

# 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 Classification:**

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 can conduct this process.

## Links and Resources

Organisation	Contact Details
Paralympics Australia	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.paralympic.org.au">www.paralympic.org.au</a> <b>Phone:</b> + 61 2 9704 0500 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:classification@paralympic.org.au">classification@paralympic.org.au</a> 
National Sports Organisations	Visit the sports specific pages at <a href="http://www.paralympic.org.au/play-para-sport">www.paralympic.org.au/play-para-sport</a> for links to each National Sports Organisation
Sport Inclusion Australia	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.sportinclusionaustralia.org.au">www.sportinclusionaustralia.org.au</a>

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

Organisation	Contact Details
International Federation for sport athletes with an Intellectual Disability (INAS)	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.inas.org">www.inas.org</a> 
International Paralympic Committee (IPC)	<a href="http://www.paralympic.org">www.paralympic.org</a> 