



NPC widely and regularly practicing Para  
Athletics and Para Swimming

Bonn, 08 March 2018

### **Classification at upcoming Para Athletics and Para Swimming Competitions**

Dear NPC widely and regularly practicing Para Athletics and Para Swimming,

We wish to take this opportunity to clarify the situation around International Classification of Athletes with Physical Impairment (PI) at all the upcoming Para Athletics and Para Swimming competitions. As previously communicated, due to the introduction of the new Classification Rules and Regulations in both sports there is a large number of Athletes with PI that are required to undergo Athlete Evaluation during the 2018 season and onwards. This high demand for Athlete Evaluation may result in the impossibility to accommodate all requests from NPCs at a given competition.

For the classification opportunities where the demand for Athlete Evaluation is high and does not allow us to accommodate all Athletes on the schedule (with New and Review Sport Class Status), we have decided to move away from our usual practice of automatically allocating Athlete Evaluation slots to *New Athletes*. We are now providing NPCs with the discretion to choose which Athletes you wish to put forward for Athlete Evaluation at any competition. In addition, we have appointed additional Classification Panels and/or extended the Athlete Evaluation schedule for each competition.

To further facilitate the process we would highly appreciate your cooperation by ensuring that all your Athletes have the correct documentation uploaded to SDMS and that you contact, with enough time to ensure they can be scheduled for Athlete Evaluation, the following IPC Classification staff:

- World Para Athletics: Marieke Creese at [marieke.creese@paralympic.org](mailto:marieke.creese@paralympic.org), and Tea Cistic at [tea.cisic@paralympic.org](mailto:tea.cisic@paralympic.org)

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- World Para Swimming: Jovana Zrnzevic at [jovana.zrnzevic@paralympic.org](mailto:jovana.zrnzevic@paralympic.org) and Tea Cisic at [tea.cisic@paralympic.org](mailto:tea.cisic@paralympic.org)

We would also like to remind you that all Athletes who currently hold Sport Class Status **Review** without a Fixed Review Date can still compete and have their results recognised. Additionally, Athletes with Sport Class Status **New** may compete, their results may count for qualification purpose subject to the qualification criteria of the respective competition, but will not be formally recognised for ranking purpose until they have undergone Athlete Evaluation.

We kindly ask for your understanding that implementing the changes to the Classification system for Para Athletics and Para Swimming requires significant resources and will take some time for their full implementation. Further on, we appreciate your understanding that potential changes to an Athlete's Sport Class result from a direct implementation of the new rules and revised testing methodology.

On a final note, we would like to inform you that following an internal restructuring, the IPC Medical & Scientific Department will lead on all Classification-related matters in support of the IPC Sports to harmonize operations and contribute to Athlete Classification Code compliance.

Kind regards

Peter Van de Vliet

Medical and Scientific Director

International Paralympic Committee

Cc: Ryan Montgomery, IPC Summer Sports Director  
Haozhe Gao, World Para Athletics Senior Manager  
Tracy Glassford, World Para Swimming Manager