



Request for Vision Impairment Classification Form

Classification is an assessment process, grouping athletes whose impairment causes similar limitations in a particular sport in order to allow for fair competition. Classification is not required for general participation in sport.

This form can be used for:

- **Provisional level classification:** an entry level process that allows athletes who do not have access to National level (face to face) classification to gain an indication of their eligibility and sport class in a number of sports; and
- **Medical Diagnostics Form:** Collecting the required Medical Information before attending National level (face to face) classification.

An athlete may generally participate in school sport and regional or state competition with a Provisional level classification. To compete at national championships level or gain national team selection, athletes generally require a National level (face to face) classification.

Steps to Requesting a VI Classification

1. Complete: Request for VI Classification Form

The athlete (or parent/guardian if under 18 years) completes the athlete details, indicates whether a provisional or national classification is requested and in which sports and agrees to the terms in the consent form. If the athlete will be attending a national face to face classification with a representative, this representative MUST also sign the consent form.

2. Complete: VI Provisional Classification and Medical Diagnostics Form

Athletes are to request their ophthalmologist to fill in VI Provisional Classification/Medical Diagnostics form and conduct the appropriate testing. Athletes may require further evidence of diagnosis through VEP, ERG or OCT tests.

If an athlete has difficulty accessing an Ophthalmologist, the form may be completed by an Optometrist or Orthoptist. In this case, it is recommended but not compulsory to also submit a letter or historical report from their Ophthalmologist that confirms their diagnosis.

3. Athlete to return both forms to PA via classification@paralympic.org.au Or by using the SUBMIT button at the end of this form.

An athlete cannot be classified unless they present with all the information requested in both forms.

- Athletes seeking a Provisional level classification will be informed of the classification outcome via email. Please allow at least 2 months for this process to be completed.
- Athletes seeking a National level (face to face) classification will be contacted by PA with the required details to arrange a National level (face to face) classification appointment or with a request for additional documents if these are required.

Athlete details and Consent

Athlete Personal Details		
Surname:	First Name:	
Address:		
Suburb:	State:	Postcode:
Email:		
Phone No:		
DOB:	Sex:	M F Other

I wish to (tick which applies):

Obtain a VI Provisional level classification: or

Submit my Medical Diagnostics form so that I can attend a National level (face to face) classification.

I wish to receive a classification for the following sports (tick those that apply):

Alpine/Nordic Skiing– Sighted guides are required for all VI classes.

Blacked out goggles are required for B1 skiers.

Archery – VI 1 athletes are required to wear a blindfold.

Athletics – Sighted guides and blacked out glasses are required for T/F11 classes, and are optional for T/F12 athletes. No guides are permitted for T/F13 athletes.

Cycling – Sighted pilot riders are required for all VI athletes. Corrective visual aids are optional.

Equestrian – B3 riders are not eligible for Para-Equestrian. Electronic communication devices, callers and beacon beepers are optional for all VI riders.

Football 5-a-side – B1 players compete in Blind Football and all players except the goalie wear blackened eye shades. players compete in a separate Futsal style competition.

Goalball – All players are to wear blacked out goggles.

Judo - All athletes compete together in classes by weight.

Rowing – VI Rowers are part of a 4 person crew in the PR3 event

Shooting - All VI shooters may opt to use an assistant. An audio signal is used for all shooters.

Swimming – Blackened goggles and a tapper are a requirement for all S11 swimmers, and are optional for S12 and S13 swimmers.

Taekwondo

Triathlon – A guide is required for all VI classes. Blackened goggles are a requirement for all B1 athletes.

Note: B1 or 1 or 11 classes denotes the lowest levels of vision, B3, 3 or 13 classes the highest level of eligible vision.

Evaluation Consent Form (Athlete and guardian/representative to Complete)

I acknowledge the following:

- 1) I understand that this athlete evaluation process is for the purposes of entry level Australian domestic competition only. National level competition requires a full national level classification and international level competition requires an international classification. Any future classification outcomes may vary to and will supersede this outcome.
- 2) My consent covers the period from the point of signing this form through to completion of the provisional or national level classification process, whichever applies to me.
- 3) I understand that this process may require me to participate in sport-like exercises or other physical activities. I understand that there is a risk of injury in participating in such exercises and activities. I confirm that I am healthy enough to participate.
- 4) I understand and agree to provide medical diagnostic documentation to enable PA to determine whether I comply with the classification eligibility requirements outlined in the relevant NSO/NSOD Classification Rules.
- 5) I understand that if I fail to comply with any request made by PA and/or the relevant NSO/NSOD for the purposes of allocating to me a sport class then the process may be suspended without a class being allocated to me and therefore I may not be allowed to compete until a class is allocated to me.
- 6) I understand that classification requires me to give a truthful representation and demonstration of my skills, abilities and the degree and nature of my impairment. I understand that any intentional misrepresentation of my skills, abilities, nature or the degree of my impairment during or following the classification by me or my representative may result in me and/or my representative facing disciplinary action by PA and/or the relevant NSO/NSOD.
- 7) I understand that classification is a judgment process. I agree to abide by the judgment of PA and/or the relevant NSO/NSOD. If I do not agree with the decision of the classification panel, I agree to abide by the process outlined in the relevant NSO/NSOD Classification Rules.
- 8) I, and my representative, agree to be videotaped, audio recorded and/or photographed during the Athlete Evaluation process by VI classifiers or other appointed officials and that this may include my activity on and off the field of play during competition. I understand and acknowledge that any other photography, audio, or visual recording of the classification process by me or my representative is strictly prohibited.
- 9) I agree to advise PA should I have any change in impairment or medical intervention that may impact the class allocated to me following classification through the Medical Review process. I understand that failure to do so may be considered Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 10) I agree and consent to PA and the NSO/NSOD's of the sports I nominate to collect, process and store my personal and classification data in any format for the sole purposes of classification, including my personal information, my sport class, sport class status, classification assessment documentation (including any videos or photographs) and medical documentation.
- 11) I understand that my classification data may be transferred to the relevant NSO/NSOD medical personnel, if upon review of medical diagnostic information or throughout the athlete evaluation process, it is considered that my medical condition or the condition of others could be at risk if I participate in that Para-Sport.
- 12) Upon completion of classification, I understand and agree that:
 - My classification data will be stored confidentially on each NSO/NSOD owned or contracted server I have requested a classification for.
 - Relevant information about my classification may be shared with third parties for purposes of classification and to facilitate my participation in competitions (including PA or NSO/NSOD classifiers and classification personnel, Paralympics Australia, the relevant IF and the IPC).
 - My name, year of birth, sex, state, sport class, and sport class status will be published by each NSO/NSOD as a part of the NSO/NSOD Classification Masterlist on the NSO/NSOD website and shared with third parties such as competition organisers.
 - My personal data will not be used in any other way to which I provide express consent. It will not be kept beyond the purposes it is required, unless it is anonymised and/or there is a legal purpose for retaining it. It will be deleted when it is no longer required for classification purposes.

13) I understand that I have the following rights during classification:

The right to withdraw

My participation in the classification process is voluntary and I have the right to withdraw from the classification process at any time. I understand that if I withdraw from the classification process I will not be able to be classified and may no longer have a recognised sport class for NSO/NSOD competition.

The right to safety

I have the right to be treated with respect, dignity and be protected from bullying, discrimination, harassment or abuse.

The right to challenge a classification decision or process

The process for disputing any decision or process will follow the procedures outlined in the NSO/NSOD Classification Rules.

The right to my personal classification data

I understand I have the right to access any classification data held by PA or the relevant NSO/NSOD. I have the right to request correction or deletion of the classification data held. I understand that deletion of my classification data will mean I no longer have a recognised sport class and will be unable to compete in that Para-Sport. Questions related to the use of my personal classification data can be directed to PA or the relevant NSO/NSOD Data protection officer.

14) **Release of claims**

I agree to waive my rights to make any claim against the classifiers, PA or anyone who might then claim against the classifiers or PA, for indemnification for any damages or claims of personal injury or any other claim arising from or in any way related to my classification procedure. I agree to fully indemnify PA and the classifiers should any claim be made against them in any way related to my classification.

Please tick as appropriate:

I wish to assist PA and the nominated NSO/NSOD's in developing the classification system and therefore allow my data collected during classification, including any video material supplied by me to be used for classification educational purposes by PA and the nominated NSO/NSODs. I understand that I may withdraw this consent at any time.

Athlete Consent Declaration:
Athlete Name:
Athlete Signature:
Date:
Athlete Representative Consent Declaration:
I understand the provisions of this Consent Form as they apply to me and to Athlete for whom I am the representative and I personally consent to abide by such provisions as a representative. If the athlete is under 18 or I am the athlete's legal guardian, my consent is also on behalf of the athlete themselves.
Athlete Representative Name (parent/legal guardian is mandatory if athlete is under 18 years of age):
Athlete Representative Signature:
Date:

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

This document may be submitted to classification@paralympic.org.au or by using the **SUBMIT** button below. If additional documentation is required please attach along with this form for submission.