



Classification Information Sheet

BOCCIA



Introduction

This information is intended to be a generic guide to classification for Boccia. It is not to be used to make classification or athlete selection decisions. The classification of athletes in this sport is performed by authorised classifiers according to the classification rules of the sport, which are determined by the International Federation for the sport. Sport Classification Rules change from time to time, and this guide represents the classification system current at the date of publication.

Which Disability groups can compete in this sport?

Athletes who use wheelchairs who have significant locomotor dysfunction in all four limbs resulting from Cerebral Palsy, Acquired Brain Injury, complete spinal cord lesion, Spina Bifida, Muscular Dystrophy, Multiple Sclerosis, or Motor Neurone disease.

What is the Minimal Disability?

In order to be eligible to compete in a sport as an athlete with a disability, it is not sufficient simply to have a disability. Specific and objective testing is used to determine whether a person's disability results in sufficient limitation of their ability to perform the core elements of the relevant sport. This is different for each sport and is termed the minimal disability criteria. Only authorised classifiers are able to determine whether a person meets the minimal disability criteria for a particular sport. Below is a rough guide to the criteria – it should not be used to provide athletes with advice regarding eligibility.

Group	Minimal Disability – GUIDE ONLY
Cerebral Palsy	Athletes with cerebral palsy, who use a wheelchair for most of their mobility. These athletes generally have significant spasticity, ataxia, athetosis or dystonia
Non-Cerebral Origin	Athletes who use wheelchairs with significant or deteriorating neurological disorders which affects all four limbs, combined with poor dynamic trunk control. Athletes with Frederichs Ataxia, Muscular Dystrophy, Multiple Sclerosis, Spinal Cord Lesions, and Spina Bifida may meet minimal disability.

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What are the Paralympic classes for this sport?

The list below contains examples of the type of disabilities found in each class for Boccia, current at the date of publication. It is intended as a guide only. The list is not exhaustive and cannot be used for the classification of athletes, as this classification can only be performed by authorised classifiers. For more specific information, please use the resources on the last page of this information sheet.

Class	Examples (Guide Only)
BC 1	Players in this class have cerebral palsy with movement difficulties affecting the whole body. They are unable to propel a manual wheelchair, often have difficulty adjusting their sitting position, and generally have little functional use of their legs. Players may use their hands or feet to propel the ball into the playing area. BC 1 players may utilise an assistant on the court to help with their grasp of the ball before their shot.
BC 2	BC2 players have cerebral palsy with movement difficulties affecting the whole body. These athletes have more trunk control but have difficulties with consistent shoulder movement. Players are able to spread their fingers and thumb but not quickly, and are able to use their hand or foot to propel a manual wheelchair. Some players in this class may be able to stand or walk but are unstable. BC2 players use their hands to throw the ball into the playing area. They have much more functional ability than BC 1 players and therefore are not permitted to use an assistive device or an assistant.
BC 3	Players in this class have significant movement difficulties in all four limbs. BC 3 players have insufficient strength or coordination to grasp, throw or kick the ball into the playing area. These players are allowed to use ramps and assistive devices to drive the ball into the playing zone. They may utilise an assistant to support the placement of the ball on the ramp.
BC 4	Players in this class have significant movement difficulties in all four limbs that is a degenerative or other (non cerebral) neurological disorder. . Players have poor muscle strength, and co-ordination difficulties combined with poor trunk control. They may be able to push a manual chair. Athletes often use their arms or a head thrust to bring themselves to an upright sitting position after a throw. BC 4 players can grasp and throw a ball into the playing area. These players are not permitted to use an assistant or throwing chair.

Further Information

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Australian Paralympic Committee Website:

<http://www.paralympic.org.au/Sport/Classification/>

CP-ISRA Website

<http://www.cpisra.org/>

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