

29. APPENDIX G: PARATRIATHLON CLASSIFICATION:

1. General:

1.1 The IPC Athlete Classification Code (the Code):

- a) Applies to all members of the Paralympic Movement and to all athletes competing in Paralympic sport at international competitions under the jurisdiction of the international sport federations, ITU in this case;
- b) The Code is the fundamental document upon which classification in the Paralympic Movement must be based. The purpose is to uphold confidence in classification and promote participation by a wide range of athletes. To achieve this purpose, the Code details policies and procedures common across all sports and sets principles to be applied by all Paralympic sports. The Code is intended to be specific enough to achieve harmonization on classification where standardization is required and general enough in other areas to permit flexibility regarding the implementation of its principles;
- c) The Code is supplemented by international standards that provide the technical and operational requirements for classification. These form the basis of the Classification Rules for all Paralympic sports;
- d) ITU Constitution and ITU Competition Rules are compliant with the IPC Code of Ethics; (www.paralympic.org/the-ipc/handbook)
- e) ITU is committed to developing an evidence-based classification system through coordinated research, according to the IPC Code and research practices;
- f) Classification research is multi-disciplinary, including biomechanics, kinesiology and physiology, where appropriate;
- g) IPC is playing a major role in the review and application of classification research and the coordination of any research conducted in the associated disciplines.

1.2 ITU Paratriathlon Classification Rules:

- a) These rules are an integral part of the ITU Competition Rules and are intended to implement the provisions of the IPC Classification Code for the sport of Paratriathlon;
- b) These rules shall apply to:
 - (i). All athletes and athlete support personnel, who are registered with ITU, as defined in the ITU Competition Rules;
 - (ii). All athletes and athlete support personnel participating in such capacity in ITU events and competitions recognized by ITU or any of its members or affiliate organizations or licensees.
- c) It is the individual responsibility of athletes, athlete support personnel and classification personnel to acquaint themselves with all of the requirements of these rules, the IPC Classification Code - IPC Handbook, Section 2, Chapter 1.3 – and the other sections of the IPC Handbook that apply to classification, including the IPC Position Statement on Background and Scientific Rationale for Classification in Paralympic Sport (see IPC Handbook, Section 2, Chapter 4.4). (www.paralympic.org/the-ipc/handbook)

1.3 Definition and Purpose:

- a) These ITU Classification Rules provide a framework within which the process of "Classification" will take place;

- b) The term "Classification" refers to a structure for competition, the aim of which is to ensure that an athlete's impairment is relevant to sport performance, and to ensure that athletes compete equitably with each other;
- c) The purpose of classification is to minimize the impact of eligible impairment types on the outcome of competition, so that athletes who succeed in competition are those with best anthropometry, physiology and psychology, and who have enhanced them to best effect;
- d) Classification is defined as grouping athletes into sport classes according to how much their impairment affects fundamental activities in each specific sport or discipline;
- e) These Classification Rules include provisions related to:
 - (i). Eligible Impairments and Minimum Impairment Criteria (in accordance with the International Standard for Eligible Impairments);
 - (ii). Athlete Evaluation, Sport Class and Sport Class Status allocation (in accordance with the International Standard for Athlete Evaluation);
 - (iii). Protests and Appeals (in accordance with the International Standard for Protests and Appeals);
 - (iv). Classifier Personnel and Training (in accordance with the International Standard for Classifier Personnel and Training);
 - (v). Data Protection (in accordance with the International Standard for Classification Data protection).

1.4 International Classification:

- a) All athletes must have an International Classification in order to compete at an ITU event;
- b) Athlete evaluation that is conducted in full compliance with these rules at ITU events is referred to as international classification. ITU will only recognize Sport Class and Sport Class Status if allocated by way of international classification;
- c) ITU will provide athletes with an opportunity to undertake international classification by appointing classifiers certified pursuant to conduct athlete evaluation at ITU events, and by providing reasonable notice of such international classification opportunities to athletes and National Federations;
- d) International classification will determine eligibility to compete by type of impairment and severity of impairment;
- e) An athlete will only be permitted to undergo international classification if he or she:
 - (i). is registered according to ITU Competition Rules, and
 - (ii). has been entered in an ITU event or competition recognized by ITU where international classification is taking place or has entered a recognized classification opportunity by ITU.

1.5 Classification Master List:

- a) ITU shall maintain a Classification Master List, which shall include at the very least each internationally classified athlete's name, year of birth, country, sport class, sport class status;
- b) The ITU Classification Master List will be available on the ITU website under http://www.triathlon.org/about/downloads_category/paratriathlon.

2. Classification personnel: ITU shall appoint the following classification personnel, each of whom will have a key role in administration, organization and execution of classification.

2.1 Classifier:

- a) An individual authorized as a Technical Official by ITU to determine an athlete's sports class and sports class status, while serving as a member of a classification panel, in accordance with the ITU Competition Rules;
- b) An ITU International Paratriathlon Classifier must be trained and certified by ITU or by the International Blind Sports Association (IBSA);
- c) Classifiers may be former Athletes or coaches, sports scientists, physical educators and medical professionals, all of whom have the competencies and qualifications relevant to conduct all or specific parts of Athlete Evaluation, according to the rules of the ITU.

2.2 Classification Panel:

- a) A Classification Panel is appointed by the Head of Classification in collaboration with Sport Department for a particular competition to determine the eligibility, the Sport Class and Sport Class Status of the athletes competing in that event under ITU Competition Rules;
- b) Classification panels should include a minimum of two classifiers, in which at least one medical classifier must be present;
- c) In exceptional circumstances, a panel may be set up with only one (1) medical classifier. In this case, the athletes can only be allocated a Review sport class status;
- d) Host National Federations may request to have up to two (2) observers for classification procedures per event. Approval will be pending the presence of trainee classifiers who will have priority;
- e) Protest opportunities for athlete's sport classes are only available at ITU competitions when two (2) classification panels are available. The Chief Classifier may be a member of one of the panels.

2.3 Head of Classification:

- a) The Head of Classification (HoC) is a classifier who together with the Sport Department, is responsible for the direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of classification matters for ITU;
- b) The Head of Classification is appointed by the ITU Executive Board from the proposal made by the Paratriathlon Committee following the quadrennial elections;
- c) The Head of Classification and the ITU Sport Department can also delegate tasks to specific senior classifiers or appointed persons to assist with the specific responsibilities of the Head of Classification.

2.4 Deputy Head of Classification:

- a) The Deputy Head of Classification (DHoC) is a classifier who can when required assume the roles and responsibilities of the Head of Classification including taking responsibility for ITU Sports Department related matters;
- b) The Deputy Head of Classification is appointed by the ITU Executive Board from the proposal made by the Paratriathlon Committee following the quadrennial elections.

2.5 Process to appoint Head of Classification and Deputy Head of Classification:

- a) After the appointment of a Paratriathlon Committee, ITU will request National Federations to make nominations for the positions of Head of Classification and Deputy Head of Classification from the ITU Level 2 senior classifiers. The Paratriathlon Committee will make a recommendation to the Executive Board for a formal appointment of each position;
- b) Each of the Head of Classification and Deputy Head of Classification positions will have the same term duration as the active Paratriathlon Committee;
- c) The ITU Executive Board may replace these appointed individuals after 1 year of service.

2.6 Chief Classifier:

- a) The Chief Classifier is a classifier responsible for the direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of classification matters for a specific competition;
- b) The Head of Classification in conjunction with the Sport Department is responsible for appointing the Chief Classifier for ITU Events;
- c) The Chief Classifier supervises classifiers to ensure that the classification rules are applied appropriately during a specific competition;
- d) The Chief Classifier manages protest procedures.

2.7 Trainee Classifier:

- a) A trainee classifier is a person who is in the process for formal training by ITU;
- b) National Federations may nominate ITU certified national classifiers as trainees in order to follow the pathway to become international classifiers;
- c) ITU may appoint trainee classifiers, if supported by their respective National Federation, in order for them to be certified as a classifier;
- d) A trainee classifier may participate in some or all components of athlete evaluation under the supervision of a classification panel in order to develop the necessary competencies and proficiencies to be certified by ITU as a Level 1 Classifier.

2.8 Classifier Competencies, Qualifications and Responsibilities:

- a) Classifiers shall be:
 - (i). Medical classifiers: medical and/or health professionals. For example: licensed medical doctors, physiotherapists, occupational therapists that have experience in standard muscle power testing procedures and assessment of neurological impairments;
 - (ii). Technical classifiers: sports specific and/or technical experts for example sport scientists, coaches, physical educators, experts in human movements' science or equivalent. Must have knowledge of the technical aspects of the sport of triathlon.
- b) Candidates must submit evidence of their relevant qualification with their CV;
- c) Candidates must have experience in the sport or classify nationally for their National Federation;
- d) All candidates must undergo the IPC Academy's course for Introduction to Para Sport; <http://ipc-academy.org> and <http://ipc-academy.org/?academy=1&course=47>

- e) In accordance with the ITU Classifier Education and Certification System, there are 4 levels of classifiers:
 - (i). National Classifier (NC);
 - (ii). Trainee Classifier (CT);
 - (iii). Level 1 International Classifier (Senior);
 - (iv). Level 2 International Classifier (Senior).

2.9 Classifier Code of Conduct:

- a) The integrity of Classification in para-sport depends on the professional conduct of Classification Personnel;
- b) All classifiers must adhere to the IPC Classification Code of Ethics; (http://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/document/141113161026885_2014_10_08+Sec+ii+chapter+1_1_IPC+Code+of+Ethics.pdf) to:
 - (i). Act as neutral evaluators in determining Sport Class and Sport Class Status for all athletes;
 - (ii). Perform their duties courteously, respectfully, competently, consistently and objectively for all Athletes and their support personnel;
 - (iii). Have respect for the ITU Competition Rules;
 - (iv). Have respect for their colleagues;
 - (v). Have an understanding of the consequence of non-compliance with the ITU Competition rules;
 - (vi). Maintain confidentiality of Athlete Evaluation information in accordance with the International Standard for Classification Data Protection;
 - (vii). Declare any actual, perceived or potential conflicts of interest; and
 - (viii). Must not assume any other role and responsibility that conflicts with their duties as Classification Personnel at a competition and avoid taking on any other roles and responsibilities at competitions where they are acting as classifiers. For example, a classifier must not act as a competition technical official, such as a judge or have any other role with their National Federation or International Federation.

3. Eligible impairments:

3.1 Paratriathlon Eligibility:

To be eligible in Paratriathlon, an athlete must:

- a) Provide evidence that they have a medically diagnosed underlying health condition that is permanent and meets one of the IPC eligible impairment types included in Paratriathlon;
- b) Meet the ITU minimal impairment criteria for Paratriathlon whereby the relevant eligible impairment has an impact on sport performance.

3.2 Eligible Impairments and Commonly Associate Health Conditions:

Impairment Type	Examples of Health Conditions that may cause such impairment.
Impaired muscle power	Spinal cord injury, muscular dystrophy, brachial plexus injury, Erbs palsy, polio, spina bifida, Guillian – Barre syndrome.

Impaired passive range of movement	Ankyloses, arthrogyriposis, post burns joint contractures. Does not include hypermobility of joints.
Limb deficiency	Amputation resulting from trauma or congenital limb deficiency (dysmelia).
Hypertonia	Cerebral palsy, brain injury, stroke, multiple sclerosis.
Ataxia	Cerebral palsy, brain injury, multiple sclerosis, Friedrichs ataxia, spinocerebellar ataxia.
Athetosis	Cerebral palsy, stroke, brain injury.
Vision Impairment	Myopia, tunnel vision, scotoma, retinitis pigmentosa, glaucoma, macular degeneration, congenital cataract.

a) Examples of certain health conditions that do not lead to Eligible Impairments are:

- (i). Health conditions that primarily cause pain, such as myofascial pain-dysfunction syndrome, fibromyalgia or complex regional pain syndrome;
- (ii). Health Conditions that primarily cause fatigue, such as chronic fatigue syndrome;
- (iii). Health Conditions that primarily cause joint hypermobility or hypotonia, such as Ehlers-Danlos syndrome;
- (iv). Health Conditions which are primarily psychological or psychosomatic in nature, such as conversion disorders or post-traumatic stress disorder;
- (v). Health conditions that cause a hearing impairment, impairment of muscle endurance, impairment of motor reflex function, cardiovascular or respiratory impairment, impairment of metabolic function, tics, mannerisms and motor perseveration.

3.3 Establishing Eligible Impairment:

- a) The athlete's National Federation must initiate the process, on behalf of an athlete, by providing medical documentation and any other records to the ITU Head of Classification, or representative, so that the existence of the Eligible Impairment can be verified;
- b) Every athlete requiring classification must submit to the ITU, through its National Federation, no later than six (6) weeks prior the competition, the Physical Impairment (PI) or Vision Impairment (VI) Medical Diagnostics Form and all relevant medical documents. This must also be presented at time of classification, as outlined in section 5.2.

4. Minimum impairment criteria (MIC):

4.1 Evidence Based Classification System: The Paratriathlon classification system is based on evidence and science:

- a) It has been developed with the clear purpose to minimize the impact that impairments have on the outcome of competition through the activity of Paratriathlon;
- b) To evaluate the level of impact eligible impairments, have on the performance in Paratriathlon, classifiers assess body functions through a physical assessment (muscle power or neurological assessment) and technical assessment (functional abilities

profile). These processes will determine whether an athlete meets the Minimal Impairment Criteria (MIC) for paratriathlon;

- c) ITU uses a point system and a weighting factor for classification of athletes with a physical impairment for each discipline of the sport (swimming, cycling and running). The total score determines the athlete's sport class;
- d) ITU follow the IBSA Classification MIC guidelines for athletes with vision impairment.

4.2 Physical Impairments:

- a) PTS2-PTS5 (Ambulant Athletes): The maximum possible score in the assessment would correspond to an athlete with full muscle power in the physical assessment and a full score in the Functional Abilities Profile (FAP). This is a value of 1280. The score of 1212 represents the minimal impairment criteria (MIC) in Paratriathlon for all physical impairments from PTS2 to PTS5 sport classes. The MIC is equivalent to an athlete with the complete loss of a hand or throughout the wrist amputation;
- b) PTHC (Wheelchair users): The maximum possible score in the assessment would correspond to an athlete with full muscle power in the PTHC physical assessment and a full score in the PTHC Functional Athlete Profile (FAP). This is a value of 667.15. The score of 640.0 represents the minimal impairment criteria in paratriathlon for all physical impairments that fall under the PTHC sport class. It is equivalent to a bilateral above the knee amputee with prosthesis in competition. The score of MP 463 together with specific trunk and hip scores and functional tests determine the allocation into H1 or H2 sub-classes.

4.3 Vision Impairments (PTVI):

- a) B1: Visual acuity poorer than LogMAR 2.60;
- b) B2: Visual acuity ranging from LogMAR 1.50 to 2.60 (inclusive) and/or visual field constricted to a diameter of less than 10 degrees;
- c) B3: Visual acuity ranging from LogMAR 1.40 to 1 (inclusive) and/or visual field constricted to a diameter of less than 40 degrees.

4.4 Paratriathlon Sport Class MIC:

Sport Class	Description	Range of Scoring
PTHC	Athletes who predominantly use a wheelchair for their daily ambulation. Includes athletes with comparable activity limitation and an impairment of, but not limited to: muscle power, limb deficiency, hypertonia, ataxia, and Athetosis. Common health conditions could include spinal cord lesions, above knee amputee, severe cerebral palsy Athletes must use a recumbent hand-cycle on the bike course and a racing wheelchair on the run segment. It is divided into two subclasses, H1 which is the most impaired and H2 which is the least impaired.	Max 640 points
PTS2	Includes athletes with comparable activity limitation and an impairment of, but not limited to, limb deficiency, hypertonia, ataxia and or athetosis, impaired muscle power or range of movement. Common health Conditions could include a complete brachial plexus, above elbow amputee, double below knee amputee, severe cerebral palsy. In both bike and run	Max 909,9 points

	segments, amputee athletes may use approved prosthesis or other supportive devices.	
PTS₃	Includes athletes with comparable activity limitation and an impairment of, but not limited to, limb deficiency, hypertonia, ataxia and or athetosis, impaired muscle power or range of movement. Common health conditions could include partial brachial plexus, moderate multiple limb impairments, moderate cerebral palsy. In both bike and run segments, the athlete may use approved prosthesis or other supportive devices.	From 910,0 to 979,9 points
PTS₄	Includes athletes with comparable activity limitation and an impairment of, but not limited to, limb deficiency, hypertonia, ataxia and or athetosis, impaired muscle power or range of movement. Common health conditions could include a below knee amputee, below elbow amputee and mild cerebral palsy. In both bike and run segments, the athlete may use approved prosthesis or other supportive devices.	From 980,0 to 1091,9 points included
PTS₅	Includes athletes with comparable activity limitation and an impairment of, but not limited to, limb deficiency, hypertonia, ataxia and or athetosis, impaired muscle power or range of movement. Common health conditions could include a below knee amputee, below elbow amputee and mild cerebral palsy. In both bike and run segments, the athlete may use approved prosthesis or other supportive devices.	From 1092,0 to 1211,9 points included
PTVI	Total or Partial Visual Impairment (IBSA/IPC defined sub-classes B ₁ , B ₂ , and B ₃): To be eligible, athletes must meet the criteria outlined in section 4.3: (i). One guide is mandatory throughout the race. Must ride a tandem during the bike segment.	

5. Athlete evaluation:

5.1 Definition:

- a) Athlete Evaluation is the process by which an athlete is assessed by a classification panel in order for the athlete to be allocated a Sport Class and a Sport Class Status;
- b) The allocation of a Sport Class must be based on an evaluation by a classification panel of the extent to which the athlete's impairment affects the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport. This evaluation must take place in a controlled non-competitive environment which allows for the repeated observation of key tasks and activities;
- c) A Sport Class must be allocated based solely on the impact that Eligible Impairment has on the fundamental tasks and activities of the sport. Although other factors such as low fitness level, poor technical proficiency and aging may also affect the fundamental tasks and activities of the sport, allocation of Sport Class must not be affected by these factors.

5.2 Athlete responsibilities:

- a) Athletes who undergo classification will need to report to the classification panel at their designated time;

- b) Athletes must provide the classification panel with a copy of the ITU Physical Impairment (PI) Medical Diagnostic Form”, completed by their medical doctor, or the “ITU Visual impairment (VI) Medical Diagnostic Form”, completed by an ophthalmologist;
- c) A passport sized photo must be submitted;
- d) It is mandatory for athletes who have one or more of the medical conditions highlighted on page two of the PI Medical Diagnostics Form, to submit relevant and recent medical information. This could include, but should not be limited to: medical letters and reports detailing medical history, results of radiological examinations, and other diagnostic tests relevant to the athlete’s medical condition. Athletes who have multiple Sclerosis must include an MRI;
- e) Failure to report for classification at the designated time, without reasonable explanation to the chief classifier, will result in the athlete not being classified and not being able to compete at the Paratriathlon event;
- f) Failure to provide the required medical documentation during classification, by athletes who have a health condition that presents as a permanent eligible impairment type, (refer to section 3.2), will result in the athlete being allocated a status of “PCS” (Provisional Classification Status) for that event. In order to retain and preserve any results, ranking or award, associated with that event, an athlete allocated with a PCS will need to submit all completed documents to ITU within 30 days after the race;
- g) Failure to provide the required medical documentation during classification where there the athlete does not have evidence of an eligible impairment type, the athlete’s classification will be suspended and the athlete will be allocated a status of “Classification not Complete” (CNC), and will not be able to compete at any ITU event until classification is complete. (Refer to section 5.7.);
- h) Athletes must dress appropriately in sports clothes and bring all supportive equipment (prosthesis, orthoses, slings, crutches etc.) to the classification appointment, and their bike, or hand bike and racing wheelchair;
- i) English is the official language for the classification assessments. Athletes must be accompanied by an interpreter (if English is not their first or commonly spoken language);
- j) All athletes must present a true and accurate medical and sporting history and must cooperate fully in the examination process and observation phase of classification. Non-cooperation may lead to sanctions, as explained in sections 5.8;
- k) An athlete must disclose the use of any medication and/or medical devise/implant to the classification panel and be currently taking, at time of classification, all medication that will be used during competition.

5.3 Athlete Evaluation Process: The Athlete Evaluation process consists of the following:

- a) An assessment of whether or not the athlete has an Eligible Impairment for the sport;
- b) An assessment of whether or not an athlete complies with Minimum Impairment Criteria for the sport which involves an assessment and evaluation of the severity of the impairment and the extent to which the athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport:
 - (i). Physical Assessment: The classification panel will conduct a physical assessment of the athlete, to establish whether the athlete’s health condition presents as an

eligible physical or visual impairment type and meets the relevant Minimum Impairment Criteria;

- (ii). Technical Assessment: The Classification Panel will conduct a Technical Assessment of the athlete which may include, but is not limited to, an assessment of the athlete's physical ability to perform, in a non-competitive environment, specific tasks and activities that are part of triathlon.
- c) If required, Observation in Competition Assessment may be conducted to ensure that the outcome of the athlete's physical and technical assessments is reflected in the athlete's ability to perform in the competition;
- d) The observation in competition period begins upon arrival at the competition venue on race day and until the end of competition;
- e) If changes to an Athlete Sport Class or Sport Class Status are made following Observation in Competition Assessment, the changes are effective immediately. ITU must give considerations to the impact any such changes on results and prizes;
- f) The allocation of a Sport Class and designation of a Sport Class Status;
- g) A Classification Panel is undertaking Athlete Evaluation may at any stage seek medical, technical or scientific opinion, with the agreement of the Head of Classification and/or the Chief Classifier. This expertise may only be sought if the Classification Panel feels that such expertise is necessary in order that it can allocate a Sport Class or solve athlete evaluation related queries;
- h) Video footage, photography or other multimedia material may be utilized by the Classification Panel/s during the evaluation period for all classification purposes connected to the competition. The evaluation period is from the start of classification assessment to the end of competition and the allocation of Sports Class and Sports Class Status.

5.4 Pre-Competition Evaluation:

- a) The Sport Department in conjunction with the Chief Classifier, the Technical Delegate and the Local Organising Committee will coordinate and develop a classification schedule ensuring that all classifications will take place before the athletes' race briefing. A period of time shall be set aside for possible Classification Protests;
- b) As soon as a National Federation has registered an athlete to an event, the ITU Sport Department will confirm the athletes' class and status based on the ITU Classification Master List. All those with New (N) or Review (R) or Provisional Classification Status (PCS) or those protested shall be assigned a classification appointment. ITU Sport Department will communicate the classification appointment (venue, assigned times) to the athletes' National Federation, the Head of Classification, the assigned Chief Classifier, the Local Organising Committee and the assigned Technical Delegate;
- c) An average of sixty (60) minute periods shall be designated for each appointment (with adequate meal times and breaks scheduled for the classifiers).

5.5 Athlete Presentation:

- a) The athlete, and their accompanying support staff, will report to classification reception 30 minutes prior to the designated time;
- b) Athlete identification will be verified;
- c) Required medical documentation will be checked and appropriate documentation completed;

- d) Athletes must attend classification with all competition equipment, including bicycles, hand bikes and racing wheelchairs (as outlined in section 5.2);
- e) The athlete will be checked for appropriate sports attire and equipment requirements in accordance with the ITU Competition Rules;
- f) Athletes can only compete with prostheses, orthoses or special adaptive equipment that have been checked and approved during the Classification Procedure;
- g) Athletes may be accompanied by no more than one representative of their National Federation. It is mandatory to have a representative from their National Federation if the athlete is under 18 years of age. An athlete's representative shall not speak during the classification process, unless directed to do so by the classifiers.

5.6 Athlete Failure to Attend/Refuses Evaluation:

- a) If an athlete fails to attend evaluation, the athlete will not be allocated a Sport Class or Sport Class Status, and will not be permitted to compete at that competition;
- b) Should the Chief Classifier be satisfied that a reasonable explanation exists for the failure to attend the evaluation, an athlete will be given a second and final chance to attend the evaluation, if time allows;
- c) Failure to attend evaluation includes:
 - Not attending the evaluation at the specified time or place;
 - Not attending the evaluation with the appropriate equipment/clothing and/or medical documentation.
- d) The athlete has a right to terminate the classification process at any time. If this occurs, that athlete will be withdrawn from the competition;
- e) If any athlete refuses to be classified, this will automatically exclude them from competition.

5.7 Suspension of Athlete Evaluation-Classifications Not Completed (CNC):

- a) An athlete's classification will be suspended and will be considered not completed if the process of classification cannot be completed for one of, but not limited to, the following:
 - (i). A failure on the part of the athlete to comply with any part of the relevant Classification Rules;
 - (ii). A failure on the part of the Athlete to provide any medical information that is reasonably required by the Classification Panel;
 - (iii). Insufficient medical information to give evidence of an athlete's impairment;
 - (iv). The Classification Panel believes that the use (or non-use) of any medication and/or medical procedures/device/implant disclosed by the Athlete will affect the ability to conduct Athlete Evaluation in a fair manner;
 - (v). The athlete has a health condition that may limit or prohibit complying with requests by the Classification Panel during Athlete Evaluation, which the Classification Panel considers will affect its ability to conduct Athlete Evaluation in a fair manner, for example pain;
 - (vi). If an athlete is unable to communicate effectively with the Classification Panel;
 - (vii). If in the reasonable opinion of the Classification Panel the athlete is physically or mentally unable to comply with the instructions of the Classification Panel;

- (viii). The athlete's representation of his or her abilities is inconsistent with any information available to the Classification Panel to such an extent that Athlete Evaluation cannot be conducted in a fair manner;
- (ix). The athlete failed to attend one or more components of the classification evaluation;
- (x). Force majeure circumstances.

b) An athlete, whose class cannot be completed, will not be permitted to compete at that event or until classification has been completed;

c) If Athlete Evaluation is suspended by a Classification Panel, the following steps must be taken:

(i). An explanation for the suspension and details of the remedial action that is required on the part of the athlete will be provided to the athlete and/or the relevant National Federation;

(ii). If an Athlete takes the remedial action to the satisfaction of the Chief Classifier or Head of Classification, Athlete Evaluation will be resumed;

(iii). If the athlete fails to comply and does not take the remedial action within any timeframe specified, Athlete Evaluation will be terminated, and the athlete must be precluded from competing at any competition until Athlete Evaluation is completed.

5.8 Non-Cooperation during evaluation:

- a) An athlete who, in the opinion of the Classification Panel, is unwilling to participate in the evaluation shall be considered as being non-cooperative during evaluation;
- b) If the athlete fails to co-operate during the evaluation, they will not be allocated a Sport Class or Sport Class Status, and will not be permitted to compete in the competition;
- c) Should the Chief Classifier be satisfied that a reasonable explanation exists for the failure to co-operate during the evaluation, an athlete may be given a second and final opportunity to attend and co-operate or offered to voluntarily stop the classification process;
- d) The ITU will not permit any athlete found to have been non-cooperative during an evaluation to undergo any further evaluation for a minimum of six (6) months, starting from the date upon which the athlete failed to co-operate.

5.9 Intentional Misrepresentation of Skills and/or Abilities:

- a) An athlete, or athlete support personnel, who, in the opinion of the Classification Panel, is intentionally misrepresenting skills and/or abilities, will be warned of the consequences of misrepresentation. If the athlete, or athlete support personnel, continues presenting in such a manner they shall be considered in violation of the ITU Competition Rules;
- b) If the athlete, or athlete support personnel, intentionally misrepresents skills and/or abilities, the athlete will not be allocated a Sport Class or Sport Class Status and will not be permitted to compete at that competition;
- c) The Chief Classifier shall inform the ITU Sport Department of the athlete's, or athlete's support personnel, intentional misrepresentation and provide all the evidence in a detailed report;

- d) ITU may consider any of the following actions:
 - (i). Not allow the athlete to undergo any further evaluation for that competition and be removed from the start list;
 - (ii). At the next opportunity the same athlete undergoes classification, if misrepresentation is reported by the classification panel, ITU will not allow the athlete to undergo any further evaluation for a minimum of two (2) years from the date upon which the athlete intentionally misrepresented skills and/or abilities;
 - (iii). Remove any Sport Class or Sport Class Status allocated to the athlete from the Classification Master List;
 - (iv). Designate the athlete as IM (intentional misrepresentation) in the Classification Master List;
 - (v). Officially communicate the incident to the corresponding National Federation through written communication.

5.10 Consequences for Athlete Support Personnel:

- a) The ITU shall enforce sanctions on the personnel supporting the athlete, who assist or encourage an athlete to fail to attend their evaluation, to fail to cooperate, intentionally to misrepresent skills and/or abilities or disrupt the evaluation process in any other way;
- b) Those who are involved in advising any athlete intentionally to misrepresent skills and/or abilities are subject to sanctions that will be as severe as the sanctions enforced on the athlete;
- c) In this circumstance, reporting the athlete's support personnel to appropriate parties is an important step in deterring intentional misrepresentation by any party.

5.11 Sport Class Allocation:

- a) A Sport Class will be allocated to an athlete by a Classification Panel following athlete evaluation;
- b) The decision of the Classification Panel to allocate a Sport Class is final and subject to challenge only as prescribed under a protest or appeal;
- c) A Sport Class that enables an athlete to compete in triathlon will be allocated if that athlete has an Eligible Impairment and meets the Minimum Impairment Criteria set by ITU;
- d) If an athlete does not have an Eligible Impairment or has an eligible impairment which does not comply with the Minimal Disability Criteria, he or she will not be eligible to compete in triathlon. If an athlete is not eligible to compete he or she will be allocated the Non-Eligible Sport Class.

5.12 Sport Class Non-Eligibility (NE):

- a) If ITU determines that an athlete has:
 - (i). A health condition that does not lead to an Eligible Impairment or;
 - (ii). An impairment that is not eligible.ITU will allocate that athlete the Sports class Non-Eligible (NE) and the athlete will not have the right to have this determination reviewed.
- b) If an ITU Classification panel allocates a Sports Class of NE on the basis that the athlete does not comply with the Minimal Impairment Criteria, the athlete must be reviewed

by a second classification panel as soon as practicably possible. Pending any such second assessment, the athlete is allocated a Sports Class NE and designated a Sports class Status of review, the athlete is not permitted to compete until such reassessment. The ITU will communicate to the athlete and National Federation the next available opportunity for classification review;

- c) None of the classifiers involved in the first NE allocation should be involved in the resolution by a second panel;
- d) NE Confirmed (C) status will be assigned if the second panel also determined the athlete's class as Non-Eligible. If there is a change in medical condition, athletes may submit a Medical Review Request according to section 5.19;
- e) If an athlete is allocated a sports class NE, it must not be inferred that the athlete does not have an impairment, but rather, the athlete's impairment and activity limitation is not severe enough to be eligible for Paratriathlon. That athlete may well be eligible to compete within another sport, subject to evaluation in that sport.

5.13 Sport Class Status:

- a) A Sport Class Status is allocated to an athlete to indicate athlete evaluation requirements and protest opportunities after the assessment;
- b) The designation of a Sport Class Status assists in identifying athletes who:
 - (i). Have not previously been classified (New – N);
 - (ii). Require a review of their sport class (Review – R);
 - (iii). Already have a recognized Sport Class (Confirmed – C);
 - (iv). Provisional classification status (PCS);
 - (v). Under Protest.

5.14 Allocation of Sport Class Status:

- a) New (N):
 - (i). Sport Class Status N is assigned to an athlete that has not been previously evaluated by an international Classification Panel and has not had an entry Sport Class verified by the ITU;
 - (ii). Sports Class Status N includes athletes who have been allocated a Sport Class by their National Federation for entry purposes;
 - (iii). Sports Class Status N athletes must undergo classification evaluation before competing at an ITU Event. The athlete's Sports Class is still subject to protest according to ITU Paratriathlon first appearance (in competition) requirements.
- b) Review (R):
 - (i). Sport Class Status R is assigned to an athlete if the Classification Panel believes that further Athlete Evaluation is required before an athlete can be given a Confirmed Sports Class Status. Such reasons could include but not limited to:
 - Athlete has a fluctuating impairment;
 - Athlete has not reached maturity;
 - Athlete has a new injury or medical condition or hasn't developed the necessary skills for the sport and therefore the athlete's best functional abilities aren't presented.

This will ensure such Athletes have time to develop the necessary skills for the sport so the athlete's best functional abilities can be presented;

- (ii). The athlete's Sports Class is still subject to protest, according to ITU Paratriathlon first appearance requirements. This includes athletes who are protested, but for whom no second panel is available at the competition, or athletes who have been reassessed after protest, but who have not been observed in competition by a second panel (PR);
 - (iii). Athlete has had a medical review request approved (MR);
 - (iv). Athletes with Sport Class NE remain non-eligible with a Review status until a second classification panel is able to examine the athlete (NE-R);
 - (v). R status must be assigned to athletes who are assessed by a panel composed of only one classifier;
 - (vi). Sports Class Status R Athletes (with no fixed review) must complete evaluation prior to competing at ITU events;
 - (vii). A Classification Panel may designate an Athlete's Sport Class with Sport Class Review with a Fixed Review Date (FRD). An Athlete with Sport Class Status Review (FRD) is required to complete Athlete Evaluation at the first opportunity after the relevant fixed date and is not able to be protested until this time;
 - (viii). If ITU changes the criteria or methodology used to allocate Sport Classes, it may re-designate Athletes with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C) and Athletes with Sport Class Status with Fixed Review Date (FRD) as being Sport Class Status Review (R).
- c) Confirmed (C):
- (i). Sport Class Status C is assigned to an athlete if he/she has been previously evaluated by an international Classification Panel and the panel has determined that the athlete's Sport Class will not change;
 - (ii). ITU recognizes that athletes with Sport Class C are not required to complete evaluation prior to competition and their sport class will not be altered before or during competition, except in the case of a protest lodged by ITU.

5.15 Remote Assessment of Eligible Impairment:

- a) If an athlete is attending an event where no classification is offered, he/she will be able to obtain a Provisional Classification Status (PCS) from ITU and will need to provide the required Provisional Classification form and Medical Diagnosis form no later than four weeks' prior the competition. If the athlete has a health condition that presents as a permanent eligible impairment type, the athlete will receive a PCS status;
- b) For the athlete to preserve the results and ranking points achieved in the current season, he/she must attend an ITU classification opportunity in that season;
- c) An athlete with a Provisional Classification Status will have no protest opportunities.

5.16 First Appearance:

- a) First Appearance for N and R Sports Class Status athletes is defined as the first time the athlete competes in the ITU event where they are being classified;
- b) Athletes with N or R status cannot be allocated a C Status, until they have completed the First Appearance, in order to allow the classifiers and other paratriathletes/nations to:
 - (i). Observe the athlete in competition and complete the classification evaluation;

- (ii). Protest the allocated Sports Class provided the athlete has not already been protested by any of the parties under section (6.2).

5.17 Reporting of Classification Results:

- a) ITU Classification Evaluation Cards completed at an ITU event should be signed by all of the members in the Classification Panel and the athlete;
- b) The Chief Classifier has the responsibility to inform all relevant parties of the outcomes of Athlete Evaluation after each of the classification sessions;
- c) Once the Classification Panel has allocated the Sport Class, verbal notification of the athlete's Sports Class is provided to the athlete. If the athlete decides not to sign the form, it is considered that the athlete has been informed in person about the outcome of classification;
- d) A Confirmed or Review Sports Class Status can only be allocated after the First Appearance has been completed;
- e) The Chief Classifier must liaise with the Race Referee to ensure start lists are updated accordingly after each of the classification sessions;
- f) A list with the complete classification outcomes must be posted and available to all National Federations at the Paratriathlon briefing. Protests can be launched up until 60 minutes after the time the classification outcomes are posted at the briefing;
- g) After the race, final classification outcomes will be posted in the area the Technical Delegate has designated at the briefing. It is the National Federations and athlete's responsibility to check and refer to these results in case they are potentially involved in further completion of their assessment or a protest;
- h) The completed Classification Evaluation Card will be filed in a protected database and maintained by ITU. National Federations may request from ITU a copy of an athlete's classification evaluation after the competition;
- i) Official confirmation of Sport Class and Sport Class Status will be sent to the relevant National Federation in the form of a Classification Certification, upon written request to the ITU;
- j) The ITU Paratriathlon Master List will be updated after each event within 7 days where classification takes place www.triathlon.org/about/downloads_category/paratriathlon;
- k) An official report must be submitted after the event from the Chief Classifier to the ITU Technical Delegate in order to be included in the events' post-race report.

5.18 Changes in Sport Class before and after First Appearance:

- a) Before Competition:

SCENARIO	OUTCOME
a) Athlete undergoes classification Athlete changes Sport Class	Chief Classifier notifies Athlete/National Federation, Technical Delegate and Race Referee immediately after change of Sport class identified. Sports Class outcome is posted at the race briefing. Start list is updated from athletes old to new sports class. Bib number is reassigned accordingly by the Technical Delegate.
b) Athlete undergoes classification Athlete is declared non-eligible (NE) by first assessment panel	Sport Class NE Review status is assigned and athlete is given the opportunity to be seen by a second panel at the earliest opportunity. 2nd Panel not available:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athlete remains NE Sports class with R sports class status and cannot compete at the event or other events until the protest is resolved. Athlete is removed from the start list. Does not appear on the results. <p>2nd Panel available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an athlete is declared NE by second panel, an NE Sports Class becomes a confirmed Sports class Status (C) Athlete cannot compete at the event. Athlete is removed from the start list and does not appear in the results. Athlete must be informed by the classifiers that he/she can register for the AG race if the timing of races allows for it. • If athlete is eligible, athlete should remain on the start list with the designated sport class allocated by the second panel.
--	---

b) After Competition (includes observations during competition):

SCENARIO	OUTCOME
a) Athlete changes Sport Class as a result of observation during First Appearance (in Competition)	<p>Chief Classifier notifies Athlete/National Federation through final classification results posting and informs Race Referee and Technical Delegate.</p> <p>Race Referee decides if the change is applicable for the given event results and notifies Timing so athlete is correctly ranked in new category.</p> <p>Past results/rankings may be revisited.</p>
b) Athlete's Sport Class is protested	<p>Review status is assigned and the athlete is given the chance to be seen by a second panel at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>2nd panel not available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results and sport class stand as they are and a Note should be added in the official results indicating the athlete has been protested and is pending resolution. Athlete is made Review Sport Class Status. <p>2nd panel available; the following scenarios can occur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirms the decision of the first panel, results and sport class stand as they are. • Changes the decision of the 1st panel, the subsequent procedures are described in 5.18. b) a) • If the athlete is declared non-eligible, Sport Class Status becomes NE-Review. Athlete is shown with no ranking after the DSQ and DNF IRM codes with an NE-R as total time.
c) Athlete is declared non-eligible (NE) due to observation	<p>If a 2nd panel is available procedure as in 5.18. b) b) is followed.</p> <p>If a 2nd Panel is not available:</p> <p>The athlete remains NE with R status. The athlete is shown with no ranking after the DSQ and DNF IRM codes with an NE as total time.</p>

5.19 Medical Review Request: Reclassification:

- a) An athlete who has reason to believe that his or her impairment and activity limitations are no longer consistent with the Sport Class he or she was assigned under his/her current classification certification, may request to the ITU for consideration of a

reclassification. The means by which this can take place is referred to in these rules as "the Medical Review Process" and the means by which a request for such review is referred to as "a Medical Review Request";

- b) The National Federation must make a Medical Review Request on behalf of the athlete;
- c) A Medical Review Request may be made if an athlete has been allocated:
 - (i). A Sport Class with Sport Class Status Confirmed (C), or;
 - (ii). A Sport Class with Sport Class Status Review (R), or if the athlete has been allocated a Fixed Review Date.
- d) A Medical Review Request must be made by completing the ITU Medical Review Request Form. The athlete and his or her National Federation must ensure that the Medical Review Request abides by the following provisions:
 - (i). it must explain that the athlete's relevant impairment has changed since the last athlete evaluation to an extent that the athlete's ability to perform the sport activities has changed and may not reflect the criteria for that current class;
 - (ii). it must be completed by a qualified medical physician or ophthalmologist and include all relevant supporting documentation in English or with a certified English translation;
 - (iii). a fee of 100\$ USD must be paid to the ITU.
- e) Each Medical Review Request will be assessed by ITU to ensure that all requisite information, documentation and fee have been provided. Once the Medical Review Request is complete, the Head of Classification will, in conjunction with such third parties as he or she considers appropriate, decide whether or not the Medical Review Request is accepted;
- f) If the Medical Review Request is accepted the athlete's Sport Class Status will be amended to Review on the ITU Classification Master List; or the Athlete's Fixed Review Date will be set and the athlete will be requested to undertake Athlete Evaluation at the next available opportunity;
- g) If the Medical Review Request is denied, the applicant may appeal this decision to the ITU Executive Board.

6. Classification protest:

6.1 Protest definition:

- a) A protest may be made in respect of the allocation of a Sport Class to an Athlete. No protest may be made in respect of the designation of an Athlete's Sport Class Status;
- b) A protest cannot be made in respect of the allocation to an Athlete of Sport Class Non-Eligible (NE);
- c) ITU is responsible for resolving any protest made in respect of that Sport Class;
- d) Protests must be resolved in a manner that minimizes the impact on competition participation, competition schedules and results.

6.2 Parties permitted to make a protest:

- a) Protests may only be made by the following parties:
 - (i). A National Federation; and
 - (ii). A National Paralympic Committee; and

(iii). ITU

6.3 National Federation Protests:

- a) A National Federation or its National Paralympic Committee may make a protest;
- b) A National Federation or its National Paralympic Committee may make a protest in respect of the Sport Class of any Athlete under its jurisdiction who at the time of being enrolled at the Competition holds a Sport Class that has been designated either Sport Class Status New (N) or Sport Class Status Review (R). An athlete with a review fixed dates Sports class Status cannot be protested by its National Federation;
- c) A National Federation or its National Paralympic Committee protest must be made at a competition;
- d) An athlete's Sport class can only be protested once by their National Federation or its National Paralympic Committee. A Classification Protest in relation to a Sport Class allocated by a classification panel may only be resolved by another classification panel;
- e) The National Federation or its National Paralympic Committee making the protest is responsible for ensuring that all protest process requirements are complied with;
- f) A National Federation or its National Paralympic Committee may not make a protest in respect of the Sport Class of any athlete who is under the jurisdiction of another National Federation. If a National Federation believes there are grounds for a protest in respect of the Sport Class allocated to such an athlete, it may request ITU to make a protest;
- g) If an athlete is required by a Classification Panel to undergo Observation in Competition Assessment by way of First Appearance, a National Federation or its National Paralympic Committee may make a protest before or after First Appearance takes place. If a protest is made before First Appearance takes place the athlete must not be permitted to compete until the protest has been resolved;
- h) The timeline to submit protests is defined under section 6.9.

6.4 National Federation Protest Procedure:

- a) A National Federation Classification Protest must be submitted in English by using the ITU Classification Protest Form:
http://www.triathlon.org/about/downloads_category/paratriathlon
- b) The protest must include:
 - (i). The name and sport of the protested athlete;
 - (ii). The details of the protested decision and/or a copy of the protested decision;
 - (iii). A reasoned explanation as to why the protest has been made and the basis on which the National Federation or National Paralympic Committee believes that the protested decision is flawed;
 - (iv). Reference to the specific rule/s alleged to have been breached;
 - (v). A refundable deposit of 100 USD (or its equivalent) must accompany all classification protests. The deposit will be retained by ITU if the protest is denied.
- c) All documents and evidence supporting the protest, other than what may have been presented at time of classification, must be submitted with the Protest Form, or as soon as is reasonably practicable following the submission of the Protest Form;

- d) The Protest Form, supporting explanation and documentation, and any prescribed fee, must be submitted to the Chief Classifier for the relevant Competition within the timeframes specified by ITU upon receipt of the Protest Form and the information and/or documentation specified above, the Chief Classifier must conduct a review of the protest;
- e) If it appears to the Chief Classifier that the protest is not supported by appropriate evidence, in absence of a specific rule/s alleged to have been breached and/or otherwise does not comply with the relevant Protest procedures, the Chief Classifier shall decline the protest and notify all relevant parties. In such cases, the Chief Classifier shall provide a written explanation to the National Federation as soon as is practicable. Any protest fee will be forfeited;
- f) If it appears to the Chief Classifier that the Protest is supported by evidence and complies with the relevant protest procedures the protest must be accepted. If the protest is accepted:
 - (i). The protested athlete's Sport Class shall remain unchanged pending the outcome of the protest but the protested athlete's Sport Class Status shall be retained or amended as or to Sport Class Status Review (R) as appropriate;
 - (ii). The Chief Classifier shall appoint a Protest Panel to resolve the protest as soon as is reasonably possible, which must be if practicable at the competition the protest was made.
- g) The Chief Classifier will notify all relevant parties of the time and date for the Athlete Evaluation that will be conducted by the Protest Panel.

6.5 ITU Protests:

- a) ITU may make a protest in respect of any Sport Class of any athlete under its jurisdiction at any time;
- b) ITU may make a protest if it has good reason to believe that the protested athlete's ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport are not consistent with the Sport Class that has been allocated to the protested athlete.

6.6 ITU Protest Procedure:

- a) The ITU Head of Classification, or delegated representative, will advise the relevant National Federation at the earliest possible opportunity that a protest is to be made;
- b) The Head of Classification, or delegated representative, will provide the National Federation with a reasoned explanation as to why the protest has been made and the basis on which the Head of Classification believes that the protest is justified;
- c) If ITU makes a protest:
 - (i). The protested athlete's Sport Class shall remain unchanged pending the outcome of the protest but the protested athlete's Sport Class Status shall be retained or amended as or to Sport Class Status Review (R) as appropriate;
 - (ii). A Protest Panel must be appointed to resolve the protest as soon as is reasonably possible.
- d) A Chief Classifier may make a protest for and on behalf of ITU at a competition if it is in the interests of fairness to athletes to do so.

6.7 Resolving a protest: The Protest Panel:

- a) A Protest Panel must be appointed by the Head of Classification, or delegated representative, in a manner consistent with the provisions in the classification rule 2.2;
- b) A Protest Panel must not include any person who:
 - (i). Was a member of the Classification Panel that made the protested decision; or
 - (ii). Any person who has been a member of a Classification Panel that has conducted any Athlete Evaluation in respect of the protested athlete within a period of six (6) months prior to the date of the protested decision, except that a National Federation may agree to a Protest Panel comprising such a person.
- c) The Head of Classification, or representative, will supply all documentation submitted with the Protest Form to the Protest Panel. The Head of Classification, or representative, will notify all relevant parties of the time and date for the relevant components of Athlete Evaluation that will be conducted by the Protest Panel;
- d) Reclassifications for athletes protested before the race will be carried out at the classification venue as soon as possible after the classification schedule has been completed;
- e) Reclassifications for athletes protested during the race will be carried out if possible at a facility close to the finish line of the race location;
- f) The Protest Panel will conduct the relevant components of Athlete Evaluation. The Protest Panel may make enquires of the Classification Panel that made the Protested Decision and the Chief Classifier if such enquiries will enable the Protest Panel to complete Athlete Evaluation in a fair and transparent manner;
- g) The protest panel should have access to the assessment files of the first classification panel;
- h) The protest panel may request any video footage from the first panel taken during observation in 1st appearance or from competition;
- i) The Protest Panel will (if able to do so) allocate a Sport Class and designate a Sport Class Status. All relevant parties shall be notified of the Protest Panel's decision as quickly as possible following Athlete Evaluation;
- j) The decision of the Protest Panel is final and is not subject to any further protest by a National Federation;
- k) All relevant parties shall be notified of the Classification Protest decision.

6.8 Provisions where no Protest Panel is available:

- a) If a protest is made at a competition but there is no opportunity for the protest to be resolved at that competition;
- b) The protested athlete will be permitted to compete within the Sport Class that is the subject of the protest, pending the resolution of the protest. The athlete is allocated a protest review Sports Class Status (PR);
- c) All reasonable steps will be taken to ensure that the protest is resolved at the earliest opportunity.

6.9 Protest Timelines:

- a) Before the race:
 - (i). This period starts once the athlete **and/or National Federation** have been informed of the athlete's Sport Class or once the classification outcome has been posted;
 - (ii). The Chief Classifier, or a person designated for that event, shall be the person authorized to receive Classification Protests on behalf of ITU at that event;
 - (iii). Classification Protests must be submitted to the Chief Classifier within sixty (60) minutes of the end of the athlete's classification assessment or within sixty (60) minutes after the official publication of the classification results at the athlete's briefing.
- b) During/after the race:
 - (i). The Chief Classifier, or a person designated for that event, shall be the person authorized to receive Classification Protests on behalf of ITU at that event;
 - (ii). The intent to issue a classification protest must be communicated to the Chief Classifier within 5 minutes after the classification outcomes have been posted in the finish area or 5 minutes from the moment the athlete involved in a protest crosses the finish line, whichever occurs last. Once the intention to protest is initiated, the time limit will be extended by 15 minutes at which time all protest documents need to be submitted;
 - (iii). Race results can only become official after this process is completed.

6.10 Protest Opportunities:

Athlete Sport Class Status	Protest by own National Paralympic Committee / National Federation		Protest by ITU		Possible Outcome	
	Before	During/After	Before	During/After	Before	During/After
NEW (N)	YES	YES	YES	YES	R/NE	R/C/NE
PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION STATUS (PCS)	NO	NO	NO	NO		
REVIEW (R)	YES	YES	YES	YES	R/C/NE	R/C/NE
REVIEW FIXED DATE (RFD)	NO	NO	YES	YES	R/C/NE	R/C/NE
CONFIRMED (C)	NO	NO	YES*	YES*	R/C/NE	R/C/NE

7. Classification appeal:

7.1 Definition of Appeal:

- a) The term "Classification Appeal", as used in this document, refers to a procedure by which a formal objection to the manner in which classification procedures have been conducted, is submitted and subsequently resolved.

7.2 Jurisdiction of a Classification Appeal:

- a) The Classification Appeal Body shall have jurisdiction to review classification decisions in order to:
 - (i). Ensure that all appropriate Sport Class allocation procedures have been followed;
 - (ii). Ensure that all appropriate Classification Protest Procedures have been followed.
- b) No Classification Appeal Body shall have jurisdiction to review the merits of an allocation of Sport Class or Sport Class Status. Under no circumstances shall the Classification Appeal Body modify a classification decision by allocating a new Sport Class and/or Sport Class Status to an athlete;
- c) The Classification Appeal Body shall hear classification appeals only in cases in which all other available remedies, including but not limited to classification protest procedures have been exhausted.

7.3 Timeline for Appeal Submission:

Submission of an appeal against classification: Classification appeals may be submitted and commenced no later than 30 days after the classification process took place, by submitting a Notice of Classification Appeal to the ITU Secretary General. The ITU shall promptly transmit a copy of the Notice of Classification Appeal to all parties involved:

- a) Only a **National Federation (or National Paralympic Committee** at the Paralympic Games) has the right to submit a Notice of Classification Appeal in English by using the ITU Classification Appeal Form;
(http://www.triathlon.org/about/downloads_category/paratriathlon)
- b) A refundable deposit of 150 USD (or equivalent) must accompany all appeals. The deposit will be retained by the ITU, if the appeal is denied;
- c) Upon receipt of a Notice of Classification Appeal, ITU shall conduct a review to determine whether all other available remedies have been exhausted by the party bringing the Classification Appeal. If not, ITU shall issue a written dismissal of the Classification Appeal.

7.4 Classification Appeal Procedures:

If all other available remedies have been exhausted, ITU shall:

- a) Advise all relevant parties that a Classification Appeal Body will be constituted for the purposes of hearing the classification appeal;
- b) Send a copy of the Notice of Classification Appeal, and all documents, evidence and details of witnesses to all parties involved; advise the parties involved that they must, within the 28th day after the Notice of Classification Appeal has been received, submit a list of all documents to the Classification Appeal Body, evidence and expert witnesses to be offered by the opposing party in relation to the classification appeal;
- c) Set a location for the hearing and date: The Classification Appeal Body shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to conduct a hearing; either live, by telephone conference or by video conference.

7.5 Classification Appeal Body and Hearing Procedures:

- a) The Classification Appeal Body should include no less than three (3) individuals, who have at no time been involved with, or informed of, the dispute brought before the Classification Appeal Body;

- b) Classification Appeal Body members will be nominated by the ITU Secretary General; Parties will have the right to recuse an Appeal Body panel member(s) when it may be perceived that he/she, his/her National Federation or National Paralympic Committee has a conflict of interest in the issue under dispute or when his/her independence may be compromised. This recuse must be done within the first 24h from the communication of the Appeal Body composition;
- c) The ITU may request the IPC the formation of an appeal body to deal with a specific appeal;
- d) The Classification Appeal Body may designate Counsel to assist it in the hearing;
- e) ITU and the applicable National Paralympic Committee or National Federation shall have the right to be represented by counsel and, if necessary, to engage an interpreter approved by the Classification Appeal Body;
- f) Not more than two representatives of any party, excluding the athlete and any interpreter, shall be entitled to participate in the hearing;
- g) Subject to the Classification Appeal Body's discretion, each party shall have the right to offer documentary evidence, to submit a hearing memorandum or brief, and to call witnesses.

7.6 Classification Appeal Decision:

- a) The Classification Appeal Body shall issue a written decision resolving any classification appeal after the hearing. The decision shall be provided to all parties;
- b) The Classification Appeal Body shall either affirm the decision that has been appealed against or overrule the decision. If the decision is overruled, the Classification Appeal Body's written opinion shall specify the procedural error committed and shall direct the appropriate party to the decision in a manner consistent with Classification Appeal Body's instructions;
- c) ITU shall be responsible for ensuring that the Classification Appeal Body's directives are followed in a timely manner;
- d) Classification appeal decisions are final and are not subject to any further classification appeal within the ITU/IPC.

7.7 Confidentiality:

- a) Classification Appeal Proceedings are confidential. The parties and the Classification Appeal Body shall not disclose facts or other information relating to the dispute or the proceedings to any person or entity excluding, to the extent necessary to prosecute or defend the classification appeal:
 - (i). Employees or agents of a party;
 - (ii). Witnesses whose testimony may be offered during the classification appeal;
 - (iii). Counsel, consultants or interpreters engaged for purposes of the classification appeal.
- b) At this sole discretion, the Classification Appeal Body may require all persons who attend a hearing to sign a confidentiality agreement. Any individual refusing to sign said agreement may be excluded from the hearing.

8. Classification data protection:

- 8.1 Classification data is personal information and/or sensitive personal information provided by an athlete and/or national federation and/or third party to ITU in connection with classification;
- 8.2 All classification data processed by ITU must be accurate, complete and kept up to date and be fair, relevant or necessary in relation to classification;

8.3 Consent and Processing:

- a) ITU must, wherever possible, Process Classification Data with the consent of the athlete to whom the classification data relates;
- b) If an athlete cannot provide informed consent (for example, because of age or mental capacity) the athlete's legal representative, guardian or other competent representative may give consent on the athlete's behalf;
- c) If for any reason an athlete is unable to provide consent the Classification Organization may process classification data if that processing complies with any national laws to which the classification organization is subject;
- d) ITU may wish to process classification data without an athlete's consent in certain circumstances. If so it must ensure that any such processing complies with any national laws to which the classification organization is subject.

8.4 Provisions that Apply to Classification Research:

- a) ITU may request that athletes and/or athlete support personnel provide them with Personal Information and/or Sensitive Personal Information from time to time for Research Purposes;
- b) The use by ITU of Personal Information and/or Sensitive Personal Information for research purposes must be consistent all applicable ethical use requirements, including but not limited to those that apply to the ITU;
- c) Personal Information and/or Sensitive Personal Information that has been provided by an athlete and/or athlete support personnel to ITU solely and exclusively for research purposes must not be used by ITU for any other purpose;
- d) ITU may only use Classification Data for research purposes with the express consent of the relevant athlete and/or athlete support personnel. An athlete and/or athlete support personnel must consent to any publication (for example, as part of an academic or scientific publication) of any Personal Information and/or Sensitive Personal Information they have provided for research purposes. This restriction does not apply to any information which as a result of anonymization or aggregation ceases to be Personal Information and/or Sensitive Personal Information.

8.5 Notification to Athletes:

- a) ITU must notify athletes and/or athlete support personnel who provide classification data as to:
 - (i). The identity of ITU collecting the classification data;
 - (ii). The classification data to be processed;
 - (iii). How classification data will be used and how long it may be retained.
- b) The notification to athletes and/or athlete support personnel of the information referred to in 8.3.a) may be withheld if providing the information might compromise an

ongoing or imminent investigation into an act of misconduct associated with classification;

- c) ITU must provide the above information in an easily comprehensible and accessible manner.

8.6 Classification Data Security:

- a) ITU must:

- (i). Protect classification data by applying appropriate security safeguards, including physical, organizational, technical and other measures to prevent the loss, theft or unauthorized access, destruction, use, modification or disclosure of classification data; and
- (ii). Take reasonable steps to ensure that any third party provided with classification data uses that classification data in a manner consistent with this international standard.

8.7 Disclosures of Classification Data:

- a) ITU must not disclose classification data to other classification organizations except where such disclosures are related to classification conducted by other such classification organizations and the disclosure is consistent with all applicable national laws;
- b) ITU may disclose classification data to third parties other than classification organizations only if the disclosure is in accordance with this international standard and permitted by national laws.

8.8 Retaining Classification Data:

- a) ITU must ensure that classification data is only retained for as long as it is needed in relation to classification. If the retention of classification data is no longer necessary, it must be deleted, destroyed or permanently anonymized;
- b) ITU must develop and publish guidelines regarding retention times in relation to classification data;
- c) ITU must implement policies and procedures that ensure that Classifiers and classification personnel retain classification data for only as long as is necessary in order for them to carry out their classification duties in relation to any individual athlete.

8.9 Access Rights to Classification Data:

- a) Athletes may request from ITU:
 - (i). Confirmation of whether or not that ITU Processes Classification Data relating to them and a description of the classification data that is held;
 - (ii). A copy of the relevant classification data held by ITU (if such a copy is requested it should be provided within a reasonable timeframe).
- b) Such a request may be made by an athlete or a National Federation on an athlete's behalf.

9. Classification evaluation methodology:

9.1 Medical Assessment for Physical Impairments:

- a) Muscle Power assessment will be based in general on the Daniels and Worthingham (D&W) scale published in 2014, version 9. The scale has 6 levels from 0-5. Plus, or minus

grades can't be recorded. That is, an athlete will score a 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5, not a 2.5 or 3.5 for example;

- b) The athlete is passively taken through the anatomical range of the key movement to assess the available range of movement (ROM). The athlete then actively moves through their available range against gravity and subsequently with resistance provided through the available range by the assessor or with gravity eliminated to identify the muscle power level;
- c) The overall values for each muscle group are factored according to the relevance of each of the three disciplines (Swim, Bike and Run). Finally, the overall Swim, Bike and Run scores are weighed against proportionate mean values that relate to the specific distances for each discipline segment;
- d) The Muscle Power testing accounts for 70% of the total athlete's score;
- e) Full Range of Movement (ROM) is measured as full available ROM;
- f) Anatomical range is identified for all key movements. E.g. Neck Flexion: 0-40;
- g) Muscle Testing (Power scale):
 - (i). 0 Total lack of voluntary contraction;
 - (ii). 1 Faint contraction without any movement of the limb (trace, flicker);
 - (iii). 2 Contraction with very weak movement through full range of motion when gravity is eliminated (poor);
 - (iv). 3 Contraction with movement through the complete joint range against gravity;
 - (v). 4 Contraction with full range movement against gravity and some resistance (good);
 - (vi). 5 Contraction of normal strength through full range of movement against full resistance.

(Daniels and Worthingham 2014)

NOTE: Athletes with neurological impairments, will be requested to perform some neurological tests for upper motor neuron lesions and other novel motor and coordination tests to ensure there is evidence of hypertonia, athetosis and or ataxia to confirm they have an eligible impairment for Paratriathlon before they can continue the standard medical, technical and observation assessments.

9.2 Technical Assessment for Physical Impairments:

- a) Athletes will be questioned on and may be requested to perform sport specific and novel tests as part of the technical assessment. This is called the "Functional Abilities Profile" assessment. Testing protocols have been identified through current research;
- b) The Technical Tests account for 30% of the athlete's total score.

9.3 Athletes with Neurological Impairments:

- a) All athletes with a medically diagnosed permanent health condition (rule 3.1) which presents as an ITU eligible impairment type recognized impairment such as Ataxia, Athetosis or Hypertonia, will undergo a preliminary screen assessment to ensure there are clear signs of such impairment(s);
- b) Athletes with Multiple Sclerosis:
 - (i). In advance to the competition, these athletes should submit Electromyograms and/or MRI that show a permanent loss of power during activity;

(ii). If possible, videos of the athlete swimming and running, taken from the back (legs and upper torso) and more important, from the side. Videos of 6-10 seconds duration are to be sent to ITU, at time of submitting the athlete's medical diagnosis form within the timelines as outlined in rule 3.3.

9.4 Assessment for Athletes with Vision Impairment:

The assessment of athletes who may fall into the PTVI sport class will be done according to the International Blind Sports Association Federation's procedures, defined under:
<http://www.ibsasport.org/documents/files/68-1-IBSA-Classification-Rules-and-Procedures.pdf>

9.5 Multiple Impairments:

- a) If an athlete has a secondary or even a tertiary ITU eligible permanent impairment that leads to further activity limitation, these impairments will also be accounted for in the overall scoring.

9.6 Considerations:

- a) This methodology measures the impact of impairment on activity limitation for Sprint Distance Triathlon. The Sport Classes defined by this classification system are applied across all disciplines in ITU for athletes with an impairment.

10. Classifiers' Education and Certification:

- 10.1 All documents related to the procedures and regulations on paratriathlon classifiers' certification as well as the list of certified classifiers can be found under:
http://www.triathlon.org/development/technical_officials/certification

11. Definitions:

Term	Definition
Activity Limitation	Difficulties an individual may have in executing activities.
Appeal	A formal objection to the manner in which classification procedures have been conducted is submitted and subsequently resolved.
Adaptive Equipment:	Adaptive Equipment: implements and apparatus adapted to the special needs of Paratriathletes, and used by athletes during competition to facilitate participation and/or to achieve results.
Athlete	The competitors who register for and compete in ITU Events. References in the Classification Rules to athlete correspond to paratriathlete as in the main ITU Competition Rules.
Athlete Evaluation	The process by which an athlete is assessed in accordance with these rules.
Athlete Support Personnel	Any coach, trainer, manager, interpreter, agent, team staff, official, medical or paramedical personnel working with or treating athletes participating in or preparing for training and/or competition.
Chief Classifier	The classifier responsible for the direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of classification matters for a specific competition.
Classification	A structure for competition to ensure that an Athlete's Impairment is relevant to sport performance, and to ensure that the athlete competes equitably with other athletes.
Classification Evaluation Period	The timeframe prior to the commencement of events at a competition within which Physical and Technical Assessment typically takes place.

Classification Master List	The list, made available by ITU that identifies the athletes that have participated in International Classification.
Classification Panel	A group of classifiers assembled to determine Sport Class and Sport Class Status in accordance with these rules.
Classification Personnel	All persons involved in or associated with the process of Athlete Evaluation, including the Head of Classification, Classifiers, Chief Classifiers and Trainee Classifiers.
Classifier	A person certified by ITU or IBSA/IPC to evaluate athletes as a member of a Classification Panel.
Classification Rule	Also referred to as ITU Classification Rules. The policies, procedures, protocols and descriptions adopted by ITU in connection with athlete evaluation.
Classification System	The framework used by ITU to develop and designate Sport Classes within a para-sport.
Classifier Code of Conduct	The behavioral and ethical standards for classifiers specified by ITU.
Code	The IPC Classification Code.
Competition	A series of individual events conducted together under the jurisdiction of ITU.
Compliance	The implementation of rules, regulations, policies and processes that adhere to the text, spirit and intent of the Code as defined by the IPC. Where terms such as (but not limited to) 'comply', 'conform' and 'in accordance' are used in the Code they shall have the same meaning as 'Compliance.'
Conflict of Interest	A set of circumstances that creates a risk that professional judgment or actions regarding a primary interest will be unduly influenced by a secondary interest.
Counsel	A barrister or other legal adviser conducting a case.
Eligible Impairment	An Eligible Impairment is an Impairment the existence of which is a pre-requisite for an Athlete to meet the Minimum Disability Criteria for the sport of triathlon.
Entry Sport Class	A Sport Class allocated to an athlete by a National Federation prior to an ITU Event to indicate the Sport Class with which the athlete intends to compete. An Entry Sport Class is an estimate and has no binding effect upon either the Athlete or the body responsible for organizing and managing the relevant competition.
Event	A sub-set of a competition that requires specific technical and sporting skills.
Fixed Review Date	A date prior to which an athlete who has been designated with Sport Class Status Review (R) will not be required to undertake Athlete Evaluation, regardless of whether or not that athlete competes at any competition. Unless otherwise specified by the Classification Panel, the Fixed Review Date is 1st January.
Head of Classification	A classifier responsible for all direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of classification matters for triathlon.
Hearing	An act of listening to evidence in a court of law or before an official, especially a trial before a judge without a jury.
Impairment	Problems in body function or structure such as a significant deviation or loss.

Intellectual Impairment	A type of Impairment, which is defined as a limitation in intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior as expressed in conceptual, social and practical adaptive skills. This impairment originates before the age of 18.
Intentional Misrepresentation	A deliberate attempt (either by fact or omission) to mislead ITU or a National Federation as to the existence or extent of skills and/or abilities relevant to a Para-sport and/or the degree or nature of Eligible Impairment during Athlete Evaluation and/or at any other point after the allocation of a Sport Class.
International Classification	Athlete Evaluation that is conducted in full compliance with these rules.
IPC	International Paralympic Committee.
IPC Classification Code	The IPC Classification Code and accompanying International Standards and any subsequent version or versions of the same.
IPC Classifier Code of Conduct	A set of rules to outline the responsibilities, to guide behavior and decisions and to identify best practice for an individual Classifier, which is part of the IPC Classification Code International Standard of Classifier Training.
IPC Code of Ethics	The ethical standard that will be applied consistently within the Paralympic Movement, and will be applicable to all IPC sanctioned events, competitions and activities.
IPC Handbook	The IPC Handbook is the primary governance instrument for the IPC in its capacity as both an International Federation and the ruling body for the Summer and Winter Paralympic Games. All persons who are subject to the jurisdiction of the IPC are required to abide by its provisions.
Medical Intervention	Any intervention such as surgery, pharmacological intervention or other treatment, which affects the Athlete's Eligible Impairment.
Medical Review	The process by which an athlete can apply to ITU to undergo Athlete Evaluation, in order that the athlete's Sport Class may be reviewed to ensure that the athlete's Sport Class remains a fair allocation.
Minimum Disability Criteria	The standards set by ITU in relation to the degree of Eligible Impairment that must be present in order that an athlete is deemed to be eligible to compete in the sport of triathlon.
National Federation	National Triathlon Governing body affiliated with ITU.
Not Eligible	Consequence of not meeting the eligibility criteria.
Observation Assessment	The means by which a Classification Panel may complete Athlete Evaluation, if it considers that the only fair way in which it can complete Athlete Evaluation is to observe the athlete performing the specific skills associated with the sport of triathlon either prior to or during an event.
Para-Sports	All sport for athletes with an Impairment whether they feature on the Paralympic programme or not. These terms are used for all other sports events outside of the Paralympic Games.
Permanent	A Health Condition or Impairment that is unlikely to be resolved and, meaning the principal effects are lifelong.
Physical Assessment	The means by which a Classification Panel will determine whether or not an athlete has an Eligible Impairment and whether that Eligible Impairment complies with the Minimum Disability Criteria.

Physical Impairment	A group of Eligible Impairments affecting an athlete's biomechanical execution of sporting activities, comprising ataxia, athetosis, hypertonia, impaired muscle power, impaired range of movement, limb deficiency, leg length difference and short stature.
Protest	The procedure by which a formal objection to an athlete's Sport Class is submitted and subsequently resolved.
Protest Panel	A Classification Panel formed to conduct Athlete Evaluation in respect of an Athlete's Sport Class, where that Sport Class is the subject of a protest.
Recognized Competition	An umbrella term for triathlon competitions, ITU Sanctioned Competitions and ITU Approved Competitions as defined in the ITU Competition Rules.
Sport Class	A category defined by ITU in which athletes are categorized by reference to an Activity Limitation resulting from impairment.
Sport Class Status	A category allocation to each athlete to indicate evaluation requirements and protest opportunities.
Technical Assessment	The assessment of an athlete's ability to perform the tasks and activities required to participate in the sport of triathlon.
Third Party	Any natural person or legal entity other than the person to whom relevant Personal Information or Sensitive Personal Information relates.
Visual Impairment	An impairment of the eye structure, optical nerves or optical pathways, or visual cortex of the central brain, which adversely affect an athlete's vision.

