

# World Para Athletics Pathways and Education Programmes

## Participant profiles and learning outcomes

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## Contents

The following document will lay out the pathways, participant profiles, and learning outcomes of each of the currently offered World Para Athletics Education Programmes in Classification, Technical Officiating and Coaching.

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## 1 Introduction

The IPC Academy is a partnership between the IPC and the World Academy of Sport and is the education division of the IPC. The IPC Academy brings individuals together to improve educational standards of sport throughout the Paralympic Movement and ensures that executives, administrators and officials have an educational centre, providing world class programmes.

World Para Athletics believe that standardised learning materials and delivery is the key to improve the level of Para athletics officiating and classification all over the world. World Para Athletics has worked with the IPC Academy in recent years to develop educational pathways for those wishing to become involved in Para athletics in various levels and capacities.

These pathways offer four levels of programmes in technical officiating and classification taught by specifically trained World Para Athletics Educators. They are delivered in multiple languages except the Level 4 programmes (Technical Officiating and Classification), which are only offered in English.

## 2 IPC Introduction to Para sport Online Course

This online course is open for everybody who wants to learn more about the IPC, the Paralympic Movement and the importance of classification. Participants might be an athlete, coach, technical official, sport medical practitioner, event organiser or generally just an interested supporter of Paralympic Sport or the Paralympic Games looking to test their knowledge.

This introductory programme is free to register and upon completion of the online exam participants will be able to download a certificate of completion. Once completed, persons who wish to continue their education with World Para Athletics and the IPC Academy can continue to the more specific online learning courses.

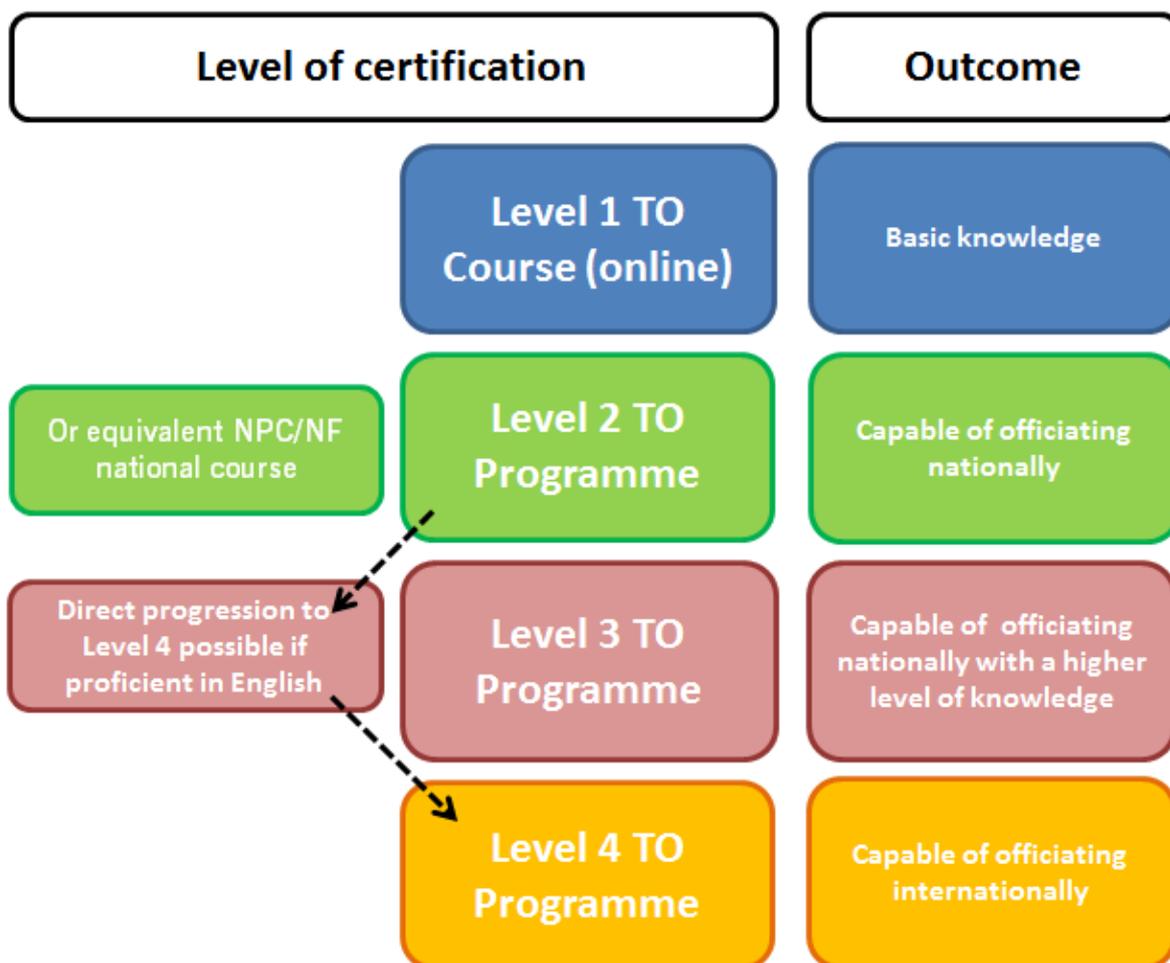
This programme currently contains two modules (1: Introduction to the Paralympic Movement and 2: Classification in the Paralympic movement). The modules contain a combination of reading and video content. Please click on [Introduction to Para Sport module](#) to access the online course.

### 3 World Para Athletics Technical Official Pathway

The World Para Athletics Technical Official (TO) pathway includes the following learning programmes:

- Level 1 TO Course
- Level 2 TO Programme
- Level 3 TO Programme
- Level 4 TO Programme

Each programme is designed to help strengthen knowledge in Para athletics technical officiating. Successfully completing each programme will allow Officials to continue along the pathway to being appointed to the World Para Athletics International Technical Officials (ITO) Panel.



### 3.1 World Para Athletics Level 1 Technical Officials Course (online course)

The World Para Athletics Level 1 TO Course is open to anybody who would like to learn more about World Para Athletics and Para athletics officiating. It is a mandatory first step on the World Para Athletics Technical Officials pathway. Before starting the Level 1 TO Course successfully completing the free [Introduction to Para Sport](#) is a compulsory first step. After the completion of the introductory module, the candidate can start with the [Level 1 TO Course](#).

#### Participant Profile

The Level 1 TO Course is an entry-level course for people who are interested in learning more about Para athletics and the basic concepts of technical officiating, including but not limited to coaches, competition organisers, classifiers, athletes, students and sport managers.

#### Learning Objectives

The objective of the Level 1 TO Course is to provide participants with the theoretical training required to understand the role of the Technical Official, the basic Competition Rules and Regulations in all disciplines of Para athletics and how to communicate with athletes, coaches and peer officials.

#### Programme Outcome

Participants who successfully complete the course will receive a Level 1 TO Course certificate. Those participants who meet the requirements for level 2 programme are eligible to proceed to the next Level.

### 3.2 World Para Athletics Level 2 Technical Officials Programme

The World Para Athletics Level 2 TO Programme is the first opportunity for participants to receive face-to-face training by World Para Athletics certified Educators. The level 2 programme can be offered in multiple languages (please refer to section 5 of this document for more information on language availability).

#### Participant Profile

Candidates must have:

- completed the Level 1 TO Programme before start of this programme
- Athletics specific knowledge and interest in Para athletics
- the desire to serve as an NTO in current country of residence

#### Learning Objectives

The objective of the level 2 programme is to provide participants with the theoretical knowledge and practical training required to be capable of officiating at competitions as a National Technical Official (NTO).

#### Programme Outcome

Participants who successfully complete the programme receive a Level 2 TO Programme certificate. Those participants who meet the requirements for the level 3 programme or the level 4 programme are eligible to proceed to the respective level.

#### National Technical Officials Programme Equivalency

As many NPCs/NFs have their own established training programmes for NTOs, World Para Athletics may recognise any national programme that meets the World Para Athletics Level 2 TO Programme standards. NPCs/NFs may apply to World Para Athletics for Level 2 TO Programme equivalency. If the programme is recognised as equivalent to the World Para Athletics level 2, those national technical officials who have achieved the highest level under that system will be eligible to participate in a World Para Athletics level 3 or 4 programme providing that all other prerequisites have been complied with.

### **3.3 World Para Athletics Level 3 Technical Officials Programme**

The World Para Athletics Level 3 TO Programme is for candidates who want to gain more knowledge as a Technical Official and meet all of the prerequisite criteria to attend a Level 4 TO Programme with the exception of being proficient in the English language. The Level 3 TO Programme will have exactly the same content as the level 4 programme but will be taught in the language requested (please refer to section 5 of this document for more information on language availability).

#### Participant Profile

The participant profile for the Level 3 TO Programme is the same as for the Level 4 TO Programme with the exception that a candidate will not be required to be proficient in English. For more information please refer to the description of the Level 4 TO participant profile below.

#### Learning Objective

The objective of the level 3 programme is to provide participants with the theoretical and practical training required to be capable of assuming a senior role in officiating at competitions.

#### Programme Outcome

Participants who successfully complete the programme receive a Level 3 TO Programme certificate and will only be permitted to move from level 3 to level 4 with evidence of sufficient English skills (both oral and written). This level is not compulsory, those candidates with sufficient English skills who meet the requirements for the level 4 programme may move from level 2 to level 4 without participating in a level 3 programme.

### 3.4 World Para Athletics Level 4 Technical Officials Programme

The World Para Athletics Level 4 TO Programme is the last step in the World Para Athletics TO education pathway and involves both theoretical and practical training. This programme offers the opportunity, with direct and enhanced interaction with Educators, to understand the role of the International Technical Official (ITO).

Participants of the World Para Athletics Level 4 TO Programme should be advised that the training programme requires you to show a high level of competencies and knowledge in Para athletics. Participation in the practical component of the training is subject to successful completion of the theoretical component of the training programme. Those successful participants will assist in technical officiating at a World Para Athletics approved para-specific competition whilst being assessed and observed by an Educator(s). A participant who does not pass the theoretical component may have the opportunity to assist in the competition as an NTO.

#### Participant Profile

Candidates must:

- hold a Level 2 TO Programme certificate or equivalent from your NPC/NF or IAAF member federation (TOECS Level I certificate) OR hold a Level 3 TO Programme certificate or equivalent from an IAAF member federation (TOECS Level II certificate)
- have good command of English language in both oral and written
- have records of serving as an NTO for a number of years
- have a recommendation from their NPC or NF

#### Learning Objective

The objective of the level 4 programme is to provide participants with the theoretical and practical training required to be capable of officiating at international competitions at the highest level.

#### Programme Outcome

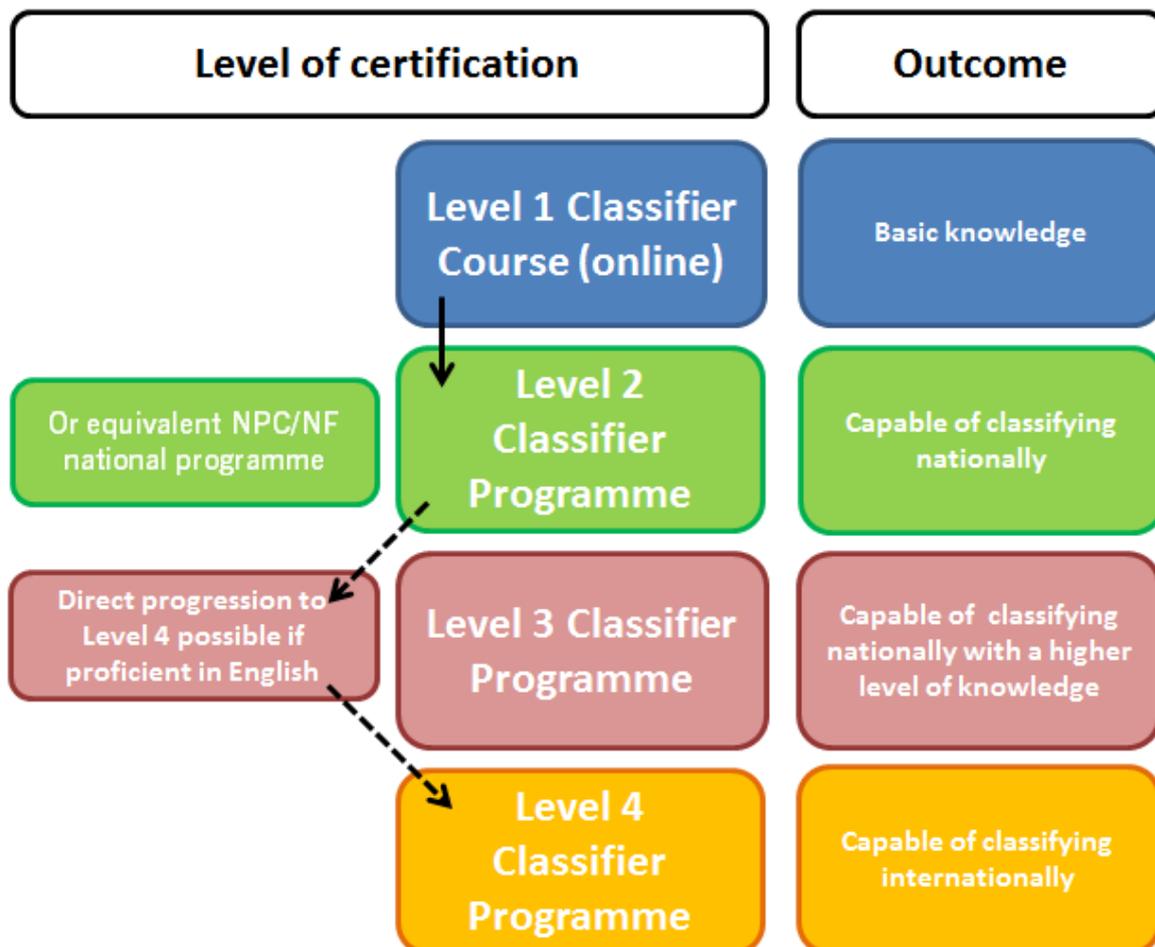
Participants who successfully complete the programme will receive a Level 4 TO Programme certificate and will be eligible to apply and attend the World Para Athletics ITO panel appointment workshop every 4 years. Those candidates appointed to the World Para Athletics ITO Panel will be eligible for international appointment to ITO positions at World Para Athletics recognised competitions.

## 4 World Para Athletics PI Classifier Pathway (for physical impairments)

The World Para Athletics PI Classifier pathway includes the following learning programmes:

- Level 1 PI Classifier Course
- Level 2 PI Classifier Programme
- Level 3 PI Classifier Programme
- Level 4 PI Classifier Programme

Each programme is designed to help strengthen the participant’s knowledge about classification in Para athletics. Successfully completing each programme will allow candidate PI Classifiers to continue along the pathway to being appointed to the World Para Athletics International PI Classifier Panel.



#### 4.1 World Para Athletics Level 1 PI Classifier Course (online course)

The World Para Athletics Level 1 PI Classifier Course is open to anybody who would like to learn more about World Para Athletics and Para athletics classification. It is a mandatory first step on the World Para Athletics PI Classifier pathway. Before starting the Level 1 PI Classifier Course successfully completing the free [Introduction to Para Sport](#) is a compulsory first step. After the completion of the introductory module, the candidate can start with the [Level 1 Classifier Course](#).

##### Participant Profile

The Level 1 PI Classifier Course is an entry-level course for people who are interested in learning more about Para athletics and the basic concepts of classification, including but not limited to coaches, competition organisers, technical officials, students, medical professionals, and athletes.

##### Learning Objectives

The objective of the Level 1 PI Classifier Course is to provide participants with the theoretical training required to understand the role of the PI Classifier, the basic Classification Rules and Regulations, assessment methods, and the concepts of technical and observation assessment.

##### Programme Outcome

Participants who successfully complete the course will receive a Level 1 PI Classifier Course certificate. Those participants who meet the requirements for level 2 programme are eligible to proceed to the next level.

## 4.2 World Para Athletics Level 2 PI Classifier Programme

The World Para Athletics Level 2 PI Classifier Programme is the first opportunity for participants to receive face-to-face training by World Para Athletics certified Educators. The level 2 programme can be offered in multiple languages (please refer to section 5 of this document for more information on language availability).

### Participant Profile

Candidates must have:

- completed the Level 1 Classifier Programme before start of this programme
- Athletics specific knowledge and interest in Para athletics
- the desire to serve as a National PI Classifier in current country of residence

Candidates preferably should also have one of the following backgrounds:

- a certified health professional which World Para Athletics at its sole discretion deems acceptable, e.g. physicians and physiotherapists
- extensive coaching or other relevant background in the sport of World Para Athletics, or a recognised and reputable academic qualification which encompasses a requisite level of anatomical, biomechanical and sport-specific expertise, which World Para Athletics at its sole discretion deems to be acceptable

### Learning Objectives

The objective of the level 2 programme is to provide participants with the theoretical and practical training required to be capable of serving as a National PI Classifier.

### Programme Outcome

Participants who successfully complete the programme receive a Level 2 PI Classifier Programme certificate. Those participants who meet the requirements for the level 3 programme or the level 4 programme are eligible to proceed to the respective level.

### National Technical Officials Programme Equivalency

As many NPCs/NFs have their own established training programmes for National Classifiers, World Para Athletics may recognise a national programme that meets the World Para Athletics Level 2 PI Classifier Programme standards. NPCs/NFs may apply to World Para Athletics for Level 2 PI Classifier Programme equivalency. If the programme is recognised as equivalent to the World Para Athletics level 2 programme, those national PI classifiers who have achieved the highest level under that system will be eligible to participate in a World Para Athletics level 3 or 4 programme providing that all other prerequisites have been complied with.

### 4.3 World Para Athletics Level 3 PI Classifier Programme

The World Para Athletics Level 3 PI Classifier Programme is for candidates who want to gain more knowledge as a Classifier and meet all of the prerequisite criteria to attend a Level 4 PI Classifier Programme with the exception of being proficient in the English language. The Level 3 PI Classifier Programme will have exactly the same content as the level 4 programme but will be taught in the language requested (please refer to section 5 of this document for more information on language availability).

#### Participant Profile

The participant profile for the Level 3 PI Classifier Programme is the same as the Level 4 PI Classifier Programme with the exception that a candidate will not be required to be proficient in English. For more information please refer to the description of the Level 4 PI Classifier participant profile below.

#### Learning Objective

The objective of the level 3 programme is to provide participants with the theoretical and practical training required to be capable of serving as a National PI Classifier with a higher level of knowledge.

#### Programme Outcome

Participants who successfully complete the programme receive a Level 3 PI Classifier Programme certificate and will only be permitted to move from level 3 to level 4 with evidence of sufficient English skills (both oral and written). This level is not compulsory, those candidates with sufficient English skills who meet the requirements for the level 4 programme may move from level 2 to level 4 without participating in a level 3 programme.

#### 4.4 World Para Athletics Level 4 PI Classifier Programme

The World Para Athletics Level 4 PI Classifier Programme is the last step in the World Para Athletics Classifier education pathway and involves both theoretical and practical training. This programme offers the opportunity, with direct and enhanced interaction with Educators, to understand the role of an International Classifier.

Participants of the World Para Athletics Level 4 PI Classifier Programme should be advised that the training programme requires you to show a high level of competencies and knowledge. Participation in the practical component of the training is dependent on successfully completing the theoretical component of the training programme. Those successful participants will actively participate in athlete evaluation and will be required to assist at International Classification whilst being assessed and observed by the Educator(s). Participants who do not pass the theoretical component may have the opportunity to sit in the practical sessions as an observer only, although this is not guaranteed.

##### Participant Profile

Candidates must:

- hold a Level 2 PI Classifier Programme certificate or equivalent from your NPC/NF
- have good command of English language in both oral and written
- have records of serving as an National PI Classifier for a number of years
- have a recommendation from their NPC or NF
- be a certified health professional which World Para Athletics at its sole discretion deems acceptable, e.g. physicians and physiotherapists OR have an extensive coaching or other relevant background in the sport of World Para Athletics or a recognised and reputable academic qualification which encompasses a requisite level of anatomical, biomechanical and sport-specific expertise, which World Para Athletics at its sole discretion deems to be acceptable

##### Learning Objective

The objective of the level 4 programme is to provide participants with the theoretical and practical training required to be capable of classifying on an international level.

##### Programme Outcome

Participants who successfully complete the programme will receive a Level 4 PI Classifier Programme certificate and will be eligible to apply and attend the World Para Athletics International PI Classifier panel appointment workshop every 4 years. Those successful candidates appointed to the World Para Athletics PI Classifier Panel will be eligible for appointment as an International PI Classifier at World Para Athletics recognised competitions.

If the participant is deemed not (yet) competent after the completion of the practical component, they will be considered a Trainee Classifier and must repeat this component of the pathway at a second separate classification opportunity where a World Para Athletics Educator is present. The cost of further training or evaluation (transport, accommodation, meals) will be with the responsibility of the candidate.

The Trainee Classifier has one (1) attempt within two (2) years after they have passed the theoretical part to complete the practical sessions. Trainee Classifiers who do not fulfil the above requirements will be removed from the World Para Athletics Classifiers list. They then are required obtain a Level 2 certificate or equivalent of the World Para Athletics PI Classifier pathway before re-attending a Level 4 PI Classifier Programme.

## 5 Language Availability of Programmes

	Technical Officials	PI Classifier
<b>Level 1 (online)</b> (level 1 can be delivered face-to-face if the required language is not available online)	Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish	Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish
<b>Level 2 and 3</b> (if requested, programmes can be taught in other languages with simultaneous translation)	Arabic, English, French, German, Japanese, Czech Portuguese, Spanish	Arabic, English, French, Greek, Japanese
<b>Level 4</b>	English	English

## 6 Online Courses Pricing and Group Rates

6.1 The following is the pricing for a single programme registration

Programme	Introduction to Para Sport	Technical Officials	Classification	Coaching
Online	Free	€53.50	€53.50	€53.50

### 6.2 Group Rates

World Para Athletics and IPC Academy have also Group NPC packages for all of the online courses that are available to purchase directly via World Para Athletics. If you are interested in

purchasing packages for your NPC then please contact Jana Hasenberg, IPC Summer Sports Education Co-ordinator on the details indicated on the next page.

## 7 Face-to-Face Programmes and Pricing

An NPC/NF can request to host any of the above mentioned World Para Athletics education programmes. World Para Athletics will provide programme material, certified Educators and support where needed to the host of an education programme for a programme fee. More detailed information on hosting World Para Athletics education programmes are available on the [World Para Athletics education website](#). World Para Athletics will always aim to facilitate your requests but cannot guarantee that all requests can be met. World Para Athletics will aim to offer you an alternative date when this situation arises.

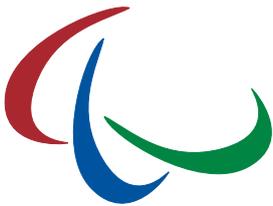
## 8 World Para Athletics Technical Education Contact Information

If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about all of the World Para Athletics and IPC Academy education programmes, please contact IPC Summer Sports Education Co-ordinator Jana Hasenberg at the information below.

<b>World Para Athletics Education and IPC Academy</b>
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World Para Athletics education website: <a href="https://www.paralympic.org/athletics/education">https://www.paralympic.org/athletics/education</a>

If you are interested in learning more about other aspects of World Para Athletics, please use the following email address: [ipcathletics@paralympic.org](mailto:ipcathletics@paralympic.org).

## 9 World Para Athletics Educational Partners



International  
**Paralympic**  
Committee

