COMPLIANCE CRITERIA AND SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

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1. INTRODUCTION TO THE SURVEY

The following text will be included as the introduction to the self-assessment survey, shared using a free online tool <u>Lime Survey</u>:

Dear IF/IOSD/RIF,

The 2025 IF self-assessment survey is designed for International Federations (**IFs**), International Organisations of Sport for the Disabled (**IOSDs**) and Recognised International Federations (**RIFs**) and is part of the compliance programme under the 2025 IPC Classification Code and International Standards (the **2025 Code**). Please note that throughout the survey the term "IF" refers to IFs, IOSDs and RIFs unless expressly stated otherwise.

The aim of the survey is to understand what processes are currently in place and what each IF needs to change and implement under the 2025 Code. For IFs, completing the survey will help each organisation understand what is required under the 2025 Code and will also serve as a basis from which IFs can develop their compliance plan. The IPC will use the survey in establishing how best to support IFs in implementing the 2025 Code and achieving Code compliance.

The 2025 Code and International Standards, and other supporting documents are available on IPC website: <u>Handbook</u> and <u>Classification Code review</u>.

IFs are encouraged to adopt the Model Rules designed to facilitate IF implementation of the 2025 Code.

The survey includes:

- An overview of each of the Compliance criteria these criteria include a reference to the 2025 Code where full details can be found, as well as a summary of the main points under each of the criteria. While the provisions of the 2025 Code must be implemented in full, the summary included in the survey is intended (for information purposes only) to provide an overview of what is captured under each of the criteria.
- Questions about current rules processes these should be answered in cases where the current rules reflect the provisions from the 2015 Code and the relevant provisions from the 2025 Code have not yet been implemented.
- Questions about 2025 Code implementation.
- The opportunity for additional information to be provided under some criteria.
- The opportunity to provide feedback on the survey.

• A section to submit a Compliance Plan

Survey Instructions

- Please answer the questions objectively and accurately, and provide sufficient detail.
- The survey does not need to be completed in one sitting. The survey allows for progress to be saved throughout.
- Alongside some of the questions there will be help in how to best answer them.
- If any questions are not applicable to your IF, please simply indicate this.
- Where applicable, if the IF has documented rules and procedures which address the questions asked - either within the Classification rules or other documents - referencing the relevant provisions and documents may be sufficient in answering the questions. In these cases, please provide links to the applicable rules - making sure that access is provided - and include the reference to relevant articles/sections (for example, the IF provides a link or attaches the IF Classification rules, and includes a reference to article(s) XX in respect to the question they are answering).
- Where applicable, please include answers for each of the impairment types the Sport caters for.
- In the process of completing the survey, the IF is encouraged to engage with and carry out relevant consultations with their respective Classification Personnel, IF management and leadership, and any other stakeholders as deemed appropriate by the IF.
- The IF is strongly encouraged to be read the 2025 Code and Standards alongside completing this survey

We kindly ask for your response by 30 November 2025.

Thank you for your time in completing the survey. If you have any questions, please contact <u>codecompliance@paralympic.org</u>.

Kind regards,

IPC Classification team

2. COMPLIANCE CRITERIA AND SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

2.1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of organisation:

Name and role of person(s) submitting the survey:

Contact email address:

Who was involved in answering the questions in the survey? (Please provide the individual names and their roles within your organisation):

Who has been consulted in completing the survey?

2.2. DOCUMENTS SUPPLEMENTING THE SURVEY

In addition to answering the questions, please supplement your response with the relevant documents. The below is a list of examples of the documents that may be submitted:

- IF Classification rules
- IF sport/competition rules
- Template forms (medical diagnostic form, classification form, protest form, medical review request form, declaration of conflict form, and any other form relevant to any part of the Classification process)

2.3. PURPOSE OF CLASSIFICATION

2025 Code reference: Article 1

CRITERIA:

Each IF must incorporate the definition and purpose of Classification in its Classification rules, as specified in the 2025 Code.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

• Please indicate where in your rules the definition of Classification and its purpose can be found?

2025 Code implementation

- Do the definition and/or purpose differ from the 2025 Code?
- If yes, please explain the rationale.

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• What is the envisaged process and timeframe to implement the provisions from the 2025 Code?

2.4. SCOPE OF THE CODE

2025 Code reference: Article 3

CRITERIA:

IFs must clearly state which disciplines/sports fall within the scope of the Code. IFs must also include a list of Competitions that fall under the definition of Covered Competition.

QUESTIONS:

2025 Code implementation

- Which sport(s)/discipline(s) that your organisation governs fall within the scope of the Code?
- What competitions will be considered as a Covered Competition under the 2025 Code (please specify the list if known at the time of submitting the survey, and/or reference the relevant articles from the rules)?
- If these criteria are not yet addressed within your IF, what is the envisaged process and timeframe to implement the provisions from the 2025 Code?

Additional information

• Please specify a qualification pathway(s) to the Paralympic Games (in respect of IFs) or World Championships (in respect of RIFs). If available, please also attach the link(s) or send a separate file(s) with the relevant qualification regulations.

2.5. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

2025 Code reference: Article 5

CRITERIA:

IFs must implement a four-stage Classification process consisting of:

- Stage 1 Underlying Health Condition (UHC) Assessment
- Stage 2 Eligible Impairment Assessment
- Stage 3 Minimum Impairment Criteria (MIC) Assessment
- Stage 4 Sport Class Assessment and Sport Class Status allocation

Each stage must be clearly defined including the methodology used to assess Athletes.

QUESTIONS:

Note: While answering below questions please consider the responses related to PI, VI and II (if applicable to your sport).

Current rules and processes

• Please provide an overview of the stages in your current Classification process. Please reference the articles within your rules.

2025 Code implementation

- Are the four stages currently part of your Classification process and described in the IF Classification rules?
- If not, what is the process and timeframe to implement the provisions from the 2025 Code?

2.6. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES - STAGE 1<u>(UHC</u> <u>ASSESSMENT)</u>

2025 Code reference: Articles 6, 11, 12, and 13

CRITERIA:

IFs must have a process in place for how they conduct an UHC Assessment, including:

- Who is responsible for conducting the UHC Assessment for Athletes with a Physical Impairment, an Intellectual Impairment and a Vision Impairment (as applicable).
- The process for conducting the UHC Assessment, as described in the 2025 Code, including a process for re-assessment and the use of designation NE-UHC.

QUESTIONS:

Note: While answering below questions please consider the responses related to PI, VI and II (if applicable to your sport).

Current rules and processes

• Please describe the process of how Diagnostic Information is currently assessed prior to or at the time of the Evaluation Session? Please indicate where this is addressed in your rules.

- Does your IF regulate who submits Diagnostic Information and who is permitted to sign the Medical Diagnostic Form (or equivalent form) submitted on behalf of the Athlete?
- Who is currently reviewing the Diagnostic Information? Is this one individual or more? What qualifications do they have to conduct this assessment?
- Does the IF have the option to consult experts? If so, please describe who is consulted.
- What is the process when the Athlete is considered not to have an Underlying Health Condition that leads to an Eligible Impairment based on the submitted Diagnostic Information?

2025 Code implementation

- Please describe who is responsible for conducting the UHC Assessments for each of the impairment types. If this has not yet been established, please provide details on the process and timelines to implement the provisions from the 2025 Code.
- Please indicate the provisions in the rules referring to how UHC Assessment is conducted, including the process for re-assessment and the use of NE-UHC designation, or alternatively describe the process and timelines to implement this.

2.7. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES - STAGE 2 (ELIGIBLE IMPAIRMENT ASSESSMENT)

2025 Code reference: Articles 14 and 15

CRITERIA:

IFs must specify in their rules how a Classification Panel will evaluate whether an Athlete has an Eligible Impairment catered for by that sport, including the requirements listed in the 2025 Code in respect to:

- Reviewing and verifying (i) that the Athlete has an Eligible Impairment catered for by the sport that is consistent with one or more Underlying Health Condition(s) reported in the UHC Assessment, and (ii) that there are no inconsistencies with such reported Underlying Health Condition(s).
- An in-person assessment by the Classification Panel.
- Criteria for the assessment of an Eligible Impairment.
- Process and provisions around designation NE-EI, including the second assessment.

QUESTIONS:

Note: While answering the below questions please consider the responses related to PI, VI and II (if applicable to your sport).

Current rules and processes

- How is the presence of an Eligible Impairment assessed? Is it conducted in isolation or in combination with the MIC Assessment? Please indicate relevant sections from the rules.
- What is the process when an Athlete is considered not to have an Eligible Impairment?
- What is the process where inconsistences are found between the Diagnostic Information/Underlying Health Condition and Eligible Impairment presented during the Evaluation Session with a Classification Panel? Do you have examples of this occurring?

2025 Code implementation

• Please indicate the provisions in the rules referring to how the Eligible Impairment Assessment is conducted, including the process for reassessment and the use of NE-EI designation, or alternatively describe the process and timelines to implement this.

2.8. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES - STAGE 3 (MIC ASSESSMENT)

2025 Code reference: Articles 16 And 17

CRITERIA:

IFs must specify in their rules how a Classification Panel will evaluate whether an Athlete meets the Minimum Impairment Criteria for each Eligible Impairment catered for by the sport, including:

- Defining Minimum Impairment Criteria for each Eligible Impairment, or when applicable each sub-type of Eligible Impairment, as prescribed in the 2025 Code.
- An in-person assessment by the Classification Panel.
- Adaptive Equipment not being considered in the MIC Assessment.
- Having a full description of the assessment methodology for the Minimum Impairment Criteria.
- Process and provisions around the designation of NE-MIC, including the Athlete's entitlement to a second assessment.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

- Is the Minimum Impairment Criteria currently defined per each Eligible Impairment?
- If yes, for each Eligible Impairment type please explain how the Minimum Impairment Criteria is assessed. (Note: You may consider copying this information from the 2022 classification survey in case your IF provided a comprehensive answer before and there has been no change since then.) Please indicate where this is addressed in your rules.
- If no, please explain how the Minimum Impairment Criteria is assessed.
- If the Minimum Impairment Criteria is only defined for certain Eligible Impairments, for each Minimum Impairment Criteria defined per Eligible Impairment please explain how is assessed. For those that are not defined, please also explain how these are assessed.
- How is Adaptive Equipment currently addressed in PI, II and/or VI Classification during MIC Assessment?
- How does a Classification Panel determine whether an Athlete complies with the relevant Minimum Impairment Criteria? For example, does the Panel do so by evaluating the Athlete's Eligible Impairment, the Athlete's ability to execute the tasks or activities performed in the sport, or a combination of these (and/or perhaps other) approaches?

2025 Code implementation

- Do your rules capture the requirements around Stage 3 of the Classification process? If not, please provide the details on the process and timelines for implementing the provisions from the 2025 Code.
- Please indicate if any changes in respect to MIC assessment are anticipated in the near future.

2.9. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES - STAGE 4 (SPORT CLASS ASSESSMENT, SPORT CLASS STATUS ALLOCATION)

2025 Code reference: Articles 18 and 19

CRITERIA:

IFs must specify in their rules how a Classification Panel will conduct the Sport Class Assessment and Sport Class Status allocation, including:

• specifying and defining its Sport Classes by reference to the extent to which the Athlete's Eligible Impairment(s) impact(s) their ability to execute the

specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport, including the impact of any Adaptive Equipment;

- setting out the assessment methodology and assessment criteria that the Classification Panel will use
- setting out what Adaptive Equipment (if any) may and may not be used by Athletes within each Sport Class, and whether the use of such Adaptive Equipment is mandatory or optional within that Sport Class;
- whether Sport Class Assessment considers one or multiple Eligible Impairments;
- whether it is possible for the Athlete to be allocated multiple Sport Classes and if so, the regulations concerning that process; and
- Sports Class Status allocation and its impact on participation at Covered Competitions.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

- Please identify which components of the process are considered for Sport Class allocation (e.g. Minimum Impairment Criteria Assessment, technical assessment/sport-specific Assessment and/or Observation Assessment) and describe the criteria for allocating each Sport Class.
- Does the Sport Class Assessment consider multiple Eligible Impairments or it is based only on the individual Eligible Impairment for which the Minimum Impairment Criteria were met?
- If the Sport Class Assessment takes into account multiple Eligible Impairments, please share the details of the approach and assessment process.
- Can a Sport Class comprise Athletes with different Eligible Impairments, where every Athlete meets the Minimum Impairment Criteria for their own Eligible Impairment? If so, please provide the details.

2025 Code implementation

• Please indicate the provisions in the rules referring to how Sport Class Assessment and allocation is conducted, including the process for Sport Class Assessment, use of Adaptive Equipment and Observation Assessment, Sport Class Statuses and their allocation and impact on participating at Covered Competitions; or alternatively describe the process and timelines to implement this.

- Do your rules capture the 2025 Code requirements concerning Sport Class Assessment and allocation? If not, please provide the details on the process and timelines for implementing the provisions from the 2025 Code.
- Please indicate if any changes in respect to Sport Class Assessment and allocation are anticipated in the near future.

2.10. ELIGIBLE IMPAIRMENTS DEFINITIONS

2025 Code reference: Article 8

CRITERIA:

IFs must define each Eligible Impairment and sub-categories as per the 2025 Code.

IFs must define non-Eligible Impairments as per the 2025 Code. These should also include any of the Eligible Impairments and sub-categories that are not catered for in the sport.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

• Please reference relevant articles where Eligible Impairments are defined for your sport(s).

2025 Code implementation

• Do your rules capture the updated list and definitions of Eligible Impairments? If not, please provide the details on the process and timelines for implementing the relevant provisions from the 2025 Code.

Additional Information

• Are there any anticipated changes to the list of Eligible Impairments in the future? If so, please provide further details.

2.11. CLASSIFICATION PANEL PROVISIONS

2025 Code reference: Article 7

CRITERIA:

IFs must state the composition of their Classification Panels including:

- requirements on the minimum number of Classifiers forming a Panel and their nationality in respect to the Athlete and other members of the Panel;
- provisions around a sole Classifier on a Panel and Classifiers on a Panel being of the same nationality as the Athlete; and
- provisions regarding confidentiality.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

- Please describe your current regulations regarding Classification Panel composition and where these are captured in the rules.
- How many Classifiers form a Panel? What is the makeup of these Panels, for example in respect of technical and/or medical Classifiers?
- Does a Chief Classifier ever form part of a Classification Panel? If yes, is what is the process for managing Protests in these circumstances?
- Does the Classification Panel ever consist of one Classifier? If yes, how is this managed and what regulations are in place regarding Sport Class Status allocation in these circumstances?

2025 Code implementation

• Do your rules capture the updated provisions on Classification Panels? If not, please provide the details on the process and timelines for implementing the provisions from the 2025 Code.

2.12. ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT

2025 Code reference: Article 18.5

CRITERIA:

IFs must include the following provisions on Adaptive Equipment:

- Specify what Adaptive Equipment is permitted/prohibited/optional per Sport Class and how the IF assesses the use of the Adaptive Equipment.
- Specify the process to record and monitor the use of the Adaptive Equipment, including the consequences when an Athlete fails to comply with Adaptive Equipment rules.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

• Please explain your current rules on Adaptive Equipment. Please indicate where in your rules these can be found. Note: this does not need to be within the Classification rules.

2025 Code implementation

• Do your rules on the Adaptive Equipment reflect the requirements of the 2025 Code? Please refer to the relevant articles in your rules. If not, please indicate the process and timeline for implementation.

- Who is responsible for monitoring Athletes' use of Adaptive Equipment at Covered Competitions? For example, Classifiers or technical officials. Please describe their respective roles in monitoring the use of Adaptive Equipment.
- How is Adaptive Equipment captured (e.g. is it via a Classification Master List, or do you another way of recording it)? How and where do you keep a record of the Adaptive Equipment used by the Athletes?

2.13. OBSERVATION ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

2025 Code reference: Article 18.7

CRITERIA:

IFs must have processes in place for Observation Assessment, including:

- specifying if Observation Assessment is utilised and, if so, identifying circumstances in which OA will be conducted;
- specifying Observation Assessment methodology, and how Observation Assessment contributes to the Sport Class Assessment, including in a situation where the Classification Panel decides to allocate a different Sport Class following Observation Assessment and when such change becomes effective (In such a case the Classification Panel must redo parts of the Evaluation Session);
- provisions around when and where Observation Assessment takes place.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

- Do you use Observation Assessment? If so, do you have any specific rules around when Observation Assessment is used, for which purpose(s) and whether there are any exceptions in respect to certain Eligible Impairments and/or Sport Classes?
- How is the Observation Assessment conducted and what methodology is used?
- What is the process in case there is no opportunity to conduct Observation Assessment?
- How do you manage the situation during Out-of-Competition Classification when the Classification Panel decides that Observation Assessment is required?

Provisions under the 2025 Code

• Do your current classification rules permit a Classification Panel to change a Sport Class solely based on Observation Assessment? If so, what is the

process and timeline to address the provisions on this point under the 2025 Code?

- If a methodology is currently not stated in your rules for Observation Assessment, how do you plan to address this and what is the planned timeline for implementing the relevant changes?
- Are your rules on Observation Assessment based on the 2025 Code? Please refer to the relevant articles in your rules. If not, please indicate a plan and timeline for implementation.

2.14. SPORT CLASS STATUS

2025 Code reference: Articles 20, 21, and 22

CRITERIA:

IFs must have provisions in place for allocating a Sport Class Status, including:

 definitions and use of each Sport Class Status: Confirmed (C), Review at Next Available Opportunity (R-NAO), Review with a Fixed Review Date (R-FRD), and Expired (E).

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

- Please describe the current use of Sport Class Statuses and where this is addressed in your rules.
- When an Athlete retires from Competition, is this reflected in their Sport Class Status or using other practices? If yes, how?

2025 Code implementation

- Are your rules on Sport Class Statuses based on the 2025 Code? If so, please describe the intended process and timeline to address this.
- Please describe how you plan to implement provisions for use of the new Sport Class Status Expired (E).

Do you plan to implement the Expired Sport Class Status in cases where a R-NAO or FRD has elapsed? If yes, when would R-NAO and FRD change to the Expired (E) and when is it going to be implemented? Note: With the implementation of the 2025 Code the Expired Status is now required for retired Athletes and the IF must develop the policy for the retirement requirements.

2.15. GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR EVALUATION SESSIONS

2025 Code reference: Articles 23-29, 31, 34

CRITERIA:

IFs must have provisions in place in respect to:

- general provisions on Evaluation Sessions;
- attendance at Evaluation Sessions;
- responsibilities of National Federations and Athletes in relation to Evaluation Sessions;
- responsibilities of the Classification Panel in relation to Evaluation Sessions;
- consideration of prior Evaluation Sessions;
- Classification Panel requests for additional information or expertise;
- requirements to redo prior stages of Evaluation Session;
- failure to attend an Evaluation Session; and
- photographs and audio-visual technology.

QUESTIONS:

Current processes

• If applicable, please indicate where the above procedures are found in your rules. Please specify if any of the provisions are not in place or differ from what the 2025 Code requires.

2025 Code implementation

• If the current Classification processes differ from the requirements of the 2025 Code, please indicate a plan and timeline for implementation.

2.16. DESIGNATIONS

2025 Code reference: Articles 12.4, 13, 15, 17, 18.5.3, 32

CRITERIA:

IFs must reflect the following designations and respective processes surrounding each of them in their rules:

- New (N);
- NE UHC (Re-evaluation);
- NE UHC;
- NE EI (Re-evaluation);

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- NE EI;
- NE MIC (Re-evaluation);
- NE MIC;
- CNC;
- designations capturing Adaptive Equipment; and
- designation of IM.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

- Please describe the process for allocating Sport Class Not Eligible in your sport, indicating the stages of Evaluation Session when this may happen and the next steps once the Not Eligible Sport Class is allocated.
- In what circumstances does the Classification Panel have the option to designate an Athlete with Classification Not Completed (CNC)? Please describe the process that follows and reference the relevant sections in your rules.

2025 Code implementation

• Do your rules capture Designations as reflected in the 2025 Code? If not, please indicate a plan and timeline to implement the provisions on the above designations under the 2025 Code.

2.17. SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF AN EVALUATION SESSION

2025 Code reference: Article 30

CRITERIA:

IFs must reflect provisions enabling the Classification Panel to suspend and terminate the Evaluation Session in their rules, as provided in the 2025 Code.

QUESTIONS:

Current processes

- Please describe the process for suspending or terminating an Evaluation Session by the Classification Panel. Please reference the relevant sections of your rules.
- Do you have rules in place around the amount of CNC designations that are permitted before NE is allocated. If so, please describe how this process works.

2025 Code implementation

• If the current Classification processes differ from the requirements of the 2025 Code regarding the suspension and termination of an Evaluation Session, please indicate a plan and timeline to implement the relevant provisions in the 2025 Code.

2.18. LOCATION OF THE EVALUATION SESSION

2025 Code reference: Article 33

CRITERIA:

IFs must specify in their rules:

- which parts of an Evaluation Session and which impairment types must be evaluated In-Competition; and which of those (if any) may take place Outof-Competition;
- if applicable, Observation Assessment must always take place at a Covered Competition.

QUESTIONS:

Current processes

• Please specify which parts of an Evaluation Session and which impairment types must be evaluated In-Competition and which (if any) may take place Out-of-Competition. Please provide reference to the section of your rules providing this information.

2025 Code implementation

• If your rules currently do not capture the information regarding which the location of Evaluation Sessions and (if applicable) Observation Assessment, what is the envisaged process and timeframe to implement the provisions from the 2025 Code?

2.19. NOTIFICATION AND PUBLICATION - CLASSIFICATION MASTER LIST

2025 Code reference: Article 35

CRITERIA:

IFs must maintain, publish, and keep up-to-date a Classification Master List including the following details for all Athletes and any Participant suspended for Intentional Misrepresentation:

• name;

- gender;
- year of birth;
- nationality;
- Sport Class and Sport Class Status;
- any designation, any 'Re-evaluation' status attached to a designation. and any tracking codes; and
- any current designation for Intentional Misrepresentation (IM) together with the duration and commencement date of the period of ineligibility.

Such Classification Master List must be accessible via a publicly-available website, it must be kept up to date and dealt with in accordance with ISCDP.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

- Please attach your Classification Master List or provide a link to where it can be accessed through the website.
- If the Master List is not available publicly, how is the Classification Master List currently distributed to National Federations?
- How often is the Classification Master List updated? Is this done automatically or manually following a Classification opportunity?

2025 Code implementation

- Does the Master List currently include all mandatory components from the 2025 Code?
- What tracking codes are used, if any, on the Master List for your sport? What do they mean and in which scenarios are they used?
- Are there any upcoming changes to the Classification Master List based on the provisions in the 2025 Code and, if so, when are those planned to be implemented?

2.20. MEDICAL REVIEW

2025 Code reference: Article 37

CRITERIA:

IFs must have provisions in place for Medical Reviews. These must include the procedures for requesting, conducting, and accepting/rejecting Medical Reviews as provided in the 2025 Code.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

- Please explain what information you require to be provided for a Medical Review Request and how you process these requests.
- Who is responsible for reviewing Medical Review Requests?

2025 Code implementation

• If your current provisions regarding Medical Review Requests differ from those of the 2025 Code, please indicate a plan and timeline to implement the relevant provisions under the 2025 Code.

2.21. COMPETITION FORMATS

2025 Code reference: Articles 38 and 39

CRITERIA:

IFs may decide to allow Athletes in different Sport Classes to compete against each other in Combined Class Events, provided that the IF's rules make clear:

- which Sport Classes may be combined, and in respect of which Covered Competitions;
- any conditions or criteria applicable to such Combined Class Events; and
- the reasons why the IF has decided to allow such Combined Class Events, and why it considers that the relevant Sport Classes may be combined in respect of such Covered Competitions and subject to the applicable conditions or criteria.

IFs that are using performance compensation mechanisms within Covered Competitions as of 17 May 2024 may continue to use such mechanisms. However, no other IF may use performance compensation mechanisms within Combined Class Events at Covered Competitions.

QUESTIONS:

Current processes

- Does your sport currently have Combined Class Events at any competitions? If so, please specify the events, the levels of competition at which this applies and any related conditions/criteria.
- Do your rules currently provide any reasoning as to your sport's current position regarding Combined Class Events?
- Does your sport currently utilise a performance compensation mechanism at any competitions? If so, please provide details of the performance

compensation mechanism, the events in which it is used and the levels of competition at which it is used.

2025 Code implementation

- Please indicate a plan and timelines for implementing the provisions from the 2025 Code regarding competition formats.
- Please indicate which events you intend to run as Combined Class Events in future and at which levels of Covered Competitions this may occur.
- If your sport is using any performance compensation mechanisms, please indicate at which levels of Covered Competitions they are intended to be used in the future.

2.22. PROTESTS

2025 Code reference: Articles 41 - 46

CRITERIA:

IFs must have Protest procedures in place as described in the 2025 Code, including:

- the scope of a Protest;
- who is permitted to make a Protest;
- National Federation Protests;
- International Federation Protests;
- Protest Panel procedures;
- provisions for the scenario when a Protest Panel is not available.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

• Please indicate where in your rules the procedures for Protests are described?

2025 Code implementation

• If any of your procedures concerning Protests currently differ to the 2025 Code, please indicate the differences and describe the process and timelines for implementing the required changes.

2.23. APPEALS

2025 Code reference: Articles 47 - 50

CRITERIA:

IFs must have Appeal procedures in place as described in the 2025 Code. These must include:

- the scope of Appeals;
- how an Appeal can be made;
- the Appeal Body (must be operationally independent from the IF);
- how an Appeal decision will be made.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

• Please indicate your Appeals process and who acts as the appeal body? Please indicate where in your rules these processes are described.

2025 Code implementation

• If any of the procedures surrounding Appeals currently differ to the 2025 Code, please indicate the differences, along with a plan and timelines for implementing the changes.

2.24. INTENTIONAL MISREPRESENTATION

2025 Code reference: Article 51, International Standard for Intentional Misrepresentation (ISIM)

CRITERIA:

IFs must have rules and procedures in place on Intentional Misrepresentation (IM) as provided in the ISIM, including:

- the definition of IM and the examples provided;
- the obligations on each Participant, National Federation and IF to report IM;
- a process to conduct and manage investigations, and (where appropriate) to bring proceedings forward;
- specifying the IF's first instance body and how a hearing will be conducted;
- provisions around confidentiality in IM investigations and proceedings;
- sanctions on Participants and National Federations for committing IM valuations (including multiple violations, reductions to periods of ineligibility in certain circumstances, the Participant's status during ineligibility and the consequences for National Federations and teams, etc.);

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- how decisions regarding IM will be made;
- who can appeal an IM decision;
- how IM decisions should be publicly disclosed.

QUESTIONS:

Current processes

- Please explain the full process of how you deal with allegations of IM, including:
 - What procedures do you have in place to receive credible reports and other intelligence which indicate potential IM?
 - Who assesses the information received and how are investigations carried out?
 - Who is responsible for hearing charges of and determining if IM has been committed?
 - Is there is a process for monitoring compliance with sanctions for those found to have committed IM?

2025 Code implementation

- Please identify a plan and timelines for implementing the provisions from the 2025 Code and ISIM.
- Please describe who acts as the first instance body and the appeal body for your sport(s) in IM cases.

2.25. CHANGES TO CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

2025 Code references: Article 52

CRITERIA:

In order to make substantive changes to the Classification system and/or processes the IF must:

- conduct an impact assessment on Athletes, National Federations, and National Paralympic Committees, including consideration of the Paralympic Games cycle, their sport's competition cycle, and the qualification periods for the Paralympic Games;
- provide the National Federations with the anticipated changes including the rationale for the changes, an estimation of the Athletes potentially impacted, proposed implementation timelines and transition rules (if applicable), ensuring the opportunity for National Federations to provide feedback before the changes are adopted;

• provide the IPC with the anticipated changes including the rationale for the changes (including any evidence in support), proposed implementation timelines, transition rules (if applicable), the IF's impact assessment, and an overview of the consultation conducted with National Federations, ensuring the opportunity for the IPC to provide feedback before the changes are adopted.

QUESTIONS:

Current Processes

- Please describe when and how the last set of Classification rules changes took place. Were these changes done in respect of the Classification system and/or the related processes (i.e., have the changes involved re-classifying Athletes and/or were they purely administrative and procedural)?
- Please describe the process of Classification rules changes for your IF.

2025 Code implementation

- Please describe the plan and timelines for implementing provisions from the 2025 Code in relation to Classification rules changes.
- If known already, please indicate when the next Classification rules changes will take place and the relevant details.

2.26. DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS AND PROCESSES

2025 Code reference: Article 61, International Standard for Classification Data Protection (ISCDP)

CRITERIA:

IFs must implement procedures and policies in relation to processing Classification data as provided in the ISCDP.

QUESTIONS:

Current processes

- Does your IF have a data protection policy in respect of Classification Data? If so, please provide a copy. If you do not have one, is there a plan in place to develop such a policy?
- Please describe the processes in place in your organisation relating to the collection and processing of Classification Data. If applicable, please provide copies of any documents that are relevant.
- Have you identified the legal ground(s) which your organisation bases its processing of the personal Classification Data of Athletes? If so, please list them.

- Are Athletes informed how their Classification Data will be processed, and if so, how? If applicable, please provide copies of any documents that are relevant.
- Please describe how and where you store Classification Data. Who has access to this data and what, if any, security mechanisms are in place to prevent unauthorised access to this data?
- Please outline your retention policy for the storing of Classification Data. If you do not have one, is there a plan in place to develop such policy?
- Please describe how and when you currently dispose of Classification Data.

2025 Code implementation

• Please identify the plan and timelines for implementing the provisions from the 2025 Code and ISCDP in relation to Classification Data Protection.

2.27. CLASSIFICATION PERSONNEL AND TRAINING

2025 Code reference: International Standard for Classification Personnel and Training (**ISCPT**)

CRITERIA:

IFs must establish rules that contain a clear, transparent, and enforceable framework for the recruitment, education, training, and development of Classification Personnel, that is consistent with the ISCPT. The framework must include:

- the minimum expertise or experience levels that an IF requires of persons who wish to commence training to become a Classifier;
- the minimum competencies required for Classification Personnel (Head of Classification, Chief Classifiers, Classifiers, Trainee Classifiers, UHC Assessors, and other Classification Personnel);
- the education and training that the IF will provide to Classification Personnel in order to allow them to: (i) obtain and/or maintain the minimum competencies; (ii) achieve and/or maintain Certification; and (iii) otherwise develop and enhance their skills and experience in Classification;
- how the IF will administer the Certification and Re-Certification of Classifiers, including any limitations that may be placed on a Classifier's Certification;
- the IF's policy regarding the identification and management of Classification Personnel conflicts of interest; and
- a Classification Personnel Code of Conduct.

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QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

- Please share the following information: a strategy for Classifier recruitment and retention, a pathway for Classifier training, Certification, and Recertification, a Classifier Code of Conduct.
- Do you provide support to NPCs/National Federations in delivering Classifier education? If so, how?
- Do you have a calendar of Classifier training opportunities that is available to NPCs and National Federations? If so, please share it.
- Do you have a strategy for detecting, identifying, monitoring and processing the Classification Personnel conflicts of interest?

2025 Code implementation

• Please identify the plan and timelines for implementing provisions from the Code and ISCPT in relation to Classification Personnel.

2.28. EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

2025 Code reference: Article 54.1.3

CRITERIA:

The roles and responsibilities of an IF include, amongst other, developing and delivering (with the involvement of Athletes), Classification education and awareness programs, and increasing awareness of the principles, purpose, and scientific rationale behind Classification amongst relevant stakeholders.

QUESTIONS:

If your IF participated in the 2022 Classification survey and provided all relevant information about your Classification education and awareness initiatives, please now focus on providing updates to that information in respect of the period from 2023 onwards.

- Please provide a summary of any Classification education and awareness initiatives your membership and Athletes have access to. Where possible, please attach any supporting materials.
- Please indicate future plans in respect of Classification education and awareness initiatives. If there is a specific area that requires priority development, please describe it. If possible, please indicate timelines for implementation.

2.29. FIT FOR PURPOSE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM (RESEARCH AND BEST PRACTICE MODELS)

2025 Code reference: Articles 1.3, 62-63

CRITERIA:

IFs must have sport-specific Classification systems that reflect Best Practice Classification as defined in the Code.

IFs must conduct multidisciplinary Classification Research to ensure that: (i) their Classification systems meet and continue to meet the requirements for Best Practice Classification; and (ii) monitor the quality of their assessment systems and improve their evidence-base.

QUESTIONS:

Current rules and processes

• How does your Classification system achieve the purpose of Classification by performing two key functions: (i) determining which athletes are eligible to compete in your sport; and (ii) grouping eligible Athletes into Sport Classes based on the extent to which their Eligible Impairment(s) impact(s) the ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the relevant sport?

In other words, please describe and answer the following:

 What type of evidence is your Classification system based on? How have you incorporated the best available evidence and practice into your Classification system?

(e.g. published, peer reviewed literature reviews, Delphi and experimental studies)

- Does your Classification system adopt the four stages of the Classification process and describe the methods used in each stage?
- Is it consistent with established principles in relevant fields?
- Is it consistent with the current knowledge of each Eligible Impairment and Underlying Health Conditions?
- Please provide an overview of the Classification-related research conducted in relation to your sport in recent years?
- How were the existing research findings implemented and what changes (if any) were made to your Classification system based on those findings?

2025 Code implementation

- What plans do you have in place to enhance the evidence base on which the Classification system in your sport is based?
- Are there any Classification-related research plans for the future? If yes, please provide more details.

3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Does your IF assess and monitor compliance with your rules by national members? If so, please provide details.
- Please describe the channels through which Athletes and other stakeholders can provide feedback or ask questions about your sport's Classification system and its processes (including, for example, any reporting tools for raising allegations of IM or whether Athletes are in the correct Sport Class).
- Please use this space to provide any additional information and/or feedback you wish to provide in respect of this self-assessment survey.

4. ATTACHMENT 1: COMPLIANCE PLAN TEMPLATE

A Compliance Plan Template will be made available alongside the survey on the website: <u>IPC - Classification Code compliance</u>.