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Bonn, 14 December 2016

Maximum Allowable Standing Height – Procedure for Implementation

Dear NPC President/Secretary General,

In October 2015, World Para Athletics announced that a new method of calculation for determining the Maximum Allowable Standing Height (MASH) for athletes with bilateral lower limb impairments competing (running, jumping and throwing) with prostheses would be introduced from 01 January 2017. This new method as outlined in the document circulated in October 2015 (attached) will replace Article 3.1.4.3.1, Appendix 1, of the IPC Athletics Classification Rules and Regulations (January 2016) and will be published early in 2017.

In order to assist Nations in estimating the MASH for T/F42 and T/F43 athletes competing with bilateral prostheses, World Para Athletics have produced a step by step video which outlines the method of how to take the measurements required to determine the MASH, including land marking, positioning, and measurement.

The link for the video can be found here: <https://youtu.be/LulnbmyNQpQ>

Please note that errors in measuring the MASH may lead to incorrect height estimation. An athlete's official MASH shall only be determined by International Classifiers during an International Classification opportunity.

As a result of this new ruling, the following conditions will be applied:

1 Classification

On 31 December 2016, the Sport Class Status of all athletes in Sports Classes T/F42 and T/F43 who compete with bilateral prostheses (i.e. bilateral above knee amputations, bilateral below knee amputations, or combined above knee and below knee amputations, bilateral lower limb dysmelia) will be amended to Review in order that those athletes undergo Athlete Evaluation to determine their MASH using the new method of calculation.

All Athletes with a New or Review Sports Class Status entered into a World Para Athletics Recognised Competition where classification is offered will be scheduled for Athlete Evaluation prior to start of competition in order to determine their MASH using the new method of calculation. All athletes must ensure that their height when wearing their competition prostheses does not exceed their MASH. Any athlete who exceeds their MASH when wearing their competition prostheses will not be permitted to compete.

All Athletes MASH as per 31 December 2016 shall be removed from the Classification Master List and shall be published in a separate document for the purpose of measurement by the Call Room Judges (Rule 6.15) until the athletes new MASH is calculated and consequently entered into Classification Master List.

2 Results, Entry Standards and Records

2.1 Results

Results achieved by athletes with a Review status prior to having their MASH calculated against the new method will be recognised as long as the athlete is licensed at the time of competing and the result is achieved at a World Para Athletics Recognised Competition, but will not be recognised for Record Application (see 2.3 Records).

2.2 Entry Standards

Results which meet the Entry Standard(s) for the London 2017 World Para Athletics Championships in line with the above mentioned regulations will be recognised as a valid qualifying performance.

2.3 Records

Due to the implementation of this new rule, all existing Records (World, Regional, Championships and Games) achieved by athletes in class T/F42 and T/F43 will be frozen as of 31 December 2016 and will be held as historical data available on the IPC Athletics website.

New Records in all T/F42 and T/F43 events shall be established in accordance with the Process to Establish New Records (<https://www.paralympic.org/athletics/records>).

Should you have any further questions, please contact ipcathletics@paralympic.org.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name "高哲" (Gao Zhe) in Chinese characters.

Haozhe Gao
World Para Athletics Senior Manager
International Paralympic Committee

Cc.

Peter van de Vliet IPC Medical & Scientific Director

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