

## Para Badminton Information Sheet

### About the sport

Debuting at the Tokyo 2020 Games, Para badminton is open to male and female athletes competing in singles, doubles and mixed doubles events.

Players in wheelchairs and those with the most significant impairments compete on a half court. All other classes and doubles events use the full court. A match consists of the best of three games. A game is won by the first side to score 21 points. The player who wins each point serves first in the next.

### Who can compete?

Para badminton is open to athletes with a physical impairment. Athletes are required to submit medical reports and meet the minimum impairment criteria in order to compete.

| Eligible impairments                  | Description                                                                                                                                                                                   | Minimum Impairment Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Muscle weakness/Impaired Muscle Power | Muscle weakness or paralysis from conditions such as muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, nerve damage, spinal cord injury or other spinal condition or change in muscle origin/insertion. | <p><b>Leg:</b> Muscle weakness in hip, knee, or ankle affecting bending, straightening, or rotating movements.</p> <p><b>Arm:</b> Muscle weakness in shoulder or elbow affecting lifting, rotating, bending, or straightening movements.</p> <p><b>Back and torso:</b> Permanent severe movement limitation, e.g. scoliosis over 60° (Cobb method, X-ray required).</p> |
| Impaired Passive Range of Movement    | Restricted movement or tightness in a joint/s from conditions such as joint fusions and other restricting conditions.                                                                         | Joint movement restriction in at least one hip, knee, ankle, shoulder or elbow                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

| Eligible impairments  | Description                                                                                | Minimum Impairment Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Limb Loss             | Partial or complete absence of bones or joints due to amputation or deficiency from birth. | <p><b>Leg:</b></p> <p>One leg amputated above knee, stump <math>\leq</math> half upper leg length</p> <p>Both legs amputated: one at/above knee, one below knee (no ankle)</p> <p>One foot amputated halfway (toe to heel)</p> <p>One leg amputated at/above knee</p> <p>Both legs amputated below or above knee</p> <p><b>Arm:</b></p> <p>One arm amputated at/above wrist (no carpal bones)</p> <p>3+ fingers amputated from knuckle joint (excluding thumb)</p> <p>4+ fingers amputated from knuckle joint (excluding thumb)</p> <p>Thumb and thumb muscle amputated</p> <p>One arm with birth difference where affected arm (shoulder to fingertip) <math>\leq</math> humerus + radius length of other arm</p> <p><b>Other:</b></p> <p>Spinal curvature <math>\geq</math> 60 degrees</p> <p>Congenital limb deficiency matching above criteria</p> |
| Leg length difference | Significant difference in leg length due to a deficiency at birth or trauma.               | The difference must be at least 7cm between both legs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Short Stature                                                              | <p>Reduced standing height and limb length from conditions such as achondroplasia or other conditions that affect growth.</p> <p>Players under 18 must prove chromosomal disorder diagnosis related to short stature.</p> | <p>Player must be over 13 years old.</p> <p>Players must meet the criteria below, with measurements taken at each competition until age 18.</p> <p><b>Males:</b> Height <math>\leq 145\text{cm}</math>, arm length <math>\leq 66\text{cm}</math>, combined <math>\leq 200\text{cm}</math>.</p> <p><b>Females:</b> Height <math>\leq 137\text{cm}</math>, arm length <math>\leq 63\text{cm}</math>, combined <math>\leq 190\text{cm}</math>.</p> |
| Co-ordination impairments: Hypertonia/Spasticity, Motor Ataxia, Dyskinesia | <p>Impairments from neurological conditions such as acquired brain injury, cerebral palsy and multiple sclerosis that affect co-ordination and smoothness of movement and balance.</p>                                    | <p>Co-ordination or movement difficulties in at least one arm or leg.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

## Para Badminton Sport Classes

| Sport Class                              | Description (Guide Only)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Athletes with Physical Impairment</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| WH1                                      | <p>Players who use a wheelchair to compete. WH1 players usually have impairment in their torso and both legs. They play on a half width court and will hold on to their playing chair with their nonplaying hand when playing a shot for balance.</p>               |
| WH2                                      | <p>Players who use a wheelchair to compete. WH2 players could have impairment in one or both lower limbs and minimal or no impairment of the trunk. They play on a half-width court.</p>                                                                            |
| SL3                                      | <p>Standing players with an impairment in one or both legs whose balance and movement on the court are affected. Players play on a half width court and have reduced court movement.</p> <p>Aids such can be used if required Prothesis, orthosis, walking aid.</p> |
| SL4                                      | <p>A Standing class where the player has a lesser impairment compared to Sport Class SL 3. The player could have impairment in one or both lower limbs and minimal impairment in walking/running balance. Players play on a full width court.</p>                   |

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SU5                 | The players in this class have impairment of the upper limbs. The impairment could be on the playing or non-playing hand. Players play on a full-width court and have good court movement. |
| SH6                 | These are players who have a short stature due to a genetic condition.                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Not Eligible</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Not Eligible (NE)   | Does not meet the minimum criteria for the Para badminton sport classes, but may still be able to compete. Contact Badminton Australia for more information.                               |

To get involved or for more information contact: **Badminton Australia**

**W:** [www.badminton.org.au](http://www.badminton.org.au)

**E:** [para@badminton.org.au](mailto:para@badminton.org.au)

To obtain a classification contact [para.classification@badminton.org.au](mailto:para.classification@badminton.org.au)

**Note:** The classification information provided is intended as a guide only. Only authorised classifiers are able to provide a formal classification in accordance with the rules of the sport. Not all classes may have events at the Paralympic Games.

