

## Para-Snowboard Information Sheet

### About the sport

Para-snowboard made its first appearance at the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Games. It features three disciplines; banked slalom, giant slalom and snowboard-cross.

In banked slalom, each athlete completes three runs down the course with their best run determining the final order. The course is a medium pitch with plenty of bumps, dips, and a U-shape built in. In giant slalom, each athlete competes two runs down the course with the combined time determining the final order for the last run. The terrain includes a medium pitched slope, and various grades. In snowboard-cross, there are both head to head and time trial events. The course includes gap jumps, spines, double spines, banks and giant slalom turns.

### Who can compete?

Para-Snowboard is open to athletes with a physical impairment. Athletes are required to submit medical reports and meet the minimum impairment criteria in order to compete.

Eligible impairments	Description	Minimum Impairment Criteria
Limb Deficiency	Partial or complete absence of bones or joints due to amputation or deficiency from birth	<b>Arm:</b> Single or double through or above wrist amputation, or impairment resulting in absence of a wrist joint. <b>Leg:</b> Single above ankle amputation, or impairment resulting in loss of a functional ankle joint.
Limb Length Difference	Significant difference in leg length due to a deficiency at birth or trauma	Leg length difference of at least 7cm between both legs.
Muscle Weakness/Impaired Muscle Power	Muscle weakness or paralysis from conditions such as muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, nerve damage, spinal cord injury or other spinal condition or change in muscle origin/insertion	<b>Arm:</b> Loss of strength in the elbow or shoulder in at least one arm. <b>Leg:</b> Loss of strength in the ankle, knee or hip in at least one leg.

Eligible impairments	Description	Minimum Impairment Criteria
Co-ordination impairments: Hypertonia/ Spasticity, Motor Ataxia, Dyskinesia	Impairments from neurological conditions such as acquired brain injury, cerebral palsy and multiple sclerosis that affect co-ordination and smoothness of movement and balance.	Coordination or movement impairments in at least one arm or leg.
Impaired Passive Range of Movement	Restricted movement or tightness in a joint/s from conditions such as joint fusions and other restricting conditions.	<b>Arm:</b> Impaired passive range of movement in the elbow or shoulder in at least one arm. <b>Leg:</b> No passive range of movement in the ankle joint, or a loss of passive range of movement in the knee or hip.

## Para-Snowboard Sport Classes

(SB = Snowboard; LL = Lower Limb; UL = Upper Limb)

Sport Class	Description (Guide Only)
Athletes with a <b>Physical Impairment</b>	
SB-LL1	Boarders have a significant impairment in one leg (e.g., above knee amputation), or an impairment in both legs (e.g., bilateral above ankle amputation). This will affect their ability to control board between their heel and toe edges, and unevenness in the terrain.
SB-LL2	Boarders have an impairment in one leg to a lesser degree than SB-LL1 (e.g., single above ankle amputation). Boarders can control their board well and are able to better absorb terrain challenges, however may have reduced precision during the turns.
SB-UL	Boarders with an impairment affecting one or both arms. This impacts on their ability to use their arms for balance or for

Sport Class	Description (Guide Only)
	generating power when racing.

### Not Eligible

Not Eligible (NE)	Athlete does not meet the minimum criteria for the Para-sport classes, but may still be able to compete. Contact Snow Australia for more information.
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### Find out more

To get involved or for more information contact:

#### Snow Australia

**W:** [www.snow.org.au](http://www.snow.org.au)

**E:** [classification@snow.org.au](mailto:classification@snow.org.au)

**P:** [03 9696 2344](tel:0396962344)

**Note:** The classification information provided is intended as a guide only. Only authorised classifiers are able to provide a formal classification in accordance with the rules of the sport. Not all classes may have events at the Paralympic Games