



NSW Adaptive Rowing Information

Classifications

Adaptive rowing provides opportunities for a wide range of athletes with physical and intellectual impairments to compete in an inclusive environment. In Australia, there are three classifications for adaptive rowers. These classifications closely match the international adaptive rowing classifications. The classifications are:

Arms Only (A)

Arms only adaptive rowers are athletes who have no or minimal trunk function. Arms only rowers apply force predominantly using the arms and/or shoulders.

Arms only rowers use pontoons fixed to the riggers to aid stability. The fixed seat will have a backrest allowing the rower to be strapped into the boat.

Trunk and Arms (TA)

Trunk and Arms adaptive rowers are athletes who have trunk movement but are unable to use the sliding seat because of significantly weakened or restricted function of the lower limbs.

Trunk and arms rowers can use stabilising pontoons to row if they prefer. A backrest on the fixed seat is optional.

Leg, Trunk and Arms (LTA)

Leg, Trunk and Arms adaptive rowers include athletes with impairments who are able to use the sliding seat as well as their trunk and arms.

Athletes with vision impairment or with an intellectual disability will usually be classified as leg, trunk and arms rowers. Many athletes with an amputation will also row in this classification.

For racing at club and state championship regattas in NSW, adaptive rowers do not need a formal classification. Athletes who think they are eligible to row as adaptive rowers should contact the NSW Adaptive Rowing Coordinator before entering adaptive races for the first time. This will ensure the athlete is likely to obtain a classification for adaptive rowing and that Boat Race Officials are aware of any special arrangements that might need to be made for the race.

Adaptive rowers competing at National Championships will be expected to have a formal classification. Classification sessions will normally be held at the National Championships prior to the commencement of adaptive events.

For more information about classification, refer to the Rowing Australia Classification Policy.

Regattas

Adaptive rowing events are included at most age/open regattas and most grade regattas in NSW. They are also held at Championship regattas. Adaptive races are held in single and double sculls. Adaptive rowers can enter adaptive double scull events either with another adaptive rower or with a master rower (minimum age B grade). For female rowers, the master rower should be of the same gender. At national championships, adaptive double scull races must be raced by two adaptive rowers of the same gender.

When entering adaptive single scull races, the rower should nominate their classification and the distance they prefer to race (either 500m or 1000m). Where there are sufficient entries, LTA entrants will race in a separate division to TA and A rowers.

Adaptive rowers are not expected to have a formal classification to race in adaptive events at club regattas and NSW championship regattas. Athletes who think they are eligible to row as adaptive rowers should contact the NSW Adaptive Rowing Coordinator before entering adaptive races for the first time. This will ensure the athlete is likely to obtain a classification for adaptive rowing and that Boat Race Officials are aware of any special arrangements that might need to be made for the race.

Contacts

For more information about adaptive rowing in NSW, contact

NSW Adaptive Rowing Coordinator

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