



# **U.S. Paralympics**

National  
Classification  
Policies & Procedures

## **POWERLIFTING**

### **Sport Requirements for Classification – PWR**

- Athletes being classified must be entered into and compete in the competition where the classification evaluation is being conducted.
- Each athlete is required to be accompanied during the classification procedure. The athlete may be accompanied by ONLY one individual (parent, guardian, coach, etc.).
- The athlete is required to complete and sign the sport Consent for Classification form prior to the commencement of the evaluation process.
- Athletes should attend classification evaluation with all necessary sports equipment and in appropriate sport-specific attire.
- If the athlete's diagnosis or syndrome is unusual, medical documentation confirming the diagnosis is **REQUIRED**. Copies of documentation should be brought to the classification appointment.

### **Powerlifting National Classification Panel**

A national classification panel for Powerlifting consists of one (1) classifier.

### **Powerlifting National Classification Protest Panel**

A national classification protest panel for Powerlifting consists of two (2) classifiers.

### **Powerlifting Classifier Prerequisites + Levels of Authorization**

#### *Prerequisites for NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL Classifiers*

- Physiotherapist or Medical Doctor
- Successful completion of the IPC Academy Classification Training Program (as available)
- Working knowledge and conversant in the English language
- Code of Conduct/Ethics agreement signed and observed at all times
- Endorsed by the relevant National Paralympic Committee (NPC)

USA National Classifiers recognized to classify nationally must meet the following requirements:

- Successful completion of the IPC Academy Classification Training Program (as available)
- Attendance at a minimum of one IPC Powerlifting [international] Classification seminar OR attendance at a minimum of one U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting [national] Classification Education/Training opportunity.

IPC Trainee Classifiers are those recognized by IPC Powerlifting as such.

Level 1 Classifiers are those authorised by IPC Powerlifting as such.

Level 2 Classifiers are those authorised by IPC Powerlifting as such.

### **Maintaining National Classifier Status – PWR**

To maintain status as a classifier recognized to classify nationally within the USA, individuals must meet the following conditions:

- Shall take part in official classifications (either domestically or internationally) of at least 8 athletes of varying disabilities/sport classes at least once every 18 months.

### **Sport Specific Classifier Responsibilities – PWR**

All classifiers shall be responsible to:

- Maintain confidentiality at all times
- Respond to requests for availability in a timely manner and meet established deadlines
- Respond to correspondence and requests from the U.S. Paralympics office
- Maintain a professional, courteous and respectful demeanor when interacting with athletes, coaches, parents and other constituents

For the conducting of national level classification (at designated competitions) a Chief Classifier will be appointed. The Chief Classifier shall be responsible to:

- Validate sport class status for all athletes classified at the competition
- Maintain all original classification sheets and associated classification paperwork during the event
- Submit all original classification sheets and associated classification paperwork to the U.S. Paralympics office within seven (7) days following the conclusion of the event

### **Classifier De-Certification**

Classifiers may be decertified from the NATIONAL classification system for any of the following:

- Use of confidential classification information with the intent to benefit an individual athlete, team and/or situation
- Violation of the U.S. Paralympics Code of Conduct
- Adverse finding during Background Check process
- Violation of national classification policies / procedures
- Repeated errors in allocating athlete sport class [i.e. National classifications being changed and/or overturned at the International level on a consistent basis]

International de-certification of classifiers shall be undertaken by IPC Powerlifting as conditions/requirements warrant such action.

### **USA National Classifiers – PWR**

*Current Head Domestic Classifier: TBD*

IPC Level 2

IPC Level 1

IPC Trainee

USA National Classifier

USA Trainee

**International Sport Class Status – PWR**

*International sport class status as per IPC Powerlifting shall include:*

N – New: athlete has not been previously evaluated by an international classification panel as appointed by IPC Powerlifting. All N status athletes must complete international classification evaluation prior to competing at international competitions. N status athletes may not submit results for IPC Powerlifting rankings or IPC world/regional records.

R – Review: athlete has been previously evaluated by an international classification panel, but for reasons as determined by IPC Powerlifting requires a review of their sport class. R status athletes may include those with fluctuating or degenerative disabilities. R status athletes may submit results for IPC Powerlifting rankings, but not for IPC world/regional records.

C – Confirmed: athlete has been evaluated by an international classification panel and the panel has determined that the athlete’s sport class will not change. C status athletes may submit results for IPC Powerlifting rankings or IPC world/regional records.

**National Sport Class Status Allocation – PWR**

<b>Classifier(s)</b>	<b>NATIONAL Athlete Status</b>	<b>INTERNATIONAL Athlete Status</b>
National Panel – 1 classifier – 1 <sup>st</sup> appearance	NN	N
National Panel – 1 classifier	NR <sup>1</sup>	N
National Panel – 1 classifier – 2 <sup>nd</sup> appearance	NC	N
USA Protest Panel (2 classifiers)	NC	N
International Panel - minimum of 2 IPC Level 1/2 classifiers	--	R or C <sup>2</sup>

1 – USA national panel may designate review status for degenerative / changing disabilities and age considerations.

2 – IPC international R / C sport class will only be recognized when IPC Powerlifting has appointed the classification panel to an IPC Powerlifting approved / sanctioned competition.