



Wheelchair Rugby 5s **Eligibility Criteria**

Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby (GBWR) is committed to providing competition between athletes with different types of disabilities. The eligibility criteria for WR5s, has been designed to ensure competition is open to anyone with a physical impairment to compete on a fair, equal and inclusive basis.

WR5s eligibility is determined using the following criteria:

- (a) An individual must have a permanent disability which, reduces the function of the lower limbs or upper limbs to a degree where they cannot run, pivot, throw, catch or jump at the speed and with the control, safety, stability and endurance required to play running able body rugby.
- (b) An individual's disability must be such that an acknowledged medical practitioner can objectively verify it.
- (c) An individual who has had hip, knee or other joint replacements will be required to provide confirmation of the relevant surgery in the form of a written statement from their GP, which will need to confirm a long-term loss of function and a physical impairment in order to compete.
- (d) An individual who has incurred a limb amputation, must meet the minimal requirement for eligibility to qualify to play WR5s, which is the removal or significant damage/deformity to either the first ray of the foot or hand (first ray represents removal or damage to the Metatarsals (foot) and or Metacarpals (hand)).
- (e) In the instance of a leg length discrepancy the minimal requirement for eligibility to play WR5s is a 6cm difference in leg length as measured from the greater trochanter to the ground in a standing x-ray.
- (f) An individual with a Sensory impairment (deaf/blind) is not eligible to play WR5s unless they also have an additional impairment that satisfies the criteria to be qualified to play.
- (g) An individual with a Mental Health Condition is not eligible to play WR5s unless they also have an impairment that satisfies the criteria to be qualified to play.



Below is a list of ineligible conditions (this list is not exhaustive and other impairments may be added at GBWR's discretion).

- Hyperextension
- Mental Health Conditions - PTSD etc
- Respiratory Illness

Classification

WR5s Summer League uses its own classification system. The system has been designed to maximise participation and competition for those with a physical impairment.

Players with an existing IWRF classification will use the WR5s classification to determine what their classification is for WR5s.

For players who do not have an IWRF classification this will be done on a self-declaration basis. All teams will be required to submit their Team Roster and for players without an IWRF classification the Individual Player Form.

On the Team Roster coaches can add a description of an individual's impairment for players without an IWRF classification and then determine which classification they best fit. Players can submit more detailed information on their impairment on the Individual Player Form to support their classification.

GBWR will review all forms received to check the self-declared classifications for non-IWRF classified players. If GBWR believes further information is required to support a proposed classification then this will be requested in-conjunction with a GBWR classifier who will then review any additional medical information supplied and make a final decision on which classification a player fits. A player may appeal against a decision by following GBWR's Classification Appeals process.

Additional medical information can include a medical report or results letter from a recognised professional such as a Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist or a Doctor.

In order for a player to change classification they would be required to supply new medical information to support a change in classification.



Club coaches will be asked to assess their players, against the following criteria:

0.5 - Point player = Current 0.5-1.5 IWRF classified players

1.0 - Point player = Current 2.0-3.5 IWRF classified players

1.5 - Point player = Current 4.0 GBWR classified players and players with an impairment in one upper limb.

2.0 - Point player = Impairment in both lower limbs.

3.0 - Point player = Impairment in one lower limb, or other impairments that makes the athlete unable to stand or walk unassisted.

4.0 - Point player = Players with a diagnosed pain related impairment, which could include the following:

- Chronic Pain Disorder
- Chronic Regional Pain Syndrome
- Fibromyalgia
- Functional Movement Disorders

Teams will be permitted a maximum of 10 points on court.