



National Visual Impairment Classification

Frequently Asked Questions

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Why is the CPC hosting classification?

CPC's goal is to use and leverage existing partnerships to improve and facilitate the access to classification opportunities for national and international level athletes. Currently, in Canada VI athletes have the most obstacles in accessing classification as local organizing committees have difficulty sourcing the required equipment and space for an athlete assessment because of high costs and the specialization of VI equipment.

Where is classification taking place?

University of Waterloo Centre for Sight Enhancement (CSE)

www.uwaterloo.ca/sight-enhancement

200 Columbia Street West, Waterloo Ontario

What is the date?

April 2-3rd, 2016

9:00 am – 5:00pm

A schedule of athlete classification will be circulated by **March 21, 2016**. An athlete who would like to have allocated a specific time slot must request with justification will justify this request at registration. We will do our best to accommodate but we would like to remind everyone that not all requests can be accommodated.



By attending this classification, does this mean I am classified for international competition?

This classification is national. Athletes who have not been seen by an international panel before can benefit from this assessment opportunity to provide them with a national classification as well as the experience and paperwork ahead of an international classification.

The class assigned to the athlete after evaluation is the best indication of the international class of the athlete because evaluation is done in the same manner and with the same equipment as an international classification. For athletes with a borderline classification, this will be extremely beneficial as it provides either eligibility clarification and/or supporting class documentation for the athlete at their international classification.

International classification are conducted in the days before a competition sanctioned by the IPC/IF.

How do I protest a classifier decision?

Athletes who feel their classification is incorrect may, upon request, be seen by a second classification panel. The CPC is waiving the normal cost for a protest at this specific evaluation; however a review will be subject to time availability of the classifiers.

What is the cost to be part of this classification opportunity?

CPC is covering all costs of the on-site classification. All costs associated with travel, meals and accommodations are the responsibility of the athlete/NSO.

How do I register?

National Sport Organisations (NSOs) will submit a list of athletes eligible for classification no later than **February 26, 2016** to emawdsley@paralympic.ca. Athletes must be registered with their full legal name, NSO registration number (if applicable), and a completed medical diagnostic form (MDF).

What do I need to bring?

Athletes should: bring the following:

- 1) Arrive 30 minutes prior to their scheduled evaluation
- 2) Bring all medical information specific to the impairment



- 3) Bring 1 piece of photo ID of the athlete
- 4) Be accompanied by at least 1 member of the NSO or support personnel who can attend classification with the athlete.
- 5) Be accompanied by a translator. All evaluations will be conducted in English.

What is the U of W's Vision Research project?

The University of Waterloo's Dr. Kristine Dalton, on behalf of IPC Snowsports, is researching vision tests which may be more accurate to determine an athlete's vision abilities specific to their sport. The current VI classification system looks only at vision acuity (static) and visual field, which does not represent the vision demand of all sports. Athletes who are being classified are asked to support Dr. Dalton's research by participating in a 45 minute sport vision test completely separate from classification.

I have other questions. Who do I contact?

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