

WPA Member Organisations

Via email

Bonn, 17 February 2023

Changes to the World Para Athletics Classification Rules and Regulations – Frame Running Classification Rules

Dear WPA Members,

On 25 January 2023 the IPC Governing Board approved the proposed changes relating to the frame running Classification Rules following the second World Para Athletics (“**WPA**”) membership consultation (please find attached the communication sent to WPA members on 6 December 2022). Thank you for the feedback during the consultations. As an outcome, WPA has now updated the Classification Rules and Regulations with the frame running Classification Rules included in Appendix 1. The updated WPA Classification Rules and Regulations are available [here](#).

Summary of Key Changes

The key changes adopted into Appendix 1 of WPA Classification Rules and Regulations are outlined below:

- An updated flowchart of the decision-making process for Athlete Evaluation.
- The Minimum Impairment Criteria (“**MIC**”) for frame running fall into the previously existing MIC for Athletes with a coordination impairment (hypertonia, ataxia, athetosis), Appendix 1, Article 2.1.1, 2.1.2 and 2.1.3. The new rule changes to this Appendix are related to the frame running Sport Class criteria only.
- In case an Athlete does not meet the criteria for frame running Events, the Athlete will then undergo an assessment for other track Events (wheelchair racing, running and/or jumping) for Athletes with a coordination impairment. If the Athlete meets the criteria for wheelchair racing, running and/or jumping, and in order to complete Technical Assessment, the Athlete must wear the same attire and use the same equipment that the Athlete uses in Competition for the relevant wheelchair racing, running and/or jumping Events. If the Athlete is not able to undergo the Technical Assessment (e.g., due to the lack of relevant equipment), the Athlete will be allocated Classification Not Completed (CNC) (Appendix 1, Article 4.1.7 1).
- Frame running Events are considered as standing track Events. Athletes in frame running Events are not, however, permitted to compete in standing field Events, but may compete in seated field Events, (subject to them meeting the criteria for the relevant Sport Class). Please see the special provisions for class allocation in Appendix 1, Article 4.3.



Implementation Plan

WPA has prepared an implementation plan as outlined below:

- Athletes who competed in Race Running events in the RR1 Class with a Fixed Review Date 2023, have been changed to Sport Class T71 with Sports Class Status New.
- Athletes who competed in Race Running events in the RR2 or RR3 Class with a Fixed Review Date 2023, have been changed to Sport Class T72 with Sports Class Status New.
- All new Athletes who have not yet undergone classification with CPISRA will be allocated Sport Class T71/T72 with Sport Class Status New.
- Existing Athletes who may be eligible for frame running and who currently only hold a field (F) Class, may request to be classified for frame running. In this case, Sport Class T71/T72 with Sport Class Status New will be allocated prior to their classification for frame running.
- NPCs/NFs may submit to WPA a request on behalf of the Athletes who are currently competing in wheelchair racing but are willing to change their discipline to frame running and undergo new classification for frame running. Please note:
 - This only applies to Athletes with proven coordination impairments that may meet the frame running assessment criteria, and the acceptance of the request is at the discretion of WPA.
 - If WPA deems that the Athlete may meet the criteria for frame running, they will be allocated Sport Class Status Review.
 - The request can be made until the closure of the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games, after which the timeframes to request a Sport Class change as per Rule 16.5 of the WPA Classification Rules and Regulations apply.
 - Athletes are not permitted to compete in both wheelchair racing and frame running disciplines. Please see the special provisions for class allocation in Article 4.3, Appendix 1 of the WPA Classification Rules and Regulations for more details.
- WPA PI Classifiers will undergo frame running classification training in due course.

WPA Classification Opportunities for Athletes competing in frame running Events

WPA has identified two classification opportunities thus far in 2023 for Athletes competing in frame running Events as below:

- 1) **Coventry Spring Meet**
Location: Warwickshire, Great Britain
Classification days: 12-14 April 2023
Competition days: 15-16 April 2023

2) Paris 2023 World Para Athletics Championships

Location: Paris, France

Classification days: 04-07 July 2023

Competition days: 08-17 July 2023

Please note, there may be additional competitions in which frame running classification is offered in the 2023 season. However, it is recommended to contact WPA to confirm if there will be Classifiers for frame running classification at the event you intend to seek a classification opportunity.

WPA will inform you in due course regarding the 2024 competition schedule as it relates to opportunities for classification in frame running.

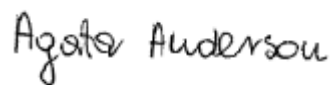
Should you have any questions, or you wish to provide any further feedback, please do not hesitate to contact the WPA Classification Manager at Agata.Anderson@WorldParaAthletics.org or the WPA general account at info@WorldParaAthletics.org.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Fitzgerald".

Paul Fitzgerald

Head of World Para Athletics

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Agata Anderson".

Agata Anderson

World Para Athletics

Classification Manager