

# Para Swimming Information Session

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## Content for this evening

- What is Multi-Class / Para Swimming?
- What are the benefits?
- What is classification?
- What are the different swimming classes?
- Who is eligible?
- What do you need to get started?
- What are the opportunities?



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# What is Para Swimming?

- When it comes to disability swimming, you'll often hear “**Para Swimming**”, “**Multi-Class**” or “**MC**”. These terms often are used to talk about the same thing and are usually used interchangeably. **MC** stands for **Multi-Class** and refers to all 19 classes and the system that swimmers with a disability use to race each other. **MC** athlete/s is commonly used.

Para Swimming specifically refers to the first 14 classes and the Paralympics, but it doesn't really matter!

- There are 19 classes that are used for a range of disabilities, unfortunately not all disabilities are eligible, but most are! Each class has its own requirements and pathway.
- Do I need to get classified? Classification is not the be all and end all, but it is a requirement to compete in Multi-Class races. It depends on what you and/or your child are aiming to get out of swimming!

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# Benefits

- An amazing multi-class community
- Competitive pathways
- Adaptions and support
- Represent your club at Country Pennants and Club Premierships

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# How does it work?

- The winner of a Multi-Class races is whoever has the highest Multi-Class Point Score (MCPS), not who touches the wall first.

This point score can be anywhere between 1 and 1000, with 1000 being the World Record.

Each swimmer is racing against their class's World Record and given points based on how close they were. The more points, the better the swim.

- Multi-Class athletes can also be given a range of exceptions. These exceptions modify rules for individuals and prevent them from getting disqualified. These can look like a tapper, someone to assist on the blocks or not having to touch with two hands.

2-3A M 50M Fre 12&U		50 pts
Multi Class S1	2:44.52	
Multi Class S2	2:10.62	
Multi Class S3	1:45.35	
Multi Class S4	1:40.81	
Multi Class S5	1:21.87	
Multi Class S6	1:13.67	
Multi Class S7	1:13.48	
Multi Class S8	1:05.28	
Multi Class S9	1:05.15	
Multi Class S10	1:02.87	
Multi Class S11	1:08.59	
Multi Class S12	59.28	
Multi Class S13	1:02.97	
Multi Class S14	1:02.68	
Multi Class S15	59.66	
Multi Class S16	57.06	
Multi Class S17	42.56	
Multi Class S18	1:09.54	
Multi Class S19	42.56	

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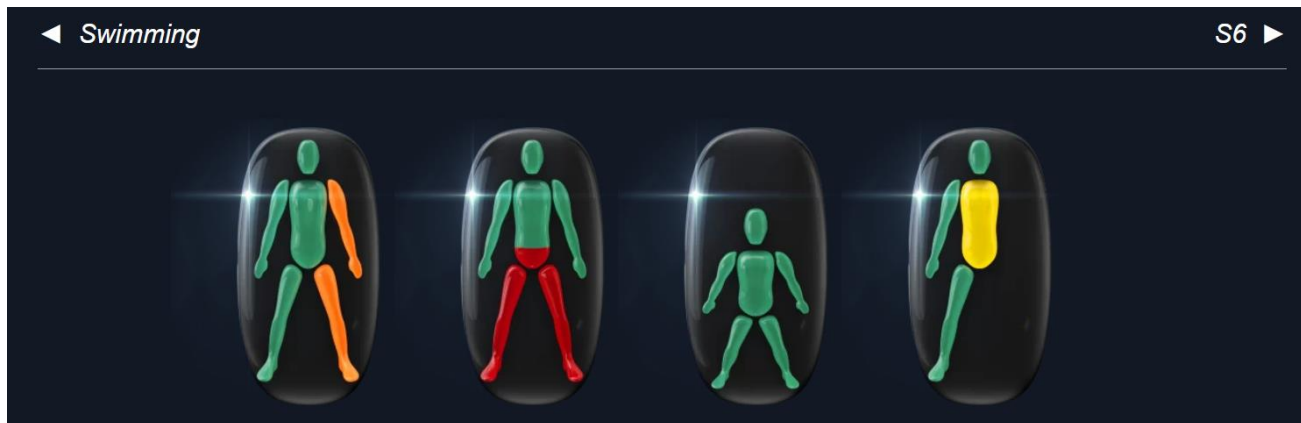
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# What is Classification?

Classification groups athletes into classes based off their disability and how much that disability impacts their swimming ability. A swimmer can only use one classification

There are 3 levels to classification:

- Provisional
- National
- International



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# Classes



Questions to consider:

- Does the athlete have an eligible impairment?
- Does the athlete meet the minimum impairment criteria?
- Which Sport Class should be allocated?



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# Eligibility

## Eligible Impairments and Classification process

The swimmer contacts the relevant organisation to have their eligibility assessed:

### Physical Impairment

S1-10 | SBI-10 | SMI-10

In-person evaluation by a panel of two trained classifiers at a Swimming WA National Classification event.

### Visual Impairment

S11-13 | SBI1-13 | SM11-13

Paralympics Australia classification process.

### Intellectual Impairment

S14 | SB14 | SM14

Sport Inclusion Australia classification process.

### Hearing Impairment

S15 | SB15 | SM15

Deaf Sports Australia classification process.

### Transplant

S16 | SB16 | SM16

Transplant Australia classification process.

### Down Syndrome

S18 | SB18 | SM18

Sport Inclusion Australia classification process.

### Autism

S19 | SB19 | SM19

Sport Inclusion Australia classification process.

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# Getting Started – What do you need?

- Find a club that suits you! You should feel comfortable sharing your or your child's needs.
- Chat to other parents about their experiences
- Identify what you want to get out of swimming
- Familiarize yourself with the relevant classification organization and process
- Gather medical documentation that clearly states a diagnosis. Ideally these documents are from the last 5 year.

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# Pathways and Opportunity Matrix

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Classification	S1-10 Physical Disability	S11-13 Blind/Low Vision	S14 Intellectual Disability	S15 Deaf/ Hard of Hearing	S16 Organ Transplant	S18 Down Syndrome	S19 Autism
All Swimming WA Swim Meets and Events	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Australian Swimming Championships	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Junior Excellence Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Swimming WA State Development Squad	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Swimming WA Flippers Squad	✓	✓	✓				
Swimming WA Targeted Support				✓		✓	✓
Swimming Australia Performance Pathways	✓	✓	✓				
Paralympic Games	✓	✓	✓				
VIRTUS Games			✓			✓	✓
Special Olympics			✓			✓	✓
Australian Deaf Games / Deaflympics				✓			
Transplant Games					✓		

# Questions?

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