## Eligible Impairment Types and Medical Diagnostic Requirements

All athletes seeking classification in Paralympic sports must have an eligible impairment that is permanent and verifiable.

Athletes are required to provide evidence of the following:

1. Eligible impairment
2. That the eligible impairment is permanent and/or;
3. An underlying health conditions

Athletes are required to provide a written report from their medical specialist and supporting medical diagnostic information prior to classification.

An athlete may be required to present additional evidence of impairment, as indicated in the guidelines below. This list is not exhaustive and athletes may be required to provide further documentation by a classification panel, the national federation, international federation, Paralympics Australia or IPC as applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permanent and verifiable impairment type</th>
<th>Examples of health condition (diagnosis) likely to cause such impairment</th>
<th>Additional supporting medical documentation/reports/tests that may be presented to verify diagnosis and eligible impairment</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| **Impaired Muscle Power**               | Spinal cord injury (SCI), muscular dystrophy, brachial plexus injury, Erb’s palsy, spina bifida, Guillain-Barre syndrome, polio | • Specialist reports (eg reports rehabilitation doctors) detailing condition, date and mechanism of injury, any surgeries or treatment plans, medications etc  
• Manual Muscle Test Results  
• ASIA scores (for SCI)  
• EMG  
• Nerve conduction velocity |
| **Impaired Range of Movement**          | Joint contractures, arthrogryposis, ankylosis | • Specialist reports detailing impairment  
• Goniometric measurements  
• Xrays of affected limbs or joints |
| **Limb Deficiency**                     | Congenital limb deficiency or amputation as a result of trauma or illness | • Specialist reports (eg from orthopaedic surgeon) or other relevant specialist detailing surgery/dysmelia  
• Photograph of affected limb  
• Xrays of affected limb/joint |
| **Short Stature**  
*Athletes have reduced length in bones of upper limbs, lower limbs and/or trunk* | Achondroplasia or similar condition, osteogenesis imperfecta, growth hormone dysfunction | - Specialist reports (eg endocrinologist)  
- Growth charts (comparison to norm) |
|---|---|---|
| **Hypertonia**  
*Athletes have an increase in muscle tension and reduced ability of the muscles to stretch caused by damage to the central nervous system* | Cerebral palsy, stroke, brain injury, multiple sclerosis | - Neurology reports detailing condition, date and mechanism of injury, any botox, surgeries or treatment plans, medications etc  
- Coordination testing  
- Modified Ashworth Scores  
- Brain MRI  
- EMG  
- For MS, brain and spine MRI less than 6 months old |
| **Athetosis**  
*Athletes have continual slow involuntary movements* | Cerebral palsy, stroke, brain injury | - Neurology reports detailing condition, date and mechanism of injury, any surgeries or treatment plans, medications etc  
- Coordination testing  
- Modified Ashworth Scores  
- MRI  
- EMG |
| **Ataxia**  
*Athletes have uncoordinated movements caused by damage to the central nervous system* | Cerebral palsy, stroke, brain injury, multiple sclerosis, spinocerebellar ataxia, Freiderichs ataxia | - Neurology reports detailing condition, date and mechanism of injury, any surgeries or treatment plans, medications etc  
- Coordination testing  
- Modified Ashworth Scores  
- MRI  
- EMG |
| **Leg Length difference**  
*Athletes have difference in length of legs* | Difference in leg length as a result of trauma or disturbance of limb growth | - Xrays of affected limbs or joints |
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| **Vision Impairment**                  | Retinitis pigmentosa, Rod Cone dystrophy, macular degeneration, congenital cataracts, myopia, tunnel vision | • Ophthalmology reports detailing diagnosis, how acquired, surgeries or treatment plans, medications  
• Visual acuity testing*  
• Visual field testing*  
• ERG  
• OCT  
• VEP  
*conducted within last 12 months, refer also to specific VI testing information. |
| **Intellectual Impairment**            | Intellectual impairment                                                 | • Psychology reports, detailing impairment in intellectual functioning and adaptive behaviour (conceptual, social and practical adaptive skills)  
• IQ test results |

Please refer to the IPC Athlete Classification Code and International Standard for Eligible impairments for further information: