

IFCPF CLASSIFICATION RULES AND REGULATIONS AMENDMENTS MEMBERS AND CLASSIFIERS CONTRIBUTIONS – Stage 2



ID ¹	Page	Rule (section/ article)	Actual rule	Proposed new rule (highlight proposed change)	Rationale	Amendment/Comment
C2.1.	8	Section 1.2. Classification		group allocate Athletes into Sport Classes which aim to ensure that the impact of Impairment (mismatch) is minimised and sporting excellence determines which Athlete or team is ultimately victorious.		The sentence is a literal reproduction from the IPC's Classification Model Rules for Para Sports.
	8-9			1.11. Every athlete wishing to compete in a CP-Football competition must be allocated (to) a sport class based on the -- existence of an eligible impairment and compliance with minimal impairment criteria and the degree to which the impairment impacts upon sport performance (activity limitation) -- (existence of a at least minimal impairment criteria that can impact sport performance)		The sentence is a literal reproduction from the IPC's Classification Model Rules for Para Sports. Also, information come from the International Standard for Eligible Impairments.
M4.1	13	3.5	The Head of Classification is not required to be a certified Classifier. If not a certified Classifier, the HoC must work closely together with experienced Classifiers in CP-	The Head of Classification is required to be a qualified and experienced classifier in CP-Football.	The HoC should be a senior classifier with experience of classification and relevant qualifications. This person is likely to make a number of pertinent decisions within the IFCPF in relation to classification process, strategy and recruitment of classification personnel. This point is reinforced as in section 3.3, rule 3.20 which states that,	This possibility is included in the IPC's Classification Model Rules for Para Sports (January 2017): Article 3.4, and also in IPC's International Standards. In any case, IFCPF will try always to appoint a certificated senior international classifier for HoC position.

¹ C = Classifier; M = IFCPF Member

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			Football.		“A chief classifier may attend and train or be mentored by the HoC.” If the HoC has no classification experience, nor any related classification qualifications, what would the HoC be able to offer a training Chief Classifier?	
M4.2	13	3.12	IFCPF will specify from time to time the means by which it shall certify Classifiers	IFCPF will certify Classifiers once the curriculum has been completed to an agreed level has highlighted in Section 4.2.	The original statement from the IFCPF provides no clarity on how or when classifiers would be certified. Stating from “time-to-time” is ambiguous and does not provide a structured protocol to follow. The proposed new rule as brings the necessary clarity to what is expected/required of classifiers to obtain international certification.	Amended as suggested by IFCPF member.
C1.1	15	Section 3.2. Classifiers	3.16	Classifiers with an active role in a country or national body/team that is a member of IFCPF cannot act as a Classifier in an IFCPF sanctioned competition.	Most of classifiers in their own countries have executive and advisory positions in disability sports organization and It's not fair that they not be able to cooperation in IFCPF competition.	The rule can be also interpreted as the classifier cannot act as an official in a particular competition when his/her country is involved. The spirit of the rule is to reduce potential conflict of interest.
C2.2	15		3.14.1.	(physiotherapists are not legally medical specialty (they are categorized as para-medical as classified by world health organization (WHO) http://www.who.int/hrh/statistics/Health_workers_classification.pdf) scope of medical doctor is more diagnostic	We can have a lot of protest if the panel is not having medical doctor.	This Classification have been done according the IPC International Standard of Classification Personnel, which identifies medical and technical classifiers. Because the Rules includes the possibility of a panels of two classifiers, it is possible to group

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				while that of physiotherapist is more focused on functional analysis		<p>classifiers in that way.</p> <p>Many Para sports appoint panels of two classifiers in the same way, but never with two technical classifiers in the panel.</p> <p>The purpose of the panel is not to make a “diagnosis” of the athlete, and an Eligibility Assessment Committee and its functions is included in the Rules.</p>
C3.1	15	3.14.1.3	It is recommended that medical classifiers have a background in Football	Was active involved in football	Not just as a supporter.	The sentence has been expanded as follows: “(actively involved)”
M4.3	19	4.5.1 & 4.6.1.1	<p>A qualified Level 1 classifier that has been classifying at an International level for at least 4 years and no less than 3 competitions.</p> <p>&</p> <p>A minimum of 3 years’ experience classifying internationally having lots of experience/time</p>	<p>A qualified Level 1 classifier that has been classifying at an International level for at least 3 years and no less than 3 competitions.</p> <p>&</p> <p>A minimum of 3 years’ experience classifying internationally having lots of experience/time at all levels.</p>	There is no reason why a level 2 classifier needs an additional years’ more experience than a level 3 classifier. Perhaps this is a typing error?	Modified as suggested the IFCPF Member.

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			at all levels.			
M4.4	20	4.11	At discretion of IFCPF, and with the approval of the HoC, a Classifier can be invited for Stage 2 training (i.e. exceptional skills reported, wide experienced in other para-sports), but only in exceptional circumstances (i.e. provide classifiers to countries with no national activity who can lead classification development in a particular region)	Delete rule	All classifiers should go through the education process as highlighted within the current document. No short cuts should be permitted.	As the rules stated, this rules is ONLY applied in EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES. This flexibility is necessary for development in some regions or when a classifier comes from a country where there are no CP-Football competitions regularly.
C2.3	23	4.4. Classifier Certification Maintenance	4.25.1.2		<u>What is the situation for classifiers having no national tournaments?</u>	This is one of the criteria established for certification maintenance. In case it is not possible: i) classifier will communicate to IFCPF HoC; ii) IFCPF will monitor his/her classification activity at international competitions. The spirit of the rule is to look for the best standard.

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C1.2	29	Rule 7	7.3 and 7.4	Rule 7 Articles 7.3 and 7.4 does not need to be brought in classification rules, the Article must be brought in the book of IFCPF rules and regulations, in this section should be mentioned to the Articles only.	It is the General Rule	Date of Birth is an information that must be recorded by classifiers during Athlete Classification. It is important that classifiers knows in their Rulebooks the minimum age to proceed with an evaluation session.
C3.2	29	8.1.	permanent		A stroke can recover, can you call it permanent??	Permanent means that the eligible impairment impacts on activity limitation / performance of football skills (1.10). Progressive health conditions can be considered under Medical Review Rule (Art. 31)
M3.1	31	8.5.2	The MDF must be completed in English and dated and signed by a certified health care professional. Good practices for this requirement are, but not limited to:	The MDF must be completed in English and dated and signed by a certified health care physician . Good practices for this requirement are, but not limited to:	“Healthcare professionals” is a loose term and could be applied to chiropractors, podiatrists, and massage therapists. If you are looking for standardizing qualification, we believe the health professional should at minimum be a physician.	It has been included “(i.e. physician)”, but good practices about this rule is described in 8.5.2.1.
M4.5	31	8.8.2	The Head of Classification will set timelines for the production of Diagnostic Information.	All diagnostic information should be submitted to the following IFCPF email address 6 weeks prior to the commencement of the competition. This exact date will be set by the HoC 6 months prior to the event.	There should be a standardised time prior to competition where MDF’s should be submitted. There should also be a notification timeframe from the IFCPF to confirm the deadline date to all IFCPF members.	Modified as follows: All diagnostic information should be submitted to IFCPF 6 weeks prior to the commencement of the competition. This exact date will be set 4 months prior to the event.

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M4.6	35	12.13	In exceptional circumstances a Chief Classifier may provide that a Classification Panel consists of one Classifier only.....	Delete rule	One classifier composing an entire classification panel is not a sufficient enough number. A classification panel must compromise of a medical and sports technician as a minimum. This point also relates to 16.10, 16.11.3 and 16.13.2 (page 46)	As the rule stated, this rule is ONLY applied in EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES. This rules is permitted according the Rule 2.2.1 of the IPC's International Standard for Athlete Evaluation.
M4.7	35	12.9	Classification Personnel should have no relationship with any Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel present at a Competition or otherwise that might create any actual or perceived bias or Conflict of Interest.	Classification Personnel should have no relationship with any Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel present at a Competition. Nor should an athlete be classified by a classifier of the same country of birth or citizenship as the athlete. This is to prevent any actual or perceived bias or Conflict of Interest.	Additional text added to the original rule to ensure that classification conflict of interest/bias is completely nullified.	It is not possible to accomplish this rule many time because the classifiers available in competitions. Classifier must perform their according the Code of Conduct included in the Rules. However, the next recommendation is included in this rule: "Whenever is possible, classification panels should be composed by classifiers from a different country of birth or citizenship regarding the Athlete that undergo to an Evaluation Session".
C1.3	35, 36	Rule 13	12.7.2.	--	In Panels with two classifiers, if they disagree about the athlete class how will make a decisions?	Rule 12.7.2.1 has been expanded as follows: "He/she can also act in case there is no agreement with a class allocation".
C3.3	37	14.10		d - it is not allowed to picture or film the classification by the person chosen by the athlete to accompany the athlete		The next sentence has been added to Art. 14.11: "It is not allowed that the accompanying person takes pictures or

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						film any stage of the Evaluation Session”.
M4.8	38	14.16	In case the Medical Information haven't been sent in advance, the Athlete must provide information (written in English) to the panel regarding impairment, medication and any surgery that affects sport performance.....	In the event where a National Federation has failed to submit an athlete's MDF within the agreed timescale, that/those athlete(s) will not be eligible to attend the International classification.	For purposes of consistency and clarity, there should either be an MDF system or not for all IFCPF members to follow. Depending on what the IFCPF deem the most effective process; the rest of the rule book should be amended as appropriate.	The spirit of the Rule is to avoid or to reduce the probability of NE at a particular competition. If the country provides the documentation before the beginning of the Evaluation Session and satisfies the Chief Classifier, the classification panel may undergo with the Evaluation Session. In any case, IFCPF shall ensure compliance of this Rule.
C3.4	39	14.33	... that must disadvantage athletes as far as competing in regular able bodied football.....	that must disadvantage athletes as far as competing in regular-high level or professional able bodied football	In the Netherlands CP soccer player play in regular competition on a low level or in a 2e or 3e team	Article 14.33 modified as suggested. Modification has been also done in Article 18.8.
M4.9	41	15.1	A Classification Panel may require that an Athlete undertakes Observation in Competition before it allocates	All internationally classified Athletes must undertake Observation in Competition before a Classification Panel allocates a final Sport Class and designates a Sport Class Status to that Athlete. The Athlete will be entered in that particular competition with the Sport Class allocated after the conclusion of the	For purposes of consistency and perceived/intentional bias, all athletes should be observed in competition as part of the final stage of the player evaluation process. Though it is understood that the observation time	Amended as follows: “All internationally classified Athletes should undertake Observation in Competition before a Classification Panel allocates...” This wording respect Article 14.1 of the IPC's Classification Model Rules for

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			a final Sport Class and designates a Sport Class Status to that Athlete....	other components of the Athlete Evaluation: assessment of an Eligible Impairment (Section 14.4.1), assessment of MIC (Section 14.4.2), and the assessment of the Athlete’s ability to perform specific tasks and fundamental activities for CP-Football (Section 14.4.3).	required for the observational assessment may be reduced for more “straight forward” observations.	Para Sports.
C3.5	43	15.8	Observation..... not take place during finals of competition		Why not most players are on there best in the finals	The International Standard for Athlete evaluation established that Observation Assessment in Team Sports must be done in round phases. Observation during the finals can be performed but it is not possible to change the Sport Class for that particular competition.
C3.6	46	16.3			Why using FRD??	This a Sport Class Status included in the IS for Athlete Evaluation and the IPC’s Classification Model Rules for Para Sports. The rationale for its use is describes in Article 16.11.
C1.4	47	Section 16.5. Special Provisions			Since some types of Chorea (Chorea Huntington) are progressive, it is good that these players status be in R or RFD.	Any athlete with a progressive underlying health condition can request a Medical Review according the Article 31 of the Rules. The spirit of the Rules 16.16 is to guarantee a fair competition for those athletes which health condition may improve with training and/or rehabilitation.
C3.7	48	Table 2	N --- OA ----C or R or FRD	N ---- OA ----R or FRD	N is not post first appearance C???	It is possible to confirm a player after OA if the entry status for the competition is N. Therefore, one classification may be enough to

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						allocate a Sport Class C.
M4.10	48/49	17.8	Written notification will be provided by the Chief Classifier to the Athlete's National Federation representative and will include: a) the Athlete's assigned Sport Class, and b) the Athlete's updated Sport Class Status.	Written notification will be provided by the Chief Classifier to the Athlete's National Federation representative and will include: a) the Athlete's assigned Sport Class, b) the Athlete's updated Sport Class Status, c) the Athlete's international classification documentation can be obtained (on request by the athlete).	The athlete is entitled to obtain their classification documentation from the classification panel should this be requested (this is highlighted in data protection law).	This right is recognised in the Rule 40.1.2. During a particular competition, information about class and status is the only one used, also shared with third parties (LOC, IFCPF master list, referees...)
M4.11	54	23.1.2	an IFCPF Member makes a documented request to IFCPF (Annex 5). The assessment of the validity of the request is at the sole discretion of IFCPF, and any such request does not require an IFCPF Protest.	an IFCPF qualified Classifier makes a documented request to IFCPF (Annex 5). The assessment of the validity of the request is at the sole discretion of IFCPF, and any such request does not require an IFCPF Protest.	IFCPF members outside of classification should not be permitted to submit protests. This is due to lack of understanding and knowledge in relation to classification.	This Rule has been written word-by-word from the Rule 23.1.2 of the IPC's Classification Model Rules for Para Sports. In any case, the protest must be submitted by an authorized person from the IFCPF Member (NF or NPC)

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M4.12	55	25.3	A Protest Panel must not ³ include any person who was a member of the Classification Panel that:	A Protest Panel must function independently and not ³ include any person who was a member of the Classification Panel that:	This is to reinforce that protest related player evaluation discussion between panel members does not occur prior to the athlete re-evaluation.	Modified as IFCPF Member suggested.
M4.13	66	40.1.2	a copy of the Classification Data held by IFCPF; and/or	a copy of all or specific Classification Data or Documentation held by IFCPF; and/or	What a player/IFCPF member can access in relation to data held by the IFCPF needs to be made clearer.	This Rule has been written word-by-word from the Rule 40.1.2 of the IPC's Classification Model Rules for Para Sports.
C3.8	79				Monoplegia upper limb not eligible!!!	The suggestion is not identified across the Rules. However, activity limitation must be observed in lower limb/s.
C3.9	80	2.8	At least 3 of the 5 following tests		I see only 2 test in the paragraph	It was mistake after to remove some lines. Amended to "2 of the 3 following test"
M3.2	82	Section II.1			Can you clarify that you need to meet one of these criteria in order to meet MIC	The previous MDC was too general and these new MIC spasticity impacts on the performance of typical football skills. In addition according the study done with the head coaches, stakeholders and players at IFCPF 2015 World Championships concluded the preference for a game where the impact of the eligible impairment is more clear.
C1.5	83	Line 3		• In mid stance, the foot is plantigrade and the knee in a physiological position.	Mistake, should Change to: • In mid stance, the foot is plantigrade and the knee in an anatomical position.	Change done.

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M3.3	84	IV.2.2	Dyskinesia Reference Scores for Decision Making		Why are you including it if there is no way to interpret the scores for classification? It seems subjective?	While clinical scales are included for spasticity and ataxia, and reliable tests are also included to test activity limitation, this is the best scale found in the scientific literature to evaluate dyskinesia. In the current rules (until end 2017), it is more subjective the evaluation of athetosis/dystonia, and the DIS will try to solve the qualitative nature for the evaluation of this eligible impairment.
C3.10	85				3,5,2 is the same as 3.5.3	3.5.3 have been amended as follows: "Assessment of the Duration of movements are:"
M3.4	92	4.1.2.	Eligible Impairment and/or affected limbs		How do you address an athlete with an acquired brain injury who has both bilateral spasticity and ataxia? What group should this athlete fall in	Many individuals show mixed pictures and the description of A,B, C "profiles" will help classifiers in the decision making. The class allocation is based on Classes 1, 2 or 3, and the decision-making will be based on the main activity limitation provoked by the eligible impairment/s.
M4.14	93	Figure 6 (new Figure 9)	N/A	N/A	In Figure 5, it is stated that there must be at least 2 FT5/6's on the pitch at all times and a maximum of 1 FT8 on the pitch at any one	This is a Technical Rule that should be included in the Sport Technical Rules, not in the classification Rules.

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					time. Does this apply to Figure 6? i.e. must there be at least 2 FT1's on the pitch at all times and a maximum of 1 FT3 on the pitch at any one time? If so, can this be made clearer on Figure 6? If not, can the IFCPF clarify what the ruling will be?	
M1.1	94	Section IV.2.1. Spasticity Reference Scores for Decision-Making	TABLE 7	FT3 –A/C, the first point talk about CALF MUSCLES MAS GRADE 2, AND HAMSTRINGS MAS GRADE 1 OR ADDUCTORS MAS GRADE 1. In the second point talk about MAS GRADE 2 IN ONLY ONE OF THE GROUP MUSCLES (CALF, HAMSTRINGS AND ADDUCTORS).	As the second point shows, if you have a MAS grade 2 you have the criteria.	Point two in Ft3 A/C has been removed: MAS GRADE 2 IN ONLY ONE OF THE GROUP MUSCLES (CALF, HAMSTRINGS AND ADDUCTORS).
M3.5	95	IV.2.3 4.4	Ataxia Reference Scores for Decision Making		Can you clarify how many you need in each category to qualify. For example if an athlete scores 3s on gait, stance, finger chase and 4s on nose-finger chase, fast alternating hands, and heel shin – are they an FT1 or an FT2?	The class allocation is based in both physical and technical assessment. According your example, if a players scores in more test in Grade 3, he/she should be allocated in class FT2.
M2.1	96		Table 10	4 Bounds for Distance ⁴ (m) Standing Broad Jump ⁴ (m)	⁴ where does this 4 refer to? Since the footnote ⁴ is stated on page 56 and refers to a protest panel	Modified Table 10 according footnotes of Page 96 (new page 98).
				Sprint ⁵ with ball (s)	⁵ where does this 5 refer to? Since the footnote 5 is stated on page 62 and refers to intentional misrepresentation	
C2.4	99	Section IV.3.1. Profile A or Bilateral Spasticity	Table 11	Athletes with dystonia (with spasticity) where the lower limbs are more affected than upper extremities.	Dystonia is different from spasticity which is velocity dependent increase in resistance	According hierarchical classification tree proposed by Cans et al. (2000), dystonia is considering as dyskinetic

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					to passive stretching	CP. In mix pictures, dystonic must be tested together with “catch” to be allocated in this profile.
M1.2	103	Section IV.3.2 – Profile B or Dyskinesia / Ataxia	TABLE 12	This shows: "Athletes with dystonia belongs to this profiles unless the impairment is minimal, on just one side of the body (should be profile C), or does not meet MIC."	As we know, some Dystonies may act as spasticity in a functional way. This is reflected in table 12, but it isn't in table 13.	According hierarchical classification tree proposed by Cans et al. (2000), dystonia is considering as dyskinetic CP. If it necessary to find a (hemilateral) catch to allocate in Profile C. In that case, criteria about spasticity must be considered.
C1.5			suggestions	suggestions	It is good that in Appendix section drawn a flowchart (enter athletes to the classification process till finish the classification process).	Included two flowcharts in pages 75-76 (New Figures 3 and 4)
M3.6	117	Annex 2	MDF: DIS SARA	Dyskinesia Impairment Scale Scale for the Assessment and Rating of Ataxia	We recommend spelling out DIS on the MDF form, since some medical providers may not know what DIS or SARA stand for	Spelled out in the MDF.
M3.7	117	Annex 2	“TC scan”	CT scan or CAT scan	We believe this was a typographical error	Changed to “TC “Scan”
M4.15	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Can the IFCPF classification evaluation document be attached to this classification rule book please? This will be helpful for all IFCPF members when performing national classifications on players.	The New Classification Form will be designed/tested at the next IFCPF Classification Meeting at 2017 IFCPF World Championships (September). The final version of the Rules will include the Classification Form as an Annex of the Rules.