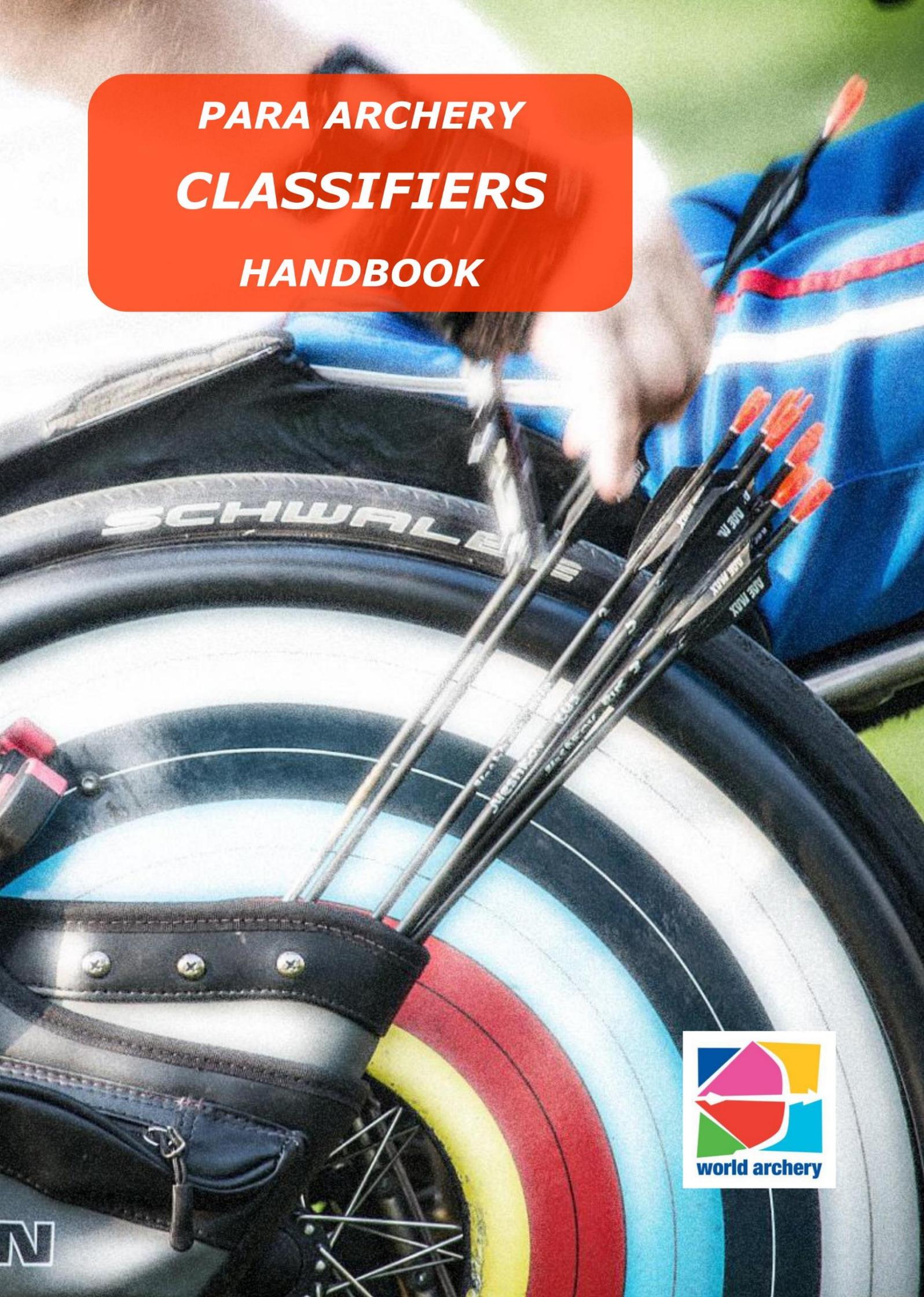


**PARA ARCHERY  
CLASSIFIERS  
HANDBOOK**



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# Para Archery Classifiers Handbook

Effective from 15 January 2020

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## Introduction

World Archery, in full agreement with the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), has clearly stated that the Paralympic Games and World Archery Para Championships should not be for everyone who has an impairment, but for those athletes with an impairment where the impairment has a direct and important impact on archery performance.

World Archery has developed this Handbook for Classifiers, as well as the Para Archery Rules and Guidelines in conjunction with the IPC Code and Classification Rules. Therefore, the Handbook should be read in conjunction with the appropriate, current sections of the IPC Code and its accompanying International Standards

This document is primarily for the training and reference of Para Archery Classifiers. However, it should be of use to coaches, support personnel and especially to athletes, to assist them in understanding the World Archery rules and procedures that govern para archery, so they know what to expect from World Archery International Classifiers and during classification evaluations.

This document should influence the coaching methods and provide an indication of the available assistive devices that can be allocated according to medical need. Although World Archery has made this document available to coaches, archers and other users, they should bear in mind that there may be medical terminology within the document and advice should be sought from a suitably qualified person if there is any problem understanding the content.

All World Archery rules that govern the sport, including those that govern equipment ([Book 3, chapter 11](#)) and clean sport ([Book 6](#)), pertain to all archers competing in World Archery events and as such govern the archers shooting in para archery categories.

World Archery, in full agreement with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and the International Sport Community's commitment to Clean Sport, has adopted the WADA Code and all para archers are bound to follow these rules and procedures. See World Archery Rule Book 6, and/or ask for support from the World Archery Medical and Sport Science Committee for answers to any questions from coaches, athletes or support personnel have in this regard.

## Code of ethics for para archery classification

All International Para Archery Classifiers and International Para Archery Classifier Candidates must read and sign the pledge and consent to share their contact details and qualification details with World Archery.

### **Para Archery Classifiers Code of Ethics**

As a World Archery International Para Archery Classifier, I pledge:

*To safeguard the dignity of the athlete with a disability competing in the sport of archery;*

*To oppose discrimination on the basis of disability or discrimination related to race, gender, nationality, ethnic origin, religion, philosophical or political opinion, marital status or sexual orientation;*

*To maintain confidentiality of all health-related athlete information;*

*To display courtesy and respect to athletes, and all others involved in the sport;*

*To perform all assigned duties competently, consistently, and objectively;*

*To declare any potential conflicts of interest that could be perceived as using the International Para Archery Classifier role to obtain advantages or benefits of any kind.*

An International Para Archery Classifier enrolment form and Code of Ethics pledge can be found on the [World Archery website](#).

International Para Archery Classifier Candidates are required to sign and submit the pledge and this form to World Archery upon the successful completion of their training and before undertaking any classifications.

## Section 1 – Rules

### 1. Eligible impairment types

*[IPC Classification Code: International Standard for Eligible Impairment \(Sept. 2016\)](#)*

As per the current IPC Code and Classification Rules, individuals are eligible to compete in Para Archery based solely on their Eligible medical condition as identified on the Medical Intake forms completed by their physicians and that these impairments must be identified as PERMANENT in nature.

Any impairment not listed as eligible below is referred to as a Non-Eligible Impairment. These medical diagnoses and the resulting medical impairments, along with relevant diagnostic testing, determine eligibility for participation in World Archery's para events.

World Archery, based on Appendix One of the [IPC Classification Rules for Eligible Impairments](#) identifies that Medical Diagnoses affecting only the following types of Physical or Visual impairments are eligible for para archery:

- Impaired muscle power
- Impaired passive range of movement
- Loss of limb or limb deficiency
- Hypertonia
- Ataxia
- Visual Impairments

### 2. Non-eligible impairment types

*[IPC Classification Code: International Standard for Eligible Impairment \(Sept. 2016\)](#)*

Examples of Non-Eligible impairments types for all athletes include, but are not limited to, the following:

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

### 3. Health conditions

[IPC Classification Code: International Standard for Eligible Impairment \(Sept. 2016\)](#)

Athletes who have a health condition or impairment that does not have an Eligible Underlying Health Condition will not be eligible to compete in para sport. These include those that primarily:

- Cause pain (e.g. myofascial *pain* dysfunction syndrome, fibromyalgia or complex regional pain syndrome)
- Cause fatigue (e.g. chronic fatigue syndrome)
- Cause hypermobility or hypotonia (e.g. Ehlers-Danlos syndrome)
- Psychological or psychogenic in origin (conversion disorders or post-traumatic stress disorder)

An exhaustive list of pathologies and medical conditions is not possible in this document. When in doubt Para Archery International Classifiers must refer to the [IPC Classification Code](#) and associated documents.

There is no legal liability to classify everybody. To say that someone is “not eligible” does not mean they do not have a disability. It means that they may have a condition which is excluded by the IPC list of eligible conditions and/or they do not fit the criteria established by World Archery.

### 4. Para archery classification and sport classes

Once deemed as eligible, archers are evaluated as per the classification evaluation processes and placed in one of the following classification groups, assigned a classification status and placed in an appropriate sport class.

#### 4.1. Para archery classifications

There are 6 classification groups.

- W1 (Most severely impaired group)
- W2 (Wheelchair)
- ST (Standing)
- NE (Non-Eligible)
- VI 1 (Visually Impaired)
- VI 2/3 Combined (Visually Impaired)

#### 4.2. Classification status

[IPC Classification Code: International Standard for Athlete Evaluation \(Sept. 2016\)](#)

- Confirmed (C)
- Review (R)
- Review with Fixed Review Date (FRD)

### 4.3. Para archery sport classes

- W1
  - Men
  - Women
- Compound Open
  - Men
  - Women
- Recurve Open
  - Men
  - Women
- Visually Impaired

## Section 2 – Classification panels

### 5. Classification panel composition

*[IPC Classification Code: International Standard for Athlete Evaluation \(Sept. 2016\)](#)*

An international para archery classification panel will consist of a minimum of 2 authorised International Para Archery Classifiers.

At least one of the classification panel members must be an International Para Archery Classifier. The other may be a new International Para Archery Classifier Candidate.

A panel should be composed of 2 International Para Archery Classifiers from different countries. If this is not possible the athletes classified will be given review status.

**Exception:** If the condition is automatically acceptable, then a confirmed status will be given.

If possible, an International Para Archery Classifier will not be involved in the classification of a para archer from their own country. If the International Para Archery Classifier has to perform the classification for a para archer from their own country, the athlete will be given review status.

**Exception:** If the condition is automatically acceptable, then confirmed status will be given.

If there are unforeseen last-minute problems [e.g. missed flight or illness within the last 48 hours] an international para archery classification can proceed with one International Para Archery Classifier. In this case, classification will be given a review status.

**Exception:** If the condition is automatically acceptable, then confirmed status will be given

At World Archery para archery tournaments, it is recommended that a minimum of 1 International Para Archery Classifier panel is present. Other panels may be added as required. World Archery may also organise Regional/Continental Classification Hubs as necessary.

A national para archery classification may be completed by one person but any athlete wishing to compete internationally must have an international classification evaluation completed prior to competing.

**Note:** All classifiers will be present until the end of the day of the Qualification Round to ensure all protests are responded to as appropriate. All classifiers will be scheduled to leave the following day.

## Section 3 – Athlete evaluation

### 6. Functional classification system

World Archery will use a Functional Classification Evaluation Methodology to assess the eligible athletes and determine if they meet the minimum eligibility criteria noted below

This classification system uses general disability profiles to help guide classification decisions.

All eligible functional impairments are tested by an assessment **of only those limbs, joints or muscles affected by the Eligible medical diagnosis on the Medical Intake form** and for assignment of points for impaired muscle strength, impaired neuromuscular hypertonicity, ataxia or for impaired passive joint range of motion.

Consideration of the order of testing and appropriate tests to be used will be determined by the relevant eligible medical diagnosis as indicated on the Medical Intake Form.

**Note:** Not all limbs, muscles or joints will be tested during the evaluation.

For example, an archer with a Medical diagnosis affecting only the lower limbs will not have an evaluation of the upper limbs or trunk completed and no points must be assigned for the upper limb or trunk on the classification card. The classification decision will be based solely on the results of the evaluation of the lower limb(s) identified.

**Note:** Visual Impairments will be tested, and a classification status assigned by certificated IBSA Classifiers.

Points are allocated in the following manner:

- Upper limbs – 180 total points:
  - Bow arm including the thumb – 95 points
  - String arm – 85 points
- Lower limbs – 100 total points:
  - Each leg 50 points
- Trunk – 40 total points

The points total for all body regions equals 320 points.

**Minimum impairment criteria needed to be eligible for para archery competition:**

- A loss of 25 points in the upper limbs **OR** loss of 25 points in the lower limbs
- Amputation of the forearm above the wrist (no wrist joint present) – Automatically eligible

- Amputation of the lower 1/3 of the leg (no ankle joint present) – Automatically eligible
- Permanent, complete spinal cord lesion – Automatically eligible and evaluation performed to identify sport class and assistive devices allowed

The classification process will also include a field test and observation of the archer shooting their bow to verify the actual functional level and if necessary, to adjust bench test findings.

A classification panel may require that an athlete undertake an Observation Competition Assessment (OA) before it allocates a final sport class and designates a classification status.

## 7. Medical intake form

Para archery classification medical information must be submitted using the [Medical Intake Form](#) available at the World Archery web site. The Medical Intake Form **must** be completed in English not more than 12 months before the date of the classification and must be signed by both a **Medical Doctor (MD, DO)** and the athlete. The relevant medical diagnosis must be based on the World Health Organization ICD-10 code.

Medical intake forms can only be submitted by the National Federation (NF)/National Association that has jurisdiction over the archer and must be sent by email to World Archery ([classification@archery.org](mailto:classification@archery.org)) at least 30 days prior to the date of the scheduled classification. Failure to do so may result in the athlete not being scheduled for classification.

Athletes wishing to be classified with a visual impairment must submit a request for classification using the [Visual Impaired Medical Intake Form](#), which must be sent at least 4 weeks before the date of the tournament at which the classification would take place.

The World Archery Classification Committee will review the Medical Intake form and the reported diagnosis(es) to determine if they meet World Archery and IPC criteria as eligible to be classified.

The Head of Classification will notify the National Federation of those athletes who are eligible to attend classification prior to the final closing date for the tournament registration.

The Head of Classification will return the Medical Intake forms of those athletes determined to be not eligible to be classified based on the reported medical diagnosis to the National Federation. This is done to ensure that athletes and teams do not pay tournament, housing, and travel fees in advance for athletes who cannot be classified.

Situations will always arise where this information is not known until the actual classification session, however the Head of Classification will do everything possible to inform the national governing body as early as possible when a “non-eligible” or “non-classifiable” status is suspected based on medical intake form.

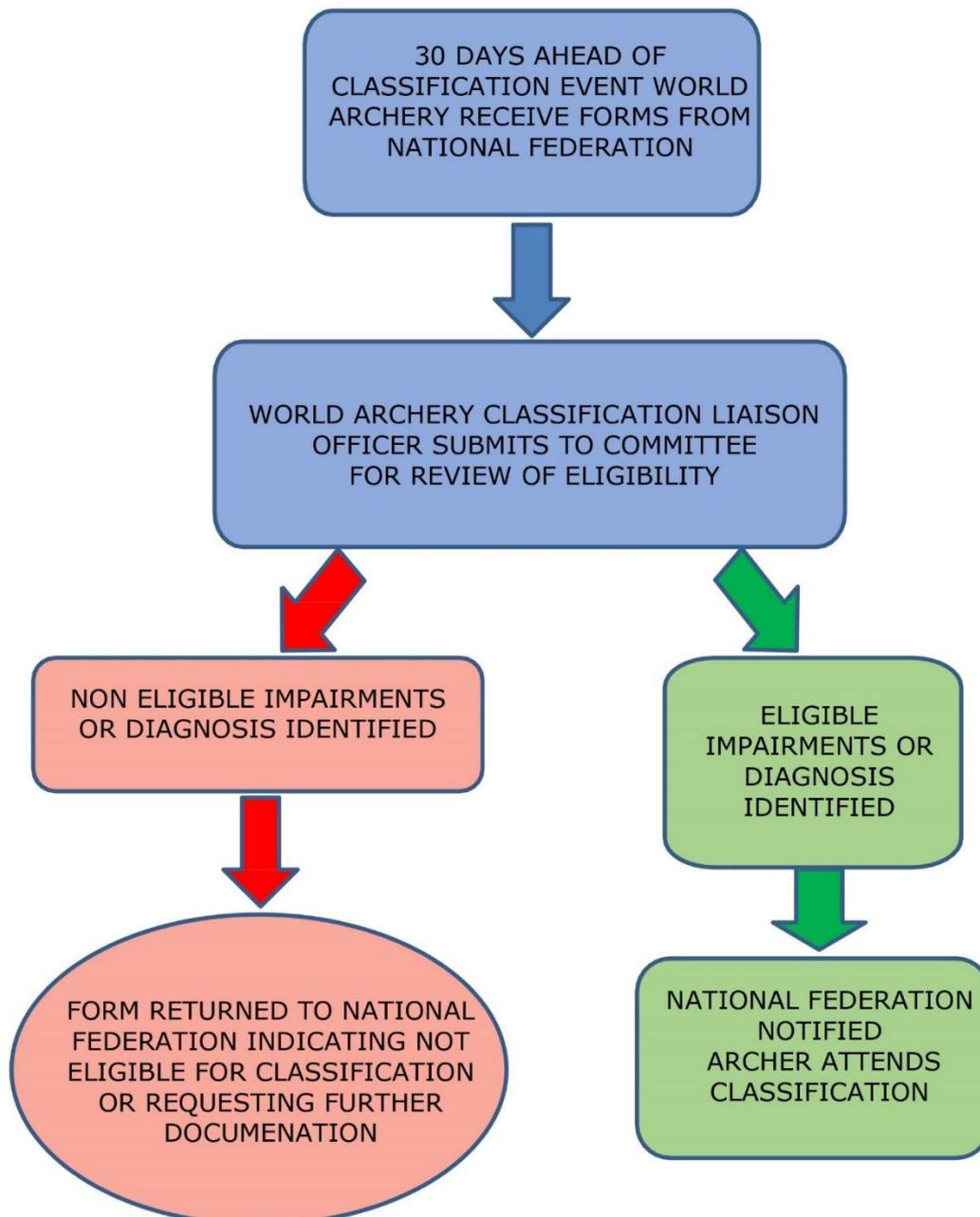
The Head of Classification may request further information or clarification from the NF. If this can be supplied prior to the deadline and supports the determination of eligibility, the athlete may be considered for evaluation.

When extenuating circumstances have been identified, the Head of Classification may delegate the review of the Medical Intake form and determination of eligibility to the Chief Classifier of an event.

Procedure can be seen in the following Medical Intake decision tree diagram.

A non-classified athlete will not be allowed to compete for score or for records in the tournament and must not participate at all in any match play. They may be allowed to shoot during the qualification round at the discretion of the organising committee.

## Medical intake form procedure



## 8. Classification procedures

### 8.1. Bench testing

Based on the relevant, eligible medical condition or diagnosis reported on the Medical Intake form, the International Para Archery Classifier identifies which Functional Classification testing system is to be performed to assign points associated with muscle strength impairments, hypertonicity impairments, ataxia or passive joint range of motion impairments (see [Table 1](#)).

For example, in relation to Neuromuscular impairment then use manual muscle testing (MMT) will be used, permanent articular damage Passive ROM testing will be used, for ataxia the SARA scale will be used, for hypertonicity the Modified Ashworth scale will be used, and range of motion will be tested using goniometry.

Impairment point determination is to be performed in a private, designated location using a clinical treatment table whilst maintaining professional codes of conduct. Please refer to the [Code of Ethics](#) for Para Archery Classification.

Impairment point determination using manual muscle testing methods should refer to either the Daniels & Worthingham or Kendall Manual Muscle Testing Textbooks<sup>1</sup>.

**Full details of testing procedure and point allocation can be found within the [Testing Procedure Section](#).**

For candidates who have multiple eligible diagnoses/impairments reported on the Medical Intake Form, the International Para Archery Classifier, considering the views of the athlete and their team, must determine which evaluation test method (strength, range of motion, or spasticity) is most appropriate to enable successful para archer classification through assessment of the most severe form of impairment.

### 8.2. Field testing

The classification process will also include a field test and observation of the archer shooting their bow to verify actual archery function level and, if necessary, to adjust bench test findings. It is important that classifiers also observe the activities of athletes away from the shooting line in order to help assess their general motor skills. The use of videos and/or photographs is permitted to aid in this.

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<sup>1</sup> Muscles: Testing and Function, with Posture and Pain (Kendall, Muscles) 5th Edition par Florence Peterson Kendall, Elizabeth Kendall McCreary, Patricia Geise Provance, Mary McIntyre Rodgers, William Anthony Romani. Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, 2005

Tests des muscles par Daniels et Worthingham: Techniques of Manual Examination and Performance Testing, 9th Edition par Helen Hislop, Dale Avers, Marybeth Brown. Elsevier Saunders, 2014

Échelle modifiée d'Ashworth - <http://www.rehabmeasures.org/Lists/RehabMeasures/DispForm.aspx?ID=902> échelle SARA - [http://www.physio-pedia.com/Scale\\_for\\_the\\_Assessment\\_and\\_Rating\\_of\\_Ataxia\\_\(SARA\)](http://www.physio-pedia.com/Scale_for_the_Assessment_and_Rating_of_Ataxia_(SARA))

## 9. Classification forms

As soon as possible after the end of the classification session the athlete will be provided with a printed copy of their classification form.

The para archer is responsible to have the classification form with them at all competitions and produce it at equipment inspection or at the request of the Chief International Classifier. A digital copy is acceptable.

Classification forms will be stored in the World Archery database and the results recorded on the World Archery Master Classification List as soon as possible.

Complete personal details must appear on the Classification Form and all items on the form completed by the classifier. Both classifiers and the archer must sign the form and a current picture of the archer and any unique assistive devices must be included.

The International Para Archery Classifier must include important comments in the comments section of the form regarding the para archer's functional status (e.g. balance) or other factors not listed on the Classification Form drop-down menu.

If a Review Status has been applied, the Classification Form will contain a Fixed Review date by which time any review must be resolved.

Authorized assistive devices must be documented using the drop-down menu of the Classification Form. In cases where an archer does not qualify for stool, wheelchair or strapping based on points achieved but is authorized to do so by the International Classifier, the rationale for this decision must be included on the Classification Form.

**Assistive devices can only be used that match the level of impairment and are not to be authorised in order to enhance performance.**

Assistive devices are subject to all equipment rules as specified in World Archery Rule [Book 3, Appendix 2](#). If a modified version of a permitted item is seen, then the International Judges Commission, in conjunction with the Technical Delegate of the tournament, must be consulted. It may be subject to appeal and even a subsequent request for an official interpretation.

## 10. Classification not completed

*IPC Code: International Standard for Athlete Evaluation (Sept. 2016)*

If at any stage of the evaluation the panel is unable to complete the assessment the Chief Classifier may designate that Athlete as Classification Not Completed (CNC). The athlete designated as CNC may not compete until such time as the classification evaluation may be successfully completed and a Classification Class can be determined. As noted below, Pain may limit the ability to complete the assessment.

Pain is an unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with actual or potential tissue damage. Pain motivates the individual to withdraw from damaging situations, to protect a damaged body part, and to avoid similar experiences in the future. Pain may persist despite removal of the stimulus and sometimes pain arises in the absence of any detectable reason. Pain is a major symptom in many medical conditions and can interfere with a person's quality of life and general function.

Psychological factors such as social support, hypnotic suggestion, excitement, or distraction can significantly modulate pain's intensity or unpleasantness.

If the archer's pain is too great the classification cannot be performed as the experience of pain may alter test performance making the results invalid.

When sufficient pain is present at the time of the evaluation, then the evaluation must be suspended, and the Athlete identified as CNC. The athlete cannot compete until the evaluation has been completed at a later date.

## 11. Sport class status

### 11.1. Confirmed status (C)

Para archers with an eligible amputation, confirmed complete spinal cord injury, or other conditions deemed to be permanent or unchanging by the classification panel may be recorded as confirmed status.

Athletes with a confirmed status who are aware of substantive condition changes and who think that their sport class is no longer correct may apply for re-classification following the usual procedures to request a classification.

Under exceptional circumstances an athlete may be reviewed through an International Sport Federation protest if it is suspected that the athlete's condition has changed since the time of their last classification. (See section [Protests and Appeals](#) for details).

### 11.2 Review status (R)

If there are any changes made to the list of eligible and/or not eligible conditions, any athletes who have been classified based on a condition that is no longer eligible will be assigned review status

and will be required to submit an application for a new classification as per the normal process using the Medical Intake Form. The MIF will be considered as per the standard process.

An Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (R) must complete Athlete Evaluation prior to competing at any International Competition.

The reason for the review must be added to the comment column on the back page of the classification card.

### 11.3 Review status with fixed review date (FRD)

When a review status has been assigned to a classification, the classification panel will set and record the Fixed Review Date.

The classification status will expire as of the Fixed Review Date and the athlete must attend reclassification before being eligible to compete in para archery events. If this date falls within the dates of an International Tournament, the review must be completed before the qualification round starts.

All of the required procedures for requests for classification must be followed including obtaining and submitting a new Medical Intake Form.

Based on the acuteness and/or changing nature of the medical condition a review may be recommended at 2 years following the initial classification. Given innovative advances in pharmaceutical therapies and rehabilitation methods and the changing definition of “disability” more athletes will be classified as review status than in the past.

Para archers should not consider review status as suggesting that their condition or disability is being questioned. Review status helps the classification team assure that the athlete is classified appropriately.

The following outlines the process to be followed:

1. Classifications that require review must have a specific review date which will be based on one of following two sets of criteria. Examples of each can be seen in the ‘Examples’ section below:
  - i. The review date for non-medical reasons (issues related to classification panel) will be set for immediately after the end of the tournament in which the initial classification is done.*
  - ii. For all evolving medical conditions, there may be up to a 2-year review date.*
2. The review date must include day, month and year in the format dd/mm/yyyy.
3. The reason for the review must be added to the comment column on the back page of the classification card.
4. It must be explained to the athlete, in the presence of the athlete’s representative in the classification room, the reason for review as well as the review date.

**Note:** It is the responsibility of the athlete and their National Federation to arrange for a new

classification after the review date.

### Examples:

- Avoid assigning Confirmed sport class status to athletes who are young, inexperienced or recently injured. Athletes with congenital motor/skeletal disorders or who sustain neurological injury when they are young should be allocated review status every 2 years until they are deemed to be skeletally mature.
- The following cases are examples where the review date would be set for immediately after the end of the tournament at which the classification was completed:
  - One or both of the classifiers are of the same nationality as the athlete.
  - One or both of the classifiers have an existing or previous relationship with the athlete, e.g. family member, team manager/coach, physician/patient etc. In case of doubt, the relationship must be declared, and a review status given.
  - When two classifiers have differing opinions, the Chief International Classifier's opinion will prevail for the tournament, but a review status will be given.
  - When the classification is done in a non-ideal environment, e.g. without provision of proper equipment or room provided by the local organizing committee meaning that the assessment cannot be done to a satisfactory level.
  - When the athlete presents differently in the field of play to their presentation in the classification room and the classifiers require more observation time. NB. It is necessary for the classifier to be aware of the possibility of misrepresentation, deliberate or not.
- Below are examples of cases where a review date of two years would be applied:
  - Brain injury cases which are less than 4 years post injury
  - Incomplete spinal cord injuries which are less than 18 months post injury
  - Relapsing/Remitting Multiple Sclerosis will be on a permanent review date of every 2 years unless the medical intake form indicates the condition has stabilized and is no longer evolving. Primary Progressive MS may be given a Confirmed status.
  - All other evolving medical conditions will carry a 2-year review date

## 12. Minimum impairment criteria not achieved

In any case where the athlete has been assigned a NE status due to insufficient deficit points following bench testing or after the observational field test, the athlete will be reviewed by a second panel of different International Para Archery Classifiers with no protest fee required. This second panel review will occur as soon as is practicable.

If a second panel is not available immediately, then the NE classification stands until such time as the archer can be assessed by the new panel. This is an automatic process and the athlete's NF does not need to file an official protest for this to happen.

If the second panel finds that the athlete is NE, then the decision is final. There can be no further protest. See IPC Code [International Standard for Athlete Evaluation](#) for process/procedures to be followed.

**Procedure:**

1<sup>st</sup> panel: NE – Automatic second panel assessment  
NE – R Assigned

2<sup>nd</sup> panel: NE – Decision final

NE (C) Assigned

1<sup>st</sup> panel: Sport class assigned and protested

2<sup>nd</sup> panel: NE - R

3<sup>rd</sup> panel: Assessment

Decision by majority and final

1<sup>st</sup> panel: NE – R Automatic second panel assessment

2<sup>nd</sup> panel: Assigns sport class

Note, if an athlete is awaiting a second assessment, they will be allocated Sport Class Not Eligible (NE) and designated with a review status ( R ). The athlete will not be permitted to compete before re-assessment.

## 13. Misconduct during evaluation session

An athlete is personally responsible for attending an Evaluation Session and if they fail to attend 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.

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.

A Classification Panel, in consultation with the Chief Classifier, may suspend an

Evaluation Session if it cannot allocate a Sport Class for reasons including, but not limited to, one or more of the following circumstances:

- The athlete does not comply with any part of the Classification Rules.
- The athlete fails to provide necessary medical information.

- The 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.
- The athlete is unable to communicate effectively with the Classification Panel.
- 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.
- The athlete's representation of his or her abilities is inconsistent with any information available to the Classification Panel.

If an Evaluation Session is suspended by a Classification Panel, 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 NF. If the athlete takes the remedial action to the satisfaction of the Chief Classifier, the Evaluation Session will be resumed.

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 will be precluded from competing until the determination is completed.

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 Section 10 of this handbook.

Suspension of an Evaluation Session may be subject to further investigation into any possible Intentional Misrepresentation.

## 14. Intentional misrepresentation

When an athlete signs both the Medical Intake Form and the Classification Consent Form they are promising to contribute fully to the classification process as honestly as possible. Intentional misrepresentation is in violation of the Classification rules.

If the athlete intentionally misrepresents their true skills and/or abilities, the athlete will not be allocated a Sport Class and will not be permitted to compete. Intentional misrepresentation is a serious offence that may result in sanctioning by World Archery. Any case must be referred to the World Archery Secretary General.

## Section 4 – Testing procedures

### 15. Bench testing assessment

#### 15.1. Assessment of points

Based on the reported diagnosis on the Medical Intake Form (and using the following decision tree) the International Para Archery Classifier will identify which impairment test/scale will be used to evaluate the athlete and which anatomical areas will be assessed.

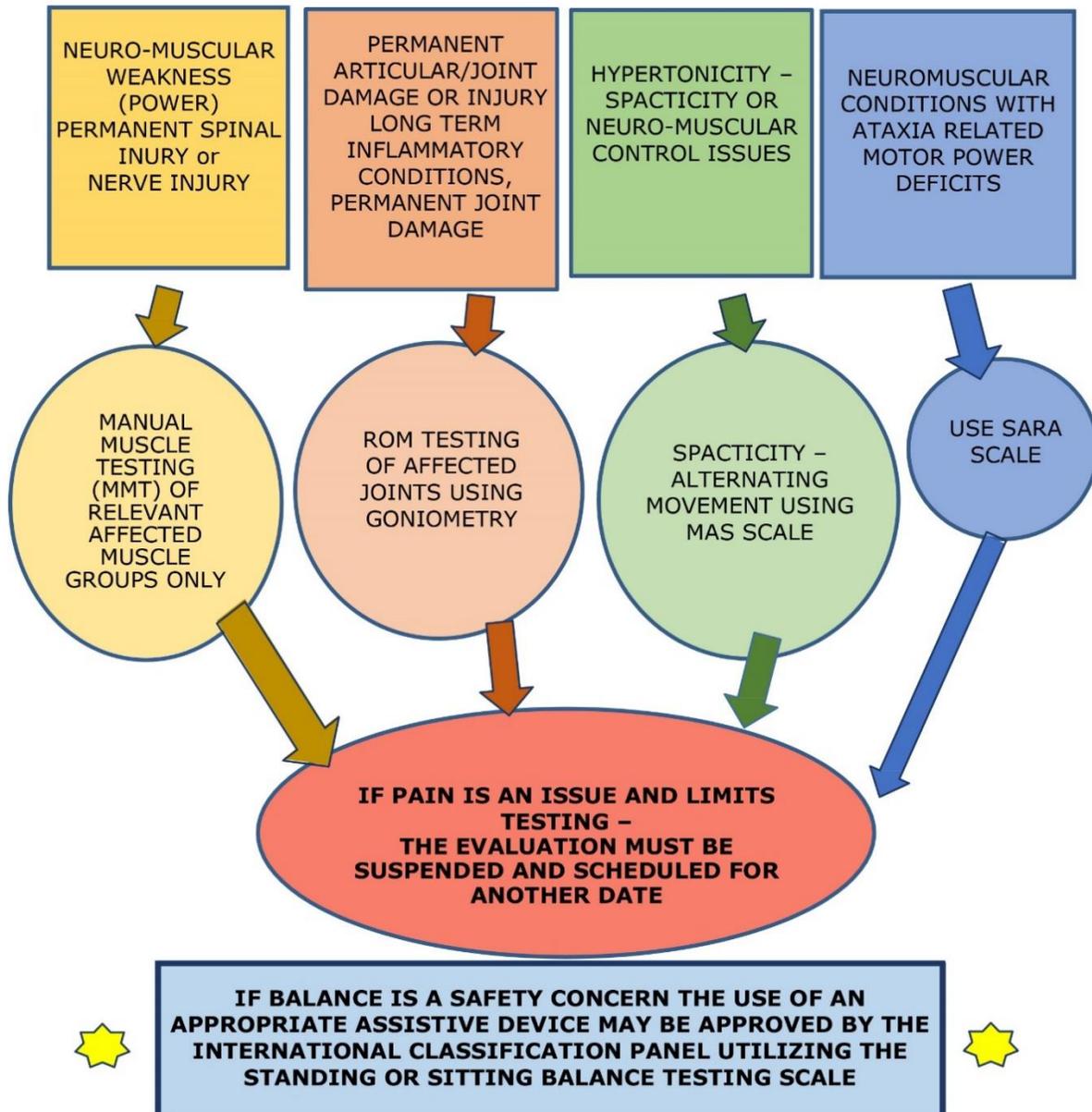
**Note:** Simple muscle weakness or decreased endurance related to disuse/pain or deconditioning is not an eligible impairment and cannot be used to determine eligibility or classification.

Limbs and the trunk if not related to the Medical Diagnosis identified on the Medical Intake form will not be included in the assessment for points.

#### 15.2. Testing methods

- Neuromuscular related muscle weakness will be tested using **Manual Muscle Testing (MMT)**.
- Chronic, long term inflammatory conditions with permanent articular damage or injuries that have resulted in permanent disability will be evaluated with passive **ROM using goniometry**.
- Neurological conditions with hypertonicity - Para archers with a medical diagnosis that results in hypertonicity will be tested using rapid, passive movement through full range and scored using the **Modified Ashworth Scale (MAS)**. Associated reactions of the upper limbs, lower limbs and trunk will be carefully observed during field testing. Field testing while shooting enables the International Para Archery Classifier to evaluate the influence of head and neck posture on postural reflexes. Field testing enables the International Para Archery Classifier to verify or modify clinical exam findings.
- Neuromuscular conditions with ataxia related motor power deficits – **Sara Scale outcome measure** will be used.

## Bench testing decision tree



### 15.3. Classification scoring system

Table 1

Muscle Strength		Joint Mobility		Hypertonicity		Ataxia	
0	No voluntary movements	0	No range of movement	0	Affected part(s) rigid in flexion or extension	0	Walking only with strong support (two special sticks or stroller or accompanying person) or Unable to walk even supported
1	Trace, faint contraction without movement	1	Minimal range of movement	1	Considerable increase in muscle tone, passive movement difficult	1	Severe staggering, permanent support of one stick or light support by one arm required
2	Poor, full available range with gravity eliminated	2	1/4 range of movement	2	More marked increase in muscle tone through most of the ROM, but affected part(s) easily moved	2	Marked staggering, intermittent support of the wall required
3	Fair, full available range against gravity without further resistance	3	1/2 range of movement	3	Slight increase in muscle tone, manifested by a catch, followed by minimal resistance throughout the remainder (less than half) of the ROM	3	Considerable staggering, difficulties in half-turn, but without support
4	Good, contraction through full available ROM against gravity and some resistance	4	3/4 range of movement	4	Slight increase in muscle tone, manifested by a catch and release or by minimal resistance at the end of the ROM when the affected part(s) is moved in flexion or extension	4	Clearly abnormal, tandem walking >10 steps not possible
5	Normal, contraction through full available ROM against gravity with full resistance	5	Full range of movement	5	No increase in muscle tone	5	Normal, no difficulties in walking, turning and walking tandem (up to one misstep allowed)

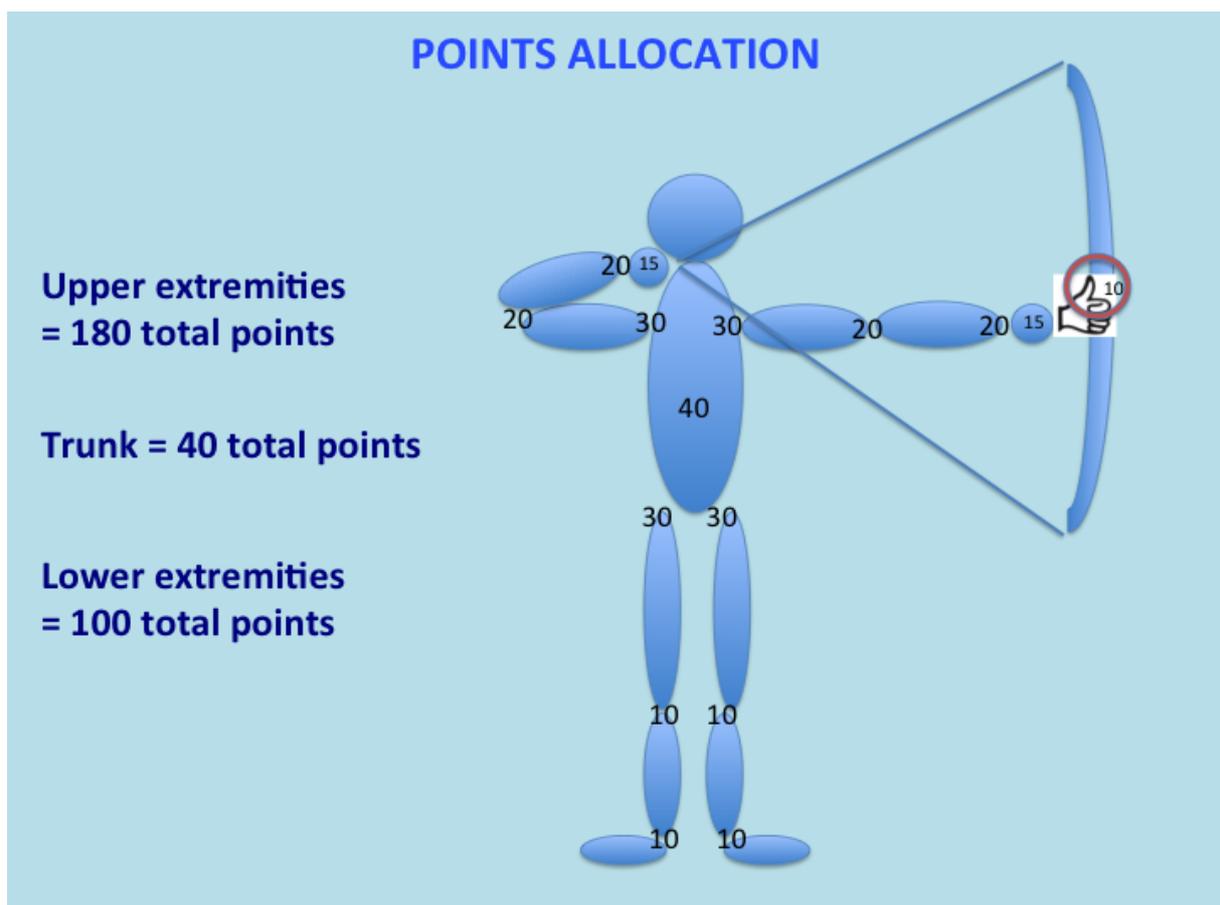
Where coordination affects the trunk, scores are determined with manual muscle testing, but the critical place to assess archery specific balance and trunk co-ordination of any athlete is on the field.

**Remember the loss of strength in core muscle groups must be directly related to the neuromuscular diagnosis identified on the Medical Intake Form and the impairment and not simply the inability to complete the test due to untrained, deconditioned muscles.**

## 16. Visual guide to the allocation of points

### Points allocation:

- Upper limbs – 180 total points:
  - Bow arm including the thumb – 95 points
  - String arm – 85 points
- Lower limbs – 100 total points:
  - Each leg 50 points
- Trunk – 40 total points



## Section 5 – Sport class profiles

### 17. W1 class

W1 class athlete represents a para archer who demonstrates functional impairments in at least three limbs and the trunk. A total minimum of **85** points distributed as noted below will be required for a W1 classification.

The minimum standard of **50** points loss in lower limb as per W2 category;

**AND** a further **25** points in the upper limbs;

**AND** a minimum of **10** points will be required in the trunk.

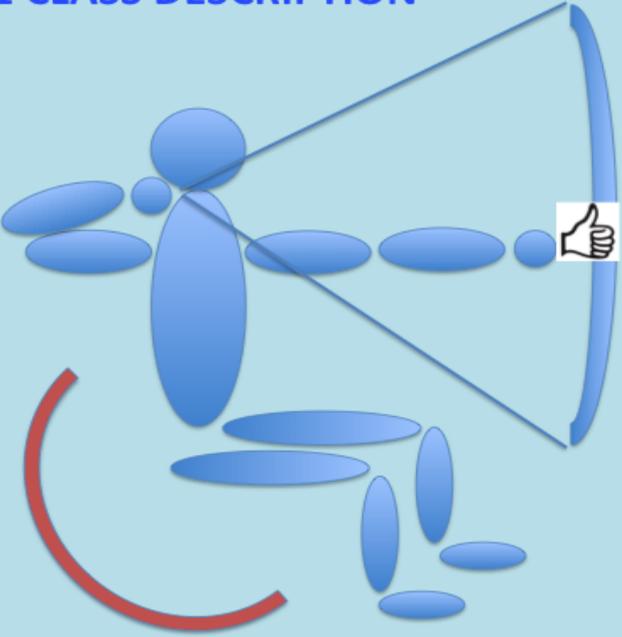
All W1 athletes are required to shoot from a wheelchair.

### W1 CLASS DESCRIPTION

**W1 class athlete represents a para archer who demonstrates functional impairments in at least three limbs and the trunk. A total minimum of 85 points distributed as noted below will be required for a W1 classification.**

**The minimum standard of 50 points loss in lower limb as per W2 category**  
**AND a further 25 points in the upper limbs.**  
**AND a minimum of 10 points will be required in the trunk.**

**All W1 athletes are required to shoot from a wheelchair**



## 18. W2 class

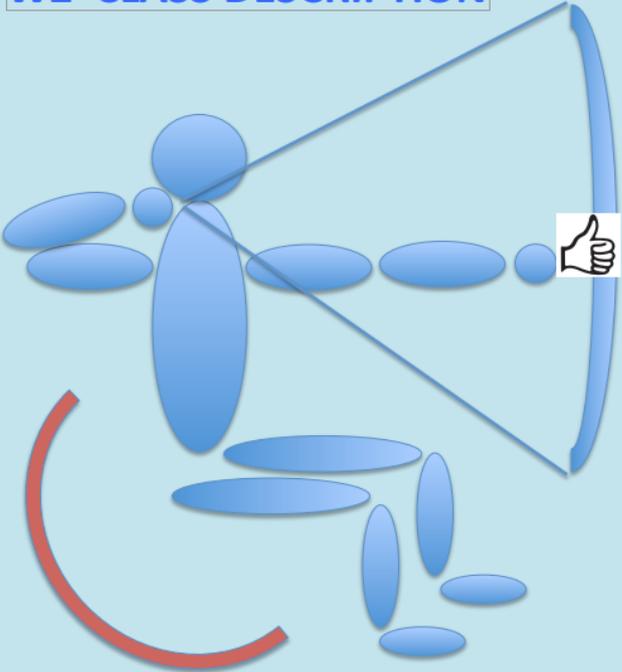
A W2 para archer will have paraplegia or comparable disability with a minimum loss of **50** points in the lower limbs.

Athletes in this class display minimal or no limitations in upper extremity strength, range of motion, or coordination.

Because of differing levels of spinal cord involvement or bilateral above knee amputation stump lengths, athletes deemed suitable for this class display variable trunk impairment levels.

W2 athletes may shoot from a wheelchair.

W2 class para archers shoot in either the open compound or open recurve class.

A W2 para archer will have paraplegia or comparable disability	W2 CLASS DESCRIPTION
Athletes in this class display minimal or no limitations in upper extremity strength, range of motion, or coordination.	
Because of differing levels of spinal cord involvement or bilateral above knee amputation stump lengths, athletes deemed eligible for this class display variable trunk impairment levels.	
W2 athletes may shoot from a wheelchair with a minimum loss of 50 points in the lower limbs	
W2 class para archers shoot in either the open compound or open recurve shooting class.	

## 19. Standing class

A standing class para archer is one who meets the minimum requirements to be a para-archer as set out in the section [Functional Classification System](#).

### Minimum impairment be eligible for para archery competition:

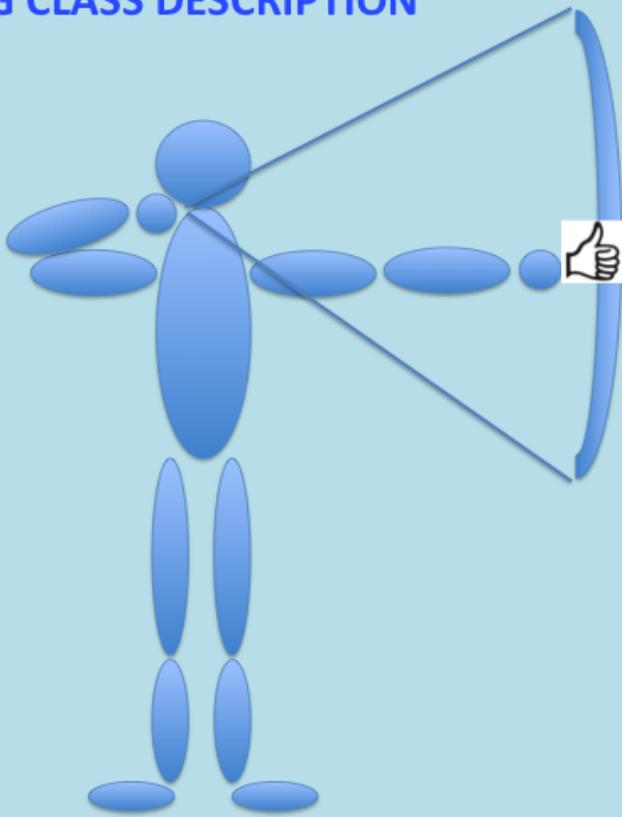
- A loss of 25 points in the upper limbs **OR** loss of 25 points in the lower limbs
- Amputation of the forearm above the wrist (no wrist joint present)
- Amputation of the lower 1/3 of the leg (no ankle joint present)

**STANDING CLASS DESCRIPTION**

The minimum eligibility standard for this class is a loss of 25 points in both (not each) lower or upper limbs

This class generally includes otherwise non-impaired athletes who have sustained amputation to the distal 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the lower extremity (above the ankle); the distal 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the forearm (above the wrist).

In rare cases para archers who use their lower extremities to shoot may be included in this class.



The diagram shows a stylized blue human figure holding a bow. A white thumbs-up icon is placed on the right forearm, indicating that the wrist joint is present. The figure is shown in a standing posture, holding the bow with both hands.

## 20. Visually impaired (VI)

A VI para archer is one with visual impairments. There are two divisions:

- VI 1 athletes wear a blind fold
- VI 2/3 who do not wear blindfolds..

These archers are tested for visual acuity only.

Visually Impaired archers must apply to World Archery for classification by using the specific Medical Intake form which can be accessed via the World Archery website.

Visually impaired archers are allowed assistive devices such as blindfolds, tactile sights and an assistant or a coach as authorized by the Classifier and as outlined in World Archery Target Rules, [Book 3, chapter 21](#) “Para Archery”.

[See appendix 2](#)

## Section 6 – Sport equipment and assistive devices

**Assistive devices are not intended for performance enhancement and must match the level of impairment as reported on the Medical Intake form and confirmed by bench and field testing. Their use is only to enable fair and equal sport, not to give any archer an advantage over another.**

All personal equipment **must** comply with World Archery Rules for Athletes Equipment in Rule Book 3, [chapter 11](#) and in Para Archery Rule Book 3, [chapter 21](#).

The use of an assistive device must be approved by an international classification panel and be identified on the Classification Form. Use of the device is subject to the ruling of the judges at any event (see [section 3](#) for details).

Classifiers must complete the assistive device section on the Classification Form specifically documenting the approved equipment and the rationale for allowing it. Such equipment may include: wheelchair, stool, strapping, prosthesis, use of a release aid system, bow bandage, elbow splint, wrist splint, lower extremity straps or an assistant as necessary.

Classifiers must be present during equipment inspection at World Archery tournaments in order to provide guidance to judges as required with regards to assistive devices.

### 21. Assistive devices resource guide

Assistive devices rules are specified in World Archery Rule [Book 3, Appendix 2](#). These are the only rules to be used by judges, classifiers and others in relation with assistive devices.

To accompany assistive devices rules, a [resource guide](#) has been developed. It provides insight on how and for who the assistive devices should be authorized, and how they are measured during equipment inspections.

## List of appendices

**Appendix 1** – [Classifiers pledge and enrolment document](#)

**Appendix 2** – [VI classification standards and procedures](#)

**Appendix 3** – [Application for World Archery international re-classification](#)

**Appendix 4** – [Protest and appeal procedures](#)

## Appendix 1: Classifiers pledge and enrolment form

### Classifier's Pledge

**As a World Archery International Para Archery Classifier, I pledge:**

*To safeguard the dignity of the athlete with a disability, and the sport of archery;*

*To oppose discrimination on the basis of disability, or discrimination related to race, gender, nationality, ethnic origin, religion, philosophical or political opinion, marital status or sexual orientation;*

*To maintain confidentiality of all health-related athlete information;*

*To display courtesy and respect to athletes, and all others involved in the sport;*

*To perform all assigned duties competently, consistently, and objectively;*

*To declare any potential conflicts of interest that could be perceived as using the International Para Archery Classifier role to obtain advantages of benefits of any kind.*

X

Place and date

X

Signed by (name and signature)

## International para archery classifier application/enrolment form

First Name:						
Last Name:						
Gender:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	Female	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nationality:						
Address:						
Email:						
Phone:						
Professional Qualifications (Medical and/or allied health professionals):						
Speak English	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Little	<input type="checkbox"/>	None
Write English	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Little	<input type="checkbox"/>	None
Read English	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Little	<input type="checkbox"/>	None
Understand English	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Little	<input type="checkbox"/>	None
Computer Experience	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Little	<input type="checkbox"/>	None
Outline of why you wish to be a classifier. Please include experience of archery within the last 4 years.						
National Archery Federation name						
National Federation Representative (Note - you must be nominated by your national archery federation)	Name:					
	Role in Federation:					
	Signature:					
Signature of Applicant:						
Date:						

**Please send this form to World Archery.**

## Appendix 2: VI classification standards and procedures

### Introduction

Classification provides a structure for competition. Classification is undertaken to ensure that the athlete competes equitably with other athletes.

Classification has two important roles:

- to determine eligibility to compete;
- to group athletes for competition.

Classification provides a systematic method for grouping athletes, according to their visual abilities, into "classes" which act as the framework for competition.

Athletes will only be permitted to compete in a World Archery-sanctioned continental or world championships, with an internationally allocated a Sport Class (other than Sport Class Not Eligible) and designated with a Sport Class Status in accordance with the World Archery Classification Rules.

### World Archery VI classifiers

A Classifier is a person authorised as an official and certified by World Archery as an accredited International classifier to conduct some or all components of Athlete Evaluation as a member of a Classification Panel.

In order to become a "VI international classifier", potential classifiers must be a fully qualified ophthalmologist as approved by World Archery.

### Eligibility criteria

World Archery must determine if an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment, but the onus is on the Athlete to prove on the balance of probabilities that he or she has an Underlying Health Condition. Details of the condition must be included on the Medical Diagnostics Form which must be completed in English, dated and signed by a certified ophthalmologist licensed in the jurisdiction where the athlete resides.

The means by which World Archery determines that an individual Athlete has an Eligible Impairment is at the sole discretion of World Archery. An Athlete must supply World Archery with Diagnostic Information on request to prove an underlying health condition **if the eye condition is not obvious and visible and does not explain the loss of vision**. This documentation may include VEP or ERG tests. World Archery may publish policies from time to time specifying the types of medical test results it requires athletes to provide prior to competing at a competition.

## Eligible impairments

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.

To be eligible to compete in Sport Classes B1-B3, the Athlete must meet both of the criteria below:

They must have at least one (1) of the following Impairments:

- Impairment of the eye structure;
- Impairment of the optical nerve/optic pathways; or
- Impairment of the visual cortex.

The Athlete's Vision Impairment must result in a visual acuity of less than or equal to LogMAR 1.0.

## Definition of visual classes

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. The minimum Impairment Criteria score for archery is 1.0

The current divisioning accepted by World Archery is:

- B1: Visual acuity lower than LogMAR 2.6.
- B2: Visual acuity ranging from LogMAR 1.5 to 2.6 (inclusive)
- B3: Visual acuity ranging from LogMAR 1.4 to 1.0 (inclusive)

## Sport division

There are two sport divisions for Visually Impaired athletes:

- VI 1, which include B1 visual class (athletes wear a blind fold).
- VI 2/3 combined, which include B2 and B3 visual class (athlete who do not wear blindfolds).

There shall be no distinction between men, women, compound or recurve within either division. All will shoot against each other in the appropriate division.

## National and international classification

National classification can be completed by an optometrist, but an international classification form must be signed by an ophthalmologist. Forms that have only been signed by an optician / dispensing optician will be rejected.

For the purposes of clarity, the following are definitions for eye care professionals:

- An optician sells eyewear using a prescription written by an optometrist or ophthalmologist.
- An optometrist is an eye doctor who has earned the Doctor of Optometry (OD) degree.
- An ophthalmologist is a medical doctor (MD) or a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) who specializes in eye and vision care and is able to perform eye surgery.

## Athlete evaluation

The following process must be followed:

1. Athletes must forward a valid National Classification, from a National Federation with proof of LogMar score, to World Archery. This will be evaluated for eligibility. National Classification should have been awarded within the last 12 months. National Federations may include Blind Sports Associations, and a valid classification used for other VI sports is acceptable, provided proof of LogMar score is included.
2. If the athlete does not have a National Classification, World Archery will issue a World Archery Medical Diagnostics Form/ National Classification Form. This must be completed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist then returned to World Archery to be evaluated for eligibility. If not fully completed or only completed by an optician, further classification will not be able to take place. This form should be dated within the last 12 months.
3. On approval of the Medical Diagnostics Form or National Classification the athlete will be issued with a World Archery International Classification form which must be fully completed in English, signed and dated by an ophthalmologist. This cannot be the same ophthalmologist who completed the Medical Diagnostics Form used for National Classification. If the same person is used, no classification can be issued. This form should be completed within the last 60 days.
4. On approval of the World Archery International Classification Form, the athlete will be issued with a Review (R) status until their first International event, where their photograph will be taken, classification card issued and if their visual ability is not likely to change over time they will be given a confirmed status.

World Archery may at any time convene a classification examination at an event as well as observe athletes on the field of play. Any Athlete found to be using corrective devices during Competition that were not declared on their forms may be subject to further investigation of Intentional Misrepresentation.

If requested to attend physical examination, the athlete must:

- Appear for classification at the appointed time, prepared to be fully assessed by the classification panel, with their passport as evidence for identification purposes.

- Sign the Consent to be Classified Form prior to classification

The following points should be noted:

- The athlete's photograph may be taken for classification education purposes.
- If the athlete has a health condition that will impair their ability to be classified, the chief classifier may, at his or her discretion and time permitting, re-schedule the evaluation. Ultimately, if the athlete does not have a sport class and a sport class status, they will not be eligible to compete at the competition.
- Athletes may appoint one person to accompany them during classification. This person should have an understanding of the athlete's impairment and sport performance. If required, that person may be asked by the classifiers to assist with communication.
- Should the athlete require the presence of a translator, such individual (provided by the athlete) will also be permitted to attend.

## LogMAR chart for VI classification

25cm BASIC VIS	← DISTANCE →	25cm	← DISTANCE →	25cm	50cm	80cm	1,00m	1,25m	1,60m	2,00m	2,50m	3,20m	4,00m	5,00m	6,30m
	GRATINGS		E's												
NLP	200 M	2.9	100 M	2.6	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2
				0,0025 2,6020	0,0050 2,3010	0,0080 2,0970	0,0100 2,0000	0,0125 1,9030	0,0160 1,7960	0,0200 1,6990	0,0250 1,6020	0,0320 1,4950	0,0400 1,3980	0,0500 1,3010	0,0630 1,2000
LP	125 M	2.7	63 M	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0
				0,0040 2,4010	0,0079 2,1000	0,0127 1,8960	0,0159 1,7990	0,0198 1,7020	0,0250 1,5950	0,0317 1,4980	0,0396 1,4010	0,0510 1,2940	0,0640 1,1970	0,0794 1,1000	0,1000 1,0000
BWD	80 M	2.5	40 M	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8
				0,0063 2,2040	0,0125 1,9030	0,0200 1,6990	0,0250 1,6020	0,0313 1,5050	0,0400 1,3980	0,0500 1,3010	0,0625 1,2040	0,0800 1,0970	0,1000 1,0000	0,1250 0,9030	0,1580 0,8030
WFP	50 M	2.3	25 M	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6
				0,0100 2,0000	0,0200 1,6990	0,0320 1,4950	0,0400 1,3980	0,0500 1,3010	0,0640 1,1940	0,0800 1,0970	0,1000 1,0000	0,1280 0,8930	0,1600 0,7960	0,2000 0,6990	0,2520 0,5990
	<b>B1</b>	<b>B2</b>	← CLASS. →	<b>B2</b>			<b>B3</b>					<b>NE</b>			
VIS. FIELD	No VF			∅ < 10° (R<5°)			∅ >10° to < 40° (R>5°to<20°)					∅ > 40° (R >20°)			

NLP= No Light Perception  
LP = Light Perception

BWD= Black White Discrimination (cards all black / all white)  
WFP= White Field Projection (cards half-black half-white / white quadrant)

Limit B1- unable to recognize single tumbling E 100m at 25cm. (LogMAR 2.6 is out)

\* The STE is the task used to determine the B2/B1 boundary .

Limit B2- unable to recognize single tumbling E 25M at 1meter. (LogMAR 1.4 is out)

\* The STE is the task used to determine the B3/B2 boundary and confirmed with LogMar ACUITY CHART(big)

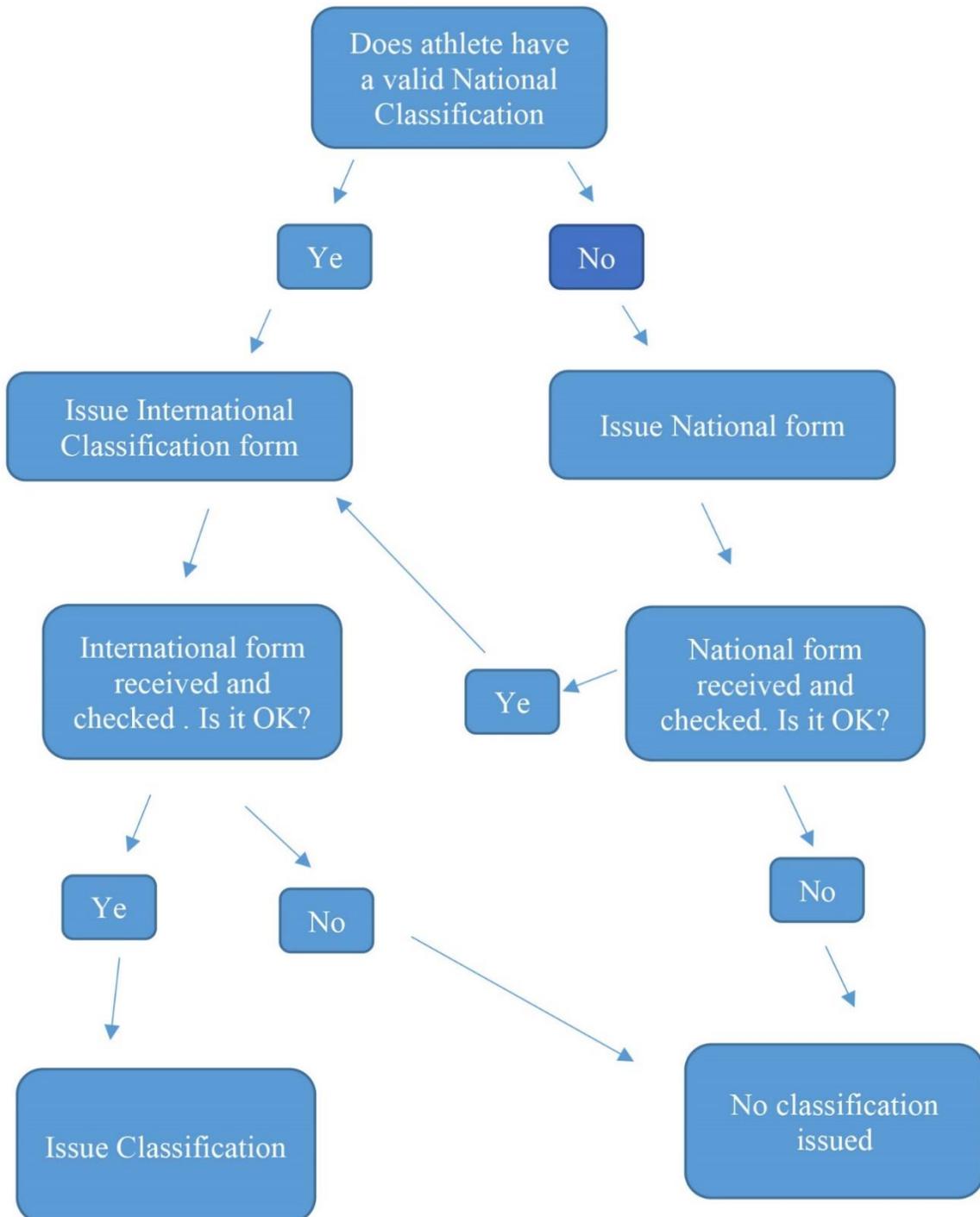
Limit B3- unable to recognize LogMar 0.9 on the chart = 32M LogMAR chart at 4 meters. (LogMAR 0.9 is out)

\* LogMar ACUITY CHART (big) is mandatory to determine "good VA" border of the B3 range (boundary B3/NE)

## World Archery classification process



## World Archery classification process flowchart



## Chart for use by World Archery to determine class

Distance (meters)	0,25	0,5	0,8	1	1,25	1,6	2	2,5	3,2	4	5	6,3	Class
200	2,9 0,0013 2,903	2,6	2,4	2,3	2,2	2,1	2,0	1,9	1,8	1,7	1,6	1,5	B1 B2
125	2,7 0,002 2,699	2,4	2,2	2,1	2,0	1,9	1,8	1,7	1,6	1,5	1,4	1,3	B3
100	2,6 0,0025 2,602	2,3	2,1	2,0	1,9	1,8	1,7	1,6	1,5	1,4	1,3	1,2	
80	2,5 0,0031 2,505	2,2	2,0	1,9	1,8	1,7	1,6	1,5	1,4	1,3	1,2	1,1	
63	2,4 0,004 2,401	2,1	1,9	1,8	1,7	1,6	1,5	1,4	1,3	1,2	1,1	1,0	
50	2,3 0,005 2,301	2,0	1,8	1,7	1,6	1,5	1,4	1,3	1,2	1,1	1,0	0,9 0,126 0,9	
40	2,2 0,0063 2,204	1,9	1,7	1,6	1,5	1,4	1,3	1,2	1,1	1,0	0,9	0,8 0,158 0,803	NE
32	2,1 0,0078 2,107	1,8	1,6	1,5	1,4	1,3	1,2	1,1	1,0	0,9	0,8	0,7 0,197 0,706	
25	2,0 0,01 2,0	1,7	1,5	1,4	1,3	1,2	1,1	1,0	0,9	0,8	0,7	0,6 0,252 0,599	
20	1,9 0,0125 1,903	1,6	1,4	1,3	1,2	1,1	1,0	0,9	0,8	0,7	0,6	0,5 0,315 0,502	
16	1,8 0,0156 1,806	1,5	1,3	1,2	1,1	1,0	0,9	0,8	0,7	0,6	0,5	0,4 0,3938 0,405	
12,5	1,7 0,02 1,699	1,4	1,2	1,1	1,0	0,9	0,8	0,7	0,6	0,5	0,4	0,3 0,504 0,298	
10	1,6 0,025 1,602	1,3	1,1	1,0	0,9	0,8	0,7	0,6	0,5	0,4	0,3	0,2 0,63 0,2	
8	1,5 0,313 1,505	1,2	1,0	0,9	0,8	0,7	0,6	0,5	0,4	0,3	0,2	0,1 0,788 0,104	
6,3	1,4 0,0397 1,401	1,1	0,9	0,8	0,7	0,6	0,5	0,4	0,3	0,2	0,1	0 1,0 0	
5	1,3 0,05 1,301	1,0	0,8	0,7	0,6	0,5	0,4	0,3	0,2	0,1	0	-0,1 -1,26 -0,1	
4	1,2 0,0625 1,204	0,9	0,7	0,6	0,5	0,4	0,3	0,2	0,1	0	-0,1	-0,2 -1,575 -0,198	
3,2	1,1 0,0781 1,107	0,8	0,6	0,5	0,4	0,3	0,2	0,1	0	-0,1	-0,2	-0,3 -1,969 -0,294	
2,5	1,0 0,1 1	0,7	0,5	0,4	0,3	0,2	0,1	0	-0,1	-0,2	-0,3	-0,4 -2,52 -0,401	

Limit B1- unable to recognize single tumbling E 100M at 25cm. (LogMAR 2.6 is out)

\* The STE is the task used to determine the B2/B1 boundary .

Limit B2- unable to recognize single tumbling E 25M at 1meter. (LogMAR 1.4 is out)

\* The STE is the task used to determine the B3/B2 boundary and **confirmed** with LogMar BIG CHART(big)

Limit B3- unable to recognize LogMar 0.9 on the chart = 32M LogMAR chart at 4 meters. (LogMAR 0.9 is out)

\* LogMar BIG CHART (big) is **mandatory** to determine "good VA" border of the B3 range (boundary B3/NE)

## Appendix 3: Application for international re-classification

A form is available on the [World Archery website](#) for any archer who wishes to apply for an international reclassification. This may be required where an archer's condition has changed and both review date athletes and confirmed athletes may apply.

Forms must be filled in by the applicant and returned to the World Archery Office by email with signature of both athlete and the National Member Association

Archers will need to provide their existing classification class and status, date of existing classification, venue where existing classification done and a reason for the reclassification.

### **Important notes:**

**Previous medical intake form and the new medical intake form must be submitted together. The new medical intake form must not be written more than 12 months prior to this application.**

**Please also submit a copy of the existing classification card.**

**If the form is not fully completed by the applicant's Member Association, the application will be refused.**

## Appendix 4: Protests and appeals

### 1. Protests

- 1.1. The term “Protest” is used in these Rules as it is in the [IPC Classification Code International Standard for Protest and Appeals](#). It refers to the procedure by which a formal objection to an Athlete’s Class (W1, W2, Standing) is made and subsequently resolved. There can be no protest over an athlete’s sport class status (Confirmed or Review).
- 1.2. A successful Protest request will result in a further Athlete Evaluation being conducted by a different Classification Panel, which will be referred to as a “Protest Panel”. This re-evaluation should be carried out at the earliest opportunity, but it is recognised this may not be until a later tournament in order to have a different panel carry out the task. Where the protest evaluation has to take place at a later tournament the initial classification will stand.
- 1.3. An Athlete's Class may only be protested ONCE in any Competition. This restriction does not apply to protests submitted in exceptional circumstances through a World Archery protest.
- 1.4. Protests should be resolved in a manner that will minimise the impact on Competition participation and Competition schedules and results. It may be necessary to delay parts/all of the competition and or the publication of the results while the protest is resolved. Any such delay must be made in consultation with the TD, local organising committee and the chairperson of the tournament Judges’ Commission.
- 1.5. Protests may only be submitted during a Competition at which the classification takes place and within the timeframes specified below. Once the time frame has passed NO further protests may be made [save for Protests made by the World Archery Representative in Exceptional Circumstances].

### 2. Protest procedures during competitions

- 2.1. Protests may only be submitted by the Authorized representative of the National Federation who has jurisdiction over the athlete named in the protest.
- 2.2. The Chief International Para Archery Classifier for the event shall be the International Federation representative authorised to receive Protests.
- 2.3. An Athlete's Sport Class may be protested by the Athlete’s National Federation within 30 minutes of the end of the Qualification Round.
- 2.4. The World Archery Classification Protest form must be completed fully and in English.

- 2.5. Copies of all the documents mentioned in the protest form must be included with the protest form or within one hour of it being lodged.
- 2.6. A protest fee of 40 euros or 50 USD must be lodged with the protest form. It will be returned if the protest is upheld or, in circumstances deemed to be of special interest to World Archery, if the protest is lost.

No further protests may be made except “in exceptional circumstances” (See process below).

### 3. Protest procedure

- 3.1. The protest form, accompanying documents and fee will be lodged with the Chief International Para Archery Classifier of the tournament who will conduct a review of the protest.
- 3.2. If, in the view of the Chief International Classifier, the documentation does not support the protest, and/or the conditions of this document have not been met, the protest will be denied
- 3.3. A full report will be provided to all the interested parties at the completion of the review.
- 3.4. If the request to protest is deemed acceptable the current classification status will stand and will be changed to “Review” until the protest evaluation has been completed.
- 3.5. A protest panel will be appointed by the Chief International Para Archery Classifier at the tournament if there are other classifiers available, and the protest evaluation will be conducted. If it is not possible to provide a protest panel at the tournament, the Head of Classification will, in consultation with the athlete’s national body, identify another occasion when a protest panel can be formed. In this case the above procedures will be followed.
- 3.6. A Protest Panel must *not* include any person who was a member of the Classification Panel that:
  - 3.6.1. Made the Protested Decision; or
  - 3.6.2. 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, National Paralympic Committee or International Sport Federation making the Protest
- 3.7. The Chief International Para Archery Classifier will notify all relevant parties of the time and date for the Athlete Evaluation that will be conducted by the Protest Panel.
- 3.8. A formal evaluation permission form must be completed and signed by the athlete concerned which, with the most recent medical intake form, will be provided to the protest panel along with the protest submitted documents.
- 3.9. Once the protest evaluation has been completed the outcome will be communicated to all the affected parties and either the originally designated Sport Class will be

confirmed, or a new Sport Class awarded. Whichever decision is made it will be final and no further protest is permitted.

#### 3.10. Provisions Where No Protest Panel is Available

3.10.1. If a Protest is made at a Competition but there is no opportunity for the Protest to be resolved at that Competition:

3.10.2. The Protested Athlete must be permitted to compete within the Sport Class that is the subject of the Protest with Sport Class Status Review, pending the resolution of the Protest; and

3.10.3. All reasonable steps must be taken to ensure that the Protest is resolved at the earliest opportunity.

3.11. If the protest panel classification designates a “Review Status”, a specific date by which the review evaluation must be completed will be entered on the new classification card.

3.12. A National Federation making a Protest is solely responsible for ensuring that all Protest process requirements are observed.

3.13. The Chief International Para Archery Classifier may decline a Protest if no valid reason for a Protest has been identified by the National Federation, or the Protest form has been submitted without all necessary information.

3.14. The National Federation may resubmit the Protest if it is able to remedy the deficiencies identified by the Chief International Para Archery Classifier in respect of the Protest with in the time allocated [this time will be stated when the forms are returned] all protest procedure requirements will apply.

## 4. World Archery protest (in exceptional circumstances)

The Chief International Classifier, on behalf of World Archery may make a Protest in Exceptional Circumstances in respect of any Athlete at any time during or prior to a Competition.

A Protest in Exceptional circumstances may result from the Chief International Para Archery Classifier identifying:

- A change in the apparent degree of impairment of an Athlete;
- An Athlete demonstrating significantly less or greater ability prior to or during Competition which does not reflect the Athlete’s current Class
- An apparent error made by a Classification Panel which has led to the Athlete being allocated a Class which is not in keeping with the Athlete’s ability.

### **Procedure to be followed:**

The procedure for World Archery initiating an International Sport Federation Protest in Exceptional Circumstances shall be as follows:

- 4.1. The Chief International Para Archery Classifier at the tournament will carefully observe athletes during practice and generally before and after shooting. If, in consultation with the other members of the classification team, an athlete is thought to meet the criteria noted above, the Chief International Para Archery Classifier will advise the relevant National Federation &/or National Paralympic Committee that an International Sport Federation Protest in Exceptional Circumstances has been initiated with regards to (name of athlete)
- 4.2. The PiEC (Protest in Exceptional Circumstances) form found on the World Archery website will be completed in English. Where appropriate in the view of the Chief International Classifier, any photo and/or video evidence may be provided.
- 4.3. A PiEC panel will be appointed by the Chief International Para Archery Classifier at the tournament if there are other classifiers available, and the protest evaluation conducted. The PiEC panel will be made up of two classifiers of equal or greater status and experience than the original panel. The Members of the Protest Panel must not have been involved in the evaluation that led to the most recent allocation of the Athlete's Class, unless the most recent evaluation took place more than eighteen (18) months prior to the Protest being submitted.
- 4.4. The Chief International Para Archery Classifier will notify all relevant parties of the time and date for the Athlete Evaluation that will be conducted by the PiEC Panel.
- 4.5. A formal evaluation permission form must be completed and signed by the athlete concerned which, with the most recent medical intake form, will be provided to the PiEC panel.
- 4.6. Once the protest evaluation has been completed the outcome will be communicated to all the affected parties and either the originally designated Sport Class will be confirmed, or a new Sport Class awarded. Whichever decision is made it will be final and no further protest is permitted.
- 4.7. If the PiEC panel classification assigns a "Review Status", a specific date by which the review evaluation must be completed will be entered on the new classification card.

**If it is not possible to provide a protest panel at the tournament, the Head of Classification will, in consultation with the athlete's national body, identify another occasion when a PiEC panel can be formed. In this case the above procedures will be followed.**

## 5. Appeals

The term "appeal" refers to a procedure by which a formal objection to the manner in which classification procedures have been conducted and how it may be subsequently resolved.

World Archery has identified the IPC Board of Appeal for Classification (BAC) as its Appeal authority.

[International Standard for Protests and Appeals](#)

[IPC Handbook, Section 1, Chapter 2.8](#)