

Guide to Completing the Provisional Classification Form

Disability sports classification aims to minimise the influence of impairment on the outcome of competition, in much the same way as age groups are used to minimise the influence that maturation has on the outcome of competition in junior sport. To compete in disability sport, an athlete must be classified by an accredited classifier. Because many athletes, especially those in rural and remote areas, do not have easy access to accredited classifiers, The Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association has developed the Remote Classification Service. By completing this form strictly according to the instructions and submitting it to the Association, an athlete can receive a classification that will allow them to compete in their chosen sport with other athletes who are affected to a similar extent.

How to complete this form

Overview: This form should be completed by a doctor or physiotherapist or occupational therapist. It has 10 sections, outlined in Table 1 below. Not all sections need to be completed for every athlete – it is the role of the person completing the form to decide which sections need to be completed. A guide is presented below and more details are given in the form. Most sections can be completed with pen and paper but several also require the athlete to be videoed to enable the classifier to see the athlete performing the movements. Again, a guide is presented below, with more information in the form.

Completing the form: Please complete Sections 1, 2 and 3 in all cases. For Sections 4 to 10 the doctor or therapist need only complete the sections that relate to the athlete's disability. For example, if the client has a spinal cord injury and no other complications, the therapist should complete section 4 (relating to sitting balance), Section 5 (relating to muscle strength) and possibly Section 6 (relating to ROM) if there is any significant loss of joint range (eg. through contracture).

On the other hand, if the athlete has an acquired brain injury and walks unaided as their primary means of locomotion, then you should complete Section 9 (relating to motor control) and once again, possibly section 6 if there is any significant loss of joint range.

Section 7 relates primarily to people who are limb deficient and Section 8 is intended for people whose primary disability relates to short stature (eg dwarfism).

Video: Most classification assessments will require a video of the athlete performing tasks outlined on the form. It is also very helpful to the classifier to see the athlete performing his or her sport, including transfers to and from sporting equipment. Please submit the video in DVD format or video footage.

Table 1: Contents of the Remote Classification Form

Section Number and Title	Description	Requirements (written only or written + video)
Section 1- Athlete details	Name , age, address etc	Written only
Section 2 - Therapist's details	Contact details for the doctor or therapist that completes the form	Written only
Section 3 – Medical Information	All should complete this section	Written only
Section 4 - Sitting Balance.	Applicable to paraplegia/tetraplegia or any other wheelchair user.	Written only
Section 5 - Muscle Testing	Applicable to paraplegia/tetraplegia or any conditions where grading of muscle power is applicable.	Written + video
Section 6 - Range of movement	For those whose primary disability is one of loss of range, eg. Arthritic joint changes (haemophilia, arthrogyrosis) OR in the case of a mixed disability, eg. a fused ankle associated with an upper limb amputation	Written only
Section 7 - Amputation	For those who have a limb deficiency. Mark in the relevant limb loss and record length of remaining limb (or part).	Written only
Section 8 - Body height.	If the athlete has a disability that relates to short stature, eg. Dwarfism, please measure and note their standing height.	Written only
Section 9 - Motor control.	For athletes that have health conditions that cause motor control problems such as hypertonicity, ataxia and athetosis (e.g., cerebral Palsy, acquired brain injury, stroke, multiple sclerosis.	Written + video
Section 10 – Swimming Video Requirements.	Specific instructions and video requirements for athletes requiring a swimming classification. If the athlete is a swimmer, a video of their swimming, including dives, turns and all strokes swum, and the athlete getting in and out of the pool should be included with the forms.	Video only

Payment: There is an administration charge of \$25 for athletes outside of Queensland (No charge for Queensland athletes).

Please return completed form, video and payment (if required) to:

Joe Moynihan, Sport Development Coordinator
Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association
60 Edmondstone Rd
Bowen Hills, QLD 4006

If you require any clarification in order to complete this form successfully please don't hesitate to contact the Association and we can refer you to one of our classification panel.