Become an OCPSA Classifier

- **Volunteer**
- **Learn**
- **Grow**
- **Empower**
- **Socialize**
- **Travel**

Overview of classification:

Cerebral palsy and other conditions resulting from brain lesions cause impairments of varied severity. A need existed to build a fair system within which an equitable starting point for competition between athletes was assured. The classification of athletes systematically categorizes neurological function of a sports person in relation to their sports event in a way that will allow for competition against those with similar degrees of neurological involvement.

Goal of classification:

To ensure that athletic success hinges on an athlete's training, skill level, talent, and competitive experience rather than on their neurological ability.

What is a classifier?

A classifier is an official who attends competitions as a representative of OCPSA. This individual assesses athletes who may not have been previously classified or require further assessment. Following a specific process, the classifier determines which sport class the athlete is the best suited for.

Who can be a classifier?

A classifier is someone who has specific medical or sport knowledge, or someone who has been exposed to people with disabilities and disability sport. Therefore, a classifier can be a physiotherapist, a nurse, a doctor, a sportsperson, a former athlete; anyone who has knowledge of science and sports!

How do you become a classifier?

A cp sports classifier must become a member of OCPSA and participate in a one-day introductory classification course followed by a half day practical session. Completion of this course allows the individual to become a provincial classifier. Sports have their own classification system and therefore specific courses need to be taken to classify within. If they so desire, classifiers can progress through the ranks from Provincial, to National, to International levels.

Why become a classifier?

Classification enables the chance to use professional vocation within a volunteer setting. It is an opportunity to give back to the community, to enhance the life of a person with a disability, and an opportunity to grow professionally and personally.

The Ontario Cerebral Palsy Sports Association (OCPSA) believes in the value of sport and that sport builds success in all aspects of life. It provides, promotes and coordinates competitive opportunities as well as encourages individual excellence through sport for athletes within the cerebral palsy family. To that end, OCPSA recruits, develops and supports athletes, coaches and volunteers.

Visit our website or give us a call today:
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