

Santa Clara Swim Club Disability Meet

Sept.30-Oct.2, 2011

Santa Clara International Swim Center

Santa Clara, CA, USA

Classification...

What is Classification?

Classification is a structure for competition. Paralympic athletes have an impairment in body structures and functions that leads to a competitive disadvantage in sport. Consequently, criteria are put in place to ensure that winning is determined by skill, fitness, power, endurance, tactical ability and mental focus, the same factors that account for success in sport for athletes who are able-bodied.

What are the Sport Classes for Swimming?

Classes 1-10: are allocated to swimmers with a physical impairment

Classes 11-13: are allocated to swimmers with a visual impairment

Class 14: is allocated to swimmers with an intellectual impairment

The Prefix S denotes the sport class for Freestyle, Backstroke and Butterfly

The Prefix SB denotes the sport class for Breaststroke

The Prefix SM denotes the sport class for Individual Medley

Who must be Classified?

The international classification database for swimming is listed on the IPC website at www.paralympic.org. The national U.S. Paralympics classification database for swimming is available at www.usparalympics.org.

If the swimmer has never been nationally classified (i.e. is NOT listed in either the international OR national database) a classification appointment must be requested at this competition. Submit the enclosed *Request for Classification* form. Athletes will be notified by email about the classification appointment schedule. All classification appointments will be scheduled on Friday September 30, 2011. **There is a \$100 fine payable to Paralympic Division/USOC for missed appointments.**

The classification process consists of a bench / water test that will be conducted during your classification appointment on Friday, September 30, 2011, and observation during competition. ***All athletes being classified must be entered into and compete in the competition.***

Swimmers who have an intellectual disability:

Classification is a two part process for the athlete with an intellectual impairment. Part 1 is to complete an INAS-FID eligibility assessment. The INAS-FID member organization in the USA is Athletes Without Limits. For more information on the process and to access the application materials, please go to <http://www.athleteswithoutlimits.org/usa/eligibility/>.

Part 2 will be a sport-specific classification evaluation. The evaluation criteria have not yet been published by the IPC (as of December 1, 2010). Once available from IPC Swimming this information will be disseminated and available at www.usparalympics.org.

Submitting Your Request for Classification

Requests for classification must be received by September 8, 2011. Submit the enclosed *Request for Classification* form and any pertinent medical documentation to:

Paralympic Division / USOC
Attn: 2011 GTAC Disability Open / Classification Requests
E-mail: julie.oneill@usoc.org
Or by fax: +1 719 866 2029

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Request for Classification Appointment Form

Please type or print clearly. All correspondence about classification will be conducted via e-mail.

Name _____ Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY) _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

Sport(s) for which classification is being requested: _____

Current **NATIONAL** sport class(es): (please leave BLANK if not yet classified)

SWIMMING CLASS(ES): S _____ SB _____ SM _____ STATUS (circle): NN NR

Describe your disability and related medical conditions (attach additional pages/medical documentation if necessary):

Preferred appointment time (rank in order of preference, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.):

____ Friday 30 September 9:00-11:00

____ Friday 30 September 11:00-13:00

____ Friday 30 September 13:00-15:00

____ Friday 30 September 15:00-17:00

Requests for classification must be received by SEPTEMBER 8, 2011. Submit the *Request for Classification* form and any medical documentation to:

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Attn: 2011 GTAC Disability Open / Classification Requests
E-mail: julie.oneill@usoc.org
Or by fax: +1 719 866 2029