



Classification Policy and Procedures

The purpose of the Classification Policy and Procedures is to clearly define the systems of classification adopted by Athletics Australia and recognise the role of system partners. It will ensure the ongoing provision of a consistent and sustainable classification system nationally.

August 2012

Developed in consultation with

Australian Paralympic Committee | AUSRAPID | Deaf Sports Australia
Transplant Australia | State & Territory Athletics Associations

www.athletics.com.au

CONTENTS

1. Athletics Australia Classification System Overview	2
2. Paralympic Classification	4
3. Physical Impairment Classification	7
4. Vision Impairment Classification	11
5. Intellectual Impairment Classification	13
6. Hearing Impairment Classification	17
7. Transplant Classification	18

1 Athletics Australia Classification System Overview

1.1 Purpose

The Australian Athletics Classification System (herein referred to as “Classification”) provides a structure for competition for athletes with a disability. Athletes with disabilities have an impairment in body structures and functions that leads to a competitive disadvantage in sport. Consequently, criteria are put in place to ensure that winning is determined by skill, fitness, power, endurance, tactical ability and mental focus, the same factors that account for success in sport for athletes who are able-bodied. Classification is used to group athletes of similar physical, intellectual or sensory impairment into groups defined by the degree of activity limitation related to the impairment and/or specific to the tasks in the sport. In Australia classification is delivered as a free service, designed to ensure a fair environment for competition at all levels.

1.2 Minimal Disability Criteria

Each classification system has a set of minimal disability criteria that must be met. In order to be eligible to compete in Athletics as an athlete with a disability, it is not sufficient simply to have a disability. Specific criteria and testing is used to determine whether a person’s impairment results in sufficient activity limitation of their ability to perform the core elements of Athletics. Only authorised individuals, termed classifiers, are able to determine whether a person meets the minimal disability criteria for a particular class.

1.3 The Classes

There are several classes in the Australian athletics classification system. Athletes receive a class for both track and field. A prefix indicates which discipline the class applies to. The prefix ‘T’ indicates the class for Track events. The prefix ‘F’ indicates the class for Field events.

The classes are:

T/F 01	Hearing impairment (Non-Paralympic)
T/F 11-13	Athletes with a vision impairment (Paralympic)
T/F 20	Athletes with intellectual impairment (Paralympic)
T/F 31-38	Athletes with Cerebral Palsy, & Acquired Brain Injury or similar. Athletes who use a wheelchair to compete are in classes 31-34 and athletes who compete standing are in classes 35-38.
T/F 40-46	Athletes who are ambulant, with different levels of limb deficiency or limb loss, short stature, or congenital limb impairments.
T 51-54	Athletes with spinal cord damage, amputees or other conditions leading to loss of muscle power who compete using a wheelchair.
F 51-58	Athletes with spinal cord damage, amputees, or other conditions leading to loss of muscle power who throw from a seated position.
T/F 60	Transplant Recipients (Non-Paralympic)

1.4 National Classification Master List

The Australian Paralympic Committee manages the official Classification Master List of athlete's classification details for those athletes eligible for Paralympic classes. The APC maintains the confidential data storage of all athlete classification information. AA will only recognise national classification decisions of Australian classifiers where those classifiers are certified by the APC. The APC and AA are responsible for making public and providing certain classification information (name, state, date of birth, classification and status) to relevant parties such as the state athletics associations, school sport or disability sport organisations for the effective conduct of competition. Hearing and Transplant classification details are maintained by Deaf Sports Australia and Transplant Australia; please refer to sections 6 & 7 below.

1.5 Multiple Classifications

Athletes with more than one impairment type may be eligible for multiple classifications. Athletes must meet the minimal criteria for each relevant classification system. In competition athletes may only compete with one classification. The classification must be nominated when entering the meet and may not change throughout that Athletics meet.

2 Paralympic Classification

2.1 Australian Paralympic Committee

The Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) is the peak body in Australia for Paralympic Sport. As the National Paralympic Committee and signatory to the IPC Classification Code and International Standards (2007), the Australian Paralympic Committee is ultimately responsible for all Paralympic classification processes and procedures occurring within Australia. Paralympic classification includes the systems for athletes with a physical, vision or intellectual impairment.

2.2 Athletics Australia

Athletics Australia (AA) under the National Federation Deed of Agreement with the APC is responsible for the delivery of the Paralympic Preparation Program and for the establishment and facilitation of pathways for athletes in Athletics. This agreement outlines the obligations of AA to support the APC in delivery of a national classification strategy.

Athletics Australia accepts its roles and responsibilities under the Agreement and in accordance with the IPC Athletics Rules and IPC Classification Code include:

- 2.2.1 Ensuring that any classifications conform to the Code.
- 2.2.2 In conjunction with the APC, developing a National Classification strategy and practice standards that relate to:
 - athlete evaluation;
 - protests and appeals; and
 - classifier training and certification.
- 2.2.3 Structuring national competition in accordance with the classes defined by the IPC Athletics Classification Rules.
- 2.2.4 Developing and circulating classification information and education with reference to:
 - the sport classification rules; and
 - athlete's rights and responsibilities.
- 2.2.5 AA recognises the primacy of the IPC Classification Rules and associated athlete classifications over national classification activities.
- 2.2.6 AA will only recognise Australian classification activities that are conducted within the scope of this document.

2.3 National Classification Strategy

AA and the APC have committed to working collaboratively in the management and development of Athletics classification for the Paralympic classes. This commitment is detailed in the National Classification Plan. The plan aims to outline areas for growth and development of Paralympic classification systems and drive the direction for the continued improvement of classification in athletics.

2.4 Head of Classification

The Head of Classification is responsible to assist the APC and AA for developing the direction of Athletics Classification in Australia. The functions of the Head of Classification may be fulfilled by an individual or group of individuals designated as such by the APC and AA.

The role of the Head of Classification includes:

- i. Assist to guide the development of the National Classification Strategy for Athletics in Australia
- ii. Facilitate compliance with the IPC Classification Code and strategy and the sport specific classification requirements of Paralympic Athletics in Australia
- iii. Assist to Coordinate the classification activities for Athletics in Australia
- iv. Assist in the identification, training, opportunities and development of classifiers for athletics in Australia
- v. Ensure that the APC and AA and all Australian athletics classifiers have the current classification manual and information at all times
- vi. Provide advice on borderline cases for National Classification where required.
- vii. Provide advice to the management of national & international athletics classification protests in a way which complies with IPC Athletics rules and the IPC Classification Code and International Standard

2.5 Certification and Training of Australian Classifiers

Australian classifiers are volunteers who have completed all the required training and education to be recognised as a trainee, national or international classifier for Athletics and who have been certified by the Australian Paralympic Committee. All Athletics classifier training must be endorsed by the APC.

AA recognises that Australian Certified Classifiers must adhere to the conditions laid out in the APC Classifier Agreement, the IPC Code and the IPC Athletics Classification Rules when involved in activities under the jurisdiction of APC.

AA will recognise any disciplinary action taken by the APC against Australian Certified Classifiers who breach these policies or procedures when involved in APC activities.

The Classifier pathway can be found at www.paralympic.org.au

2.6 Athlete and Representatives Code of Conduct

Athletes and their associated representatives must conduct themselves according to the IPC Code and IPC Athletics Classification Rules when involved in activities under the jurisdiction of AA. Disciplinary action may be taken against members or athlete representatives who breach this policy when involved in AA activities.

Details of the APC Classification Standard: Protests and Appeals can be found at www.paralympic.org.au

2.7 Protests and Appeals

AA affords all Australian athletes the right to dispute Paralympic classification outcomes or processes, as outlined in the IPC Classification Code and IPC Athletics Classification Rules. Athletics Australia recognises the Protest and Appeals Processes of the APC and shall assist the processing of such formal disputes.

An **Appeal** refers to a formal objection to the manner or process in which classification procedures have been conducted.

A **Protest** refers to a formal objection to an athlete's sport class and/or status outcome which has been allocated through the classification process. See also "**Appeal**".

AA recognises that all protests and appeals directed to APC will remain confidential.

Details of the APC Classification Standard: Protests and Appeals can be found at www.paralympic.org.au

2.8 Delivering National Classification Services

AA and the APC will cooperate in the delivery of National Athlete Classification Services so that athletes at National Championships have obtained a National classification prior to competition. This includes a role for AA in providing support and leadership to classification stakeholders in the states and territories.

Classification information for all relevant events will be included in relevant competition entry information

To support delivery of Classification services the APC has developed the Event Organisers Guide for National Classification Services which AA will adopt.

The Event Organisers Guide can be found at www.paralympic.org.au

2.9 International Athlete Opportunities

Athletes wishing to compete at IPC Athletics sanctioned competitions must complete IPC Athletics International Classification processes. International Classification is conducted and managed by IPC Athletics. Typically, athletes selected to the Australian Paralympic Preparation Program (PPP) Squad undergo this level of classification. The APC will support AA in the PPP with preparations for International Classification.

Athletes must hold an IPC License prior to accessing International classification.

Athletes wishing to compete in International competitions outside of the PPP must obtain endorsement of AA.

3 Physical Impairment Classification

AA recognises IPC Athletics rules and regulations for classification of athletes with a physical impairment. However, this section provides consideration for the delivery of physical impairment classification in a national setting.

AA recognises the inclusion of classes via the system that will be introduced immediately post London 2012 Paralympic Games.

3.1 Stakeholders

3.1.1 International

International Paralympic Committee - Athletics (IPC - Athletics)
Web: www.ipc-athletics.paralympic.org

3.1.2 National

Australian Paralympic Committee (APC)
PO Box 596, Sydney Markets NSW
2129 Tel: +61 2 9704 0500
Fax: +61 2 9746 0189
Email:
classification@paralympic.org.au
Web: www.paralympic.org.au

3.2 Physical Impairment Classes

The list below contains examples of the type of disabilities found in each physical impairment class for Athletics, current at the date of publication. It is intended as a guide only. The list is not exhaustive and cannot be used for the classification of athletes as this classification can only be performed by certified classifiers.

Class	Examples (Guide Only)
Cerebral Palsy and Acquired Brain Injury (Track & Field Events)	
T/F 31	Quadriplegia (significant)
T/F 32	Significant quadriplegia, with athetosis or co-ordination difficulties affecting all 4 limbs.
T/F 33	Moderate Quadriplegia, primarily affecting 3 limbs
T/F 34	Moderate to significant spastic diplegia, minimal control problems in upper limbs and torso.
T/F 35	Ambulant spastic diplegia, mostly in lower limbs, minimal control problems in upper limbs.
T/F 36	Athetoid or Ataxic - Moderate involvement. Ambulates without walking devices.
T/F 37	Moderate to minimal hemiplegia (i.e. one half of the body affected – arm and leg on same side). Good functional ability in non affected side. Walks / runs without assistive devices, but with a limp.
T/F 38	Minimal hemiplegia, ataxia, diplegia or athetosis. Minimal co-ordination and balance difficulties.
Amputee & Short Stature	
T/F 40	Athletes with short stature due to achondroplasia or a variant of this. Standing height < 125cm; Arm length < 57cm; AND Sum of standing height and arm length < 173cm.

*T/F 41	Athletes with short stature due to achondroplasia or a variant of this. Standing height <145cm; • Arm length <66cm; AND • Sum of standing height plus arm length <200cm.
T/F 42	Single above or through knee amputation or equivalent.
T/F 43	Double leg, below knee amputation. Combined lower plus upper limb amputations. Normal function in throwing arm.
T/F 44	Single leg below knee amputation. Combined lower plus upper limb amputations. Ambulant with moderately reduced function in one or both lower limbs.
T/F 45	Double arm above or below elbow amputation. (F class split into two classes post London)
T/F 46	Single arm, above or below elbow amputation. Normal function in both lower limbs. Other impairments in trunk. Upper limb function in throwing.
T51	Minimal or no movement of legs and trunk, poor or absent sitting balance, significant weakness of hands, wrist elbow (extension) and also shoulder. E.g. Damage to the spinal cord high to mid areas in the cervical spine. Significantly modified wheelchair propulsion style.
T52	Damage to spinal cord in the higher parts of the back. Substantially impaired or no trunk function; minimal or no leg function. Pushing power comes from elbow extensions, and appears close to normal except for use of modified gloves to compensate for grip.
T53	Athletes with normal upper limb function, with no abdominal or lower spinal strength (poor sitting balance). Some interference in their ability to perform long and forceful strokes. E.g. high level paraplegia.
T54	Athletes with normal upper limb function with partial or normal trunk function (fair to normal sitting balance). Can produce forceful wheelchair propulsion strokes. E.g. Low level paraplegia, double above the knee amputations.
Athletes who use Wheelchairs (Field Events)	
F51	Similar to T 51. Minimal or no movement of legs and trunk, poor or absent sitting balance, significant weakness of hands, wrist elbow (extension) and also shoulder.
F52	Good shoulder function, usually reasonable elbow and wrist function but impaired hand function. Difficulty gripping with non-throwing arm. <i>Shot</i> – Unable to form a fist and therefore do not usually have finger contact with the shot at the release point. <i>Discus</i> – Have difficulty placing fingers over the edge of the discus. <i>Javelin</i> – Usually grip the Javelin between the index and middle fingers, or between the middle and ring fingers.
F53	Good shoulder, elbow, wrist and finger function, limited fine grip with wasting of the muscles in the hand. Have nearly normal grip with non-throwing arm.
F54	Normal arm function; no trunk or leg function. Shot, Discus and Javelin – Have no sitting balance and usually hold onto part of chair whilst throwing.
F55	Normal arm function, partial or normal trunk function; no leg function. Fair to good sitting balance. Eg. Bilateral amputation of both legs at level of hip joint, paraplegia.
F56	Normal trunk and upper limb function. Reasonable hip function, may have some knee function. Good balance and movements backwards and forwards. Eg Bilateral high above knee amputees (short stump) or low level spinal cord injury.
F57	If spinal cord injury, normal upper limb and trunk function. Normal hip and knee function, affected ankle function. May have one ‘good’ leg and one ‘bad’ leg. Good movement of

	trunk backwards and forwards, usually to one side. Can rise from a sitting to a standing position with assistance during the throw. Eg. Bilateral above knee amputations (long stump) or single amputation at level of hip joint.
F58	Seated. Better function than F57 athletes, but not enough to stand to throw. If Spinal cord injury, normal upper limb and trunk strength, normal hip and knee function and nearly normal ankle function. Must meet minimal disability criteria.
NE (Not Eligible)	This athlete does not meet minimum eligibility for the physical classification. This swimmer is not eligible for competition where classification is required at any level of athletics.

* Class recognised under the post London 2012 classification rules & regulations.

Note: Athletes who are not able to fully complete all elements of the classification process for various reasons are not allocated a class or status. These athletes may be able to present to classification again at a later date.

3.3 National Sport Class Status

All physical impairment classifications are allocated a Sport Class Status which indicates conditions of an athlete's classification. Athletics Australia recognises the following sport class status:

Status	Valid for
Provisional Status	Valid for club, school, local and regional levels of competition. Generally not valid for state level competition.
National Review Status	Valid for all levels of Australian competition and is the minimum required for selection to AA National teams and to claim Australian records or rankings.
National Confirmed status	Valid for all levels of Australian competition and is required for selection to National teams and to claim Australian records or rankings.

The allocation of Sport class status is the responsibility of Australian classifiers. Athletics Australia defers to the APC Classification Standard: Athletes Evaluation for process surrounding the allocation of Sport class status. www.paralympic.org.au

3.4 Athlete Evaluation Process

3.4.1 Provisional National Athlete Evaluation

This process provides an indication of class and is intended for athletes who do not have access to a full classification panel. Provisional National Athlete Evaluation is allocated by a certified classifier and is conducted in line with international classification rules for athletics. Conditions of a Provisional National Athlete Evaluation are outlined in 3.3 National Sport Class Status.

There are 2 types of Provisional National Athlete Evaluations available in Athletics.

a) Remote Process:

- a) Athlete obtains Physical Impairment Provisional National Athlete Evaluation Sheets from the APC.
- b) Approved specialist completes testing outlined in the Test sheets
- c) Athlete returns completed Sheets to the APC.
- d) The APC forwards information to an approved medical classifier
- e) Classifier determines classification and returns completed forms to the APC.
- f) Provisional classification details are recorded in the National Classification Master List.
- g) The APC informs the athlete.

b) Face to Face Process:

This is conducted in line with the National Athlete Evaluation processes outlined in 3.4.2 below, where a single classifier(s) has reviewed the athlete but this has not met the requirements of 1 Medical and 1 Technical Classifier as outlined below.

3.4.2 National Athlete Evaluation

This procedure is conducted by a certified Classification Panel consisting of at least one medical and one technical classifier. Athlete Evaluation is recorded on the National athletics classification card. The athlete must meet the minimum eligibility criteria as outlined in the IPC Athletics Rules and Classification Code. Conditions of a National Athlete Evaluation are outlined in 3.3 National Sport Class Status.

The National Athlete Evaluation Process includes three components:

1. Physical Assessment
2. Technical Assessment
3. Observation Assessment

Note: If not deemed necessary by classifiers, not all phases of the process must be completed

Process:

- a) Athlete contacts their state athletics association, AA or the APC to register for Athlete Evaluation and receive more information.
- b) Athlete attends scheduled Athlete Evaluation session
- c) Classification panel conducts Athlete Assessments and notifies athlete of the outcome.
- d) Classifier forwards original completed Athlete Evaluation Sheets to the APC and provides a copy of the sheets to the athlete.
- e) Classification details are recorded in the National Classification Master List.

3.4.3 International Athlete Evaluation

Athlete wishing to compete at IPC – Athletics sanctioned international competition must complete IPC Athletics International Athlete Evaluation. Typically athletes selected to Australian Athletics Teams or Squads receive this level of classification. International Athlete Evaluation is conducted and managed by IPC-Athletics in conjunction with the APC and AA. The APC provide support to the AA high performance program as requested in preparation for International Athlete Evaluation

4 Vision Impairment Classification

AA adopts IPC–Athletics rules and regulations for classification of athletes with vision impairment. However, this section provides consideration for the delivery of vision impaired classification in a national setting.

4.1 Stakeholders

4.1.1 International

International Paralympic Committee - Athletics (IPC - Athletics)
Web: www.ipc-athletics.paralympic.org

4.1.2 National

Australian Paralympic Committee (APC)
PO Box 596, Sydney Markets NSW
2129 Tel: +61 2 9704 0500
Fax: +61 2 9746 0189
Email:
classification@paralympic.org.au Web:
www.paralympic.org.au

4.2 Vision Impairment Classes

Vision impairment classifications are allocated by certified APC Vision Classifiers in accordance with the IPC-Athletics Classification Rules.

Class	Examples (Guide Only)
Vision Impairment (Track and Field Events)	
T/F 11	From no light perception in either eye to light perception, but inability to recognise the shape of a hand at any distance or in any direction.
T/F 12	Ability to recognise objects up to a distance of 2 metres i.e. below 2/60 and/or visual field of less than five (5) degrees.
T/F 13	Can recognise contours between 2 and 6 metres away i.e. 2/60 – 6/60 and/or visual field of more than five (5) degrees and less than twenty (20) degrees.

Note: Athletes who are not able to fully complete all elements of the classification process for various reasons are deemed not classifiable and are not allocated a class or status. These athletes may present to classification again at a later date.

4.3 National Sport Class Status

All classifications are allocated a Sport Class Status which indicates conditions of an athlete's vision impairment classification.

Status	Valid for
Provisional Status	Valid for club, school, local and regional levels of competition. Generally not valid for state level competition.
National Review Status	Valid for all levels of Australian competition and is the minimum required for selection to AA National teams and to claim Australian records or rankings.
National Confirmed status	Valid for all levels of Australian competition and is required for selection to National teams and to claim Australian records or rankings.

4.4 Athlete Evaluation Process

Two Athlete Evaluation options are available.

4.4.1 Provisional Athlete Evaluation

This process is intended for athletes who do not have access to an approved APC VI Classifier. A provisional athlete evaluation provides an indication of classification and is allocated by a certified APC VI classifier, in line with international classification rules for athletics. Conditions of a Provisional Athlete Evaluation are outlined in 4.3 National Sport Class Status.

- a) Athlete obtains VI Provisional National Athlete Evaluation Sheets from the APC office.
- b) Athlete visits their local ophthalmic professional to complete the Sheets.
- c) Athlete forwards the Sheets to the APC office in their state who will in turn forward to a trained National VI Classifier who will complete the evaluation
- d) Completed forms are forwarded to the APC who in turn will forward a copy to AA
- e) Classification details are recorded in the National Classification Master List
- f) APC to inform the athlete.

4.4.2 National Athlete Evaluation

- a) Athlete contacts APC office in their state to register for Athlete Evaluation
- b) Classifier completes relevant assessment using the Vision Impairment Athlete Evaluation Sheet and then forward results to the APC.
- c) APC informs athlete and forwards copy to AA.
- d) Classification details are recorded in the National Classification Master List.

4.4.3 International Athlete Evaluation

Athlete wishing to compete at IPC – Athletics sanctioned international competition must complete IPC Athletics International Athlete Evaluation. Typically athletes selected to Australian Athletics Teams or Squads receive this level of classification. International Athlete Evaluation is conducted and managed by IPC-Athletics in conjunction with the APC and AA. The APC provide support to the AA high performance program as requested in preparation for International Athlete Evaluation.

5 Intellectual Impairment Classification

AA recognises AUSRAPID as the organisation in Australia responsible for determining eligibility of athletes with intellectual impairment and adheres to the eligibility criteria and processes administered by AUSRAPID.

5.1 Stakeholders

5.1.1 International

- a) INAS (International Federation for Sport for Para-Athletes with an Intellectual Disability)
Web: www.inas.org
- b) International Paralympic Committee - Athletics (IPC - Athletics)
Web: www.ipc-athletics.org

5.1.2 National

- a) Australian Sport and Recreation Association for People with Integration Difficulties (AUSRAPID)
4 Lowry Place Benalla VIC
3672 Tel: +61 3 5762 7494
Fax: +61 3 5762 3560
Email:
mail@ausrapid.org.au
Web: www.ausrapid.org.au
- b) Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) PO Box 596, Sydney Markets NSW 2129 Tel: +61 2 9704 0513
Fax: +61 2 9746 0189
Email:
classification@paralympic.org.au
Web: www.paralympic.org.au

5.2 Intellectual Impairment Classes

Intellectual impairment classifications are allocated in accordance with the AUSRAPID eligibility criteria (available at www.ausrapid.org.au).

Class	(Guide Only)
Intellectual disability	
T/F 20	<p>Minimal disability criteria for a Intellectual Disability is defined as;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Significant impairment in intellectual functioning as indicated by a full scale score of 75 or lower on an internationally recognized and professionally administered IQ test (eg a WISC-R or WAIS-III) 2. Significant limitations in adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social, and practical adaptive skills 3. Developmental Evidence of Intellectual disability prior to 18 years of age. <p>At a national level evidence of points 1, 2, 3 is sufficient to compete in T/F20 classes.</p>
International Only Please See 5.4.3	<p>Complete TSAL form (available via the INAS website – www.inas.org) prior to seeing international classification panel.</p>

5.3 National Sports Class Status

All classifications are allocated a status which indicates conditions of an athlete's classification.

5.3.1 Provisional Status

- i. A Provisional Status is indicated by the status code Pr
- ii. A Pr status is allocated to athletes having undergone the provisional national athlete evaluation process by completing:
 - a. an AUSRAPID Provisional Eligibility Application or
 - b. another process approved by AUSRAPID (e.g. state based processes such as lifestream)
- iii. A Pr status classification provides an indication of class only
- iv. A Pr status classification is valid for club, local and regional levels of competition
- v. Validity for state championships is determined by the relevant State Association
- vi. A Pr status classification is not valid for National Championships, team selections or records (unless otherwise stated)

5.3.2 National Confirmed Status

- vii. A National Confirmed Status is indicated by the Status Code NC
- viii. A NC Classification is allocated to athletes having undergone national athlete evaluation by completing the AUSRAPID Eligibility Application
- ix. A NC status classification is valid for all levels of Australian competition
- x. NC status is also allocated to athletes deemed to be Not Eligible (NE)

5.4 Athlete Evaluation Process

5.4.1 Provisional National Athlete Evaluation

Provisional National Athlete Evaluation is intended for those who do not yet have the full documentation required for a National Athlete Evaluation, those new to the sport or in other circumstances preventing completion of the National Athlete Evaluation process. Conditions of a Provisional Athlete Evaluation are outlined in 5.3 National Class Status above.

Athletes completing Provisional National Athlete Evaluation must meet the criteria outlined in 5.2 Intellectual Impairment Class and complete the following application process;

- i. AUSRAPID provisional eligibility application
 - a) Athlete contacts their state RAPID member to obtain and complete the state based eligibility process.
 - b) State RAPID member to process application and advise the athlete of the outcome
 - c) State RAPID advises AUSRAPID of approved athletes
 - d) Classification details are recorded in the National Classification Master List

Note: proof of completing a state based eligibility process approved by AUSRAPID will also be considered for Provisional Eligibility.

5.4.2 National Athlete Evaluation

For athletes competing at State (unless otherwise indicated by the State Association) and National level championships, the AUSRAPID Eligibility Application is to be completed. This process confirms that the athlete meets the primary eligibility criteria. This is the preferred eligibility process. Conditions of a National Classification are outlined in 5.3.2 above.

- a) Contact AUSRAPID to complete the AUSRAPID Eligibility Application Form
- b) AUSRAPID to process application and advise athlete of the outcome
- c) AUSRAPID advises AA and APC of approved athletes
- d) Classification details are recorded in the National Classification Master List

5.4.3 International Athlete Evaluation

International Athlete Evaluation is generally for athletes who have been selected for an Australian Athletics Team or Squad. For eligibility to compete internationally, Athlete Evaluation is a two stage process.

- a) Primary Eligibility Check* (Administered by INAS) determines that an athlete meets the eligibility criteria in 5.2 above. Athletes contact AUSRAPID to obtain the application form. Eligible athletes are recorded on the INAS Classification Master List (available at www.inas.org).
- b) Sports-Specific Athlete Evaluation – this process is determined by IPC -Athletics. In Australia, this process is co-ordinated through the APC and AA. This testing is used to determine whether a person's intellectual disability results in sufficient limitation in their ability to perform the core elements of athletics. This process can only be performed by accredited international classifiers. Athletes must have completed an IPC Athletics TSAL questionnaire and hold a valid IPC Athletics licence in order to complete international athlete evaluation.

*Testing documents for the INAS Primary Eligibility Check must have been completed within five (5) years of applying for eligibility. It is recommended for athletes who show potential or aspire to compete at international level they should complete the Primary Eligibility Check as early as possible.

6 Hearing Impairment Classification

AA recognises Deaf Sports Australia (DSA) as the responsible body for determining eligibility for people with hearing impairment, in accordance with the DSA Athlete Eligibility Policy. AA and DSA have established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This MOU details the agreement to cooperate on the further development of athletics opportunities for people who are deaf or have a hearing impairment, including athlete eligibility.

6.1 Stakeholders

6.1.1 International

International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD)
Web: www.deaflympics.org

6.1.2 National

Deaf Sports Australia (DSA)
Level 3, 340 Albert Street
East Melbourne, VIC 3002
Tel: (03) 9473 1191
Fax: (03) 9473 1122
Email:
irena.farinacci@deafsports.org.au
Web: www.deafsports.org.au

6.2 Hearing Impairment Class

AA recognises one class for athletes with hearing impairment. A T/F 01 class is valid for all levels of competition where classifications are applied in Australia. Classified athletes are eligible for national rankings, records and team selection.

Class	Examples (Guide Only)
Hearing Impairment (Track and Field Events)	
T/F 01	A hearing loss of at least 55db in the better ear assessed by an Audiologist.

Note: DSA recognise the classification code **AU1 – Hearing Loss 40 – 54 dB 3FAHL** as eligible to compete in DSA approved events (e.g. Australian Deaf Games).

6.3 Eligibility Process

6.3.1 National Eligibility

To be considered for a hearing impairment classification athletes must complete an unaided pure tone Audiogram test completed by an Audiologist and submitted to DSA as outlined below.

1. Obtain the Audiogram Form from Deaf Sports Australia.
2. Athlete takes Audiogram Form to Audiologist to confirm level of hearing loss.
3. Completed Audiogram Form submitted to DSA
4. DSA assess the application and responds to athlete advising class eligibility
5. Classification details are recorded on the Athlete Eligibility database maintained by DSA and made available to members on request.

6.3.2 International Eligibility

Athletes who meet the DSA eligibility requirements will be recognised for ICSD sanctioned international competition. International competition opportunities are managed by DSA.

7 Transplant Classification

AA adopts the eligibility criteria determined by the World Transplant Games Federation (WTGF). This section however provides consideration for the delivery of transplant classification in a national setting.

7.1 Stakeholders

7.1.1 International

World Transplant Games Federation
Web: www.wtgf.org

7.1.2 National

Transplant Australia
PO Box 592, North Sydney NSW 2059
Tel: 1800 827 757 or 02 9922 5400
Fax: 02 9954 6412
Email: contactus@transplant.org.au
Web: www.transplant.org.au

7.2 Transplant Class

Transplant classifications are allocated in accordance with the World Transplant Games Federation eligibility criteria. T/F 60 class is valid for all levels of competition where classifications are applied in Australia. Classified athletes are eligible for national rankings, records and team selections.

Class	Examples (Guide Only)
Transplant Recipients (Track and Field Events)	
T/F 60	Kidney, heart and lung, liver, kidney or bone marrow transplant.

Note: Transplant Australia recognises a second category 'tissue transplant recipients' at the Australian Transplant Games. This category includes corneal, heart valve and other tissue transplants.

7.3 Eligibility Process

7.3.1 National Eligibility

1. Athlete obtains a Medical Certificate from their transplant specialist confirming details of the transplant. Note: The transplant specialist must also deem the athlete fit to participate in athletics competition in order to be eligible.
2. Athlete sends the Medical Certificate to Transplant Australia
3. Classification details are recorded on a database, maintained by Transplant Australia.

7.3.2 International Eligibility

Athletes who have received a transplant may compete internationally at the World Transplant Games. National team selection is made by Transplant Australia. Eligibility is determined by the World Transplant Games Federation.