

Statement from the IPCAS STC and IPC Management regarding Classification and Equipment use in the Sport Class LW 5/7

1. *There is no equipment regulation prohibiting the use of the mini poles, this is a matter which the STC can look at after the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games and written submissions are invited from NPCs, teams and stakeholders setting out their views on whether or not the IPC Equipment Regulations should prohibit the use of these 'mini poles', either generally or for specific Classes.*
2. *That the interpretation agreed by the STC of the 'Impairment' requirement for the Class LW 5/7 is that an athlete must not be able to use ski poles without the use of prosthetics.*
3. *Therefore a question arises, not only about the potential adoption of an equipment rule prohibiting the use of the mini poles, but also a change to the Sports Profile to remove the permission to use prosthetics in this Class.*
4. *That the STC opinion is to be considered 'advisory' and it does not prohibit a challenge either under the Alpine Skiing Rules and Regulations section 318, FIS Technical Rules 640 or section 7 of the IPCAS Classification Rules under*
[http://www.ipc-
alpineskiing.org/export/sites/ipc_sports_alpine_skiing/Classification/2009_12_08
_IPC_Alpine_Skiing_Classification_Regulations_FINAL_EDITED.pdf](http://www.ipc-alpineskiing.org/export/sites/ipc_sports_alpine_skiing/Classification/2009_12_08_IPC_Alpine_Skiing_Classification_Regulations_FINAL_EDITED.pdf)

We would like to remind the NPCs of the different methods of challenge and the separate requirements of part 7 of the IPCAS Classification Regulations (to a Classification Panel, which will for these purposes be referred to as a 'Protest Panel'),

For competition topics, IPCAS refers to FIS Technical Rules 640 from FIS ICR and its own Equipment Regulations under
http://www.ipc-alpineskiing.org/Rules_Regulations