

Additional Eligibility Classes in INAS Competition



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History

- INAS has only ever had 1 competition class
Intellectual Disability (as determined by World Health Org)
 - IQ of 75 or below
 - At least two deficits in Adaptive Behaviour
 - Must have been diagnosed before the developmental age of 18



History

- A motion to the 2013 INAS General Assembly asked the Governing Board to investigate the feasibility of introducing an additional class(es) to make competition fairer for people with more severe impairments



Research Conclusions

Research commenced in 2014

Initial Findings:

- IQ alone was not a good way to determine new classes (sports performance doesn't decrease in a linear way with IQ)
- Syndrome specific classes could lead to too many different classes and is not in line with the IPC Classification Code
- That the level of 'additional impairment' is a good predictor of performance



Recent work

- INAS has therefore been looking at how to classify people according to the total level of disability
- The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) developed by the World Health Organisation has been adopted as a model
- INAS is continuing to refine the model to make it as simple but robust as possible



Additional Class – HF Autism

- The INAS Governing Board also proposed recently to address the absence of sports pathways for athletes with autism, under a wider definition of “Intellectual Impairment”



2017 pilot project

In 2017, 2 new eligibility classes will be launched:

- Intellectual Disability – current criteria
- Significant Additional Impairment – until further research is concluded this category will be restricted to athletes with Down Syndrome
- Autism – athletes who do not meet (1) above but have a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder



2017 Pilot Project

- New forms/guidance are available through the Sport Inclusion Australia website
- Evidence required:
 - Trisomy 21 – professional diagnosis of Down Syndrome ideally through a blood test
 - Mosaic – the above & evidence of intellectual disability
 - Autism – professional diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder



New Research

- There is only one competing class for athletes with intellectual impairment at elite levels
- Athletes with additional physical and/or sensory disabilities are often unable to compete at this level



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Implications for Australia

- There are now international pathways being offered for these additional classes.....
- What implications does this have for Australia
- How do we expand existing inclusive National events to include additional classifications and when



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