



## PROVISIONAL ATHLETICS CLASSIFICATION

### INFORMATION FOR ATHLETES, PARENTS, AND TEACHERS

#### **What is classification?**

Athletes (8 years or older) with an eligible physical impairment can compete in their school athletics carnivals/local athletics club with a classification. Classification involves an assessment of impairments and how this affects running, throwing, and jumping for athletics.

Eligible physical impairments are hypertonia (eg. Cerebral palsy, acquired brain injury), ataxia (e. Cerebral palsy), athetosis (eg. Cerebral palsy), impaired muscle power (eg. Spinal cord injury, muscular dystrophy), impaired range of motion (eg. Arthrogyrosis), limb deficiency (eg. Amputation, dysmelia), leg length difference (eg. Trauma to growth plate) and short stature. Please note there is an established minimal impairment criteria that a child must meet to be eligible.

#### **What is the process?**

Any Physiotherapist, General Practitioner, Paediatrician or other neuro specialist can complete the provisional classification form that can be found on the Australian Athletics website.

A trained classifier will then consider the completed assessment findings and allocate a class. This class allows the athlete to compete up to and including state level competition, so it is perfect for getting started. If the athlete wants to pursue higher level competition, they have the opportunity to be classified by a formal panel at a state or national level event. Opportunities are made available on the National Classification Calendar on the Australian Athletics website.

The athlete will be emailed with a summary sheet that highlights the athlete's class. Once classified, athletes can compete in athletics events up to and including state level.

For further guidance and support, please contact [classification@athletics.org.au](mailto:classification@athletics.org.au) with any questions or queries.