Classification Information Sheet

WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

This information is intended to be a generic guide to classification for Wheelchair Rugby. 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 (IWRF).

Which Paralympic impairment groups compete in Wheelchair Rugby?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impairment</th>
<th>Examples of health conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Impairment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limb loss or deficiency</td>
<td>Amputation from trauma, cancer, Limb deficiency from birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of muscle strength</td>
<td>Spinal cord injury, Spina Bifida, Transverse Myelitis, Sacral Agenesis, Spinal Tumours, Erbs Palsy, Muscular dystrophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertonia</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ataxia</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Athetosis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint movement restrictions</td>
<td>Arthrogryposis, Talipes Equinovarus, joint fusions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 IWRF Classification rules are indicated in brackets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impairment</th>
<th>Minimal Disability – GUIDE ONLY</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Impairment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limb loss or deficiency</td>
<td>Limb deficiency or limb loss in both legs AND at least 1 arm, where one hand has restrictions that limits finger and thumb function. (Page 96)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of muscle strength</td>
<td>Loss of muscle strength in both hips AND at least 1 arm, where one hand has weakness that limits finger and thumb function. (Page 96)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertonia</td>
<td>Hypertonia (Spasticity, Rigidity or Dystonia), Ataxia and Athetosis impacting in at least three limbs. (Page 12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ataxia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athetosis</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Joint movement restrictions</td>
<td>Joint movement restrictions in both hips AND at least 1 arm, where one hand has restrictions that limits finger and thumb function. (Page 96)</td>
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</table>

How do I get classified?
1. Apply to be classified online via the Get Classified form.
OR
2. Contact your State Wheelchair Rugby Organisation
**Classification Information Sheet**

**WHEELCHAIR RUGBY**

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Court role:</th>
<th>Examples (Guide Only)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 0.5   | Blocker     | **Physical skills:** No trunk or leg movement; limited shoulder; elbow and hand movement - chest strapping and significant tilting on chair assists with balance  
**Chair Skills:** Elbows out to side, short pushing distance; slow speed; requires one hand on the chair at all times for balance; stops chair to change direction  
**Passing:** Two-handed scoop pass (short range) or underhand volleyball pass (long range)  
**Catching:** Traps ball directly on lap  
**Ball defence:** Limited ability to defend ball from opponents |
| 1.0   | Blocker/in-bounder  
**Physical skills:** No trunk or leg movement; limited shoulder; elbow or hand movement  
**Chair skills:** can turn in all directions without stopping; faster than 0.5 player  
**Passing:** Two-handed chest pass (short) or underhand volleyball pass (long range)  
**Catching:** Catches with forearm or wrist  
**Ball defence:** Limited ability to defend ball from opponents |
| 1.5   | Blocker/ball handler  
**Physical skills:** Some shoulder, elbow and wrist strength; weakness in trunk and legs  
**Chair skills:** Good pushing skills  
**Passing:** Chest pass; with limited wrist or finger use for control  
**Catching:** Catches with forearm or wrist  
**Ball defence:** Limited ability to defend ball from opponents |
| 2.0   | Ball handler  
**Physical skills:** Strong shoulders, some weakness in wrist and fingers  
**Chair skills:** Good speed on court for stopping, starting and turning  
**Passing:** Chest pass with control  
**Catching:** Can use wrists to catch; limited use of fingers in catch  
**Ball defence:** Some ability to defend ball from opponents |
## Classification Information Sheet

### WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

| 2.5 | Court role: Ball handler and playmaker  
Physical skills: Strong shoulder, elbows and wrists; finger and trunk weakness  
Chair skills: Good speed on court for stopping, starting, turning; can use trunk and fingers to assist in more precise chair skills  
Passing: Able to perform one-handed pass overhead; able to dribble ball  
Catching: Two-handed catch  
Ball defence: Good ability to defend ball from opponents |
| --- | --- |

| 3.0 | Court role: Ball handler and fast playmaker  
Physical skills: Good shoulder, arm and wrist strength; some trunk weakness  
Chair skills: Good control of chair in all directions  
Passing: Can dribble and pass with one hand  
Catching: Good controlled catch with one or two hands  
Ball defence: Protects ball well against opponents |
| --- | --- |

| 3.5 | Court role: Major ball handler and primary playmaker  
Physical skills: Good shoulder, arm and wrist strength, has some to full trunk movement  
Chair skills: Excellent control of chair in all directions and at speed, uses trunk to weave in and out of play  
Passing: excellent ball control, can dribble and pass with one hand  
Catching: Excellent controlled catch with one or two hands  
Ball defence: Protects ball well against opponents |
| --- | --- |

### Further Information

| National | Australian Paralympic Committee  
E: classification@paralympic.org.au  
P: +61 2 9704 0500 | NWRL  
P: +61 2 8116 9720 |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>IWRF</td>
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