

# Classification Information Sheet

## PARA-ROWING

This information is intended to be a generic guide to classification for Para-Rowing. The classification of athletes in this sport is performed by authorised classifiers according to the classification rules of the sport, which are determined by the International Federation (FISA).

### Which Paralympic impairment groups compete in Para-Rowing?

Impairment		Examples of health conditions
Vision Impairment		Albinism, Retinitis Pigmentosa, macular or rod cone dystrophy
Physical Impairment	Limb loss or deficiency	Amputation from trauma, cancer, Limb deficiency from birth
	Loss of muscle strength	Spinal cord injury, Spina Bifida, Transverse Myelitis, Sacral Agenesis, Spinal Tumours, Erbs Palsy, Muscular dystrophy
	Hypertonia Ataxia Athetosis	Cerebral palsy, acquired brain injury, stroke, brain tumor, Multiple sclerosis, cerebellar ataxia, Hereditary Spastic Paraparesis or other conditions where hypertonia (spasticity, rigidity or dystonia), ataxia or athetosis are present.
	Joint movement restrictions	Arthrogryposis, Talipes Equinovarus, joint fusions

### What is the Minimal Impairment Criteria?

Specific criteria is applied to each sport to determine if a person's impairment results in sufficient limitation in their sport. This is called the minimal impairment criteria. For more information page numbers of the [FISA Classification rules](#) are indicated in brackets.

Impairment		Minimal Disability – GUIDE ONLY
Vision Impairment		Visual acuity less than or equal to 6/60 (log MAR 1.0); or visual field is less than 20 degrees radius in both eyes with best corrected vision. (Page 24)
Physical Impairment	Limb loss or deficiency	Leg: Loss of half of one foot. (Page 4) Arm: Full loss of three fingers in one hand. (Page 4)
	Loss of muscle strength	Leg: Loss of strength in a hip, knee or ankle that impacts on rowing. (Page 19) Arm: Loss of strength in a shoulder, elbow, wrist or fingers that impacts on rowing. (Page 19)
	Hypertonia Ataxia Athetosis	Hypertonia (Spasticity, Rigidity or Dystonia), Ataxia or Athetosis that affect coordination in at least one joint. (Page 14)
	Joint movement restrictions	Leg: Joint movement restriction in one hip, knee or ankle that impacts on rowing. (Page 21) Arm: Joint movement restriction in one shoulder, elbow, wrist or fingers that impacts on rowing. (Page 21)

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### How do I get classified?

Contact Rowing Australia

Tara Huntly

[thuntly@rowingaustralia.com.au](mailto:thuntly@rowingaustralia.com.au)

### What are the Paralympic classes for this sport?

The list below is intended as a guide only. Only authorised classifiers are able to provide a formal classification in a particular sport.

Class	Examples (Guide Only)
LTA (Legs Trunk Arms)	<p>Rowers who have the use of their legs, trunk and arms, who can utilize the sliding seat. Rowers may have a physical or visual impairment. Rowers with a vision impairment wear a blindfold during competition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limb loss or deficiency, at least full loss of three fingers on one hand, or at least a tarsal metatarsal amputation of the foot,</li> <li>- Loss of muscle strength eg equivalent to incomplete spinal cord injury at S1</li> <li>- Minimal ataxia, athetosis, hypertonia. Eg Cerebral Palsy, brain injury, stroke or MS</li> </ul>
TA (Trunk Arms)	<p>Rowers who have trunk and arm movement, who are unable to use their legs to propel the sliding seat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limb loss or deficiency equivalent to a double above leg amputation</li> <li>- Significant muscle strength loss in both legs equivalent to complete spinal cord injury at L3 level or incomplete lesion at L1</li> <li>- Ataxia, athetosis or hypertonia from CP, brain injury or stroke which affects both legs or one side of the body</li> </ul>
AS (Arms Shoulders Only)	<p>Athletes row with their arms and shoulders only. Athletes use strapping around their mid section to provide support and stability in the boat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ataxia, athetosis or hypertonia from CP, brain injury or stroke who may use a wheelchair or walking aid</li> <li>- Loss of muscle strength equivalent to complete spinal cord injury at T12 level.</li> </ul>

### Further Information

National	<a href="http://rowingaustralia.com.au">Rowing Australia</a> E: <a href="mailto:thuntly@rowingaustralia.com.au">thuntly@rowingaustralia.com.au</a> P: +61 449 153 211	<a href="http://classification@paralympic.org.au">Australian Paralympic Committee</a> E: <a href="mailto:classification@paralympic.org.au">classification@paralympic.org.au</a> P: +61 2 9704 0500
International	<a href="http://fisa.org">FISA</a>	