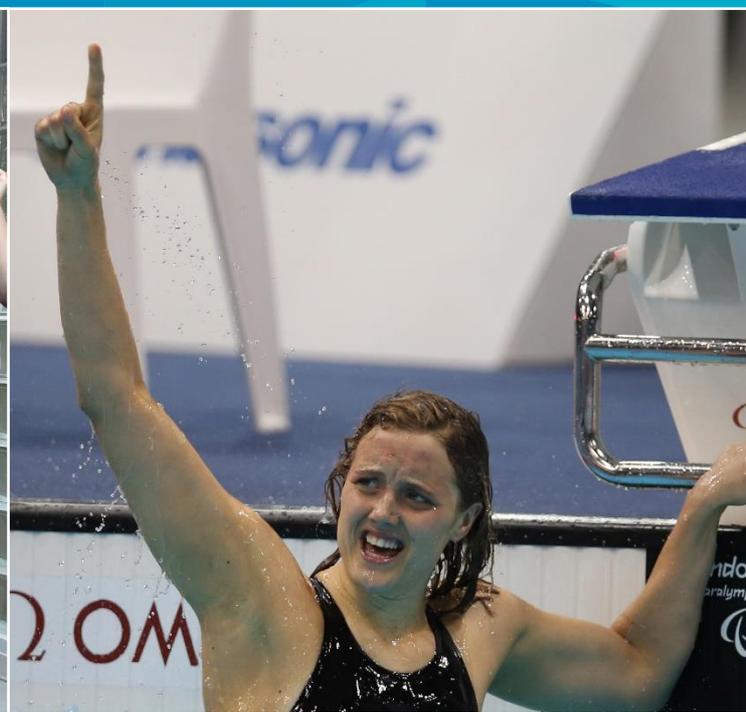


NATIONAL CLASSIFICATION

INFORMATION FOR MULTI CLASS SWIMMERS

Version 1.2 2021



HANCOCK PROSPECTING

PRINCIPAL PARTNER

SPORTAUS



MAJOR PARTNERS

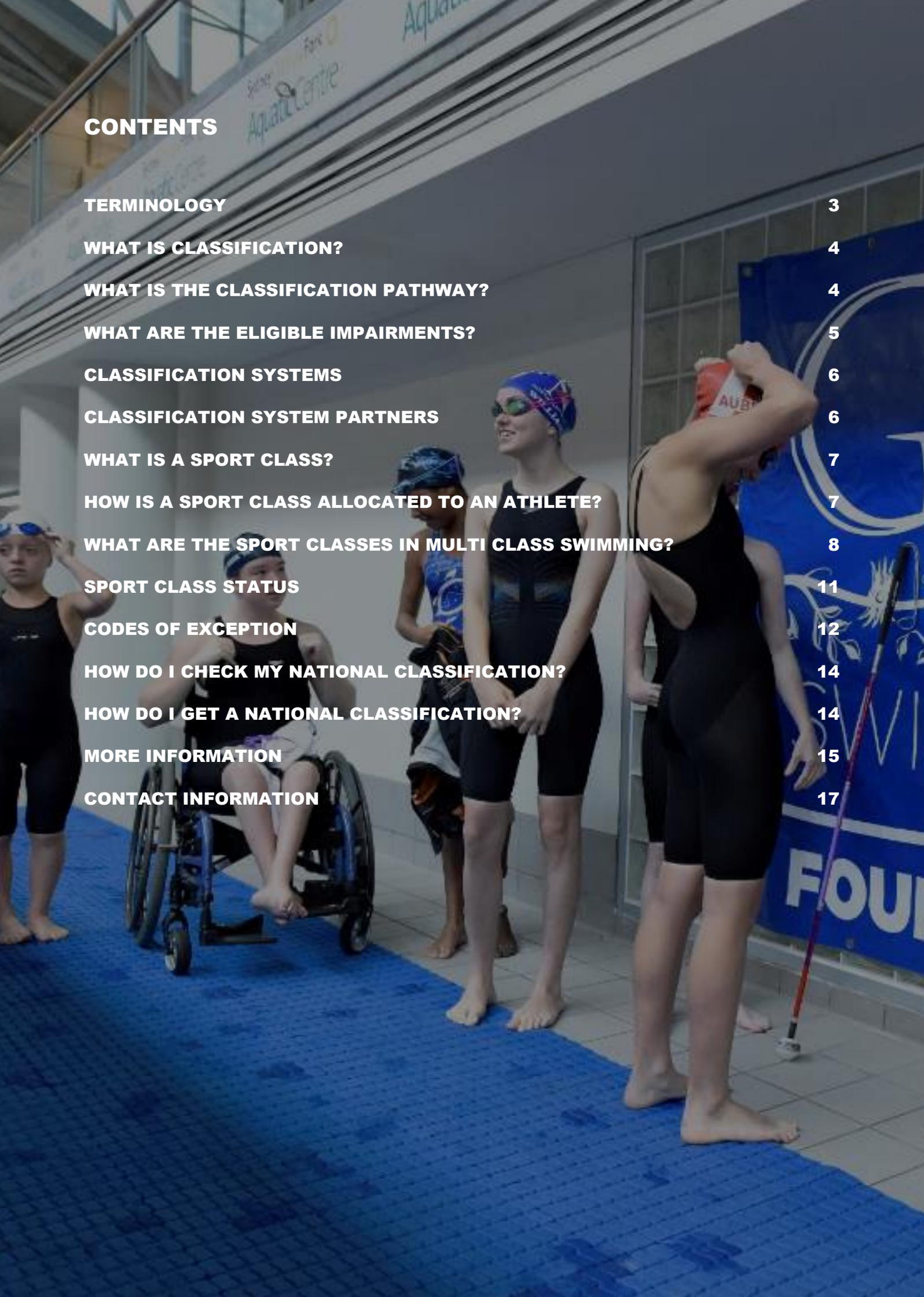


CLASSIFICATION PARTNERS



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TERMINOLOGY

Assessment	Specific clinical procedure conducted during athlete evaluation processes
ATG	Australian Transplant Games
SIA	Sport Inclusion Australia
BME	Benchmark Event
Classification	Refers to the system of grouping athletes based on impact of impairment
Classification System Partners	Organisations with a responsibility for administering the swimming classification systems in Australia
Deaflympian	Representative at Deaflympic Games
DPE	Daily Performance Environment
DSA	Deaf Sports Australia
Eligibility Criteria	Requirements under which athletes are evaluated for a Sport Class
Evaluation	Process of determining if an athlete meets eligibility criteria for a Sport Class
HI	Hearing Impairment
ICSD	International Committee of Sports for the Deaf
II	Intellectual Impairment
Inas	International Federation for Sport for Para-athletes with an Intellectual Disability
Inclusion	General term that refers to strategic initiatives that address engagement of targeted population groups that typically face disadvantage, including people with disability.
IPC	International Paralympic Committee
LOC	Local Organising Committee (for the competition)
Multi Class (MC)	Competition format whereby swimmers of different classes compete in the same event (Formerly Multi Disability)
MC Swimmer	Classified swimmer who competes in domestic Multi Class competition (formerly SWD or AWD)
NSO	National Sports Organisation
PA	Paralympics Australia
Paralympian	Representative at Paralympic Games.
Para-Swimmer	Only used for swimmers in Paralympic classes in Paralympic programs/competition. E.g. once in a SAL squad/team or competing in Para-swimming only events
Para-swimming	Only used in reference to competition or events that are specifically for Paralympic outcomes. E.g. PHPP, Commonwealth Games, WPS events or Paralympic Games.
PI	Physical Impairment
S	Class prefix for freestyle, backstroke and butterfly
SA	Swimming Australia Ltd.
SB	Class prefix for breaststroke
SM	Class prefix for individual medley
Sport Class	The group a swimmer competes in for respective events
SSA	State and Territory Swimming Association
Swimmer with Disability (SWD)	General term referring to a person with disability who swims and is not covered by other terms. Used if relevant, generally in relation to community, engagement and non-competitive activity.
TA	Transplant Australia
Tp	Transplant
VI	Vision Impairment
WPS	World Para-swimming, the international federation for Paralympic swimming
WTGF	World Transplant Games Federation

WHAT IS CLASSIFICATION?

Classification provides a structure for competition for swimmers with disability. Swimming Australia (SA) offers a modified competition option for these swimmers, called Multi Class swimming. Swimmers competing in Multi Class swimming have an impairment that leads to a competitive disadvantage. Consequently, a system must be put in place to minimise the impact of impairments on sport performance and to ensure the success of an athlete is determined by skill, fitness, power, endurance, tactical ability and mental focus. This system is called classification.

Classification determines who is eligible to compete in Multi Class swimming and it groups the eligible athletes in sport classes according to their activity limitation.

In Australia swimming classification is used to ensure a fair environment for competition at all levels from club through to Australian Championships. In addition, classification at the national level is an important part of identifying and preparing talented swimmers aspiring to compete at the international level.

WHAT IS THE CLASSIFICATION PATHWAY?

The classification pathway begins when a swimmer wishes to start competing in multi class competition. A national classification is required to compete in domestic multi class competition from club level up to Australian Championships. Swimmers who progress to the elite level will require an international level classification conducted by World Para-swimming.

Refer also to section [Sport Class Status](#).

Stage of development	Foundation	Talent		Elite	
Competition	Club Inter club School Regional	State & Territory Championships	Australian Age Championships	Australian Championships or Trials	Paralympic Games Commonwealth Games WPS World Championships Other International meets
Classification	National Classification through State & Territory Swimming Associations (all classes)		National Classification at Australian Age Championships (physical only)	Begin preparing for possible international classification (physical, visual & intellectual only)	International classification at WPS approved competition Facilitated by SAL (physical, visual & intellectual only)
Pathway programs	State & Territory Development Squads and Camps		SA Development Squad Camps DPE monitoring	SA High Performance Programs National Training Centre USC Training Centre	

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBLE IMPAIRMENTS?

Multi Class swimming provides opportunities for swimmers that have at least one of the following 12 eligible impairments:

Impairment		Explanation
Paralympic	Impaired muscle power	Reduced force generated by muscles or muscle groups, may occur in one limb or the lower half of the body, as caused, for example, by spinal cord injuries, Spina Bifida or Poliomyelitis.
	Impaired passive range of movement	Range of movement in one or more joints is reduced permanently. Joints that can move beyond the average range of motion, joint instability, and acute conditions, such as arthritis, are not considered eligible impairments.
	Limb deficiency	Total or partial absence of bones or joints, from birth or as a consequence of trauma (e.g. car accident or amputation) or illness (e.g. bone cancer).
	Leg length difference	Bone shortening in one leg from birth or trauma.
	Short stature	Reduced standing height due to abnormal dimensions of bones of upper and lower limbs or trunk, for example due to achondroplasia or growth hormone dysfunction.
	Hypertonia	Abnormal increase in muscle tension and a reduced ability of a muscle to stretch, which can result from injury, illness or a health condition such as cerebral palsy.
	Ataxia	Lack of co-ordination of muscle movements due to a neurological condition, such as cerebral palsy, brain injury or multiple sclerosis.
	Athetosis	Generally, characterised by unbalanced, uncontrolled movements and a difficulty in maintaining a symmetrical posture, due to cerebral palsy, brain injury, multiple sclerosis or other conditions.
	Visual impairment	Vision is impacted by either an impairment of the eye structure, optical nerve/ pathways or the part of the brain controlling vision (visual cortex).
	Intellectual Impairment	A limitation in intellectual functioning and adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social and practical adaptive skills, which originates before the age of 18. The presence of an eligible impairment must be proven by means of medical diagnostic information that must be presented no later than at the time of athlete evaluation.
Non-Paralympic	Hearing Impairment	Swimmers who have a recognized hearing impairment according to the following ICSD standards; deaf, defined as a hearing loss of at least 55dB in the better ear 3FAHL.
	Transplant Recipient	Any person having undergone invasive treatment of a non-cosmetic nature requiring organs and/or tissues (excluding blood) donated by another person.
	Transitioning Classification	Any person having previously been classified in the S1-16 pathway who is has or has had one or more of the above mentioned impairments that currently not eligible or has the potential to be eligible in the future in the s1-s16 classification range as determined by Swimming Australia.

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

Classification systems differ by sport and impairment group. They are developed by the International Federations (IF) that govern disability sport. The IF's are also responsible for reviewing the systems from time to time.

IFs decide which eligible impairment types their sport will cater to. For example, some Paralympic sports are only designed for athletes with one eligible impairment type. Goalball, for example, is only open to athletes with visual impairment. Swimming however is open to athletes with any of the 10 Paralympic eligible impairments. Additionally, swimming in Australia caters for non-Paralympic classifications for people with a hearing impairment, people who have received a transplant and athletes transitioning to or from eligible classes of S1-S16.

IFs also decide how severe an impairment must be for an athlete to be eligible to compete in their sport. For an athlete to be eligible the impairment must be severe enough that it impacts his or her sport performance. This is called the 'Minimum Impairment Criterion'. If an athlete fails to meet the Minimum Impairment Criterion, it does not question the presence of a genuine impairment. It is only a ruling on the eligibility of the athlete to compete in a sport under the IF Sport Rules.

Since different sports require different abilities, each sport logically requires its own classification system. For example, an impairment of the arms affects performance in a running event in athletics to a lesser extent than it affects performance in swimming.

The exception to the sport-specific character of classification is the Paralympic classification for athletes with visual impairment and the non-Paralympic classifications for hearing impairment and transplant recipients. These systems are still a medical system and the sport class allocated therefore applies across all sports (but the naming of the class may differ).

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM PARTNERS

SA works in partnership with recognized National Disability Sport Organisations to manage and deliver the National Classification system and services. SA also works in partnership with School Sport Australia and the State and Territory Swimming Associations to deliver and coordinate classification services and Multi Class competition opportunities across the country.

Paralympics Australia classification@paralympic.org.au www.paralympic.org.au	Sport Inclusion Australia mail@sportinclusionaustralia.org.au www.sportinclusionaustralia.org.au
Deaf Sports Australia info@deafsports.org.au www.deafsports.org.au	Transplant Australia contactus@transplant.org.au www.transplant.org.au
School Sport Australia info@schoolsportaustralia.edu.au www.schoolsportaustralia.edu.au	State and Territory Swimming Associations For details refer to Contacts

WHAT IS A SPORT CLASS?

A sport class is a category which groups athletes depending on how much their impairment impacts performance in their sport. Therefore, a sport class is not necessarily comprised of one impairment type alone but can be comprised of athletes with different impairments. However, these different impairments affect sport performance to a similar extent. For example, you will find athletes with mild cerebral palsy and athletes with single limb amputation in the same sport class due to the similar impact on their ability to race the 200m Freestyle for example.

At major international competition swimmers compete against athletes in their own sport class to ensure the impact of impairment is minimised. In local, state and national meets and smaller international competitions athletes in different sport classes may compete together for one medal, because there are not enough athletes for each sport class to create a competitive event, this is known as Multi Class swimming. In these cases, athletes in different sport classes may be given a 'coefficient' or correction score to account for the different levels of activity limitation. In Australia we use the Multi Class Point Score (MCPS).

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE MCPS & CHECK YOUR TIMES](#)

Some para-sports have only one sport class, such as powerlifting. To compete in these sports, the athletes only need to meet the minimum impairment criteria. In team sports, the players are allocated points, which indicate their activity limitation. A lower score indicates a more severe activity limitation than a higher score. A team is not allowed to have more than a certain maximum sum of points on the field of play at the same time in order to ensure equal competition with the opposing team. Swimming in Australia has 16 sport classes and relay teams require the sum of the swimmer's classes to be a certain number of points.

See section '[What are the sport classes in multi class swimming](#)' for more information.

HOW IS A SPORT CLASS ALLOCATED TO AN ATHLETE?

A sport class is allocated through athlete evaluation by specially trained officials called classifiers or specially appointed eligibility officers. SA works with its [classification system partners](#) to provide classification services to swimmers in Australia.

SA works in collaboration with Paralympics Australia (PA) and the state and territory swimming associations to train and certify classifiers and to conduct athlete evaluation for classification of swimmers with physical and visual impairment in Australia. SA relies on Sport Inclusion Australia (SIA) for the evaluation of intellectual impairment classifications, Deaf Sports Australia (DSA) for the evaluation of hearing impairment classification and Transplant Australia (TA) for the evaluation of transplant recipient classification.

Classifiers assessing athletes with the various physical impairments either have a medical background or are technical experts in swimming. Classifiers for athletes with a visual impairment have a background in ophthalmology or optometry. Psychologists and sport experts are responsible for the classification of athletes with an intellectual impairment. Audiologists determine eligibility for hearing impairment and medical professionals are responsible for determining eligibility for transplant recipient classification.

Athlete Evaluation typically takes place before a swimmer attends competition. Evaluation of swimmers with physical impairment can take place at a competition, in this case athletes usually arrive at the competition a day or two before. Evaluation can also take place away from competition as a standalone opportunity for physical impairment and visual impairment. Evaluation of swimmers with intellectual impairment, hearing impairment and transplant recipients is done through a paperwork process. Depending on the type and severity of the impairment a swimmer might undergo athlete evaluation several times throughout his or her career. Some impairments change

over time, e.g. visual acuity might decrease over time or hypertonia may increase. Also, junior athletes may not yet have reached skeletal maturity by the time of first classification. In these cases, classifiers can decide that the athlete must be seen again at the next competition or at set timeframes.

Swimmers have the right to challenge a decision taken by classification panels. This is done in the form of protest and appeal opportunities. This is detailed in the SA, PA and WPS Classification Rules and Regulations and Policies and is managed in accordance with the IPC Code or other non-Paralympic IF rules.

WHAT ARE THE SPORT CLASSES IN MULTI CLASS SWIMMING?

Swimming Sport classes:

The sport class names in swimming consist of a prefix “S” or “SB” and a number. The prefixes stand for the strokes and the number indicates the sport class. The prefixes stand for:

S: freestyle, butterfly and backstroke events

SB: breaststroke

SM: individual medley. The prefix “SM” is given to athletes competing in individual medley events. It is not a sports class, but an entry index and calculated as $(3xS + SB)/4$; for classes S1-4 who have a 3-discipline medley, the formula is $(2xS + SB)/3$.

Sport Classes S/SB1-S/SB10 physical impairment

There are ten different sport classes for athletes with physical impairment, numbered 1-10. A lower number indicates a more severe activity limitation than a higher number.

Athletes with different impairments compete against each other, because sport classes are allocated based on the impact the impairment has on swimming, rather than on the impairment itself.

To evaluate the impact of impairments on swimming, classifiers assess all functional body structures using a point system and ask the athlete to complete a water assessment. The total number of points then determines the athlete’s S and SB sport classes. Due to the different demands of S and SB events, swimmers are often allocated different S and SB sport classes. The SM sport class is calculated from the S and SB sport class.

The following are general examples of impairments and resulting functional abilities described in each sport class profiles. The below combinations of S and SB sport classes are the most common combinations, but it is possible that that athlete has another combination of sport classes, for example S7 and SB7.



Class	Examples (Guide only)
S1 SB1	Swimmers in this sport class have a significant loss of muscle power or control in legs, arms and hands. Some athletes also have limited trunk control. This may be caused by tetraplegia, for example. Swimmers in this class usually use a wheelchair in daily life.
S2 SB1	Swimmers in this sport class mainly rely on their arms for swimming. Their hand, trunk and leg function is limited due to tetraplegia or co-ordination problems, for example.
S3 SB2	This sport class includes athletes with amputations of both arms and legs. Swimmers with reasonable arm strokes but no use of their legs or trunk and swimmers with severe co-ordination problems in all limbs are also included in this sport class.
S4 SB3	Swimmers who can use their arms and have fair function in their hands, but who cannot use their trunk or legs would swim in this sport class. Athletes with amputations of three limbs could also swim in this sport class.
S5 SB4	Swimmers with short stature and an additional impairment, with loss of control over one side of their body (hemiplegia) or with paraplegia compete in this sport class.
S6 SB5	This sport class includes swimmers with short stature or amputations of both arms, or moderate co-ordination problems on one side of their body, for example.
S7 SB6	This sport class is designated to athletes with one leg and one arm amputation on opposite sides, or a paralysis of one arm and one leg on the same side. Moreover, swimmers with full control over arms and trunk and some leg function can compete in this class.
S8 SB7	Swimmers who have an amputation of one arm are eligible to compete in this sport class. Also, athletes with significant restrictions across hip, knee and ankle joints could compete in this sport class.
S9 SB8	Athletes in this sport class, for example, swim with joint restrictions in one leg or with double below-the-knee amputations.
S10 SB9	This class describes minimal physical impairments of eligible swimmers. These include the loss of one hand or a movement restriction in one hip joint.

Sport Classes S/SB11-S/SB13 visual impairment

There are three different sport classes for athletes with vision impairment, numbered 11-13. A lower number indicates a more severe visual limitation than a higher number.

Athletes with different impairments compete against each other, because sport classes are allocated based on the impact the impairment has on swimming, rather than on the impairment itself.

The following are general examples of impairments and resulting visual abilities described in each sport class profiles.

Class	Examples (Guide only)
S/SB11	Athletes who have no sight in both eyes.
S/SB12	Athletes who have limited vision in both eyes either in <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How far they can see (visual acuity). Athletes can see objects up to 2 meters away, what a person with normal vision can see at 60 metres away (2/60 vision); or• How wide they can see (visual field). Athletes have tunnel vision less than 5 degrees radius.
S/SB13	Athletes who have limited vision in both eyes either in <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How far they can see (visual acuity). Athletes can see objects up to 6 meters away, what a person with normal vision can see at 60 metres away (6/60 vision); Or• How wide they can see (visual field). Athletes have tunnel vision less than 20 degrees radius.

Sport Classes S/SB14 intellectual impairment

There is only one class allocated to athletes with an intellectual impairment, numbered 14.

The following is a general example of the impairments and intellectual abilities attributed to this sport class profile.

Class	Examples (Guide only)
S/SB14	Swimmers have an intellectual impairment, which typically leads to the athletes having difficulties with regards to pattern recognition, sequencing, and memory, or having a slower reaction time, which impact on sport performance in general. Moreover, S/SB14 swimmers show a higher number of strokes relative to their speed than able-bodied elite swimmers.

Sport Classes S/SB15 hearing impairment

There is only one class allocated to athletes with a hearing impairment, numbered 15.

The following is a general example of the impairments and hearing abilities attributed to this sport class profile.

Class	Examples (Guide only)
S/SB15	Swimmers have a recognized hearing impairment in accordance with the ICDS standards. This may result in difficulties hearing the starter, having a slower reaction time and/or impaired balance, which impact on sport performance in general.

Sport Classes S/SB16 transplant recipient

There is only one class allocated to athletes who have undergone a transplant procedure,

numbered 16.

Class	Examples (Guide only)
S/SB16	Swimmers who have undergone a recognised transplant procedure. This classification is allocated in accordance with the WTGF eligibility criteria.

Sport Classes S/SB17 transition classification

There is only one class allocated to athletes who fall into a transition classification.

Class	Examples (Guide only)
S/SB17	Swimmers who have previously been classified in the S1-16 classification range as having one or more of the above mentioned impairments and are currently not eligible, or have the potential to be eligible in the future, as determined by Swimming Australia.

SPORT CLASS STATUS

If a Classification Panel allocates a Sport Class to an Athlete, it must also designate a Sport Class Status. The Sport Class Status indicates whether an Athlete will be required to undertake Athlete Evaluation in the future; and if the Athlete's Sport Class may be subject to Protest.

The Sport Class Status designated to an Athlete by a Classification Panel at the conclusion of an Evaluation Session will be one of the following:

- Confirmed (C)
- Review (R)
- Review with Fixed Review Date (FRD)

Sport Class Status Confirmed

An Athlete will be designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) if the Classification Panel is satisfied that both the Athlete's Eligible Impairment and the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport are and will remain stable (with the exception for Athletes with Vision Impairment as referred to in Article 6.2.3 of the WPS Classification Rules and Regulations)

An Athlete with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) is not required to undergo any further Athlete Evaluation (except for provisions concerning Protests, Medical Review and changes to Sport Class criteria).

Sport Class Status Review

An Athlete will be designated Sport Class Status Review (R) if the Classification Panel believes that further Evaluation Sessions will be required. A Classification Panel may base its belief that further Evaluation Sessions will be required based on a number of factors, including but not limited to situations where the Athlete has only recently entered Competitions sanctioned or recognised by World Para Swimming; has a fluctuating and/or progressive Impairment/Impairments that is/are permanent but not stable; and/or has not yet reached full musculoskeletal or sports maturity.

An Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R) must complete Athlete Evaluation at the earliest opportunity or prior to competing at any competition where Athlete Evaluation is being delivered.

Sport Class Status Review with Fixed Review Date

An Athlete may be designated Sport Class Status Review with Fixed Review Date (FRD) if the Classification Panel believes that further Athlete Evaluation will be required but will not be

necessary before a set date, being the Fixed Review Date.

An Athlete with Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD) will be required to attend an Evaluation Session at the first opportunity after the relevant Fixed Review Date. For example, an Athlete with Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date of 2019 will be required to attend an Evaluation Session at their first opportunity after 01 January 2019.

An Athlete who has been allocated Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD) may not attend an Evaluation Session prior to the relevant Fixed Review Date except for a Medical Review Request and/or Protest.

CODES OF EXCEPTION

Some Athletes, due to the nature of their Impairment(s), may be allocated certain exceptions (Codes of Exception) in accordance with the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations. The Classification Panel must allocate any exception during the Technical Assessment. Any request to amend a Code of Exception must be submitted through the Medical Review Request procedure. The Codes of Exception are only to guide the technical officials. The technical officials officiate by the Swimming Rules and NOT by the Codes of Exception.

For full explanations of the Codes of Exceptions used in Australian MC competition [click here](#).

STARTS	
A	Assistance required
B	Blackened/opaque goggles
E	Unable to grip for backstroke start
H	Hearing impairment, light or signal required
T	Tappers
Y	Starting device
DURING SWIM	
0	Nil – no exceptions
1	One hand start
2	Right hand touch
3	Left hand touch
4	Right hand touch with simultaneous intent to touch with other
5	Left hand touch with simultaneous intent to touch with other
6	Simultaneous intent to touch
7	Part of upper body must touch
8	Right foot must turn out
9	Left foot must turn out
12	Leg drag or show intent to kick
+	Dolphin kick is able to be performed (illegal in breaststroke)
STROKES	
FREE	No Exceptions
BACKSTROKE	Only exception '1' may apply
BUTTERFLY	Exceptions '2-7' may apply
BREASTSTROKE	Exceptions '2-12' may apply

Please note: In the 2017/18 season WPS made changes to the Codes of Exception as detailed at <https://www.paralympic.org/swimming/rules-and-regulations>. SA is currently working towards transitioning the National Classification System and Australian Swimming Rules to comply with the new codes of exceptions. The previous Codes of Exceptions will remain in use for all Australian domestic competition until further notice. Any questions or concerns may be directed to classification@swimming.org.au.

WHEN DO I GET A NATIONAL CLASSIFICATION?

There are three main factors that influence when a swimmer should undertake their first classification evaluation. It is advisable that swimmers seek classification as early as possible once the following factors are met.

1. The swimmer has the required skills

The minimum skill requirement to complete classification is the ability to complete a continuous **50m** in either **freestyle**, **backstroke** or **butterfly** and **breaststroke**. Ideally, they are competent in all four strokes. This is particularly important for swimmers with physical impairment as the classification evaluation involves assessing the swimmer's capability to perform the swimming strokes and skills. This minimum skill requirement also ensures the swimmer is ready for competition.

2. The swimmer is ready for competition

Classification is only required for athletes who wish to compete in multi class competition. Therefore, swimmers who are still in learn-to-swim programs or non-competitive swimming activities do not require classification.

3. The swimmer can provide evidence of an eligible impairment

Prior to (or as part of) an Evaluation Session, a swimmer must demonstrate the presence of an Eligible Impairment that meets the Eligibility Criteria (refer to [What are the eligible impairments?](#) section). The impairment must be permanent and a direct result of an underlying health condition (diagnosis). Therefore, the swimmer must be able to provide diagnostics evidence from their treating specialist that proves the existence of the underlying health condition and describes the impact of impairment. Note: Some impairment types require specific types of evidence (refer the *National Classification Medical Diagnostics Form*).

HOW DO I CHECK MY NATIONAL CLASSIFICATION?

Official details for all swimmers with a national classification are published in the National Classification Master List managed by SA. The Master List records a swimmer's allocated Sport Class, Sport Class Status and Codes of Exceptions.

[CLICK HERE TO CHECK YOUR CLASSIFICATION](#)

HOW DO I GET A NATIONAL CLASSIFICATION?

Depending on the impairment type there are different processes to follow. However, the first step is always to contact your state or territory swimming association to register your interest and obtain relevant information.

You can also use SAL's online [Multi Class Swimming Engagement Portal](#) to register and obtain relevant information and forms.

MORE INFORMATION

If you would like to learn more about classification, please look at the following documents.

SA Classification Policy and Procedures

SA works in conjunction with PA to ensure the application of the most up to date standards for national classification.

Available at: <https://www.swimming.org.au/integrity/other-policies>

PA Classification National Standards

Paralympics Australia (PA) is the governing body for Para sport in Australia. PA ensure compliance of the IPC classification standards to ensure that all athletes are eligible and able to compete in their respective classes.

Available at: <https://www.paralympic.org.au/classification/>

IPC Classification Code

This is the most important document governing the Paralympic Movement in regards to classification. It helps to support and co-ordinate the development and implementation of accurate, reliable and consistent sport-focused classification systems. It was published in 2007 and is part of the IPC Handbook.

Available at:

http://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/document/120201084329386_2008_2_Classification_Code6.pdf

IPC Position Statement on Background and Scientific Rationale for Classification in Paralympic Sport

This position statement, which was written by Sean Tweedy and Yves Vanlandewijck (leading researchers in classification), explains what evidence-based classification means and how classification systems can be based on scientific evidence. The IPC officially committed to evidence-based classification, when this position statement was approved by the Governing Board in 2009.

Available at:

http://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/document/141113170628158_2014_10_13+sec+ii+chapter+4_4_pos+stat+scientific+rationale+classification+paralympic+sport.pdf

Introduction to the Paralympic Movement

If you want to learn more about the history of the Paralympic Movement and classification, from the beginnings in Stoke Mandeville to today's London 2012 Paralympic Games, then the article "Introduction to the Paralympic Movement" by Sean Tweedy and P. David Howe will be interesting for you.

The article is available in the following book:

Y.C. Vanlandewijck & W.R. Thompson (Eds.): The Paralympic Athlete. Wiley-Blackwell: IOC Handbook of Sports Medicine and Science.

Deaf Sports Australia Eligibility Rules

Deaf Sports Australia is the peak body for deaf sports in Australia. DSA assists deaf and hard of hearing athletes compete in sport at all levels.

Available at: <http://deafsports.org.au/pathways/athlete-eligibility/>

Deaflympic Games Eligibility Rules

The Deaflympic Games are held every 4 years and are the benchmark event for deaf and hard of hearing athletes. Team selection and support is administered by Deaf Sports Australia.

Available at: <http://www.deaflympics.com/pdf/AudiogramRegulations.pdf>

Australian Transplant Games Eligibility Rules

The Australian Transplant Games are held every 2 years and encourage individuals to be involved in competition and to lead a healthy life. The Australian Transplant Games is the country's largest awareness activity for organ and tissue donation.

Available at: <https://australiantransplantgames.com/eligibility/>

World Transplant Games Eligibility Rules

The World Transplant Games are the benchmark event for transplant athletes. Team selection and support is administered by Transplant Australia.

Available at: <http://worldtransplantgames.org/games/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Enquiries regarding national classification services, application processes and other general enquiries should be directed to the State or Territory Swimming Associations in the first instance.

Swimming NT – www.nt.swimming.org.au

Swimming Qld - www.qld.swimming.org.au

Swimming NSW - www.nsw.swimming.org.au

Swimming Vic - www.vic.swimming.org.au

Swimming SA - www.sa.swimming.org.au

Swimming WA - www.wa.swimming.org.au

Swimming Tas - www.tas.swimming.org.au

Other enquiries and feedback about this document may be directed to:

Swimming Australia

National Classification Officer

classification@swimming.org.au



swimming.org.au