



## Classification for School Sport Classification General Guide

### **What is Classification?**

Paralympic sport exists so that athletes with a disability have equal opportunities to compete and be successful in sport. Classification groups athletes who have similar impairments together into classes for competition in their particular sport. Each Paralympic sport has a different classification system.

<https://www.paralympic.org.au/classification/>

### **Who needs to be classified?**

All students with an eligible impairment type must be classified if they wish to participate in representative school sport as an athlete with a disability at a state or national championships.

- Each sport has specific minimal impairment criteria that a student must meet in order to receive a class for competition. Athletes may be eligible for one sport but not another.
- Not all students with a disability will meet the sport specific minimal impairment criteria. If a student does not meet the criteria for the impairment group, they will not be eligible to compete as an athlete with a disability and will be required to compete as an able bodied student.

### **How does a student get a classification?**

Please contact your state based sporting organisation (see below) if you have a physical, vision or intellectual impairment and want to 'get involved' in Multiclass-sport or 'get classified' to compete against other athletes with a disability in a Multiclass-sport. They will be able to assist you to get involved or provide details of opportunities to get classified.

If your state sporting organisation is unable to provide you with the information you require to get classified, please register with the following form – [Get Into Sport](#) and the APC will endeavour to assist you.

- Athletes / Parents can request further information about classification using the **Get classified form** as soon as they are interested in competing for their school
- Parents / teachers are encouraged to contact the relevant National or State Sporting organisation to arrange a classification. Further information is available at:

### **Swimming**

#### **Physical Disability:**

<http://form.jotformpro.com/form/43058918602962>

#### **Intellectual Disability**

<http://sportinclusionaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/SchoolSportEligibilityForm.pdf>



## **Athletics (Track and field, cross country)**

### **Physical Disability**

<http://www.athletics.com.au/Para-athletics#GetClassified>

### **Intellectual Disability**

<http://sportinclusionaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/SchoolSportEligibilityForm.pdf>

- Athletes will require a supporting medical documentation from their doctor and/or specialist in order to proceed with classification. Each impairment group requires specific medical documentation to be presented, it is best to check with your sport.

## **Classification for School Sport Classification General Guide IMPAIRMENT GROUP**

### **Physical Impairment**

Students with a physical disability that affects movement:

- Muscle weakness
- Limited range of movement of a joint,
- Amputation or limb deficiency,
- Brain injury or cerebral palsy resulting in ataxia, hypertonia or athetosis
- Short Stature
- Leg length difference
- Other musculoskeletal conditions

Minimal impairment criteria applies for each sport

**Vision Impairment** – <https://www.paralympic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/VI-National-Classification-Form-2015.pdf>

Students with a visual acuity that is less than or equal to Log MAR = 1.00 (6/60) and/or the visual field is less than a diameter of 40 degrees. All classifications are allocated from the best eye with best corrected vision.

### **Intellectual Impairment –**

<http://sportinclusionaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/SchoolSportEligibilityForm.pdf>

Students with an IQ less than 75 as assessed by a professionally administered IQ test, and significant limitations in adaptive behaviour (conceptual, social or practical adaptive skills).

**Deaf** - <http://www.deafsports.org.au/participation>

Students with hearing level loss of at least 55db in the better ear as assessed by an audiologist or audio metrist.

**Transplant** - <http://transplant.org.au/get-involved/multi-class-sports/>

Students who have had an organ or bone marrow transplant including kidney, liver, heart, lung, pancreas.



**What are the sport classes? Each impairment group has specific classes for competition.**

**Cross Country uses the athletics classification system.**

<b>Impairment Group</b>	<b>Athletics Sport Classes</b>	<b>Swimming Sport Classes</b>
Physical Impairment*	Classes T/F 31-57	Classes S 1-10
Vision Impairment*	Classes T/F 11-13	Classes S 11-13
Intellectual Impairment*	Class T/F 20	Class S 20
Hearing Impairment	Class T/F 01	Class S 15
Transplantees	Class T/F60	Class S 16

### **Classification Masterlist**

The sport classification master list provides a summary of all athletes who have been formally classified for the sport.

This is managed by the national federation for the sport.

#### **Athletics**

<http://athletics.com.au/Participate/Multi-Class-Athletics/Classification-Masterlist>

#### **Swimming**

<https://www.swimming.org.au/Multi-class-swimming/Get-classified.aspx>