

isa parasurfing



ISA Para Surfing Classification Rules and Regulations

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Part One: General Provisions

1 Scope and Application

Adoption

- 1.1 These Classification Rules and Regulations are referred to throughout this document as the 'Classification Rules'. They have been prepared by ISA Para Surfing to implement the requirements of the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code and International Standards.
- 1.2 The Classification Rules have been adopted by ISA Para Surfing September 2019.
- 1.3 These Classification Rules refer to a number of Appendices. These Appendices form an integral part of the Classification Rules.
- 1.4 These Classification Rules form part of the ISA Para Surfing Rules and Regulations.
- 1.5 The Classification Rules are supplemented by a number of Classification forms that have been prepared to assist Athlete Evaluation. These forms are available from ISA Para Surfing and can be amended by ISA Para Surfing from time to time.

Classification

- 1.6 Classification is undertaken to:
 - a) define who is eligible to compete in Para sport and consequently who has the opportunity to reach the goal of becoming a Paralympic Athlete; and
 - b) group Athletes into Sport Classes which aim to ensure that the impact of Impairment is minimized, and sporting excellence determines which Athlete or team is ultimately victorious.

Application

- 1.7 These Classification Rules apply to all Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel who are registered and/or licensed with ISA Para Surfing, and/or participate in any Events or Competitions organized, authorized or recognized by ISA Para Surfing.
- 1.8 These Classification Rules must be read and applied in conjunction with all other applicable rules of ISA Para Surfing, including but not limited to the sport technical rules of ISA Para Surfing. In the event of any conflict between these Classification Rules and any other rules, the Classification Rules shall take precedence.

International Classification

- 1.9 ISA Para Surfing will only permit an Athlete to compete in an International Competition if that Athlete has been allocated a Sport Class (other than Sport Class Not Eligible) and designated with a Sport Class Status in accordance with these Classification Rules.
- 1.10 ISA Para Surfing will provide opportunities for Athletes to be allocated a Sport Class and designated with a Sport Class Status in accordance with these Classification Rules at Recognized Competitions (or other such locations as defined by ISA Para Surfing). ISA Para Surfing will advise Athletes, National Bodies and National Paralympic Committees in advance as to such Recognized Competitions (or other such locations).

Interpretation and Relationship to Code

- 1.11 References to an 'Article' mean an Article of these Classification Rules, references to an 'Appendix' mean an Appendix to these Classification Rules, and Capitalized term used in these Classification Rules have the meaning given to them in the Glossary to these Classification Rules.
- 1.12 References to a 'sport' in these Classification Rules refer to both a sport and an individual discipline within ISA Para Surfing.
- 1.13 The Appendices to these Classification Rules are part of these Classification Rules both of which may be amended, supplemented and/or replaced by the ISA Para Surfing from time to time.
- 1.14 Headings used in these Classification Rules are used for convenience only and have no meaning that is separate from the Article or Articles to which they refer.
- 1.15 These Classification Rules are to be applied and interpreted as an independent text but in a manner that is consistent with the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code and the accompanying International Standards.

2 Roles and Responsibilities

- 2.1 It is the personal responsibility of Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, and Classification Personnel to familiarize themselves with all the requirements of these Classification Rules.

Athlete Responsibilities

- 2.2 The roles and responsibilities of Athletes include to:
 - 2.2.1 be knowledgeable of and comply with all applicable policies, rules and processes established by these Classification Rules;
 - 2.2.2 participate in Athlete Evaluation in good faith;
 - 2.2.3 ensure when appropriate that adequate information related to Health Conditions and Eligible Impairments is provided and/or made available to ISA Para Surfing;
 - 2.2.4 cooperate with any investigations concerning violations of these Classification Rules; and
 - 2.2.5 actively participate in the process of education and awareness, and Classification research, through exchanging personal experiences and expertise.

Athlete Support Personnel Responsibilities

- 2.3 The roles and responsibilities of Athlete Support Personnel include to:
 - 2.3.1 be knowledgeable of and comply with all applicable policies, rules and processes established by these Classification Rules;
 - 2.3.2 use their influence on Athlete values and behavior to foster a positive and collaborative Classification attitude and communication;
 - 2.3.3 assist in the development, management and implementation of Classification Systems; and
 - 2.3.4 cooperate with any investigations concerning violations of these Classification Rules.

Classification Personnel Responsibilities

- 2.4 The roles and responsibilities of Classification Personnel include to:
 - 2.4.1 have a complete working knowledge of all applicable policies, rules and processes established by these Classification Rules;
 - 2.4.2 use their influence to foster a positive and collaborative Classification attitude and communication;
 - 2.4.3 assist in the development, management and implementation of Classification Systems, including participation in education and research; and
 - 2.4.4 cooperate with any investigations concerning violations of these Classification Rules.

Part Two: Classification Personnel

3 Classification Personnel

- 3.1 Classification Personnel are fundamental to the effective implementation of these Classification Rules. ISA Para Surfing will appoint a number of Classification Personnel, each of whom will have a key role in the organization, implementation and administration of Classification for the ISA Para Surfing.

Head of Classification

- 3.2 ISA Para Surfing must appoint a Head of Classification. The Head of Classification is a person responsible for the direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of Classification matters for ISA Para Surfing.
- 3.3 If a Head of Classification cannot be appointed, ISA Para Surfing may appoint another person, or group of persons collectively (provided such person or group of persons agrees to comply with the Classifier Code of Conduct), to act as the Head of Classification.
- 3.4 The Head of Classification is not required to be a certified Classifier.
- 3.5 The Head of Classification may delegate specific responsibilities and/or the transfer specific tasks to designated Classifiers, or other persons authorized by ISA Para Surfing.
- 3.6 Nothing in these Classification Rules prevents the Head of Classification (if certified as a Classifier) from also being appointed as a Classifier and/or Chief Classifier.

Classifiers

- 3.7 A Classifier is a person authorized as an official and certified by ISA Para Surfing to conduct some or all components of Athlete Evaluation as a member of a Classification Panel.

Chief Classifiers

- 3.8 A Chief Classifier is a Classifier appointed to direct, administer, co-ordinate and implement Classification matters for a specific Competition or at such other location as defined by ISA Para Surfing. In particular, a Chief Classifier may be required by ISA Para Surfing to do the following:
- 3.8.1 identify those Athletes who will be required to attend an Evaluation Session;
 - 3.8.2 supervise Classifiers to ensure that the Classification Rules are properly applied during Classification;

- 3.8.3 manage Protests in consultation with ISA Para Surfing; and
 - 3.8.4 liaise with the relevant Competition organizers to ensure that all travel, accommodation, and other logistics are arranged in order that Classifiers may carry out their duties at the Competition.
- 3.9 A Chief Classifier may delegate specific responsibilities and/or transfer specific tasks to other appropriately qualified Classifiers, or other appropriately qualified ISA Para Surfing officers or representatives, and/or appropriately qualified persons in the local organizing committee of a Competition.

Trainee Classifiers

- 3.10 A Trainee Classifier is a person who is in the process of formal training by ISA Para Surfing.
- 3.11 ISA Para Surfing may appoint Trainee Classifiers to participate in some or all components of Athlete Evaluation under the supervision of a Classification Panel, to develop Classifier Competencies.

4 Classifier Competencies, Training, and Certification

- 4.1 A Classifier will be authorized to act as a Classifier if that Classifier has been certified by ISA Para Surfing as having the relevant Classifier Competencies.
- 4.2 ISA Para Surfing must provide training and education to Classifiers to ensure Classifiers obtain and/or maintain Classifier Competencies.
- 4.3 ISA Para Surfing must specify and publish Classifier Competencies in a manner that is transparent and accessible. The Classifier Competencies must include that a Classifier has:
- 4.3.1 a thorough understanding of these Classification Rules;
 - 4.3.2 an understanding of ISA Para Surfing, including an understanding of the technical rules of the sport;
 - 4.3.3 an understanding of the Code and the International Standards; and
 - 4.3.4 a professional qualification(s), level of experience, skills and/or competencies in order to act as a Classifier for ISA Para Surfing. These include that Classifiers must either:
 - a) be a certified health professional in a field relevant to the Eligible Impairment category which ISA Para Surfing at its sole discretion deems acceptable, such as a physician, occupational therapist, or physiotherapist for Athletes with a Physical Impairment; ophthalmologist or optometrist for Athletes with a Vision Impairment; and/or a psychologist for Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment; or

- b) have an extensive coaching or other relevant background in the particular sport(s); or a recognized and reputable academic qualification which encompasses a requisite level of anatomical, biomechanical and sport specific expertise, which ISA Para Surfing at its sole discretion deems to be acceptable.
- 4.4 ISA Para Surfing must establish a process of Classifier Certification by which Classifier Competencies are assessed. This process must include:
- 4.4.1 a process for the certification of Trainee Classifiers;
 - 4.4.2 quality assessment for the period of certification;
 - 4.4.3 a process for handling substandard performance, including options for remediation and/or withdrawal of certification; and
 - 4.4.4 a process for Re-certification of Classifiers.
- 4.5 ISA Para Surfing must specify Entry-Level Criteria applicable to persons who wish to become Trainee Classifiers. ISA Para Surfing will provide Entry-Level Education to Trainee Classifiers.
- 4.5.1 A classifier is a sport official and a volunteer position. Once certified as a national classifier, the local organizing committee hosting classification evaluation is responsible to pay travel and accommodation costs for the classifiers working at the event.
 - 4.5.2 Trainee classifiers are responsible for covering their own expenses to attend a course.
- 4.6 ISA Para Surfing must provide Continuing Education to Classifiers for the purposes of Certification and Re-certification.
- 4.7 ISA Para Surfing may provide that a Classifier is subject to certain limitations, including (but not limited to):
- 4.7.1 a limitation on the Impairment type for which a Classifier is certified to act as a Classifier;
 - 4.7.2 a limitation on the components of Athlete Evaluation that a Classifier is certified to conduct;
 - 4.7.3 a limitation on the level of Competition or Event that a Classifier is authorized to act as a Classifier;
 - 4.7.4 the maximum time that a Classifier Certification is valid;
 - 4.7.5 that Classifier Certification is subject to review within a specific time frame by reference to the Classifier Competencies;

- 4.7.6 that a Classifier may lose Classifier Certification if ISA Para Surfing is not satisfied that the Classifier possesses the required Classifier Competencies; and/or
- 4.7.7 that a Classifier may regain Classifier Certification if ISA Para Surfing is satisfied that the Classifier possesses the required Classifier Competencies.

5 Classifier Code of Conduct

- 5.1 The integrity of Classification in ISA Para Surfing depends on the conduct of Classification Personnel. ISA Para Surfing has therefore adopted a set of professional conduct standards referred to as the 'Classifier Code of Conduct'.
- 5.2 All Classification Personnel must comply with the Classifier Code of Conduct.
- 5.3 Any person who believes that any Classification Personnel may have acted in a manner that contravenes the Classifier Code of Conduct must report this claim to ISA Para Surfing.
- 5.4 If ISA Para Surfing receives such a report it will investigate the report and, if appropriate, take disciplinary measures.
- 5.5 ISA Para Surfing has discretion to determine whether or not a Classifier has an actual, perceived, and/or potential conflict of interest.

Part Three: Athlete Evaluation

6 General Provisions

- 6.1 ISA Para Surfing has specified in these Classification Rules the process, assessment criteria, and methodology whereby Athletes will be allocated a Sport Class and designated a Sport Class Status. This process is referred to as Athlete Evaluation.
- 6.2 Athlete Evaluation encompasses several steps and these Classification Rules therefore include provisions regarding:
 - 6.2.1 an assessment of whether an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment for the sport;
 - 6.2.2 an assessment of whether an Athlete complies with Minimum Impairment Criteria for the sport; and
 - 6.2.3 the allocation of a Sport Class and designation of a Sport Class Status depending on the extent to which an Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport (with the exception for athletes with Vision Impairment, where the current assessment criteria is not yet sport specific and does not include a requirement that the Athletes are assessed in respect to the 'extent to which the Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport')

7 Eligible Impairment

- 7.1 Any Athlete wishing to compete in a sport governed by ISA Para Surfing must have an Eligible Impairment and that Eligible Impairment must be Permanent.
- 7.2 Appendices Appendix One, Two, and Three of these Classification Rules specify the Eligible Impairment(s) an Athlete must have in order to compete in a sport governed by ISA Para Surfing.
- 7.3 Any Impairment that is not listed as an Eligible Impairment in Appendices One, Two, or Three is referred to as a Non-Eligible Impairment. Appendix Four includes examples of Non-Eligible Impairments.

Assessment of Eligible Impairment

- 7.4 ISA Para Surfing must determine if an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment.
 - 7.4.1 In order to be satisfied that an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment, ISA Para Surfing may require any Athlete to demonstrate that he or she has an Underlying Health Condition. Appendix Four lists examples of Health Conditions that are not Underlying Health Conditions.

- 7.4.2 The means by which ISA Para Surfing determines that an individual Athlete has an Eligible Impairment is at the sole discretion of ISA Para Surfing. ISA Para Surfing may consider that an Athlete's Eligible Impairment is sufficiently obvious and therefore not require evidence that demonstrates the Athlete's Eligible Impairment.
- 7.4.3 If in the course of determining if an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment ISA Para Surfing becomes aware that the Athlete has a Health Condition, and believes that the impact of that Health Condition may be that it is unsafe for that Athlete to compete or there is a risk to the health of the Athlete (or other Athletes) if that Athlete competes, it may designate the Athlete as Classification Not Completed (CNC) in accordance with Article 10 of these Classification Rules. In such instances ISA Para Surfing will explain the basis of its designation to the relevant National Body and/or National Paralympic Committee.
- 7.5 An Athlete must (if requested to do so) supply ISA Para Surfing with Diagnostic Information that must be provided as follows:
 - 7.5.1 The relevant National Body and/or National Paralympic Committee must submit a Medical Diagnostics Form to ISA Para Surfing, upon completing the registration of an Athlete.
 - 7.5.2 The Medical Diagnostics Form must be completed in English and dated and signed by a certified health care professional.
 - 7.5.3 The Medical Diagnostic Form must be submitted with supportive Diagnostic Information if required by ISA Para Surfing.
- 7.6 ISA Para Surfing may require an Athlete to re-submit the Medical Diagnostics Form (with necessary supportive Diagnostic Information) if the ISA Para Surfing at its sole discretion considers the Medical Diagnostic Form and/or the Diagnostic Information to be incomplete or inconsistent.
- 7.7 If ISA Para Surfing requires an Athlete to provide Diagnostic Information it may consider the Diagnostic Information itself, and/or may appoint an Eligibility Assessment Committee to do so.
- 7.8 The process by which an Eligibility Assessment Committee is formed and considers Diagnostic Information is as follows:
 - 7.8.1 ISA Para Surfing will notify the relevant National Body or National ISA Committee that Diagnostic Information must be provided on behalf of the Athlete. The Head of Classification will explain what Diagnostic Information is required, and the purposes for which it is required.
 - 7.8.2 The Head of Classification will set timelines for the production of Diagnostic Information.

- 7.8.3 The Head of Classification will appoint an Eligibility Assessment Committee. The Eligibility Assessment Committee must, if practicable, be comprised of the Head of Classification and at least two other experts with appropriate medical qualifications. All members of the Eligibility Assessment Committee must sign confidentiality undertakings.
- 7.8.4 If the Head of Classification believes that he or she does not hold the necessary competencies to assess the Diagnostic Information, he or she will not participate in the review of the Diagnostic Information but will assist the Eligibility Assessment Committee.
- 7.8.5 Wherever possible all references to the individual Athlete and the source(s) of the Diagnostic Information should be withheld from the Eligibility Assessment Committee. Each member of the Eligibility Assessment Committee will review the Diagnostic Information and decide whether such information establishes the existence of an Eligible Impairment.
- 7.8.6 If the Eligibility Assessment Committee concludes that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment the Athlete will be permitted to complete Athlete Evaluation with a Classification Panel.
- 7.8.7 If the Eligibility Assessment Committee is not satisfied that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment the Head of Classification will provide a decision to this effect in writing to the relevant National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee. The National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee will be given an opportunity to comment on the decision and may provide further Diagnostic Information to the Eligibility Assessment Committee for review. If the decision is subsequently revised, the Head of Classification will inform the National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee.
- 7.8.8 If the decision is not changed, the Head of Classification will issue a final decision letter to the National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee.
- 7.8.9 The Eligibility Assessment Committee may make its decisions by a majority. If the Head of Classification is part of the Eligibility Assessment Committee, he or she may veto any decision if he or she does not agree that the Diagnostic Information supports the conclusion that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment.
- 7.9 ISA Para Surfing may delegate one or more of the functions described above to a Classification Panel.

8 Minimum Impairment Criteria

- 8.1 An Athlete who wishes to compete in a sport must have an Eligible Impairment that complies with the relevant Minimum Impairment Criteria for that sport.

- 8.2 ISA Para Surfing has set Minimum Impairment Criteria to ensure that an Athlete's Eligible Impairment affects the extent to which an Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.
- 8.3 Appendices Appendix One, Two, and Three of these Classification Rules specify the Minimum Impairment Criteria applicable to each sport and the process by which an Athlete's compliance with Minimum Impairment Criteria is to be assessed by a Classification Panel as part of an Evaluation Session.
- 8.4 Any Athlete who does not comply with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport must be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) for that sport.
- 8.5 A Classification Panel must assess whether or not an Athlete complies with Minimum Impairment Criteria. This will take place as part of an Evaluation Session. Prior to participating in an Evaluation Session, an Athlete must first satisfy the ISA Para Surfing that he or she has an Eligible Impairment.
- 8.6 In relation to the use of Adaptive Equipment, ISA Para Surfing has set Minimum Impairment Criteria as follows:
 - 8.6.1 for Eligible Impairments other than Vision Impairment, Minimum Impairment Criteria must *not* consider the extent to which the use of Adaptive Equipment might affect how the Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport;
 - 8.6.2 for Vision Impairment, Minimum Impairment Criteria must consider the extent to which the use of Adaptive Equipment might affect how the Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.

9 Sport Class

- 9.1 A Sport Class is a category defined by ISA Para Surfing in these Classification Rules, in which Athletes are grouped by reference to the impact of an Eligible Impairment on their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to a sport.
 - 9.1.1 An Athlete who does not have an Eligible Impairment or does not comply with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport must be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) for that sport in accordance with the provisions of Article 18 of these Classification Rules.
 - 9.1.2 An Athlete who complies with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport must be allocated a Sport Class (subject to the provisions in these Classification Rules concerning Failure to Attend Athlete Evaluation and Suspension of Athlete Evaluation).

9.1.3 Except for the allocation of Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by ISA Para Surfing (in accordance with Article 18.1), the allocation of a Sport Class must be based solely on an evaluation by a Classification Panel of the extent to which the Athlete's Eligible Impairment affects the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport. This evaluation must take place in a controlled noncompetitive environment, which allows for the repeated observation of key tasks and activities.

9.2 Appendices Appendix One, Two, and Three of these Classification Rules specify the assessment methodology and assessment criteria for the allocation of a Sport Class and the designation of Sport Class Status.

10 Classification Not Completed

10.1 If at any stage of Athlete Evaluation ISA Para Surfing or a Classification Panel is unable to allocate a Sport Class to an Athlete, the Head of Classification or the relevant Chief Classifier may designate that Athlete as Classification Not Completed (CNC).

10.2 The designation Classification Not Completed (CNC) is not a Sport Class and is not subject to the provisions in these Classification Rules concerning Protests. The designation Classification Not Completed (CNC) will however be recorded for the purpose of the ISA Para Surfing Classification Master List.

10.3 An Athlete who is designated as Classification Not Completed (CNC) may not compete in the sport of ISA Para Surfing.

Part Four: Athlete Evaluation and the Classification Panel

11 The Classification Panel

- 11.1 A Classification Panel is a group of Classifiers appointed by ISA Para Surfing to conduct some or all of the components of Athlete Evaluation including as part of an Evaluation Session.

General Provisions

- 11.2 A Classification Panel must be comprised of at least of two certified Classifiers. In exceptional circumstances a Chief Classifier may provide that a Classification Panel comprise only one Classifier, subject to that Classifier holding a valid medical qualification.
- 11.3 A Trainee Classifier may be part of a Classification Panel in addition to the required number of certified Classifiers and may participate in Athlete Evaluation.

12 Classification Panel Responsibilities

- 12.1 A Classification Panel is responsible for conducting an Evaluation Session. As part of the Evaluation Session the Classification Panel must:
- 12.1.1 assess whether an Athlete complies with Minimum Impairment Criteria for the sport;
 - 12.1.2 assess the extent to which an Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport; and
 - 12.1.3 conduct (if required) Observation in Competition.
- 12.2 Following the Evaluation Session the Classification Panel must allocate a Sport Class and designate a Sport Class Status, or designate Classification Not Completed (CNC).
- 12.3 Prior to the Evaluation Session, the assessment as to whether an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment must be undertaken by ISA Para Surfing, unless ISA Para Surfing requests this to be undertaken by a Classification Panel.
- 12.4 The Evaluation Session must take place in a controlled non-competitive environment that allows for the repeated observation of key tasks and activities.
- 12.4.1 Although other factors such as low fitness level, poor technical proficiency and aging may also affect the fundamental tasks and activities of the sport, the allocation of Sport Class must not be affected by these factors.
- 12.5 An Athlete who has a Non-Eligible Impairment and an Eligible Impairment may be evaluated by a Classification Panel on the basis of the Eligible Impairment,

provided the Non-Eligible Impairment does not affect the Classification Panel's ability to allocate a Sport Class.

- 12.6 The Sport Class allocated to the Athlete will be in accordance with the processes specified in Appendices Appendix One, Two and Three.

13 Evaluation Sessions

- 13.1 This Article applies to all Evaluation Sessions.

- 13.2 The Athlete's National Body or National Paralympic Committee is responsible for ensuring that Athletes comply with their duties in relation to the provisions in this Article.

- 13.3 In respect of Athletes:

13.3.1 Athletes have the right to be accompanied by a member of the Athlete's National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee when attending an Evaluation Session. The Athlete must be accompanied if the Athlete is a minor or has an Intellectual Impairment.

13.3.2 The person chosen by the Athlete to accompany the Athlete at an Evaluation Session should be familiar with the Athlete's Impairment and sport history.

13.3.3 The Athlete and accompanying person must acknowledge the terms of the Athlete Evaluation Agreement Form as specified by ISA Para Surfing.

13.3.4 The Athlete must verify his or her identity to the satisfaction of the Classification Panel, by providing a document such as a passport, ID card, ISA Para Surfing Classification Card, or event accreditation.

13.3.5 The Athlete must attend the Evaluation Session with any sports attire or equipment relevant to the sport for which the Athlete wishes to be allocated a Sport Class.

13.3.6 The Athlete must disclose the use of any medication and/or medical device/implant to the Classification Panel.

13.3.7 The Athlete must comply with all reasonable instructions given by a Classification Panel.

- 13.4 In respect of the Classification Panel:

13.4.1 The Classification Panel may request that an Athlete provide medical documentation relevant to the Athlete's Eligible Impairment if the

Classification Panel believes that this information will be necessary in order for it to allocate a Sport Class.

- 13.4.2 The Classification Panel will conduct Evaluation Sessions in English unless otherwise stipulated by ISA Para Surfing. If the Athlete requires an interpreter, a member of the Athlete's National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee will be responsible for arranging for an interpreter. The interpreter is permitted to attend the Evaluation Session in addition to the person referred to in Article 13.3.1 above.
- 13.4.3 The Classification Panel may at any stage seek medical, technical or scientific opinion(s), with the agreement of the Head of Classification and/or a Chief Classifier if the Classification Panel feels that such opinion(s) is necessary in order to allocate a Sport Class.
- 13.4.4 In addition to any opinion(s) sought in accordance with Article 13.4.3, a Classification Panel may only have regard to evidence supplied to it by the relevant Athlete, National Body, ISA Para Surfing Committee and ISA Para Surfing (from any source) when allocating a Sport Class.
- 13.4.5 The Classification Panel may make, create or use video footage and/or other records to assist it when allocating a Sport Class.

14 Observation in Competition

- 14.1 A Classification Panel may require that an Athlete undertake Observation in Competition Assessment before it allocates a final Sport Class and designates a Sport Class Status to that Athlete.
- 14.2 The methods by which Observation in Competition Assessment may be undertaken, and the matters to be observed, are set out in Appendix One.
- 14.3 If a Classification Panel requires an Athlete to complete Observation in Competition Assessment, the Athlete will be entered in the Competition with the Sport Class allocated by the Classification Panel after the conclusion of the initial components of the Evaluation Session.
- 14.4 An Athlete who is required to complete Observation in Competition Assessment will be designated with Tracking Code: Observation Assessment (OA). This designation replaces the Athlete's Sport Class Status for the duration of Observation in Competition Assessment.
- 14.5 Observation in Competition Assessment must take place during First Appearance. In this regard:

- 14.5.1 First Appearance is the first time an Athlete competes in an Event during a Competition in a particular Sport Class.
 - 14.5.2 First Appearance within a Sport Class applies to participation in all Events within the same Sport Class.
 - 14.5.3 An Athlete who competes in a Team Sport must make First Appearance during the preliminary rounds of a Competition. First Appearance must not take place in the elimination rounds of a Competition.
- 14.6 If an Athlete is:
- 14.6.1 subject to a Protest following Observation in Competition; and
 - 14.6.2 the second Evaluation Session is conducted at that same Competition; and
 - 14.6.3 pursuant to the second Evaluation Session the Athlete is required to undergo Observation in Competition, Observation in Competition must take place at the next opportunity within the Sport Class allocated to the Athlete by the Protest Panel with Tracking Code: Observation Assessment (OA).
 - 14.6.4 The Classification Panel must allocate a Sport Class and replace the Athlete's Tracking Code Observation Assessment (OA) by designating a Sport Class Status upon completion of First Appearance (or completion of any Observation in Competition conducted as part of a Protest). If changes to an Athlete's Sport Class or Sport Class Status are made following Observation in Competition, the changes are effective immediately.
- 14.7 The impact of an Athlete changing Sport Class after First Appearance on medals, records and results is detailed in the ISA Para Surfing Rules and Regulations.
- 14.8 Routinely in-competition observations will be made by ISA Para Surfing Classification. When observation in competition reveals:
- 14.8.1 inconsistencies with the Athlete's Evaluation and/or Technical Assessments, a re-assessment of the Athlete may be requested at the discretion of the ISA.
- 14.9 An Athlete who is required to complete a re-assessment,
- 14.9.1 the Athlete's Sport Class will remain unchanged pending the outcome of the re-assessment;
 - 14.9.2 the Athlete's Sport Class Status will be changed to Review (R); and

- 14.9.3 A classification panel will be appointed to conduct the re-assessment prior to competing in the next competition (see section 15.5 Sport Class Status Review).

15 Sport Class Status

- 15.1 If a Classification Panel allocates a Sport Class to an Athlete, it must also designate a Sport Class Status. Sport Class Status indicates whether or not an Athlete will be required to undertake Athlete Evaluation in the future; and if the Athlete's Sport Class may be subject to Protest.
- 15.2 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 a Fixed Review Date (FRD)

Sport Class Status New

- 15.3 An Athlete is allocated Sport Class Status New (N) by ISA Para Surfing prior to attending the Athlete's first Evaluation Session. An Athlete with Sport Class Status New (N) must attend an Evaluation Session prior to competing at any International Competition, unless ISA Para Surfing specifies otherwise.

Sport Class Status Confirmed

- 15.4 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).
- 15.4.1 An Athlete with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) is not required to undergo any further Athlete Evaluation (save pursuant to the provisions in these Classification Rules concerning Protests (Article 19), Medical Review (Article 31) and changes to Sport Class criteria (Article 15.7).
- 15.4.2 A Classification Panel that consists of only one Classifier may not designate an Athlete with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) but must designate the Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R).

Sport Class Status Review

- 15.5 An Athlete will be designated Sport Class Status Review (R) if the Classification Panel believes that further Evaluation Sessions will be required.

- 15.5.1 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 recognized by ISA Para Surfing; has a fluctuating and/or progressive Impairment/Impairments that is/are permanent but not stable; and/or has not yet reached full muscular skeletal or sports maturity.
- 15.5.2 An Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R) must complete Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at any subsequent International Competition, unless ISA Para Surfing specifies otherwise.

Sport Class Status Review with Fixed Review Date

- 15.6 An Athlete may be designated Sport Class Status Review with a 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.
 - 15.6.1 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 2020 will be required to attend an Evaluation Session at the first opportunity in 2020.
 - 15.6.2 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 save pursuant to a Medical Review Request and/or Protest.
 - 15.6.3 A Classification Panel that consists of only one Classifier may not designate an Athlete with Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD) but must designate the Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R).

Changes to Sport Class Criteria

- 15.7 If ISA Para Surfing changes any Sport Class criteria and/ or assessment methods defined in the Appendices to these Rules, then:
 - 15.7.1 ISA Para Surfing may re-assign any Athlete who holds Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) with Sport Class Status Review (R) and require that the Athlete attend an Evaluation Session at the earliest available opportunity; or

- 15.7.2 ISA Para Surfing may remove the Fixed Review Date for any Athlete and require that the Athlete attend an Evaluation Session at the earliest available opportunity; and
- 15.7.3 in both instances the relevant National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee shall be informed as soon as is practical.

16 Multiple Sport Classes

- 16.1 This Article applies to Athletes who are potentially eligible to be allocated more than one Sport Class.

Multiple Eligible Impairments

- 16.2 An Athlete who has a Physical and Vision Impairment may be eligible to be allocated more than one Sport Class in relation to those Eligible Impairments. In such instances:
 - 16.2.1 the Athlete's National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee must notify ISA Para Surfing as to the Athlete's Eligible Impairments and the Athlete's eligibility to be allocated more than one Sport Class in respect of those Impairment types, and provide all necessary medical diagnostic information as required;
 - 16.2.2 the Athlete must be offered the opportunity to participate in an Evaluation Session in respect of each Sport Class relevant to his or her multiple Impairments, either at the relevant Competition or the subsequent Competition;
 - 16.2.3 at the conclusion of the Evaluation Sessions referred to in Article 16.2.2 the Athlete must choose the Sport Class that he or she wishes to compete in ('the preferred Sport Class'). If the allocation of any Sport Class is subject to observation in Competition the Athlete must select the preferred Sport Class before making any First Appearance;
 - 16.2.4 the selection of Sport Class will be subject to all applicable ISA Para Surfing Rules and Regulations (including but not limited to those in relation to the use of equipment, the weight of equipment, and the use of guides); and
 - 16.2.5 the Athlete will be permitted to compete in the preferred Sport Class and details of the Athlete's preferred Sport Class will be published.

Athletes with Physical Impairment

- 16.3 An Athlete who has a Physical Impairment may be allocated more than one Sport Class relevant to that Physical Impairment subject to any applicable ISA Para Surfing Rules and Regulations.
- 16.4 Any such Athlete must not be allocated more than one Sport Class if the combination of those Sport Classes would allow the Athlete to compete kneeling or sit without a paddle in one Event, and standing in another Event, at the same Competition.

Changing Sport Class

- 16.5 An Athlete who has a Physical and Vision Impairment may request to change his or her preferred Sport Class:
 - a) at the end of the season when the Athlete's first Evaluation Session was completed; or
 - b) after the close of the ISA World Championships and before the start of the next season thereafter.
- 16.6 A request to change a preferred Sport Class must be made to ISA Para Surfing by the Athlete's National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee. The application must be submitted to ISA Para Surfing in accordance with the time frame identified under Article 16.5.
- 16.7 Nothing in this Article 16 precludes an Athlete from making a Medical Review Request at any time in respect of any Sport Class.

17 Notification

- 17.1 The outcome of Athlete Evaluation must be notified to the Athlete and/or National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee and published as soon as practically possible after completion of Athlete Evaluation.
- 17.2 ISA Para Surfing must publish the outcome of Athlete Evaluation at the Competition following Athlete Evaluation, and the outcomes must be made available post Competition via the Classification Master List at ISA Para Surfing website.

Part Five: Sport Class Not Eligible

18 Sport Class Not Eligible

General Provisions

18.1 If ISA Para Surfing determines that an Athlete:

18.1.1 has an Impairment that is not an Eligible Impairment; or

18.1.2 does not have an Underlying Health Condition,

ISA Para Surfing must allocate that Athlete Sport Class Not Eligible (NE).

18.2 If a Classification Panel determines that an Athlete who has an Eligible Impairment does not comply with Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport that Athlete must be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) for that sport.

Absence of Eligible Impairment

18.3 If ISA Para Surfing determines that an Athlete does not have an Eligible Impairment, that Athlete:

18.3.1 will not be permitted to attend an Evaluation Session; and

18.3.2 will be allocated with Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) by ISA Para Surfing.

18.4 If another International Sport Federation has allocated an Athlete with Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) because the Athlete does not have an Eligible Impairment ISA Para Surfing may likewise do so without the need for the process detailed in Article 7 of these Classification Rules.

18.5 An Athlete who is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by ISA Para Surfing or a Classification Panel (if delegated by ISA Para Surfing) because that Athlete has

18.5.1 an Impairment that is not an Eligible Impairment; or

18.5.2 a Health Condition that is not an Underlying Health Condition; has no right to request such determination be reviewed by a second Classification Panel and will not be permitted to participate in any sport.

Absence of Compliance with Minimum Impairment Criteria

- 18.6 A second Classification Panel must review by way of a second Evaluation Session any Athlete who is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) on the basis that a Classification Panel determines that the Athlete does not comply with Minimum Impairment Criteria. This second Classification Panel must take place as soon as is practicable.
 - 18.6.1 Pending the second Evaluation Session the Athlete will be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated Sport Class Status Review (R). The Athlete will not be permitted to compete before such re-assessment.
 - 18.6.2 If the second Classification Panel determines the Athlete does not comply with Minimum Impairment Criteria (or if the Athlete declines to participate in a second Evaluation Session at the time set by the Chief Classifier); Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) will be allocated and the Athlete designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C).
- 18.7 If an Athlete makes (or is subject to) a Protest on a previously allocated Sport Class other than Not Eligible (NE) and is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by a Protest Panel, the Athlete must be provided with a further and final Evaluation Session which will review the decision to allocate Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) made by the Protest Panel.
- 18.8 If a Classification Panel allocates Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) on the basis that it has determined that an Athlete does not comply with Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport the Athlete may be eligible to compete in another sport, subject to Athlete Evaluation for that sport.
- 18.9 If an Athlete is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE), this allocation does not question the presence of a genuine Impairment. It is only a ruling on the eligibility of the Athlete to compete in the sport of ISA Para Surfing.

Part Six: Protests

19 Scope of a Protest

- 19.1 A Protest may only be made in respect of an Athlete's Sport Class. A Protest may not be made in respect of an Athlete's Sport Class Status.
- 19.2 A Protest may not be made in respect of an Athlete who has been allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE).

20 Parties Permitted to Make a Protest

A Protest may only be made by one of the following bodies:

- 20.1 a National Body (see Articles 21-22); or
- 20.2 a ISA Para Surfing Committee (see Articles 21-22); or
- 20.3 ISA Para Surfing (see Articles 23-24).

21 National Protests

- 21.1 A National Body or an ISA Para Surfing Committee may only make a Protest in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction at a Competition or venue set aside for Athlete Evaluation.
- 21.2 If the outcome of Athlete Evaluation is published during a Competition (pursuant to Article 17 of these Classification Rules) a National Protest must be submitted within one (1) hour of that outcome being published. If the outcome of Athlete Evaluation is published following Observation in Competition a National Protest must be submitted within fifteen (15) minutes of that outcome being published.
- 21.3 If an Athlete is required by a Classification Panel to undergo Observation in Competition Assessment, a National Body or an ISA Para Surfing Committee may make a Protest before or after First Appearance takes place. If a Protest is made before First Appearance takes place the Athlete must not be permitted to compete until the Protest has been resolved.

22 National Protest Procedure

- 22.1 To submit a National Protest, a National Body or an ISA Para Surfing Committee must show that the Protest is bona fide with supporting evidence and complete a Protest Form, that must be made available by ISA Para Surfing at the Competition and via ISA Para Surfing website, and must include the following:
 - 22.1.1 the name and ISA Para Surfing ID of the Protested Athlete;
 - 22.1.2 the details of the Protested Decision and/or a copy of the Protested Decision;

- 22.1.3 an explanation as to why the Protest has been made and the basis on which the National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee believes that the Protested Decision is flawed;
 - 22.1.4 reference to the specific rule(s) alleged to have been breached; and
 - 22.1.5 the Protest Fee of \$100
- 22.2 The Protest Documents must be submitted to the Chief Classifier of the relevant Competition within the timeframes specified by ISA Para Surfing. Upon receipt of the Protest Documents the Chief Classifier must conduct a review of the Protest, in consultation with ISA Para Surfing, of which there are two possible outcomes:
- 22.2.1 the Chief Classifier may dismiss the Protest if, in the discretion of the Chief Classifier, the Protest does not comply with the Protest requirements in this Article 22; or
 - 22.2.2 the Chief Classifier may accept the Protest if, in the discretion of the Chief Classifier, the Protest complies with the Protest requirements in this Article 22.
- 22.3 If the Protest is dismissed the Chief Classifier must notify all relevant parties and provide a written explanation to the National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee as soon as practicable. The Protest Fee will be forfeited.
- 22.4 If the Protest is accepted:
- 22.4.1 the Protested Athlete's Sport Class must remain unchanged pending the outcome of the Protest, but the Protested Athlete's Sport Class Status must immediately be changed to Review (R) unless the Protested Athlete's Sport Class Status is already under Review (R);
 - 22.4.2 the Chief Classifier must appoint a Protest Panel to conduct a new Evaluation Session as soon as possible, which must be either at the Competition the Protest was made or at the next Competition; and
 - 22.4.3 ISA Para Surfing must notify all relevant parties of the time and date the new Evaluation Session is to be conducted by the Protest Panel.

23 ISA Para Surfing Protests

- 23.1 ISA Para Surfing may, in its discretion, make a Protest at any time in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction if:

- 23.1.1 it considers an Athlete may have been allocated an incorrect Sport Class; or
- 23.1.2 a National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee makes a documented request to ISA Para Surfing. The assessment of the validity of the request is at the sole discretion of ISA Para Surfing.

24 ISA Para Surfing Protest Procedure

- 24.1 If ISA Para Surfing decides to make a Protest, the Head of Classification must advise the relevant National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee of the Protest at the earliest possible opportunity.
- 24.2 The Head of Classification must provide the relevant National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee with a written explanation as to why the Protest has been made and the basis on which the Head of Classification considers it is justified.
- 24.3 If ISA Para Surfing makes a Protest:
 - 24.3.1 the protested Athlete's Sport Class must remain unchanged pending the outcome of the Protest;
 - 24.3.2 the Protested Athlete's Sport Class Status must immediately be changed to Review (R) unless the Protested Athlete's Sport Class Status is already Review (R); and
 - 24.3.3 a Protest Panel must be appointed to resolve the Protest as soon as is reasonably possible.

25 Protest Panel

- 25.1 A Chief Classifier may fulfill one or more of the Head of Classification's obligations in this Article if authorized to do so by the Head of Classification.
- 25.2 A Protest Panel must be appointed by the Head of Classification in a manner consistent with the provisions for appointing a Classification Panel in these Classification Rules.
- 25.3 Protest Panel must not include any person who was a member of the Classification Panel that:
 - 25.3.1 made the Protested Decision; or

- 25.3.2 conducted any component of Athlete Evaluation in respect of the Protested Athlete within a period of 12 months prior to the date of the Protested Decision, unless otherwise agreed by the National Body, ISA Para Surfing Committee, or ISA Para Surfing (whichever is relevant).
- 25.4 The Head of Classification must notify all relevant parties of the time and date for the Evaluation Session that must be conducted by the Protest Panel.
- 25.5 The Protest Panel must conduct the new Evaluation Session in accordance with these Classification Rules. The Protest Panel may refer to the Protest Documents when conducting the new Evaluation Session.
- 25.6 The Protest Panel must allocate a Sport Class and designate a Sport Class Status. All relevant parties must be notified of the Protest Panel's decision in a manner consistent with the provisions for notification in these Classification Rules.
- 25.7 The decision of a Protest Panel in relation to both a National Protest and a ISA Para Surfing Protest is final. A National Body, ISA Para Surfing Committee or ISA Para Surfing may not make another Protest at the relevant Competition.
- 25.8 If the decision of the Protest Panel results in the Sport Class of the Athlete being changed, the Protest Fee will be refunded to the National Body or National ISA Para Surfing Committee (whichever is relevant).

26 Provisions Where No Protest Panel is Available

- 26.1 If a Protest is made at a Competition but there is no opportunity for the Protest to be resolved at that Competition:
 - 26.1.1 the Protested Athlete must be permitted to compete in the Sport Class that is the subject of the Protest with Sport Class Status Review (R), pending the resolution of the Protest; and
 - 26.1.2 all reasonable steps must be taken to ensure that the Protest is resolved at the earliest opportunity.

27 Special Provisions

- 27.1 ISA Para Surfing may make arrangements for some or all of the components of Athlete Evaluation to be carried out at a place and at a time away from a Competition. If so, ISA Para Surfing must also implement Protest provisions to enable Protests to take place in respect of any Evaluation Sessions carried out away from a Competition.

Application during Major Competitions

28 Ad Hoc Provisions Relating to Protests

- 28.1 The IPC and/or ISA Para Surfing may issue special ad hoc provisions to operate during the Paralympic Games or other Competitions.

Part Seven: Misconduct during Evaluation Session

29 Failure to Attend Evaluation Session

- 29.1 An Athlete is personally responsible for attending an Evaluation Session.
- 29.2 An Athlete's National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee must take reasonable steps to ensure that the Athlete attends an Evaluation Session.
- 29.3 If an Athlete fails to attend an Evaluation Session, the Classification Panel will report the failure to the Chief Classifier. The Chief Classifier may, if satisfied that a reasonable explanation exists for the failure to attend and subject to the practicalities at a Competition, specify a revised date and time for the Athlete to attend a further Evaluation Session before the Classification Panel.
- 29.4 If the Athlete is unable to provide a reasonable explanation for non-attendance, or if the Athlete fails to attend an Evaluation Session on a second occasion, no Sport Class will be allocated and the Athlete will not be permitted to compete at the relevant Competition.

30 Suspension of Evaluation Session

- 30.1 A Classification Panel, in consultation with the Chief Classifier, may suspend an Evaluation Session if it cannot allocate a Sport Class to the Athlete, including but not limited to, in one or more of the following circumstances:
 - 30.1.1 a failure on the part of the Athlete to comply with any part of these Classification Rules;
 - 30.1.2 a failure on the part of the Athlete to provide any medical information that is reasonably required by the Classification Panel;
 - 30.1.3 the Classification Panel believes that the use (or non-use) of any medication and/or medical procedures/device/implant disclosed by the Athlete will affect the ability to conduct its determination in a fair manner;
 - 30.1.4 the Athlete has a Health Condition that may limit or prohibit complying with requests by the Classification Panel during an Evaluation Session, which the Classification Panel considers will affect its ability to conduct the Evaluation Session in a fair manner;
 - 30.1.5 the Athlete is unable to communicate effectively with the Classification Panel;
 - 30.1.6 the Athlete refuses or is unable to comply with any reasonable instructions given by any Classification Personnel to such an extent that the Evaluation Session cannot be conducted in a fair manner; and/or

- 30.1.7 the Athlete's representation of his or her abilities is inconsistent with any information available to the Classification Panel to such an extent that the Evaluation Session cannot be conducted in a fair manner.
- 30.2 If an Evaluation Session is suspended by a Classification Panel, the following steps must be taken:
 - 30.2.1 an explanation for the suspension and details of the remedial action that is required on the part of the Athlete will be provided to the Athlete and/or the relevant National Body or National Paralympic Committee;
 - 30.2.2 if the Athlete takes the remedial action to the satisfaction of the Chief Classifier or Head of Classification, the Evaluation Session will be resumed; and
 - 30.2.3 if the Athlete fails to comply and does not take the remedial action within the timeframe specified, the Evaluation Session will be terminated, and the Athlete must be precluded from competing at any Competition until the determination is completed.
- 30.3 If an Evaluation Session is suspended by a Classification Panel, the Classification Panel may designate the Athlete as Classification Not Completed (CNC) in accordance with Article 10 of these Classification Rules.
- 30.4 A Suspension of an Evaluation Session may be subject to further investigation into any possible Intentional Misrepresentation.

Part Eight: Medical Review

31 Medical Review

- 31.1 This Article applies to any Athlete who has been allocated a Sport Class with Sport Class status Confirmed (C) or Review with Fixed Review Date (FRD).
- 31.2 A Medical Review Request must be made if a change in the nature or degree of an Athlete's Impairment changes the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities required by a sport in a manner that is clearly distinguishable from changes attributable to levels of training, fitness, and proficiency.
- 31.3 A Medical Review Request must be made by the Athlete's National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee (together with a \$100 non-refundable fee and any supporting documentation). The Medical Review Request must explain how and to what extent the Athlete's Impairment has changed and why it is believed that the Athlete's ability Impairment to execute the specific tasks and activities required by a sport has changed.
- 31.4 A Medical Review Request must be received by ISA Para Surfing as soon as reasonably practicable.
- 31.5 The Head of Classification must decide whether or not the Medical Review Request is upheld as soon as is practicable following receipt of the Medical Review Request.
- 31.6 Any Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who becomes aware of such changes outlined in Article 31.2 but fails to draw those to the attention of their National Body or ISA Para Surfing may be investigated in respect of possible Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 31.7 If a Medical Review Request is accepted, the Athletes Sport Class Status will be changed to Review (R) with immediate effect.
- 31.8 If a Medical Review Request does not include sufficient evidence to explain how and to what extent the Athlete's Impairment has changed and why it is believed that the Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities required by the sport of Para Surfing has changed, the Medical Review will not be accepted and the Athletes Sport Class Status will not be changed.

Part Nine: Intentional Misrepresentation

32 Intentional Misrepresentation

- 32.1 It is a disciplinary offence for an Athlete to intentionally misrepresent (either by act or omission) his or her skills and/or abilities and/or the degree or nature of Eligible Impairment during Athlete Evaluation and/or at any other point after the allocation of a Sport Class. This disciplinary offense is referred to as 'International Misrepresentation'.
- 32.2 It will be a disciplinary offence for any Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel to assist an Athlete in committing Intentional Misrepresentation or to be in any other way involved in any other type of complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation, including but not limited to covering up Intentional Misrepresentation or disrupting any part of the Athlete Evaluation process.
- 32.3 In respect of any allegation relating to Intentional Misrepresentation a hearing will be convened by ISA Para Surfing to determine whether the Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel has committed Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 32.4 The consequences to be applied to an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation will be one or more of the following:
- 32.4.1 disqualification from all events at the Competition at which the Intentional Misrepresentation occurred, and any subsequent Competitions at which the Athlete competed;
 - 32.4.2 being allocated with Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated a Review with Fixed Review Date (FRD) Sport Class Status for a specified period of time ranging from 1 to 4 years;
 - 32.4.3 suspension from participation in Competitions in all sport for a specified period of time ranging from 1 to 4 years; and
 - 32.4.4 publication of their names and suspension period.
- 32.5 Any Athlete who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation on more than one occasion will be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible with Fixed Review Date Status for a period of time from four years to life.
- 32.6 Any Athlete Support Personnel who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation on more than one occasion will be suspended from participation in any Competition for a period of time from 4 years to life.

- 32.7 If another International Sports Federation brings disciplinary proceedings against an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel in respect of Intentional Misrepresentation which results in consequences being imposed on that Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel, those consequences will be recognized, respected and enforced by ISA Para Surfing.
- 32.8 Any consequences to be applied to teams, which include an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel who is found to have been guilty of Intentional Misrepresentation and/or complicity involving Intentional Misrepresentation, will be at the discretion of ISA Para Surfing.
- 32.9 Any disciplinary action taken by ISA Para Surfing pursuant these Classification Rules must be resolved in accordance with the applicable Board of Appeal of Classification Bylaws.

Part Ten: Use of Athlete Information

33 Classification Data

- 33.1 ISA Para Surfing may only Process Classification Data if such Classification Data is considered necessary to conduct Classification.
- 33.2 All Classification Data Processed by ISA Para Surfing must be accurate, complete and kept up to date.

34 Consent and Processing

- 34.1 Subject to Article 34.3, ISA Para Surfing may only Process Classification Data with the consent of the Athlete to whom that Classification Data relates.
- 34.2 If an Athlete cannot provide consent (for example because the Athlete is underage) the legal representative, guardian or other designated representative of that Athlete must give consent on their behalf.
- 34.3 ISA Para Surfing may only Process Classification Data without consent of the relevant Athlete if permitted to do so in accordance with National Laws.

35 Classification Research

- 35.1 ISA Para Surfing may request that an Athlete provide it with Personal Information for Research Purposes.
- 35.2 The use by ISA Para Surfing of Personal Information for Research Purposes must be consistent with these Classification Rules and all applicable ethical use requirements.
- 35.3 Personal Information that has been provided by an Athlete to ISA Para Surfing solely and exclusively for Research Purposes must not be used for any other purpose.
- 35.4 ISA Para Surfing may only use Classification Data for Research Purposes with the express consent of the relevant Athlete. If ISA Para Surfing wishes to publish any Personal Information provided by an Athlete for Research Purposes, it must obtain consent to do so from that Athlete prior to any publication. This restriction does not apply if the publication is anonymized so that it does not identify any Athlete(s) who consented to the use of their Personal Information.

36 Notification to Athletes

- 36.1 ISA Para Surfing must notify an Athlete who provides Classification Data as to:
 - 36.1.1 that fact that ISA Para Surfing is collecting the Classification Data; and

36.1.2 the purpose for the collection of the Classification Data; and

36.1.3 the duration that the Classification Data will be retained.

37 Classification Data Security

37.1 ISA Para Surfing must:

37.1.1 protect Classification Data by applying appropriate security safeguards, including physical, organizational, technical, and other measures to prevent the loss, theft or unauthorized access, destruction, use, modification or disclosure of Classification Data; and

37.1.2 take reasonable steps to ensure that any other party provided with Classification Data uses that Classification Data in a manner consistent with these Classification Rules.

38 Disclosures of Classification Data

38.1 ISA Para Surfing must not disclose Classification Data to other Classification Organizations except where such disclosure is related to Classification conducted by another Classification Organization and/or the disclosure is consistent with applicable National Laws.

38.2 ISA Para Surfing may disclose Classification Data to other parties only if such disclosure is in accordance with these Classification Rules and permitted by National Laws.

39 Retaining Classification Data

39.1 ISA Para Surfing must ensure that Classification Data is only retained for as long as it is needed for the purpose it was collected. If Classification Data is no longer necessary for Classification purposes, it must be deleted, destroyed or permanently anonymized.

39.2 ISA Para Surfing must publish guidelines regarding retention times in relation to Classification Data.

39.3 ISA Para Surfing must implement policies and procedures that ensure that Classifiers and Classification Personnel retain Classification Data for only as long as is necessary in order for them to carry out their Classification duties in relation to an Athlete.

40 Access Rights to Classification Data

40.1 Athletes may request from ISA Para Surfing:

- 40.1.1 confirmation of whether or not that ISA Para Surfing Processes Classification Data relating to them personally and a description of the Classification Data that is held;
 - 40.1.2 a copy of the Classification Data held by ISA Para Surfing; and/or
 - 40.1.3 correction or deletion of the Classification Data held by ISA Para Surfing.
- 40.2 A request may be made by an Athlete or a National Body or a ISA Para Surfing Committee on an Athlete's behalf and must be complied with within a reasonable period of time.

41 Classification Master Lists

- 41.1 ISA Para Surfing must maintain a Classification Master List of Athletes, which must include the Athlete's name, gender, year of birth, country, Sport Class and Sport Class Status. The Classification Master List must identify Athletes that enter International Competitions.
- 41.2 ISA Para Surfing must make available the Classification Master List to all relevant National Bodies on the ISA Para Surfing website.

Part Eleven: Appeals

42 Appeal

- 42.1 An Appeal is the process by which a formal objection to how Athlete Evaluation and/or Classification procedures have been conducted is submitted and subsequently resolved.

43 Parties Permitted to Make an Appeal

- 43.1 An Appeal may only be made by one of the following bodies:
- 43.1.1 a National Body; or
 - 43.1.2 an ISA Para Surfing Committee.

44 Appeals

- 44.1 If a National Body or ISA Para Surfing Committee considers there have been procedural errors made in respect of the allocation of a Sport Class and/or Sport Class Status and as a consequence an Athlete has been allocated an incorrect Sport Class or Sport Class Status, it may submit an Appeal.
- 44.2 The Board of Appeal of Classification (BAC) will act as the hearing body for the resolution of Appeals.
- 44.3 An Appeal must be made and resolved in accordance with the applicable BAC Bylaws.

45 Ad Hoc Provisions Relating to Appeals

- 45.1 The IPC and/or ISA Para Surfing may issue special ad hoc provisions to operate during the Paralympic Games or other Competitions.

Part Twelve: Glossary

Adaptive Equipment: Implements and apparatus adapted to the special needs of Athletes and used by Athletes during Competition to facilitate participation and/or to achieve results.

Appeals: The means by which a complaint that ISA Para Surfing has made an unfair decision during the Classification process is resolved.

Athlete: For purposes of Classification, any person who participates in sport at the international level (as defined by ISA Para Surfing) or national level (as defined by each National Federation) and any additional person who participates in sport at a lower level if designated by the person's National Federation.

Athlete Evaluation: The process by which an Athlete is assessed in accordance with these Classification Rules in order that an Athlete may be allocated a Sport Class and Sport Class Status.

Athlete Support Personnel: Any coach, trainer, manager, interpreter, agent, team staff, official, medical, or para-medical personnel working with or treating Athletes participating in or preparing for training and/or Competition.

BAC: The IPC Board of Appeal of Classification.

Chief Classifier: A classifier appointed by ISA Para Surfing to direct, administer, coordinate, and implement Classification matters for a specific Competition according to these Classification Rules.

Classification: Grouping Athletes into Sport Classes according to how much their Impairment affects fundamental activities in each specific sport or discipline. This is also referred to as Athlete Classification.

Classification Data: Personal Information and/or sensitive Personal Information provided by an Athlete and/or a National Body and/or any other person to a Classification Organization in connection with Classification.

Classification Intelligence: Information obtained and used by an International Sport Federation in relation to Classification.

Classification Master List: A list made available by the ISA Para Surfing that identifies Athletes who have been allocated a Sport Class and designated a Sport Class Status.
Classification Not Completed: the designation applied to an Athlete who has commenced but not completed Athlete Evaluation to the satisfaction of Para Sport.

Classification Organization: Any organization that conducts the process of Athlete Evaluation and allocates Sport Classes and/or holds Classification Data.

Classification Panel: A group of Classifiers, appointed by ISA Para Surfing, to determine Sport Class and Sport Class Status in accordance with these Classification Rules.

Classification Personnel: Persons, including Classifiers, acting with the authority of a Classification Organization in relation to Athlete Evaluation, for example administrative officers.

Classification Rule: Also referred to as Classification Rules and Regulations. The policies, procedures, protocols and descriptions adopted by ISA Para Surfing in connection with Athlete Evaluation.

Classification System: The framework used by ISA Para Surfing to develop and designate Sport Classes within a Para sport.

Classifier: A person authorized as an official by ISA Para Surfing to evaluate Athletes as a member of a Classification Panel.

Classifier Certification: The processes by which ISA Para Surfing must assess that a Classifier has met the specific Classifier Competencies required to obtain and maintain certification or licensure.

Classifier Competencies: The qualifications and abilities that ISA Para Surfing deems necessary for a Classifier to be competent to conduct Athlete Evaluation for sport(s) governed by ISA Para Surfing.

Classifier Code of Conduct: The behavioral and ethical standards for Classifiers specified by ISA Para Surfing.

Code: The Athlete Classification Code 2015 together with the International Standards for: Athlete Evaluation; Eligible Impairments; Protests and Appeals; Classifier Personnel and Training; and Classification Data Protection.

Competition: A series of individual events conducted together under one ruling body.

Compliance: The implementation of rules, regulations, policies and processes that adhere to the text, spirit and intent of the Code as defined by the IPC. Where terms such as (but not limited to) 'comply', 'conform' and 'in accordance' are used in the Code they shall have the same meaning as 'Compliance.'

Continuing Education: The delivery of higher knowledge and practical skills specified by ISA Para Surfing to preserve and/or advance knowledge and skills as a Classifier in the sport(s) under its governance.

Diagnostic Information: Medical records and/or any other documentation that enables ISA Para Surfing to assess the existence or otherwise of an Eligible Impairment or Underlying Health Condition

Eligible Impairment: An Impairment designated as being a prerequisite for competing in Para sport, as detailed in these Classification Rules.

Eligibility Assessment Committee: An ad hoc body formed to assess the existence or otherwise of an Eligible Impairment.

Entry Criteria: Standards set by ISA Para Surfing relating to the expertise or experience levels of persons who wish to be Classifiers. This may be, for example, former Athletes or coaches, sports scientists, physical educators and medical

professionals, all of whom have the qualifications and abilities relevant to conduct all, or specific parts of, Athlete Evaluation.

Entry-level Education: the basic knowledge and practical skills specified by ISA Para Surfing to begin as a Classifier in the sport(s) under its governance.

Evaluation Session: the session an Athlete is required to attend for a Classification Panel to assess that Athlete's compliance with the Minimum Impairment Criteria for a sport; and allocation of a Sport Class and Sport Class Status depending on the extent to which that Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to that sport. An Evaluation Session may include Observation in Competition.

Event: A single race, match, game or singular sport contest.

First Appearance: The first time an Athlete competes in an Event during a Competition in a particular Sport Class.

Fixed Review Date: A date set by a Classification Panel prior to which an Athlete designated with a Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date will not be required to attend an Evaluation Session save pursuant to a Medical Review Request and/or Protest.

Head of Classification: A person appointed by ISA Para Surfing to direct, administer, co-ordinate and implement Classification matters for ISA Para Surfing.

Health Condition: A pathology, acute or chronic disease, disorder, injury or trauma.

Impairment: A Physical, Vision or Intellectual Impairment.

Intellectual Impairment: A limitation in intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior as expressed in conceptual, social and practical adaptive skills that originates before the age of eighteen (18).

Intentional Misrepresentation: A deliberate attempt (either by fact or omission) to mislead an International Sport Federation or National Body as to the existence or extent of skills and/or abilities relevant to a Para sport and/or the degree or nature of Eligible Impairment during Athlete Evaluation and/or at any other point after the allocation of a Sport Class.

International Competitions: A Competition where the IPC, an International Sport Federation or a Major Competition Organization is the governing body for the Competition and/or appoints the technical officials for the Competition.

International Sport Federation: A sport federation recognized by the IPC as the sole worldwide representative of a sport for Athletes with an Impairment that has been granted the status as a Para sport by the IPC. The IPC and the International Organizations of Sports for the Disabled act as an International Sport Federation for certain sports.

International Standards: A document complementing the Code and providing additional technical and operational requirements for Classification.

IPC: International Paralympic Committee.

Maintaining Certification: The advanced training, education and practice necessary for continued competency as a Classifier.

Major Competition Organizer: An organization that functions as the ruling body for an International Competition.

Medical Diagnostics Form: a form that a National Body or National Paralympic Committee must submit in order for an Athlete to undergo Athlete Evaluation, identifying the Athlete's Health Condition if so required.

Medical Review: The process by which ISA Para Surfing identifies if a change in the nature or degree of an Athlete's Impairment means that some or all of the components of Athlete Evaluation are required to be undertaken in order to ensure that any Sport Class allocated to that Athlete is correct.

Medical Review Request: A request made by a National Body or National Paralympic Committee for Medical Review, made on behalf of an Athlete.

Models of Best Practice: An ad hoc guidance document prepared by the IPC to assist in the implementation of the Code and International Standards.

National Body: Refers to the national member of an International Sport Federation.

National Laws: The national data protection and privacy laws, regulations and policies applicable to a Classification Organization.

National Paralympic Committees: The national member of the IPC who is the sole representative of Athletes with an Impairment in that country or territory. These are the national members of the IPC.

National Protest: A Protest made by a National Body or a National Paralympic Committee in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction.

Non-Competition Venue: Any place or location (outside of a Competition) designated by ISA Para Surfing as being a place or location where Athlete Evaluation is made available to Athletes in order that they may be allocated a Sport Class and designated with a Sport Class Status.

Observation in Competition: The observation of an Athlete in a Competition by a Classification Panel so that the Classification Panel can complete its determination as to the extent to which an Eligible Impairment affects that Athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.

Paralympic Games: Umbrella term for both Paralympic Games and Paralympic Winter Games.

Permanent: The term Permanent as used in the Code and Standards describes an Impairment that is unlikely to be resolved meaning the principal effects are lifelong.

Personal Information: Any information that refers to, or relates directly to, an Athlete.

Physical Impairment: An Impairment that affects an Athlete's biomechanical execution of sporting activities, comprising Ataxia, Athetosis, Hypertonia, Impaired Muscle Power,

Impaired Passive Range of Movement, Limb Deficiency, Leg Length Difference and Short Stature.

Process/Processing: The collection, recording, storage, use or disclosure of Personal Information and/or sensitive Personal Information.

Protested Athlete: An Athlete whose Sport Class is being challenged.

Protested Decision: The Sport Class decision being challenged.

Protest Documents: The information provided in the Protest Form together with the Protest Fee.

Protest Fee: The \$100 fee prescribed by ISA Para Surfing, payable by the National Body or National Paralympic Committee when submitting a Protest.

Protest Form: The form on which a National Protest must be submitted.

Protest: The procedure by which a reasoned objection to an Athlete's Sport Class is submitted and subsequently resolved.

Protest Panel: A Classification Panel appointed by the Chief Classifier to conduct an Evaluation Session as a result of a Protest

Re-certification: The process by which ISA Para Surfing must assess that a Classifier has maintained specific Classifier Competencies.

Recognized Competition: A Competition that is sanctioned or approved by ISA Para Surfing.

Research Purposes: Research into matters pertaining to the development of sports within the Paralympic Movement, including the impact of Impairment on the fundamental activities in each specific sport and the impact of assistive technology on such activities.

Signatories: Any organization that accepts the Code and commits to implement it and the International Standards by way of its Classification Rules.

Sport Class: A category for Competition defined by ISA Para Surfing by reference to the extent to which an Athlete can perform the specific tasks and activities required by a sport.

Sport Class Status: A designation applied to a Sport Class to indicate the extent to which an Athlete may be required to undertake Athlete Evaluation and/or be subject to a Protest.

Tracking Code Observation Assessment (OA): a designation given to an Athlete that replaces the Athlete's Sport Class Status until Observation in Competition has been completed.

Underlying Health Condition: A Health Condition that may lead to an Eligible Impairment.

Vision Impairment: An Impairment of the eye structure, optical nerves or optical pathways, or visual cortex of the central brain that adversely affects an Athlete's vision.

Appendix One

Athletes with Physical Impairment

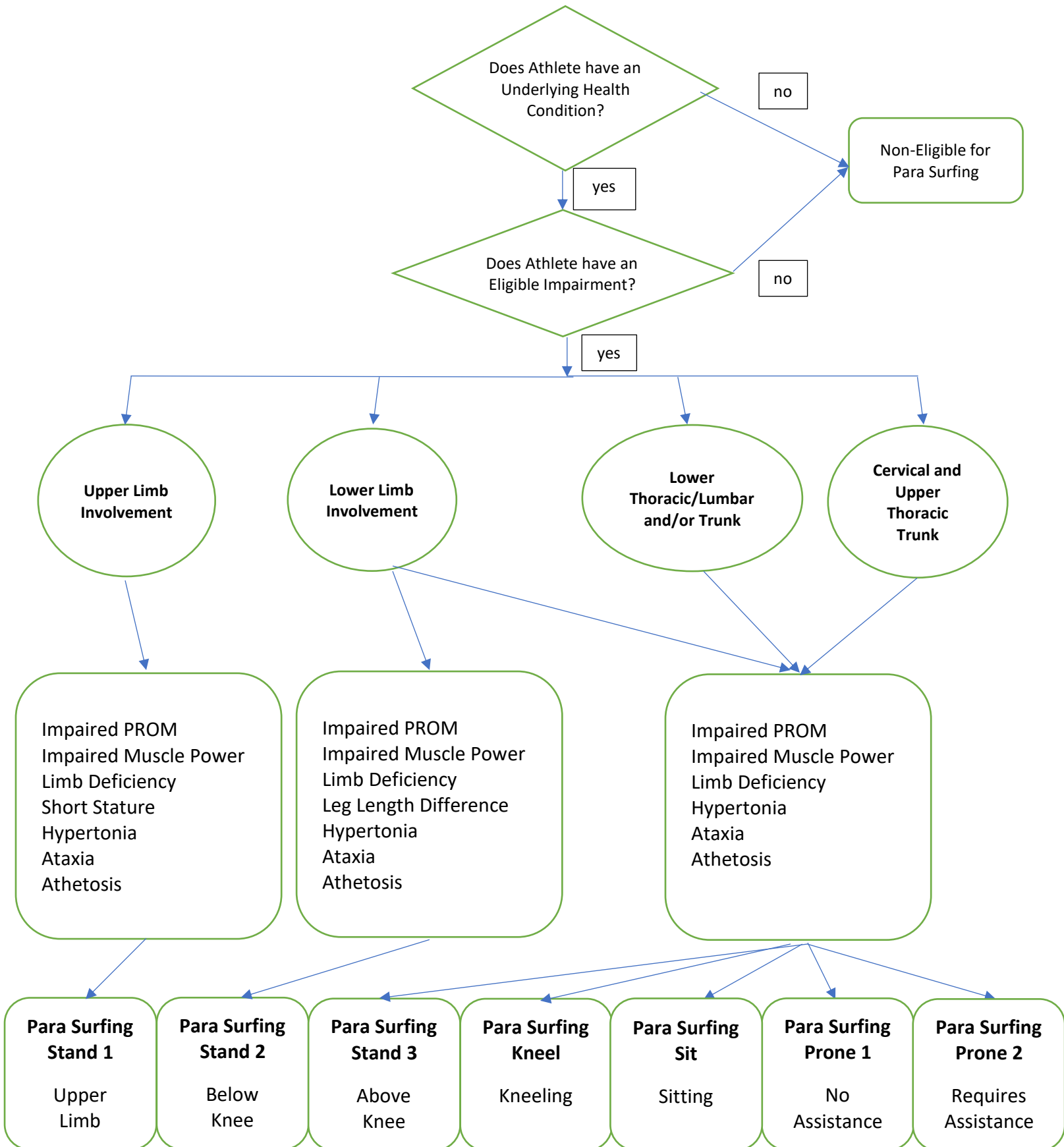
Introduction

This Appendix outlines the process by which an Athlete with a Physical Impairment(s) will be classified and allocated a Sport Class for Para Surfing. It is divided into three parts:

- **Section 1** – Eligible Impairment Types: describes the Eligible Impairment Types for Para Surfing and lists examples of Underlying Health Conditions that can give rise to Eligible Impairments.
- **Section 2** – Minimum Impairment Criteria (MIC) and Assessment Methodology: identifies how severe Eligible Impairment Types must be in order to be eligible for Para Surfing and describes the assessment techniques to be applied during Athlete Evaluation.
- **Section 3** – Sport Class Profiles: describes the Sport Classes for Para Surfing.

Figure 1 Provides a general overview of the decision-making process that must be made by Classifiers when conducting Athlete Evaluation for Athletes with Physical Impairments.

Figure 1: Decision-Making Process for Athlete Evaluation



The three components of Athlete Evaluation for Athletes with a Physical Impairment are:

- Physical Assessment
- Technical Assessment; and
- (if required) Water Observation Assessment

Each Classification Panel must conduct a Physical Assessment and a Technical Assessment prior to assigning an Athlete with a Sport Class, unless a Classification Panel determines that a Sport Class and Sport Class Status may be assigned solely on the basis of a Physical Assessment for an Athlete with one or more of the following Impairments:

- Limb Deficiency
- Short Stature, and/or
- Leg Length Difference

A Classification Panel may require that an Athlete undertake a Water Observation Assessment before it allocates a final Sport Class and designates a Sport Class Status to that Athlete.

Step 1: Physical Assessment

1. Impairment Tests

The Physical Assessment must include impairment tests. These tests include, but are not limited to, passive range of motion goniometry, manual muscle testing, spasticity testing, reflex testing, and bone length measuring.

2. Novel Activities

The Physical Assessment may include coordination tests of the upper limbs and lower limbs. These are activities that may reflect strength, range of motion, and coordination. The activities are unlikely to have been practiced by the Athlete in the usual course of training for surfing. Examples of such novel activities are foot tapping tasks, eye-hand coordination, and balance activities.

3. Practiced Activities

The Physical Assessment may include practiced activities. These are activities that incorporate elements of strength, range of motion, and coordination. They are highly likely to have been practiced by the Athlete in the course of training for surfing. For example, rapid alternation movements of the upper extremities and walking over sand.

4. Assessment of Training History and Other Personal Factors

The Physical Assessment may include the Classification Panel asking the Athlete questions to determine the frequency and duration of training, periodization of training, coaching, assistance in and out of the water. In addition, other factors such as Athlete age, gender, medical history and medications may also be considered by the Classification Panel in the allocation of Sport Class and Sport Class Status.

Step 2: Technical Assessment

The Technical Assessment refers to the sport specific assessment conducted prior to the Athlete taking part in their first event in the Competition (First Appearance). The aim is to replicate the activity that the Athlete will do in the Event(s) that the Athlete will compete in. Importantly, the Athlete is required to execute the activity with best effort. During the Technical Assessment, the Athlete must wear the same attire and use the same equipment (surfboard, prosthesis, orthosis) that the Athlete uses in Competition.

Step 3: Water Observation in Competition Assessment

Water Observation in Competition Assessment refers to the observation of an Athlete in a Competition by a Classification Panel. The Water Observation in Competition is only required if a Classification Panel considers it necessary in order to complete an Evaluation Session. Water Observation in Competition Assessment follows the principles of the Technical Assessment (as outlined above). It complements the Technical Assessment by providing the Classification Panel an opportunity to observe the Athlete in a competitive sport situation where he or she is more likely to be using their best effort in order to be competitive against other Athletes. When Water Observation in Competition Assessment reveals: inconsistencies with the Physical Assessment and/or the Technical Assessment; and /or, in sole discretion of the Classification Panel, that the Athlete may have not performed to his/her best ability, reassessment may take place before a Sport Class is allocated.

1. Eligible Impairment Types

1.1 Eligible Impairment Types

The following eight (8) Physical Impairment types are eligible in Para Surfing (Table 1) under the following conditions:

1.1.1 an Athlete must be affected by at least one (1) of the Eligible Impairments listed in the first column of the table; and

1.1.2 the Eligible Impairment must result directly from a permanent Underlying Health Condition, examples of which are included in the second column.

Table 1 – Eligible Impairment Types: *In order to compete in Para Surfing, an Athlete must be affected by at least one (1) of the eight (8) Eligible Impairments listed in the first column of the below table.*

Eligible Impairment	Examples of Underlying Health Conditions
<p>Impaired Muscle Power</p> <p>Athletes with Impaired Muscle Power have a Health Condition that either reduces or eliminates their ability to voluntarily contract their muscles in order to move or to generate force.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Impaired Muscle Power include spinal cord injury (complete or incomplete, tetra-or paraplegia or paraparesis), muscular dystrophy, post-polio syndrome and spina bifida.</p>
<p>Impaired Passive Range of Movement</p> <p>Athletes with Impaired Passive Range of Movement have a restriction or a lack of passive movement in one or more joints.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Impaired Passive Range of Movement include arthrogyrosis and contracture resulting from chronic joint immobilization or trauma affecting a joint.</p>
<p>Limb Deficiency</p> <p>Athletes with Limb Deficiency have total or partial absence of bones or joints as a consequence of trauma.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Limb Deficiency include traumatic amputation, illness (for example amputation due to bone cancer) or congenital Limb Deficiency (for example dysmelia).</p>
<p>Leg Length Difference</p> <p>Athletes with Leg Length Difference have a difference in the length of their legs.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Leg Length Difference include: dysmelia and congenital or traumatic disturbance of limb growth.</p>

<p>Short Stature</p> <p>Athletes with Short Stature have a reduced length in the bones of the upper limbs, lower limbs, and/or.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that may lead to Short Stature included achondroplasia, growth hormone dysfunction, and osteogenesis imperfecta.</p>
<p>Hypertonia</p> <p>Athletes with hypertonia have an increase in muscle tension and a reduced ability of a muscle to stretch caused by damage to the central nervous system.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Hypertonia include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and stroke.</p>
<p>Ataxia</p> <p>Athletes with Ataxia have uncoordinated movements caused by damage to the central nervous system'</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Ataxia include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, stroke and multiple sclerosis.</p>
<p>Athetosis</p> <p>Athletes with Athetosis have continual slow involuntary movements.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Athetosis include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and stroke.</p>

2 Minimal Impairment Criteria and Assessment Methodology

- 2.1 An Athlete must undertake Physical Assessments and Technical Assessments in order to be allocated a Sport Class. This is required in order to establish that the Athlete exhibits an Eligible Impairment that qualifies the Athlete for Competition, and that the Athlete exhibits activity limitations resulting from that Eligible Impairment that affect the **Athlete’s** ability to compete. Both of these components are part of the overall eligibility assessment process that is an integral feature of Athlete Evaluation. The physical and technical assessments detailed in this section are complemented with water observation in training and/or Competition if required by the Classification Panel.
- 2.2 In order to complete the physical and technical assessment, a Classification Panel must have access to medical documentation regarding the **Athlete’s** Impairment.
- 2.3 Athletes are required to attend an Evaluation Session with any prosthetics, braces, strapping, and supports.
- 2.4 **Minimal Impairment Criteria** (MIC) defines how severe an Athlete’s Impairment must be in order to be eligible for ISA Para Surfing. ISA Para Surfing has eight (8) sets of MIC that is defined under each Physical Assessment.

2.5 Muscle Strength Testing (Oxford Scale)

Muscle strength must be measured with the Oxford Scale (Clarkson, 2021). The scores defining the Sport Class profiles make use of this scale from 0-5*

Numbers and Letters		Description
Against Gravity Tests		Athlete is Able to Actively Move Through:
5	N (normal)	full available ROM against gravity plane. No strength deficits expected from underlying health condition, testing optional
4	G (good)	full available ROM against gravity and able to withstand any amount of resistance
3	F (fair)	full available ROM against gravity plane
Gravity Eliminated Tests		Athlete is Able to Actively Move Through:
2	P (poor)	full available ROM gravity eliminated
1	T (trace)	No active motion in gravity eliminated plane and there is a palpable or observable flicker of a muscle contraction
0	0 (zero)	No active motion in gravity eliminated plane and there is no palpable or observable muscle contraction

*Plus (+) and Minus (-) will not be used due to subjectivity that lacks reliability.

2.5.1 The Minimum Impairment Criteria is met if impairment is noted in the upper and/or lower extremity tests based on the Athlete’s Para Surfing Sport Class.

Para Surfing Stand 1 - ≤50/65 in 1 Upper Limb

Para Surfing Stand 2 - ≤40/60 in 1 Lower Limb **AND** ≥2 ankle motions ≤2/5 MMT

Para Surfing Stand 3 - ≤30/60 in 1 Lower Limb **OR** ≤60/120 in Both Lower Limbs **AND** ≥2 ankle motions ≤2/5 MMT

Para Surfing Kneel - ≤30/60 in 1 Lower Limb **OR** ≤60/120 in Both Lower Limbs **AND** ≥2 ankle motions ≤2/5 MMT

Para Surfing Sit - ≤60/120 in Both Lower Limbs **AND** ≤7/10 in Trunk

Para Surfing Prone 1 - ≤60/120 in Both Lower Limbs **AND** ≤7/10 in Trunk

Para Surfing Prone 2 ≤120/130 in Both Upper Limbs **AND** ≤60/120 in Both Lower Limbs **AND** ≤5/10 in Trunk

2.6 Passive Range of Movement (PROM) Testing

Joint passive range of movement testing must be measured using the protocols described by Clarkson (Clarkson, 2021). In brief, measurement of PROM requires the Athlete to relax completely and not attempt voluntary movement while the classifier moves the testing joint through the available passive range (Clarkson, 2021).

2.6.1 The following PROM scale will be used for joint range of movement:

UE Movement	Degree of Motion		LE Movement	Degree of Motion
Shoulder Flexion	0-180		Hip Flexion	0-120
Shoulder Extension	0-60		Hip Extension	0-20
Shoulder Abduction	0-180		Hip Abduction	0-45
Shoulder Internal Rotation	0-70		Hip Adduction	0-30
Shoulder External Rotation	0-90		Hip Internal Rotation	0-45
Shoulder Horizontal Abduction	0-45		Hip External Rotation	0-45
Shoulder Horizontal Adduction	0-135		Knee Flexion	0-135
Elbow Flexion	0-150		Knee Extension	135-0
Elbow Extension	150-0		Plantar Flexion	0-50
Forearm Supination	0-80		Dorsi Flexion	0-20
Forearm Pronation	0-80		Inversion	0-35
Wrist Flexion	0-80		Eversion	0-15
Wrist Extension	0-70			
Radial Deviation	0-20			
Ulnar Deviation	0-30			

2.6.2.PROM Percentages for Upper and Lower Limbs Impairment Percentages

Left			Range of Motion	Right		
100%	66%	33%	Shoulder	100%	66%	33%
180-121	120-61	60-0	Flexion 0-180'	180-121	120-61	60-0
60-41	40-21	20-0	Extension 0-60'	60-41	40-21	20-0
180-121	120-61	60-0	Abduction 0-180	180-121	120-61	60-0
180-121	120-61	60-0	Adduction 180-0'	180-121	120-61	60-0
70-47	46-24	23-0	Internal Rotation 0-70'	70-47	46-24	23-0
90-61	60-31	30-0	External Rotation 0-90'	90-61	60-31	30-0
45-31	30-16	15-0	Horizontal Abduction 0-45'	45-31	30-16	15-0
135-91	90-46	45-0	Horizontal Adduction 0-135'	135-91	90-46	45-0
100%	66%	33%	Elbow	100%	66%	33%
150-101	100-51	50-0	Flexion 0-150'	150-101	100-51	50-0
100%	66%	33%	Forearm	100%	66%	33%
80-54	53-27	26-0	Supination 0-80'	80-54	53-27	26-0
80-54	53-27	26-0	Pronation 0-80'	80-54	53-27	26-0
100%	66%	33%	Wrist	100%	66%	33%
80-54	53-27	26-0	Flexion 0-80'	80-54	53-27	26-0
70-47	46-24	23-0	Extension 0-70'	70-47	46-24	23-0
20-14	13-7	6-0	Radial Deviation 0-20'	20-14	13-7	6-0
30-21	20-11	10-0	Ulnar Deviation 0-30'	30-21	20-11	10-0

Left			Range of Motion	Right		
100%	66%	33%	HIP	100%	66%	33%
120-81	80-41	40-0	Flexion 0-120'	120-81	80-41	40-0
30-21	20-11	10-0	Extension 0-30'	30-21	20-11	10-0
45-31	30-16	15-0	Abduction 0-45'	45-31	30-16	15-0
30-21	20-11	10-0	Adduction 0-30'	30-21	20-11	10-0
45-31	30-16	15-0	Internal Rotation 0-45'	45-31	30-16	15-0
45-31	30-16	15-0	External Rotation 45'	45-31	30-16	15-0
100%	66%	33%	KNEE	100%	66%	33%
135-91	90-46	45-0	Flexion 0-135'	135-91	90-46	45-0
0-45'	46-90'	91-135'	Extension 135-0'	0-45'	46-90'	91-135'
100%	66%	33%	ANKLE	100%	66%	33%
20-14	13-7	6-0	Dorsiflexion 0-20'	20-14	13-7	6-0
50-34	33-17	16-0	Plantarflexion 0-50'	50-34	33-17	16-0
100%	66%	33%	FOOT	100%	66%	33%
35-24	23-12	11-0	Inversion 0-35'	35-24	23-12	11-0
15-11	10-6	5-0	Eversion 0-15'	15-11	10-6	5-0

2.6.3 The Minimum Impairment Criteria is met if impairment is noted in the upper and/or lower extremity tests based on the Para Surfing Sport Class.

Para Surfing Stand 1 - $\geq 1/3$ PROM in 1 Upper Limb = $\geq 5/15$ UE joint motions in the 33% impairment range

Para Surfing Stand 2 - $\geq 1/3$ ROM in 1 Lower Limb = $\geq 4/12$ LE joint motions in the 33% impairment range **AND** ≥ 2 joints must be in the ankle in the 33% impairment range

Para Surfing Stand 3 - $\geq 1/2$ ROM in 1 Lower Limb = $\geq 6/12$ LE joint motions in the 33% impairment range **OR** $\geq 1/3$ ROM in Both Lower Limbs = $\geq 8/24$ LE joint motions in the 33% impairment range **AND** ≥ 2 joints must be in the ankle in the 33% impairment range

Para Surfing Kneel - $\geq 1/2$ ROM in 1 Lower Limb = $\geq 6/12$ LE joint motions in the 33% impairment range **OR** $\geq 1/3$ ROM in Both Lower Limbs = $\geq 8/24$ LE joint motions in the 33% impairment range **AND** ≥ 2 joints must be in the ankle in the 33% impairment range

Para Surfing Sit - $\geq 1/2$ ROM in Both Lower Limbs in the 33% impairment range

Para Surfing Prone 1 - $\geq 1/2$ ROM in Both Lower Limbs = $\geq 12/24$ BLE joint motions

Para Surfing Prone 2 - $\geq 1/2$ in BUE's = $\geq 12/24$ BUE joint motions in 33% impairment range **AND** $\geq 1/2$ in BLE's = $\geq 12/24$ BLE joint motions in 33% impairment range

2.7 Limb Deficiency

Limb deficiency refers to amputations resulting from trauma or surgeries or dysmelia (congenital limb deficiency from birth) or brachial or lumbosacral plexus injuries. Residual limbs and sound limbs are measured and compared to each other:

- 2.7.1 For the upper extremity **above elbow** amputations or congenital equivalents:
Measure sound limb are tip of acromion to tip of thumb. Measure residual limb from tip of the acromion to distal end of limb.
- 2.7.2 For the upper extremity **below elbow** amputations or congenital equivalents:
Measure sound limb are tip of acromion to tip of thumb. Measure residual limb from tip of the acromion to lateral epicondyle. Then medial epicondyle to distal end of limb.
- 2.7.3 For the lower extremity **above the knee** amputations or congenital equivalents:
Measure sound limb from greater trochanter to floor for total measurement. Then first measure greater trochanter to medial tibia plateau and then horizontally cross over laterally. Then second, measure medial tibia plateau to medial malleolus. Measure residual limb from greater trochanter to distal end of limb.
- 2.7.4 For the lower extremity **below the knee** amputations or congenital equivalents:
Measure sound limb from greater trochanter to floor for total measurement. Then first measure greater trochanter to medial tibia plateau and then horizontally cross over laterally. Then second, measure medial tibia plateau to medial malleolus. Measure residual limb from greater trochanter to medial tibia plateau and then horizontally cross over laterally. Then measure medial tibial plateau to distal end of limb.

2.7.5 The Minimum Impairment Criteria is met if impairment is noted in the upper and/or lower extremity tests based on the Para Surfing Sport Class.

Para Surfing Stand 1 – Upper limb amputation or congenital or impairment equivalent through wrist without articulating wrist.

Para Surfing Stand 2 – 1 lower limb Below Knee Amputation or congenital or impairment equivalent through ankle without articulating ankle.

Para Surfing Stand 3 - 1 lower limb above knee amputation or congenital or impairment equivalent through knee without articulating knee **OR** both lower limbs below knee amputation or congenital or impairment equivalent through ankle without articulating ankle.

Para Surfing Kneel - 1 lower limb above knee amputation or congenital or impairment equivalent through knee without articulating knee **OR** both lower limb below knee amputation or congenital or impairment equivalent through ankle without articulating ankle.

Para Surfing Sit - Bilateral lower limb above knee amputations or congenital or impairment equivalent through knees without articulating joints.

Para Surfing Prone 1 - Bilateral lower limb above knee amputations or congenital or impairment equivalent through knees without articulating joints.

Para Surfing Prone 2 – One upper limb amputation or congenital or impairment equivalent through wrist without articulating wrist **AND** Both lower limb above knee amputations or congenital or impairment equivalent through knees without articulating knees **OR** both lower limbs below knee amputations or congenital or impairment equivalent through ankle without articulating ankle joints.

2.8 Leg Length Difference

2.8.1 To measure, the Athlete must lie supine with legs relaxed and fully extended. Measure from the inferior aspect of the anterior superior iliac spine to the inferior aspect of the tip of the medial malleolus on each leg and then compare. The difference in length between right and left legs must be 7cm or more to meet eligibility for Para Surfing Stand 2 OR 12cm or more to meet eligibility for Para Surfing Stand 3.

2.8.2 Another method of measurement: The Athlete is standing barefoot on a level ground. Using a pelvis level, test the level of the pelvis on the superior aspect of the iliac crest. Then the shorter limb steps on the 7cm block and the pelvis is measured again. With the pelvic measure and 7 cm block, the pelvis should be leveled or angled the opposite way if the difference is more than 7cm.

2.8.3 **The Minimum Impairment Criteria is met if the Athlete levels at 7cm or greater in difference between BLE's or with the pelvic leveler and block. Athlete only fit into Para Surfing Stand 2 Sport Class or if there is a 12 cm or greater in difference between BLE's Athlete may fit into Para Surfing Stand 3.**

2.9 Short Stature

Short stature athletes will be subject to annual review until the age of 18 years old. Males and females with short stature have different minimum impairment criteria. Athlete's position is looking straight ahead, back up against a post or wall, and standing barefoot on level ground. Height is measured from top of head to heels on ground.

2.9.1 Males with short stature

Maximum standing height permitted is 145cm standing barefoot on a level ground

2.9.2 Females with short stature

Maximum standing height permitted is 137cm standing barefoot on a level ground

2.9.3 **The Minimum Impairment Criteria is met if males measure at or below 145cm and females measure at or below 137cm in height. Athletes only fit into Para Surfing Stand 1 Sport Class.**

2.10 Hypertonia

Hypertonia is defined as increased tone which is caused by central nervous system damage which results in increased resistance to passive lengthening of the muscle. One of the following types of hypertonia must be clearly detectable at the shoulder, elbow, wrist, hip, knee, or ankle: spastic hypertonia, rigidity, or dystonia.

Spasticity must be measured with the Modified Ashworth Scale (derived from Bohannon and Smith, 1987). The scores defining the Sport Class profiles make use of this scale.

2.10.1 Spasticity Grading (Modified Ashworth Scale)

- 0** No increase in muscle tone.
- 1** Slight increase in muscle tone, manifested by a catch and release or by minimal resistance at the end range of motion when the affected part is moved in flexion or extension.
- 1+** Slight increase in muscle tone, manifested by a catch, followed by minimal resistance throughout the remainder (less than half) of the ROM.
- 2** More marked increase in muscle tone through most of the ROM but affected part(s) easily moved.
- 3** Considerable increase in tone, passive movement difficult.
- 4** Affected part(s) rigid in flexion or extension

2.10.2 In conducting the assessment, the Classification Panel must be satisfied that the resistance to passive lengthening of the muscle is related to an underlying Impairment. The following neurological signs and reflex testing may be useful indicators in this regard:

- **Babinski's sign**- positive Babinski response on the side in which the tone is increased.
- **Hyper reflexia**- abnormal brisk reflexes in the upper and lower limb in which the tone is increased; mild atrophy in the limb in which the tone is increased.
- **Clonus**- presence of non-dampening clonus on the side which the tone is increased.

2.10.3 **The Minimum Impairment Criteria is met if the Athlete tests $\geq 2/4$ score on the Modified Ashworth in at least one muscle group and presents with 2/3 of the neurological signs and reflexes. In addition, Impaired Functional Testing must be present based on the Para Surfing Sport Class:**

Para Surfing Stand 1 - 4/5 impaired in UE Functional Tests

Para Surfing Stand 2 – 5/10 impaired in LE Functional Tests

Para Surfing Stand 3 – 6/10 impaired in 1 LE **OR** 12/20 in BLE's Functional Tests in the severe or NA section

Para Surfing Kneel - 6/10 impaired in 1 LE **OR** 12/20 in BLE's Functional Tests severe or NA

Para Surfing Sit – 8/10 impaired in the severe or NA section in 1 LE **OR** 16/20 impaired in the severe or NA section in BLE's Functional Tests

Para Surfing Prone 1 – 8/10 impaired in the severe or NA section in 1 LE **OR** 16/20 impaired in the severe or NA section in BLE's Functional Tests

Para Surfing Prone 2 – 5/5 Severe or NA UE Functional Tests **AND** 10/10 Severe or NA 1 LE Functional tests **OR** 20/20 Severe or NA BLE's Functional Tests

2.11 Ataxia

Ataxia refers to unsteadiness, incoordination or clumsiness of volitional movement (Krishna et al., 2019). Eligible ataxia must result from either motor or sensory nervous system dysfunction. Motor ataxias most frequently result from malformation or damage to the cerebellum and often associated with hypertonia (Krishna et al., 2019). Motor ataxias are poorly compensated for by visual input. Sensory ataxia most frequently results from lower motor neuron damage or spinal cord disease, affecting vestibular function or proprioceptive function. Visual input can help compensate for sensory ataxia and so sensory ataxia are often more evident when eyes are closed.

2.11.1 When conducting the assessments, the Classification Panel must be satisfied that ataxic movements are demonstrable and clearly evident during the classification and that the observed ataxia is due to motor or sensory nervous system dysfunction as described.

Tests that may be useful for determining this include but are not limited to the Functional Test Battery (see 2.13.1 for the Upper Extremity Functional Tests and 2.13.2 for the Lower Extremity Functional Tests).

2.11.2 The Minimum Impairment Criteria is met if Ataxic Movement is observed and impairment is noted on the Upper Extremity Functional Tests and/or the Lower Extremity Functional Tests based on the Para Surfing Sport Class:

Para Surfing Stand 1 - 4/5 impaired in UE Functional Tests with Ataxia

Para Surfing Stand 2 – 5/10 impaired in LE Functional Tests with Ataxia

Para Surfing Stand 3 – 6/10 Severe or NA in 1 LE **OR** 12/20 in BLE’s Functional Tests with Ataxia

Para Surfing Kneel - 6/10 Severe or NA in 1 LE **OR** 12/20 in BLE’s Functional Tests with Ataxia

Para Surfing Sit – 8/10 Severe or NA in 1 LE **OR** 16/20 in BLE’s Functional Tests with Ataxia

Para Surfing Prone 1 – 8/10 Severe or NA in 1 LE **OR** 16/20 in BLE’s Functional Tests with Ataxia

Para Surfing Prone 2 – 5/5 Severe or NA UE Functional Tests **AND** 10/10 Severe or NA 1 LE Functional tests **OR** 20/20 Severe or NA BLE’s Functional Tests with Ataxia

Reference:

Krishna, R., Pathirana, P. N., Horne, M., Power, L., & Szmulewicz, D. J. (2019). Quantitative assessment of cerebellar ataxia, through automated limb functional tests. *Journal of neuroengineering and rehabilitation*, 16(1), 31.

2.12 Athetosis

Athetosis refers to unwanted movement and posturing resulting from damage to motor control centers of the brain, most frequently the basal ganglia. When conducting the assessment, the Classification Panel must be satisfied that athetotic movements are clearly evident, neurological in origin, and related to an underlying Impairment. Tests and observations that may be useful for determining clearly evident athetosis include, but are not limited to the following:

- involuntary movement of the fingers or upper extremities despite the Athlete trying to remain still;
- involuntary movement of the toes or lower extremities despite the Athlete trying to remain still;
- inability to hold the body still swaying of the body. Swaying must not be due to other neurological deficits such as vestibular or proprioceptive Impairments and therefore must not be exacerbated by closing the eyes during the test;
- characteristic athetoid posturing of the limbs and/or trunk.

2.12.1 The Minimum Impairment Criteria is met if the Athlete is observed to have at least one of the four characterized movements and impairment is noted on the Upper Extremity Functional Tests and/or the Lower Extremity Functional Tests based on the Para Surfing Sport Class:

- Para Surfing Stand 1** - 4/5 impaired in UE Functional Tests with Athetoid movements
- Para Surfing Stand 2** – 5/10 impaired in LE Functional Tests with Athetoid movements
- Para Surfing Stand 3** – 6/10 Severe or NA in 1 LE **OR** 12/20 in BLE’s Functional Tests with Athetoid movements
- Para Surfing Kneel** - 6/10 Severe or NA in 1 LE **OR** 12/20 in BLE’s Functional Tests with Athetoid movements
- Para Surfing Sit** – 8/10 Severe or NA in 1 LE **OR** 16/20 in BLE’s Functional Tests
- Para Surfing Prone 1** – 8/10 Severe or NA in 1 LE **OR** 16/20 in BLE’s Functional Tests with Athetoid movements
- Para Surfing Prone 2** – 5/5 Severe or NA UE Functional Tests **AND** 10/10 Severe or NA 1 LE Functional tests **OR** 20/20 Severe or NA BLE’s Functional Tests with Athetoid movements

The Athlete will not be eligible if athetoid movements of the face are the sole Impairment.

2.13 Functional Testing Battery for Neurological Impairments

The Functional Testing Battery will be used for all three neurological impairments: Hypertonia, Ataxia, and Athetosis. Additional tests may be used if necessary.

2.13.1 Upper Extremity Functional Tests – novel activities

2.13.2 Lower Extremity Functional Tests – novel activities

3 Assessment Criteria for the Allocation of a Sport Class and the Designation of Sport Class Status

Final Sport Class allocation is a result of a combination of several measurements and assessments.

Sport Classes are designated by standing, kneeling and prone positions with minimal impairment criteria listed for each.

Abbreviations: UE= Upper Extremity; LE=Lower Extremity; MAS=Modified Ashworth Scale; MMT=Manual Muscle Testing (Oxford Scales)

Sport Class	Para Surfing Stand 1 Upper Limb and Short Stature
Description	Any surfer who rides a wave in a standing position with an upper limb amputation or congenital or impairment equivalent or short stature.
Eligible Impairments	Minimal Impairment Criteria
Impaired Muscle Power	≤50/65 MMT score 1 UE
Impaired Passive Range of Motion	≥1/3 in 1 UE ≥5/15 UE joint motions in the 33% impairment range
Limb Deficiency	UE amputation Ø wrist OR Congenital or equivalent
Leg Length Difference	X
Short Stature	≤ 145 males ≤ 137 females
Neurological Evidence: Hypertonia, Ataxia, and Athetosis	
Hypertonia	≥ 2/4 MAS score in UE AND + Clonus OR + Hyperreflexia AND 4/5 Impaired UE Functional Tests
Ataxia	4/5 Impaired UE Functional Tests AND ataxic movements observed
Athetosis	4/5 Impaired UE Functional Tests AND ≥1/4 athetoid movements observed

Sport Class	Para Surfing Stand 2 Below Knee
Description	Any surfer who rides a wave in a standing position with a below the knee amputation or congenital or impairment equivalent, or leg length difference.
Eligible Impairments	Minimal Impairment Criteria
Impaired Muscle Power	≤40/60 MMT score 1 LE AND ≥2 ankle motions ≤2/5 MMT
Impaired Passive Range of Motion	≥1/3 in 1 LE ≥4/12 LE joint motions in the 33% impairment range AND ≥2 joints must be in the ankle in the 33% impairment range
Limb Deficiency	Below knee amputation ∅ ankle or congenital or equivalent
Leg Length Difference	≥ 7 cm
Short Stature	X
Neurological Evidence: Hypertonia, Ataxia, and Athetosis	
Hypertonia	≥ 2/4 MAS score in LE AND + Clonus OR + Hyperreflexia AND 5/10 Impaired LE Functional Tests
Ataxia	5/10 Impaired LE Functional Tests AND ataxic movements observed
Athetosis	5/10 Impaired LE Functional Tests AND ≥1/4 movement disorders observed

Sport Class	Para Surfing Stand 3 Above Knee
Description	Any surfer who rides a wave in a standing position with an above the knee amputation or both lower extremity amputation or congenital or impairment equivalent.
Eligible Impairments	Minimal Impairment Criteria
Impaired Muscle Power	≤ 30/60 MMT score in 1 LE OR ≤ 60/120 MMT score in Both LE's AND ≥2 ankle motions ≤2/5 MMT
Impaired Passive Range of Motion	≥1/2 in 1 LE ≥6/12 LE joint motions in the 33% impairment range OR ≥1/3 in Both LE's ≥8/24 LE joint motions in 33% impairment range) AND ≥2 joints must be in the ankle in the 33% impairment range
Limb Deficiency	Above knee amputation ∅ knee or congenital or equivalent OR Bilateral below knee amputation ∅ ankles or congenital or equivalent
Leg Length Difference	≥ 12 cm
Short Stature	X
Neurological Evidence: Hypertonia, Ataxia, and Athetosis	
Hypertonia	≥ 2/4 MAS score in LE AND + Clonus OR + Hyperreflexia AND 6/10 Severe or NA LE Functional Tests OR 12/20 Severe or NA Both LE Functional Tests
Ataxia	6/10 Severe or NA LE Functional Tests OR 12/20 Severe or NA Both LE Functional Tests AND ataxic movements observed
Athetosis	6/10 Severe or NA LE Functional Tests OR 12/20 Severe or NA Both LE Functional Tests AND ≥1/4 Athetoid movements observed

Sport Class	Para Surfing Kneel
Description	Any surfer who rides a wave in a kneeling or sitting without paddle position with an above the knee amputation or both lower limb amputation or congenital or impairment equivalent.
Eligible Impairments	Minimal Impairment Criteria
Impaired Muscle Power	<p>≤ 30/60 MMT score in 1 LE OR ≤ 80/120 MMT score in BLE's</p>
Impaired Passive Range of Motion	<p>≥1/2 in 1 LE (≥6/12 LE joint motions in the 33% impairment range) OR ≥1/3 in Both LE's (≥8/24 LE joint motions in the 33% impairment range) AND ≥2 joints must be in the ankle in the 33% impairment range</p>
Limb Deficiency	<p>Above knee amputation ∅ knee or congenital or equivalent OR Bilateral below knee amputation ∅ ankles or congenital or equivalent</p>
Leg Length Difference	X
Short Stature	X
Neurological Evidence: Hypertonia, Ataxia, and Athetosis	
Hypertonia	<p>≥ 2/4 MAS score in LE AND + Clonus OR + Hyperreflexia AND 6/10 Severe or NA LE Functional Tests OR 12/20 Severe or NA Both LE Functional Tests</p>
Ataxia	<p>6/10 Severe or NA 1 LE Functional Tests OR 12/20 Severe or NA Both LE Functional Tests AND with ataxic movements observed</p>
Athetosis	<p>6/10 Severe or NA LE Functional Tests OR 12/20 Severe or NA Both LE Functional Tests AND ≥1/4 Athetoid movements observed</p>

Surf Class	Para Surfing Sit
Description	Any surfer who rides the wave in a seated position and uses a paddle that does NOT require assistance paddling into a wave and getting back on the board safely.
Eligible Impairments	Minimal Impairment Criteria
Impaired Muscle Power	$\leq 60/120$ MMT score in Both LE's AND $\leq 7/10$ MMT score in Trunk
Impaired Passive Range of Motion	$\geq 1/2$ in Both LE's $\geq 12/24$ LE joint motions in the 33% impairment range
Limb Deficiency	Bilateral above knee amputations \emptyset knees or Bilateral BKA \emptyset ankles or combo of 1 AKA and 1 BKA or congenital equivalent
Leg Length Difference	X
Short Stature	X
Neurological Evidence: Hypertonia, Ataxia, and Athetosis	
Hypertonia	$\geq 2/4$ MAS score in LE AND + Clonus OR + Hyperreflexia AND 8/10 Severe or NA LE Functional Tests OR 16/20 Severe or NA Both LE Functional Tests
Ataxia	8/10 Severe or NA 1 LE Functional Tests OR 16/20 Severe or NA Both LE Functional Tests AND with ataxic movements observed
Athetosis	8/10 Severe or NA 1 LE Functional Tests OR 16/20 Severe or NA BLE Functional Tests AND $\geq 1/4$ movement disorders observed

Sport Class	Para Surfing Prone 1
Description	Any surfer who rides the wave in a prone position that does NOT require assistance paddling into a wave and getting back on the board safely
Eligible Impairments	Minimal Impairment Criteria
Impaired Muscle Power	<p style="text-align: center;">≤ 60/120 MMT score in Both LE's AND ≥7/10 MMT score in Trunk</p>
Impaired Passive Range of Motion	<p style="text-align: center;">≥1/2 in Both LE's (≥12/24 LE joint motions in the 33% impairment range)</p>
Limb Deficiency	<p style="text-align: center;">Bilateral above knee amputations ∅ knees or congenital or equivalent</p>
Leg Length Difference	X
Short Stature	X
Neurological Evidence: Hypertonia, Ataxia, and Athetosis	
Hypertonia	<p style="text-align: center;">≥ 2/4 MAS score in LE AND + Clonus OR + Hyperreflexia AND 8/10 Severe or NA LE Functional Tests OR 16/20 Severe or NA Both LE Functional Tests</p>
Ataxia	<p style="text-align: center;">8/10 Severe or NA 1 LE Functional Tests OR 16/20 Severe or NA Both LE Functional Tests AND with ataxic movements observed</p>
Athetosis	<p style="text-align: center;">8/10 Severe or NA 1 LE Functional Tests OR 16/20 Severe or NA BLE Functional Tests AND ≥1/4 movement disorders observed</p>

Sport Class	Para Surfing Prone 2
Description	Any surfer who rides the wave in a prone position that DOES require assistance paddling into a wave and getting back on the board safely
Eligible Impairments	Minimal Impairment Criteria
Impaired Muscle Power	<p style="text-align: center;"> $\leq 120/130$ MMT score Both UE's AND $\leq 60/120$ MMT score Both LE's AND $\leq 5/10$ MMT score in Trunk </p>
Impaired Passive Range of Motion	<p style="text-align: center;"> $\geq 1/2$ in Both UE's $\geq 15/30$ BUE joint motions in 33% impairment range AND $\geq 1/2$ in Both LE's $\geq 12/24$ BLE joint motions in 33% impairment range </p>
Limb Deficiency	<p style="text-align: center;"> 1 UE amputation or congenital or equivalent AND Bilateral above knee amputations \emptyset knees or congenital or equivalent OR Bilateral below knee amputations \emptyset ankles or congenital or equivalent </p>
Leg Length Difference	X
Short Stature	X
Neurological Evidence: Hypertonia, Ataxia, and Athetosis	
Hypertonia	<p style="text-align: center;"> $\geq 2/4$ MAS score in UE and LE AND + Clonus OR + Hyperreflexia AND 5/5 Severe or NA UE Functional Tests AND 10/10 Severe or NA LE Functional Tests OR 20/20 Severe or NA Both LE Functional Tests </p>
Ataxia	<p style="text-align: center;"> 5/5 Severe or NA UE Functional Tests AND 10/10 Severe or NA 1 LE Functional Tests OR 20/20 Severe or NA BLE Functional Tests AND ataxic movements observed </p>
Athetosis	<p style="text-align: center;"> 5/5 Severe or NA UE tests with 1 /4 movement disorders AND 10/10 Severe or NA 1 LE tests OR 20/20 Severe or NA Both LE tests AND $\geq 1/4$ movement disorders observed </p>

Appendix Two

Athletes with Vision Impairment

1 Eligible Impairment Types

Eligible Impairment	Examples of Health Conditions
<p>Vision Impairment</p> <p>Athletes with Vision Impairment have reduced or no vision caused by damage to the eye structure, optical nerves or optical pathways, or visual cortex of the brain.</p>	<p>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Vision Impairment include retinitis pigmentosa and diabetic retinopathy.</p>

2 Minimum Impairment Criteria

Minimum Impairment Criteria for Athletes with a Vision Impairment have been set based on the Athlete's corrected vision. (The difference in approach for Athletes with Vision Impairment must be seen within the historical context of Classification for these Athletes, which is an assessment with 'best correction' as used in the context of medical diagnostics for visual acuity.)

2.1 To be eligible to compete in Sport Classes VI -1 and VI-2 in ISA Para Surfing, the Athlete must meet both of the criteria below:

- 2.1.1 The Athlete must have at least one of the following Impairments:
 - Impairment of the eye structure;
 - Impairment of the optical nerve/optic pathways;
 - Impairment of the visual cortex.

- 2.1.2 The Athlete's Vision Impairment must result in a visual acuity of less than or equal to LogMAR 1.0 or a visual field restricted to less than 40 degrees diameter.

- 2.2 It is the responsibility of the Athlete and NPC to provide sufficient evidence of the Athlete's Vision Impairment. This must be done by way of submitting medical diagnostic information completed by an ophthalmologist as described in Article 7.5 of these Rules.

- 2.3 The medical diagnostic information must comprise the completed Medical Diagnostics Form (available on the ISA Para Surfing website) and additional medical documentation as indicated on the Medical Diagnostics Form. Failure to present with complete medical diagnostic information may lead to Athlete Evaluation being suspended in accordance with Article 10 of these Rules.

- 2.4 Medical Diagnostic Information must be typewritten and submitted in English and may not be older than 12 months prior to the date of Evaluation Session.

3 Assessment Methodology

- 3.1 All Athlete Evaluation and Sport Class allocation must be based on the assessment of visual acuity in the eye with better visual acuity when wearing the best optical correction.
- 3.2 Depending on an Athlete's visual acuity, visual acuity is tested using the LogMAR chart for distance visual acuity testing with literate "E" and/or the Berkeley Rudimentary Vision Test.
- 3.3 Athletes who compete using any corrective devices (e.g. glasses, lenses) must attend classification with these devices and their prescription.
- 3.4 An Athlete found to be using corrective devices during Competition that were not declared during Evaluation Session may be subject to further investigation of Intentional Misrepresentation (see Article 32).
- 3.5 Athletes must declare any change in their optical correction to ISA Para Surfing before any Competition. If the Athlete has a Sport Class Status Review with Fixed Review Date or Confirmed, the Athlete's Sport Class Status will be changed to Review. The Athlete will then undergo Athlete Evaluation prior to the next Competition under the provisions of these Rules. Failure to do so may result in an investigation of Intentional Misrepresentation (see Article 32).
- 3.6 Any Athlete Support Personnel accompanying the Athlete during the Evaluation Session must remain out of sight of the visual acuity charts during assessment.
- 3.7 Under the current provisions set out in this Appendix, Observation in Competition does not apply to Athletes with Vision Impairment.
- 3.8 ISA Para Surfing will inform the local organizing committee of the equipment and room requirements for the assessment of Athletes with Vision Impairment after the Classification Panels have been appointed. It is the local organizing committee responsibility to provide all equipment required by ISA Para Surfing.
- 3.9 Failure to provide all equipment required by ISA Para Surfing may result in the classification decisions not being accepted by ISA Para Surfing.

4 Assessment Criteria for the Allocation of a Sport Class and the Designation of Sport Class Status

4.1 Sport Class Para Surfing Visual Impairment 1 (VI 1) Blind, No Vision

- 4.1.1 Visual acuity is poorer than LogMAR 2.60.

4.2 Sport Class Para Surfing Visual Impairment 2 (VI 2) Blind, Low (Partial) Vision

- 4.2.1 Visual acuity ranges from LogMAR 1.50 to 2.60 (inclusive), and/or
- 4.2.2 the visual field is constricted to a radius of less than 10 degrees diameter.

4.3 Sport Class Para Surfing Visual Impairment 2 (VI 2) Blind, Low (Partial) Vision

- 4.3.1 Visual acuity ranges from LogMAR 1.40 to 1 (inclusive), and/or
- 4.3.2 the visual field is constricted to a radius of less than 40 degrees diameter.

Appendix Three

Athletes with Intellectual Impairment

At this time, the Eligible Impairment: Intellectual Impairment, will not be utilized for ISA Para Surfing.

1 Eligible Impairment Types

Eligible Impairment
<p>Intellectual Impairment</p> <p>Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment have a restriction in intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior in which affects conceptual, social, and practical adaptive skills required for everyday life. This Impairment must be present before the age of 18.</p>

2 Minimum Impairment Criteria

Not Applicable

3 Assessment Methodology

Not Applicable

4 Assessment Criteria for the Allocation of a Sport Class and the Designation of Sport Class Status

Not Applicable

Appendix Four

1 Non-Eligible Impairment Types for all Athletes

Examples of Non-Eligible Impairments include, but are not limited to the following:

- Pain;
- Hearing Impairment;
- Low muscle tone;
- Hypermobility of joints;
- Joint instability, such as unstable shoulder joint, recurrent dislocation of a joint;
- Impaired muscle endurance;
- Impaired motor reflex functions;
- Impaired cardiovascular functions;
- Impaired respiratory functions;
- Impairment metabolic functions;
- Tics and mannerisms, stereotypes and motor perseveration; and
- Intellectual Impairment.

2 Health Conditions that are not Underlying Health Conditions for all Athletes

A number of Health Conditions do not lead to an Eligible Impairment and are not Underlying Health Conditions. An Athlete who has a Health Condition (including, but not limited to, one of the Health Conditions listed in the above Appendix One and Appendix Two) but who does not have an Underlying Health Condition will not be eligible to compete in Para sport.

Health Conditions that primarily cause pain; primarily cause fatigue; primarily cause joint hypermobility or hypotonia; or are primarily psychological or psychosomatic in nature do *not* lead to an Eligible Impairment.

Examples of Health Conditions that primarily cause pain include myofascial *pain*-dysfunction syndrome, fibromyalgia or complex regional pain syndrome.

An example of a Health Condition that primarily causes fatigue is chronic fatigue syndrome.

An example of a Health Condition that primarily causes hypermobility or hypotonia is Ehlers Danlos syndrome.

Examples of Health Conditions that are primarily psychological or psychosomatic in nature include conversion disorders or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Appendix Five: REFRACTIVE ERRORS PROVISIONS

Preamble

This Appendix sets out provisions for active and internationally classified Athletes in the sport of Para Surfing whose refractive error may have been considered an Underlying Health Condition leading to Vision Impairment.

In the event of conflict between any terms of this Appendix and the Para Surfing Classification Rules and Regulations, the terms of this Appendix will prevail.

Part One: context

Part One of this Appendix is of general application.

1 **Decision regarding refractive errors as an Underlying Health Condition**

1.1 In accordance with the IPC's position, Para Surfing has made the following decision:

1.1.1 refractive errors are no longer considered an Underlying Health Condition leading to Vision Impairment; and

1.1.2 instead, when secondary pathological changes are present along with refractive errors, then the medical diagnosis should describe the specific changes causing the loss of vision. If the pathological changes are confirmed on the basis of the medical evidence provided through diagnostic testing, then the Athlete will be considered to have an Underlying Health Condition leading to an Eligible Impairment and will proceed to an Evaluation Session to determine if they meet the Minimum Impairment Criteria for the Para Surfing.

2 **Implementation timeframe**

2.1 The decision set out in Article 1 above is effective as follows:

2.1.1 **for all new Athletes coming into Para Surfing: 1 July 2022;** and

2.1.2 **for active Athletes currently in the system competing in Para Surfing:** at the start of the new Paralympic cycle, that being the cycle after the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games (i.e. 1 January 2025), subject to the terms of these Provisions.

Part Two: The Provisions

Part Two of this Appendix (the "**Provisions**") shall apply only for the identified period and to those Athletes specified in these Provisions.

3 **Provisions time period**

3.1 These Provisions will apply from 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2024 (inclusive) (the "**Implementation Period**").

4 Athletes included under these Provisions

4.1 These Provisions apply only to:

4.1.1 Athletes listed in Article 2.1.2 above;

4.1.2 Athletes who are identified by Para Surfing through the procedures in Articles 6.1 and 6.2 below as Athletes for whom refractive errors may have been considered an Underlying Health Condition leading to Vision Impairment; and

4.1.3 Athletes who are not excluded from these Provisions under Article 5 below.

5 Athletes excluded from these Provisions

5.1 These Provisions do not apply to the following Athletes:

5.1.1 Athletes who hold Sport Class Status New (N) in Para Surfing;

5.1.2 Athletes who have not been allocated a Sport Class by a Classification Panel before 1 July 2022; and

5.1.3 Athletes allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) or designated Classification Not Completed (CNC) as of 1 July 2022.

5.2 Athletes excluded from these Provisions shall be treated for the purposes of this Appendix as a new Athlete coming Para Surfing, in accordance with the implementation timeframe set out in Article 2.1.1.

6 Procedure: Sport Class Status Change

6.1 Para Surfing will carry out a screening process to identify Athletes for whom refractive errors may have been considered an Underlying Health Condition leading to Vision Impairment.

6.2 The screening process will be carried out for all Athletes allocated the following Sport Classes (other than Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated the Sport Class Status Review, Review with a Fixed Review Date or Confirmed):

6.2.1 Para Surfing Visual Impairment 1 (B1) and Para Surfing Visual Impairment 2 (B2 & B3)

6.3 Athletes identified under Articles 6.1 and 6.2 of this Appendix will have their Sport Class Status re-designated to a Review with a Fixed Review Date 2025 (R2025) in accordance with Article 15.7 of these Classification Rules.

6.4 Para Surfing will notify these Athletes via their National Body or National Paralympic Committee of this re-designation.

6.5 Following the close of the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games, Para Surfing will form an Eligibility Assessment Committee to review these Athletes' Diagnostic Information as described in Article 7.8 of these Classification Rules.

6.6 Where the Eligibility Assessment Committee concludes that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment:

- 6.6.1 the Athlete will be permitted to proceed to an Evaluation Session with a Classification Panel, subject to their Sport Class Status i;
- 6.6.2 pending the outcome of that Evaluation Session, the Athlete's Sport Class will remain unchanged.
- 6.7 Where the Eligibility Assessment Committee concludes that the Athlete does not have an Eligible Impairment:
 - 6.7.1 the Athlete will not be permitted to proceed to an Evaluation Session with a Classification Panel and will be allocated with Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) by Para Surfing in accordance with Article 18.3 of these Rules;
 - 6.7.2 as with any Athlete who is allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) by Para Surfing or a Classification Panel (if delegated by Para Surfing) because the Athlete has a Health Condition that is not an Underlying Health Condition, the Athlete has no right to request such determination be reviewed by a Classification Panel and will not be permitted to participate in any Para Surfing after receiving the outcome of the Eligibility Assessment Committee on the basis of Vision Impairment in accordance with Article 18.5 of these Classification Rules;
 - 6.7.3 the Athlete and their National Body or National Paralympic Committee may, at the discretion of Para Surfing, be invited to join an audio/video call with Para Surfing and a member of the Eligibility Assessment Committee to explain the decision.

7 Medical Review Requests

- 7.1 Nothing in this Appendix shall prevent a National Paralympic Committee or National Body from making a Medical Review Request on behalf of their Athlete in accordance with Article 31 of these Classification Rules. In respect of Medical Review Request made in the Implementation Period on behalf of an Athlete included under these Provisions, the Provisions shall cease to apply to that Athlete upon receipt of the Medical Review Request by Para Surfing, and the following shall instead apply:
 - 7.1.1 if the Medical Review Request is accepted, the Athlete's Sport Class Status will be changed to Review (R) with immediate effect in accordance with Article 31.7 of these Classification Rules;
 - 7.1.2 if the Medical Review Request does not include sufficient evidence to explain how and to what extent the Athlete's Impairment has changed, including sufficient evidence of an Underlying Health Condition leading to Vision Impairment in the context of Article 1 of this Appendix, the Medical Review Request will not be accepted and the Athlete will be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) by Para Surfing in accordance with Article 18.3.2 of these Classification Rules.