

PART A – GENERAL

1 Definitions

Classification: grouping athletes into Sport Classes (as defined in the IPC Athlete Classification Code) according to how much their impairment affects fundamental activities in each specific sport or discipline. This is also referred to as “Athlete Classification”.

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

Competition Medical Director: the person appointed by the LOC for an IPC Competition and/or a World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competition who is responsible to implement the World Para Athletics ‘Scope of Event Medical Services’.

Competition Rules: the World Para Athletics Competition Rules set out in Part C of these Rules.

International 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 IOSD act as an International Federation for certain Para sports.

IOC: the International Olympic Committee.

IPC: the International Paralympic Committee.

IPC Competitions: World Para Athletics Championships and World Para Athletics Regional Championships.

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

IOSD: International Organisation of Sport for the Disabled, an independent organisation recognised by the IPC as the sole worldwide representative for a specific impairment group to the IPC.

LOC: Local Organising Committee – an organisation appointed by World Para Athletics to organise an IPC Competition or World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competition.

LOC Chief Medical Doctor: the medical doctor appointed by the LOC for an IPC Competition and/or World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competition.

National Federation: the national member of an International Federation.

NPC: National Paralympic Committee, 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.

Orthosis: an orthopaedic appliance or apparatus used to assist functioning in a limb that is anatomically intact but which has impaired range of movement, muscle power or leg length difference.

Para sport: a sport governed by the IPC Athlete Classification Code and recognised as a Para sport by the IPC.

Prosthesis: An artificial device that replaces a missing body part, which may be lost through trauma, disease, or congenital conditions.

Referee: the person appointed to adjudicate World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions.

Regulations: the World Para Athletics Regulations set out in Part B of these Rules.

Rules: the World Para Athletics Rules and Regulations comprised of the General Provisions, the World Para Athletics Regulations and the World Para Athletics Competition Rules.

Sport Class: a category for Competition defined by World Para Athletics by reference to the extent to which an athlete can perform the specific tasks and activities required by a Para 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 classification protest.

WADC: the World Anti-Doping Code.

World Athletics: formerly known as the International Athletics Association Federation (IAAF).

World Athletics Rules: formerly known as the International Athletics Association Federation Competition Rules.

WPA: World Para Athletics.

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

World Para Athletics Athlete License: a license issued by the IPC in accordance with the IPC Athlete Licensing Programme to enable athletes and guide-runners to compete in IPC Games,

IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions.

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

World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions: World Para Athletics Grand Prix events, World Para Athletics World Cups and other World Para Athletics international competitions determined by World Para Athletics.

World Para Athletics Technical Delegate: a person appointed by World Para Athletics to monitor and oversee a World Para Athletics Recognised Competition and to ensure all technical operations are conducted in accordance with these Rules.

2 General Provisions

2.1 Scope and application

- 2.1.1 These World Para Athletics Rules and Regulations comprise the World Para Athletics Regulations (Regulations) and the World Para Athletics Competition Rules (Competition Rules) (together referred to as 'these Rules').
- 2.1.2 These Rules are mandatory for all World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions.
- 2.1.3 All participants (including, but not limited to, athletes and support personnel, coaches, trainers, managers, interpreters, team staff, officials, medical or paramedical personnel) of any World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions agree to be bound by these Rules as a condition of such participation.
- 2.1.4 The World Para Athletics Classification Rules and Regulations are an integral part of these Rules and are located on the World Para Athletics website.
- 2.1.5 The IPC Handbook is an integral part of the governance of the sport of Para Athletics.
- 2.1.6 Any matter not addressed in these Rules shall be determined by the IPC, in its sole discretion.
- 2.1.7 These Rules will be effective from 24 February 2023.

2.2 Interpretation

- 2.2.1 References to a 'Regulation' mean a Regulation referred to in Part B of these Rules, references to a 'Rule' mean a Rule referred to in Part C of these Rules, references to an 'Appendix' means an Appendix to these Rules, and capitalised terms used in these Rules have the meaning given to them in the Definitions section of these Rules.
- 2.2.2 Any comments annotating various provisions of these Rules shall be used to interpret these Rules.
- 2.2.3 Headings used in these Rules are used for convenience only and have no meaning that is separate from the Regulation(s) or Rule(s) to which they refer.
- 2.2.4 Unless otherwise expressly provided for in the Regulations, all references in the Regulations to "athletes" shall also include "guide-runner". This does not apply to Part C of the Rules.
- 2.2.5 All references to the words "he", "his" or "him" in these Rules also mean the words "she", "hers" or "her".

2.3 Governance

- 2.3.1 The IPC acts as the International Federation for and governs the sport of Para Athletics. It carries out these responsibilities under the name "World Para Athletics" and the term "World Para Athletics" must be read in these Rules as the IPC and vice versa.

2.4 Printing of the Rules

- 2.4.1 These Rules are the copyright property of the IPC and have been published for the benefit of NPCs, athletes, officials and others who are engaged in an official capacity with World Para Athletics. These 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 Rules, including the right to insist on an assignment to the IPC of the copyright in any translated version of these Rules. Any other

organisation must obtain the permission of the IPC prior to reprinting, translating or publishing these Rules.

- 2.4.2 The English version of these Rules shall be accepted as the authoritative version for the purpose of interpretation.

2.5 Amendments to the Rules

- 2.5.1 After the conclusion of each Paralympic Games, the IPC shall undertake a review of these Rules, in consultation with NPCs and any relevant IOSDs, in accordance with the IPC Handbook (located on the IPC website). All amendments shall be implemented prior to the start of the second season following the relevant Paralympic Games.
- 2.5.2 These Rules also may be amended at any time by the IPC as a result, for example, of changes in Classification related matters, the World Athletics Rules, or where World Para Athletics otherwise considers it necessary to do so.

PART B – WORLD PARA ATHLETICS REGULATIONS

3 World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions

3.1 Competition levels

3.1.1 World Para Athletics categorises Competitions based on their scale, size, and nature to determine the applicable requirements at each Competition.

3.1.2 World Para Athletics Recognised Competition levels are as follows:

a) IPC Games

- Paralympic Games
- Parapan American Games

b) IPC Competitions

- World Para Athletics Championships
- World Para Athletics Regional Championships

c) World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions

- World Para Athletics Grand Prix events
- World Para Athletics World Cups
- Any other World Para Athletics international competitions determined by World Para Athletics

d) World Para Athletics Approved Competitions

- International competitions for the sport of Para Athletics
- National competitions for the sport of Para Athletics
- World Athletics /NF endorsed competitions (as defined in the World Athletics Rules)
- Any other competitions for the sport of Para Athletics determined by World Para Athletics

3.2 Competition cycle

3.2.1 Unless otherwise determined by the IPC, the cycle for IPC Games, IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions is as follows:

Cycle	Competition
Year 1	World Para Athletics Championships World Para Athletics Grand Prix events World Para Athletics World Cups
Year 2	World Para Athletics Regional Championships World Para Athletics Grand Prix events World Para Athletics World Cups
Year 3	World Para Athletics Championships World Para Athletics Grand Prix events World Para Athletics World Cups
Year 4	Paralympic Games World Para Athletics Regional Championships World Para Athletics Grand Prix events World Para Athletics World Cups

3.3 Competition management

3.3.1 The IPC shall manage all IPC Games.

3.3.2 World Para Athletics shall have the right to manage all IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions. It also shall have the right to oversee all World Para Athletics Approved Competitions. The words World, Regional and World Para Athletics may not be used in connection with any Para Athletics event without the prior written consent of World Para Athletics. In addition, the IPC is the owner of all rights of whatever kind or nature in respect of the terms "Paralympics" and "Paralympic", the term "Para Athletics" when associated with sport or any IPC activities, the IPC motto, flag and anthem, the Paralympic Symbol (three Agitos design) and any other trademarks, logos and other indicia used or intended to be used in the context of the Paralympic Movement.

- 3.3.3 World Para Athletics shall enforce these Rules for all World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions. World Para Athletics shall have jurisdiction over all matters not assigned by the Rules to another person or entity (such as an official or LOC).
- 3.3.4 The events and competition format for all World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions are outlined in the Competition Rules.

3.4 Competition entries

- 3.4.1 All entries to participate in IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions must be in accordance with these Rules and the entry criteria outlined on the World Para Athletics website.
- 3.4.2 The entry criteria and minimum qualifying standards for the IPC Games shall be defined in the qualification criteria outlined on the IPC website.
- 3.4.3 The entry criteria and minimum qualifying standards for each IPC Competition and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competition shall be defined in the qualification criteria outlined on the World Para Athletics website.

3.5 Recognition of results

- 3.5.1 World Para Athletics accepts results achieved at World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions by eligible athletes (in accordance with Regulation 4) solely for the following purposes:
 - 3.5.1.1 World Para Athletics rankings;
 - 3.5.1.2 World Para Athletics records;
 - 3.5.1.3 allocation of NPC qualification slots for IPC Games, IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions; and/or
 - 3.5.1.4 achieving qualification standards for entry into IPC Games, IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions.

3.6 Advertising and displays during Competitions

- 3.6.1 The IPC determines the advertising requirements at IPC Games.
- 3.6.2 The World Para Athletics Uniform and Equipment Advertising Regulations (located on the World Para Athletics website) outline the advertising permitted by World Para Athletics at IPC Competitions. During all other World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions (except IPC Games), the relevant LOC, shall adopt the applicable advertising requirements.

3.7 Anti-gambling requirements

- 3.7.1 The IPC may adopt anti-gambling regulations, policies, codes and/or requirements from time to time, which will be binding on all participants of World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions.

4 Eligibility & Classification

4.1 Eligibility requirements – IPC Games

- 4.1.1 The IPC determines the eligibility requirements for IPC Games.

4.2 Eligibility requirements – IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions

- 4.2.1 To meet the eligibility requirements to participate in IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions an athlete must:
 - 4.2.1.1 hold a valid IPC Athlete Licence issued in accordance with the IPC Athlete Registration and Licensing Programme (located on the World Para Athletics website).
 - 4.2.1.2 be internationally classified and have been assigned a Sport Class (other than Not Eligible (NE)) in accordance with the World Para Athletics Classification Rules and Regulations;
 - 4.2.1.3 be entered by their NPC (or National Federation if such responsibility has been delegated by the NPC), in either case the NPC being a member in good

standing of the IPC;

- 4.2.1.4 satisfy the nationality requirements of the IPC Athlete Nationality Policy (located on the IPC website);
 - 4.2.1.5 be 14 years of age (or older) on 31 December of the year during which the IPC Competition or World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competition takes place; and
 - 4.2.1.6 not be disqualified, suspended or otherwise sanctioned.
- 4.2.2 In order to meet the eligibility requirements for IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions a guide-runner must meet all of the above criteria except for criterion 4.2.1.2.

4.3 Eligibility requirements – World Para Athletics Approved Competitions

- 4.3.1 In order to compete in World Para Athletics Approved Competitions an athlete/guide-runner must meet the eligibility requirements determined by the relevant organising committee or governing body.

4.4 Qualification requirements

- 4.4.1 In addition to the eligibility requirements outlined above, in order to compete in World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions an athlete must also meet the qualification standards, qualification criteria and any sport entry rules applicable to the relevant World Para Athletics Recognised Competition.

4.5 Gender

- 4.5.1 Subject to Regulation 4.5.3, below, an athlete shall be eligible to compete in men's competition if he is:
 - 4.5.1.1 recognised as male in law; and
 - 4.5.1.2 eligible to compete under these Rules.
- 4.5.2 Subject to Regulation 4.5.3, below, an athlete shall be eligible to compete in women's competition if she is:
 - 4.5.2.1 recognised as female in law; and
 - 4.5.2.2 eligible to compete under these Rules.
- 4.5.3 World Para Athletics will deal with any cases involving transgender athletes in accordance with the IOC's transgender guidelines (as amended by the IOC from time to time) and any applicable World Para Athletics regulations.
- 4.5.4 The eligibility of persons recognised as third gender in law will be determined by the IPC on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with any applicable World Para Athletics regulations.

4.6 Classification

- 4.6.1 World Para Athletics shall determine the World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions where international Classification will be offered. At such Competitions, Classification will be conducted prior to the start of each Competition in accordance with the World Para Athletics Classification Rules and Regulations.
- 4.6.2 An athlete who has not been assessed and allocated a Sport Class by a World Para Athletics Classification Panel will not meet the eligibility criteria (set out in this Regulation 4) to compete in IPC Games, IPC Competitions and, unless WPA determines otherwise, World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions.

5 Anti-Doping

5.1 Anti-Doping requirements

- 5.1.1 The IPC Anti-Doping Code (located on the IPC website) applies to all IPC Games, IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions.
- 5.1.2 World Para Athletics Approved Competitions must be conducted in accordance with the anti-doping rules of the relevant governing body and the WADC International Standards.

In order for a World Record to be recognised by World Para Athletics, doping control must occur at the competition that the record is set, and, the testing must have been arranged in advance of the start of the first day of competition. It is not a requirement that an athlete that has broken a world record is selected for testing.

In the case where a record is broken at a competition that has not arranged for doping control in advance, the record shall not be recognised

6 Medical

6.1 Medical requirements

- 6.1.1 The IPC Medical Code (located on the IPC website) applies to all IPC Games, IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions.
- 6.1.2 The medical and safety rules of the relevant governing body apply to World Para Athletics Approved Competitions.

6.2 Medical responsibilities

- 6.2.1 In accordance with the IPC Medical Code, all athletes who compete in IPC Games, IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions are responsible for their own physical and mental health and for their own medical supervision.
- 6.2.2 By entering in an IPC Game, IPC Competition or an World Para Athletics

Sanctioned Competition, an athlete releases the IPC and World Para Athletics from any liability to the extent permitted by law for any loss, injury or damage that he or she may suffer in relation to, or as a result of, his or her participation in Classification, the relevant Competition.

- 6.2.3 Notwithstanding the above Regulations 6.2.1 and 6.2.2, NPCs shall use best efforts to ensure the physical and mental health of all athletes under their jurisdiction prior to their participation in IPC Games, IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions.
- 6.2.4 Every NPC is responsible to ensure that appropriate and continuous medical monitoring of its' athletes is undertaken. It is further recommended that NPCs organise for a periodic health evaluation of each athlete that it enters in an IPC Game, IPC Competition or World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competition and that NPCs appoint a team physician to attend all such Competitions.
- 6.2.5 In accordance with the Rules, the Medical Delegate will be entitled to prevent any athlete from competing where in his opinion it would be dangerous for the athlete to compete, including where the safety of other athletes, officials, spectators and/or the Competition itself is put at risk.
- 6.2.6 At all times, the overriding priority must be to safeguard the health and safety of athletes, officials and spectators. The outcome of the relevant Competition must never influence such decisions.

6.3 Medical withdrawal request

- 6.3.1 At all IPC Games, IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions the official World Para Athletics Medical Withdrawal Request Form (located on the World Para Athletics website) must be submitted to the World Para Athletics office in order to officially request the withdrawal of an athlete from the relevant Competition after submission of the final entry numbers or as otherwise determined in the Competition entry requirements.
- 6.3.2 The Medical Withdrawal Request Form must be signed by the athlete and the team physician of the athlete. In the event there is no team physician, if the team

has an agreement to use the physician of another team that physician may sign the form. Alternatively, the LOC Chief Medical Doctor may do so.

- 6.3.3 All sections of the Medical Withdrawal Request Form must be completed.
- 6.3.4 All Medical Withdrawal Request Forms must be submitted at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the relevant event of the Competition. If this is not possible (for example due to the onset of an acute injury or illness within the twenty-four (24) hours prior to the relevant event) an explanation must be provided in the Medical Withdrawal Request Form.
- 6.3.5 The Medical Delegate, or such other person determined by the IPC/World Para Athletics makes a decision to the Technical Delegate who shall communicate whether a Medical Withdrawal Request is accepted. This decision is final with no opportunity to protest or appeal.
- 6.3.6 If circumstances permit, the Technical Delegate may direct that the athlete be removed from the start list and the start list may be re-drawn.

6.4 Medical insurance

- 6.4.1 NPCs are responsible to ensure suitable medical provision and medical insurance coverage for their respective delegations for World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions and (subject to Regulation 6.4.2 below) for the full duration of the relevant Competition, including travel to and from such Competitions. NPCs must provide a copy of this insurance to World Para Athletics if requested.
- 6.4.2 It shall be the responsibility of the LOC in each case to ensure on-site medical, emergency ambulance, first aid services and medical insurance coverage is provided at all IPC Games, IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions. The IPC Medical Committee shall issue and keep updated practical guidelines to assist LOCs in providing adequate medical services and taking appropriate safety measures at such Competitions.

6.5 Medical and safety services at IPC Games, IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions

- 6.5.1 The LOC shall be responsible for implementing the medical and safety services for IPC Games in accordance with the relevant host agreement.
- 6.5.2 LOCs shall be responsible for implementing the medical and safety services at IPC Competitions and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competitions in accordance with the Scope of Event Medical Services for IPC Athletes (that forms part of the host agreement between the IPC and the LOC).
- 6.5.3 A Competition Medical Director shall be appointed by the LOC for each IPC Competition and World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competition to prepare and co-ordinate the medical services and safety requirements during the relevant Competition. The IPC Medical and Scientific Director shall be the liaison person between World Para Athletics and the Competition Medical Director for all medical and safety-related matters. The IPC Medical and Scientific Director may delegate specific responsibilities to such person or persons at his discretion.
- 6.5.4 At all IPC Competitions and any other Competitions determined by World Para Athletics, World Para Athletics shall be responsible to ensure a medical representative to monitor implementation of these and any other competition specific medical and safety rules.

6.6 Harassment

The dignity of every individual must be respected. All forms of abuse and/or harassment are prohibited. The IPC Code of Ethics and the Policy on Non-accidental Violence and Abuse (located on the IPC website) apply to all World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions.

6.7 Autonomic dysreflexia

The IPC Policy on Autonomic Dysreflexia (located on the IPC website) applies to all World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions.

6.8 Hypoxic or hyperoxic chambers or tents

The use of hypoxic or hyperoxic chambers or tents is prohibited at all World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions.

6.9 Heat

The IPC Heat Policy (located on the IPC website) applies to all World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions.

6.10 Smoking Ban

Smoking is prohibited during competition at all venues of World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions.

7 Technology and Equipment

7.1 Fundamental principles

- 7.1.1 The IPC Policy on Sport Equipment (located on the IPC website) applies to all World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions. The principles outlined in this policy apply in particular (but not exclusively) in relation to the development of sports specific prosthetic devices.

7.2 Monitoring of the use of technology and equipment

- 7.2.1 World Para Athletics will monitor the use of technology and equipment used, or, intended to be used, at World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions to ensure that it conforms to the principles outlined in the IPC Policy on Sport Equipment. The following examples shall be considered contrary to that policy; technology and/or equipment that, in the opinion of the World Para Athletics:
 - 7.2.1.1 provides an unrealistic enhancement of height of release in throwing events;
 - 7.2.1.2 provides an unrealistic enhancement of stride length;

7.2.1.3 is not commercially available to all athletes, unless the athlete can establish that the:

7.2.1.3.1 technology and/or equipment is in final product form;

7.2.1.3.2 manufacturer has announced the market launch date of the technology and/or equipment and this date is within 9 months of the date of the athlete's request to use it; and

7.2.1.3.3 manufacturer has published information on the technology and/or equipment; and/or

7.2.1.4 contains materials or devices that store, generate or deliver energy designed to provide an athlete with an overall competitive advantage over an athlete not using such technology and/or equipment (unless, in relation to technology and equipment not yet commercially available or commercially available from February 2020, the athlete can establish on the balance of probabilities that the use of such technology and/or equipment would not provide him with an overall competitive advantage over an athlete not using such technology and/or equipment).

7.2.2 World Para Athletics has adopted provisions to enable the use of certain technology and equipment designed to provide assistance to Para athletes. Such provisions are outlined in the Competition Rules.

7.3 Prohibited technology

7.3.1 Use of the following technology is prohibited at World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions:

7.3.1.1 equipment that breaches the fundamental principles outlined in the IPC Policy on Sport Equipment;

7.3.1.2 equipment that results in athletic performance being generated by machines, engines, electronics, motors, robotic mechanisms or the like; and

7.3.1.3 osteo-integrated prosthesis.

7.3.2 At any IPC Games, IPC Competition or World Para Athletics Sanctioned Competition the World Para Athletics Technical Delegate shall be entitled to prohibit the use of any equipment prohibited by these Regulations. In every case

of a suspected breach the World Para Athletics Technical Delegate must report the matter to World Para Athletics. Upon receiving such a report World Para Athletics must refer the matter to the IPC Medical and Scientific Director. Any further investigation and/or action will be determined by the IPC on a case by case basis.

- 7.3.3 World Para Athletics shall be entitled to prohibit the use of equipment either permanently or on a temporary basis (to allow for further investigation) where it considers, acting reasonably, that any of the fundamental principles of equipment design and availability are breached.

8 Disciplinary rules

8.1 The IPC Code of Ethics and the World Para Athletics Code of Conduct

- 8.1.1 The IPC Code of Ethics and the World Para Athletics Code of Conduct (both located on the IPC website) shall apply to all participants of World Para Athletics Recognised Competitions.
- 8.1.2 Any breach of these Regulations shall be determined in accordance with the procedures outlined in the World Para Athletics Code of Conduct.

9 Protests & Appeals

9.1 Field of play

- 9.1.1 Protests and appeals relating to the field of play shall be determined in accordance with the Competition Rules.

9.2 Anti-doping

- 9.2.1 All anti-doping rule violations, including any appeals regarding such violations, shall be determined in accordance with the IPC Anti-Doping Code.

9.3 Classification

- 9.3.1 Protests and appeals relating to Classification shall be determined in accordance with the World Para Athletics Classification Rules and Regulations.