**CLASSIFICATIONS ADVISORY GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. **INTRODUCTION**

The Classifications Advisory Group (CAG) has been mandated by International Rugby League to research and develop a classification system that minimises the impact of impairment and enables fair and equitable competition of players in all forms of disability rugby league.

1. **PURPOSE & OBJECTIVE**
	1. Develop, administer and monitor a transparent classification system for players in all forms of disability rugby league.
	2. To ensure the classification system determines eligibility for the sport, according to the extent of activity limitation caused by impairment.
	3. Create a practical, multi-step assessment procedure (medical and functional experts) using standardised and validated assessment methodologies.
	4. Consult with the IRL’s disability disciplines committees/working groups, enabling each discipline to implement a classifications system that takes the specificity of that discipline into consideration.
	5. To manage the training, certification, and appointment of professional classifiers to ensure compliance with the classification system, before and during competition.
	6. Ensure that the steps outlined in 2.1-2.4 allow for the implementation of a robust, credible classification system for the 2021 Physical Disability Rugby League World Cup and beyond.
	7. Keep up to date with relevant knowledge on classification systems and governance to update the classification framework as required.
	8. Keep up to date with relevant knowledge from the disability sport world.
2. **OPERATING GUIDELINES**
	1. The CAG will consist of the following Representatives:
* Independent Chair, appointed by the IRL
* Independent medical doctor, appointed by the IRL
* Independent physiotherapist, appointed by the IRL
* Up to two Asia Pacific Rugby League Confederation Representatives
* Up to two Rugby League European Federation Representatives
	1. The independent Chair will be appointed by IRL for a period of up to two years, reviewed on an annual basis. Any change to the Chair before the end of a two-year term can only be effected by a unanimous vote of the other Representatives and then approval by the IRL Board.
	2. The term of office for the other Representatives shall be a period of up to two years, reviewed on an annual basis, by the Chair and/or IRL. Any change to a Representative before the end of a two-year term can only be effected by a majority vote of the other Representatives, other than the two IRL Representatives, whose removal before the end of their term must, in addition to a majority vote of the other Representatives, be approved by IRL.
	3. Upon expiration of a two-year term, a Representative can be re-appointed for a further two two-year terms.
	4. The Advisory Group, at its discretion, will strive to stagger the re-appointment of Representatives, to ensure stability and continuity are balanced with a regular inclusion of fresh ideas and new perspectives.
	5. Each representative shall each have one vote, although, in the event of a tie, the Chair will have the casting vote.
	6. Quorum of meetings will be four representatives and must include the Chair
	7. Meetings will be called by the Chair, with a notice period of not less than ten working days.
	8. The CAG shall also appoint a secretary to the panel to co-ordinate meetings, circulate agendas, record minutes and tend to any administration arising from the committee’s decisions. The secretary shall be a non-voting member, although it is permissible for a Representative to concurrently assume the position of secretary.
	9. From time to time, and upon invitation by the CAG, other representatives of the IRL, its members, international competition organisers or other experts may attend the committee in a non-voting capacity.
	10. Meetings will take place as and when required, using technology such as video and conference calling.
	11. All Representatives shall abide by the Code of conduct, which they shall have read and signed and breaches of the code may lead to removal from the group
1. **PRINCIPLES**
	1. To establish a transparent process for assessment that allocates a disabled player to a sports class (within the same discipline) where they compete against others with similar activity limitation.
	2. To encourage multi-disability participation in all forms of disability rugby league.
	3. Promote the ethical and societal importance of disability rugby league to the sport as a whole.
2. **ORGANISATION**
	1. Minutes from the meetings shall be taken and circulated to the group in a timely fashion after the meeting.
	2. Presentations and reference papers discussed in a meeting will be circulated immediately following the meeting if not already circulated.
	3. An action log will be created and presented at each meeting to record the progress against identified actions arising from previous meetings.
3. **SCOPE**
	1. CAG shall conduct its business in line with the IRL constitution and operational rules.
	2. CAG is an advisory body without executive power.

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