



WPSB Working Group. "CLASSIFICATION"

MEETING DATE. 25 March 2020

MEETING MINUTES.

1 Welcome :

This our first meeting, short introduction of the members :

Anna : Classification manager Paralympics Australia, not a classifier, but works with most Paralympic sport AUS, wants to further develop PSB

Christian : Snow Sport Director for the Federation Francaise Handisport, skicoach

Jessica : International Classifier WPSB & WPAS, PT (sport) and professor University Utah, skitrainer

Leanne : International Classifier WPSB & WPAS , PT (spinal cord), PhD trajet

Sandra : Head of Classification WPSB & WPAS, International classifier, Physician Rehabilitation, adaptive ski-instructor.

We have all received and read the terms of reference of the working groups :

* Prepare proposals for the future , R&R, development, coordination between NPC-coaches-STC-Athletes.

For WG Classification :

*wording rules, improvement rules, research, observation, technical seminars etc

2 Current classification :

LR recited the short history of SB classification : May 2012 SB was added to program PWG Sochi 2014 (1 slot for Men, 1 women) , new classification system had to be developed, within short time, no research, no money it was decided to have 2 classes : Upper Limb and Lower Limb, expert opinion was used to set the minimal criteria.



Only 1 class could compete, the biggest = LL (Lower Limb) competed in Sochi.

After Sochi the LL class was split in 2 (using data from raceresults & classification):

LL1 (more impaired, Above Knee Amp) LL2 (less impaired, Below Knee Amp)

In PyeongChang we had 3 medalgroups : UL, LL1 and LL2.

Need for improvement :

LR : Research to proof the current minimal impairment criteria, role of UL ,LL, trunk in (able body) SB, effect of activity limitation . (Proposal for research project, with University of Canberra was made 2018, send to IPC classification department, but was not accepted, without good reasoning)(Funding was needed, didn't start)

CF : current UL is one group, is unfair, start is important to push off with arm, in the class some athletes can do that, some cannot. Also big effect on balance.

But a rule which would prohibit the push of for ALL athletes would make all athletes more disabled. That is not the solution.

Why not use factors, like in AS? Then you could have more classes and just 1 medal group (standing) Would also solve the current problems with not enough Women in the class LL1 and UL, didn't get a slot on the PWG 2022.

CF/ST : when not on the program for the PWG athletes will lose funding, training, elite status.

ST: development camps for women this season , we got much more UL women, but not LL1 . And still most new athletes are amputees, we are lacking other impairments. How to grow the sport, more chance to participate

JT : is also a cost question, most LL1 athletes are amputees, good above knee prosthetics are expensive, not all countries/athletes can get them.

AM : were has able body SB research been published? (see proposal)

AM : did you send out a questionnaire to the community? NPC/coaches/athletes) to ask what they want? Factor?

ST/CF/LR : we didn't do a questionnaire but has been topic for discussion. Problem is that not much people have a good overview over all athletes/ impairments , lots only see their own athletes.



Factors were not an option at the beginning, because you need race data of several years to calculate. And in 2018 the IPC GB decided that factors were not allowed to use any more (in January 2020 this was revoked)(so we can think again about this)

JT : how can you use factors in Head to Head ? LF : it works very well in the team event in Alpine.

3 Research topics

See also before.

Content of Research Proposal of 2018 is still what we need to know: ablebody data UL/LL/Trunk/combo, effect of activity limitation in the parasport.

We (Classifiers , LR) started datacollection before Sochi, made codes for all subgroups (38 in total), checked it in SDMS, but we had to stop after more strict rules, not able to access SDMS for research, not allowed to do research as classifier.

We could add a code on the front page of the current classification form and register that also in SDMS?

4 Other input :

STC SB is preparing document for IPC GB meeting about the women UL and LL1, option could be a special rule for only these PWG to combine LL1 and LL2 Women.

ST is checking the classification rules for Typos/mistakes (with input of (all) classifiers)

1 April ST will have meeting with Gen Duff, new acting director of IPC Classification department.

Topics will be : getting acquainted, current SB classification, LL1, UL etc, how/help to start SB research,



Next WG Classification call will be : 15 April 21.00 CET