

Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment

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 impairment?

Athletes must have a diagnosis of intellectual impairment and meet the minimal impairment 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 impairment 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 [Sport Inclusion Australia](#) 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, a Classification eligibility process applies. The application form can be found here, [II Eligibility Form](#) or through the [Sport Inclusion Australia Member Organisation](#) in your state.

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



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Classification

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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 impairment is a two stage process:

Step 1. Primary Eligibility Check (INAS): an international process that determines that an athlete meets the eligibility criteria. This process is coordinated 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 impairment 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
Sport Inclusion Australia	www.sportinclusionaustralia.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