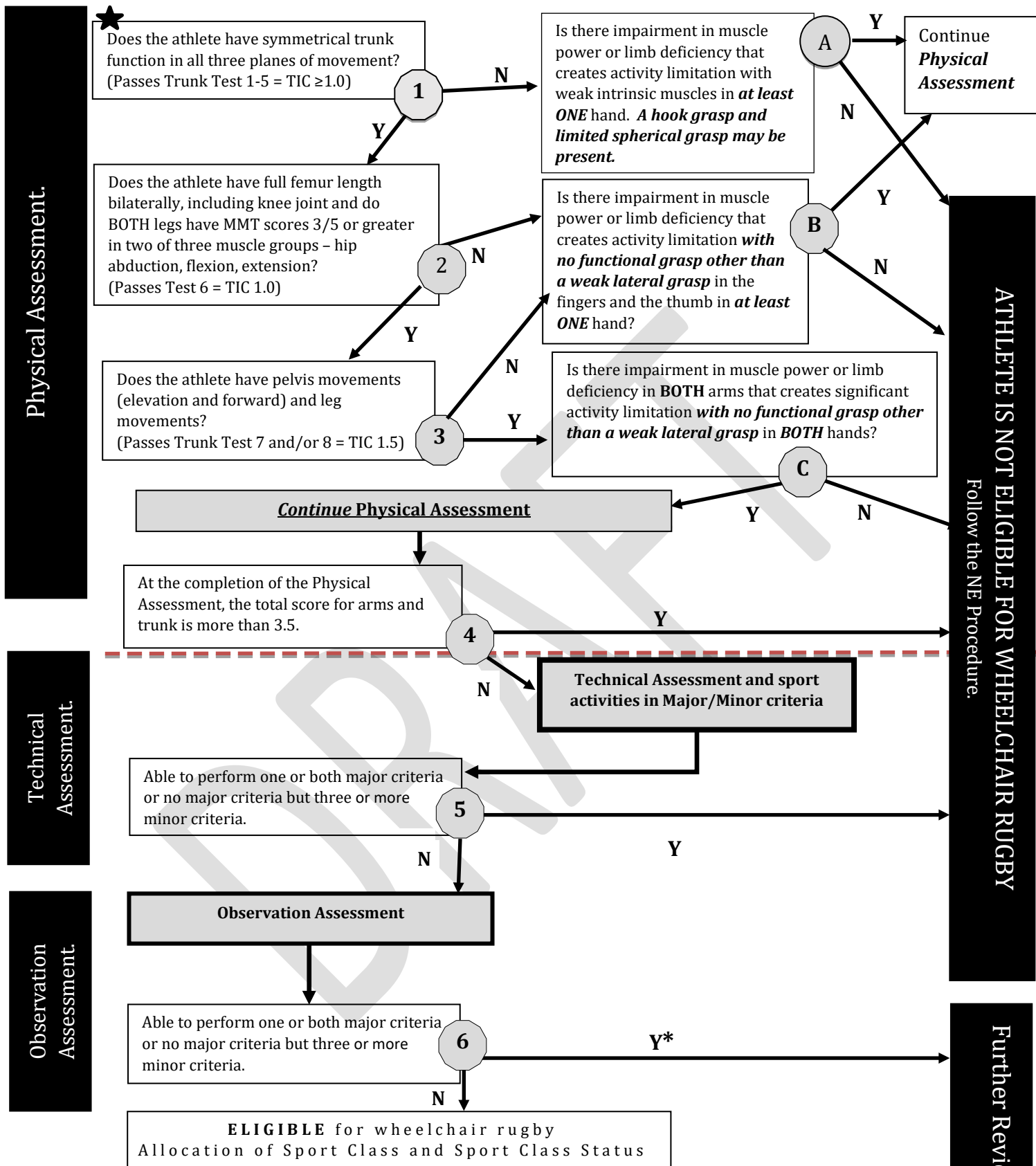


IWRF Classification Committee

Document name:	MIC Flow Chart 2021 Final Draft
Content description:	<p>Draft version of revised Minimum Impairment Criteria (MIC) algorithm flow chart. Description of the IWRF Minimum Impairment Criteria is used to determine whether an athlete may continue classification and be allocated a sport class in accordance with the IWRF Classification Rules.</p> <p>This document will be incorporated into the IWRF Classification Rules document following the Tokyo Paralympic Games and will replace the existing MIC algorithm flow chart at that time.</p>
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* If Y, the athlete could NOT do these activities in the technical assessment but could do these on court during observation assessment. Further review by the panel is required to ensure this is not equipment, training, and skill. It may help to repeat the technical assessment with and without equipment or repeat any impairment tests such as muscle tests or limb measurements to clarify why the athlete can do these activities on court but not during testing.

Explanatory Notes for Athlete Evaluation Flow Chart

Steps 1-3: Physical Assessment

The impact of impairment in the hands is determined by evaluating the activity of grasping. Grasp is defined as the ability of the digits of the hand to hold, secure, or pick up objects.

The three types of grasps that include a sport specific component in wheelchair rugby are:

1. Lateral grasp,
2. Spherical grasp (also referred to as a span grasp)
3. Hook grasp.

Impairment impacting grasps is expected in these steps of the physical assessment. However, as lateral grasp does not require thumb opposition, you may find a weak lateral grasp, but there should not be a spherical or hook grasp.

Following are descriptions of these three types of grasps.

Lateral Grasp

The lateral grasp, or pinch, pad-to-side, pad of extended thumb pressing an object against the radial side of the index finger is a strong grip. This grip does not require an opposed thumb: a person who has lost opposition but has retained thumb adduction can grasp small objects. In an unimpaired hand, the lateral grasp uses the thumb adductor muscle, and the thumb remains straight. In an impaired hand, such as an intrinsic minus hand, the thumb flexor muscles substitute for the thumb adductor muscle so the position of the thumb looks different, as depicted in the adjacent photograph. In wheelchair rugby, a lateral grasp can be used for limited ball control and security, and wheel contact.



Lateral Grasp – Unimpaired Hand



Lateral Grasp – Intrinsic Minus Hand

Spherical Grasp

Spherical grasp, a power grasp, has all fingers and the thumb reaching around an object, with the fingers more spread apart. The palm is often not involved. It is used to hold something round, for example in wheelchair rugby, the ball.



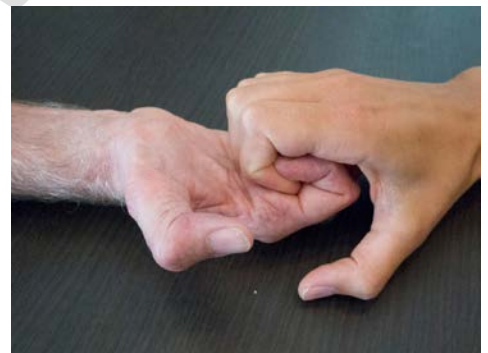
Spherical Grasp – Unimpaired Hand



Spherical Grasp – Intrinsic Minus Hand

Hook Grasp

Hook grasp, a power grasp used to hold with the 2nd through 5th fingers flexed around an object in hook like manner. Used in wheelchair rugby for example, to grip the wheel rim or tire to pull back for propelling backwards or back out of a pick.



Hook Grasp – Unimpaired (right) and Intrinsic Minus (left)

Step 4: Conclusion of Physical Assessment

If the total score for the arms and trunk at the conclusion of the physical assessment is more than 3.5, the Athlete is Not Eligible (NE). This is calculated and recorded on the classification form as the Total Class. If the total score for arms and trunk is 3.5 or less, the athlete moves forward to the technical assessment.

In cases where the athlete has borderline eligibility, or if the athlete has an impairment for which minimum impairment criteria is not yet established, major and minor criteria are used to decide eligibility.

Step 5: Technical Assessment

Technical assessment consists of the evaluation of ball and wheelchair activities to determine the impact of impairment, measured in the physical assessment, on sport specific activities in order to make a decision on the athlete's sport class.

In cases of borderline eligibility, or if the athlete has an impairment for which minimum impairment criteria is not yet established, major and minor criteria are used to decide if the athlete is not eligible or if the athlete proceeds to observation assessment.

If the athlete has one or both major criteria and/or three or more minor criteria in the technical assessment, the athlete is allocated a NE sport class. This means if the athlete has one or both major criteria, the athlete is not eligible. Or, if the athlete has NO major criteria but three or more minor criteria, the athlete is not eligible.

If the athlete is NE after the Technical Assessment, the Athlete is not eligible for IWRF wheelchair rugby and should not move forward to Observation Assessment.

Step 6: Observation Assessment

Athletes who remain eligible after the technical assessment move forward to observation assessment to undergo observation on court to confirm validity of their sport class.

In cases of borderline eligibility following the technical assessment, major and minor criteria are used to decide if the athlete is allocated a NE sport class or an eligible sport class.

If the athlete had zero, one or two minor criteria in the technical assessment but then shows one or both major criteria and/or three or more minor criteria during the observation assessment on court during play, further review by the panel in a controlled non-competitive environment is required. This continuation of athlete evaluation is necessary to ensure the observed activities are not influenced by equipment, training, and skill.

Following Observation Assessment

If continued athlete evaluation is required, the classification panel may repeat the technical assessment both with and without equipment, and/or repeat any impairment tests, such as manual muscle tests or limb measurements, to clarify why the athlete can do the sport specific activities on court during observation assessment but not during the technical assessment.

If there is no logical explanation, the classification panel may need to suspend athlete evaluation. The panel will need to consider the potential of the athlete being given classification not complete. If CNC, the procedure in Article 30 of these rules must be followed.