.3. Medical Diagnostics
 - 2.2.4. List of Medications currently used



- 2.2.5. List of eye corrections (glasses, contact lenses,) currently used, detailing the type and strength of correction, if applicable
- 2.2.6. Records of any eye surgery performed, and results of the outcome, if applicable
- 2.2.7. Description of any progressive condition, if applicable
- 2.2.8. Depending on the nature of the impairment, latest report on:
 - Visual Field Assessment (*)
 - Electroretinography (ERG/EOG)
 - Visual Evoked Potentials (EVP)
 - Cerebral Magnet Resonance Imaging (MRI)

** Visual Field has to be tested by full-field strategy (30° central field test will not be accepted). Assessment has to be done by one of the following devices: Goldmann Visual Field Perimetry, Stimulus III/4, Humphrey Field Analyzer (HFA), Twinfield (Oculus), Octopus (Interzeag), Rodenstock Peristat, Medmont (MAP).*

- 2.3. All documentation must be typewritten and submitted in English. Reports identified under 2.2.8 may not be older than 12 months by the date of Athlete Evaluation.
- 2.4. Failure to present the above information will entitle the Classification Panel not to proceed with the Athlete Assessment and may result in the Athlete being designated as 'Not Eligible'.

3.

4. Athlete Evaluation

- 4.1. All Athlete Evaluation and Sport Class allocation will be based on the assessment of visual acuity in the eye with better visual acuity whilst wearing best optical correction using spectacles or contact lenses.
- 4.2. Athletes who use any corrective devices (integrated glasses, lenses) in competition must attend classification with these devices and their prescription.
- 4.3. Any Athlete Support Personnel accompanying the Athlete in the Assessment room must remain out of sight of the Visual Acuity Charts during Assessment.
- 4.4. 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' (see 'IPC Alpine Skiing Classification Rules & Regulations, section 6.2) or 'Intentional Misrepresentation' (see



'IPC Alpine Skiing Classification Rules & Regulations, section 6.3).

- 4.5. Athletes must declare any change in their mode of optic correction to IPC Athletics before any competition. The Athlete will then undergo a new classification evaluation prior to the next competition under the provisions of the 'IPC Alpine Skiing Classification Rules & Regulations, Failure to do so may result in an investigation of 'Intentional Misrepresentation' (see 'IPC Alpine Skiing Classification Rules & Regulations, section 6.3).

5. Sport Classes

5.1. Sport Class B1

Visual acuity is poorer than LogMar 2.60.

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.

5.2. Sport Class B2

Visual acuity ranges from LogMar 1.50 to 2.60 (inclusive), and/or
The Athletes has a visual field that is constricted to a radius of less than 5 degrees.

5.3. Sport Class B3

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

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

6. FF&E

- 6.1. The assessment room must be at minimum 3 x 7m² in a calm environment. The room should have no natural light and eventual windows must be fully obscured. No great variation in luminosity between the waiting area and the assessment room may exist.
- 6.2. The room is equipped with a table and 5 chairs.
- 6.3. The following Specified Classification Equipment is required (per panel):
 - Berkeley Rudimentary Vision Test set



- LogMAR Test chart with Illiterate E for distance visual acuity testing
 - Autorefractometer
 - Box of lenses with frame
 - Lensometer
 - Rules/Rod (30cm)
 - Slit Lamp (with +90 D lens)
 - Ophthalmoscope (direct)
 - Tangent Screen, Targets and patch (preferably white)
 - Automated perimetry (Goldmann VF Perimeter, Humphrey Field Analyser or Octopus Interzeag)
- 6.4. The Organizing Committee is responsible for making the testing material available on-site for the duration of the Athlete Evaluation Period.
- 6.5. The Classification panel needs to receive copy of all event start lists.
- 6.6. The Classification Panel should have access to internet, copier and printer through the IPC Official's office.



APPENDIX TWO: IPC ALPINE SKIING SPORT PROFILES - ATHLETES WITH PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENT, LW CLASSES

This Appendix details the Sport Profiles for the Sport Classes designated by IPC Alpine Skiing for Visually and Physically Impaired Athletes.

All athletes are advised that braces, strapping and supports should be worn under race suits in accordance with the FIS rule book.

Athletes are required to attend classification with any prosthetics, braces, strapping, and supports as well as modified ski boots.

Athletes must meet IPCAS standards of eligibility and minimal disability to gain a classification for competition. Those who do not meet these criteria are declared ineligible for IPCAS competition. Athlete profiles and minimum criteria are clearly set out in this document. Some athletes are eligible for other IPC sports, but may not meet eligibility for Alpine Skiing.

Examples of impairments that do not meet minimum eligibility for Alpine Skiing are:

- chronic pain
- generalised debilitating disease
- obesity
- osteochondritis, arthritis, joint replacement
- psychiatric conditions
- skin diseases
- haemophilia
- epilepsy
- respiratory conditions
- fatigue as in fibromyalgia and myalgic encephalitis
- vertigo or dizziness
- internal organ dysfunction, absence or transplant
- cardiac/circulatory conditions

LW classification is based upon:

- review of medical documentation of the impairment of the athlete
- review of medical history
- physical evaluation in a clinical setting, including functional testing
- observation during training and/or competition

IMPAIRMENT	• Describes physical impairment in general terms
EQUIPMENT	• Equipment to be used when racing
DIAGNOSIS	• Examples of a few diagnoses commonly found in this class.



- TECHNICAL
- Describes any special techniques used by these athletes
- NOTES
- General comments

Standing Classes:

LW1

- IMPAIRMENT
- Severe functional impairment in both legs
 - A combined sum of less than 35 points in strength testing both legs (normal 80)
- EQUIPMENT
- Skiing on two skis
 - Outriggers or poles
 - Skis may be attached at the tips
- DIAGNOSIS
- Incomplete paraplegia
 - Bilateral above knee amputations using prostheses
 - Spina bifida, neurological disorder affecting both legs
 - one above and one below knee amputation skiing with prostheses
- TECHNICAL
- Athlete will not be able to hold outer ski on edge throughout a large radius turn
- CPISTRA
EQUIVALENTS
- CPISTRA classes CP 5 or CP 6 may be considered eligible
 - Severe diplegic involvement
 - Walking with assistive devices
 - Running is barely or not at all possible
 - Standing on one leg possible only for short time
 - Severe athetosis or ataxia
 - Poor balance
 - Laboured locomotion
 - Trunk sways to lead lower extremity movement

LW2

- IMPAIRMENT
- Severe physical impairment in one leg only
 - A total of less than 20 points in strength testing in only one leg (normal 40)
- EQUIPMENT
- One ski
 - Outriggers or poles
- DIAGNOSIS
- Single above or below knee amputation
 - Severe deformity or weakness in one leg
 - Arthrodesis of knee and hip on the same side
- TECHNICAL
- Athletes are only permitted to use a single ski.



LW3

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| IMPAIRMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moderately severe physical impairment in both legs double below knee amputation, or a combined sum of less than 60 points in strength testing both legs (normal 80) |
| EQUIPMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two skis• Outriggers or poles |
| DIAGNOSIS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bilateral below knee amputations• Incomplete paraplegia, spina bifida, neurological disorders• For amputations, minimal impairment is amputation through ankle joint |
| CPISRA
EQUIVALENTS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CPISRA classes CP 5 or CP 6 may be considered Eligible• CP 5 or CP 6 athletes may be eligible<ul style="list-style-type: none">□ Moderate to slight diplegic involvement□ Minimal athetosis□ Walking and running without severe trunk sway□ Standing on one leg is possible, also jumping on one leg |

For Athletes with bilateral amputation see the document on the IPCAS policy on the use of prosthetics.

LW4

- | | |
|------------|--|
| IMPAIRMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Functional impairment in one leg• A total of 30 points or less in strength testing the impaired leg (normal 40) |
| EQUIPMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two skis• Poles |
| DIAGNOSIS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Below knee amputation with minimal impairment being amputation through the ankle joint (Symes) (X-ray documentation may be requested for viewing by Classifiers)• Muscle weakness in one leg• Knee arthrodesis• Hip arthrodesis• Fused ankle is not eligible |
| TECHNICAL | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ski with prosthesis |

LW5/7



- | | |
|------------|---|
| IMPAIRMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impairment or loss of both hands or arms so that it is not possible to use ski poles |
| EQUIPMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two skis |
| DIAGNOSIS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amputation or dysmelia of both hands or arms• Weakness of both hands or arms |
| TECHNICAL | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Athletes may wear their normal prostheses when racing |

Please see the IPCAS STC Statement on Equipment March 2010.
In summary athletes are not permitted to use ski poles in the LW5/7 classes however there is no rule to prohibit the use of short poles and prosthetics.

LW5/7-1

- | | |
|------------|---|
| IMPAIRMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Both arms amputated above the elbow• Short stumps, no elbow joints or forearms |
|------------|---|

LW5/7-2

- | | |
|------------|--|
| IMPAIRMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One arm amputated above the elbow, the other below the elbow |
|------------|--|

LW5/7-3

- | | |
|------------|---|
| IMPAIRMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Both arms amputated or dysfunctional below the elbow• Both hands unable to hold or use ski poles |
|------------|---|

LW6/8

- | | |
|------------|--|
| IMPAIRMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impairment or loss of one hand or arm, functional use of one pole is not possible |
| EQUIPMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two skis |
| DIAGNOSIS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One pole• Amputation or dysmelia of one hand or arm• Paralysis of one arm as results from a Brachial Plexus injury |
| TECHNICAL | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Athletes may wear their normal prosthesis when racing |

LW6/8-1

- | | |
|------------|--|
| IMPAIRMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One arm amputated or dysfunctional above the elbow |
| TECHNICAL | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paralysis of one arm with fixation to the trunk• Athletes are advised to ensure a dysfunctional arm is strapped appropriately and remains under their race vest |



LW6/8-2

- IMPAIRMENT
- One arm amputated or dysfunctional below the elbow
 - Paralysis of one arm without fixation to the trunk

LW9

- IMPAIRMENT
- Amputation or loss of function of one arm and one leg on the same or opposite sides
- EQUIPMENT
- One or two skis
 - One or two poles or outriggers
- DIAGNOSIS
- Amputation of one arm and one leg
 - Hemiplegia
 - Cerebral Palsy Athletes must demonstrate a limitation in function to Classifiers based on evidence of spasticity, ataxia, athetosis or dystonic movements during classification and competition.

LW9-1

- IMPAIRMENT
- Above knee amputation or a total of less than 20 points in strength testing in only one leg (normal 40)
 - Arm dysfunction or amputation
- CPISRA EQUIVALENT
- CPISRA classes CP 7 may be considered eligible
 - Severe to moderate hemiplegic involvement
 - Walking is possible with marked limping, equinus heel
 - Running is limited with obvious limping
 - Hopping on the affected leg is not possible
 - Standing on the affected leg is barely possible
- EQUIPMENT
- One or two skis and one or two poles or outriggers

LW9-2



- IMPAIRMENT
- Below knee amputation or a total of 30 points or less in strength testing the impaired leg (normal 40); and arm dysfunction or amputation
 - CP8 or mild hemiplegia
- CPISRA EQUIVALENT
- CPISRA classes CP 8 may be considered eligible
 - Moderate impairment in one arm and one leg
 - Visible limp when walking
 - Limp disappears when running
 - Standing and hopping on the affected leg is possible
- EQUIPMENT
- Two skis and one or two poles or outriggers

Sitting Classes

LW 10 Athletes with disabilities in the upper trunk and lower limbs

LW 10-1

- IMPAIRMENT
- No active sitting balance
 - No upper abdominal muscle contraction palpable
- EQUIPMENT
- Sit-ski and outriggers
- DIAGNOSIS
- Spinal cord injury around level T 5 – T 6 and above
 - Cerebral Palsy with disabilities in all four limbs with trunk impairment as described above. (CP4 or CP5)
- TECHNICAL
- Testing Board score 0 - 8

LW10-2

- IMPAIRMENT
- Very poor sitting balance
 - Some upper abdominal contraction palpable
- EQUIPMENT
- Sit-ski and outriggers
- DIAGNOSIS
- Spinal cord injury level T 7 – T 10
 - Cerebral Palsy with disabilities in all four limbs with trunk impairment as described above. (CP4 or CP5)
- TECHNICAL
- Testing Board score 0 - 8

LW11 Athletes with disabilities in the lower trunk and lower limbs

- IMPAIRMENT
- Fair sitting balance



- EQUIPMENT
- DIAGNOSIS
 - Abdominal contraction palpable
 - Sit-ski and outriggers
 - Spinal cord injury level T 11 - L1
 - Cerebral Palsy with impairment in both legs
- TECHNICAL
 - Testing Board score 9 - 15

LW 12 Athletes with lower spinal cord lesions, amputations or a similar pattern of muscle weakness

LW12-1

- IMPAIRMENT
 - Good sitting balance
 - Lower abdominal contraction palpable
 - Loss of at least 10 points around one hip.
 - A loss of at least 10 points around both hips
- EQUIPMENT
- DIAGNOSIS
 - Sit-ski and outriggers
 - Spinal cord injury likely level below L1
 - Congenital absence or dysmelia of lower limbs with a similar pattern of muscle weakness
 - Unilateral through hip amputation
 - Cerebral Palsy with impairment in both legs
- TECHNICAL
 - Testing Board score 16 - 18

Athletes with amputation who also have a 10 point weakness in one or across both hips will compete as LW12-1

LW12-2 Athletes with an amputation in the lower limbs or muscle weakness, where there is not at least a loss of 10 points around one or between both hips

- IMPAIRMENT
 - Amputation of one or both legs
 - Congenital absence or dysmelia of lower limbs
 - Minimum below knee amputation as in Class LW 4
 - Muscle weakness or paralysis in one lower limb with a minimum weakness of loss of 10 points
- EQUIPMENT
- DIAGNOSIS
 - Sit -ski and outriggers
 - Lower limb amputation
 - Spinal cord injury likely below L3
 - Congenital absence or dysmelia of lower limbs
 - Muscle weakness in the legs not affecting the hips
- TECHNICAL
 - Testing Board score 16 - 18

Where muscle weakness is the determining criteria the minimum disability must be met in at one leg.



If 10 points is not absent in the hip of a single leg or in both hips but minimal disability is met the athlete will compete as an LW12-2

IPC ALPINE SKIING ASSESSMENT METHODS AND TECHNIQUES

This section details the processes and techniques developed by IPC Alpine Skiing that form part of the Athlete Evaluation process. Classifiers use them in order to determine Sport Class.

Athletes must meet IPCAS standards of eligibility to be classified for competition. Those who do not meet eligibility are declared 'Not Eligible' for IPCAS competition. Athlete profiles are clearly set out later in this document. Some athletes are eligible for other IPC sports, but may not meet eligibility for IPC Alpine Skiing.

1. New athletes should be evaluated for an IPCAS Classification before, or as soon as possible after applying for an IPCAS Race License. Classifications are held in Europe and North America at the beginning of each season, usually at the first Continental Cup races in December. Further IPCAS Classifications are held in other regions at different times. Please direct enquiries about forthcoming Classifications to ipcalpineskiing@paralympic.org
2. Classification is typically held one or two days prior to the start of competition.
3. Athletes are required to complete a Consent Form and attend Classification at the appointed time, accompanied by an athlete representative (coach or delegate member) and if necessary by an interpreter. They are required to bring supporting medical documents to their case.

1. General

The IPC Alpine Skiing Classification Rules require that an Athlete undertakes physical and technical evaluation in order to be allocated a Sport Class. This is required in order to establish that the Athlete exhibits an impairment that qualifies the Athlete for competition, and that the Athlete exhibits Activity Limitations resulting from that impairment that affect the Athlete's ability to compete. Both of these components are part of the overall eligibility assessment process that is an integral feature of Athlete Evaluation.

In order to complete Physical and Technical Evaluation, a Classification Panel must:

- have access to medical documentation regarding the athlete's impairment;



- conduct “functional testing” using standardized equipment as explained in the Classification Rules;
- conduct observation in training practice and/or competition

2. Classification Procedures

A Classification Panel should ensure that the following assessment procedures are undertaken as part of physical and technical evaluation:

1. Athlete to complete the IPCAS Classification Consent Form.
2. Athlete to complete the personal data on the Classification Card
3. Medical history and diagnosis confirmed by Classifiers
4. Physical examination conducted by Classifiers
5. Testing in wheel chair/on examination table/on testing board as required
6. Observation in training and competition as required
7. Class (LW or B) and status (C or R) noted on Classification Card which must be signed and dated by the athlete and two IPCAS Classifiers.
8. Athlete given a copy of the card, and the originals filed with the IPCAS Head of Classification
9. Athletes names are entered on the IPCAS Classification List
10. From time to time athletes who present for Classification are found to be ineligible for Alpine Skiing. Their names may be recorded as NE (Not Eligible).

Athletes must attend evaluation with such ski equipment (for example, skis, poles and boots) as the Classification Panel may require.

Classification Panels are responsible for and manage any video recording necessary for classification purposes associated with the competition.

Physical and Technical Evaluation Requirements

Muscle Strength testing (Oxford Scale)

- 0 - Complete absence of muscle contraction
- 1 - Faint contraction noted without any movement of the limb
- 2 - Contraction with very weak movement through full range of movement when gravity is eliminated
- 3 - Contraction moving joint through the full range of movement against gravity
- 4 - Contraction with full range movement against gravity plus some resistance
- 5 - Normal strength through full range of movement against full resistance.



(Daniels and Worthingham 1980)

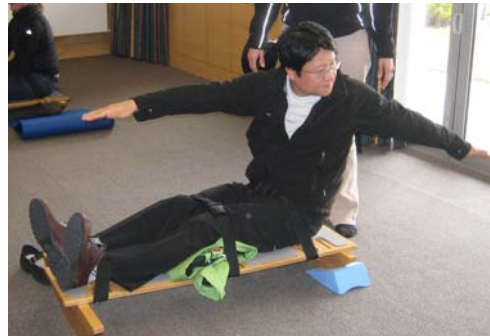
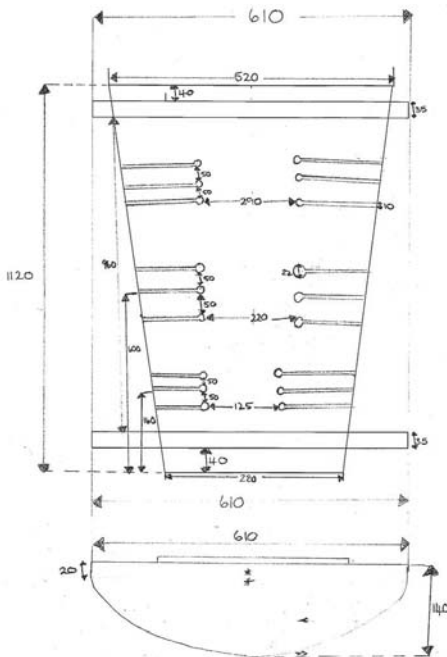
Testing Board



Guideline scores on the Testing Board:
LW 10 score 0 - 8
LW11 score 9 - 15
LW 12 score 16 - 18

Testing Board Equipment

1. Testing board with 3 straps
2. 1 kg medicine ball
3. Knee flexion roll
4. Foam wedges to stabilize board



Plan of Testing Board (measurements in mm)

TESTING BOARD

- Wooden top board and two rockers
- Slits cut on both sides
- Straps in slits to hold athlete's hips, knees and ankles firm during testing
- Velcro or snap fastenings on straps
- Top can be covered with thin



Board Test Grading System

0 = No function, test impossible

1 = Weak or poor function

2 = Fair function

3 = Normal function

Testing board must be secured during Tests 1 and 2.

Test 1

Upper extremity testing of strength, range of movement and function.

Test 2

Sitting balance, in the sagittal plane.

Sitting with the hands behind the neck, flex forwards at the waist as much as possible. Then extend the trunk and lift to a position of 45° forward flexion. Hold that position, keeping the hands behind the neck.

Test 3

Sitting balance in the sagittal plane.

Arms folded over the chest, extend back to hold 45° backward extension.

Test 4

Sitting balance in the sagittal and frontal planes.

Free rotation of the trunk, in sitting, arms fully abducted.

Test 5

Sitting balance in the frontal plane.

The athlete has arms abducted and tilts the testing board from side to side, shifting the body weight sideways and maintaining the maximum tilt without losing balance.

Test 6

Sitting balance, in the frontal and sagittal planes to test stability of trunk and pelvis. A 1kg ball is placed beside the athlete's hip at the level of the testing board. The athlete picks up the ball with both hands and lifts the ball above the head to place it beside the hip on the opposite side of the testing board. Repeat in the other direction.

Observation in Competition in Sitting Classes

- Observation in competition is designed to allow the classifier to confirm an athletes' status when they have a New or Review status, and not to adjust athletes with Confirmed status. (see rule on protests).
- Observation is an additional tool for the classifier and borderline cases will be observed both in training and competition by the Classification panel.
- When video is used to confirm observations complementary to the classifier observation, imaging taken by coaches or media during the competition at which the classification is taking place or within six months prior may be considered. The footage should preferably show as much of an athletes' run as possible.