

ISA Para Surfing Sport Rules and Regulations

September 2024

Para Surfing Sport Rules and Regulations

Chapter 1: Team Size

Team Size: Each National Federation will be allowed to field a team of up to-nine men athletes and nine women athletes across the nine Para Surfing Sport Classes, for a total of eighteen eligible athletes. The nine men and nine women maximum athletes per country will include no more than two athletes in any one Para Surfing Sport Class.

Example: Country X may field a team consisting of: (2) men athletes for Para Surfing-Stand 1, (1) men athlete for Para Surfing Stand 2, (1) men athlete for Para Surfing-Stand 3, (2) men athletes for Para Surfing-Prone 1, (1) men athlete for Para Surfing-Prone 2, and, (2) men athletes for Para Surfing-VI1 for a total of nine men; and similarly, for the Women's Divisions.

*Please note: it is not a requirement to have a full team. Each National Team can be comprised of as little as one athlete. However, for maximized scoring potential it is recommended to field the maximum number of athletes.

Chapter 2: Competition Format and Team Points

ISA World Para Surfing Championship Competition Format is subject to the ISA Contest Director's discretion and will either follow standard ISA Double Elimination Contest Format or Qualifying Round Format described below.

If using Qualifying Round Format, all athletes will surf in two Qualifying Round heats and top surfers will advance to the Final Round(s).

Country seeding order for Qualifying Round 1 will be based upon the country rankings from the prior year's ISA World Para Surfing Championship. Athletes will be re-seeded for Qualifying Round 2 based upon their Qualifying Round 1 point aggregate total from their best two waves.

For the Qualification to the Final Round(s),

An Overall Division Ranking will be established for every surfer based on top two wave score points from either Qualifying Round 1 or 2 (top two wave scores can be from same round). Surfers will be seeded into Finals Round(s) based on their Overall Division Ranking. Where a tiebreak is necessary, this will be determined by comparing the best wave of the surfers concerned and then if necessary wave scores for waves 3, 4, and in descending order, until the tie is broken.

All Quarterfinals, Semi-finals and Finals will progress on the 50% progression, two best wave total system, as per normal ISA Contest Rules in 4 surfer heats.

Team Points: Each competitor will accumulate team points according to the place he/she finishes in the contest. The ISA Team Points Allocation Table will be used, beginning with 1000 points for each division winner (please refer to the ISA Official Team Points Allocation Table for subsequent placing-point ratios). The total points will be distributed amongst the available places. The winning team will be that team with the highest sum of points. Where places are equal, then the highest of the possible points for those places will be allocated to each competitor.

Chapter 3: Judging Criteria

Standard ISA Judging Criteria will be implemented and is defined as:

Surfers must perform to the ISA judging key elements to maximize their scoring potential. Judges analyze the following major elements when scoring a ride:

- Commitment and degree of difficulty
- Innovative and progressive maneuvers
- Combination of major maneuvers
- Variety of maneuvers
- Speed, power and flow

NOTE: It's important to note that the emphasis of certain elements is contingent upon the location and the conditions on the day, as well as changes of conditions during the day. The Following scale may be used to describe a Ride that is scored:

- 0-1.9 = Poor
- 2.0-3.9 = Fair
- 4.0-5.9 = Average
- 6.0-7.9 = Good
- 8.0-10.0 = Excellent

In the case that no clear maneuvers are performed during competition, the judges will look at Fundamental Surfing Criteria as described as follows and will be emphasized in the ISA Judging Criteria under Degree of Difficulty or Commitment:

- Surfers who paddle out and catch open-face waves will always be scored higher than surfers who catch whitewater (waves that have already broken and do not reform into open-face waves).
- The surfer who catches an open-face wave and travels right or left will score higher than a surfer who catches an open-face wave and goes neither right nor left.

- The surfer who catches an open-face wave and performs a maneuver will be scored higher than a surfer who rides an open-face wave right or left, but does not perform a maneuver.
- The surfer who catches an open-face wave and travels right or left and attempts to perform a maneuver, but fails by not completing the maneuver at 100 percent (maneuvers must be completed at 100 percent), will generally score higher than the surfer that travels right or left on an open-face wave without attempting to perform a maneuver.
- Surfers who perform maneuvers in whitewater will only score higher than surfers who ride whitewater without performing maneuvers.

Chapter 4: Sport Class

4.1 Athletes must have an Eligible Impairment in order to compete in Para Surfing competitions. Such Impairments must come from the list of Eligible Impairments presented in the IPC International Standard for Eligible Impairments. ISA has identified the following eligible impairments for the sport of Para Surfing:

Eligible Impairment	IPC Definition
Impaired muscle power	. Athletes with Impaired Muscle Power have a reduced (or no) ability to contract their muscles to generate force that is consistent with an Underlying Health Condition affecting the structure and function of the central or peripheral nervous system or the muscles (including the muscle origin and muscle insertion). Examples include: spinal cord injury (complete or incomplete, tetra- or paraplegia), muscular dystrophy, post-polio syndrome and spina bifida.
Impaired passive range of movement	. Athletes with Impaired Passive Range of Movement have a reduced ability for a joint to be passively moved that is consistent with an Underlying Health Condition affecting a structure of bones, joints, connective tissue, or soft tissues. Examples include: arthrogryposis and contracture resulting from chronic joint immobilization or trauma affecting a joint.
Limb Deficiency/ Limb Length Difference	Athletes with Limb Deficiency or Limb Length Difference have a total or partial absence of a limb or anatomically irregular limb dimensions that are consistent with an Underlying Health Condition resulting from trauma, illness, or congenital causes affecting the bones and/or joints. 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). Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Arm or Leg Length Difference include: dysmelia and congenital or traumatic disturbance of limb growth.
Coordination Impairments	Athletes with a Coordination Impairment have one or more of the following three movement disorders that (i) adversely affects the ability to voluntarily produce a full range of skilled movement fluidly, rapidly, and accurately; and (i

	is consistent with an Underlying Health Condition affecting the structure and function of the central nervous system:
Motor Ataxia	limited precision in direction and velocity of voluntary movement.. Examples include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, stroke and multiple sclerosis.
Dyskinesia (athetosis, dystonia, chorea)	involuntary movements that interfere with voluntary movements.. Examples include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, and stroke.
Vision Impairment	Defined by International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA): The determination of visual class will be based upon the eye with better visual acuity, whilst wearing best optical correction using spectacles or contact lenses, and/or visual fields which include central and peripheral zones. Athlete's will be placed into sub-classes as follows: VI 1=B1- Visual acuity poorer than LogMAR 2.6; VI 2=B2 and B3. B2 and B3 are combined for surfing. B2- Visual acuity ranging from LogMAR 1.5 to 2.6 (inclusive) and/or Visual field constricted to a diameter of less than 10 degrees; and, B3- Visual acuity ranging from LogMAR 1.4 to 1.0 (inclusive) and/or Visual field constricted to a diameter of less than 40 degrees

4.2 Athletes will be assessed and reviewed by ISA Para Surfing International Classifiers. Once assessed, each athlete will be listed as Eligible, Not Eligible or Under Review. If an athlete is Eligible or Under Review, classification personnel will determine the appropriate sport class for the athlete. An athlete listed as Not Eligible will not be able to compete in the World Para Surfing Championship or other ISA sanctioned events.

There are nine divisions of classification, each titled as “Sport Class”:

ISA Para Surfing Sport Classes		
Sport Class		Description
Para Surfing Stand 1	PS-S1	Surfers who ride waves in a standing position with an upper body impairment.
Para Surfing Stand 2	PS-S2	Surfers who ride waves in a standing position with a lower body impairment below the knee.
Para Surfing Stand 3	PS-S3	Surfers who ride waves in a standing position with a lower body impairment above the knee.
Para Surfing Kneel/Upright	PS-K	Surfers who ride waves in a kneeling or upright position.
Para Surfing Sit	PS-S	Surfers who ride waves in a sitting position.
Para Surfing Prone 1	PS-P1	Surfers who ride waves in a prone position.

Para Surfing Prone 2	PS-P2	Surfers who ride waves in a prone position and need assistance to paddle into waves and while in the water.
Para Surfing Visual Impairment 1	PS-VI1	Surfers who have a visual impairment defined by IBSA Sport Class B1.
Para Surfing Visual Impairment 2	PS-VI2	Surfers who have a visual impairment defined by IBSA Sport Class B2 and B3.

Notes:

* The Para Surfing Stand 2 and Para Surfing Stand 3 Sport Classes may be combined to compete together due to insufficient competitor numbers. This decision will be the sole discretion of the ISA. In this case, more than 2 competitors per nation may be allowed to compete in this combined division as long as these athletes are within the overall allotted team size. In this case Team Points will be awarded for the combined sport class.

* The Para Surfing-VI 1 and Para Surfing-VI 2 Sport Classes may be combined to compete together due to insufficient competitor numbers. This decision will be the sole discretion of the ISA. In this case, more than 2 competitors per nation may be allowed to compete in this combined division as long as these athletes are within the overall allotted team size. In this case Team Points will be awarded for the combined sport class.

* In the occasion that a Para Surfing Sport Class has less than 4 athletes per gender, Sport Classes may be combined to compete together with the equivalent sport class of the opposite gender, to create an Open Sport Class. This decision will be the sole discretion of the ISA. In this case, more than 2 competitors per nation may be allowed to compete in the Open Sport Class as long as the athletes are within the overall allotted team size. Team Points will be independently awarded for each gender's Sport Class.

Chapter 5: Athlete Assistance

4. Athletes in any sport class are permitted to have assistance to get in and out of the water, but are required to be independent in the water during competition.
 - 4.1. Athletes in PS-P1, PS-P2, PS-VI1 and PS-VI2 are permitted to have assistance while in the water and during competition as defined in their respective section in Chapter 9.
 - 4.2. Athletes are permitted to have assistance paddling to the surf break prior to the start of their competition heat, but not permitted to have assistance inside the competition area, unless specified in Chapter 9.

Chapter 6: Surf Guides

5. Surf guides may be permitted in sport class Para Surfing-Prone 1, and permitted in Para Surfing-Prone 2, Para Surfing-Visual Impairment 1 and Para Surfing-Visual Impairment 2.
 - 5.1. Surf guides are required to be identified to the beach marshall prior to the competition heat and will wear the same color jersey as their athlete.
 - 5.2. Specific surf guide permissions are defined for each sport class in Chapter 9.

Chapter 7: Water Safety Patrol

6. Water safety patrol will be provided for all athletes during competition. The nature of water safety patrol permitted and the designated neutral safe zone will be at the sole discretion of the ISA.
 - 6.1. Water Safety Patrol will be marked by a separate jersey color identifiable by all athletes.
 - 6.2. Water safety patrol's primary goal is to ensure all athletes remain safe during competition without adding competitive advantage.
 - 6.3. Water safety patrol will be used to provide neutral support to move an athlete out of the impact zone of the surf, when deemed necessary. Athletes will not be penalized for the use of the neutral water safety patrol.
 - 6.3.1. Water safety patrol will use their best efforts to provide equal support to all athletes. Water Safety patrol will determine if the athlete is in need of neutral support and if so, are permitted to assist the athlete out of the impact zone during an unsafe situation. If a neutral safe zone is designated by the ISA, water safety patrol will assist the athlete to this zone.
 - 6.4. Any protests relating to Water Safety Patrol assistance will be reviewed and decisions will be made at the full discretion of the ISA.

Chapter 8: Technology and Equipment

7. Equipment must adhere to ISA guidelines and is subject to the discretion of ISA. Equipment used for competition must be pre-approved by ISA and will be permitted as defined in the descriptions of the ISA Para Surfing Competition Rules listed for each class (Chapter 9). Technology and Equipment will have the following fundamental principles:
 - The IPC Equipment Policy (IPC Handbook, Section 2, Chapter 3.10) applies to ISA Para Surfing Competitions. The fundamental principles that ISA Para Surfing promotes regarding the evolution of equipment used during recognized competitions are:
 - Safety

- All equipment in use must protect the health and safety of the user, other competitors, officials, spectators and may not cause damage to the environment (e.g. Field of Play).
 - Fairness
 - The athlete does not receive an unfair advantage that is not within the “spirit” of the event they are contesting.
 - Universality
 - The cost and large scale of availability of the equipment will be considered to guarantee access to a sufficiently large number of athletes.
 - Physical Prowess
 - Human performance is the critical endeavour to the sport performance, not the impact of technology and equipment.
- These fundamental principles apply in particular (but not exclusively) in relation to the development of:
 - Sports specific prosthetic devices;
 - Specifications for sport specific equipment;
 - Surfboards;

7.1. Prohibited Technology

Use of the following technology is prohibited at ISA Para Surfing recognized competitions:

- Equipment that breaches the above fundamental principles;
- Equipment that enhances athletic performance being generated by machines, engines, electronics or robotic mechanisms; and
- Osteo-integrated prosthesis

Examples of prohibited technology are swim fins, motor powered surfboards or fins, and radio communication devices.

7.2. Orthosis; orthotic device

Externally applied device used to modify the structural and functional characteristics of the neuromuscular and skeletal systems are permitted. (Used for stabilizing, support, compensation, protection, prevention).

7.3. Prosthesis; prosthetic device

Externally applied device used to replace wholly, or in parts absent or deficient limb segment are permitted. Prostheses used in competition are required to be anatomically correct in length and functionality.

Chapter 9: Para Surfing Sport Class Rules

9. The ISA Para Surfing rules of competition are provided in addition to the ISA Rulebook to ensure a fair level of competition.

9.1. Para Surfing Stand 1 (PS-S1):

The rules for competition in the PS-S1 sport class are as follows:

Athletes in this sport class are permitted to have support getting into and out of the water and on and off their board. Athletes are required to be independent in the water during their competition heat.

Athletes in this sport class will paddle into a wave without assistance and surf while standing on a surfboard. Surfing while sitting, kneeling or lying in a prone position is not permitted in this sport class. Waves will not be scored if an athlete does not stand in accordance to the ISA rules of surfing listed below.

Athletes will use a surfboard according to ISA rules. No additional equipment is permitted except for use of prosthetics, orthotics, or essential safety equipment that does not enhance the ability to surf. Equipment is subject to the discretion of ISA. Waves will not be scored if using equipment that does not comply with ISA/IPC equipment policy defined in Chapter 8. Equipment used in competition is required to be verified by ISA prior to competition. Swim fins and powered surfboards are examples of equipment that is not permitted to use in the PS-S1 sport class.

Athletes in this sport class will compete in a standing position while surfing in one of the following positions:

1. Athletes will stand on their feet whereas the base of their feet will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet on the surfboard at all times while surfing.

9.2. Para Surfing Stand 2 (PS-S2):

The rules for competition in the PS-S2 sport class are as follows:

Athletes in this sport class are permitted to have support getting into and out of the water and on and off their board. Athletes are required to be independent in the water during their competition heat.

Athletes in this sport class will paddle into a wave without assistance and surf while standing on a surfboard. Surfing while sitting, kneeling or lying in a prone position is not permitted in this sport class. Waves will not be scored if an athlete does not stand in accordance to the ISA rules of surfing listed below.

Athletes will use a surfboard according to ISA rules. No additional equipment is permitted except for use of prosthetics, orthotics, or essential safety equipment that does not enhance the ability to surf. Equipment is subject to the discretion of ISA. Waves will not be scored if using equipment that does not comply with ISA/IPC equipment policy defined in Chapter 8. Equipment used in competition is required to be verified by ISA prior to competition. Swim fins and powered surfboards are examples of equipment that is not permitted to use in the PS-S2 sport class.

Athletes in this sport class will compete in a standing position while surfing in one of the following positions:

1. Athletes will stand on their feet whereas the base of their feet, residual limb, and/or prosthesis will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet, foot, and/or prosthesis on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
2. Athletes will stand on a prosthesis whereas the base of their prosthesis will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their prosthesis on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
3. Athletes will stand on the end of their residual limb whereas the base of their leg residual limb will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their leg residual limb on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
4. Athletes will be in a standing position in any combination of the above positions and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet, prosthesis, or end of residual limb at all times while surfing, or
5. Athletes will be in a standing position similar to one of the above positions and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet, prosthesis, or end of residual limb at all times while surfing, as approved by ISA.

9.3. Para Surfing Stand 3 (PS-S3):

The rules for competition in the PS-S3 sport class are as follows:

Athletes in this sport class are permitted to have support getting into and out of the water and on and off their board. Athletes are required to be independent in the water during their competition heat.

Athletes in this sport class will paddle into a wave without assistance and surf while standing on a surfboard. Surfing while sitting, kneeling or lying in a prone position is not permitted in this sport class. Waves will not be scored if an athlete does not stand in accordance to the ISA rules of surfing listed below.

Athletes will use a surfboard according to ISA rules. No additional equipment is permitted except for use of prosthetics, orthotics, or essential safety equipment that does not enhance the ability to surf. Equipment is subject to the discretion of ISA. Waves will not be scored if using equipment that does not comply with ISA/IPC equipment policy defined in Chapter 8. Equipment used in competition is required to be verified by ISA prior to competition. Swim fins and powered surfboards are examples of equipment that is not permitted to use in the PS-S3 sport class.

Athletes in this sport class will compete in a standing position while surfing in one of the following positions:

1. Athletes will stand on their feet whereas the base of their foot/feet will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their foot/feet on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
2. Athletes will stand on a prosthesis whereas the base of their prosthesis will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their prosthesis on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
3. Athletes will stand on the residual limb of their leg whereas the base of their residual limb will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their residual limb on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
4. Athletes will be in a standing position in any combination of the above positions and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet or prosthesis, or residual limb, at all times while surfing, or
5. Athletes will be in a standing position similar to one of the above positions and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet or prosthesis, or residual limb at all times while surfing, as approved by ISA.

9.4. Para Surfing Kneel/Upright (PS-K):

The rules for competition in the PS-K sport class are as follows:

Athletes in this sport class are permitted to have support getting into and out of the water and on and off their board. Athletes are required to be independent in the water during their competition heat.

Athletes in this sport class will paddle into a wave without assistance and surf while kneeling or upright on a surfboard. Surfing while standing or lying in a prone position is not permitted in this sport class. Waves will not be scored if an athlete's weight is supported by their arms or the athlete does not kneel in accordance to the ISA rules of surfing listed below.

Athletes will use a surfboard according to ISA rules. No additional equipment is permitted except for use of prosthetics, orthotics, or essential safety equipment that does not enhance the ability to surf. Equipment is subject to the discretion of ISA. Waves will not be scored if using equipment that does not comply with ISA/IPC equipment policy defined in Chapter 8. Equipment used in competition is required to be verified by ISA prior to competition. Swim fins, powered surfboards, waveskis, and paddles are examples of equipment that is not permitted to use in the PS-K sport class.

Athletes in this sport class will compete in a kneeling or upright position while surfing in one of the following positions:

1. Athletes will kneel on a prosthesis whereas the knee(s) or joint(s) of their prosthesis will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by the knee joint(s) on the surfboard while surfing, or
2. Athletes will place the end of their residual limb whereas the base of their residual limb will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their residual limb on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
3. Athletes will have their legs bent under the base of their body (buttocks) whereas their knee joints and legs will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be resting on their knee joints and legs at all times while surfing, or
4. Athletes will be in a kneeling position in any combination of the above written positions and the weight of their body will be supported by their buttocks, prosthesis, residual limb, or knees at all times while surfing, or
5. Athletes will be in an upright position, and the weight of their body will be supported by their buttocks, residual limb, or feet while surfing.
6. Athletes will be in a kneeling or upright position similar to one of the above written positions and the weight of their body will be supported by their buttocks, prosthesis, residual limb, knees, or feet while surfing, as approved by ISA.

9.5. Para Surfing Sit (PS-S):

The rules for competition in the PS-S sport class are as follows:

Athletes in this sport class are permitted to have support getting into and out of the water and on and off their board. Athletes are required to be independent in the water during their competition heat.

Athletes in this sport class will paddle into a wave without assistance and surf while sitting on top of a surfboard or waveski. Surfing while standing, kneeling or lying in a

prone position is not permitted in this sport class. Waves will not be scored if an athlete does not sit in accordance to the ISA rules of surfing listed below.

Athletes will use a surfboard or waveski according to ISA rules. No additional equipment is permitted except for use of prosthetics, orthotics, waveski, paddle or essential safety equipment that does not enhance the ability to surf. Equipment is subject to the discretion of ISA. Waves will not be scored if using equipment that does not comply with ISA/IPC equipment policy defined in Chapter 8. Equipment used in competition is required to be verified by ISA prior to competition. Surf kayaks, V-bottom hauls, swim fins and powered surfboards are examples of equipment that is not permitted to use in the PS-S sport class.

Athletes in this sport class will compete in a sitting position while surfing in one of the following positions:

1. Athletes will have their legs, residual limb(s) or prosthetic(s) on top of the board, in front of the athlete's body whereas the base of their body (buttocks) will be in contact with the surfboard or waveski and the weight of their body will be resting on the surfboard or waveski at all times while surfing, or
2. Athletes will be seated in an upright position similar to the above written position and the weight of their body will be resting on their surfboard or waveski at all times while surfing, as approved by ISA.

9.6. Para Surfing Prone 1 (PS-P1):

The rules for competition in the PS-P1 sport class are as follows:

Athletes in this sport class are permitted to have support getting into and out of the water and on and off their board. Athletes are required to be independent in the water during their competition heat.

Athletes in this sport class will paddle into a wave without assistance and surf while in a prone position on a surfboard. Surfing while sitting, kneeling or standing is not permitted in this sport class. Waves will not be scored if an athlete does not lie in a prone position in accordance to the ISA rules of surfing listed below.

At the decision of the ISA and Technical Director prior to the start of the competition, athletes in the Para Surf Prone 1 Sport Class may be allowed to coordinate one surf guide to assist athletes with return to the line-up.

The direction they are to use to get back to the line-up will be determined at the Event by the Technical Director.

The line-up drop-off point is to be decided by the Technical Director on the day depending on surf conditions and will be preferably wide or outside of the Primary TakeOff Zone with a buoy or marker to mark the position. The maximum paddle time from the line-up drop-off point to the Primary Take-Off Zone should be no less than thirty (30) seconds.

The athlete's surf guide is required to be identified to the beach marshall prior to starting the competition heat. Surf guide will wear the same color jersey as their athlete. ISA will provide overall water safety. An athlete utilizing a surf guide in the Para Surfing Prone 1 Sport Class must adhere to the following rules:

1. The athlete will be permitted to choose one surf guide to assist with return to the line-up drop-off point. The assigned guide will be in the water during the competition.
2. The surf guide is permitted to give physical assistance to the athlete to help them return to the line-up drop-off point after they have caught a wave.
3. The surf guide is not permitted to assist the athlete with catching waves or to touch or physically assist the athlete once they have reached the line-up drop-off point.
 - a. If the surf guide provides any assistance after the athlete has reached the line-up drop-off point, the athlete will be penalized and the athlete's next wave may not be scored or their priority may be affected. If this continues after two warnings, the athlete may be disqualified from the heat.
4. ISA will provide water safety to provide neutral support to athletes and assist them on and off of their board.
5. The surf guide may wear swim fins, but will not be allowed to use a surf or body board to keep them afloat.
6. The surf guide is considered an extension of the athlete and will be called for interference in the same manner as the athlete would be per ISA rules. If the surf guide is called for interference, then the interference call will be placed on the athlete.

Athletes will use a surfboard according to ISA rules. No additional equipment is permitted except for use of prosthetics, orthotics, or essential safety equipment that does not enhance the ability to surf. Equipment is subject to the discretion of ISA. Waves will not be scored if using equipment that does not comply with ISA/IPC equipment policy defined in Chapter 8. Equipment used in competition is required to be verified by ISA prior to competition. Swim fins and powered surfboards are examples of equipment that is not permitted to use in the PS-P1 sport class.

Athletes in this sport class will remain in a prone position while surfing in one of the following positions:

1. Athletes will have the midsection of their body on the board whereas the base of the midsection of their body will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be resting on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
2. Athletes will be lying in a prone position similar to the above position and the weight of their body will be resting on the surfboard at all times while surfing, as approved by ISA.

9.7. Para Surfing Prone 2 (PS-P2):

The rules for competition in the PS-P2 sport class are as follows:

Athletes in this sport class are permitted to have support getting into and out of the water and on and off their board. Athletes are permitted to have assistance from a surf guide with paddling out to the lineup and being pushed into waves. Athletes are required to be independent while surfing a wave.

Athletes in this sport class will paddle into a wave with assistance and surf while in a prone position on a surfboard. Surfing while sitting, kneeling or standing is not permitted in this sport class. Waves will not be scored if an athlete does not lie in a prone position in accordance to the ISA rules of surfing listed below.

Athletes will use a surfboard according to ISA rules. Additional equipment is permitted in this sport class to assist the athlete to remain on the surfboard or as essential safety equipment that does not enhance the ability to surf. Equipment is subject to the discretion of ISA. Waves will not be scored if using equipment that does not comply with ISA/IPC equipment policy defined in Chapter 8. Equipment used in competition is required to be verified by ISA prior to competition. Swim fins and powered surfboards are examples of equipment that is not permitted to use in the PS-P2 sport class.

Athletes in this sport class will remain in a prone position while surfing in one of the following positions:

1. Athletes will have the midsection of their body on the board whereas the base of the midsection of their body will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be resting on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
2. Athletes will be lying in a prone position similar to the above position and the weight of their body will be resting on the surfboard at all times while surfing, as approved by ISA.

The athlete is required to coordinate two surf guides or arrange with the ISA to provide trained, professional surf guides, when available. The athlete's surf guides are required

to be identified to the beach marshal prior to starting the competition heat. Surf guides will wear the same color jersey as their athlete. ISA will provide overall water safety.

An athlete utilizing surf guides in the Para Surfing Prone 2 sport class must adhere to the following rules:

7. The athlete will be permitted to choose one surf guide to push and one surf guide to receive. The two guides will be in the water during the competition.
8. The surf guide is permitted to give physical assistance to the athlete while paddling and catching waves, but is prohibited to assist after the athlete's momentum reaches the speed of the wave and the athlete is considered to be surfing independently.
 - a. If the surf guide touches the athlete after the athlete's momentum reaches the speed of the wave, the athlete's wave will not be scored.
 - b. If this continues after two warnings, the athlete may be disqualified from the heat.
9. The surf guide is allowed to guide the athlete back to the surf break, but only one surf guide can assist the athlete at a time.
10. ISA will provide water safety to provide neutral support to athletes and assist them on and off of their board.
11. The surf guide may wear swim fins, but will not be allowed to use a surf or body board to keep them afloat.
12. The surf guide is considered an extension of the athlete and will be called for interference in the same manner as the athlete would be per ISA rules. If the surf guide is called for interference, then the interference call will be placed on the athlete.

9.8. Para Surfing Visual Impairment 1 (PS-VI1):

The rules for competition in the PS-VI1 sport class are as follows:

Athletes in this sport class are permitted to have support getting into and out of the water and on and off their board. Athletes are required to be independent in the water during their competition heat while following the rules listed below.

Athletes in this sport class will paddle into a wave without assistance and surf while standing on a surfboard. Surfing while sitting, kneeling or lying in a prone position is not permitted in this sport class. Waves will not be scored if an athlete does not stand in accordance to the ISA rules of surfing listed below.

Athletes will use a surfboard according to ISA rules. No additional equipment is permitted except for use of prosthetics, orthotics, or essential safety equipment that does not enhance the ability to surf. Equipment is subject to the discretion of ISA.

Waves will not be scored if using equipment that does not comply with ISA/IPC equipment policy defined in Chapter 8. Equipment used in competition is required to be verified by ISA prior to competition. Swim fins, powered surfboards and radio communication devices are examples of equipment that is not permitted to use in the PS-VI1 sport class.

Athletes in this sport class will compete in a standing position while surfing in one of the following positions:

1. Athletes will stand on their feet whereas the base of their feet will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
2. Athletes will stand on a prosthesis whereas the base of their prosthesis will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their prosthesis on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
3. Athletes will stand on the residual limb of their leg whereas the base of their residual limb will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their residual limb on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
4. Athletes will be in a standing position in any combination of the above positions and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet, prosthesis, or residual limb, at all times while surfing, or
5. Athletes will be in a standing position similar to one of the above positions and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet, prosthesis, or residual limb at all times while surfing, as approved by ISA.

Additional assistance for athletes with visual impairments will be permitted as follows:

1. The athlete is permitted to choose one surf guide to be in the water during the competition and receive verbal cues from the surf guide while paddling and catching waves.
2. The surf guide is required to be identified to the beach marshall prior to starting the competition heat. The surf guide will wear the same color jersey as their athlete.
3. The surf guide is permitted to wear swim fins and/or use a surf or body board to keep them afloat.
4. The surf guide is permitted to give verbal cues throughout the competition heat.
5. The surf guide is not permitted to touch or physically assist the athlete while paddling out to the lineup, or any time during the competition heat.
 - a. If the surf guide touches the athlete, the athlete will be penalized and the athlete's next wave may not be scored. If this continues after two warnings, the athlete may be disqualified from the heat.

6. The surf guide is not permitted to lay on the athlete's surfboard to help the athlete paddle to the surf break.
 - a. If the surf guide lays on the athlete's surfboard to help the athlete paddle to the surf break, the athlete will be penalized and the athlete's next wave may not be scored. If this continues after two warnings, the athlete may be disqualified from the heat.
7. The surf guide is considered an extension of the athlete and will be called for interference in the same manner as the athlete would be per ISA rules. If the surf guide is called for interference, then the interference call will be placed on the athlete and interference rules would apply.

9.9. Para Surfing Visual Impairment 2 (PS-VI2):

The rules for competition in the PS-VI2 sport class are as follows:

Athletes in this sport class are permitted to have support getting into and out of the water and on and off their board. Athletes are required to be independent in the water during their competition heat while following the rules listed below.

Athletes in this sport class will paddle into a wave without assistance and surf while standing on a surfboard. Surfing while sitting, kneeling or lying in a prone position is not permitted in this sport class. Waves will not be scored if an athlete does not stand in accordance to the ISA rules of surfing listed below.

Athletes will use a surfboard according to ISA rules. No additional equipment is permitted except for use of prosthetics, orthotics, or essential safety equipment that does not enhance the ability to surf. Equipment is subject to the discretion of ISA. Waves will not be scored if using equipment that does not comply with ISA/IPC equipment policy defined in Chapter 8. Equipment used in competition is required to be verified by ISA prior to competition. Swim fins, powered surfboards and radio communication devices are examples of equipment that is not permitted to use in the PS-VI2 sport class.

Athletes in this sport class will compete in a standing position while surfing in one of the following manners:

1. Athletes will stand on their feet whereas the base of their feet will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
2. Athletes will stand on a prosthesis whereas the base of their prosthesis will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their prosthesis on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or

3. Athletes will stand on the residual limb of their leg whereas the base of their residual limb will be in contact with the surfboard and the weight of their body will be supported by their residual limb on the surfboard at all times while surfing, or
4. Athletes will be in a standing position in any combination of the above positions and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet, prosthesis, or residual limb, at all times while surfing, or
5. Athletes will be in a standing position similar to one of the above positions and the weight of their body will be supported by their feet, prosthesis, or residual limb at all times while surfing, as approved by ISA.

Additional assistance for athletes with visual impairments will be permitted as follows:

1. The athlete is permitted to choose one surf guide to be in the water during the competition and receive verbal cues from the surf guide while paddling and catching waves.
2. The surf guide is required to be identified to the beach marshall prior to starting the competition heat. The surf guide will wear the same color jersey as their athlete.
3. The surf guide is permitted to wear swim fins and/or use a surf or body board to keep them afloat.
4. The surf guide is permitted to give verbal cues throughout the competition heat.
5. The surf guide is not permitted to touch or physically assist the athlete while paddling out to the lineup, or any time during the competition heat.
 - a. If the surf guide touches the athlete, the athlete will be penalized and the athlete's next wave may not be scored. If this continues after two warnings, the athlete may be disqualified from the heat.
6. The surf guide is not permitted to lay on the athlete's surfboard to help the athlete paddle to the surf break.
 - a. If the surf guide lays on the athlete's surfboard to help the athlete paddle to the surf break, the athlete will be penalized and the athlete's next wave may not be scored. If this continues after two warnings, the athlete may be disqualified from the heat.
7. The surf guide is considered an extension of the athlete and will be called for interference in the same manner as the athlete would be per ISA rules. If the surf guide is called for interference, then the interference call will be placed on the athlete and interference rules would apply.

References

International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA): www.ibsasport.org/classification/

*Information for the IBSA definitions for B1, B2, and B3 can be found at:

<https://ibasport.org/growing-blind-sports/classification/>

IPC Handbook- www.paralympic.org/the-ipc/handbook

IPC Para Alpine Skiing

IPC Para Snowboard

Tweedy SM, Beckman EM, Connick MJ. Paralympic classification: conceptual basis, current methods, and research update. *PM&R*. 2014 Aug;6:S11-7.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pmrj.2014.04.013>

Tweedy SM, Connick MJ, Beckman EM. Applying scientific principles to enhance Paralympic classification now and in the future: A research primer for rehabilitation specialists. *Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Clinics*. 2018 May

1;29(2):313-32. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pmr.2018.01.010>

Tweedy SM, Vanlandewijck YC. International Paralympic Committee position stand—background and scientific principles of classification in Paralympic sport. *British journal of sports medicine*. 2011 Apr 1;45(4):259-

69.<https://doi:10.1136/bjism.2009.065060>

www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/document/160126174701371_2016_01_26+IPC+Athletics+Rules+and+Regulations_A4_Final.pdf