

UCI Para-cycling Classification Frequently Asked Questions

What is Classification?

Classification is undertaken to:

- a) Define who is eligible to compete in Para cycling and
- b) Group Athletes into Sport Classes which aim to ensure that the impact of Impairment is minimised, and sporting excellence determines which Athlete is ultimately victorious.

What Sport Classes are there?

Para-cycling has four divisions, which are split into Sport Classes. The lower the number, the greater the impact of the impairment on the function.

Handcycle division (H):	Athletes classified in classes H1-4 compete using an arm powered or arm trunk power handcycle where a recumbent position is mandatory. Athletes classified in the Handcycle class H5 compete from a kneeling/sitting position.
Tricycle division (T):	Athletes classified in classes T1-2 are unable to ride a bicycle due to lack of balance and/or severe restriction in pedalling due to spasticity/ataxia/athetosis/dystonia. These athletes ride a three-wheeled tricycle.
Bicycle division (C):	Athletes classified in classes C1-5 ride a standard two-wheeled bicycle which may have adaptations to account for an Athlete's impairment.
Tandem division (B):	Athletes with visual impairments (stoker) ride on a tandem with a sighted pilot. Athletes are classified into B1-3 and compete together in one B class.

What types of Classification are there?

Athletes who wish to compete nationally must attend National Classification, which is arranged by their respective National Federation/National Paralympic Committee.

Athletes who wish to compete internationally must attend International Classification, which is arranged by UCI and takes place at certain international events throughout the year.

The following questions relate to the International Classification process as regulated by the UCI.

How do I enter Classification?

In order to be classified, an athlete must be entered into an event which hosts Classification. Classification opportunities can be found on the [Para-cycling Classification website](#).

A Classification schedule will be published on the [Para-cycling Classification website](#) and will be sent by email to the team managers. Athletes and teams must check regularly for updates as the Classification schedule is subject to change.

What information do I need to provide?

All athletes must provide medical information in form of a Medical Diagnostic Form (MDF) along with supporting medical documents. These must be uploaded by the National Federation/National Paralympic Committee to the UCI Classification database PCSAS. MDFs for VI and PI Classification can be found on the [Para-cycling Classification website](#).

All athletes who have an adaptation to their equipment must submit an adaptation request through PCSAS in advance. Adaptations ensure that athletes can compete in a safe and fair manner.

What do I need to bring to my Classification?

All Athletes must present their UCI Licence at Classification.

Athletes with physical impairments must:

- wear their cycling gear (shorts)
- bring all equipment used in competition, including the bicycle(s), tricycle(s) or handcycle(s), as well as any prostheses, braces or other equipment

Athletes with visual impairments must:

- wear their standard correction (glasses, contact lenses)

What happens during my Classification?

An athlete must present to Classification at the specified time with an athlete representative (optional) and an interpreter (mandatory for athletes who do not speak English).

For Athletes with physical impairments:

A Classification panel, consisting of a medical and a technical Classifier, will conduct the Athlete Evaluation. The panel may ask questions about the nature of the impairment and rehabilitation, the training history and Para-cycling experience. The medical Classifier will conduct a series of tests relevant to the impairment. The athlete may be asked to demonstrate getting on/off their bicycle/tricycle or in and out of their handcycle as well as skills such as pedalling, cornering or a standing start.

Following the Classification assessment, athletes will be given a Sport Class and a Sport Class Status. This Sport Class Status may be final or may require an athlete to be observed in competition.

Following Observation in Competition, an athlete will receive a final Sport Class and Sport Class Status as described in the Para-cycling regulations.

For Athletes with visual impairments:

A Classification panel, consisting of two medical Classifiers, will conduct the Athlete Evaluation. The panel may ask questions about the nature of the impairment, treatment and medication history or optical aids used in competition. They will conduct a medical assessment including but not limited to an assessment of the visual acuity.

Following the Classification assessment, athletes will be given a final Sport Class and Sport Class Status as described in the Para-cycling regulations.

What does my Sport Class Status mean?

An athlete can be allocated one of the following Sport Class Statuses:

New (N): An athlete who has never been internationally classified will enter the competition with the Sport Class Status New

Confirmed (C): An athlete does not have to be classified again and may compete in their allocated Sport Class.

Review (R): An athlete must be classified again at the next competition.

Fixed Review Date (FRD): An athlete must attend another Classification at the first event they compete at in the year of the Fixed Review Date.

Observation Assessment (OA): This means that the athlete will be observed in his first appearance at the competition after the Classification assessment. The athlete will receive a final Sport Class Status after the event.

What can I do if I do not agree with my Sport Class?

If an Athlete or National Federation/National Paralympic Committee do not agree with the allocation of a Sport Class following Classification, they may submit a Protest. A protest form can be found on the [Para-cycling Classification website](#).

Further information regarding protests can be found in the Para-cycling Regulations.

What can I do if my impairment changes?

If an Athlete's impairment worsens or improves once they have been classified, the National Federation/National Paralympic Committee should request a Medical Review (MRR). The MRR form can be found on the [Para-cycling Classification website](#).

A Medical Review Request should detail the changes in the Athlete's impairment and provide medical documentation to support the request. The request will be reviewed by the UCI and, if accepted, the Athlete's Sport Class will change to "Review" and they will be seen at the next event they compete at.

Further information regarding Medical Reviews can be found in the Para-cycling Regulations.

What is the Classification Master List?

The Classification Master List is a list which documents all athletes competing in Para-cycling with their Sport Class and Sport Class Status. This is the reference document to determine which athletes require Classification at a certain event.

Athletes will remain on the Master List until they request to be removed. When an athlete is removed from the Master List, all Classification data, including MDFs and Classification forms, will be destroyed.

Subsequently, should athletes wish to start competing again following their removal from the Master List, they will be treated as New Athletes and are required to undergo Classification.

Where can I find the Para-cycling Rules?

The Para-cycling Regulations can be found on the [UCI website](#) under Regulations, Part XVI.

Who can I contact if I have any questions?

Athletes should contact their National Federation/National Paralympic Committee first if they have any questions regarding Classification. The National Federation/National Paralympic Committee can contact classification@uci.ch if they need additional information regarding Classification.