

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 (e.g. 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 Paralympics Australia.

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 Paralympics Australia 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 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 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 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	Contact Details
Paralympics Australia	Website: www.paralympic.org.au Phone: + 61 2 9704 0500 Email: classification@paralympic.org.au
National Federations (for particular sports)	Visit the sports pages on www.paralympic.org.au for links to each National Federation
Sport Inclusion Australia	Website: 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