

All NPCs practicing IPC Shooting

Bonn, 21 February 2014

## **New version IPC Shooting Classification Rules and Regulations**

Dear all,

IPC Shooting has published the updated [IPC Shooting Classification Rules and Regulations](#) today, which take effect immediately. This document replaces any previous version of the IPC Shooting Classification Rules and Regulations.

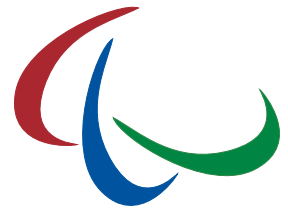
With the following description, IPC Shooting would like to provide you with an overview of the changes made in the classification rules.

### **Appendix 1: Eligibility criteria and sport classes**

#### Eligibility criteria (Appendix 1, Article 3)

In accordance with the IPC Policy on Eligible Impairments in the Paralympic Movement (IPC Handbook, Section 2, Chapter 3.13), IPC Shooting now lists impairment eligible for IPC Shooting. The list of eligible impairment *de facto* has not changed, but was not defined in previous classification rules.

The description of minimum disability criteria is now based on the definition of eligible impairments and is more precise. There is no change of minimum disability criteria, but the precisions reflect previous practice and aims at standardization in classification for IPC Shooting.



#### Sport Classes (Appendix 1, Article 4)

The Sport Classes have been untangled from equipment regulations of IPC Shooting. IPC Shooting has been offering three Sport Classes for competition:

- SH1 (Pistol) for athletes with upper and/ or lower limb impairment for competition in Pistol events
- SH1 (Rifle) for athletes with lower limb impairment for competition in Rifle events
- SH2 for athletes with upper limb impairment, all or not in combination with lower limb impairment for competition in Rifle events

These sport classes have not been changed, but have been separated from adaptive equipment regulations, which are now described in Article 5.

#### Adaptive equipment (Article 5)

During classification, athletes are assessed for their eligibility and sport class and in addition the classifiers determine which types of adaptive equipment may use. The following adaptive equipment is available in IPC Shooting:

- Backrest support: The height of the backrest shooters may use in competition is determined by the athlete's trunk stability and indicated by A (no backrest), B (low backrest) or C (high backrest).
- Spring for rifle support: Depending on the SH2 rifle shooters arm muscle power, they must use a weak (a) or a strong (b) spring on their rifle.
- Loading assistant: SH2 rifle shooters must have a loading assistant to load the rifle, if the classification panel deems this necessary for loading the rifle safely.
- Loading device: Similarly, pistol shooters must use a loading block if required for safety reasons.
- Trigger adaptation: All pistol and rifle shooters can be permitted to use a trigger adaptation if their impairment does not allow them to use a trigger inside of the dimensions of the trigger guard.



Please see this overview for possible combinations of Sport Classes and adaptive equipment:

	Backrest support	Spring for rifle support	Loading assistant	Loading device	Trigger adaptation
SH1 Pistol	A / B / C	--	--	yes/ no	yes/ no
SH1 Rifle	A / B / C	--	--	--	yes/ no
SH2	A / B / C	a / b	yes/ no	--	yes/ no

The specifications of the adaptive equipment itself have been removed from the classification rules, but can be found in the IPC Shooting [Technical Rules and Regulations](#).

## **Main part: Rules and procedures**

### Suspension of Athlete Evaluation (Articles 4.7 - 4.10)

Clarification is provided on how to proceed in cases where athlete evaluation cannot be successfully completed, for example due to illness or injury of the athlete, absence of sufficient medical documentation or non-cooperation. This includes the introduction of an (administrative) sport class “Classification Not Completed” (CNC).

### Fixed Review Date (Articles 5.12-5.12)

The practice of allocating a Fixed Review Date along with a Review status has been added to the rules.

The Fixed Review Date means that an athlete does not have to be assessed again before the Fixed Review Date is reached. For example, if an athlete has been given a Review status with Fixed Review Date “2016”, the athlete would only have to undergo classification again after 1 January 2016. The cut-off date for IPC Shooting by default is 1 January of the year indicated by the classifiers.

### Medical Review (Article 5.19-5.24)

The medical review procedure, which is a request from an athlete or NPC to undergo classification despite a Confirmed or Review status with Fixed Review Date due to a change in impairment, is clarified.



### Sport Class Not Eligible (Article 6)

The procedure for reassessments of athletes found Not Eligible has remained unchanged, but has been described more clearly. Please also note that an athlete with sport class Not Eligible and sport class status Confirmed has to follow the Medical Review procedure in order to be permitted to undergo athlete evaluation again.

### Intentional Misrepresentation (Article 9)

According to Articles 11-14 of the IPC Classification Code, intentional misrepresentation should be regarded as a violation of the classification rules and should be followed by a two year sanction at minimum.

The new Intentional Misrepresentation Rules provide a firm procedure to conduct the disciplinary procedure, which involves an initial investigation and eventually a hearing by the Board of Appeal for Classification (BAC). It also provides a detailed definition of what constitutes a case of intentional misrepresentation.

These rules are also included in Section 2, Chapter 1.3 of the [IPC Handbook](#).

We trust that these amendments make IPC Shooting more understandable and consistent. We kindly ask you to familiarise yourselves with these updated classification rules and to inform relevant parties in your NPC. The new IPC Shooting Classification Rules and Regulations are found on the IPC Shooting website: [www.ipc-shooting.org/rules-and-regulations/classification](http://www.ipc-shooting.org/rules-and-regulations/classification)

We remain available for any questions you may have about these rules.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Bond'.

Sarah Bond  
Shooting Sport Manager  
International Paralympic Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Jagdish Maharaj'.

Dr. Jagdish Maharaj  
Head of Classification  
IPC Shooting Sport Technical Committee