
C5: Concepts developed through wheelchair rugby classification and their translation into wheelchair set up for active users

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Learning objectives:

1. To achieve an insight into the process of classification of wheelchair rugby athletes and how this process is used to gain an understanding of the athlete's current ability and functional potential.
2. Informed eyes when watching the demo game of Wheelchair Rugby at this conference, being able to identify the difference between a low, high and mid pointer
3. To provide some fresh ideas and tools to use when assessing clients for active user equipment to enable the individual to achieve their true functional potential. Nothing is off limits...

Session description:

Wheelchair Rugby Classification assesses the athletes' trunk, arms and functional techniques awarding a class that reflects their functional potential. The purpose being to allow people with mixed physical abilities from a range of diagnoses to create a team line up with the same potential group ability as the opposing line up and therefore a fair game. It is this role as an international classifier that gives us the awareness of an individual's functional potential, how to assess for it and the equipment features that can enhance or inhibit it.

This session will firstly give a brief tour of the classification assessment process then continue by looking at how this assessment of an individual's functional potential can provide information that informs equipment specification and configuration for the active user. This session will be of interest to delegates who are interested in Paralympic sport classification and active user wheelchair set up.

Content references:

1. Mason B, Van Der Woude LH, Tolfrey K, Lenton JP, Goosey-Tolfrey VL (2012) Effects of wheel and hand-rim size on sub-maximal propulsion in wheelchair athletes. *Med Sci Sports Exerc* 44(1): 126-134
2. Haydon DS, Pinder R, Grimshaw PN, Robertson WSP, (2016) Elite wheelchair rugby: a quantitative analysis of chair configuration in Australia. *International Sports Engineering Association*. DOI: 10.1007/s12283-016-0203-0
3. International Wheelchair Rugby Federation (2015, Feb 1) IWRP Classification Manual, 3rd Ed. (Revised). Retrieved from [http://iwrf.com/resources/iwrf_docs/IWRP_Classification_Manual_3rd_Edition_rev-2015_\(English\).pdf](http://iwrf.com/resources/iwrf_docs/IWRP_Classification_Manual_3rd_Edition_rev-2015_(English).pdf)