

Widely and Regularly Practicing
NPCs in Para Athletics

Bonn, 06 February 2018

World Para Athletics Records Transition Process

Dear NPCs,

In light of the new implementation of the MASH Formula (effective as of 01 January 2018 – see appendix 1), introduction of the new Sport Classes 61-64 and weight adjustment of implements for Sport Class F45, World Para Athletics wishes to provide further clarity to the Para Athletics community on what will happen to the relevant and existing Records (as of 31 December 2017) which will include World and Regional, Championships and Games Records and what process will follow.

New MASH Formula:

Due to the implementation of the new MASH Formula, all Records as of 31 December 2017 achieved by athletes who now hold a new Sport Classes T/F61 (previously T/F42) and T/F62 (previously T/F43) will be frozen effective immediately and listed as historical records on the World Para Athletics website. As per the communication issued on 14 December 2016 – see appendix 2, all Records in Sport Class T/F61 and T/F62 shall be re-established in accordance with the *Process to Establish Records* issued on 19 March 2014 – see appendix 3.

Introduction of the Sport Class T/F61-64:

Effectively, this is a process of splitting the previous classes T/F42, T/F43 and T/F44 into the new Sport Classes T/F42-44 and T/F61-64. With exception of the records affected by the aforementioned new MASH Formula, other eligible records shall be transferred under the corresponding Sport Classes. The record transfer matrix can be found in appendix 4.

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Any vacant records after this transfer process shall be established subject to *Process to Establish Records-Appendix 3*.

Sport Class F45

The weight of implements for Sport Class F45 have been adjusted in full alignment with Sport Class F46, therefore the records of the below events will be frozen effective immediately and listed as historical records on the World Para Athletics website. They will be re-established subject to Process to Establish Records-Appendix 3.

- Women's Shot Put F45
- Men's Discus Throw F45
- Men's Javelin Throw F45
- Men's Shot Put F45

We hope this letter and the attached documents provide clarity and a better understanding of this Record Transition process.

Should you have any comment and/or questions, please contact Albin.Renteria@WorldParaAthletics.org.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "高哲" (Gao Zhe).

Haozhe Gao

World Para Athletics Senior Manager

Cc.

Albin Heyder Renteria Montoya – World Para Athletics Technical Co-ordinator

Appendix - 1



NPCs and IOSDs Widely and Regularly Practicing Para Athletics

Via Email

Bonn, 08 March 2017

MASH, Decision to Postpone Implementation

Dear President/Secretary General:

Following update reports at the recent World Para Athletics Forum, we received a number of correspondences from different nations expressing concerns about the implementation of the revised Maximum Allowable Standing Height (MASH) measures.

World Para Athletics has given due consideration to these concerns, and had further consultation rounds with most nations who have athletes competing in the classes impacted by the MASH rules (42-43).

As a result of these consultations, World Para Athletics **has decided to postpone the implementation of the revised MASH rules until 1 January 2018**, and to take the season 2017 as an opportunity to allow all athletes to present for official measurements at designated international classification opportunities prior to initiating the fit of personalised equipment.

In answer to the concerns expressed, World Para Athletics would like to state the following:

1. The MASH formula addresses standing height. This has been a consistent position from the sport since the first proposal for revision has been introduced in 2006, and it has never been questioned before. However, the concern that the MASH formula does not make allowance for triple joint extension for running at full speed is dealt with in two ways:
 - the CANDA equation (basis of the new MASH formula) predicts height with hip and knee fully extended. It is thus only the ankle that is not plantar-flexed
 - World Para Athletics has decided to add the Pure Error score (PE) of the applicable CANDA formula. This PE value is approx. 2-2.5% of the estimated body height measure, depending on the formula.

2. The new MASH formula does not systematically favour athletes with fewer limbs to measure. The Lower R2 values do not render the formula invalid. We use the best available formula to provide the most accurate estimate of an athlete's maximum allowable standing height (the alternative would be to use one formula for all, which would default to the measure of sitting height, which is not considered by World Para Athletics).
3. There is no evidence in support of the suggestion that athletes with congenital deficiency should be dealt with differently compared to athletes with a traumatic limb deficiency.
4. World Para Athletics does not accept existing body height measures taken prior to trauma for those athletes from whom such measures might be available from medical diagnostic files. The fact that estimations may vary from pre-existing measurements is acknowledged, but again does not render the formulas implemented invalid. By implementing the same ruling for all athletes, World Para Athletics guarantees that all measurements are taken in a valid and reliable way. This cannot be guaranteed by accepting available historical measurements.
5. There has been some reliability concerns expressed on the variability of measurements, which are considered invalid subject to World Para Athletics ensuring training and certification of classifiers that ensure a correct application of the MASH measurements. The application of the ISAK (International Society of Advancement of Kinanthropometry) protocols ensure the implementation of a valid and reliable measurement protocol. World Para Athletics will ensure a pool of classifiers responsible for a consistent application of the measurements across all events.

In the next days, World Para Athletics will publish a list of events where international classifiers will be available to take MASH measurements under the revised formula. We kindly invite all nations to take advantage of these opportunities to have their athletes measured against the new standards. The scores will be recorded on the classification sheet, and will be effective from 1 January 2018 onwards.

We have instructed the classification panels appointed at SUMMERofATHS Grand Prix in Canberra, Australia about this decision. They will conduct 2 measurements: one against the actual (2016) rules (if needed), and one against the revised MASH measurements (now effective from 1 January 2018 onwards).

For clarity, this decision implies that all competitions taking place prior to 1 January 2018 for T/F42-43 including the London 2017 World Para Athletics Championships, will be contested under the 2016 MASH rules.



World Para Athletics apologizes for the inconvenience caused with this late notice as we wanted to get the views of the World Para Athletics community. We are convinced however that the decision accommodates to concerns expressed at late stage, and will remove uncertainty and stress from athletes and coaches.

We however would like to ask nations to express concerns and questions about rule changes upon notification by the sport of the forthcoming changes. In this particular case, World Para Athletics introduced the rule change with detail on the new measurement standards and methodology at a meeting during the Doha 2015 World Championships, over 16 months ago, and released an instructional video on how to take the revised measurements in November 2016.

We remain available for any further clarification.

In the meantime we wish you a successful start of the new season.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name "Haozhe Gao" in a stylized, cursive script.

Haozhe Gao
World Para Athletics Senior Manager
International Paralympic Committee

CC. Peter Van de Vliet – IPC Medical & Scientific Director

CC. Ryan Montgomery – IPC Summer Sports Director

Appendix - 2



NPCs and IOSDs widely and regularly practicing Para athletics

Bonn, 14 December 2016

Maximum Allowable Standing Height – Procedure for Implementation

Dear NPC President/Secretary General,

In October 2015, World Para Athletics announced that a new method of calculation for determining the Maximum Allowable Standing Height (MASH) for athletes with bilateral lower limb impairments competing (running, jumping and throwing) with prostheses would be introduced from 01 January 2017. This new method as outlined in the document circulated in October 2015 (attached) will replace Article 3.1.4.3.1, Appendix 1, of the IPC Athletics Classification Rules and Regulations (January 2016) and will be published early in 2017.

In order to assist Nations in estimating the MASH for T/F42 and T/F43 athletes competing with bilateral prostheses, World Para Athletics have produced a step by step video which outlines the method of how to take the measurements required to determine the MASH, including land marking, positioning, and measurement.

The link for the video can be found here: <https://youtu.be/LulnbmyNQpQ>

Please note that errors in measuring the MASH may lead to incorrect height estimation. An athlete's official MASH shall only be determined by International Classifiers during an International Classification opportunity.

As a result of this new ruling, the following conditions will be applied:

1 Classification

On 31 December 2016, the Sport Class Status of all athletes in Sports Classes T/F42 and T/F43 who compete with bilateral prostheses (i.e. bilateral above knee amputations, bilateral below knee amputations, or combined above knee and below knee amputations, bilateral lower limb dysmelia) will be amended to Review in order that those athletes undergo Athlete Evaluation to determine their MASH using the new method of calculation.

All Athletes with a New or Review Sports Class Status entered into a World Para Athletics Recognised Competition where classification is offered will be scheduled for Athlete Evaluation prior to start of competition in order to determine their MASH using the new method of calculation. All athletes must ensure that their height when wearing their competition prostheses does not exceed their MASH. Any athlete who exceeds their MASH when wearing their competition prostheses will not be permitted to compete.

All Athletes MASH as per 31 December 2016 shall be removed from the Classification Master List and shall be published in a separate document for the purpose of measurement by the Call Room Judges (Rule 6.15) until the athletes new MASH is calculated and consequently entered into Classification Master List.

2 Results, Entry Standards and Records

2.1 Results

Results achieved by athletes with a Review status prior to having their MASH calculated against the new method will be recognised as long as the athlete is licensed at the time of competing and the result is achieved at a World Para Athletics Recognised Competition, but will not be recognised for Record Application (see 2.3 Records).

2.2 Entry Standards

Results which meet the Entry Standard(s) for the London 2017 World Para Athletics Championships in line with the above mentioned regulations will be recognised as a valid qualifying performance.

2.3 Records

Due to the implementation of this new rule, all existing Records (World, Regional, Championships and Games) achieved by athletes in class T/F42 and T/F43 will be frozen as of 31 December 2016 and will be held as historical data available on the IPC Athletics website.

New Records in all T/F42 and T/F43 events shall be established in accordance with the Process to Establish New Records (<https://www.paralympic.org/athletics/records>).

Should you have any further questions, please contact ipcathletics@paralympic.org.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name "高哲" (Gao Zhe) in Chinese characters.

Haozhe Gao
World Para Athletics Senior Manager
International Paralympic Committee

Cc.

Peter van de Vliet IPC Medical & Scientific Director

Ryan Montgomery IPC Summer Sports Director

Laura Danning World Para Athletics Competition Manager

World Para Athletics Sport Technical Committee

Appendix - 3

Widely and Regularly Practising NPCs in Athletics

Bonn, 19 March 2014

Process to Establish Records

Dear NPC/NF President/Secretary General,

IPC Athletics wish to introduce a process to establish the records for all road and outdoor events recognised under its Rules and Regulations, of which are currently vacant on the published IPC Athletics World and Regional Records list.

World and Regional Records

1. The best legal performance of the world/regional ranking as at 31 December 2014 shall be the initial *World/Regional Record Mark*.
2. In the event of absence of a legal performance on the respective rankings by 31 December 2014 the same process as above shall be repeated at the end of the next season (e.g. 31 December 2015 etc.) until it exhausts itself.
3. A legal performance that betters or equals the record mark during the following season shall be eligible for record application.
4. The ratification of the record is subject to the IPC Athlete's Licensing Policy and the most up-to-date IPC Athletics Rules and Regulations of the respective season.

As a result of this process, no record application for those events having vacancies in World and/or Regional Records is required to be submitted for claiming a record until the respective *Record Mark* has been formally established.

Championships and Games Records

1. Championships and Games Records shall remain vacant until after the next edition of the respective Championships and Games where those events are to be staged.
2. The best overall legal performance from that competition may be validated as the new Championships or Games Record subject to the IPC Athlete's Licensing Policy



and the most up-to-date IPC Athletics Rules and Regulations of the respective season.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Montgomery", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ryan Montgomery
IPC Athletics Sport Senior Manager
International Paralympic Committee

Appendix - 4

Appendix 4

WPA Record Transfer Matrix

		Records (2018)		
Sport Class (2017)	Sport Class (2018)	T/F42	T/F61	T/F63
T/F42	T/F42	Transferred	Vacant	Vacant
T/F42	T/F61	Vacant	F&R *	Vacant
T/F42	T/F63	Vacant	Vacant	Transferred

		Records (2018)	
Sport Class (2017)	Sport Class (2018)	T/F43	T/F62
T/F43	T/F43	Transferred	Vacant
T/F43	T/F62	Vacant	F&R *

		Records (2018)	
Sport Class (2017)	Sport Class (2018)	T/F44	T/F64
T/F44	T/F44	Transferred	Vacant
T/F44	T/F64	Vacant	Transferred

F&R *: Due to the implementation of the new MASH formula the Records for Sport Classes 61 and 62 will be frozen and re- established.

Note: Any vacant records after this transfer process shall be established subject to **Process to Establish Records-** see **Appendix 3**

Field Events	Sport Class F45
Women's Shot Put	F&R **
Men's Shot Put	F&R **
Men's Discus Throw	F&R **
Men's Javelin Throw	F&R **

F&R **: Due to the implement weight alignment with the Sport Class F46, the affected records in Sport Class F45 will be frozen and re-established.