

Classification Information Sheet

ALPINE SKIING

This information is intended to be a generic guide to classification for Alpine Skiing. The classification of athletes in this sport is performed by authorised classifiers according to the classification rules of the sport, which are determined by the International Federation (IPC Alpine Skiing).

Which Paralympic impairment groups compete in Alpine Skiing?

Impairment		Examples of health conditions
Vision Impairment		Albinism, Retinitis Pigmentosa, macular or rod cone dystrophy
Physical Impairment	Limb loss or deficiency	Amputation from trauma, cancer, Limb deficiency from birth
	Loss of muscle strength	Spinal cord injury, Spina Bifida, Transverse Myelitis, Sacral Agenesis, Spinal Tumours, Erbs Palsy, Muscular dystrophy
	Hypertonia Ataxia Athetosis	Cerebral palsy, acquired brain injury, stroke, brain tumor, Multiple sclerosis, cerebellar ataxia, Hereditary Spastic Paraparesis or other conditions where hypertonia (spasticity, rigidity or dystonia), ataxia or athetosis are present.
	Joint movement restrictions	Arthrogryposis, Talipes Equinovarus, joint fusions
	Leg length difference	Significant difference in leg length

What is the Minimal Disability Criteria?

Specific criteria applied to each sport to determine if a person's disability results in sufficient limitation in their sport. This is called the minimal disability criteria. For more information page numbers of the [IPC Alpine Skiing Classification rules](#) are indicated in brackets.

Impairment		Minimal Disability – GUIDE ONLY
Vision Impairment		Visual acuity less than or equal to 6/60 (log MAR 1.0); or visual field is less than 20 degrees radius in both eyes with best corrected vision.
Physical Impairment	Limb loss or deficiency	Leg: At least through ankle amputation. Arm: Residual limbs unable to hold and use a ski pole. (Page 33/35)
	Loss of muscle strength	Loss of muscle power in at least one elbow, shoulder, hip, knee or ankle. (page 34/36)
	Hypertonia Ataxia Athetosis	Hypertonia, ataxia or athetosis in at least one leg. (Page 38)
	Joint movement restrictions	Movement restriction in at least one elbow, shoulder joint, hip, knee or ankle. (Page 34/36)
	Leg length difference	Leg length difference of at least 7cm.

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How do I get classified?

1. Apply to be classified online via the [Get Classified form](#).
- OR
2. Contact your [State Alpine Skiing Organisation](#)

What are the Paralympic classes for this sport?

The list below is intended as a guide only. Only authorised classifiers are able to provide a formal classification in a particular sport.

Class	Examples (Guide Only)
Athletes with a Vision Impairment – Standing classes (all athletes use a guide skier)	
B1	From no light perception in either eye to light perception, but inability to recognise the shape of a hand at any distance or in any direction.
B2	Ability to recognise objects up to a distance of 2 metres i.e. below 2/60 and/or visual field of less than five (5) degrees.
B3	Can recognise contours between 2 and 6 metres away i.e. 2/60 – 6/60 and visual field of more than five (5) degrees and less than twenty (20) degrees.
Athletes with a Physical Impairment – Standing classes	
LW1	Double above-knee amputees or similar
LW2	Above knee amputee using outriggers and one ski outrigger skiers
LW3	Double below-knee amputees or CP that affects both of their legs or their balance, who ski with 2 skis and 2 poles
LW4	Skiers with below knee amputation using prosthesis, two skis and two poles
LW5/7	Skiers with both hands / arms amputated or an equivalent disability meaning they are unable to use poles (LW5/7-1, LW5/7-2, LW 5/7-3)
LW6/8	Skiers with one hand / arm amputated or a similar disability meaning they can only use one pole (LW6/8 -1, LW6/8 -2)
LW9	Disability of one arm and one leg (Amputation, CP, Hemiplegic), (LW9/1, LW9/2)
Athletes with a Physical Impairment – Sitting classes	
LW10	Mono skiers (high level of spinal cord injury), (LW10/1, LW10/2)
LW11	Mono skiers (thoracic spinal cord injury)
LW12	Mono skiers (paraplegia and double AK Amputees), (LW12/1, LW 12/2)

Further Information

National	Disabled Wintersport Australia E: info@disabledwintersport.com.au P: +61 2 9704 0500	Australian Paralympic Committee E: classification@paralympic.org.au P: +61 2 9704 0500
International	IPC Alpine Skiing	



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