

Eligibility and Classification Policy

BWB Document Control Procedure	
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1. Purpose of Policy

- 1.1 The eligibility and classification of athletes is a fundamental aspect of wheelchair basketball and underpins the inclusive nature of the sport, allowing fair and equitable participation for people with lower limb impairment.
- 1.2 The Eligibility Process confirms that a player has a lower limb impairment, and the Classification Process determines a player's "Sport Class" when competing in Wheelchair Basketball.
- 1.3 The aim of this policy is to provide a clear set of principles for how athletes are classified in the UK and outline the various classification processes which are key to maintaining the integrity of the sport. This will ensure that BWB's classification system is robust and conducted in an open and transparent environment, with the athletes' welfare front and centre.

2. Policy Principles

- 2.1 Wheelchair Basketball in the UK is an inclusive sport which allows disabled and non-disabled athletes to compete together.
- 2.2 In order to be classified for wheelchair basketball, you need to have Eligibility confirmed by BWB and be observed for a Sport Class by a trained and Licensed Classifier.
- 2.3 Classification and Eligibility decisions will be securely stored and communicated to the athlete by BWB in accordance with the BWB Privacy Policy.
- 2.4 BWB adheres to IWBF's definitions and processes as outlined in the Official Player Classification Manual 2018, however local rules and Eligibility are defined by BWB in the UK.
- 2.5 Any changes to IWBF definitions and processes will be reviewed by BWB to establish the impact on the sport in the UK prior to acceptance.

3. Responsibility

- 3.1 Clubs are responsible for ensuring that their athletes have been observed by a trained and Licensed Club Classifier and assigned a proposed classification for Eligibility applications.
- 3.2 Home Nations are responsible for ensuring that members of their squads are classified prior to attending domestic competitions.
- 3.3 The BWB Performance Team and Home Nations are responsible for ensuring that their athletes meet the requirements for IWBF Eligibility prior to being invited to international competitions.
- 3.4 BWB is responsible for upholding BWB's classification procedures within the national league and competitions organised by the National Governing Body (NGB). Local rules may apply e.g. the on-court points total may be adapted to suit the level of competition; or there may be an addition of the 5.0 class.
- 3.5 BWB Licensed Classifiers are responsible for complying with BWB and/or IWBF classification procedures and maintaining confidentiality when dealing with personal and sensitive data. The Classifier must conduct themselves in a fair and impartial manner at all times, and maintain a Classifier Licence with BWB each Season.

The table below outlines the specific requirements of each identified role within the Classification system in the UK. A robust and efficient system relies on effective communication and administration at all levels of the sport. Each role identified below is responsible for ensuring efficient communication with relevant parties, ensuring the athlete's wellbeing is considered at all stages. To be an active classifier, you need to complete the relevant training and hold a BWB classifier license each Season.

Club Classifier	Regional Classifier	National Classifier	Observation Panel	Eligibility Panel	BWB
1) Supporting athletes to gather medical documents for eligibility application 2) Assessment of new athletes and proposal of Sport Class	1) Support of Club Classifiers 2) Supporting athletes to gather medical documents for eligibility application 3) Assessment of new athletes and proposal of Sport Class	1) Team classification verification (Euro League and International) 2) Training and support of Great Britain team staff and athletes	1) Observation of athletes to determine Sport Class	1) Review and assess Eligibility Applications independently	1) Administer all domestic classifications 2) Administrate and liaise with IWBF on all International classifications 3) Review procedures and ensure policies are up to date 4) Assess any policy changes enforced by IWBF or the IPC 5) Support training and development of classifiers at all levels 6) Educate members on classification and eligibility procedures

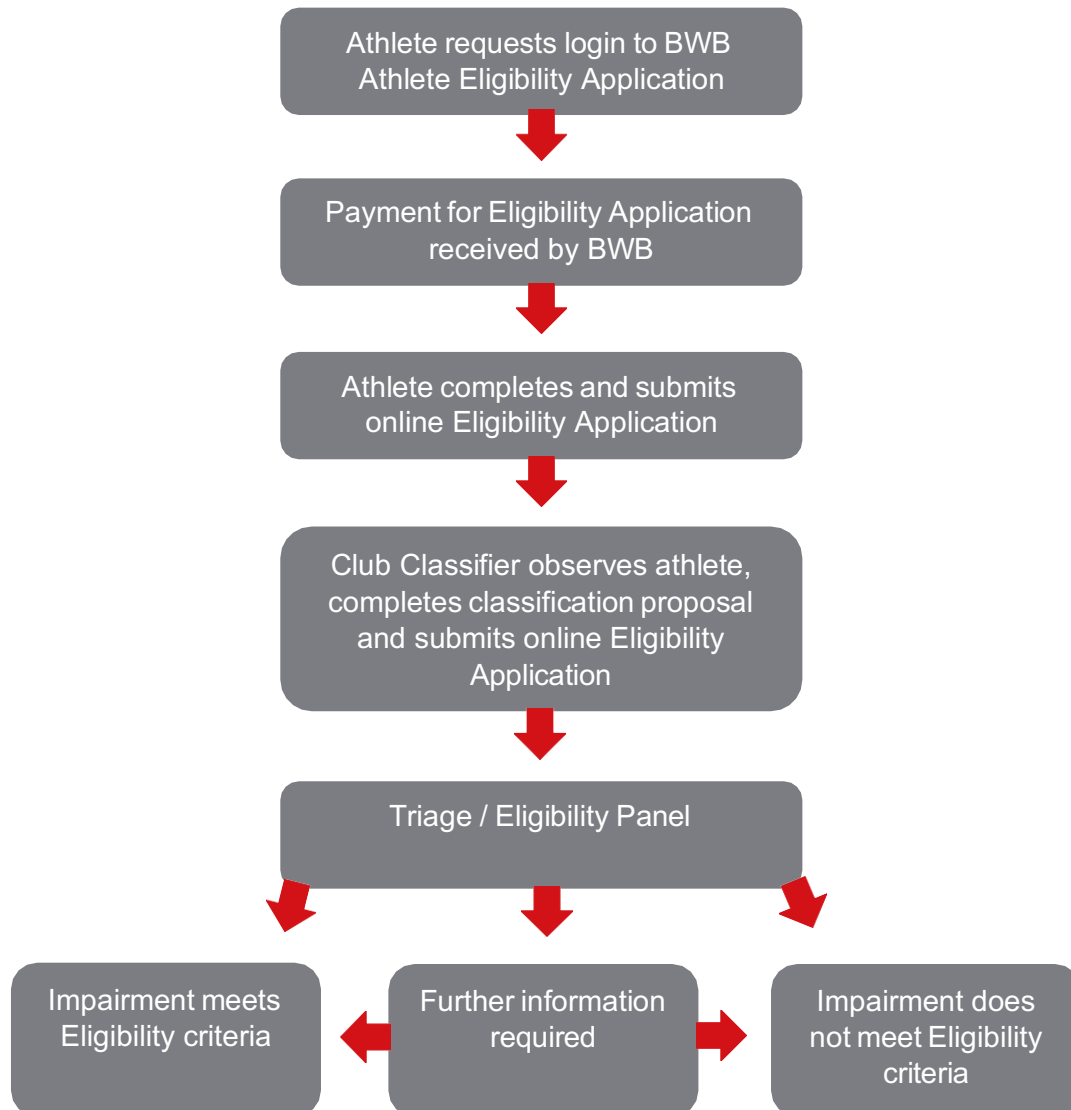
Table 1. Roles and Responsibilities

Club Classifier	Regional Classifier	National Classifier	Observation Panel	Eligibility Panel	BWB
1) Completion of Club Classifiers course	1) Annual attendance of Regional Classifier CPD 2) Maintain competency	1) Obtain at least IWBF Zonal License 2) Maintain competency 3) Attendance at seminars and conferences 4) Attend games and competitions that you are appointed to throughout the season 5) Undertake player classification reviews and protests	1) Maintain competency 2) Attendance at Classifier training 3) Attendance at seminars and conferences	1) Maintain competency 2) Work towards obtaining club classifier training within 18 months. 3) Attendance at Seminars and conferences	1) Regular reviews with the British Paralympic Association (BPA) and IWBF 2) Attendance at seminars and conferences

Table 2: Requirements for maintaining competence

4. Process and Appeals

4.1 ELIGIBILITY APPLICATION PROCESS



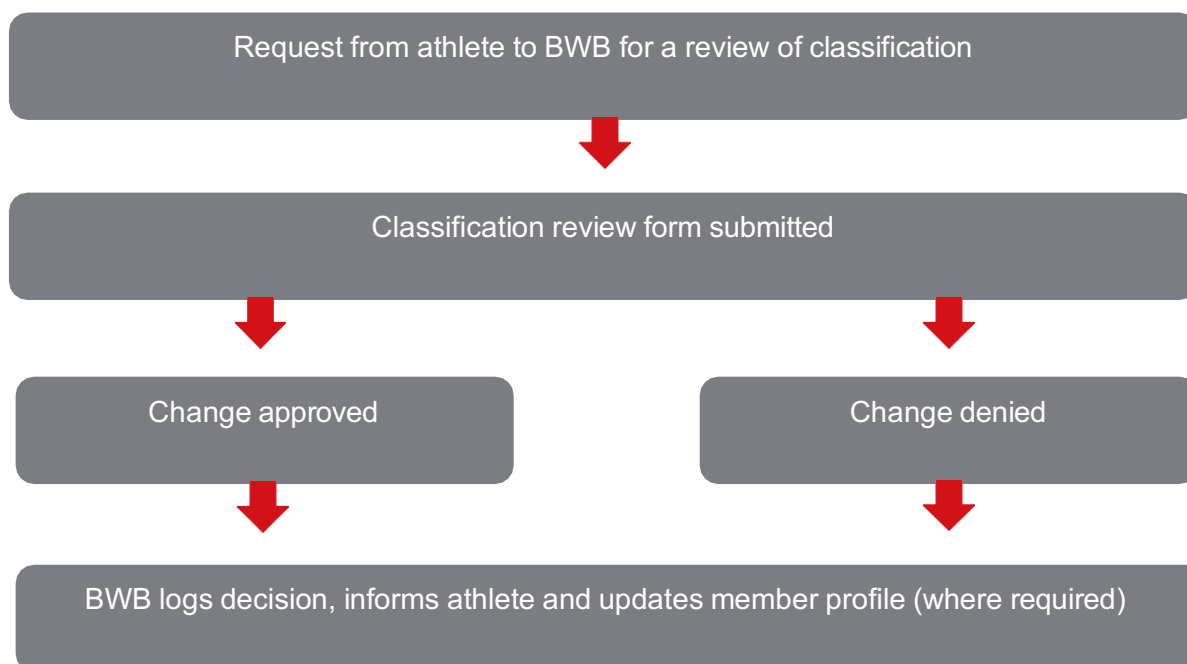
- 4.1.1 Athlete completes a form on GameDay and pays the Eligibility Fee. A log in for the AEMS system is created and details are emailed to the athlete. The link for the Gameday form can be found via this link:
<https://membership.mygameday.app/regofrm.cgi?formID=119084&programID=76095&erMsg=1>
- 4.1.2 Athletes from other National Organisations of Wheelchair Basketball (NOWB) and who haven't registered for the BWB National League in the previous season will be considered a new athlete, unless they meet the criteria under international classification (Section 6).
- 4.1.3 Athlete completes the information and medical tabs of the online form then submits the application.
- 4.1.4 BWB Club Classifier completes the classification tab of the online form then submits the application for review.

4.2 ELIGIBILITY - REVIEW PROCESS

- 4.2.1 Receipt of Eligibility Application.
- 4.2.2 The application will be triaged by BWB, potential outcomes include:
 - a. Eligible
 - b. Send to Panel
 - c. Further information required
- 4.2.3 Eligibility Application is reviewed by an Eligibility Panel. The fee for a domestic Eligibility Application is £15 paid by the applicant.
- 4.2.4 The Panel assess the medical information. Outcomes from the Panel include:
 - a. Impairment meets eligibility criteria - The evidence clearly meets the eligibility criteria and the rationale from the Club Classifier supports the proposed classification.
 - b. Further information required – Further information is required for a decision.
 - c. Not Eligible – The medical evidence provided does not meet the eligibility criteria.
- 4.2.5 The athlete will be informed of the decision via email.
- 4.2.6 The athlete will be able to play at their proposed Sport Class once payment has been received, a decision from the Panel has been received and their membership account has been updated.
- 4.2.7 An athlete will hold a proposed (P) Sport Class on their player license until they are seen by a 2nd classifier (someone that is of Regional or National Classifier level) that can confirm the proposed classification that was given by the Club Classifier. The player will hold the proposed sport class until such time.
- 4.2.8 Where a club doesn't have a club classifier or one is unavailable, a classification of 4.5 will be given to an athlete by BWB to allow the application to continue. If the player is deemed eligible, they will have to use this 4.5 classification until seen by a classifier, and an observation is submitted to BWB.
- 4.2.9 A player may not re-apply for consideration under the Eligibility criteria for a period of one year after the decision has been given, unless they can demonstrate that there has been a significant change in their condition or key medical information has been omitted. The re-application must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of £15 (paid by the applicant)

4.3 SPORTS CLASSIFICATION PROCESS – REVIEW

4.3.1 Request made to BWB



- 4.3.1 Reviews of an athlete's classification must be submitted to BWB using the Athlete Classification Review form (Appendix 2).
- 4.3.2 The Athlete Classification Review form (Appendix 2) must be supported by a Regional or National Classifier who has observed them in a competitive game*
- 4.3.3 There is a BWB Admin fee of £20 per applicant to review the updated information. There is a fee of £15 per hour (2 hours max) + mileage (£0.35 per mile) for the National Classifier to attend the competition and make the necessary observations. Athletes who have been classified by IWBF must demonstrate a significant change to their condition and must not have attended an International IWBF competition in the previous years or an IWBF Euro Cup competition in the previous 2 years. Changes will be applied in BWB sanctioned leagues and competitions only.
- 4.3.4 On attendance at an IWBF competition, the athletes confirmed international classification will be adopted in BWB sanctioned leagues and competitions. The club/ performance team will need to email the document provided by IWBF confirming the classification change to classification@britishwheelchairbasketball.co.uk to make sure the changes are implemented on our system.
- 4.3.5 BWB panel will review the classifier report and decide whether to approve or deny the new classification. The panel will be someone that holds an active National Classifier license.
- 4.3.6 BWB will record the results of the Classification Review.
- 4.3.7 BWB will inform the athlete of the results of their review.
- 4.3.8 If the classification has changed, the athlete will adopt their approved classification within 5 working days of the date of the decision.

4.4 Instigated by British Wheelchair Basketball

- 4.5.1 **BWB can review an athlete's classification at any point during the season.**
- 4.5.2 Any domestic athlete can have their classification changed at any time, with the agreement of two Classifiers, one of whom must be a **National Classifier.**
- 4.5.3 Where the athlete is under 18, a responsible adult confirmed by the child must also join any discussions.
- 4.5.4 **Discussions may be recorded,** and a transcript can be requested by all involved as well as the formal outcome of the observation.
- 4.5.5 Athletes who have been classified by IWBF must demonstrate a significant change to their condition and must not have attended an International IWBF competition in the previous four years or a IWBF Euro Cup competition in the previous 2 years an IWBF competition in the previous two years. Changes will be applied in BWB sanctioned leagues and competitions only.
- 4.5.6 On attendance at an IWBF competition, the athletes confirmed International or Euro Cup classification will be adopted in BWB sanctioned leagues and competitions. The club/ performance team will need to email the document provided by IWBF confirming the classification change to classification@britishwheelchairbasketball.co.uk to make sure the changes are implemented on our system.
- 4.5.7 BWB will record the results of the Classification Review.
- 4.5.8 BWB will inform the athlete of the result of their review.
- 4.5.9 If the classification has changed, the athlete will adopt their approved classification within 5 working days of the date of the decision.

4.6 ELIGIBILITY APPEAL PROCESS (Domestic)

An Eligibility Appeal can only appeal against the procedures taken to reach a decision, not the decision itself.

- 4.6.1 Athletes have the right to appeal, once, within 14 days of the decision.
- 4.6.2 Documentation which explains the procedural error that they wish to appeal must be included.
- 4.6.3 A Club, Team, Association or third party may not appeal on behalf of an athlete.
- 4.6.4 The athlete must pay a fee of £30 plus the travel expenses (where required) for the appeal panel. Where the appeal is upheld, £15 will be reimbursed.
- 4.6.5 BWB will review the information and determine the following:
 - a. If the information has a material impact on the application, the application will be reassessed.
 - b. If the information does not materially impact the decision, BWB will decline the appeal.
- 4.6.6 BWB will inform the athlete of the decision.
- 4.6.7 No further appeal will be allowed on the application.
- 4.6.8 A player may not re-apply for consideration under the Eligibility criteria for a period of one year after the decision has been made unless they can demonstrate that there has been a significant change in their condition. The re-application must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of £15.
- 4.6.9 Appeals for international classification are raised through IWBF and are not covered by this process.

4.7 SPORTS CLASS APPEAL PROCESS (Domestic)

An athlete can challenge their “Sport Class” either on the grounds of procedure or the observation outcome and the decision itself.

- 4.7.1 Athletes have the right to appeal once within 14 days of the decision.
- 4.7.2 Documentation should be provided by the athlete that explains the grounds for the appeal.
- 4.7.3 A Club, Team, Association or third party may not appeal on behalf of an athlete.
- 4.7.4 The athlete must pay a fee of £100 to commence the appeal plus travel expenses for the classifier (where required). Where the appeal is upheld, The full £100 will be reimbursed to the individual, the travel expenses of the classifier though would not be refunded.
- 4.7.5 An active **National** Classifier not responsible for the initial classification will be appointed to examine the merits of the appeal.
- 4.7.6 BWB will review the information and conduct an additional observation using the following means:
 - a. If sufficient **High-Quality** digital footage is available, the active **National** Classifier will study available video evidence.
 - b. If sufficient **High-Quality** footage is not available then the classifier will observe the player in a **competitive game**. The applicant shall cover the travel costs of the classifier with a mileage allowance being £0.35 per mile.BWB and the applicant shall agree on the next, best available option to conduct the observation.
- 4.7.7 The Classifier shall prepare a written review to be sent to the BWB for consideration.
- 4.7.8 If the information has a material impact on the application, the application will be reassessed and a new “Sport Class” confirmed.
- 4.7.9 If the information does not materially impact the decision, BWB will decline the appeal.
- 4.7.10 BWB will inform the athlete of the decision.
- 4.7.11 If the classification has changed, the athlete will adopt their approved classification within 5 working days of the date of the decision.
- 4.7.11 No further appeal will be allowed on the application.
- 4.7.12 Appeals for international classification are raised through IWBF and are not covered by this process.

5 Athlete transfers

- 5.1 Athletes registering with BWB who are transferring from or have been classified by another National Organisation of Wheelchair Basketball will be considered new athletes unless they meet the criteria under international classification (section 6. This includes athletes previously registered with BWB.)

6 International (IWBF) Classifications

6.1 Eligibility Applications

- 6.1.1 Athletes who wish to make an application to IWBF for eligibility must have first gone through BWB’s Eligibility process.
- 6.1.2 Athletes to be assessed for IWBF Eligibility will be signed off by the BWB Performance Team in consultation with an active **National** Classifier.
- 6.1.3 BWB will submit the relevant documents to IWBF and maintain a log of communication between IWBF and the athlete.
- 6.1.4 Athletes applying for Eligibility through IWBF will be liable for all associated fees
- 6.1.5 Athletes who are identified by IWBF as Eligible will continue to play in BWB leagues and competitions at their domestic classification until their international classification is confirmed by a Panel at an IWBF Competition.
- 6.1.6 Once the athlete has had their classification confirmed by a Panel, it will be adopted domestically within 5 working days of the decision.
- 6.1.7 Outcomes of IWBF Eligibility procedures do not automatically apply in BWB sanctioned activity

- 6.1.8 It is the athlete's responsibility to inform all relevant parties of the outcome of eligibility applications.
- 6.1.9 Appeals for international classifications are raised through IWBF processes and are not covered by the process listed in section 4.4.

7 European Club Competitions

- 7.1 Clubs participating in European Club Competitions are responsible for the classification of their athletes.
- 7.2 An active **National** Classifier must have the final sign off on classifications before team lists are submitted.
- 7.3 Clubs must inform BWB of any changes made to classifications during European Club Competitions (providing any physical documentation or cards issued by IWBF) within 5 working days of the last day of the tournament. The club will need to email the document provided by IWBF confirming the classification change to classification@britishwheelchairbasketball.co.uk to make sure the changes are implemented on our system.
- 7.4 Late submissions of this documentation will incur a fine of £100 payable to BWB.
- 7.5 Playing an Athlete with an incorrect Classification in BWB competitions following changes made during Euro Cup Competitions will be subject to regulations outlined in the BWB National League Regulations, Intentional Misrepresentation and BWB's Code of Conduct.

8 Intentional Misrepresentation

- 8.1 British Wheelchair Basketball conforms to the British Paralympic Association's policy on handling Intentional Misrepresentation. The following section is based on their policy for investigating and handling reports of Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 8.2 Article 5 of the [UK Athlete Classification Code](#) states:

Intentional Misrepresentation is when an athlete or athlete support personnel:

- *attempts to deceive the classification panel during classification evaluation;*
- *deliberately presents at classification evaluation in a way that is inconsistent with how they present for competition;*
- *fails to make a medical notification as to a change in circumstances that will or may affect a Sport Class; and/or*
- *knowingly assists, covers up or disrupts the evaluation process with the intention of deceiving or misleading the Classification Panel.*
- *Misrepresentation of a Sports Class issued by the IWBF that is not communicated to BWB and subsequently implemented domestically.*

- 8.3 Under Articles 6.6 and 6.7 of the [IPC Athlete Classification Code](#), an athlete or athlete support personnel who are found to have been intentionally misrepresenting can be banned from Paralympic sport for up to 48 months for a first offence. A second offence carries a maximum sanction of a lifetime ban from Paralympic sport. The severity of these sanctions reflects the seriousness of the charge of Intentional Misrepresentation.
- 8.4 The UK Athlete Classification Code views Intentional Misrepresentation as one of the biggest risks to the integrity of Paralympic sport and British Wheelchair Basketball will recognise, respect and enforce any ban imposed on an athlete or athlete support personnel for Intentional Misrepresentation.

8.5 Procedure for managing a report of Intentional Misrepresentation

- 8.5.1 Where an allegation of Intentional Misrepresentation is received by British Wheelchair Basketball, BWB will identify an appointed person to lead the procedure. The BWB appointed lead person will maintain a confidential log of all Intentional Misrepresentation reports received by the NGB.

8.5.2 If the report relates to Intentional Misrepresentation that calls into question the validity of an athlete's international sport class, the report will be forwarded to IWBF, with the consent of the individual raising the report. If the individual raising the report does not give their consent, the information should be shared with IWBF but with the individual's identifying and contact details redacted. BWB commits to cooperating fully with any follow-up actions taken by IWBF.

8.5.3 If the report relates to Intentional Misrepresentation that calls into question the validity of an athlete's domestic classification, BWB will:

- I. Review the content of the report that has been made
 - a. Is the source from inside the sport, outside of the sport or anonymous?
 - b. Did the source witness the athlete first-hand?
 - c. Does the content of the report sound likely?
 - d. Does the content of the report supplement information already received?
 - e. Is the content of the report relevant to Intentional Misrepresentation?

8.5.4 If there is sufficient weight to the report following the review, proceed to step 2. If there is insufficient weight to the report following the review, BWB will log and securely store the report for cross-referencing with future reports.

8.5.5 At all stages of the process (including review of information, initiating disciplinary proceedings and at a hearing panel) the onus is on BWB to prove beyond reasonable doubt that an individual has committed Intentional Misrepresentation.

- II. At all stages of the process (including review of information, initiating disciplinary proceedings and at a hearing panel) the onus is on BWB to prove beyond reasonable doubt that an individual has committed Intentional Misrepresentation.
 - a. Does the existing paperwork address all concerns raised in the report?

If yes, BWB will log the report as concluded along with an explanation of that conclusion. If no, BWB will proceed to step 3.
- III. In confidence, share all paperwork and existing concerns with the classifier(s) that most recently evaluated the athlete, asking them to respond to the concerns.
 - a. Can the classifier(s) answer concerns raised in the report?

If yes, proceed to step 4b. If no, proceed to step 4a
- IV. Summarise the actions taken to date and in confidence share with BWB's Disciplinary Panel along with the initial report and supporting documentation and either
 - a. Recommend initiating disciplinary proceedings against an athlete and/or athlete support personnel; or
 - b. Recommend logging and securely retaining this information for cross-referencing with future reports.
- V. If 4a is being pursued, BWB's disciplinary procedures will apply, including issuing a Notice of Charge, athlete's/athlete support personnel's right to a hearing panel and right to appeal that hearing panel's decision to an appropriate appellant body.
- VI. BWB will maintain a log of all received reports of Intentional Misrepresentation and follow-up actions taken. Logs will be reviewed on an annual basis.

VII. The individual raising the report shall be notified when the investigation has been completed.

8.6 At all times, the welfare of the individual(s) making the report as well as the individual(s) implicated in the report must be considered. BWB will offer an appropriate person to support each of the parties impacted by the report being raised.

8.7 Ongoing, unsubstantiated claims of Intentional Misrepresentation can be considered bullying or harassment. If BWB see evidence of this, it will be handled through the Code of Conduct.

9 Safeguarding

9.1 It is the responsibility of all concerned to protect the safety and welfare of all participants involved in the classification process. Where children, young people or adults at risk are involved in the process, every effort should be undertaken to ensure their welfare is considered and protected.

9.2 Specifically, when being assessed, conversations with a child or young person must be accompanied by a parent/carer or nominated guardian.

9.3 When communicating or discussing the classification of any athlete under the age of 18 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and 16 in Scotland, communication will take place with the parent/carer or guardian. Where classifications are conducted at an event or training without the parent/carer or guardian in attendance, the individual may select a responsible adult to accompany them during discussions.

9.4 BWB formal communication by post or email will be undertaken directly with the parent or guardian should the athlete be under the age of 18.

9.5 If you are concerned that a child or adult at risk is in immediate danger in the first instance you should report your concerns to the policy or Local Safeguarding Board or Social Services immediately.

9.6 In addition, you must report all concerns to your club welfare officer or to the Lead Safeguarding Officer.

Simon Cartwright / Lead Safeguarding Officer

Safeguarding@britishwheelchairbasketball.co.uk 01909

279900

10 Other Information

10.1 The IWBF procedures can be found here: <https://iwbf.org/>

11 Appendices

Appendix 1: Eligibility Criteria for British Wheelchair Basketball

Applicable to:

- All players who are yet to be classified domestically
- Any domestic player who has not had their Eligibility confirmed since June 2020

Health Condition	Impairment	Criteria	Supporting Documents
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Complex Regional Pain Syndrome	Impaired passive range of motion Impaired muscle power	Condition must have been diagnosed for a minimum of 18 months Reduction of function to lower limbs	Report from recognised medical professional confirming the diagnosis and the date of onset Supporting documents require objective and quantitative measurements of lower limb function
Hip, knee or ankle joint replacement		Total Hip joint replacement Total Knee joint replacement Total Ankle joint replacement	Medical report which confirms the relevant surgery by the attending physician or surgeon and date of surgery X-rays/scans with the identification of the player visible
Joint hypermobility syndrome Ehlers Danlos syndrome	Impaired muscle power Impaired passive range of motion	Condition is permanent Permanent reduction of function to lower limbs	Report from recognised medical professional confirming the diagnosis, the date of onset and permanency Report from recognised medical professional with details of most recent occurrence of dislocation

		Recurrent lower limb dislocation with most recent occurrence proven to have been within the last 12 months	Supporting documents require objective and quantitative measurements of lower limb function
Osteoarthritis	Impaired passive range of motion	Permanent damage to the joint cartilage structure	<p>Report from recognised medical professional confirming the diagnosis, the date of onset and permanency</p> <p>And either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radiographic evidence of cartilage or bone change due to osteoarthritis <p>Or:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of Passive range of movement as documented by a medical professional <p>Supporting documents require objective and quantitative measurements of lower limb function</p>
Spinal cord injury Muscular dystrophy Post-polio syndrome Spina bifida	Impaired muscle power	Reduced muscle power	Report from recognised medical professional confirming the diagnosis, the date of onset and permanency, and loss of function of lower limbs

Hereditary spastic paraplegia			
Multiple Sclerosis			
Arthrogryposis Contracture resulting from chronic joint immobilisation Trauma affecting a limb/joint	Impaired passive range of motion	Restriction or lack of passive movement in one or more of the major joints of the lower limbs.	Report from recognised medical professional confirming the diagnosis, the date of onset and permanency
Congenital deformity			Results of passive range of movement test
Achondroplasia/Short Stature	Short Stature	Reduced length in the bones to the lower limbs	Report from recognised medical professional confirming the diagnosis, the date of onset and permanency
Amputation	Limb deficiency (lower limb)	A partial or total absence of bones or joints	Report from recognised medical professional confirming the diagnosis, the date of onset and permanency
Congenital limb deficiency		Minimum requirement for a lower limb amputation is total removal of the first ray of one foot	And either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full body photo with clear visibility of impacted limb Or: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X-ray showing limb deficiency/loss with the identification of the player visible
Leg length difference	Leg length difference	Minimum requirement is 6cm for a difference in leg length as measured from the greater trochanter to	X-ray with the identification of the player visible

		the ground in a standing X-ray	
Cerebral palsy Brain injury Stroke Hereditary spastic paraplegia	Hypertonia	Reduced ability of a muscle in the lower limb to stretch caused by damaged to the central nervous system	Report from recognised medical professional confirming the diagnosis, the date of onset and permanency, and loss of function of lower limbs And either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ashworth scale results Or: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gross motor function classification system (GMFCS)
Cerebral palsy Brain injury Stroke Multiple sclerosis	Ataxia	Uncoordinated movements caused by damage to the central nervous system	Report from recognised medical professional confirming the diagnosis, the date of onset and permanency And either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARA scale results Or: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gross motor function classification system (GMFCS)
Cerebral palsy Brain injury Stroke	Athetosis	Movement disorder caused by abnormal, involuntary movements due to damage to the nervous system	Report from recognised medical professional confirming the diagnosis, the date of onset and permanency And either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DIS scale results

			<p>Or:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gross motor function classification system (GMFCS)
Non-specific health conditions	<p>Impaired muscle power</p> <p>Impaired passive range of motion</p>	<p>Minimum of 3 years with no improvement despite input from physiotherapy / rehabilitation services</p> <p>Reduction of function to lower limbs</p>	<p>Report from recognised medical professional who is a specialist in associated field confirming:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnosis Date of onset Loss of function to lower limbs Degree of disability caused <p>Supporting documents require objective and quantitative measurements of lower limb function</p>

Please Note:

1. This list is not exhaustive and there may be other causes of Eligible Impairments.
2. When applying for Eligibility It is important to give as much information as possible as to the cause of the impairment.
3. If an athlete has a Non-Eligible and an Eligible Impairment, the Eligibility Panel will evaluate them based on the Eligible Impairment.
4. The panel reserves the right to review an individual's eligibility at any given time.

Please see below for a list of Non-Eligible Impairments:

- Pain
- Hearing Impairment
- Low muscle tone
- Health conditions which affect the upper limbs only
- Impaired muscle endurance
- Impaired motor reflex functions

- Impaired respirator functions
- Impaired metabolic functions
- Tics and mannerisms, stereotypes and motor perseveration

Appendix 2: Athlete Classification Review Form

This form needs to be completed in full.

First Name:	Surname:
DOB:	
Gender: Male Female	
Club:	
Current classification: 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0	
Proposed classification: 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0	

Rationale

Rationale for proposed change in classification (written by Club Classifier).

Rationale

Rationale for proposed change in classification (written by Regional Classifier).

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*Please note, references to an athletes' performance will not be considered in any rationale.

Attached documents

Please provide any relevant documents to support the proposed classification, including any reference to medical documentation that may have had a positive impact on the athlete's functional movement.

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I can confirm that the above information is accurate

Name of Club Classifier:
Signature:
Date:

Please return your completed form to classification@britishwheelchairbasketball.co.uk

Appendix 3: Intentional Misrepresentation Report

Athlete details

First Name:	Surname:
DOB:	
Gender: Male Female	
Club:	
Classification: 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0	

Rationale

Rationale for report.

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*Please note, references to an athletes' performance will not be considered in any rationale.

Report submitted by

Name:
Club:
Position at Club:
Classification experience:
Signature:
Date:

Please return your completed form to classification@britishwheelchairbasketball.co.uk

Appendix 4: Domestic Fees Related to Classification

Item	Fee
Eligibility Application	£15
Classification Review	There is a BWB Admin fee of £20 per applicant to review the updated information. There is a fee of £15 per hour (2 hours max) + mileage (£0.35 per mile) for the Classifier to attend the competition and make the necessary observation
Domestic classification appeal	£100 + travel expenses where required (£100 refundable if appeal successful, travel expenses will not be refunded)
Eligibility re-application	£15
Late submission or failure to submit classification changes made at European Club Competitions	£100

Appendix 5: Frequently Asked Questions

What is eligibility?

Eligibility is determined using the following criteria:

- a) A wheelchair basketball player must have a permanent physical disability which, in the opinion of the IWBF, reduces the function of the lower limbs to a degree where they cannot run, pivot or jump at the speed and with the control, safety, stability and endurance required to play running basketball as an able bodied player.
- b) The disability must be such that it can be objectively verified by acknowledged medical and/or paramedical investigations such as measurement, X-ray, CT, MRI, etc.
- c) Persons who have had hip or knee joint replacements and have provided confirmation of the relevant surgery from their attending physician or surgeon and supporting X-rays/scans are deemed to have met the eligibility criteria.
- d) In the instance of amputation, the minimal requirement for eligibility is total removal of the first ray of one foot
- (e) In the instance of a leg length discrepancy, the minimal requirement for eligibility is a 6cm difference in leg length as measured from the greater trochanter to the ground in a standing x-ray.

For the purpose of IWBF Classification, degrees of pain are not considered measurable and permanent disabilities.

How do I apply for domestic eligibility?

Email classification@britishwheelchairbasketball.co.uk to request a log in for the online [Eligibility system](#).

The reports should show:

- The medical condition you have
- The prognosis
- Recognised measurement of any physical limitation of movement and strength
- Any procedures recommended for treatment

The fee for each application is £15.

Who can classify?

BWB Licensed Club Classifiers can propose a classification for athletes within their clubs. The athlete will then hold a P on the license card until seen by a Regional or IWBF Classifier to confirm the classification.

Regional and IWBF Classifiers can support clubs with more complex classifications. They may also be involved in the Eligibility Panel which looks at minimal disability applications and appeals.

How do I become a classifier?

BWB Club Classifier's courses take place annually. More information about this course can be found at www.britishwheelchairbasketball.co.uk or contact classification@britishwheelchairbasketball.co.uk

Do I have to re-classify if I change teams?

Your classification moves with you if you decide to move teams.

What happens if I disagree with my classification?

Decisions on which classification to award are based on principles decided by the IWBF. These principles are in place to ensure consistency across the game. If you disagree with the classification, you have been awarded because you believe that specific evidence has not been taken into account, you may follow the appeals process outlined in this document.

What happens if my classification changes?

In all instances, if your classification has been changed, notification will be sent to BWB who will contact you to confirm the new classification. You will be able to play at the new classification within 5 working days of the decision.

12 Glossary

Acquired: An impairment that has developed during the person's lifetime that is a result of an accident or illness rather than a disability the person was born with.

British Wheelchair Basketball/BWB: The National Governing Body for wheelchair basketball in the UK.

Club Classifier: A Club Classifier will have attended BWB's Club Classifier training. They are responsible for classifying players within their club

Congenital: A disease or physical abnormality present from birth.

Domestic athlete: An athlete who only plays within BWB sanctioned leagues and competitions.

Domestic classification: The classification that applies to BWB sanctioned leagues and tournaments.

Eligibility Panel: A panel formed to assess whether an athlete meets the criteria for wheelchair basketball classification.

Genetic: Relating to genes or hereditary.

International classification: The classification given by an IWBF classification panel at a tournament.

International athlete: An athlete who plays within IWBF sanctioned leagues and competitions.

International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF): The Governing Body for Wheelchair Basketball across the world.

Loss of function: Relates to the degree of the reduction of the movement of the lower limbs.

Medical diagnosis: The process of determining which disease or condition explains a

National Organisation of Wheelchair Basketball/NOWB: A National Federation for wheelchair basketball.

Non-eligible: The person doesn't qualify for a wheelchair basketball classification under the regulations relating to classification.

Prognosis: The likely course of a medical condition.

Progressive: An impairment or disability which will get worse over time.

Rationale: A set of reasons or a logical basis for a course of action.

Regional Classifier: A Regional Classifier will have attended BWB's Club Classifiers training as well as further training for Regional Classifiers.

Stable: An impairment or disability which is not deteriorating / is unlikely to change.

Visual disability: A impairment that can be determined through observation of an athlete.