



Classification Guidelines

FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM S1 – S10

IPC Swimming

www.ipcswimming.org

- Rankings
- Records
- Rules
- IPC Handbook
- Classification Manual
- Calendar of Events

Contact: Australian Athletes With a Disability Ltd. (AAWD)
Representative body for:

- Wheelchair Sports Australia (WSA)
 - Wheelchair Sports Victoria (WSV)
 - Queensland Sporting Wheelies (QSW)
 - other state based organizations
- Australian Sports Association for Disabled (ASOD)
- Cerebral Palsy Australia Sports and Recreation Federation (CPASRF)

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VISUALLY IMPAIRED S11, S12, S13

International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA)

www.ibsa.es

Vision impairment is determined by either visual acuity or field of vision. A professional medical practitioner being an Ophthalmologist either privately or in a Low Vision Clinic carries out the testing.

The IBSA Medical Committee, not IPC, does testing at IPC Level.

Eyesight classification for all blind sport is in accordance with the International Blind Sports Association (IBSA) regulations and is recognised by IPC.

These are;

- B1 (S11) No light perception in either eye up to light perception but inability to recognise the shape of a hand at any distance or direction. For swimming, tappers required at each end of the pool.
- B2 (S12) From ability to recognise the shape of a hand up to visual acuity of 2/60 or visual field of less than 5 degrees. Tappers may be required.
- B3 (S13) From visual acuity above 2/60 up to visual acuity of 6/60 or a visual field of more than 5 degrees and less than 20 degrees.

ABSF has introduced nationally a B4 category, which is; from a visual acuity above 6/60 up to and including visual acuity of 6/24. No visual field considered.

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INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY S14

International Sports Federation for Persons with Intellectual Disability (INAS-FID)

www.inas-fid.org

INAS-FID COMPETITIONS

To be eligible for INAS-FID competitions an athlete **must meet two** standards:

1. The **minimum age requirement** for international competitions as mandated by the International sport governing body (e.g. IAAF, FINA, FIBA, ITTF or FIFA); and
2. The internationally recognised **diagnostic criteria for intellectual disability**.

Note: In addition to these criteria, sport specific performance standards also may need to be met in order to compete in certain competitions at the international level (e.g., qualifying times).

The **diagnostic criteria for intellectual disability** used by INAS-FID are consistent with those of the World Health Organization (WHO, ICD-10 and ICF, 2001) and the American Association on Mental Retardation (AAMR, 2002), and are recognised internationally by professional organizations (International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disability, American Psychological Association). The criteria include three requirements, all of which must be met:

1. **Significant impairment in intellectual functioning**, as determined by a rating that is two standard deviations below average on an appropriate/recognized assessment instrument. On assessment instruments with a standard deviation of 15 points, the upper limit for meeting this standard is a score of 70, plus or minus a standard error of 5 points (i.e., an IQ score of 75 or lower).
2. **Significant limitations in adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social, and practical adaptive skills**. Examples of these skills include: communication, self-care, self-direction, and social/interpersonal skills. Limitations in adaptive behaviour affect both daily life and the ability to respond to life changes and environmental demands. Significant limitations in adaptive behaviour are established through the use of standardised measures that have been norm-referenced on the general population including people with disabilities (e.g., Vineland Adaptive Behaviour Scales, AAMR Adaptive Behaviour Scales).
3. Intellectual disability must be evident during the **developmental period**. This is generally considered to be from conception to 18 years of age.

Note: Lack of stimulation, education, or social deprivation, while possible causes of intellectual disability, do not meet the INAS-FID criteria for competition. Inclusion in this level of competition is contingent upon a diagnosis of intellectual disability that meets the 3-standard criteria outlined above.

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DEAF S15

International Committee of Deaf Sports (CISS)

www.ciss.org

Audiologist or audiometrist assesses the degree of hearing loss - the hearing loss is plotted on an audiogram (x for left ear and o for right ear). On an audiogram, it has decibels down as rows and hertz in frequency across as columns. The audiograms have six hertz columns - 250, 500, 1000, 2000, 4000, 8000. The CISS only use three frequencies to assess hearing loss - 500, 1000, 2000. The rows are every 10 decibels from 0 to 120 decibels.

Eligibility for international deaf sports competitions (CISS - French acronym for International Committee of Deaf Sports) is that the better ear is at least 55db average across three frequencies (500, 1000, 2000 hertz).

For an example, if a person's audiogram shows:

x (left ear) 500 hertz = 60db loss, 1000 hertz = 65db loss, 2000 hertz = 75db therefore average of 60, 65, 75 is 66db.

o (right ear) 500 hertz = 60db loss, 1000 hertz = 70db loss, 2000 hertz = 80db therefore average of 60, 70, 80 is 70db.

CISS rules that it follows the better ear criteria, the person's better ear is the left ear and it is more than 55db - he qualifies for CISS deaf sports competitions and also the S15 classification used by ASI, IPC, etc.

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TRANSPLANT S16

A transplant recipient is someone who has had an organ or bone marrow transplant.

The World Transplant Games are held every 2 years and the event attracts approximately 1,500 competitors from 60 countries.

The Australian Transplant Games are conducted every 2 years. Approximately 600 competitors (and 500 supporters) attend from all states of Australia plus representatives from 8-10 countries.

Why don't transplant recipients compete at the Paralympics (Mark Cocks):

'No transplant recipients compete at the Paralympics because we really want our own event. The main reason for holding transplant games events is to raise awareness of the need for organ and tissue donation – this message would get completely lost at the Paralympics.'

Contacts: World Transplant Games Federation www.wtqf.org

Transplant Australia

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SPECIAL OLYMPICS

What is Intellectual disability?

A person with an intellectual disability is someone who finds it harder to learn the sorts of things that other people probably do without thinking, for example, cleaning teeth or handling money. Most people who have an intellectual disability are born that way, although a small number of individuals acquire the disability later in childhood (brain injury) as a result of accident or infection. Intellectual disability can occur in any family regardless of income, social class, religion, race or anything else!

Divisioning

The 15 Percent Guideline:

In keeping with the Special Olympics philosophy, every athlete should be encouraged to perform to the best of his or her ability, and should have a reasonable chance to excel while competing against fellow athletes of similar ability. Athletes are placed in competition divisions according to the following guidelines:

This is called divisioning.

Athletes or teams are divisioned using the following procedure:

1. Divide by gender:- Male, female or combined (under some circumstances)
2. Divide by age:-Individual sports- 8-11, 12-15, 16-21, 22-29, 30 and over Team sports- 15 and under, 16-21, 22 and over.
3. Divide by ability
 - Pre-competition information and scores are used to place individuals or teams in preliminary rounds.
 - On-site preliminary events (timed heats or observations) are conducted to verify or modify divisions for final competition.
 - In individual sports, it is suggested that the difference between the fastest times and the slowest times within a final division should not vary by more than 15%.
4. Combining Groups
 - Age groups and/or males and females may be combined if this achieves a closer matching of ability.
 - The minimum number of athletes in each division is 3. The maximum is 8.
 - In many programs the numbers of participants is so low that divisioning becomes a tremendous challenge. In all instances, competition must be provided among athletes of equal ability. Ability is the overriding factor as long as there are no health and safety risks to athletes.

Honest Effort

According to the Official Special Olympics Rules, any athlete or team that completes an event at a score or time 15% better than the preliminary time or reported score shall be subject to disqualification.

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