



IPC Members

Via email

24 July 2023

Review of the 2015 IPC Athlete Classification Code - Third and Final Consultation Launched

Dear Membership,

We write to you today with important information regarding the review of the IPC Athlete Classification Code (the Code).

We are delighted to announce that starting today, we are entering the third and final consultation phase of the Code review. This letter, along with the attached and linked documents, provide information on the next steps of this review process.

We kindly invite you to review this information, engage with us in the consultation dialogue, provide feedback and share this information with relevant stakeholders within your organisation.

The multi-year long review of the Code is now in the final stage of the review, with the third consultation phase running between now and end of October 2023. Following the close of the consultation, the Code Review Team will analyse the feedback and prepare a final draft Code which is envisaged to be put forward for approval at an Extraordinary General Assembly in 2024, scheduled to take place in a virtual format.

The Classification Code is a fundamental document upon which classification must be based on in the Paralympic Movement, meaning its impact reaches all IPC Members, Athletes, Classifiers and other stakeholders. The success of this review process and the development of the new improved Code relies on the engagement from our Members, Athletes, Classifiers and wider stakeholders.

This third phase of consultation will be carried out in a similar way to last year's consultation, with opportunities to join calls and meetings to discuss the changes,

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the interpretation and implementation of the Code, and the opportunity to provide feedback via multiple channels and formats, including an online survey. Targeted questions are prepared on certain aspects addressed in the new draft Code. For further details on the Code Review Process, please visit [IPC Athlete Classification Code Review Process](#).

Producing this second draft Code and International Standards comes as a result of a truly collaborative effort from everyone who engaged and contributed to the process thus far. We hereby wish to sincerely thank all individuals and IPC Members who joined us and contributed to this Code review journey. Our special and heartfelt thanks goes to the entire Code Review Team for their tireless work in analysing the feedback, considering different perspectives, navigating through complex discussions and producing an updated draft Code.

Below, we will detail the key documents shared as part of this consultation phase, and information on the engagement opportunities. This information is available on our webpage ([Classification Code review](#)).

1. Summary of changes

The Summary of changes provides an update to the changes made in the new draft and it addresses the outcomes of the previous consultation phase. This document offers a brief rationale for the changes made to the Code and International Standards and it lists questions put forward for consultation, labelled as targeted questions. To facilitate wider understanding of the Code, the document is prepared in English, Spanish and French.

[Summary of Changes \(English\)](#)

For reference, the Summary of changes produced in 2022 remains available on our website.

2. The draft Code and International Standards

The draft Code is now supplemented with three International Standards. We therefore present the following:

- [Draft IPC Classification Code \(version July 2023\)](#)
- [Attachment 1: Draft Classification Flowchart \(version July 2023\)](#)
- [Draft International Standard for Classification Personnel and Training \(version July 2023\)](#)
- [Draft International Standard for Classification Data Protection \(version July 2022\)](#)
- [Draft International Standard for Intentional Misrepresentation \(version July 2023\)](#)

3. Feedback received during phase 2 consultation

Following the approach taken in the previous consultation phases, we wish to maintain a transparent review and publish the feedback received in writing (via a survey or email communication).

[Phase 2 Classification Code Review Survey Compiled Feedback - July 2023](#)

It is worth noting that additional feedback was obtained through extensive online and in-person consultation opportunities. To illustrate, the consultation included 20 calls targeted to different stakeholder groups, in-person discussions at the occasion of 2022 IPC Membership Gathering and 2022 IPC Annual Classification Meeting. Feedback obtained via this format was extremely helpful in analysing different sections of the Code and deciding on the future direction. Given the nature of these dialogues, this feedback is captured separately to the survey responses.

4. Consultation and engagement opportunities

We are committed to offer as many opportunities for dialogue on the draft Code as needed. Similarly, to the process carried out last year, we invite you to register and join the consultation calls. For a full overview and registration details of the consultation opportunities via a call, please visit the following link: [Registration: Code Review Membership Consultation Calls 2023](#)

In addition, we will take the opportunity of the 2023 IPC Conference scheduled to take place in Bahrain on 27 September 2023 to present and discuss items related to the Code review.

Finally, the 2023 IPC Annual Classification Meeting will serve as an opportunity to have an extensive dialogue on the Code review with classification representatives from each organisation. The meeting is taking place between 28-30 October in Egypt. Registrations for the meeting are open until 31 July and can be completed via the following link: [2023 Annual Classification Meeting - Registration Form](#)

5. Submitting your written feedback

Separately to the engagement over calls and in-person meetings, we offer a survey to provide written feedback on the targeted questions prepared for this consultation phase and feedback on any items related to the Code and International Standards. This survey is open to anyone who wishes to engage and particularly aims to capture each organisation's formal views on the topics of interest. Feedback submitted via the survey will be collated and published on our website, as was done throughout the review process.

The survey can be accessed using the following link: [Code Review: Phase 3 Consultation Survey](#)

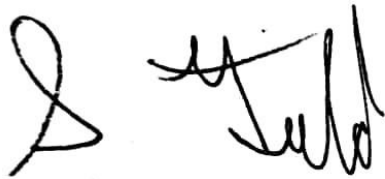
Should the online survey be perceived as an inappropriate channel to share feedback, please contact us at codereview@paralympic.org to explore alternative means of feedback over a call or email.

The survey is now open and will remain open until 31 October 2023.

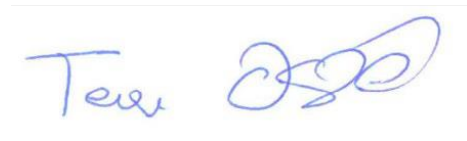
Classification is the cornerstone of the Paralympic Movement. The review of the Classification Code is therefore a vital project for the Movement. We thank you for your continued engagement and we kindly invite and encourage you to make your contribution to the final consultation phase under this review.

Should you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us at codereview@paralympic.org.

Kind regards,



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Code Drafting Team



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