Satisfaction of Para Surfing Classification- A Survey Analysis

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BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

- Para surfing is a growing sport internationally and needed a uniform classification structure which was created by the researchers.
- This study tested athlete satisfaction with classification process and results.

METHODS

Design:	Pre-survey post-survey
Data collection:	Pre-survey after classification
	Post-survey after surfing twice
Instrument:	Pre-survey with 8 questions
	Post-survey with same last 4 questions

PARTICIPANTS

Classified para surfers ≥ 18 years old with a variety of health conditions competing at a para surfing contest in 2019 and/or 2020. .

Fig 1: Pictorial representation of para surfing performance of an athlete with lower limb prosthesis

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

SPSS version 26, Mean and standard deviation, Wilcoxon signed-rank test

RESULTS

Pre-survey Participation
   60.31% (*n*=79)
Post-survey Participation
   74.81% (*n*=98)
Athletes from all sport classes
   scored in 95%-100% range

High levels of satisfaction and High levels of agreement to classification pre competition and post competition. Only significant change from pre to post test survey was a decrease in PS Stand 2 with the requirement to be classified.

Satisfaction Scores of Participated Para Surfers

Sport Class	Para Surfing Stand 1			Para Surfing Stand 2			Para Surfing Stand 3		
Satisfaction Questions	Pre scores (n=6) Mean ±SD	Post scores (n=12) mean±SD	'p' value	Pre scores (n=18) Mean ±SD	Post scores (n=17) Mean ±SD	'p' value	Pre scores (n=4) Mean ±SD	Post scores (n=4) Mean ±SD	'p' value
Requirement tobe classified	1.17±0.41	1±0	0.317	1.12±0.33	2±0	<.001	1.25±0.5	1.5±1	0.317
Allocated sport class	1.17±0.41	1.17±0.58	0.317	1.06±0.24	1±0	0.317	1±0	1±0	1.000
Competition level	1.17±0.41	1.17±0.58	0.317	1.12±0.33	1.06±0.25	0.317	1±0	1.5±1	0.317
Available sport classes	1±0	1.17±0.58	1.000	1.12±0.33	1.24±0.57	0.317	1±0	1±0	1.000

Sport Class	Para Surfing Kneeling			Para Surfing Prone 1			Para Surfing Prone 2		
Satisfaction Questions	Pre scores (n=16) Mean ±SD	Post scores (n=28) Mean ±SD	'p' value	Pre scores (n=19) Mean ±SD	Post scores (n=18) Mean ±SD	'p' value	Pre scores (n=16) Mean ±SD	Post scores (n=19) Mean ±SD	'p' value
Requirement tobe classified	1.13±0.35	1.25±0.59	0.194	1.11±0.32	1.17±0.52	0.564	1.07±0.25	1.11±0.32	1.000
Allocated sport class	1.13±0.35	1.33±0.73	0.257	1.22±0.54	1.17±0.39	0.739	1.13±0.35	1.06±0.23	0.157
Competition level	1.19±0.41	1.43±0.8	0.161	1.11±0.46	1.28±0.76	0.461	1.19±0.41	1.22±0.54	1.000
Available sport classes	1.07±0.25	1.43±0.84	0.059	1.37±0.84	1.34±0.69	0.887	1.07±0.25	1.37±0.6	0.096

DISCUSSION

- There was a high level of agreement regarding classification procedures specific to the efficiency, appropriateness of the tests and measures, level of privacy, and belief that classification is necessary for fair competition.
- There was a high level of satisfaction regarding classification decisions specific to their allocated sport class, available sport classes, and competition level after classification and competition.

CONCLUSION

New para surfing classification structure was well received by participants after classification and after surfing twice in their allocated sport class.

REFERENCES & CONTACT

Fig 2: Pictorial representation of para surfing performance of an athlete with a spinal cord injury