



To IPC Swimming Classifiers

02 June 2010

Dear IPC Swimming Classifiers,

Following the Memorandum circulated on the classification issues discussed at the STC meeting, please find below an update regarding changes as a result of the 2010 IPC Swimming Rules:

- There are few exceptions dismissed:
 - V – the “A” exception code satisfies the need for assistance
 - Z – collection of medical information does not fall under the jurisdiction of the classifiers. It is the NPC’s responsibility that the athletes participating in a competition are fit to compete and any necessary treatment due to their medical condition is provided by the NPC.
 - 10, 11 – exception “12” covers leg drag or show intent to kick. For clarification, new IPC Swimming rule “3.4.4.1 A swimmer with lower limb disability must show intent of simultaneous movement and show intent to kick in the same horizontal plane throughout the race or trail/drag the leg/s throughout the race” this means, that in both cases the swimmer is required to maintain the leg action/inaction THROUGHOUT the race. A swimmer cannot show intent for ~25m and then change to drag.
 - 14 – the requirement of having the shoulders in line with the water surface is dismissed, therefore there is no need for this exception anymore . There is no need for a dropped shoulder test anymore.
 - * – same as above

The classification sheet will be changed accordingly to reflect all these changes.

The athletes’ database on the website will be updated to reflect these changes.



- The updated Codes for Exceptions can be found as attachment 2 in the TO Operating Manual.
- The updated TO Operating Manual can be found at <http://www.ipc-swimming.org/Officials/>
- The exceptions will be marked on the start list at major IPC Swimming Championships – there will be no need to do this manually.
- There are no technical advisers appointed anymore, the classifiers will be connected with TOS from the stands if classification related advice is needed.
- The classification and technical protest procedures are clearly separated in the rulebook.
- The current on-line course was shut down on 16 April. A new on-line course will be developed with co-operation of the IPC Academy (Manchester University).
- The IPC Code of Ethics has been sent out to all officials to be signed and returned to the office. We would kindly request those officials who didn't send it back yet to do so.
- Only athletes on the approved timetable are to be classified - no further athletes to be accepted on the spot.
- Only the appointed CC can lodge a protest in competition on athletes with C status (appropriate paperwork is to be completed). NPCs can not lodge a protest on athletes with C status. This policy will be included in the new IPC SW classification handbook as per the Code.
- Athletes that are allocated age review should receive R status with a year designated when they are to be reviewed due to their age. Note that age review is not systematically to be applied to minors. It should only be considered when the athlete's condition requires an age or maturity review.
- Athletes that do not have sufficient medical documentation sent to IPC SW in advance or present the medical documentation when attending classification should not be classified (the procedure to



request medical documentation after the competition will no longer be applied).

The IPC Medical & Scientific Department currently puts the last hand to an updated version of the IPC Swimming Classification Handbook to make IPC Swimming classification rules and regulations compliant with the IPC Classification Code. Once available, this draft version will be discussed with the IPC Swimming Classification Advisory Group and made available to you as well.

We trust the above will assist you on the changes and provide a clear understanding as to the reasons for change. Please add your thoughts, ideas related to classification. Thank you in advance for your contribution.

Please be informed that the pool of international classifiers is growing. In 2010 the following trainees become international classifiers: Craig Nicholson (GBR), Elko Hoshino (JPN), Julie Cooper (GBR), Michelle Killins (CAN) and Shana Harrington (USA). Congratulations to all and welcome on the team!

Finally, we would like to inform you that the next STC meeting will be in Eindhoven, on 22-23 August.

Should you have any questions please send it to ipcswimming@paralympic.org.

Thank you for your ongoing support and work within IPC Swimming.

Kindest regards,

IPC Swimming Sport Technical Committee