



# **PRECISIONS, INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS**

## **PARA NORDIC**

## **SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE**

**EDITION 2023/24**

Oberhofen, June 2023

## PRECISIONS, INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE 2023/2024

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**FIS Council Meeting: 24th May 2023.**

### 1) INTRODUCTION

This document presents the rule changes within the Para Nordic International Competition Rules (ICR), Rules of the Points and Classification Rules and Regulations books following the approval of the proposals by the FIS Council on 24th May 2023.

The clean version of these documents can be found on the FIS Website.

Please note that the term 'FIS Points' has been changed to 'points' in the ICR and Rules of the Points books. Nevertheless, not all such changes are included, below, in this document.

### 2) FLUOR BAN IMPLEMENTATION TO BEGIN SEASON 2023-2024

As per latest [official communication](#), the full fluor wax ban is fully implemented for the 2023/2024 season following the testing of the device and training of the officials during the 2022/2023 season. The testing will be carried out across all event levels in order to ensure fluor-free competitions.

### 3) CLASSIFICATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

In order to support the implementation of the new Vision Impairment Classification system over the next season, two new Appendices have been introduced to the Para Nordic Classification Rules and Regulations:

- Appendix Four: Athletes with Vision Impairment – Implementation of the new classification system. *This appendix explains how the new rules will be introduced over the next two seasons.*
- Appendix Five: Athletes with Vision Impairment. *This appendix includes the new VI classification rules and Sport Class criteria which athletes will be classified against in the 2023/24 season, but only with effect in competition from 2024/25.*

At the conclusion of the 2023/24 season, the current Appendix Two: Athletes with Vision Impairment, and the new Appendix Four will be removed, and the new Appendix Five will become Appendix Two.

The two new VI appendices are as follows:

#### **Appendix Four**

#### **Athletes with Vision Impairment – Implementation of the new classification system**

## **1. Preamble**

- 1.1. This Appendix sets out provisions for the implementation of the new classification system for athletes with Vision Impairment. These provisions will apply from 01 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 (inclusive).
- 1.2. These provisions concern:
  - 1.2.1. New Athletes with Vision Impairment entering the sport of Para Nordic from 01 July 2023;
  - 1.2.2. All active Athletes currently competing in Para Nordic with Sport Class B1, B2 or B3;
  - 1.2.3. Athletes with Vision Impairment classified NE in Para Nordic.

## **2. Implementation timeline**

- 2.1. The new Vision Impairment criteria, as set out in Appendix Five of these Rules, will be implemented for competition from 01 July 2024.
- 2.2. For the 2023/24 season, the criteria as specified in Appendix Two of these Rules will remain in place for competition. However, to support the implementation of the new system, athletes will be classified throughout the 2023/24 season in accordance with the criteria as set out in Appendix Five but with no legal effect for season 2023/24.
- 2.3. From the beginning of the 2024/25 season (01 July 2024), Appendix Two will be replaced by Appendix Five, and this Appendix Four will no longer apply.

## **3. Implementation Process**

- 3.1. Athletes with Vision Impairment entering the 2023/24 season with a Sport Class Status of New, Review or Review with a Fixed Review Date of 2023 (or earlier) will proceed to an Evaluation Session with a Classification Panel and will be allocated a Sport Class in accordance with the criteria as set out in Appendix Two, and a Sport Class in accordance with the criteria as set out in Appendix Five.
- 3.2. Athletes with Vision Impairment entering the 2023/24 season with a Sport Class Status Review with a Fixed Review Date of 2024 (or later) or Confirmed will proceed to an Evaluation Session with a Classification Panel and will be allocated a Sport Class in accordance with the criteria as set out in Appendix Five only.
- 3.3. Athletes with Vision Impairment previously allocated Not Eligible (NE) Confirmed may proceed to an Evaluation Session with a Classification Panel in the 2023/24 season and will be allocated a Sport Class in accordance with the criteria as set out in Appendix Five only.
- 3.4. On 01 July 2024, all Sport Classes and Sport Class Statuses allocated in accordance with the criteria as set out in Appendix Five will be applied to the FIS Para Nordic Classification Master List. All B1 – B3 Sport Classes, together with the Sport Class Statuses allocated with those Sport Classes, will be archived in the FIS Para Snow Sports Data Management System (FPDMS).

- 3.5. On 01 July 2024, athletes who have not been allocated a Sport Class by a Classification Panel in accordance with the criteria as set out in Appendix Five will be allocated Sport Class NS3 and Sport Class Status New in the Classification Master List.
- 3.6. From 01 July 2024, all new athletes entering Para Nordic, or athletes with a Review or a Review with a Fixed Review Date will be classified in accordance with the criteria currently set out in Appendix Five.

## **Appendix Five**

### **Athletes with Vision Impairment**

This Appendix outlines the process by which Athletes with Vision Impairment will be classified and allocated a Sport Class for Para Nordic. It is divided into four parts:

- 1 Eligible Impairment Type: describes the Eligible Impairment Type for Para Nordic and lists examples of Underlying Health Conditions that can lead to the Eligible Impairment.
- 2 Minimum Impairment Criteria: identifies how severe the Eligible Impairment must be in order to be eligible for Para Nordic.
- 3 Sport Class Profiles: describes the criteria for each of the Sport Classes for Para Nordic.
- 4 Assessment Methodology: describes the assessment methods to be applied during Athlete Evaluation.

### **1 Eligible Impairment Types**

- 1.1 According to the International Standard for Eligible Impairments, Vision Impairment is defined as:

<b><u>Eligible Impairment</u></b>	<b><u>Examples of Health Conditions</u></b>
<p><b><u>Vision Impairment</u></b></p> <p><u>Athletes with Vision Impairment have reduced or no vision caused by damage to the eye structure, optical nerves or optical pathways, or visual cortex of the brain.</u></p>	<p><u>Examples of an Underlying Health Condition that can lead to Vision Impairment include retinitis pigmentosa and diabetic retinopathy.</u></p>

- 1.2 The Athlete must have an Underlying Health Condition that leads to permanent Vision Impairment in both eyes resulting in impaired visual acuity or restricted visual field.

- 1.3 In accordance with the IPC's position, FIS has made the following decision:

- 1.3.1 refractive errors are not considered an Underlying Health Condition leading to Vision Impairment; and
- 1.3.2 instead, when secondary pathological changes are present, caused by refractive errors, then the medical diagnosis should describe the specific changes causing the loss of vision. If the pathological changes are

confirmed on the basis of the medical evidence provided through diagnostic testing, then the Athlete will be considered to have an Underlying Health Condition leading to an Eligible Impairment and will proceed to an Evaluation Session to determine if they meet the Minimum Impairment Criteria for Para Nordic.

- 1.4 It is the responsibility of the Athlete and their NSA to provide sufficient evidence of the Athlete's Vision Impairment. This must be done by way of submitting medical diagnostic information as described in the Article 7.5 of these Rules.
- 1.5 The medical diagnostic information must comprise the completed Medical Diagnostic Form (available on the FIS Para Nordic website) and additional medical documentation as indicated on the Medical Diagnostic Form. Failure to present with complete medical diagnostic information may lead to Athlete Evaluation being suspended in accordance with Article 10 of these Rules.
- 1.6 Medical Diagnostic Forms must be typewritten and submitted in English and may not be older than 12 months prior to the date of the Evaluation Session unless FIS determines otherwise.
- 1.7 Medical Diagnostic Forms for Athletes with Vision Impairment must be completed by an ophthalmologist or may, in the discretion of FIS, be completed by an optometrist whose scope of practice includes making ophthalmic diagnoses.
- 1.8 Additional medical documentation must be submitted in English. If the original copy of the medical documentation is not in English, an official translation must be provided.

## **2 Minimum Impairment Criteria**

- 2.1 To be eligible to compete in Para Nordic, the Athlete must meet the criteria below:
- 2.1.1 The Athlete's Vision Impairment must result in:
- a static visual acuity of equal to LogMAR 0.9, or worse; or
  - a binocular visual field restricted to less than or equal to 60 degrees diameter.

## **3 Sport Class Profiles**

### 3.1 Sport Class NS1

- 3.1.1 Light perception without measurable visual acuity or no light perception.

### 3.2 Sport Class NS2

- 3.2.1 Static visual acuity ranges from LogMAR 2.3 – 3.5 (inclusive).

### 3.3 Sport Class NS3

- 3.3.1 Static visual acuity ranges from LogMAR 0.9 – 2.2 (inclusive), or

- 3.3.2 the binocular visual field is constricted to a diameter of less than or equal to 60 degrees if the Athlete's visual acuity is better than 0.9 logMAR.

## 4 Assessment Methodology

- 4.1 All visual function measurements are based on the Athlete's best corrected visual function while wearing the best optical correction.
- 4.2 Athletes using any optical correction, either for daily life or for competitions (e.g., glasses, lenses, diaphragmatic lenses and any other optical devices), must attend the Evaluation Session with their optical correction and their prescriptions.
- 4.3 The prescription of the glasses will be confirmed with a lensometer.
- 4.4 The Athlete's refractive error will be measured using an autorefractor, the athlete may be given trial frames to wear to achieve best correction.
- 4.5 An Athlete found to be using corrective devices during Competition that were not declared during the Evaluation Session may be subject to further investigation of Intentional Misrepresentation (see Article 32).
- 4.6 Athletes must declare any change in their optical correction to FIS before any Competition. If the Athlete has a Sport Class Status Review with Fixed Review Date or Confirmed, the Athlete's Sport Class Status will be changed to Review. The Athlete will then undergo Athlete Evaluation prior to the next Competition under the provisions of these Rules. Failure to do so may result in an investigation of Intentional Misrepresentation (see Article 32).
- 4.7 The head position to test visual acuity or visual field should be the one that gives the best vision and not the conventional/primary position.
- 4.8 Visual Acuity Assessment
- 4.8.1 Athlete Evaluation and Sport Class allocation must be based on the assessment of visual acuity using both eyes.
- 4.8.2 If the Classification Panel determines that an Athlete has better visual acuity using only one eye, Athlete Evaluation must be based on the assessment of visual acuity in the best eye.
- 4.8.3 Visual acuity is tested using the LogMAR chart for distance visual acuity testing with Illiterate "E" and/or the Berkeley Rudimentary Vision Test.
- 4.8.4 Visual acuity is measured using the logMAR scale when 0.0 logMAR acuity is equivalent to 20/20 acuity in Snellen notation which is often considered normal vision.
- 4.8.5 Visual acuity assessment is a threshold test. Therefore, Athletes are required to give their best guess to fail out of the test.
- 4.8.6 Any Athlete Support Personnel accompanying the Athlete during the Evaluation Session must remain out of sight of the visual acuity charts during the assessment.

- 4.8.7 If inconsistent responses to the visual acuity assessment are provided by the Athlete to the Classification Panel, or an Athlete's monocular acuity results are inconsistent with their binocular acuity, the Classification Panel may consider suspending the Evaluation Session (see Article 30.1.7).
- 4.9 Visual Field Assessment
- 4.9.1 An Athlete's visual field must be tested with one of the following perimeters: Goldmann Visual Field perimeter, Humphrey Field Analyser or Octopus Interzeag perimeter using a Goldmann III 4e stimulus or the equivalent stimulus.
- 4.9.2 The Athlete's Visual field must be tested to a minimum of 80 degrees diameter. Central visual fields may be tested in addition.
- 4.9.3 Visual Fields must be tested with the best optical correction unless the optical correction restricts the Athlete's visual field.
- 4.9.4 Any threshold point on a static visual field test with a value less than 10 decibels is considered not seen for the purposes of determining an Athlete's visual field diameter.
- 4.9.5 The extent of an Athlete's visual field measured on static visual field tests is determined by measuring between seen points, not point-to-point.
- 4.9.6 An Athlete's visual field diameter is measured by determining the longest diameter on any axis that passes through the fixation point.
- 4.9.7 All seen portions along a single axis are added to give the final diameter.
- 4.9.8 The visual field diameter cannot be measured on the edge of a seen area.
- 4.10 Following visual function testing, the Classification Panel will conduct a slit lamp exam to compare ocular findings with information provided on the Athlete's MDF and supporting medical Diagnostic Information. The Classification Panel may administer dilation drops to conduct the slit lamp exam.
- 4.11 Under the provisions set out in this Appendix, Observation in Competition does not apply to Athletes with Vision Impairment.

#### 4) APPROVED RULE CHANGES

##### The International Competition Rules (ICR)

The term 'FIS Points' has been changed to 'points' in the ICR but not all such changes are included in this document.

201.6.3 *Freestyle Ski Events*  
Moguls, Dual Moguls, Aerials, Aerials Synchro, Ski Cross, Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Big Air, Rail, Team Competitions

201.6.4 *Snowboard and Para Snowboard Events*  
Slalom, Parallel Slalom, Giant Slalom, Parallel Giant Slalom, Halfpipe, Snowboard Cross, Big Air, Slopestyle, Rail, Team Competitions, Banked Slalom, Dual Banked Slalom

#### **206.7 Sponsorships by commercial betting companies**

206.7.1 FIS will not allocate Title / Presenting Sponsor rights to commercial betting companies.

206.7.2 Sponsorships of events by commercial betting companies is permitted subject to 206.7.~~43~~ below.

206.7.3 Advertising of ~~commercial~~ betting companies is allowed on bibs after approval by FIS, valid for 3 years or other betting activities on or with the athletes (head sponsors, competition suits, starting bibs) is prohibited with the exception of lotteries and companies operating non-sports betting only.

~~206.7.4~~ Approval by FIS will be given under the condition that the betting company/ies actively work/s against sport competition manipulation.

~~217.4~~ Competitors who have been drawn and are not present during the competition must be named by the TD in the TD report, indicating if possible, the reasons for absence.

217.~~45~~ Representatives of all the nations taking part must be invited to the draw.

217.~~56~~ If a competition has to be postponed by at least one day, the draw must be done again.

~~224.10.3~~ Sanctions imposed on competitors in competition formats where 2 or more competitors simultaneously compete against one another in the field of play and where elimination heats lead to the determination of the final results other than sanctions imposed during the final phase / rounds of the competition (e.g. Small Final, Big Final).

224.11.3 Sanctions imposed on competitors in competition formats where 2 or more competitors simultaneously compete against one another in a field of play and where elimination heats lead to the determination of



the final results. ~~other than sanctions imposed during the final phase / rounds of competition (e.g., Small Final, Big Final).~~

12200.1 Classification of Para Nordic Competitions

12200.1.1 Continental Cups (COC)

~~12200.1.2 European Cup (EG)~~

~~12200.1.3 North American Cup (NAC) or NORAM~~

~~12200.1.4 Asian Cup (AC)~~

~~12200.1.5 Southern Hemisphere Cup (SHC)~~

12200.1.6 International FIS Para Nordic Competitions

12200.1.7 Open National Championships (NC)

~~12200.1.8 Rollerski~~

12200.2 Types of Competitions

International FIS Para Nordic competitions consist of:

12200.2.1 Cross-Country Skiing Event

Sprint, 5km, 10km, 20km, Mixed and Open Relay, ~~Pursuit~~

12200.2.2 Biathlon Events

7.5km Sprint, 10km Middle, 12.5km Individual, Pursuit, Sprint  
Pursuit, Team Sprint

~~12202 Homologations-~~

~~Courses used for Paralympic Winter Games, and World Championships must be homologated by the Sub-Committee Para-Nordic. Homologation should be completed by one year prior to the competition. Standing courses that are already homologated may be accepted. Courses for sit-ski athletes will require also to be homologated.~~

~~World Cup venues and other sanctioned event venues will be subject to site inspection and course approval.~~

~~Refer to 12311 for additional requirements and the FIS Cross-Country Homologation Manual for standards and procedures.~~

12203 FIS Para Nordic Race Licence

12203.1 To compete at FIS Para Nordic sanctioned events and acquire Para Nordic FIS points, an athlete must be internationally classified by FIS. Until an athlete has been Internationally (FIS) Classified, they will be designated N status (New). ~~An athlete with N status may not compete at World Cup, World Championship, or Paralympic Winter Games. Athletes must be internationally classified to compete at Continental Cup, World Cup, World Championship or Paralympic Winter Games.~~

~~12203.1.1 Participation of N class athletes, as fore runners or post runners at a WC or WSC event will be at the discretion of the jury. These athletes will not appear in the results list for the competition.~~

12202.3 In accordance with the IPC Classification Code, and general principles of classification, athletes will generally compete against athletes with the same Sport Class. In Para Nordic however, athletes in different Sport Classes are grouped together into three (3) different Categories as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Sport Classes</u>
<u>Vision Impaired</u>	<u>B1, B2, B3</u>
<u>Standing</u>	<u>LW2, LW3, LW4, LW5/7, LW6, LW8, LW9</u>
<u>Sitting</u>	<u>LW10, LW10.5, LW11, LW11.5, LW12</u>

Athletes compete against other athletes from the same gender and category and the official results are determined as per art. 12317.

12205.1 Race Entry Fee (Athletes and Guides)

The race entry fee is the amount that must be paid per athlete and guides to the LOC, for each race entered on the event competition programme.

The Race Entry Fee is non-refundable in the case that the Jury cancels the race.

The amount payable per athlete and per guide per race is as follows:

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Race Fee</b>
Paralympic Winter Games	N/A
FIS Para Nordic World Ski Championships	<del>According to FIS Para Snow Sports Competition</del> N/A

Para Nordic sanctioned competitions (WC and below)	25 CHF
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12205.2 ~~Competition Sanction~~Calendar Fee (Organizing Committee)

An Organizing Committee must pay all competition ~~calendar-sanction~~ fees to FIS according to art. 202.1.2.6 or as per the terms and conditions of the hosting contract/agreement.

~~This~~ These Competition calendar Sanction Fees fees are published in the Rules for the FIS Calendar, FIS Calendar and Registration Fees are available on the FIS Website: <https://www.fis-ski.com/en/inside-fis/document-library/general-regulations> ~~non-refundable.~~

The sanction fees are as follows:

<del>Competition</del>	<del>Sanction Fee per Race</del>
<del>Paralympic Winter Games / WSC</del>	<del>N/A</del>
<del>World Cup</del>	<del>1,000 CHF</del>
<del>Continental Cup</del>	<del>500 CHF</del>
<del>Para Nordic Sanctioned Race</del>	<del>350 CHF</del>

12302.1.3.1 The Organiser appoints all other members. For all Paralympic Winter Games (PWG) and World Ski Championships (WSC) the following key technical officials must be submitted to the FIS Council for approval:

- Chief of Competition
- Ass. Chief of Competition
- Competition Secretary
- Chief of Course
- Chief of Stadium
- ~~Chief of Timing~~
- ~~Chief of Competition Control~~
- Chief of range (BT)

12302.3.1 The chief of competition is responsible for all aspects of the competition and supervises the work of all other competition officials. They must periodically inform the jury about the preparatory work and about changes that may have to be made. They must provide course maps, course profiles, stadium plans, ~~DCAS~~ time-table etc. to the jury members in due time prior to their arrival to the competition site.

12302.3.4 The chief of timekeeping and data processing is responsible for the timing systems; providing electronic raw timing data to the Results system, and the direction and coordination of the officials working in the timing area (starter, finish referee, finish controller, manual timers, electronic timers, intermediate timekeepers work). The chief of timekeeping and data processing oversees the preparation of the Timing and Data Technical Report (TDTR) and xml file for the electronic transmittal to FIS following the competition. A copy of the report may also be printed (only if the TD has no access to their report) for review prior to the transmission of the xml file. The TDTR Software can be found on the FIS website.

12302.3.6 The chief of control and competition is responsible to organise together with the Jury the suitable placing of manual and video controllers, to collect and all pertinent information reconcile competition data (laps, course completion, violations) from the field of play and to report any incidents to the Jury as soon as possible.

Two controllers are necessary for each post. The number and placing of the controllers are determined ~~by the jury~~ without notifying the competitors, coaches or other officials. The controllers at each post record violations and passing of the competitors ~~lap counts~~. They may use video equipment. ~~Rule violations must be reported to the jury as soon as possible~~. After the competition they must ~~control teams must reconcile lap data and~~ inform the chief of control and competition security of any violations to the rules and be ready to testify before the Jury.

12304.4.4 In case of late protests or appeals against the jury decisions (ICR 12340), the TD has the right of reimbursement of one additional day.

12305.1.1 Before each competition a Team Captains' meeting is carried out. It should take place one day before the competition, ~~and may include one or more competitions at the discretion of the jury (article 216).~~

12305.1.3 At PWG, ~~and WSC~~ and WC the seating arrangements of the participating teams have to be marked.

12310.2.2.3 In Para competitions, athletes with lower limb impairments that make diagonal stride and herringbone technique impossible in steep uphill, may use an adaptive half herring bone technique with one ski gliding and one ski pushing without a gliding phase.

12311.2.1 All FIS Para Nordic competitions should be carried out on homologated courses. Exceptions are: popular competitions, Roller

Skiing competitions, substitute courses if approved by the Jury. The details on homologation procedure are described in the FIS Cross-Country Homologation Manual and the FIS Para Nordic Homologation Guide.

~~Refer to 12202 for applicability to PWG, WSC, and WC courses.~~

~~12311.3.2.6 A test area should be prepared and clearly marked alongside or near to the competition course.~~

12312.2.1 The first 50m will be the start zone. This zone may be separated into corridors and classical tracks may be set. The number, width and length of corridors will be determined by the Jury according to the competition formats (see ICR articles section C) and the stadium layout. ~~The corridors should be as long as possible.~~

~~12312.10.2 Temperature measurements must be taken in the stadium area and at places where extreme temperatures (low point, high point) can be expected.~~

12313.2.1 ~~PWG and WSC:~~ Daily entries ~~confirmation~~ and grouping information (when required) for each race must be received and checked by the competition secretary latest two hours before the Team Captains' meeting or the time specified by the jury at the first team captain's meeting.

~~WC: Daily entries confirmation and, grouping information, and changes (when required) should be received and checked by the competition secretary two hours before the Team Captains' meeting or the time specified by the jury at the first team captain's meeting.—~~

12313.4.1 After the draw a competitor creation of the start list at PWG and WSC with limited team entries competitors can only be substituted if they cannot start due to force majeure (injury, illness, etc.) and if the Jury permits the substitution. This has to be certified by a medical doctor and communicated to the Jury until 2 hours before the start.

~~For other international competitions, the Jury can give the competitor permission to start in cases worthy of special consideration. The start time of any competitor thus entered must not give them any advantage over other competitors. If more than one competitor is entered late, the numbers will be drawn by lot.~~

12313.4.2 In the event of an accident during warming up the Jury can permit a substitution up to the start of the competition later than 2 hours before the start if the accident is reported to and certified by the Chief of medical and rescue service of the OC.

12314.4.1 ~~When not using the Para Nordic results software, t~~The computer draw procedures must be inspected by a member of the Jury in order to validate the process.

12314.5.1 Start order will be defined by using the respective Para Nordic FIS points. Athletes without FIS points will be drawn.

For interval start distance competitions competitors will normally start in reverse order of their current FIS points standing (best are at the end) unless a randomized order within a group is selected. The overall WC leader will normally always be assigned the last starting position.

For individual Sprint qualification round the competitors start in the order of their current FIS point standing (best start first). The overall WC leader is always assigned the first starting position.

The jury may also specify different grouping systems within the points order to determine order of start. In principal, the group with the best points will receive the most favorable starting position.

12314.6.2 The Guide bibs must meet the following specifications:

- Guide bibs must have a clearly visible “G” or “Guide” on the front. The colour needs to be yellow (Pantone 803) (preferred), orange (RAL 2005) or red (pantone 1795). Other colours may be approved by FIS.
- All Guides must use the Guide bib supplied to them.
- The back of the bib may be any colour and modified by adding a pattern with coloured tape or other coloured material which best accommodates the individual needs of vision impaired competitors. Any modifications must be affixed in such a way that the bib will stay secure during the race yet be able to be removed in order to return the bib back in its original condition.

~~12314.6.2 The guides will wear a yellow/orange bib printed with a “G” meaning the word “Guide”.~~

12314.7 Leg and, Shoulder or Sit Ski Numbers

12314.7.1.1 For Mass Start, Pursuit, Individual Sprint competitions it is required to affix bibs to the standing competitor's legs that is closest to the finish line camera. For standing skiers' leg or shoulder numbers are not required.

12314.7.1.2 For Team Sprint and Relay competitions it is required to affix bibs to the finishing competitor's leg that is closest to the finish line camera.

12315.2.5 The start gate shall be at a height of approx. 60 cm above the snow surface.

12315.5.2 Electronic and/or mechanical start gates can be used if approved by the Jury.

12315.8.1 Ski marking will not be used unless requested in advance by the sanctioning body of the competition ~~or requested by the jury~~. For purposes of control, both skis are marked shortly before the start. The competitor must come to the official marking place in person and in due time wearing ~~their~~his starting bib.

12316.1 For all competitions listed in the FIS Calendar, electronic timekeeping must be used. Electronic timing will always be supplemented by hand timing ~~or equivalent~~ as a backup system and the results cross-checked between the two systems.

12316.4.1 The following electronic timing technologies can be used to identify the official finish times:

- Electronic timing system based on ~~start gates and~~ photocells. The measuring point of the light or photo barrier must be at a height of 25 cm the same height as the barrier of the starting gate (approx. 60cm above the snow surface).
- Electronic timing system using Sub Committee Para Nordic approved timing applications (eg apps).
- Photo finish system. The measuring point will be the toe of the first boot meeting the finish line or for LW 10-12 the front binding.

12317.2.2 The official result list must contain the final rank of the competitors, their FPDMS Codes, starting number, class, percentages, intermediate times, real time, missed shots,

calculated time and the delta time (where applicable see art 12317), points, Skiing technique, the number of competitors, names of the competitors who started but did not finish, any disqualified competitors, any written sanctions to competitors, time penalties, the technical details of the course; length, HD, MC, TC, the weather, temperature data, number of competitors (entered, ranked, DNS and DNF), number of participating nations and the composition of the Jury.

12317.2.6 The unofficial and official start and result lists shall include the last name and first initial-name of the race guide of each vision impaired racer.

12317.2.7 All official results must also be electronically transmitted to FIS in XML format.

12323.2.4 Technique: classic or free (to be decided by the Sub Committee Para Nordic, see also art. 12310.3.2.1)

Free: There shall be one track set along the side of the entire course for LW 2-9 / B 1-3 whenever possible.

On parts of the course that are also used by LW 10-12, there should be 2 tracks set along the side of the course. The course width should be maximized to allow for passing outside of the tracks.

12323.3.5.1 Interval Start procedure must be used (see ICR Art. 12315.2). Start intervals can be 10, 15, 20 or 30 seconds.

12323.3.6.9 If fewer than 6 start lanes are available, and -athletes are permitted to start in-at the same lanetime, in the sprint finals (same-percentage) the starting positions (lane choice) are is determined according to the followingby:

Semi-finals – heat start time is used and then qualification rankings are used.

Finals ~~–~~ heat start time is used and then the semi-finals rankings ~~from the semi-finals~~ and then qualification are used.

12323.5.1 In sprint heats at PWG, WSC, and WC the unanimous decision of minimum ~~three~~ two Jury members (including TD) equates to a Jury decision.



- 12329.4.5 ~~Lane assignment: Assigned lanes for LW Class athletes in the final will be according to their bib numbers. (WC: free lane choice in the final for LW athletes)~~
- 12329.5 Jury & Protests
- In Biathlon middle distance 1-day Pursuit at PWG, WSC, and WC the unanimous decision of minimum ~~three~~ two Jury members (including TD) equates to a Jury decision.
- 12331.6 Jury & Protests
- In Biathlon team sprint at PWG, WSC, and WC the unanimous decision of minimum ~~three~~ two Jury members (including TD) equates to a Jury decision.
- 12332.1.11 Targets
- There are ~~two~~ three types of targets used for Biathlon training and competition: paper and metal for LW classes and electronic for VI classes. Only metal targets shall be used for competition and only paper targets shall be used for pre-competition zeroing of rifles. Both paper and metal targets may be used for LW class official training. Electronic targets may be used for testing during both VI class training and competition.
- 12332.1.19 Wind Flags
- At competitions and official training, wind flags must be installed at the side of every second shooting lane starting on the right side of the 1st target 5 m from the shooting ramp.
- The flags must be placed so that the top edge of the flag is at the same level as the bottom edge of the targets and cannot obstruct direct line of sight to the targets.
- Where the LW and VI abut, a wind flag shall be installed between the two lanes. It is not necessary to install wind flags in the VI range area.
- 12332.4.3 Zeroing of rifles
- Prior to the start of a competition, all competitors must be given the opportunity to zero their private rifles or to test the rifles provided by the organizer on the range for a period of 45 minutes, which must begin one hour before and end no later than 10 minutes before the first start. Each “testing round” for B-Class athletes is limited to 5 shots or 2 min.
- In case of a small number of athletes participating or weather factors, the Jury is allowed to shorten the zeroing time.

In Biathlon Sprint Pursuit and Team Sprint competition athletes must have the right to re-zero before the final. Zeroing time before the finals will be a minimum of 20 minutes and max 30 minutes.

12332.4.3.1 Rifle zeroing may take place only on the range and only paper targets will be used for zeroing. Zeroing target paper will be changed at 20 minutes. Paper change time may be adjusted if zeroing is shortened pursuant to 12332.4.3. The time required for the change may not be deducted from the time allocated for zeroing.

12332.6.2.4 During shooting, the stock or any other parts of the rifle must not be in contact with the ground (mat). In addition, during VI shooting, no parts of the body or rifle shall be in contact with the fixed rifle support, display unit, and transponder/chip reader.

12332.7.2 Loading and Unloading  
The rifle must only be loaded and unloaded at the mat. During loading or unloading, the barrel must be pointed up or in the direction of the targets. To insert a magazine containing bullets-ammunition into the rifle is part of the loading procedure.

#### 12335.11 Process of passing during other competitions

12335.11.1 Competitors in front have the right to choose their best line.1

12335.11.2 Competitors in front shall not obstruct competitors coming from behind.2

12335.11.3 Competitors intending to pass shall do so without obstructing the competitor being passed.3

12335.11.4 When competitors are alongside, they have mutual duties not to obstruct each other's movements.4

12335.11.5 A process of passing is considered completed when the passing competitor has his/her body at the front of the ski-tips of the competitor being passed.5

1 Explanatory note: The provision reflects the reality that competitors in front generally do not see competitors coming from behind, and that competitors behind generally direct their course according to the positioning of the competitor in front. However, this right is not unrestricted, see the next provisions.

2 Explanatory note: The provision reflects restrictions in freedom of the competitor being front, meaning that this privilege shall not be abused to the detriment of other competitors, e.g. by abruptly changing the line or by unduly persisting in a line chosen.

3 Explanatory note: The provision reflects the spirit and intent of the preceding ones, meaning that a competitor intending to pass shall not initiate a pass if he/she realizes or ought to realize that there is not, or will not be, sufficient room to complete the pass without obstructing the competitor intended to be passed.

4 Explanatory note: The provision reflects the idea that when the competitors are skiing side by side, there is no privilege of anyone being in front, as set out in the preceding provisions. It is connected to 12335.11.3 e.g. in the sense that a skier coming from behind shall not be allowed to force his/her way into a situation of mutual duties.

5 Explanatory note: The process of passing needs some guideline as to when that process is completed so as to determine when the passing competitor obtains the position described in Rule 12335.11.1 and

12335.11.2. The decisive criterion is, as a main rule, the point in time when the body – if need be, measured at the position of the boots – is ahead of the ski tips of the competitor being passed.

12335.12.1 In all competitions, pole exchange is only allowed in the case that a pole is broken or damaged, poles may be changed.

12336.5 For evaluation and further development of the classification systems, medical and technical, including the percentage system; ~~the Sub-Committee Para Nordic FIS~~ has the authority to give permission to video recording the athletes during medical and technical classification and during training and competition at all FIS Para Nordic events if necessary.

12337.4 If a competitor has actually started in a competition and is later determined by the Jury to have been in violation of these rules the Jury must sanction the competitor.

## **12338** PenaltiesSanctions

12338.1 Procedure

When an infraction to the rules occurs, the Jury must meet and decide the appropriate ~~penalty~~ sanction by taking into consideration:

12338.2 Disqualification

12338.2.1 Disqualification should be used only for infractions with a clear impact on the final result of a competition.

In addition, a competitor shall automatically be disqualified if they:

- participate in the competition under false pretences
- either jeopardizes the security of persons or property or actually causes injury or damage;
- ~~run more than one leg in a Relay competition (ICR art. 12324.1.1)~~

12338.5 In Team sprint competitions, a competition suspension means that the team will be ranked last in the heat and last in the round.

12338.6.1.3 In team sprint competitions or relay competitions, the Jury can decide to substitute a DSQ with a 3 minutes time penalty (see ICR art. 12338.2.3)

12339.4.2 Protests must be substantiated in detail. Proof must be submitted, and any evidence must be included. ~~Specific event-related IPC media policies apply for the PWG and WSC regarding personal photography and filming of athletes during such competitions and whether or not the use of such photographs and video footage shall be permitted as evidence to defend a protest. For all other events, the use of personal photographs and video footage is admissible as evidence and may be relied on to lodge or defend a protest.~~

## **The Rules of the Points**

The term 'FIS Points' has been changed to 'points' in the Rules of the Points but not all such changes are included in this document.

12.5 To calculate the nations ranking (Para Cross-Country Skiing and Para Biathlon together), all points from the competition season's individual standing of each nation and to this sum each country's Relay & Team Sprint scores will be added for a final total for the Nations Cup.

Only one team per nation will count for each event.

The winner of the Nations Cup is that country with the highest number of points calculated by adding the men's and women's World Cups.

If two or more nations have the same number of points the winner is that country which has the highest number of first places and then the best results (most 2<sup>nd</sup> places, most 3<sup>rd</sup> places, etc.).

13.2 The following number of points will be awarded to each team according to their finish place:

<u>1st place = 100 points</u>	<u>16th place = 50 points</u>
<u>2nd place = 95 points</u>	<u>17th place = 48 points</u>
<u>3rd place = 90 points</u>	<u>18th place = 46 points</u>
<u>4th place = 85 points</u>	<u>19th place = 44 points</u>
<u>5th place = 80 points</u>	<u>20th place = 42 points</u>
<u>6th place = 75 points</u>	<u>21st place = 40 points</u>
<u>7th place = 72 points</u>	<u>22nd place = 38 points</u>
<u>8th place = 69 points</u>	<u>23rd place = 36 points</u>
<u>9th place = 66 points</u>	<u>24th place = 34 points</u>
<u>10th place = 63 points</u>	<u>25th place = 32 points</u>
<u>11th place = 60 points</u>	<u>26th place = 30 points</u>
<u>12th place = 58 points</u>	<u>27th place = 28 points</u>
<u>13th place = 56 points</u>	<u>28th place = 26 points</u>
<u>14th place = 54 points</u>	<u>29th place = 24 points</u>
<u>15th place = 52 points</u>	<u>30th place = 22 points</u>

## **14 Overall Ranking**

14.1 Overall World Cup awards will be given to the top 3 male and top 3 female athletes in each category according to the overall ranking at the end of the season and to the top three nations. (Globes for the winners and medals for the top 3)

15 Tie-Breaker

- 15.1 If two or more competitors score the same number of points in the final evaluation, the winner is the competitor who has:
- 15.2 The highest number of individual wins
- 15.3 The best results (i.e. most 2nd places, most 3rd places, etc.)
- 15.4 ~~FIS~~ Points
- 15.5 If the competitors are still equal, two (or more) World Cup trophies for that position will be awarded. ~~In this case, no trophy (or trophies) will be awarded for the next position(s).~~