

## 2009 FISA Australian Classification Workshop AIS, Canberra ~ 13-15 November

### **BULLETIN #1**

On January 1, 2010 the FISA Classification program will be updated, requiring all International Athletes to be re-classified for 2010 FISA rowing regattas, and for both National and International classifiers to be re-trained on the new structures and processes.

In order to continually align to the updating environment of World Rowing, Rowing Australia will this year host a National Adaptive Rowing Classification Workshop in Canberra. The workshop will be presented by Judy Morrison (FISA Head of Classification, FISA International Medical Classifier, Member of FISA Adaptive Commission) and Shirley Stokes (FISA International Technical Classifier, Member of FISA Adaptive Commission). This workshop is the first requirement for an individual seeking to re-new their accreditation as a National Classifier, or to be trained to be a National Classifier.

Prior to the commencement of the classification workshop, Judy Morrison and Rebecca Orr (FISA International Technical Classifier) will conduct International Classifications for athletes at a competitive international level to undergo an international classification session.

The workshop will also allow an opportunity for athletes to be classified as a National Adaptive rower prior to competing at the 2010 National Championships.

### **DATES**

International Athlete Classification Sessions (bookings essential):

- Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th November

National Classification Workshop:

- Friday 13th and Saturday 14th November – Theory Elements of the Workshop
- Sunday 15th November – Practical Elements of the Workshop

National Athlete Classification Sessions:

- Sunday 15th November - As part of the practical elements of the workshop (bookings essential)

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### VENUE

1. Australian Institute of Sport, Bruce Campus
  - Leverrier Street, Bruce ACT
2. Australian Institute of Sport, Rowing Sheds
  - Yarralumla Bay, Alexandrina Drive, Yarralumla ACT

### TIMES

- Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th - 9.30 am – 5.30 pm (By Appointment Only)
- Friday 13th, Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th November – 9.30 am – 5.30 pm

### COST

There will be no cost associated with the Workshop.

Classifiers - Subsidies will be provided for all classifiers to an agreed amount for transport, accommodation and meals.

Those who wish to be trained as either a Medical or as a Technical Classifier, that are not invited as part of the NRCE targeted list of classifiers may attend the classification workshop, but there will be some individual costs associated with regards to transport, accommodation and meals.

Athletes – Athletes currently on the Paralympic Preparation Program (PPP), and other selected athletes will be invited for a training camp to coincide with the classification workshop, these athletes will be fully funded to the camp.

Athletes not on the PPP list, and not invited to the camp are invited to attend the classification workshop to be classified, but there will be some individual costs associated with regards to transport, accommodation and meals.

### WORKSHOP LOGISTICS

Those athletes and classifiers invited as part of NRCE targeted groups will be contacted directly by Matt Bialkowski.

For those rowers and potential classifiers who are not invited as part of the NRCE targeted groups, please coordinate personal requirements as required. If any assistance is required, please contact Matt Bialkowski (contact details to follow).

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### PRESENTERS AND CLASSIFIERS

Judy Morrison – FISA Head of Classification, Adaptive Rowing Commission, USA

Shirley Stokes – FISA International Technical Classifier, Australia

Rebecca Orr - FISA International Technical Classifier, Canada

### IMPORTANT DEADLINES

1. Workshop Participation for Classifiers – entries close 23rd October 2009
2. Classification Request for Athletes (International and National) – entries close 23rd October 2009

### CLASSIFIER INFORMATION

There are two different categories of classifiers for adaptive rowing and participants in the classification workshop should nominate for one of the following:

1. Medical Classifier – a medical doctor, physiotherapist, or doctor of osteopathic medicine;
2. Technical Classifier – a rowing coach, sports scientist, former rower, physical educator or similarly qualified person.

### ATHLETE INFORMATION

#### Physically Disabled athletes

Please bring all relevant medical and supporting documentation to the classification sessions. This information must be signed by a physician, and include at a minimum, the date and diagnosis of the disability. It may also include the effect on daily function.

#### Visually Impaired athletes

You will be required to bring ophthalmologist reports or certification from the Australian Blind Sports Association, or the International Blind Sports Association. These documents must be completed prior to the classification sessions or athletes will not be classified. (Refer to the form within the FISA classification paperwork.)

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### Intellectually Disabled athletes

Due to the pending change of the FISA Classification program effective 1st January 2010, all intellectually disabled athletes will be re-classified at the 2010 Australian Rowing Championships by the Australian Classification Panel.

You will be required to provide AUSRAPID or INAS-FID documentation (approval required prior to classification session), along with all medical documentation and supporting information to attend a classification session.

### CLASSIFICATION STATUS

#### **New (N) status**

A sport class status allocated to an athlete who has not been classified by a FISA International Classification Panel but who has been classified by FISA trainee classifier. A rower with a classification status of "N" may compete at National level or non-FISA event. They may be required to undergo further classification prior to a FISA event.

#### **Review (R) Status**

"R" status may be allocated to a rower where the FISA Classifiers consider the rower's current disability may change. They may be required to undergo further classification prior to a FISA event.

#### **Confirmed (C) Status**

For a Confirmed International status classification, the rower must be classified by a FISA Classification Panel. A rower with "C" status may compete in all FISA and Paralympic events.

### CLASSIFICATION

#### **LTA (Leg, Trunk and Arms)**

For rowers with a disability but who have the use of their legs, trunk and arms and who can utilise the full sliding seat.

#### **TA (Trunk and Arms)**

For rowers who have trunk movement but who are unable to use the sliding seat to propel the boat because of significantly weakened function of the lower limbs.

#### **AS (Arms and Shoulders)**

For rowers who have no or minimal trunk function. They are able to apply force predominantly using the arms and/or shoulders only.

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**NOMINATION FORMS**

**National Classification Workshop**

- Please complete the attached Workshop Nomination Form and the FISA Classifier Registration Form (if applicable) and return it to Rowing Australia by 23rd October 2009.

**Workshop Organiser Contact Details:**

Matt Bialkowski  
High Performance Programs Officer  
Rowing Australia & National Rowing Centre of Excellence

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