



World Para Powerlifting

# Classification Rules and Regulations

January 2018



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# **World Para Powerlifting Classification Rules and Regulations**

January 2018



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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 Para Powerlifting to implement the requirements of the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code (the 'Code') and International Standards.
- 1.2 The Classification Rules have been adopted by World Para Powerlifting on 01 January 2018.
- 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 World Para Powerlifting 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 World Para Powerlifting, and may be amended by World Para Powerlifting from time to time.

#### **Classification**

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

#### **Application**

- 1.7 These Classification Rules apply to all Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel who are registered and/or licensed with World Para Powerlifting, and/or participate in any Events or Competitions organised, authorised or recognised by World Para Powerlifting.



- 1.8 These Classification Rules must be read and applied in conjunction with all other applicable rules of World Para Powerlifting, including but not limited to the World Para Powerlifting Rules and Regulations. In the event of any conflict between these Classification Rules and any other rules, the Classification Rules shall prevail.

### **International Classification**

- 1.9 World Para Powerlifting will only permit an Athlete to compete in an IPC Games, IPC Competition or a World Para Powerlifting Sanctioned 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 World Para Powerlifting 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 World Para Powerlifting Recognised Competitions (or other such locations as defined by World Para Powerlifting). World Para Powerlifting will advise Athletes, National Bodies and National Paralympic Committees in advance as to such World Para Powerlifting Recognised Competitions (or other such locations).

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

- 1.11 References to an 'Article' mean an Article of these Classification Rules, references to an 'Appendix' mean an Appendix to these Classification Rules, a 'Section' means a section of an Appendix and Capitalised terms used in these Classification Rules have the meaning given to them in the Glossary to these Classification Rules.
- 1.12 References to a 'sport' in these Classification Rules refer to both a sport and an individual discipline within a sport.
- 1.13 The Appendices to these Classification Rules are part of these Classification Rules both of which may be amended, supplemented and/or replaced by the World Para Powerlifting from time to time.
- 1.14 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.
- 1.15 All references to the words "he", "his" or "him" in these Classification Rules also mean the words "she", "hers" or "her".
- 1.16 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. In the event of any conflict between these Classification Rules and the Code or International Standards, the Code and International Standards shall prevail.

## **Governance**

- 1.17 The IPC acts as the International Federation and governs the sport of Para powerlifting. It carries out these responsibilities under the name “World Para Powerlifting” and the term “World Para Powerlifting” must be read in these Rules as the IPC and vice versa.
- 1.18 The IPC Handbook is an integral part of the governance of the sport of Para powerlifting.

## **Printing of the Rules**

- 1.19 These Classification Rules are the copyright property of the IPC and have been published for the benefit of Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, National Bodies, National Paralympic Committees and others who are engaged in an official capacity with World Para Powerlifting. These Classification Rules may be reprinted or translated by any organisation with a legitimate need to do so, subject to IPC’s continuing ability to assert its copyright in the Classification Rules, including the right to insist on an assignment to the IPC of the copyright in any translated version of these Classification Rules. Any other organisation must obtain the permission of the IPC prior to reprinting, translating or publishing these Classification Rules.
- 1.20 The English version of these Classification Rules shall be accepted as the authoritative version for the purpose of interpretation.

## **Amendments to the Rules**

- 1.21 After the conclusion of each Paralympic Games, the IPC shall undertake a review of these Classification Rules, in consultation with National Bodies, National Paralympic Committees and any relevant International Organisations of Sports for the Disabled, in accordance with the IPC Handbook (located on the IPC website). All amendments shall be implemented prior to the start of the second year following the relevant Paralympic Games.
- 1.22 These Classification Rules also may be amended at any time by the IPC as a result, for example, of changes in the World Para Powerlifting Rules and Regulations or where World Para Powerlifting otherwise considers it necessary to do so.

# **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.

## **Athlete Responsibilities**

**2.2 The roles and responsibilities of Athletes include to:**

- 2.2.1 be knowledgeable of and comply with all applicable policies, rules and processes established by these Classification Rules;
- 2.2.2 participate in Athlete Evaluation in good faith;
- 2.2.3 ensure that adequate information related to Underlying Health Conditions and Eligible Impairments is provided and/or made available to World Para Powerlifting;
- 2.2.4 co-operate with any investigations concerning violations of these Classification Rules; and
- 2.2.5 actively participate in the process of education, 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:**

- 2.3.1 be knowledgeable of and comply with all applicable policies, rules and processes established by these Classification Rules;
- 2.3.2 use their influence on Athlete values and behaviour to foster a positive and collaborative Classification attitude and communication;
- 2.3.3 assist in the development, management and implementation of Classification Systems; and
- 2.3.4 co-operate with any investigations concerning violations of these Classification Rules.

**Classification Personnel Responsibilities**

**2.4 The roles and responsibilities of Classification Personnel include to:**

- 2.4.1 have a complete working knowledge of all applicable policies, rules and processes established by these Classification Rules;
- 2.4.2 use their influence to foster a positive and collaborative Classification attitude and communication;
- 2.4.3 assist in the development, management and implementation of Classification Systems, including participation in education and research; and
- 2.4.4 cooperate with any investigations concerning violations of these Classification Rules.

## Part Two: Classification Personnel

### 3 Classification Personnel

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

#### Head of Classification

- 3.2 World Para Powerlifting must appoint a Head of Classification. The Head of Classification is a person responsible for the direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of Classification matters for World Para Powerlifting.
- 3.3 If a Head of Classification cannot be appointed, World Para Powerlifting 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 World Para Powerlifting.
- 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.

#### Classifiers

- 3.7 A Classifier is a person authorised as an official and certified by World Para Powerlifting to conduct some or all components of Athlete Evaluation as a member of a Classification Panel.

#### Chief Classifiers

- 3.8 A Chief Classifier is a Classifier appointed to direct, administer, co-ordinate and implement Classification matters for a specific Competition or at such other location as defined by World Para Powerlifting. In particular, a Chief Classifier may be required by World Para Powerlifting 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 properly applied during Classification;
  - 3.8.3 manage Protests in consultation with World Para Powerlifting; 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 World Para Powerlifting 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 World Para Powerlifting.
- 3.11 World Para Powerlifting may appoint Trainee Classifiers to participate in some or all components of Athlete Evaluation under the supervision of a Classification Panel, to develop Classifier Competencies.

## **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 World Para Powerlifting as having the relevant Classifier Competencies.
- 4.2 World Para Powerlifting must provide training and education to Classifiers to ensure Classifiers obtain and/or maintain Classifier Competencies.
- 4.3 World Para Powerlifting must specify and publish Classifier Competencies in a manner that is transparent and accessible. The Classifier Competencies must include that a Classifier has:
  - 4.3.1 a thorough understanding of these Classification Rules;
  - 4.3.2 an understanding of Para powerlifting, including an understanding of the World Para Powerlifting Rules and Regulations;
  - 4.3.3 an understanding of the Code and the International Standards; and



- 4.3.4 a professional qualification(s), level of experience, skills and/or competencies in order to act as a Classifier for World Para Powerlifting. These include that Classifiers must either:
- a) be a certified health professional in a field relevant to the Eligible Impairment category which World Para Powerlifting at its sole discretion deems acceptable, such as a physician or physiotherapist for Athletes with a Physical Impairment; or
  - b) have an extensive coaching or other relevant background in Para powerlifting; or a recognised and reputable academic qualification which encompasses a



requisite level of anatomical, biomechanical and sport-specific expertise, which World Para Powerlifting in its sole discretion deems to be acceptable.

- 4.4 World Para Powerlifting must establish a process of Classifier Certification by which Classifier Competencies are assessed. This process includes:
  - 4.4.1 a process for the certification of Trainee Classifiers;
  - 4.4.2 quality assessment for the period of certification;
  - 4.4.3 a process for handling substandard performance, including options for remediation and/or withdrawal of certification; and
  - 4.4.4 a process for Re-certification of Classifiers.
- 4.5 World Para Powerlifting must specify Entry-Level Criteria applicable to persons who wish to become Trainee Classifiers. World Para Powerlifting will provide Entry-Level Education to Trainee Classifiers.
- 4.6 World Para Powerlifting must provide Continuing Education to Classifiers for the purposes of Certification and Re-certification.
- 4.7 World Para Powerlifting may provide that a Classifier is subject to certain limitations, including (but not limited to):
  - 4.7.1 a limitation on the Impairment type for which a Classifier is certified to act as a Classifier;
  - 4.7.2 a limitation on the components of Athlete Evaluation that a Classifier is certified to conduct;
  - 4.7.3 a limitation on the level of Competition or Event that a Classifier is authorised to act as a Classifier;
  - 4.7.4 the maximum period of time that a Classifier Certification is valid;
  - 4.7.5 that Classifier Certification is subject to review within a specific time frame by reference to the Classifier Competencies;
  - 4.7.6 that a Classifier may lose Classifier Certification if World Para Powerlifting is not satisfied that the Classifier possesses the required Classifier Competencies; and/or
  - 4.7.7 that a Classifier may regain Classifier Certification if World Para Powerlifting is satisfied that the Classifier possesses the required Classifier Competencies.



- c) Further information about the World Para Powerlifting Pathways and Education Programmes can be found here:  
<https://www.paralympic.org/powerlifting/education>.

## 5 Classifier Code of Conduct

- 5.1 The integrity of Classification in World Para Powerlifting depends on the conduct of Classification Personnel. World Para Powerlifting 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 Para Powerlifting.
- 5.4 If World Para Powerlifting receives such a report it will investigate the report and, if appropriate, take disciplinary measures.
- 5.5 World Para Powerlifting has discretion to determine whether or not a Classifier has an actual, perceived and/or potential conflict of interest.

## **Part Three: Athlete Evaluation**

### **6 General Provisions**

- 6.1 World Para Powerlifting 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 World Para Powerlifting; 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.

### **7 Eligible Impairment**

- 7.1 Any Athlete wishing to compete in Para powerlifting must have an Eligible Impairment and that Eligible Impairment must be Permanent.
- 7.2 Appendix One of these Classification Rules specifies the Eligible Impairment(s) an Athlete must have in order to compete in Para powerlifting.
- 7.3 Any Impairment that is not listed as an Eligible Impairment in Appendix One is referred to as a Non-Eligible Impairment. Appendix Two includes examples of Non-Eligible Impairments.

#### **Assessment of Eligible Impairment**

- 7.4 World Para Powerlifting must determine if an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment.
  - 7.4.1 In order to be satisfied that an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment, World Para Powerlifting may require an Athlete to provide evidence that he has a Health Condition that leads to an Eligible Impairment (an Underlying Health Condition). Appendix Two lists examples of Health Conditions that are not Underlying Health Conditions.

- 7.4.2 The means by which World Para Powerlifting determines that an individual Athlete has an Eligible Impairment is at the sole discretion of World Para Powerlifting. World Para Powerlifting may consider that an Athlete's Eligible Impairment is sufficiently obvious and therefore does 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 World Para Powerlifting 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 World Para Powerlifting will explain the basis of its designation to the relevant National Body and/or National Paralympic Committee.
- 7.5 Athletes are required to supply World Para Powerlifting with Diagnostic Information that must be provided as follows:
  - 7.5.1 The relevant National Body and/or National Paralympic Committee must submit a Medical Diagnostics Form to World Para Powerlifting, 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 medical doctor.
  - 7.5.3 The Medical Diagnostics Form must be submitted with supportive Diagnostic Information if required by World Para Powerlifting.
- 7.6 World Para Powerlifting may require an Athlete to re-submit the Medical Diagnostics Form (with necessary supportive Diagnostic Information) if World Para Powerlifting in its sole discretion considers the Medical Diagnostics Form and/or the Diagnostic Information to be incomplete and/or inconsistent.
- 7.7 World Para Powerlifting 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 World Para Powerlifting will notify the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee 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, be comprised of the Head of Classification and at least two (2) other experts with appropriate medical qualifications (as determined by World Para Powerlifting). All members of the Eligibility Assessment Committee must sign confidentiality undertakings.
- 7.8.4 If the Head of Classification considers that he does not hold the necessary competencies to assess the Diagnostic Information, he 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 must 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 with the stated Underlying Health Condition 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 Underlying Health Condition the Head of Classification will provide a decision to this effect in writing to the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee. The National Body or National Paralympic Committee 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 or National Paralympic Committee.
- 7.8.8 If the decision is not changed, the Head of Classification will issue a final decision letter to the National Body or National Paralympic Committee and the Athlete will be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) in accordance with the provisions of Article 16.3 of these Classification Rules.

- 7.8.9 The Eligibility Assessment Committee must make its decisions by a majority. If the Head of Classification participates in the review of the Diagnostic Information, he may veto any decision if he does not agree that the Diagnostic Information supports the conclusion that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment.
- 7.9 World Para Powerlifting may delegate one (1) 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 must have an Eligible Impairment that complies with the relevant Minimum Impairment Criteria for that sport.
- 8.2 World Para Powerlifting 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 Appendix One of these Classification Rules specifies 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 World Para Powerlifting that he has an Eligible Impairment.
- 8.6 In relation to the use of Adaptive Equipment, World Para Powerlifting has set Minimum Impairment Criteria as follows:
  - 8.6.1 for Eligible Impairments, 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;

## 9 Sport Class

- 9.1 A Sport Class is a category defined by World Para Powerlifting 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.
- 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 16 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 Article 27 and Article 28).
- 9.1.3 Except for the allocation of Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by World Para Powerlifting (in accordance with Article 16.1), 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. This evaluation must take place in a controlled non-competitive environment, which allows for the repeated observation of key tasks and activities.
- 9.2 Appendix One of these Classification Rules specifies 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 World Para Powerlifting or a Classification Panel is unable to allocate a Sport Class to an Athlete, World Para Powerlifting, 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 World Para Powerlifting Classification Master List.



- 10.3 An Athlete who is designated as Classification Not Completed (CNC) may not compete in the sport of Para powerlifting. See Article 28 for remediation.

## **Part Four: Athlete Evaluation and the Classification Panel**

### **11 The Classification Panel**

- 11.1 A Classification Panel is a group of Classifiers appointed by World Para Powerlifting to conduct some or all of the components of Athlete Evaluation including as part of an Evaluation Session.

#### **General Provisions**

- 11.2 A Classification Panel must be comprised of at least of two (2) certified Classifiers. In exceptional circumstances a Chief Classifier may provide that a Classification Panel is comprised of only one (1) Classifier, subject to that Classifier holding a valid medical qualification.
- 11.3 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.

### **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; and
  - 12.1.2 assess the extent to which an Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.
- 12.2 Prior to the Evaluation Session, the assessment as to whether an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment must be undertaken by World Para Powerlifting, unless World Para Powerlifting requests this to be undertaken by a Classification Panel.
- 12.3 Following the Evaluation Session the Classification Panel must allocate a Sport Class and designate a Sport Class Status, or designate Classification Not Completed (CNC).
- 12.4 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 Appendix One.

## 13 Evaluation Sessions

- 13.1 This Article applies to all Evaluation Sessions.
- 13.2 The Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee is responsible for ensuring that Athletes comply with their duties in relation to the provisions in this Article.
- 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 or National Paralympic Committee when attending an Evaluation Session. The Athlete must be accompanied if the Athlete is a minor according to his national laws or lacks legal capacity according to his national laws.
  - 13.3.2 The person chosen by the Athlete to accompany the Athlete at an Evaluation Session must be familiar with the Athlete's Impairment and sport history.
  - 13.3.3 The Athlete and accompanying person must acknowledge the terms of the Athlete Evaluation Agreement Form as specified by World Para Powerlifting.
  - 13.3.4 The Athlete must verify his identity to the satisfaction of the Classification Panel, by providing a document such as a passport, photo ID card, World Para Powerlifting license card or event accreditation.
  - 13.3.5 The Athlete must attend the Evaluation Session with any sports attire or equipment relevant to the sport for which the Athlete wishes to be allocated a Sport Class.

- 13.3.6 The Athlete must disclose the use of all medications (prescription and non-prescription) and/or medical device/implant to the Classification Panel.
- 13.3.7 The Athlete must comply with all reasonable instructions provided by a Classification Panel.
- 13.4 In respect of the Classification Panel:
  - 13.4.1 The Classification Panel may request that an Athlete provide medical documentation relevant to the Athlete's Eligible Impairment if the Classification Panel believes that this will be necessary to allocate a Sport Class.
  - 13.4.2 The Classification Panel will conduct Evaluation Sessions in English unless otherwise stipulated by World Para Powerlifting. If the Athlete requires an interpreter, a member of the Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee will be responsible for arranging for 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, National Paralympic Committee and World Para Powerlifting (from any source) when allocating a Sport Class.
  - 13.4.5 The Classification Panel may make, create or use video footage and/or other records to assist it when allocating a Sport Class.

## 14 Sport Class Status

- 14.1 If a Classification Panel allocates a Sport Class to an Athlete, it must also designate a Sport Class Status. The Sport Class Status indicates whether or not an Athlete will be required to undertake Athlete Evaluation in the future; and if the Athlete's Sport Class may be subject to Protest.
- 14.2 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:



- 14.2.1 Confirmed (C)
- 14.2.2 Review (R)
- 14.2.3 Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD)

### **Sport Class Status New**

- 14.3 An Athlete is allocated Sport Class Status New (N) by World Para Powerlifting 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 IPC Games, IPC Competition, or World Para Powerlifting Sanctioned Competition unless World Para Powerlifting determines otherwise.

### **Sport Class Status Confirmed**

- 14.4 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 activities fundamental to the sport are and will remain stable.
  - 14.4.1 An Athlete with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) is not required to undergo any further Athlete Evaluation (except for the provisions in these Classification Rules concerning Protests (Article 17), Medical Review (Article 29) and changes to Sport Class criteria (Article 14.7)).
  - 14.4.2 A Classification Panel that consists of only one (1) Classifier may not designate an Athlete with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) but must designate the Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R).

### **Sport Class Status Review**

- 14.5 An Athlete will be designated Sport Class Status Review (R) if the Classification Panel believes that further Evaluation Sessions will be required.
  - 14.5.1 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 World Para Powerlifting; has a fluctuating and/or progressive Impairment/Impairments that is/are permanent but not stable; and/or has not yet reached full musculoskeletal or sports maturity.

- 14.5.2 An Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R) must complete Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at any subsequent IPC Competition or World Para Powerlifting Sanctioned Competition unless World Para Powerlifting determines otherwise.

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

- 14.6 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.
- 14.6.1 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. For example, an Athlete with Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date of 2018 will be required to attend an Evaluation Session at his first opportunity after 01 January 2018.
- 14.6.2 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 except for a Medical Review Request and/or Protest.
- 14.6.3 A Classification Panel that consists of only one (1) 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).

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

- 14.7 If World Para Powerlifting changes any Sport Class criteria and/ or assessment methods defined in the Appendices to these Rules, then:
- 14.7.1 World Para Powerlifting 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
- 14.7.2 World Para Powerlifting may remove the Fixed Review Date for any Athlete and require that the Athlete attend an Evaluation Session at the earliest available opportunity; and
- 14.7.3 in both instances the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee shall be informed as soon as is practicable.



## 15 Notification

- 15.1 The outcome of Athlete Evaluation must be notified to the Athlete and/or National Body or National Paralympic Committee and published as soon as practically possible after completion of Athlete Evaluation.
- 15.2 World Para Powerlifting 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 on the World Para Powerlifting website.

## **Part Five: Sport Class Not Eligible**

### **16 Sport Class Not Eligible**

#### **General Provisions**

16.1 If World Para Powerlifting determines that an Athlete:

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

16.1.2 does not have an Underlying Health Condition,

World Para Powerlifting must allocate that Athlete Sport Class Not Eligible (NE).

16.2 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**

16.3 If World Para Powerlifting determines that an Athlete does not have an Eligible Impairment, that Athlete:

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

16.3.2 will be allocated with Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) by World Para Powerlifting.

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

16.5 An Athlete who is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by World Para Powerlifting or a Classification Panel (if delegated by World Para Powerlifting) because that Athlete has

16.5.1 an Impairment that is not an Eligible Impairment; or

16.5.2 a Health Condition that is not an eligible 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**

- 16.6 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.
- 16.6.1 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.
- 16.6.2 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).
- 16.7 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.
- 16.8 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.
- 16.9 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 Para powerlifting.

## **Part Six: Protests**

### **Protests**

#### **17 Scope of a Protest**

- 17.1 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.
- 17.2 A Protest may not be made in respect of an Athlete who has been allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE).

#### **18 Parties Permitted to Make a Protest**

- 18.1 A Protest may only be made by one of the following bodies:
  - 18.1.1 a National Body (see Articles 19-20); or
  - 18.1.2 a National Paralympic Committee (see Articles 19-20); or
  - 18.1.3 World Para Powerlifting (see Articles 21-22).

#### **19 National Protests**

- 19.1 A National Body or a National Paralympic Committee may only make a Protest in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction at a Competition or venue set aside for Athlete Evaluation.
- 19.2 Once the outcome of Athlete Evaluation is published, a National Protest must be submitted within one (1) hour of that outcome being published.

#### **20 National Protest Procedure**

- 20.1 To submit a National Protest, a National Body or a National Paralympic Committee must show that the Protest is bona fide with supporting evidence and complete a Protest Form, that must be made available by World Para Powerlifting at the Competition and via the World Para Powerlifting website, and must include the following:

- 20.1.1 the name and SDMS ID of the Protested Athlete;
  - 20.1.2 the details of the Protested Decision and/or a copy of the Protested Decision;
  - 20.1.3 an explanation as to why the Protest has been made and the basis on which the National Body or National Paralympic Committee believes that the Protested Decision is flawed;
  - 20.1.4 reference to the specific rule(s) alleged to have been breached; and
  - 20.1.5 a Protest Fee of EUR (€) 150.
- 20.2 The Protest Documents must be submitted to the Chief Classifier of the relevant Competition within the timeframes specified in Article 19.2. Upon receipt of the Protest Documents the Chief Classifier must conduct a review of the Protest, in consultation with World Para Powerlifting, of which there are two (2) possible outcomes:
- 20.2.1 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 20; or
  - 20.2.2 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 20.
- 20.3 If the Protest is dismissed the Chief Classifier must notify all relevant parties and provide a written explanation to the National Body or National Paralympic Committee as soon as practicable. The Protest Fee will be forfeited.
- 20.4 If the Protest is accepted:
- 20.4.1 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);
  - 20.4.2 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
  - 20.4.3 World Para Powerlifting must notify all relevant parties of the time and date the new Evaluation Session is to be conducted by the Protest Panel.

## **21 World Para Powerlifting Protests**

- 21.1 World Para Powerlifting may, in its discretion, make a Protest at any time in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction if:
  - 21.1.1 it considers an Athlete may have been allocated an incorrect Sport Class; or
  - 21.1.2 a National Body or National Paralympic Committee makes a documented request to World Para Powerlifting. The assessment of the validity of the request is at the sole discretion of World Para Powerlifting

## **22 World Para Powerlifting Protest Procedure**

- 22.1 If World Para Powerlifting decides to make a Protest, the Head of Classification must advise the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee of the Protest at the earliest possible opportunity.
- 22.2 The Head of Classification must provide the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee 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.
- 22.3 If World Para Powerlifting makes a Protest:
  - 22.3.1 the Protested Athlete's Sport Class must remain unchanged pending the outcome of the Protest;
  - 22.3.2 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
  - 22.3.3 a Protest Panel must be appointed to resolve the Protest as soon as is reasonably possible.

## **23 Protest Panel**

- 23.1 A Chief Classifier may fulfil one or more of the Head of Classification's obligations in this Article 23 if authorised to do so by the Head of Classification.
- 23.2 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.

- 23.3 A Protest Panel must not include any person who was a member of the Classification Panel that:
  - 23.3.1 made the Protested Decision; or
  - 23.3.2 conducted any component of Athlete Evaluation in respect of the Protested Athlete within a period of twelve (12) months prior to the date of the Protested Decision, unless otherwise agreed by the National Body or National Paralympic Committee (whichever is relevant) and World Para Powerlifting.
- 23.4 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.
- 23.5 The Protest Panel must conduct the new Evaluation Session in accordance with these Classification Rules. The Protest Panel must only refer to the Protest Documents after conducting the new Evaluation Session prior to allocating a Sport Class and designating a Sport Class Status.
- 23.6 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.
- 23.7 The decision of a Protest Panel in relation to both a National Protest and World Para Powerlifting Protest is final. A National Body, National Paralympic Committee or World Para Powerlifting may not make another Protest at the relevant Competition.
- 23.8 If the decision of the Protest Panel results in the Sport Class of the Athlete being changed, the Protest Fee will be refunded to the National Body or National Paralympic Committee (whichever is relevant).

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

- 24.1 If a Protest is made at a Competition but there is no opportunity for the Protest to be resolved at that Competition:
  - 24.1.1 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



- 24.1.2 all reasonable steps must be taken to ensure that the Protest is resolved at the earliest opportunity.

## **25 Special Provisions**

- 25.1 World Para Powerlifting 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, World Para Powerlifting must also implement Protest provisions to enable Protests to take place in respect of any Evaluation Sessions conducted away from a Competition.

## **Application during Major Competitions**

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

- 26.1 The IPC and/or World Para Powerlifting may issue special ad hoc provisions to operate during the Paralympic Games or other Competitions.

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

### **27 Failure to Attend Evaluation Session**

- 27.1 An Athlete is personally responsible for attending an Evaluation Session.
- 27.2 An Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee must take reasonable steps to ensure that the Athlete attends an Evaluation Session.
- 27.3 If an Athlete fails to attend an Evaluation Session, the Classification Panel will report the failure 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 rescheduled Evaluation Session before the Classification Panel.
- 27.4 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.

### **28 Suspension of Evaluation Session**

- 28.1 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:
  - 28.1.1 a failure on the part of the Athlete to comply with any part of these Classification Rules;
  - 28.1.2 a failure on the part of the Athlete to provide any medical information that is reasonably required by the Classification Panel;
  - 28.1.3 the Classification Panel believes that the use (or non-use) of any medication and/or medical procedures/devices/implants disclosed by the Athlete will affect the ability to conduct its determination in a fair manner;
  - 28.1.4 the Athlete has a Health Condition 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;

- 28.1.5 the Athlete is unable to communicate effectively with the Classification Panel;
  - 28.1.6 the Athlete refuses or is unable to comply with any reasonable instructions provided by any Classification Personnel to such an extent that the Evaluation Session cannot be conducted in a fair manner; and/or
  - 28.1.7 the Athlete's representation of his 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.
- 28.2 If an Evaluation Session is suspended by a Classification Panel, the following steps must be taken:
- 28.2.1 an explanation 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 or National Paralympic Committee;
  - 28.2.2 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
  - 28.2.3 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 new Evaluation Session is completed.
- 28.3 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. If there is any doubt as to whether Sport Class Status Review (R) or Classification Not Completed (CNC) should be designated, the Classification Panel may consult the Head of Classification and/or World Para Powerlifting for assistance.
- 28.4 The suspension of an Evaluation Session may be subject to further investigation into any possible Intentional Misrepresentation.

## **Part Eight: Medical Review**

### **29 Medical Review**

- 29.1 This Article applies to any Athlete who has been allocated a Sport Class with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) or Review with Fixed Review Date (FRD).
- 29.2 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.
- 29.3 A Medical Review Request must be made by the Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee (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.
- 29.4 A Medical Review Request must be received by World Para Powerlifting as soon as reasonably practicable.
- 29.5 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.
- 29.6 Any Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who becomes aware of such changes outlined in Article 29.2 but fails to draw those to the attention of their National Body, National Paralympic Committee or World Para Powerlifting may be investigated in respect of possible Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 29.7 If a Medical Review Request is accepted, the Athlete's Sport Class Status will be changed to Review (R) with immediate effect.
- 29.8 If a Medical Review Request does not include sufficient evidence to 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 of Para powerlifting has changed, the Medical Review will not be accepted and the Athlete's Sport Class Status will not be changed.

## Part Nine: Intentional Misrepresentation

### 30 Intentional Misrepresentation

- 30.1 It is a disciplinary offence for an Athlete to intentionally misrepresent (either by act or omission) his 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'.
- 30.2 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.
- 30.3 In respect of any allegation relating to Intentional Misrepresentation a hearing will be convened by the IPC to determine whether the Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel has committed Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 30.4 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 may include one (1) or more of the following:
  - 30.4.1 disqualification from all events at the Competition at which the Intentional Misrepresentation occurred, and any subsequent Competitions at which the Athlete competed;
  - 30.4.2 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 one (1) to four (4) years;
  - 30.4.3 suspension from participation in Competitions in all sport for a specified period of time ranging from one (1) to four (4) years; and
  - 30.4.4 publication of their names and suspension period.
- 30.5 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 (4) years to life.



- 30.6 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 (4) years to life.
- 30.7 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 World Para Powerlifting.
- 30.8 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 World Para Powerlifting.
- 30.9 Any disciplinary action taken by World Para Powerlifting pursuant these Classification Rules must be resolved in accordance with the applicable Board of Appeal of Classification Bylaws.

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

### **31 Classification Data**

- 31.1 World Para Powerlifting may only Process Classification Data if such Classification Data is considered necessary to conduct Classification.
- 31.2 All Classification Data Processed by World Para Powerlifting must be accurate, complete and kept up-to-date.

### **32 Consent and Processing**

- 32.1 Subject to Article 32.3, World Para Powerlifting may only Process Classification Data with the consent of the Athlete to whom that Classification Data relates.
- 32.2 If an Athlete cannot provide consent (for example because the Athlete is a minor) the legal representative, guardian or other designated representative of that Athlete must give consent on their behalf.
- 32.3 World Para Powerlifting may only Process Classification Data without consent of the relevant Athlete if permitted to do so in accordance with National Laws.

### **33 Classification Research**

- 33.1 World Para Powerlifting may request that an Athlete provide it with Personal Information for Research Purposes.
- 33.2 The use by World Para Powerlifting of Personal Information for Research Purposes must be consistent with these Classification Rules and all applicable ethical use requirements.
- 33.3 Personal Information that has been provided by an Athlete to World Para Powerlifting solely and exclusively for Research Purposes must not be used for any other purpose.
- 33.4 World Para Powerlifting may only use Classification Data for Research Purposes with the express consent of the relevant Athlete. If World Para Powerlifting 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.

## **34 Notification to Athletes**

- 34.1 World Para Powerlifting must notify an Athlete who provides Classification Data as to:
- 34.1.1 that fact that World Para Powerlifting is collecting the Classification Data; and
  - 34.1.2 the purpose for the collection of the Classification Data; and
  - 34.1.3 the duration that the Classification Data will be retained.

## **35 Classification Data Security**

- 35.1 World Para Powerlifting must:
- 35.1.1 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
  - 35.1.2 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.

## **36 Disclosures of Classification Data**

- 36.1 World Para Powerlifting 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.
- 36.2 World Para Powerlifting may disclose Classification Data to other parties only if such disclosure is in accordance with these Classification Rules and permitted by National Laws.

## **37 Retaining Classification Data**

- 37.1 World Para Powerlifting 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.

- 37.2 World Para Powerlifting must publish guidelines regarding retention times in relation to Classification Data.
- 37.3 World Para Powerlifting 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.

## **38 Access Rights to Classification Data**

- 38.1 Athletes may request from World Para Powerlifting:
  - 38.1.1 confirmation of whether or not World Para Powerlifting Processes Classification Data relating to them personally and a description of the Classification Data that is held;
  - 38.1.2 a copy of the Classification Data held by World Para Powerlifting; and/or
  - 38.1.3 correction or deletion of the Classification Data held by World Para Powerlifting.
- 38.2 A request may be made by an Athlete or a National Body or a National Paralympic Committee on an Athlete's behalf and must be complied with within a reasonable period of time.

## **39 Classification Master Lists**

- 39.1 World Para Powerlifting 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 IPC Games, IPC Competitions and World Para Powerlifting Sanctioned Competitions.
- 39.2 World Para Powerlifting must make available the Classification Master List to all relevant National Bodies on the World Para Powerlifting website.

## **Part Eleven: Appeals**

### **40 Appeal**

- 40.1 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.

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

- 41.1 An Appeal may only be made by one of the following bodies:
- 41.1.1 a National Body; or
  - 41.1.2 a National Paralympic Committee.

### **42 Appeals**

- 42.1 If a National Body or National Paralympic Committee 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.
- 42.2 The Board of Appeal of Classification (BAC) will act as the hearing body for the resolution of Appeals.
- 42.3 An Appeal must be made and resolved in accordance with the applicable BAC Bylaws.

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

- 43.1 The IPC and/or World Para Powerlifting may issue special ad hoc provisions to operate during the Paralympic Games or other Competitions.

## Part Twelve: Glossary

**Adaptive Equipment:** Implements and apparatus adapted to the special needs of Athletes, and used by Athletes during Competition to facilitate participation and/or to achieve results.

**Appeals:** The means by which a complaint that World Para Powerlifting has made an unfair decision during the Classification process is resolved.

**Athlete:** For purposes of Classification, any person who participates in sport at the international level (as defined by World Para Powerlifting) 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 accordance with these Classification Rules in order that an Athlete may be allocated a Sport Class and Sport Class Status.

**Athlete Support Personnel:** 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.

**BAC:** The IPC Board of Appeal of Classification.

**Chief Classifier:** A classifier appointed by World Para Powerlifting to direct, administer, co-ordinate and implement Classification matters for a specific Competition according to these Classification Rules.

**Classification:** 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.

**Classification Data:** 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.

**Classification Intelligence:** Information obtained and used by an International Sport Federation in relation to Classification.

**Classification Master List:** A list made available by World Para Powerlifting that identifies Athletes who have been allocated a Sport Class and designated a Sport Class Status.



**Classification Not Completed:** The designation applied to an Athlete who has commenced but not completed Athlete Evaluation to the satisfaction of World Para Powerlifting or a Classification Panel.

**Classification Organisation:** Any organisation that conducts the process of Athlete Evaluation and allocates Sport Classes and/or holds Classification Data.

**Classification Panel:** A group of Classifiers, appointed by World Para Powerlifting, to determine Sport Class and Sport Class Status in accordance with these Classification Rules.

**Classification Personnel:** Persons, including Classifiers, acting with the authority of a Classification Organisation in relation to Athlete Evaluation, for example administrative officers.

**Classification Rules:** Also referred to as Classification Rules and Regulations. The policies, procedures, protocols and descriptions adopted by World Para Powerlifting in connection with Athlete Evaluation.

**Classification System:** The framework used by World Para Powerlifting to develop and designate Sport Classes within Para powerlifting.

**Classifier:** A person authorised as an official by World Para Powerlifting to evaluate Athletes as a member of a Classification Panel.

**Classifier Certification:** The processes by which World Para Powerlifting must assess that a Classifier has met the specific Classifier Competencies required to obtain and maintain certification or licensure.

**Classifier Competencies:** The qualifications and abilities that World Para Powerlifting deems necessary for a Classifier to be competent to conduct Athlete Evaluation for sport(s) governed by World Para Powerlifting.

**Classifier Code of Conduct:** The behavioural and ethical standards for Classifiers specified by World Para Powerlifting.

**Code:** 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.

**Competition:** A series of individual events conducted together under one ruling body.

**Compliance:** 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.'

**Continuing Education:** The delivery of higher knowledge and practical skills specified by World Para Powerlifting to preserve and/or advance knowledge and skills as a Classifier in the sport(s) under its governance.

**Diagnostic Information:** Medical records and/or any other documentation that enables World Para Powerlifting to assess the existence or otherwise of an Eligible Impairment or Underlying Health Condition

**Eligible Impairment:** An Impairment designated as being a prerequisite for competing in Para powerlifting, as detailed in these Classification Rules.

**Eligibility Assessment Committee:** An ad hoc body formed to assess the existence or otherwise of an Eligible Impairment.

**Entry Criteria:** Standards set by World Para Powerlifting 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.

**Entry-Level Education:** The basic knowledge and practical skills specified by World Para Powerlifting to begin as a Classifier in the sport(s) of Para powerlifting.

**Evaluation Session:** 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.

**Event:** A single race, match, game or singular sport contest.

**First Appearance:** The first time an Athlete competes in an Event during a Competition in a particular Sport Class.

**Fixed Review Date:** A date set by a Classification Panel prior to which an Athlete designated with a Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date will not be required to attend an Evaluation Session except for a Medical Review Request and/or Protest.

**Head of Classification:** A person appointed by World Para Powerlifting to direct, administer, co-ordinate and implement Classification matters for World Para Powerlifting.

**Health Condition:** A pathology, acute or chronic disease, disorder, injury or trauma.

**Impairment:** A Physical, Vision or Intellectual Impairment.



**Intellectual Impairment:** A limitation in intellectual functioning and adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social and practical adaptive skills that originates before the age of eighteen (18).

**Intentional Misrepresentation:** 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 Para sport 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.

**International Sport Federation:** 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 Para sport by the IPC. The IPC and the International Organisations of Sports for the Disabled act as an International Sport Federation for certain sports, including World Para Powerlifting.

**International Standards:** A document complementing the Code and providing additional technical and operational requirements for Classification.

**IPC:** International Paralympic Committee.

**IPC Competitions:** World Para Powerlifting Championships and World Para Powerlifting Regional Championships.

**IPC Games:** the Paralympic Games and the Parapan American Games.

**Maintaining Certification:** The advanced training, education and practice necessary for continued competency as a Classifier.

**Medical Diagnostics Form:** A form that a National Body or National Paralympic Committee must submit in order for an Athlete to undergo Athlete Evaluation, identifying the Athlete's Underlying Health Condition if so required.

**Medical Review:** The process by which World Para Powerlifting identifies if a change in the nature or degree of an Athlete's Impairment means that some or all of the components of Athlete Evaluation are required to be undertaken in order to ensure that any Sport Class allocated to that Athlete is correct.

**Medical Review Request:** A request made by a National Body or National Paralympic Committee for Medical Review, made on behalf of an Athlete.

**Models of Best Practice:** An ad hoc guidance document prepared by the IPC to assist in the implementation of the Code and International Standards.

**National Body:** Refers to the national member of an International Sport Federation.



**National Laws:** The national data protection and privacy laws, regulations and policies applicable to a Classification Organisation.

**National Paralympic Committees:** The national member of the IPC who is the sole representative of Athletes with an Impairment in that country or territory. These are the national members of the IPC.

**National Protest:** A Protest made by a National Body or a National Paralympic Committee in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction.

**Non-Competition Venue:** Any place or location (outside of a Competition) designated by World Para Powerlifting 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.

**Paralympic Games:** Umbrella term for both Paralympic Games and Paralympic Winter Games.

**Permanent:** The term Permanent as used in the Code and International Standards describes an Impairment that is unlikely to be resolved meaning the principle effects are lifelong.

**Personal Information:** Any information that refers to, or relates directly to, an Athlete.

**Physical Impairment:** An Impairment that affects an Athlete's biomechanical execution of sporting activities, comprising Ataxia, Athetosis, Hypertonia, Impaired Muscle Power, Impaired Passive Range of Movement, Limb Deficiency, Leg Length Difference and Short Stature.

**Process/Processing:** The collection, recording, storage, use or disclosure of Personal Information and/or sensitive Personal Information.

**Protested Athlete:** An Athlete whose Sport Class is being challenged.

**Protested Decision:** The Sport Class decision being challenged.

**Protest Documents:** The information provided in the Protest Form together with the Protest Fee.

**Protest Fee:** The fee prescribed by World Para Powerlifting, payable by the National Body or National Paralympic Committee when submitting a Protest.

**Protest Form:** The form on which a National Protest must be submitted.

**Protest:** The procedure by which a reasoned objection to an Athlete's Sport Class is submitted and subsequently resolved.

**Protest Panel:** A Classification Panel appointed by the Chief Classifier to conduct an Evaluation Session as a result of a Protest



**Re-certification:** The process by which World Para Powerlifting must assess that a Classifier has maintained specific Classifier Competencies.

**Research Purposes:** 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.

**Signatories:** Any organisation that accepts the Code and commits to implement it and the International Standards by way of its Classification Rules.

**Sport Class:** A category for Competition defined by World Para Powerlifting by reference to the extent to which an Athlete can perform the specific tasks and activities required by a sport.

**Sport Class Status:** A designation applied to a Sport Class to indicate the extent to which an Athlete may be required to undertake Athlete Evaluation and/or be subject to a Protest.

**Underlying Health Condition:** A Health Condition that may lead to an Eligible Impairment.

**Vision Impairment:** An Impairment of the eye structure, optical nerves or optical pathways, or visual cortex of the central brain that adversely affects an Athlete's vision.

**World Para Powerlifting Approved Competitions:** international and national endorsed competitions for the sport of Para powerlifting that have been approved by World Para Powerlifting.

**World Para Powerlifting Recognised Competitions:** IPC Games, IPC Competitions, World Para Powerlifting Sanctioned Competitions and World Para Powerlifting Approved Competitions.

**World Para Powerlifting Sanctioned Competitions:** World Para Powerlifting World Cups and other World Para Powerlifting international competitions determined by World Para Powerlifting.



## Appendix One

### Athletes with Physical Impairment

#### 1 Eligible Impairment Types

- 1.1 World Para Powerlifting offers competitions for Athletes with Physical Impairments and has only one (1) Sport Class (other than Sport Class Not Eligible (NE)).
- 1.2 An Athlete is eligible to compete in Para powerlifting if he meets both of the below criteria:
  - 1.2.1 the Athlete demonstrates one (1) of the Eligible Impairments defined in the below table; and
  - 1.2.2 the Athlete's Eligible Impairment meets the Minimum Impairment Criteria defined in Section 2.
- 1.3 The following impairments are Eligible Impairments for World Para Powerlifting:

Eligible Impairment	Examples of Health Conditions
<p><b>Impaired Muscle Power</b></p> <p>Athletes with Impaired Muscle Power have a Health Condition that either reduces or eliminates their ability to voluntarily contract their muscles in order to move or to generate force.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Impaired Muscle Power include spinal cord injury (complete or incomplete), muscular dystrophy, post-polio syndrome and spina bifida.</p>
<p><b>Limb Deficiency</b></p> <p>Athletes with Limb Deficiency have total or partial absence of bones or joints as a consequence of trauma.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Limb Deficiency include: traumatic amputation, illness (for example amputation due to bone cancer) or congenital limb deficiency (for example dysmelia).</p>
<p><b>Leg Length Difference</b></p> <p>Athletes with Leg Length Difference have a difference in the length of their legs.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Leg Length Difference include: dysmelia and congenital or traumatic disturbance of limb growth.</p>
<p><b>Short Stature</b></p> <p>Athletes with Short Stature have a reduced length in the bones of the upper limbs, lower limbs and/or trunk.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Short Stature include achondroplasia, growth hormone dysfunction, and osteogenesis imperfecta.</p>
<p><b>Hypertonia</b></p> <p>Athletes with hypertonia have an increase in muscle tone and a reduced ability of a muscle to stretch caused by damage to the central nervous system.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Hypertonia include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and stroke.</p>
<p><b>Ataxia</b></p> <p>Athletes with Ataxia have uncoordinated movements caused by damage to the central nervous system.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Ataxia include: cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, stroke and multiple sclerosis.</p>

Eligible Impairment	Examples of Health Conditions
<b>Athetosis</b> Athletes with Athetosis have continual slow involuntary movements.	Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Athetosis include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and stroke.
<b>Impaired Passive Range of Movement</b> Athletes with Impaired Passive Range of Movement have a restriction or a lack of passive movement in one or more joints.	Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Impaired Passive Range of Movement include arthrogryposis and contracture resulting from chronic joint immobilisation or trauma affecting a joint.

## 2 Minimum Impairment Criteria

- 2.1 To be eligible to compete in Para powerlifting, the Athlete's Eligible Impairment must meet one (1) or more of the following Minimum Impairment Criteria:

<b>Impaired Muscle Power</b>	<p>Twenty (20) points decrease in muscular strength in one (1) or both lower limbs. The following movements are tested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ankle dorsiflexion, plantarflexion</li> <li>▪ Ankle inversion, eversion</li> <li>▪ Knee flexion and extension</li> <li>▪ Hip flexion, extension, adduction and abduction.</li> </ul> <p>Maximum total score is one hundred (100) points for both lower limbs (see Section 3, Appendix One).  Note: Athletes who have arthrodesis of the foot in which there is no inversion or eversion possible will be considered as grade five (5) in these movements.</p>
<b>Lower Limb Deficiency</b>	Unilateral amputation as a minimum through the ankle joint with an absence of the calcaneus or a congenital limb deficiency at the same minimum level.
<b>Leg Length Difference</b>	A minimum of seven (7) cm difference between the left and right leg. Measurements are to be taken from the anterior

	superior iliac spine to the tip of medial malleolus on same side.
<b>Short Stature</b>	<p>Standing height must be less than or equal to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Male Athletes: 145cm</li> <li>▪ Female Athletes: 140cm</li> </ul> <p>Short stature Athletes are subject to an annual review (in accordance with Article 14.6) until the age of eighteen (18) years.</p>
<b>Hypertonia</b>	Hypertonia must be clearly detectable with a minimum of grade two (2) on the Ashworth Scale in at least one (1) lower limb.
<b>Ataxia, Athetosis</b>	Athletes must demonstrate an observable involvement in one (1) or both the lower limbs. Ataxia or Athetosis must be observable during Athlete Evaluation and there must be obvious loss of function.
<b>Impaired Passive Range of Movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Decrease of sixty (60) degrees in hip flexion and extension or ankylosis of the hip joint; or</li> <li>▪ Extension defect of thirty (30) degrees or ankylosis of the knee joint in any position; or</li> <li>▪ Severely reduced mobility of a Permanent nature and/or as in scoliosis measuring over sixty (60) degrees by the Cobb method. (X-ray and an accompanying medical report are required.)</li> </ul> <p>Note: All measurements of Impaired Passive Range of Movement in the knee and the hip joint use a horizontal line as a baseline reference.</p>

### 3 Assessment Methodology

#### Assessment of Impaired Muscle Power

3.1 Muscle power testing is conducted using the Medical Research Council (MRC) scale for muscle testing:

3.1.1 the MRC scale for muscle testing must be used as shown in Section 3.2 of

Appendix One; and

3.1.2 each muscle group must be tested through its available range of movement.

3.2 Muscle power must be assessed using the following scale:

<b>MRC scale for muscle power</b>	
<b>0</b>	No muscle contraction is visible
<b>1</b>	Muscle contraction is visible but there is no movement of the joint
<b>2</b>	Active joint movement is possible with gravity eliminated
<b>3</b>	Movement can overcome gravity but not resistance from the Classifier
<b>4</b>	The muscle group can overcome gravity and move against some resistance from the Classifier
<b>5</b>	Full and normal power against resistance

3.3 The following ten (10) muscle groups must be tested, each scoring a maximum of five (5) points:

<b>Hip</b>	Flexion	5 Maximum
<b>Hip</b>	Extension	5 Maximum
<b>Hip</b>	Adduction	5 Maximum
<b>Hip</b>	Abduction	5 Maximum
<b>Knee</b>	Flexion	5 Maximum
<b>Knee</b>	Extension	5 Maximum
<b>Ankle</b>	Dorsiflexion	5 Maximum
<b>Ankle</b>	Plantarflexion	5 Maximum
<b>Foot</b>	Inversion	5 Maximum
<b>Foot</b>	Everson	5 Maximum

3.3.1 The maximum score is fifty (50) points per lower limb, or a total of hundred (100) points for both lower limbs combined.

### **Assessment of Limb Deficiency**

3.4 Limb Deficiency as a result of amputation and/or dysmelia must affect the lower limbs as a minimum through the ankle joint with the calcaneus missing. If required, an X-ray and accompanying medical report may be requested (as per Article 7.6).

### **Measurement of Leg Length Difference**

3.5 To measure Leg Length Difference the following must be applied:

- 3.5.1 A flexible measuring tape must be used.
  - 3.5.2 The Athlete must lie supine on a Para powerlifting bench and or medical plinth. The lower limbs must be uncovered to allow measurements to be taken in contact with the skin, and the legs must be passively extended to their fullest extent.
- 3.6 Measurement must be from the highest point of the anterior superior iliac spine to the mid-point of the medial malleolus. The same method must be used on each limb. If these landmarks are missing, other symmetrical bony landmarks must be used.
- 3.7 In the case of dysmelia, bone fractures or any other Underlying Health Conditions that result in the shortening of a limb, the Athlete must be assessed for Leg Length Difference.

### **Assessment of Short Stature**

3.8 To assess Short Stature the following must apply:

- 3.8.1 A stadiometer must be used to measure the standing height of the Athlete in bare feet.
- 3.8.2 The Athlete's heels, lower back/buttocks and back of the head must be in contact with the long measuring arm of the stadiometer. The Athlete's eyes must be aligned at the same level with the tragus.
- 3.8.3 Female Athletes with short stature must have a standing height of less than or equal to 140cm.
- 3.8.4 Male Athletes with short stature must have a standing height of less than or equal to 145cm.

### **Assessment of Hypertonia**

- 3.9 To assess muscle tone, the Ashworth Scale (Ashworth, B. Preliminary trial of carisoprodol in multiple sclerosis. Practitioner. 192:540-542, 1964) as detailed in Section 3.9.2 must be used.
- 3.9.1 Athletes must score a minimum of grade two (2) in at least one (1) lower limb.

3.9.2 Hypertonia must be assessed using the following scale:

- Grade 0: No increase in tone
- Grade 1: Slight increase in tone giving a “catch” when the limb is flexed or extended
- Grade 2: More marked increase in tone, but limb is easily flexed or extended
- Grade 3: Considerable increase in tone with passive movement difficult
- Grade 4: Limb rigid in flexion or extension

3.10 The following assessments for clonus and tendon reflexes may also be used to confirm the Underlying Health Condition.

3.10.1 To test for clonus the Athlete must lie on a Para powerlifting bench or medical plinth, with the knee partially raised the Classifier dorsiflexes the foot quickly and keeps the pressure applied. If clonus is present, then the Athlete’s foot will move up and down as a result.

3.10.2 To assess tendon reflexes the Athlete sits or lies in a comfortable position, a reflex hammer must be used to strike the tendon of the test muscle and muscle contraction may be observed and compared on both sides.

3.10.2.1 Abnormally brisk reflexes in the limb in which the tone is increased must be clearly detectable.

3.10.2.2 To test the knee jerk (L3, L4) the Classifier flexes the Athlete’s knee and elicits the reflex by tapping just below the patella.

3.10.2.3 To test the ankle jerk (S1) the Classifier flexes the knee and dorsiflexes the ankle and elicits the reflex by tapping the Achilles tendon just above the heel.

### **Assessment of Ataxia and Athetosis**

3.11 Athletes who have Ataxia or Athetosis must demonstrate an observable involvement in one or both the lower limbs. To assess Ataxia or Athetosis co-ordination tests including, but not limited to the below are used:

3.11.1 Classifier presents his index finger and asks the Athlete to touch it with his toe).

3.11.2 Heel shin test (draw the heel of one leg along the length of the opposite shin, from ankle to knee and then in the reverse direction).

## Assessment of Impaired Passive Range of Movement

- 3.12 To assess the Impaired Passive Range of Movement the Athlete must lie on a Para powerlifting bench or a medical plinth. All measurements of Impaired Passive Range of Movement in the knee and the hip joint specifically must use the flat surface (Para powerlifting bench) as the baseline reference point for goniometry.
- 3.13 The centre of the goniometer must be positioned over the axis of rotation of the joint, and the arms of the goniometer must be aligned with the long axis of the bones of the adjacent segments or to an external reference point. To test the hip the following must apply;
  - 3.13.1 The Athlete must lie on a hard surface or treatment couch, with the opposite hip fixed in the anatomical position. The knee on the side being tested must be flexed manually. Classifiers must measure from the lateral midline of the pelvis. The approximate joint axis will be the greater trochanter of the femur.
- 3.14 To test the knee the following must apply;
  - 3.14.1 The Athlete must lie on a hard surface or treatment couch, with the passive range of movement being tested by supporting the limb at approximately 45 degrees. The Classifier must:
    - 3.14.1.1 Use a goniometer to determine any fixed angle in the Athlete's knee joint; and
    - 3.14.1.2 Use the MRC muscle power test to assess muscle power in flexion/extension.
- 3.15 Ankylosis must be assessed by manual testing of the affected joints (ankle, knee, hip) in any position.
- 3.16 To confirm the presence of scoliosis Athletes must attend Classification with an X-ray and an accompanying medical report that the Classification Panel must review to confirm sixty (60) degrees measured with the Cobb Method.
- 3.17 To assess the active range of movement at the elbow the following must apply;
  - 3.17.1 The active range of motion (flexion-extension) at the elbow must be determined by having the Athlete extend the arm away from the body at shoulder height palm upwards in the anatomical position. The elbow angle must be measured by goniometry using the established anatomical landmarks: (1) the superior aspect of the acromion; (2) the lateral epicondyle of the humerus; and (3) the radial styloid process. The "true angle" must be defined as the landmark joint angle minus 11 degrees.

## Appendix Two

### 1 Non-Eligible Impairment Types for all Athletes

Examples of Non-Eligible Impairments include, but are not limited to the following:

- Vision Impairment;
- Intellectual Impairment;
- Pain;
- Hearing Impairment;
- Low muscle tone;
- Hypermobility of joints;
- Joint instability, such as unstable shoulder joint, recurrent dislocation of a joint;
- Impaired muscle endurance;
- Impaired motor reflex functions;
- Impaired cardiovascular functions;
- Impaired respiratory functions;
- Impaired metabolic functions; and
- Tics and mannerisms, stereotypes and motor perseveration.

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

A number of Health Conditions do not lead to an Eligible Impairment and are not Underlying Health Conditions. An Athlete who has a Health Condition (including, but not limited to, one of the Health Conditions listed in the above Appendices but who does not have an Underlying Health Condition will not be eligible to compete in Para sport.

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.

Examples of Health Conditions that primarily cause pain include myofascial *pain*-dysfunction syndrome, fibromyalgia or complex regional pain syndrome.



An example of a Health Condition that primarily causes fatigue is chronic fatigue syndrome.

An example of a Health Condition that primarily causes hypermobility or hypotonia is Ehlers-Danlos syndrome.

Examples of Health Conditions that are primarily psychological or psychosomatic in nature include conversion disorders or post-traumatic stress disorder.



**World Para Powerlifting**

Adenauerallee 212-214  
53113 Bonn, Germany

Tel. +49 228 2097-260  
Fax +49 228 2097-209

**[info@WorldParaPowerlifting.org](mailto:info@WorldParaPowerlifting.org)**  
**[www.WorldParaPowerlifting.org](http://www.WorldParaPowerlifting.org)**

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