

Athletes with an Intellectual Disability

Classification Information Sheet

Which Paralympic sports may I compete in?

Summer Paralympic Sports

Athletics
Swimming
Table Tennis

Who is eligible as an athlete with an intellectual disability?

Athletes must have a diagnosis of intellectual disability and meet the minimal disability criteria:

1. Intellectual impairment with a score of 75 or lower on an internationally recognised and professionally administered IQ test (eg a WISC-R or WAIS-III),
2. Demonstrated limitations in social/interpersonal, communication, or self care skills.
3. Evidence of intellectual disability prior to 18 years age.

When do I need a classification?

If you want to compete in sport as an athlete with a disability, you must undergo a sports specific classification assessment and hold a particular level of classification. As a general guide you should undergo a classification assessment prior to regional, state or national level championships.

Athletes who are selected to represent Australia at international level competition will be required to attend international classification.

Who conducts a classification for Paralympic Sports?

Classification is conducted by AUSRAPID as a service to the APC.

How do I get classified?

Each sport has specific processes for athletes to arrange a classification.

National Classification: For athletes competing at regional, state and national level championships within Australia, an [AUSRAPID Eligibility](#) process applies. The application form can be found on the [AUSRAPID website](#) or through the [AUSRAPID member organisation in your state.](#)

Alternatively you can request a classification using the [Get classified](#) form on the Australian Paralympic Committee website.

Athletes wishing to claim Australian records for Athletics and Swimming must also have been through the Primary Eligibility Check (INAS process) as detailed in Step 1 below.

International level: For eligibility to gain selection to a National team to compete internationally, the classification of athletes with an intellectual disability is a two stage process:



AUSTRALIAN
PARALYMPIC
COMMITTEE

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Step 1. Primary Eligibility Check (INAS): an international process that determines that an athlete meets the eligibility criteria. This process is co-ordinated through the National Federation for the sport.

Step 2. Sports-Specific Classification: Classification involves general cognitive and sport specific tests to determine whether a person's intellectual disability has a significant impact on the execution of their sport skills. Only classifiers appointed by the relevant International Federation are able to conduct this process.

Links and Resources

Organisation	Website and contact details
Australian Paralympic Committee	www.paralympic.org.au + 61 2 9704 0500 classification@paralympic.org.au
National Federations (for the sports)	Visit the sports pages on www.paralympic.org.au for links to each National Federation
AUSRAPID	www.ausrapid.org.au

The information provided in this document is based on international rules for sports and classification.

International Federation for sport for athletes with an intellectual disability (INAS)
www.inas.org

International Paralympic Committee (IPC)
www.paralympic.org