

# CLASSIFIER TRAINING CONCEPT FOR PARA TEQBALL

---

PROF. DR. HANNO FELDER  
SAARBUECKEN, 2021 – 25<sup>TH</sup> MAY



*This document (oriented to the explanations of Para Badminton, BWF 2019) gives an overview of the FITEQ Classifier Training Course for National and International Classifier. It refers mainly to the statements of the International Paralympic Committee IPC ([www.paralympic.org](http://www.paralympic.org) 9/2016). The following comments refer to the document: Para Teqball Classification Regulations (FITEQ 2021).*



## 1. Classification Personnel

## 2. Classification Panel

## 3. Classifier

### 3.1. STEP 1: Trainee Classifier

### 3.2. STEP 2: Level 1 – National / International Classifier

### 3.3. STEP 3: Level 2 – Senior National / International Classifier

## 4. Prerequisites for Classifier Training

## 5. Course Structure

## 6. Classifier Certification

## 7. Curriculum Contents

## 1. Classification Personnel

A Classifier is a person authorised as an official by FITEQ to evaluate Athletes as a member of a Classification Panel in accordance with the International Standard for Athlete Evaluation.

FITEQ recognizes 3 levels of classifier. These are:

- 🔍 Trainee Classifier
- 🔍 Level 1 – National / International Classifier (after 2 years an - honourable - appointment by FITEQ can be made to Level 2: Senior National / International Classifier)
- 🔍 Level 2 – Senior National / International Classifier

There are 2 classifier roles in the system. These are:

- 🔍 **Chief Classifier** - a Classifier -appointed by FITEQ - for a specific Tournament, responsible for the direction, administration, co-ordination and implementation of classification matters at a tournament.
- 🔍 **Head of Classification** - the person responsible for the direction, administration, coordination and implementation of classification matters for FITEQ. The Head of Classification is appointed by FITEQ.

## 2. Classification Panel

A Classification Panel is a group of Classifiers appointed by FITEQ to determine Sport Class and Sport Class Status in accordance with the Classification Rules of FITEQ.

FITEQ also has **Course Facilitators** – these are Classifier / Senior Classifiers / Head of Classification or other Experts.

## 3. Classifier

A Classifier is a person appointed and certified by FITEQ as being competent to evaluate players (as part of a Classification Panel) for National and International Tournaments.

A National and International Para Teqball Classifier must be trained and certified by FITEQ. Classifiers shall be qualified in one or more of the following disciplines as:

- 🔍 a Medical professional: a doctor or physiotherapist or therapist or practitioner from a related discipline; they must have knowledge and experience in dealing with people with the impairments and the Activity Limitations described in the Competition Sport Profiles;

or

- 🔍 a technical expert with in-depth knowledge of biomechanics of sport/human movement and have significant expertise in the technical aspects of movements.

The decision on this will be made by FITEQ.

As referenced above, there is a 3-stage development process for Classifiers.

Step 1: Trainee Classifier

Step 2: National / International Classifier

Step 3: Senior National / International Classifier

### 3.1. STEP 1: Trainee Classifier

This is an individual who is being trained by FITEQ, but who is not yet certified as a Classifier. A trainee cannot be a Member of a Classification Panel at a National or International Tournament.

The duties of the trainee may include:

- 🔍 participating in and observation of the classification process to become familiar with the Classification Regulations and how they are applied;
- 🔍 developing competencies and proficiencies relevant to Player Evaluation;
- 🔍 completing assessment and player observation tasks to become familiar with Impairment Criteria and the impact on players performance;
- 🔍 attending classification meetings at competitions;
- 🔍 observing classification protests at national / international competitions;
- 🔍 conducting Player Evaluation;
- 🔍 completing assignments and submitting these for assessment by a FITEQ Course Facilitator.

A Trainee Classifier is required to sign and adhere to the Classifier's Code of Conduct.

### 3.2. STEP 2: Level 1 – National / International Classifier

Someone who has successfully completed FITEQ classifier training and has been certified to be a member of a Classification Panel at a National / International Tournament. The Classifier is required to adhere to the Classifier's Code of Conduct.

The duties of a Level 1 Classifier may include, but are not limited to:

- 🔍 being part of a Classification Panel at tournaments;
- 🔍 being part of a Protest Panel at tournaments;
- 🔍 attending classification meetings at tournaments;
- 🔍 assisting in classifier training and certification as requested by the Head of Classification.

### 3.3. STEP 3: Level 2 – Senior National / International Classifier

Someone who has successfully worked for 2 years as a Level 1 Classifier of a Classification Panel at National / International Tournaments. The Classifier is required to adhere to the Classifier's Code of Conduct.

The duties of a Level 2 Classifier may include, but are not limited to:

- 🔍 being part of a Classification Panel at tournaments;
- 🔍 being part of a Protest Panel at tournaments;
- 🔍 attending classification meetings at tournaments;
- 🔍 assisting in classifier training and certification as requested by the Head of Classification;
- 🔍 being a direct contact for all questions and matters relating to classification;
- 🔍 serving as a representative of FITEQ regarding classification;
- 🔍 being a mentor for Classifiers Level 1 and Trainees.

## 4. Prerequisites for Classifier Training

There are a number of pre-requisites to undertaking Classifier training and to becoming a National / International Classifier.

These are:

Being qualified in one or more of the following disciplines:

- 🔍 a medical professional - a doctor or physiotherapist or therapist or practitioner from a related discipline: they must have knowledge and experience in dealing with people with the impairments and the Activity Limitations

or

- 🔍 a technical expert with in-depth knowledge of biomechanics of sport/human movement and have significant expertise in the technical aspects of movements. The decision on admission to the training program is made by FITEQ.
- 🔍 Being able to communicate effectively in English - undertake Classifier training and conduct Player Evaluations in English.
- 🔍 Being able to commit time as a Classifier once qualified.
- 🔍 Having knowledge of the management, rules, and physical and technical demands of the sport.
- 🔍 The following would be a significant advantage when considering to train as a Classifier: Experience and/or National / International Classifier in another sport.

## Assessment

Assessment is carried out on an on-going basis during the training programme. Methods of assessment include, but are not limited to:

- 🔍 Observation, videoing and written assignments on Para Teqball players in competition from a range of Sport Classes;
- 🔍 Observation tasks during Player Evaluation;
- 🔍 Written / oral theory examinations on Classification and Player Evaluation;
- 🔍 Attendance and active participation in at least two days of FITEQ organized Classifier Training Courses.

## 5. Course Structure

- 🔍 Attendance at 1 National / International Tournaments where training will be conducted;
- 🔍 1 day of workshops / training theory;
- 🔍 1 day of Player Evaluation observation and observation of players in competition;
- 🔍 Participation in workshops, theory sessions, observation and practical tasks;
- 🔍 Completion of assessment tasks.

Trainee Classifiers will receive a Certificate of Attendance after the training programme with a summary assessment report on progress towards Certification.

## National / International Classifier Training

Day 1: Theory	Day 2: Practice
Workshop, theory sessions, presentations, Videos	Structured observation of the classification process in action before a national / international tournament
	Observation during the tournament
<i>At the end of the day, there is an interview in which the trainee has to demonstrate sufficient knowledge.</i>	<i>At the end of the day, there is an interview in which the trainee has to demonstrate sufficient knowledge.</i>

## Course Results

After day 1 and day 2 the Course Facilitator provides feedback to candidates and confirms areas where competencies have been met.

1. Classifier certification will then be recommended,



or

2. If the Trainee has not demonstrated all competencies, the areas where competencies have not been met will be discussed and a training plan to complete the training will be agreed. Further tasks and training will be assigned to achieve the outstanding competencies.

## 6. Classifier Certification

FITEQ has the responsibility of assessing whether a Classifier has met the requirements for certification at a particular level. Classifier certification means that an individual has met the competencies and is proficient to be a National / International Para Teqball Classifier.

An assessment report and recommendation from the Course Facilitator will be sent to the Head of Classification after day 2 of the training. The Head of Classification and the Chairman of the Para Teqball Committee will confirm the new Level 1 National / International Classifiers.

FITEQ will approve the new Classifiers based on reports and recommendations of the Head of Classification. By assignments at national / international Para Teqball tournaments, an agreement is concluded between the Classifier and FITEQ.

## First National / International Tournament

The newly certificated Level 1 National / International Classifier is scheduled for the first national / international competition as a National / International Classifier. A Level 2 Classifier is assigned as the mentor for the new Classifier and is present during the first national / international competition assisting and providing support and guidance as required.

FITEQ has the ability to appoint and use non-scheduled / temporary

- 🔍 National / International Classifiers
- 🔍 Senior National / International Classifiers at tournaments.

After the first tournament they become a proper Classifier if they meet the requirements.

## 7. Curriculum Contents

The following gives a broad idea of the core content areas of the curriculum. Essential components of Classifier training curriculum include: Teqball and Para Teqball rules / regulations including those that govern classification; Para Teqball classification system, roles, responsibilities, practical training – player evaluation; professional conduct and ethical behavior; communication, cross cultural communication, cultural differences and diversity.

The below provides a more detailed overview of topics or areas for Classifier Training.



## Overview of FITEQ Classifier Training: Curriculum Content – Details:

- 🔍 Aims and Objectives of the Training Programme
- 🔍 Classifiers – Levels, Competencies and Pathways
- 🔍 Roles and Responsibilities of Classifiers
- 🔍 Theory and Practical components - qualification pathway
- 🔍 Content of Training
- 🔍 Practical requirements while a Trainee Classifier
- 🔍 Assessment
- 🔍 Certification
- 🔍 Minimum work requirements as a Classifier annually – record of work – to maintain the credential

## Overview - FITEQ (Governance / Management)

- 🔍 Governance and management set up
- 🔍 Committees / Commissions

## Overview – Teqball / Para Teqball

- 🔍 Basics of Para Teqball / Teqball
- 🔍 The physical demands of Para Teqball / Teqball – impairment affect on performance
- 🔍 Tournaments
- 🔍 Use of available online support / platforms / media

## Teqball / Para Teqball Rules and Regulations

- 🔍 Laws of Teqball Rules / Regulations and Variations of Rules as it applies to Para Teqball
- 🔍 Classification Regulations of Para Teqball – overview - sections / structure / key points / forms etc.

## Classification / Classification System

- 🔍 Classification and principles of classification
- 🔍 Code of Conduct - confidentiality
- 🔍 Classification Panels
- 🔍 Preparing for Classification at an National / International Tournament
- 🔍 Classification Process – steps / stages / possible outcomes
- 🔍 Player Evaluation process
- 🔍 Sport Class and Sport Class Status
- 🔍 Ineligibility
- 🔍 Failing to Comply – Non-cooperation / intentional misrepresentation
- 🔍 First appearance and observation - protocols
- 🔍 Classification Protest and Appeals - appeal process

- 🔍 Sport Profiles – Players with a Physical Impairment

### **Physical Impairment**

- 🔍 System of describing Minimal Impairment Criteria
- 🔍 Practical Application
- 🔍 Medical basis of disability (f.e.: loss of limbs / dysmelia: traumatic, other acquired loss of limb and difference in limb length: congenital or acquired difference in limb length)

### **Observation**

- 🔍 Observation criteria during match
- 🔍 Performance impact of specific impairments

### **Advanced training in administration and management**

- 🔍 Managing classification sessions / player evaluation
- 🔍 Reporting and record system

### **Professional conduct**

- 🔍 Code of Conduct (behavioural and ethical standards)

### **Cultural differences and diversity training.**

- 🔍 Effective communication
- 🔍 Cultural diversity and communication style
- 🔍 Resolving miss-understandings and conflict

The contents are taught using different didactic methods.

*This first Classifier Training Concept for Para Teqball is based on the Para Teqball Rules Draft / Para Teqball Classification Regulations and on theoretical considerations and experience from other similar sports. It has an open structure, which can and must be supplemented or modified as required and necessary. Additions, changes and optimizations can be made by practical experience - gained during the realization of Para Teqball tournaments / classification processes. Thus, possible circumstances may lead to the classification training programme having to be extended / changed.*

*Especially at the beginning of the (first) training, there must be a transitional arrangement that enables a proper start into the tournament(s)t. Here, all contents of the concept must be observed and implemented accordingly.*

## APPENDIX 1

### Transitional arrangement / Transitional period

As long as a sufficient number of Classifiers is not yet available, transitional provisions apply until the present concept can be implemented by FITEQ.

In order to be able to carry out an initial classification, FITEQ may appoint experts to:

- 🔍 to carry out the classification of athletes and
- 🔍 to carry out the training of Classifiers.

They will act as FITEQ certified Classifiers.

In order to maintain the protection of health, the training concept can be adapted/modified to the / a current health-threatening situation and the hygiene- concept specifications (f.e. in a pandemic period). The content-related aspects must always be guaranteed. Depending on the current situation, variable (even short-term) changes to the operational processes are possible.

If face-to-face training is not possible, different media can be used. The first participants must not be disadvantaged by a change in the training situation.