U.S. Paralympics

National Classification Policies & Procedures

SLED HOCKEY
Sport Requirements for Classification – ICE

- Athletes being classified must be entered into and compete in the competition where the classification evaluation is being conducted.
- Each athlete is required to be accompanied during the classification procedure. The athlete may be accompanied by ONLY one individual (parent, guardian, coach, etc.).
- The athlete is required to complete and sign the Consent for Classification form prior to the commencement of the evaluation process.
- Athletes should attend classification evaluation with all necessary sports equipment and in appropriate sport-specific attire.
- If the athlete’s diagnosis or syndrome is unusual, medical documentation confirming the diagnosis is REQUIRED. Copies of documentation should be brought to the classification appointment.
- The athlete must disclose details of any medication routinely used by the athlete prior to the athlete evaluation.

Sled Hockey National Classification Panel

A national classification panel for Sled Hockey consists of one (1) classifier (MD or PT).

Sled Hockey National Classification Protest Panel

A national classification protest panel for Sled Hockey consists of two (2) classifiers – one physician (MD) and one physiotherapist (PT).

Sled Hockey Classifier Prerequisites + Levels of Authorization

Prerequisites for NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL Classifiers

- Physiotherapist or Medical Doctor
- Successful completion of the IPC Academy Classification Training Program (as available)
- Working knowledge and conversant in the English language
- Code of Conduct/Ethics agreement signed and observed at all times
- Endorsed by the relevant National Paralympic Committee (NPC)

USA National Classifiers recognized to classify nationally must meet the following requirements:

- Successful completion of the IPC Academy Classification Training Program (as available)
- Attendance at a minimum of one IPC Sled Hockey [international] Classification seminar OR attendance at a minimum of one U.S. Paralympics/USA Hockey Sled Hockey [national] Classification Education/Training opportunity.

IPC Trainee Classifiers are those recognized by IPC Sled Hockey as such.
Level 1 Classifiers are those authorised by IPC Sled Hockey as such.
Level 2 Classifiers are those authorised by IPC Sled Hockey as such.
Maintaining National Classifier Status – ICE

To maintain status as a classifier recognized to classify nationally within the USA, individuals must meet the following conditions:

- Shall take part in official classifications (either domestically or internationally) of at least 8 athletes of varying disabilities/sport classes at least once every 18 months.

Sport Specific Classifier Responsibilities – ICE

All classifiers shall be responsible to:

- Maintain confidentiality at all times
- Respond to requests for availability in a timely manner and meet established deadlines
- Respond to correspondence and requests from the U.S. Paralympics office
- Maintain a professional, courteous and respectful demeanor when interacting with athletes, coaches, parents and other constituents

For the conducting of national level classification (at designated competitions) a Chief Classifier will be appointed. The Chief Classifier shall be responsible to:

- Validate sport class status for all athletes classified at the competition
- Maintain all original classification sheets and associated classification paperwork during the event
- Submit all original classification sheets and associated classification paperwork to the U.S. Paralympics office within seven (7) days following the conclusion of the event

Classifier De-Certification

Classifiers may be decertified from the NATIONAL classification system for any of the following:

- Use of confidential classification information with the intent to benefit an individual athlete, team and/or situation
- Violation of the U.S. Paralympics Code of Conduct
- Adverse finding during Background Check process
- Violation of national classification policies / procedures
- Repeated errors in allocating athlete sport class [i.e. National classifications being changed and/or overturned at the International level on a consistent basis]

International de-certification of classifiers shall be undertaken by IPC Sled Hockey as conditions/requirements warrant such action.

USA National Classifiers – ICE

*Current Head Domestic Classifier: TBD*

IPC Level 2
Olson, Jim – MD

IPC Level 1
International Sport Class Status – ICE

*International sport class status as per IPC Sled Hockey shall include:*

N – New: athlete has not been previously evaluated by an international classification panel as appointed by IPC Sled Hockey. All N status athletes must complete international classification evaluation prior to competing at international competitions.

R – Review: athlete has been previously evaluated by an international classification panel, but for reasons as determined by IPC Sled Hockey requires a review of their sport class. R status athletes may include those with fluctuating or degenerative disabilities.

C – Confirmed: athlete has been evaluated by an international classification panel and the panel has determined that the athlete’s sport class will not change.

National Sport Class Status Allocation – ICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classifier(s)</th>
<th>NATIONAL Athlete Status</th>
<th>INTERNATIONAL Athlete Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Panel – 1 classifier – 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; appearance</td>
<td>NN</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Panel – 1 classifier</td>
<td>NR&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Panel – 1 classifier – 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; appearance</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA Protest Panel (2 classifiers)</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Panel - minimum of 2 IPC Level 1/2 classifiers</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>R or C&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 – USA national panel may designate review status for degenerative / changing disabilities and age considerations.

2 – IPC international R / C sport class will only be recognized when IPC Sled Hockey has appointed the classification panel to an IPC Sled Hockey approved / sanctioned competition.