

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible in the sport of British Para-Swimming:

- Athletes must be affected by at least one of the Impairments listed in the first column of the table below; and
- The Impairment must result directly from a health condition (e.g. trauma, disease, dysgenesis), and must be documented by medical records.

Eligible Impairment types. In order to compete in British Para- Swimming an Athlete must be affected by at least one of the 10 Impairment types listed in the first column of this table.

| Impairment Type | Examples of health conditions likely to cause such Impairments | Description of Impairment |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hypertonia | Cerebral palsy, stroke, acquired brain injury, multiple sclerosis | High muscle tone <i>Inclusions:</i> Hypertonia / High muscle tone <i>Exclusions:</i> Low muscle tone |
| Ataxia | Ataxia resulting from cerebral palsy, brain injury, Friedreich's ataxia, multiple sclerosis, spinocerebellar ataxia | Control of voluntary movement <i>Inclusions:</i> Ataxia only <i>Exclusions:</i> Problems of control of voluntary movement that do not fit description of Ataxia |
| Athetosis | Cerebral palsy, stroke, traumatic brain injury | Involuntary contractions of muscles <i>Inclusions:</i> Athetosis, chorea <i>Exclusions:</i> Sleep related movement disorders |
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| Limb deficiency | Amputation resulting from trauma or congenital limb deficiency (dysmelia). | Total or partial absence of the bones or joints of the shoulder region, upper extremities, pelvic region or lower extremities. |
| Impaired Passive Range of Movement (PROM) | Arthrogryposis, ankylosis, post burns joint contractures | Impaired joint mobility <i>Exclusions:</i> Hypermobility of joints. |
| Impaired Muscle Power | Spinal cord injury, muscular dystrophy, brachial plexus injury, Erb's palsy, polio, spina bifida, Guillain-Barré syndrome | Muscle power |
| Leg Length Difference | Congenital or traumatic causes of bone shortening in one leg | Aberrant dimensions of bones of right lower limb OR left lower limb but not both. <i>Inclusions:</i> shortening of bones of one lower limb <i>Exclusions:</i> shortening of bones of both lower limbs; any increase in dimensions |
| Short stature | Achondroplasia, growth dysfunction | Aberrant dimensions of bones of upper and lower limbs or trunk which will reduce standing height |
| Visual Impairment | Vision impairment arises from a variety of conditions - genetic, prenatal developmental issues or from illness or trauma Diagnoses that cause low vision in the range: a visual acuity of less than or equal to LogMAR 1.0 or a visual field restricted to less than 20 degrees radius | Impairment of the eye structure; Impairment of the optical nerve/optic pathways; Impairment of the visual cortex. |

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| Intellectual Impairment | | IQ of 75 or below Limitations in adaptive behaviour, Age of onset before the age of 18 years. |
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Non-Eligible Impairments

The following Impairments are not eligible to be classified for British Para-Swimming – Physical Impairment.

- Any exclusion listed in the above Table
- Hearing impairments
- Pain
- Joint stability such as unstable shoulder joint, dislocation of a joint;
- Muscle endurance impairments
- Motor reflex impairments
- Involuntary movement reaction impairments
- Tics/involuntary movements, mannerisms etc.
- Cardiovascular impairments
- Respiratory impairments
- Impaired muscle power resulting from disuse (e.g. pain, conversion disorder);
- Hypotonia (e.g. associated with Down syndrome, Ehlers-Danlos syndrome);
- (Developmental) Dyspraxia, if not the result of a motor or sensory Impairments like cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, or multiple sclerosis.
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Attention Deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Scoliosis
- Organ Transplants

It must be noted that even swimmers who have a diagnosis that meets the eligibility criteria for classification may still not be sufficiently impaired to gain a class.