

CLASSIFICATION AWARENESS

# SCHOOL SPORT PROGRAM

Wednesday 22 March 2023: 6PM  
Swimming Queensland  
Michael Anderson



Activate  
Queenslanders



swimming  
queensland



# WHAT IS PARA SWIMMING?

## What is Multi Class swimming?

Para swimming being 1-14 classes and MC being classes 1-19. Terms are used interchangeably though technically they reference a particular set classes.

### 1. Para Swimming

- Paralympic eligible impairment groups S1-14
- Paralympic pathway opportunities
- Governed by WPS in conjunction with IPC

### 2. Multi Class Swimming

- All Swimming Australia eligible impairment groups, which also include S15-19
- Impairment specific competition pathways
- Impairment specific international governing bodies

### 3. Multi Class Swimming is also a format of racing

- Athletes of different impairment types race against each other with results factoring in varying levels of impairment
- Refer to MCPS (discussed later in the webinar)

Sport participation and competition opportunity – caters to all classes, not just Para.



# WHAT IS CLASSIFICATION?

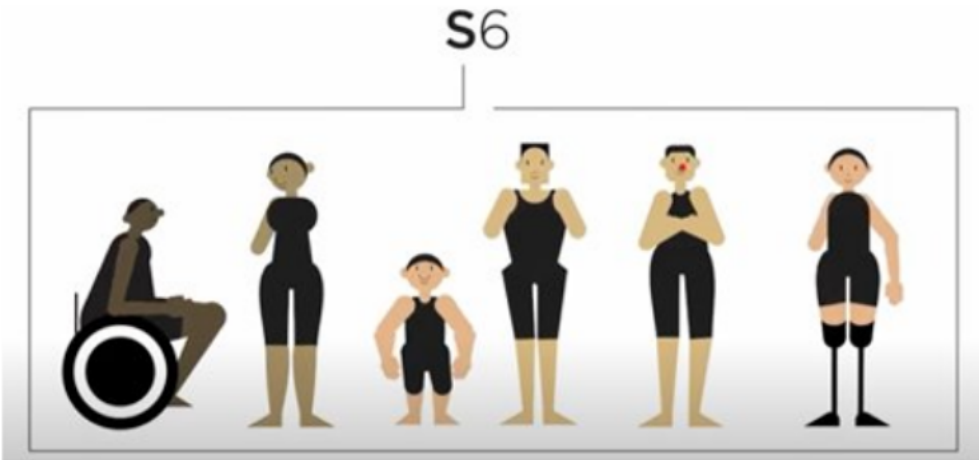


Image: Paralympics New Zealand

- Defines who is eligible to compete
- Groups athletes with an eligible impairment into classes, according to how much their impairment affects their ability to carry out the fundamental activities of swimming
- Provides a structure for fair and equitable competition – CP as an example can have a large range so the need for a scale is required. Individual is racing against others of a similar impact of impairment
- Fundamental questions of classification:
  - Does the athlete have an eligible impairment?
  - Does the athlete meet the minimum impairment criteria for swimming?
  - Which sport class should be allocated?
- Why do we implement the classification system?  
The process is for you, the swimmer, to ensure fair sport.



# ELIGIBLE IMPAIRMENT TYPES

PARA



S1-S10  
Physical  
impairment



S11-S13  
Visual  
impairment



S14  
Intellectual  
impairment

- Within the health census, mental health impairments may be related as a disability however are not eligible under intellectual. Same with pain related impairments

- While an individual may perceive themselves, or be medically diagnosed as having a disability, not everyone will be eligible for MC swimming.

- The largest range of eligibility type is the physical category. Medical impairments that result in: Impaired muscle power, limb deficiency, leg length difference, short stature, hypertonia, ataxia, athetosis, impaired passive range of movement.

NON-PARA



S15  
Hearing  
impairment



S16  
Transplant  
recipient



S17  
Transition  
class



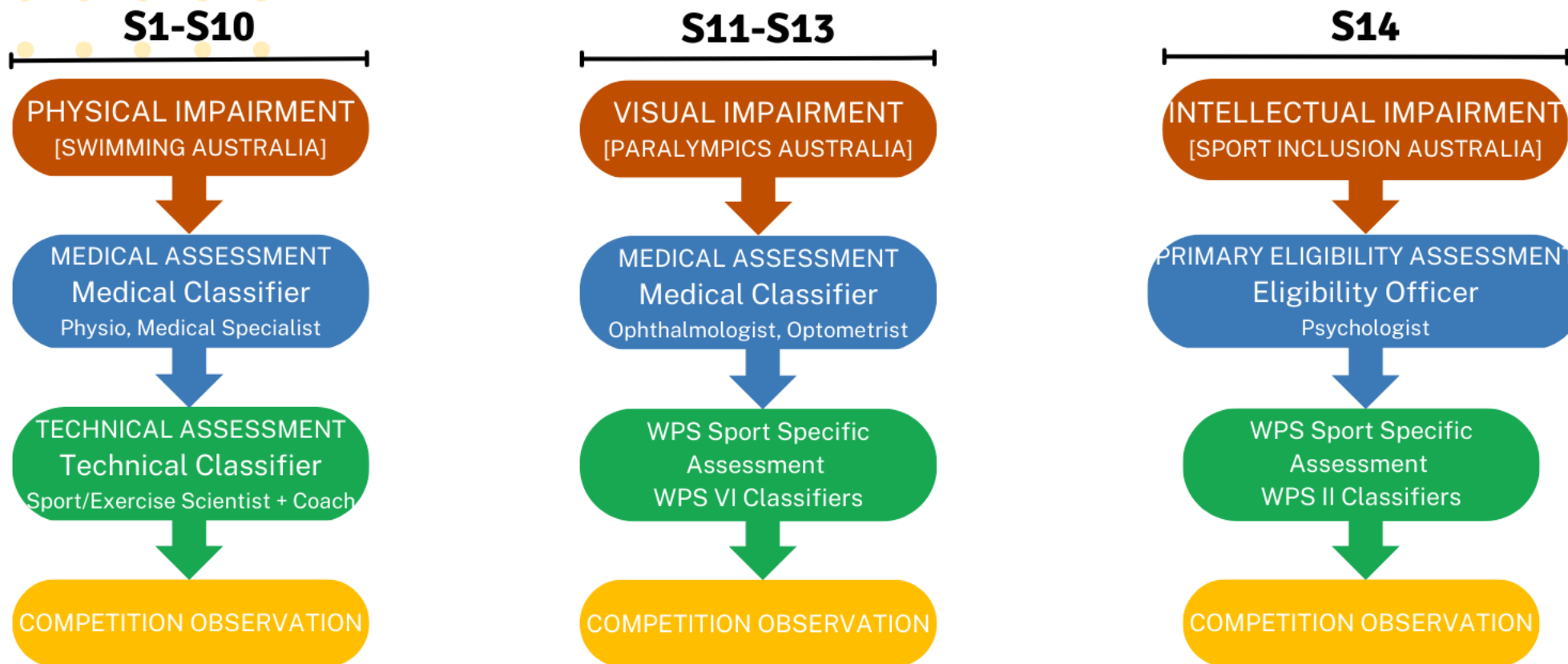
S18  
Down Syndrome and  
other significant  
intellectual impairment



S19  
High Functioning  
Autism



# CLASSIFICATION ASSESSMENT



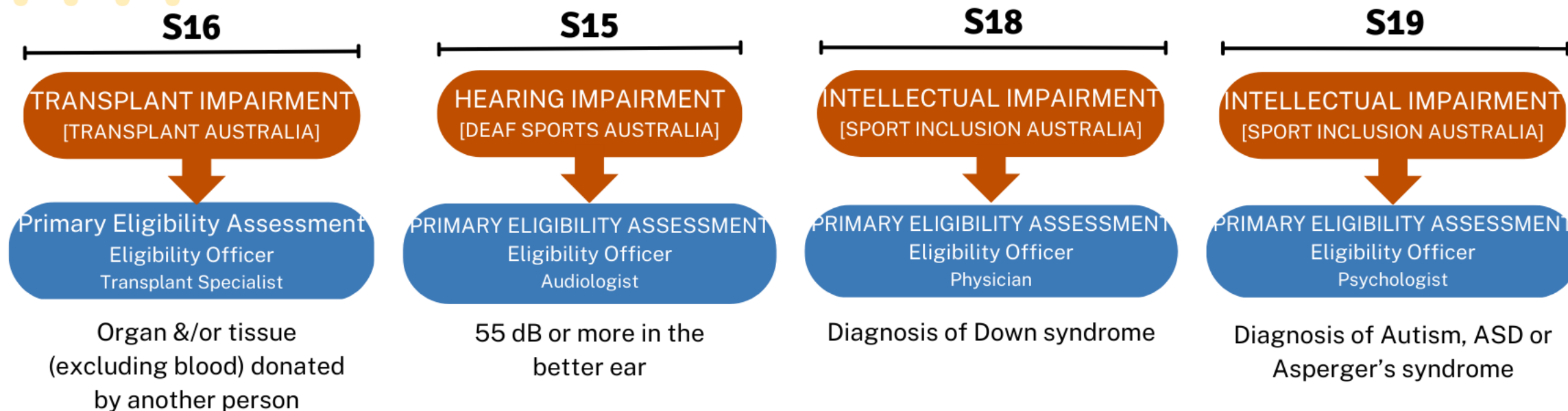
**Medical:** Functional Assessment. Like doing a physio musculo-skeletal screening – muscle strength, muscle power, PROM - impact of impairment on general function.

**Technical:** Impact of impairment on act of swimming

Visual acuity, visual field and light perception assessment – non-sport specific

IQ, adaptive behaviour assessments, onset prior to the age of 22.

# CLASSIFICATION ASSESSMENT



# CLASSIFICATION OUTCOME



Yeronga Park SC Inc  
 Rowan Crothers  
 22/23 COMPETITIVE SWIMMER 9&O

**23**  
 valid to 30 Jun

Multi Class: ✓ S10 | SB9 | SM10  
 ! 3,5,12+



SPORT CLASS S: FR/BK/BF SB: BR SM: MEDLEY  
 EXCEPTIONS

SPORT CLASS STATUS – NE, CONFIRMED, REVIEW, REVIEW FIXED DATE

This will often present as:

Freestyle  
 Backstroke  
 Butterfly

S8
SB7
SM8
\*A 6,12+
NATIONAL REVIEW
2024

Breaststroke

Exceptions

Sport Class Status

Example: Swimming Australia National Classification Masterlist

Last Name	First Name	Gender	State	S	S Level	S Status	SB	SB Level	SB Status Code	SM	SM Level	SM Status Code	Exceptions	Review Date (if applicable)	SDMS ID
UNO	Swimmer	F	QLD	S8	Provisional	Review	SB7	Provisional	Review	SM8	Provisional	Review	*2,6,12+		
DOS	Swimmer	M	QLD	S8	National	Review	SB7	National	Review	SM8	National	Review	*6,12+	2024	
TRES	Swimmer	F	QLD	S8	National	Confirmed	SB7	National	Confirmed	SM8	National	Confirmed	9,12+		
CUATRO	Swimmer	M	QLD	S8	International	Review	SB7	International	Review	SM8	International	Review	2,4,9	2025	40682
CINCO	Swimmer	F	QLD	S8	International	Review	SB7	International	Confirmed	SM8	International	Review	2,4,9		58135

\*The National Classification Master List is located on the Swimming Australia website

# WHAT ARE THE CODES OF EXCEPTIONS?

## Current National - IPC Codes

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>DURING SWIMMING</u>	<u>STROKES</u>
<p>A - Assistance required</p> <p>B - Blackened goggles</p> <p>E - Unable to grip for backstroke start</p> <p>H - Hearing impaired light or signal required</p> <p>T - Tappers</p> <p>Y - Starting device</p>	<p>0 - Nil</p> <p>1 - One hand start</p> <p>2 - Right hand touch</p> <p>3 - Left hand touch</p> <p>4 - Right hand touch with simultaneous intent to touch with other</p> <p>5 - Left hand touch with simultaneous intent to touch with other</p> <p>6 - Simultaneous intent to touch</p> <p>7 - Part of upper body must touch</p> <p>8 - Right foot must turn out</p> <p>9 - Left foot must turn out</p> <p>12 - Leg drag or show intent to kick</p> <p>+ - Dolphin kick is able to be performed</p>	<p>Free - No exceptions ('nil')</p> <p>Back - Only exception '1' may apply</p> <p>Butterfly - Exceptions '2'-'7' may apply</p> <p>Breast - Exceptions '2'-'12' may apply</p>



# WHAT ARE THE NEW CODES OF EXCEPTION?

## New International - WPS Codes

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>DURING SWIMMING (OLD)</u>	<u>DURING SWIMMING (NEW)</u>	<u>STROKES</u>
<p>A - Assistance required</p> <p>B – Blackened/opaque goggles</p> <p>E - Unable to grip for backstroke start</p> <p>H - Hearing impairment - light or signal required</p> <p>T - Tapper</p> <p>Y - Starting device</p>	<p>0 - Nil</p> <p>1 - One hand start</p> <p>2 - Right hand touch</p> <p>3 - Left hand touch</p> <p>4 - Right hand touch with simultaneous intent to touch with other</p> <p>5 - Left hand touch with simultaneous intent to touch with other</p> <p>6 - Simultaneous intent to touch</p> <p>7 - Part of upper body must touch</p> <p>8 - Right foot must turn out</p> <p>9 - Left foot must turn out</p> <p>12 - Leg drag or show intent to kick</p> <p>+ - Dolphin kick is able to be performed</p> <p><i>[In Master List * denotes old codes]</i></p>	<p><del>0 - Nil</del></p> <p>1 - One hand start</p> <p>2 - <b>Breaststroke – One hand touch</b></p> <p>3 - <b>Breaststroke – Simultaneous intent to touch</b></p> <p>4 - <b>Butterfly – One hand touch</b></p> <p>5 - <b>Butterfly – simultaneous intent to touch</b></p> <p>7 - Part of upper body must touch</p> <p>8 - Right foot must turn out</p> <p>9 - Left foot must turn out</p> <p>12 - Leg drag or show intent to kick</p> <p>+ - Dolphin kick is able to be performed (<b>illegal in breaststroke</b>)</p>	<p>(OLD)</p> <p>Free - No exceptions ('nil')</p> <p>Backstroke - Only exception '1' may apply</p> <p>Butterfly - Exceptions '2'-'7' may apply</p> <p>Breast - Exceptions '2'-'12' may apply</p> <p><b>(NEW)</b></p> <p>Free - No exceptions ('nil')</p> <p>Backstroke - Only exception '1' may apply</p> <p><b>Butterfly - Exceptions '4,5,'7' may apply</b></p> <p><b>Breaststroke –</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>Upper body '2,3,7' may apply</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>Lower body '8,9 or 12, +' may apply</b></p>

# COMPETITION PATHWAYS

PARALYMPIC  
GAMES

COMMONWEALTH  
GAMES

DEAFLYMPICS

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

WORLD TRANSPLANT  
GAMES

VIRTUS GLOBAL  
GAMES

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS  
[2023 AUSTRALIAN AGE/OPEN  
CHAMPIONSHIPS]

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS  
[2023 Hancock Prospecting  
Queensland Championships]

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS  
[BRISBANE SWIMMING SENIOR  
METS, FNQ CHAMPIONSHIPS]

CLUB MEETS  
[Yeronga Park Preparation Meet]

CLUB NIGHTS/CHAMPS  
[Central Cairns Club Championships]

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA  
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

QUEENSLAND SCHOOL  
SPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS

School Regional  
Championships

SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

School Meets



# MULTI CLASS POINT SCORE

- MC racing allows MC swimmers the opportunity to experience meaningful competition regardless of impairment type.
- All athletes compete in the same race but times are converted to a point score to allow fair comparison of performance across different classes
- Point scores are calculated by a formula comparing times to World Records or a set standard for each class
- The winner is not always who touches the wall first – places are determined using the MCPS calculator where the swimmer with the highest point score wins the race (swimmer closest to their world record)  
\*Video of NSW Dept of Education MCPS
- Negative Gearing



**SWIMAUSTRALIA**

## 2022/23 Long Course Multi Class Event Results Table

Event 50FR

#	Name	M/F	Class	Time m:s	Time (s)	Points
1	Swimmer 1	M	S6	35.00	35.00	466
2	Swimmer 2	M	S10	30.00	30.00	460
3	Swimmer 3	M	S14	30.00	30.00	456
4	Swimmer 4	M	S19	30.00	30.00	246



\*The MCPS Calculators are located on the Swimming Australia website



# MORE INFORMATION

## Swimming Queensland

Michael Anderson

michael.anderson@swimming.org.au

(07) 3390 2011

### Additional Classification & Multi Class resources:

- Swimming Queensland: [qld.swimming.org.au/multi-class-swimming](http://qld.swimming.org.au/multi-class-swimming)
- Swimming Australia: [www.swimming.org.au/performance/elite/classification](http://www.swimming.org.au/performance/elite/classification)
- Paralympics Australia: <https://www.paralympic.org.au/classification/>
- Sport Inclusion Australia: <https://sportinclusionaustralia.org.au/eligibility/>
- Transplant Australia: <https://transplant.org.au/multi-class-sports/>