

WHEELCHAIR CURLING CLASSIFICATION GUIDELINES



This infographic has been created to provide an accessible overview of classification in wheelchair curling. It explains the goals of classification, highlights the differences between Canada's national classification standards and World Curling's international classification standards, and helps build familiarity with some of the eligible impairments in the sport. It also outlines what to expect from the provisional classification process, including how it works and what athletes can anticipate during a classification session. For additional information and the full set of rules, please visit World Curling to review the Classification Rules for Wheelchair Curling (2022).

WHY CLASSIFICATION?

- 1 Define who is eligible to compete in parasport and consequently who has the opportunity to reach the goal of becoming a Paralympic athlete.
- 2 Group athletes into sport classes to ensure the impact of impairment is minimized and sporting excellence determines performance success.

DOMESTIC CLASSIFICATION OVERVIEW

CURLING CANADA

Individuals "who are unable to deliver a curling stone from the hack or with a delivery stick from a standing position."

Eligibility criteria for the Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OVERVIEW

WORLD CURLING

Individuals with "an eligible impairment and that eligible impairment must be permanent ... significant impairments in lower leg/gait function, who usually require a wheelchair for daily mobility and are non-ambulant or only able to walk short distances".

Eligibility criteria for the World Champ./Paralympics

ELIGIBLE IMPAIRMENTS (INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION)



IMPAIRED MUSCLE FUNCTION

A condition that either reduces or eliminates the ability to voluntarily contract muscles to move or to generate force.



ATAXIA

Athletes with ataxia have uncoordinated movements caused by damage to the central nervous system.



ATHETOSIS

Athletes with athetosis have continual slow involuntary movements.



LIMB DEFICIENCY

Athletes with limb deficiency have total or partial absence of bones or joints as a consequence of trauma.



HYPERTONIA

An increase in muscle tension and a reduced ability of a muscle to stretch caused by damage to the nervous system.



IMPAIRED PASSIVE RANGE

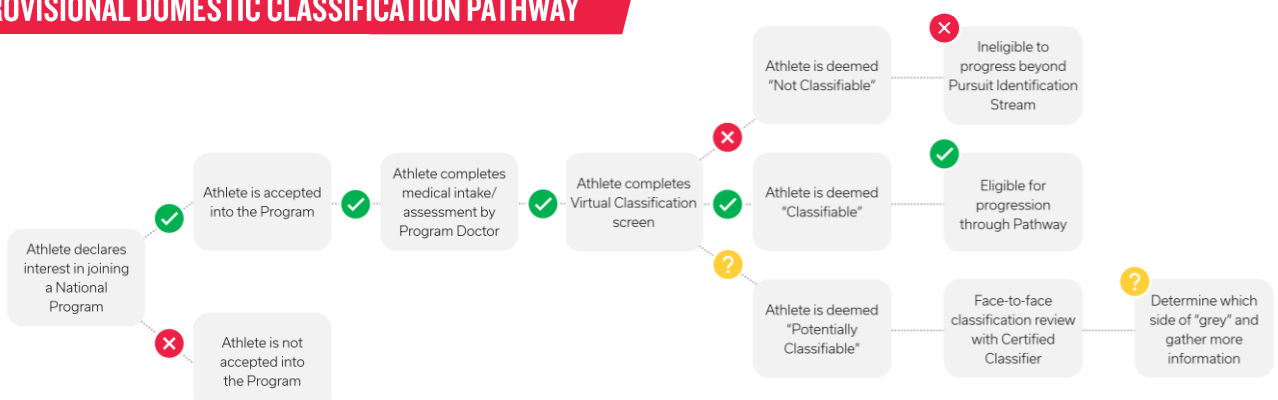
Athletes with impaired passive range of motion have a restriction or a lack of passive motion in one or more joints.

For athletes who have impairments in multiple categories, none of which meet Minimal Impairment Criteria, there is a category for multiple sub-minimal impairments/changing presentation.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT A CLASSIFICATION SESSION?

- Check-in at established location
- Classifier introduction
- Complete consent form
- Short interview with classifier
- Complete a physical evaluation
- Classifier review
- Sharing of sport classification
- Submission of paperwork

PROVISIONAL DOMESTIC CLASSIFICATION PATHWAY



For more information about wheelchair curling classification, please visit the Rules of Wheelchair Curling Classification online at <https://worldcurling.org/rules/> or contact wheelchair@curling.ca.