

Para Athletes (Athletes with Physical, Visual and Intellectual Impairments) Classification

NZ Secondary Schools Athletic Championships

Timaru 4-6 December 2015

Athletes with Physical and Visual Impairments competing at the 2015 NZ Secondary Schools Athletics Championships in Timaru 4-6 December **are required** to have a National Classification. Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment **are required** to have a Provisional Classification. Classification ensures that athletes meet impairment eligibility and have an activity limitation.

Athletes who **do not have** a Provisional or National Classification will need to have completed one of the Provisional Classification forms (Physical, Visual or Intellectual Impairment, whichever is the most appropriate one) available on the NZSSAA or Paralympics New Zealand (PNZ) website. **THIS FORM NEEDS TO BE FORWARDED TO classification@paralympics.org.nz AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2015.**

Para Athletes with a **Physical Impairment only**, who have a Provisional but not a National Classification, are requested to be available in Timaru from the morning of **Friday 4th December** when you will be scheduled to attend a Classification Session. For information please refer to the PNZ Guide for Classification of Physical Impairment available on the NZSSAA www.nzssaa.org.nz and PNZ www.paralympics.org.nz websites.

Classifications and Competitions

Para Athletes will have a track classification (T) and/or a field classification (F). The following track and field classifications relate to the following impairments.

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| • T11 – T13 and F11 – F13 | Visual Impairment (VI) |
| • T20 and F20 | Intellectual Impairment (II) |
| • T32 – T38 and F31 – F38 | Cerebral Palsy (CP) |
| • T40 and F40 | Short Stature (SS) |
| • T42 – T46 and F42 – F46 | Amputees and Other Impairments (AO) |
| • T51 – T54 and F51 – F58 | Wheelchair Users (WC) |

There will be two competition divisions, Para Athletes with Intellectual Impairment (**II**) and Para Athletes with Physical Impairment (**PI**), including Para Athletes with Visual Impairment (**VI**). Within the Para Athletes with Physical Impairment division will be the 5 groups above excluding Intellectual Impairment T/F20 (**II**).

For the PI classification the results and placings will be calculated on a percentage of the world record for each classification. It will enable athletes with different impairments, cerebral palsy, vision, stature etc., to be fairly compared and compete for the PI medal and national title in their events.

The following events will be included: 100m, 200m, 400m, shot put, discus, javelin, long jump (a metre mat **WILL NOT** be used), high jump and road race. Schools contemplating entering athletes with disabilities should check the list of Para Athlete Standards.

Please note:

- Students with specific learning disabilities are not eligible for classification.
- Hearing impaired athletes are not eligible for classification as their physical abilities are comparable to those of their peers. However adequate provision should be made to ensure starting mechanisms are in place to allow for equal competition.

- Athletes with adequate residual vision to compete evenly with fully sighted peers will be encouraged to do so.
- Athletes with Behavioural Problems do not have a physical functional limitation compared to their peers and will be ineligible for classification.
- Some athletes may have multiple disabilities therefore teachers are to register students into the classification where the functional limitation is the greatest. For example, a student may have an intellectual disability as well as having di-plegic cerebral palsy affecting his balance and co-ordination – this pupil will be placed in the CP classification. A student may also have ADHD and also an intellectual disability – this student would be eligible for II classification.

Ages

There will be 2 age groups for each classification, junior (under 16) and senior (16 and over) on 31 December 2015.

It is important to note that the student with a disability who are ORS funded are entitled to stay at secondary school until the age of 21. Students in this category who will be aged 20 years and over on the 31st December 2015 need to apply for entry to oe@nzssaa.org.nz.

If you require any further information on classification for Para Athletes please email:

classification@paralympics.org.nz or oe@nzssaa.org.nz.