

### What happens during a National classification evaluation?

Classification generally includes the following steps:

<b>Administration</b>	<b>Prior to commencement of any classification process, you will be required to read and sign an Athlete Consent Form</b>
<b>Examination</b>	<b>Assessment of impairment</b>
<b>Pre competition assessment</b>	<b>Assessment of sport specific skills. eg Functional movement and strength testing, ergometer testing and on-water testing.</b>
<b>Review in competition</b>	<b>Observation and assessment of sports specific movement in competition</b>

### What do I need to bring to a national classification evaluation?

All Athletes must:

- Present for classification 15 minutes prior to your allocated time.
- Attend with an **athlete representative** (parent, coach or other).
- Be appropriately **dressed in clothing worn for training for their sport (suitable for the weather conditions)**.
- Bring identification document (eg passport, drivers licence)
- Bring **assistive devices** needed for competition.  
This includes sport prostheses, splints, strapping and performance equipment (boat adaptations, seats).
- Bring any **medical documentation** relevant to the classification.  
If you have a physical impairment you will need to bring a letter from your specialist stating your diagnosis, and what the physical signs are.
- Bring any previous copies of classifications

### What does it cost?

There is no cost for classification.



### **What is expected of athletes?**

Athletes must cooperate at all times to the best of their ability. You are expected to behave in an honest, courteous and sportsman-like manner. If you fail to do so, you will not be allowed to compete in Paralympic sport.

Athletes will be required to read and sign an **Athlete Evaluation Consent Form** prior to being seen by the classification panel.

Athletes should be well informed about all elements related to classification procedures, as well as the **Codes of Conduct**, outlined in the Classification Rules relevant to your sport.

### **What is expected of the athlete representative?**

Parents or sports staff who attend classification with an athlete:

- Are expected to behave in a courteous manner at all times and to respect the decision of the classifiers
- Are able to observe, but not participate in the evaluation
- Are welcome to ask appropriate questions

Further details are available in the [APC Classification policy](#)

### **What should be expected of classifiers?**

Classifiers should treat you in a manner that is professional, courteous and safe at all times. They should provide you with sufficient information to understand the process, the decision, and the opportunities for protest or clarification. All information obtained during classification will be kept confidential.

### **What if I do not agree with my classification?**

If you disagree with a National Classification, contact Australian Canoeing or the Australian Paralympic Committee.

### **When is my classification due for review?**

Every time an athlete is classified they will be given a status for their classification. If an athlete's is allocated a review status they will be required to attend classification again at the next competition where classification is held. If you are allocated a review year for your classification, by the rules of the sport you are not permitted to be reclassified until the year that is allocated, unless your condition changes or the classification rules for the sport change.

If an athlete is allocated a confirmed status this means that they do not have to attend classification again, unless the classification rules for the sport change or the athlete has a change in medical condition.

**PREPARING FOR NATIONAL CLASSIFICATION  
INFORMATION FOR PARACANOE ATHLETES**



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Where do I go for further information?

Organisation	Website and contact details
Australian Canoeing	<a href="http://www.canoe.org.au">www.canoe.org.au</a> Phone: 0439739040 <a href="mailto:Andrea.Wood@ausport.gov.au">Andrea.Wood@ausport.gov.au</a>
Australian Paralympic Committee	<a href="http://www.paralympic.org.au">www.paralympic.org.au</a> + 61 2 9704 0500 <a href="mailto:classification@paralympic.org.au">classification@paralympic.org.au</a>