

A background image of a para-rower on an ergometer, overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The rower is wearing a blue and yellow life vest and is positioned in a rowing seat, holding the oar handles. The ergometer's flywheel and oarlocks are visible on either side.

Para Rowing Member Federations' Webinar

Thursday, 4 December 2025

AGENDA



Para Rowing

1. Para racing opportunities in 2026
2. Identifying new athletes for Under 23 PR3 1x
3. 2026 Para Rowing Training Camps
4. Equipment Checks
5. World Rowing Indoor Adaptive Rowing Categories
6. Coastal Rowing
7. Communications

Classification

8. 2026 Classification Opportunities
9. Mandatory documentation for classification registration
10. IPC 2025 Classification Code
11. 2026 Classification Workshops
12. IPC Classification Research Grant

HOUSEKEEPING



- **The webinar is expected to last no longer than 1 hour.**
- **The slides will be shared with you afterwards.**
- **Please use the Q&A/chat box anytime; questions will be answered as we go and at the end.**

Para Rowing

1. Para racing opportunities in 2026



Para racing opportunities in 2026



Event	Boat Classes	Classification?
2026 Paris Para Regatta	PR1 M1x, PR1 W1x, PR2 Mix2x, PR3 Mix2x, PR3 Mix4x+, PR2 W1x, PR2 M1x, PR3 W1x, PR3 M1x, PR3 W2-, PR3 M2-, PR3 Mix4x+, PR3-II W1x, PR3-II M1x, PR3-II W2x, PR3-II M2x, PR3-11 Mix2x, PR3-II Mix4x+, PR3-II Mix 4Yx+/4Y+.	Yes
2026 World Rowing Cup II, Plovdiv	PR1 M1x, PR1 W1x, PR2 Mix2x, PR3 Mix2x, PR3 Mix4x+	No
2026 World Rowing Cup III, Lucerne	PR1 M1x, PR1 W1x, PR2 M1x, PR2 W1x, PR2 Mix2x, PR3 Mix2x, PR3 Mix4x+, PR3 M2-, PR3 W2	Yes
2026 World Rowing Under 23 Championships, Duisburg	PR3 BW1x, PR3 BM1x	Yes
2026 European Rowing Championships, Varese	PR1 W1x, PR1 M1x, PR2 Mix2x, PR3 Mix2x, PR3 Mix4+	No
2026 World Rowing Championships, Amsterdam	PR1 W1x, PR1 M1x, PR2 Mix2x, PR3 Mix2x, PR3 Mix4+	Yes
2026 World Rowing Masters Regatta, Bled	Inclusion Doubles (INC Mix2x, INC W2x, INC M2x)	No (national PR3 classifications accepted)
2026 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals, Qingdao	InMix2x	Yes

Para Rowing

2. Identifying new athletes for Under 23 PR3 1x



Identifying new athletes for Under 23 PR3 1x

- New to rowing or already rowing?
- If new to rowing, they may be identified through their impairment but need placement with somewhere that provides the opportunity to row, train and develop.
- If already rowing, they may not be visible, competing in able-bodied events with no awareness of Para Rowing and need to be identified and tracked.
- There needs to be an awareness of Sport Class eligibility and/or the opportunity to be assessed early in the Para Rowing journey. The PR3 single is minimum impairment for PR3 and does NOT necessarily qualify for the PR3 Double Scull.
- Para and Able-Bodied rowing are not mutually exclusive, and it is entirely possible and desirable that an athlete does both.
- Identification and development pathway for 2025 AUS PR3 Women's Single Scull.



Para Rowing

3. 2026 Para Rowing Training Camps



2026 Para Rowing Training Camps



Full-board accommodation and airport transfers provided.

World Rowing will send the application form to all Member Federations.

Location	Date
Paris, France	25 April – 4 May 2026
Mexico City, Mexico	25 October – 1 November 2026
<i>Tunisia (tbc)</i>	<i>(tbc)</i>

Para Rowing

4. Equipment Checks



Equipment Checks



World Rowing (WR) is delighted to announce a refinement of the para equipment check process, successfully trialled in 2023 and further developed in 2024 and 2025.

Our sincere appreciation goes to the National Federations (NFs) that have participated in the development of the checks as we look forward to the 2026 season.

The Equipment Checks have been an important opportunity for NFs, Coaches and Athletes to engage directly with WR Para Commission members to ensure that athletes understand and are able to compete according to the WR equipment rules applicable to Para Rowing.

This voluntary opportunity underscores WR's commitment to assisting NFs in ensuring equipment compliance with racing rules.

In 2026, WR will extend the opportunity for this evolved Equipment Check process at the 2026 events, 1 – 2 days prior to racing.

Para Rowing

5. World Rowing Indoor Adaptive Rowing Categories



Indoor Adaptive Rowing Categories

7 new Indoor Adaptive Rowing Categories will be trialled at the **2026 World Rowing Virtual Indoor Championships** and the **2026 Virtual Series**.

Entries for the 2026 World Rowing Virtual Indoor Championships are open and close 10 February 2026.

Athletes who already have one of the following eligibilities may enter in an IAR category without any additional documentation or re-assessment:

- Para Rowing Sport Class (PR1, PR2, PR3). National and international classifications.
- Invictus Games categorisation
- Virtus Eligibility
- IBSA Sport Class (B1, B2, B3)

New athletes can apply for an Indoor Adaptive Rowing Categorisation, before Monday, 5 January, 23:59 UTC.

Please check: <https://worldrowing.com/technical/para-rowing/indoor-adaptive-rowing/>

Indoor Adaptive Rowing (IAR) Categories

IAR1

- Unable to use legs and/or trunk, with additional limitations in one or both arms.
- High SCI at T4 or above, or triple amputee.
- 3-4 limbs/trunk are significantly impaired.
- Static seat and a single or double handgrip, straps used for safety.

IAR2

- Functional use of arms and shoulders with some amount of trunk function.
- Unable to use legs for rowing.
- Moderate to severely decreased sitting balance.
- Fixed seat with a back rest is used.
- Chest straps used for safety.

IAR3

- Single arm impairment or single side impairments that prevent using both hands.
- Impairment is above the wrist.
- Single hand grip with a sliding seat used.

IAR4

- No or limited leg function with full trunk and arm function.
- Fixed seat with or without a back rest used.
- Straps optional.

IAR5

- Visual impairments.
- Able to use legs, trunk, and arms, but have a permanent physical impairment and meets the minimum impairment criteria for Para Rowing.
- Able to use a sliding seat and achieve at least 50% of the slide when rowing.

IAR6

- Open category for those with psychological impairments.
- Athletes with intellectual impairments as per Virtus.
- Minor or non-permanent physical injuries; chronic health conditions; hearing impairments.
- Sliding seat used.

IAR7

- Open category for those who have impairments that do not allow them to use a sliding seat but do not meet the criteria for IAR1-4.
- Fixed seat with or without a back rest used.



Para Rowing

6. Coastal Rowing

Coastal Rowing

After two years of successful exhibition events, the InMix2x event is now included as an official event on the programme of the World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals.

This is an opportunity for new athletes to start Para Rowing. Athletes with a physical impairment who meet the Minimum Impairment Criteria for Para Rowing are eligible. (International classifications only will be accepted from 2026. Classification will be offered.)

2025 WRBSF Antalya:

- 6 MFs
- 3 boat handlers per boat
- Para athletes can start already in the boat

World Rowing is continuing to investigate the opportunity to expand the eligibility criteria to athletes with visual and intellectual impairments.



Para Rowing

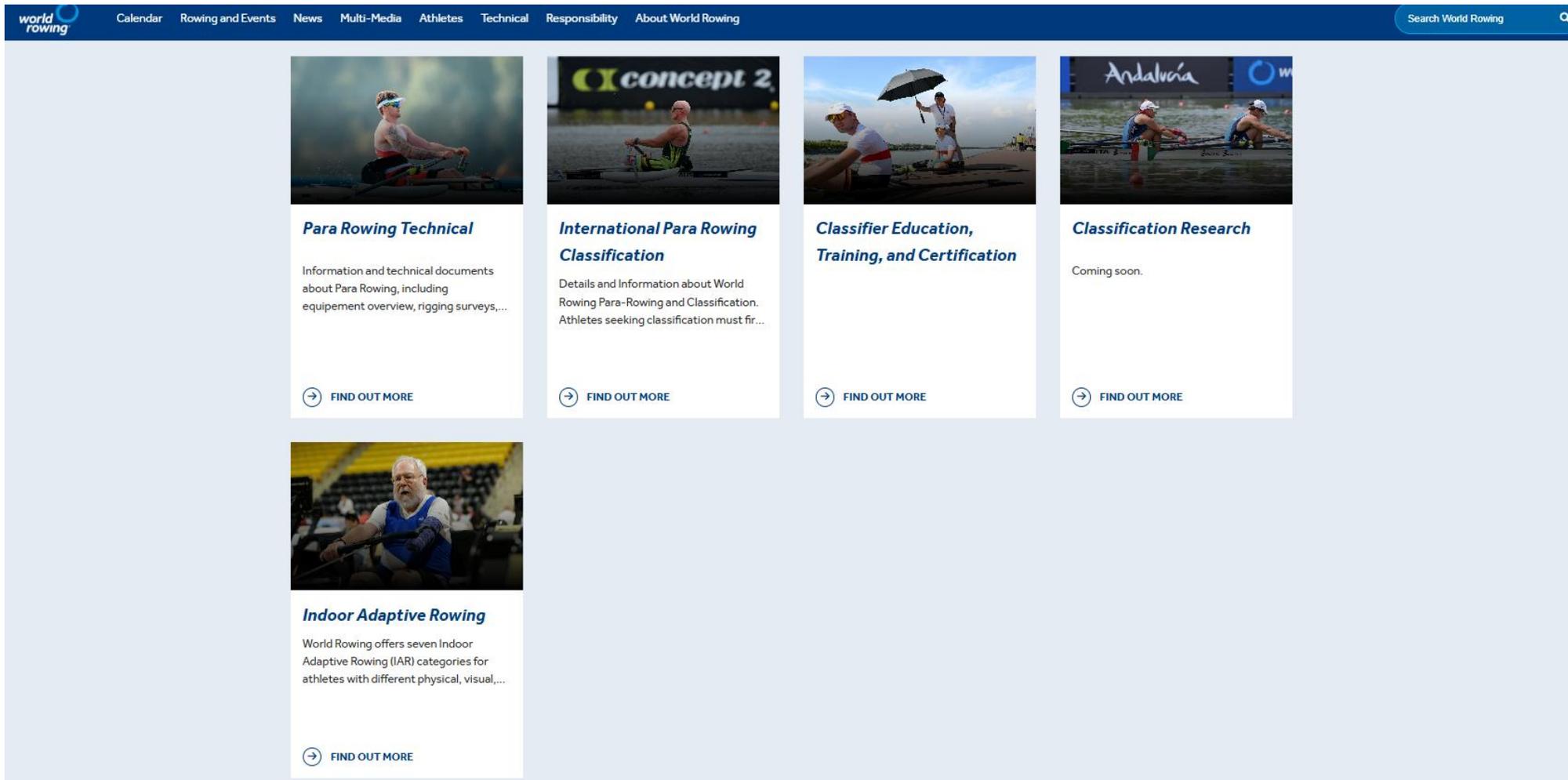
7. Communications



Para Rowing Webpages

We have updated the Para Rowing section of the World Rowing website.

Please take a look at: <https://worldrowing.com/technical/para-rowing/>



The screenshot shows the World Rowing website's navigation bar with the following menu items: worldrowing, Calendar, Rowing and Events, News, Multi-Media, Athletes, Technical, Responsibility, and About World Rowing. A search bar on the right contains the text "Search World Rowing". Below the navigation bar, there are five content cards:

- Para Rowing Technical**: Information and technical documents about Para Rowing, including equipment overview, rigging surveys,...
- International Para Rowing Classification**: Details and Information about World Rowing Para-Rowing and Classification. Athletes seeking classification must fir...
- Classifier Education, Training, and Certification**: (No description text is visible below the title)
- Classification Research**: Coming soon.
- Indoor Adaptive Rowing**: World Rowing offers seven Indoor Adaptive Rowing (IAR) categories for athletes with different physical, visual,...

Each card features a "FIND OUT MORE" button with a right-pointing arrow icon.

Communications



Please complete the Para Rowing & Classification Mailing List form to inform us of the contacts for Para Rowing and Classification within your Federation:



The submission deadline is **Monday, 8 December 2025**.

Media & News stories

We encourage all Member Federations to share any relevant or inspiring Para Rowing news with us. (pararowing@worldrowing.com or media@worldrowing.com).

We can amplify your stories and collectively strengthen the visibility of Para Rowing worldwide!

Classification

8. 2026 Classification Opportunities



2026 Classification Opportunities

Event	Location	Physical Classification	Visual Classification	Classification Documentation Deadline
Paris International Para-Rowing Regatta	Vaires-sur-Marne, Paris, FRA	30 April – 1 May 2026	<i>To be confirmed</i>	Monday 2 March 2026, 23:59 CET
World Rowing Cup III, Lucerne	Lucerne, SUI	24 – 25 June 2026	N/A	Monday 27 April 2026, 23:59 CEST
World Rowing Under 23 Championships	Duisburg, GER	21 – 22 July 2026	N/A	Friday 22 May 2026, 23:59 CEST
World Rowing Championships	Amsterdam, NED	22 – 23 August 2026	23 August 2026	Tuesday 23 June 2026, 23:59 CEST
World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals	Qingdao, CHN	16 – 17 October 2026	N/A	Monday 17 August 2026, 23:59 CEST

World Rowing will share additional opportunities for Visual Classification at the competitions of other International Federations, if and as they become available.

Athletes who are awarded the Sport Class PR3-PI may not need to undergo In-Competition Observation and can be evaluated at any classification opportunity. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis during the evaluation session. Please contact classification@worldrowing.com if any doubt.

Classification

9. Mandatory Documentation for Classification Registration

Completing the Medical Diagnostics Form (MDF)



MEDICAL DIAGNOSTICS FORM FOR ATHLETES WITH A PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENT

This form is required to report an athlete's physical impairment in accordance with World Rowing's Classification Regulations for Para-Rowing.

Please complete this form **in English**, and submit any required or useful additional test results as separate documents in the portal. It must be completed in full and signed by a registered or licensed Medical Physician. Without this properly completed form, athletes may not be eligible to be classified.

The completed form with any attachments must be uploaded to the [World Rowing Online Classification Portal](#) by the Member Federation, no later than **60 days** prior to the scheduled Evaluation Session.

1. ATHLETE INFORMATION

Family Name:
Given Name:
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY):
Gender: Female: Male:
Address:
City: Country:
Member Federation:

2. MEDICAL INFORMATION

Taking into consideration that to be eligible for Para-Rowing, an Athlete must have an impairment that is the direct result of an underlying health condition which has resulted in a **permanent and verifiable activity limitation**.

2a. Please explain the Athlete's Health Condition (Diagnosis):

ICD-9 Code(s): , ICD-10 Code(s):

or ICD-11 Code(s):

Date of Onset of Health Condition:

Athlete's Age at Onset:

- The MDF must be completed by a registered **physician and in English**.
- Please include information that is **relevant to the permanent impairment**.



Mandatory Documentation - Physical

Permanent and Verifiable Impairment	Examples of health condition (diagnosis) likely to cause such impairment	Mandatory Supporting Documentation (must be uploaded to Classification Portal)
Impaired Muscle Power	Spinal cord injury, muscular dystrophy, brachial plexus injury, Erb's palsy, polio, spina bifida, Guillain-Barre syndrome	Manual Muscle Test results
Impaired Range of Movement	Arthrogryposis, ankylosis, post burns, joint contractures	Goniometric measurements
Limb deficiency	Amputation resulting from trauma or congenital limb deficiency.	Photograph and/or x-ray of affected limb
Hypertonia	Cerebral palsy, stroke, brain injury, multiple sclerosis	Modified Ashworth scale
Ataxia	Ataxia resulting from cerebral palsy, brain injury, Friedreich's ataxia, multiple sclerosis, spinocerebellar ataxia.	Modified Ashworth scale
Athetosis	Cerebral palsy, stroke, brain injury.	Modified Ashworth scale

All documents must be provided **in English** (official translation is accepted).

Visual Impairments: Completing the Medical Diagnostics Form (MDF)

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MEDICAL DIAGNOSTICS FORM (MDF) FOR ATHLETES WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

- To be **fully filled** in English, in **CAPITAL LETTERS**, typed or **black ink**. **All frames must be filled**.
- To be confirmed and certified by a **registered ophthalmologist**.
- **Cannot be older than 12 months** at the time of the athlete's International Classification. The same for the complementary medical documentation attached.
- Must be **uploaded in ISAS** (IBSA system) **6 weeks prior** to first classification day.
- See also **Text and Notes on page 3 and 4**. More detailed indication in VI Classification Manual.

• **At Classification athlete must show the original of the MDF uploaded and other medical documents required.**

To be filled by the National Federation

I - ATHLETE INFORMATION (as passport data)

Last name: _____ First name: _____
Gender: Female Male Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Nationality: _____
Sport: _____, NPC/NF: _____, ISAS registry: _____, SDMS (IPC): _____
 National Paralympic Committee (NPC) or National Federation (NF) certifies that there are no health risks and contra-indication for the athlete to compete at competitive level in the above sport. NPC/NF keeps all the relevant medical and legal documents about it.

Name (stamp) _____ Signature _____ Date: Day / Month / Year _____

II - PREVIOUS CLASSIFICATIONS

Last National Classification: Year: _____ Class: B1 B2 B3 Other _____
First International Classifications: New or Year: _____ Class: B1 B2 B3 NE _____
Last International Classification: Place: _____, Year: _____, Sport: _____
Actual International Class and Status: New or Protest / Reclassification accepted _____, or
Class: B1 B2 B3 Status: Review (next time) or Review Year _____; NE 1st panel; CNC _____

To be filled by Medical Doctor - Ophthalmologist

III - MEDICAL INFORMATION

A - Relevant systemic (non ophthalmic) pathology and medical information

Yes : _____

No

B - Visual, ophthalmic and associated diagnosis (short)

C - Ophthalmic medical data

Age of onset: _____ At present: Stable on the last _____ years Progressive
Anticipated future procedure(s): No Yes: _____ when: _____

D - Eye medication and allergies

Ophthalmic medication used by the athlete: No Yes : _____

Allergic reactions to ocular drugs: No Yes : _____

- The MDF must be be completed by a registered ophthalmologist and in English.
- Include information that is relevant to the permanent impairment

Mandatory Documentation - Visual

IV - ATTACHMENTS TO THE MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC FORM

1. Visual field test

For all athletes with a restricted visual field a **visual field test must be attached to this form.**

The athlete's visual field must be tested by **full-field test** (80 or 120 degrees) and also, depending on the pathology a 30, 24 or 10 degrees central field test.

One of the following perimeters must be used: **Goldman Perimeter (with stimulus III/4)**, Humphrey Field Analyzer or Octopus (Interzeag) with equivalent isopter to the Goldman III/4

2. Additional medical documentation: Specify which eye conditions the athlete is affected and what additional documentation is added to the Medical Diagnostic Form.

The ocular signs must correspond to the diagnosis and to the degree of vision loss. If the eye condition is obvious and visible and explains the loss of vision, no additional medical documentation is required. Otherwise the additional medical documentation indicated in the following table must be attached.

All additional medical documentation needs a short medical report, in English. When the medical documentation is incomplete or the report missing, the classification may not be concluded and the athlete cannot compete.

All documents must be provided **in English** (official translation is accepted).

To be filled by Medical Doctor - Ophthalmologist

Eye condition	Additional medical documentation required
<input type="checkbox"/> Anterior disease	none
<input type="checkbox"/> Macular disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Macular OCT <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye <input type="checkbox"/> Multifocal and/or pattern ERG* <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye <input type="checkbox"/> VEP* <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye <input type="checkbox"/> Pattern appearance VEP* <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye
<input type="checkbox"/> Peripheral retina disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Full field ERG* <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye <input type="checkbox"/> Pattern ERG* <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye
<input type="checkbox"/> Optic Nerve disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> OCT <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye <input type="checkbox"/> Pattern ERG* <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye <input type="checkbox"/> Pattern VEP* <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye <input type="checkbox"/> Pattern appearance VEP* <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye
<input type="checkbox"/> Cortical / Neurological disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pattern VEP* <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye <input type="checkbox"/> Pattern ERG* <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye <input type="checkbox"/> Pattern appearance VEP* <input type="checkbox"/> Right eye <input type="checkbox"/> Left eye
<input type="checkbox"/> Other relevant medical documentation added	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____

Classification

10. IPC Classification Code



IPC 2025 Classification Code – Updates for MFs

- Updates to the World Rowing Classification Regulations are expected to be published in Q1 of 2026.
- The new Classification regulations are based on the model rules provided by the IPC.

Updates for Member Federations:

- Tracking codes and designations
- Sport Class Statuses
- MF Protests



IPC 2025 Classification Code – Designations

- The below designations will be published on the Master Classification List, as applicable.

Designation	Description
New (N)	Once the UHC assessment is finished, and the UHC assessor is satisfied that the Athlete has (or has had) at least one medically and/or clinically diagnosed Underlying Health Condition, an Evaluation Session will be scheduled, and the Athlete will be allocated the designation 'New (N)'.
Not Eligible – Underlying Health Condition (NE-UHC)	<p>If the second UHC Assessor is not satisfied that the Athlete has (or has had) at least one medically and/or clinically diagnosed Underlying Health Condition.</p> <p>The Athlete is not eligible for an Evaluation Session.</p>
Not Eligible – Eligible Impairment (NE-EI)	<p>If the classification panel (second panel) is not satisfied that the athlete has an Eligible Impairment for Para Rowing.</p> <p>The evaluation session will stop after the Eligible Impairment Assessment.</p>
Not Eligible – Minimum Impairment Criteria (NE-MIC)	<p>If the Athlete's Eligible Impairment does not meet the Minimum Impairment Criteria.</p> <p>The evaluation session will stop after the Minimum Impairment Criteria Assessment.</p>

IPC 2025 Classification Code – Designations/ Tracking Codes

- The below designations will be published on the Master Classification List, as applicable.

Designation	Description
Classification Not Completed (CNC)	<p>An Athlete will be allocated CNC if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Evaluation Session is suspended by a Classification Panel for any reason- If the Athlete fails to attend an Evaluation Session and is unable to provide World Rowing with a reasonable explanation <p><u>If an Athlete is allocated CNC on three or more consecutive occasions, they will not be entitled to undergo any further Evaluation Sessions for four years.</u></p>
OA (Observation Assessment)	Used to note that the Athlete's final Sport Class is subject to confirmation at an Observation Assessment.

IPC 2025 Classification Code – Sport Class Statuses

Sport Class Status	Description
Confirmed (C)	<p>The Classification Panel is satisfied that the Athlete’s Sport Class is unlikely to change.</p> <p>No further evaluation is required. The Sport Class will be maintained indefinitely.</p>
Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R-NAO)	<p>Allocated if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the Classification Panel consisted of one Classifier, or two Classifiers who were both of the same nationality as the Athlete• Medical Review Request• National Federation or International Federation Protest• ‘Borderline’ cases• the Classification Panel believes that a further Evaluation Session will be required at the Next Available Opportunity within the current calendar year and/or season. <p>The Athlete must complete an Evaluation Session prior to competing at any Competition with a Classification opportunity.</p>

IPC 2025 Classification Code – Sport Class Statuses

Sport Class Status	Description
Review with a Fixed Review Date (R-FRD)	<p>Allocated if the Classification Panel believes that a further Evaluation Session will be required, but not within the current calendar year.</p> <p>The date of the Fixed Review Date will be after the end of the current calendar year.</p>
Expired (E)	<p>An Athlete with Sport Class Status 'Review at the Next Available Opportunity (R-NAO)' will automatically be allocated the Sport Class Status 'Expired (E)' if they have not completed a further Evaluation Session within three years.</p> <p>An Athlete with Sport Class Status 'Review with a Fixed Review Date (R-FRD)' will automatically be allocated the Sport Class Status 'Expired (E)' if they have not completed a further Evaluation Session within two years after the Fixed Review Date has passed.</p>

IPC 2025 Classification Code – NF Protests

In which circumstance can a National Federation make a protest?

- **A National Federation may only make a Protest in respect of an Athlete under its jurisdiction.**
- In particular, it cannot make a Protest in respect of a Sport Class allocated to an Athlete from another National Federation.
- However, it can raise any such concerns about the Sport Class allocated to such Athletes with World Rowing, so that World Rowing can consider if it wishes to make an International Federation Protest.
- A National Federation Protest may be made where there is a reasonable basis to believe that the Athlete may have been allocated an incorrect Sport Class.

IPC 2025 Classification Code – NF Protests

At what time can an NF protest be made?

If an Observation Assessment is required, the National Federation may:

make a Protest **both prior to and following the Observation Assessment**, in which case the Protest made following the Observation Assessment cannot relate to any aspect of the Evaluation Session that preceded the Observation Assessment;

or

make a Protest **only prior to the Observation Assessment or only following the Observation Assessment** (in which case the Protest may relate to both the aspects of the Evaluation Session that preceded the Observation Assessment and the Observation Assessment itself).

The deadline is **two hours** after the results of Athlete Evaluations are communicated to the Athlete and their National Federation

or no later than **two hours** after the final Sport Class and Sport Class Status following the In-Competition Observation are made official or published (if the Protest is made following the Observation Assessment).

Classification

11. 2026 Classification Workshops



2026 Classification Workshops



Location	Workshop Type	Dates
Paris, France	Basic Classification Workshop	28 – 30 April
Paris, France	Advanced Classification Workshop	27 – 1 May
Mexico City, Mexico	Basic Classification Workshop	29 October
<i>Tunis, Tunisia (tbc)</i>	<i>Basic Classification Workshop (tbc)</i>	<i>tbc</i>
<i>Tunis, Tunisia (tbc)</i>	<i>Advanced Classification Workshop (tbc)</i>	<i>tbc</i>

Classification

12. IPC Classification Research Grant



2025 IPC Classification Research Grant

Overview

This project has been created under the umbrella of the 2025 International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Classification Research Grant which aims to support the development and improvement of best practice and evidence-based classification systems in Para sports to strengthen the overall classification framework, enhance transparency, and promote trust in Para sport competitions.

Project Title

The relationship between impairment measures and performance determinants across PR sport classes: towards an evidence-based classification in Para rowing.

Research Team

- **Dr Martine Verheul (Principal Investigator)** at the University of Edinburgh will manage the project, coordinate the research team and supervise the Research Assistant on this research project. Dr Verheul has experience in classification research in World Para Athletics and World Para Dance Sport. Her research in World Para Athletics led to the implementation of a new, evidence-based classification system for frame running and the event making its Paralympic debut in Los Angeles in 2028.
- **Dr Georgios Machtsiras** is Lecturer in Biomechanics and a member of the Human Performance Science Group at the University of Edinburgh
- **Professor Tsang-Hai Huang** is Professor in Physical Education, Health & Leisure Studies at the National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan – responsible for the development of analysis software that will detect relevant kinematic features with 2D video footage.
- **Dr Chih-Hsien (Isaac) Huang** is Associate Professor at the Department of Electrical Engineering at the National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan. He has an expertise in force and motion capture techniques involving a wide variety of sensor types



THE UNIVERSITY
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2025 IPC Classification Research Grant

Research Aims

- The research will employ kinematic sensors, force sensors and video analysis to quantify performance determinants such as range of motion, movement smoothness and force exertion. Impairment scores will be collected and correlated with these performance determinants in order to answer the research questions and support the development of evidence-based classification criteria.
- Quantify the impact of impairment in joints and muscle groups responsible for the leg drive and trunk swing on determinants of performance in Para rowing across the PR classes.
- Conduct a cluster analysis to determine the optimal boundary between the PR1 and PR2 sport classes, and between the PR2 and PR3 sport classes.
- Conduct a regression analysis to determine the relative weighting of relevant joints/muscle groups in the impairment-performance relationship in the PR3 class.
- Minimal impairment thresholds. Define evidence-based, measurable impairment thresholds for each joint assessed during classification (i.e., shoulders, elbows, wrists, fingers, hips, knees, ankles).
- Establish sport-specific benchmarks that guide eligibility and sport class allocation.

Duration of the Project - 24 months

A background image of a rowing race on a body of water. Four rowers are visible in their respective boats, numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4 from front to back. The rowers are in various stages of their stroke. The water is dark blue, and the overall scene is dimly lit, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting. The text "Any Questions?" is overlaid in the center in a large, white, sans-serif font.

Any Questions?