

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This **Memorandum of Understanding** ("MOU") is made as of February 1, 2026, by and among:
USA Wheelchair Rugby ("USAWR")
United States Wheelchair Rugby Association ("USWRA")
(jointly, the "PARTIES")

WHEREAS, the PARTIES seek to cooperate in Wheelchair Rugby, specifically for U.S. athletes and teams competing internationally in variants of the Paralympic version of the sport;

WHEREAS it is expected that various U.S. athletes and teams may wish to compete abroad, roles and responsibilities must be clarified;

NOW, THEREFORE, the PARTIES agree to the tiers as follows:

Tier I

Individual Athletes Competing Internationally

Any athlete may join an international team, but:

- All related expenses are the athlete's responsibility.
- USWRA does not need to be notified in these situations.
- USAWR only needs to be notified if the athlete is a current National Training Squad member. Those athletes must get pre-approval from the High Performance Manager and Head Coach.
- No classification support will be provided.

Tier II

U.S. Athletes Forming an "At Large" Team

U.S. athletes may form a team (including but not limited to all-women or low-point teams) to compete as a U.S. team. This does not apply to events under the sole jurisdiction of USAWR.

The PARTIES are not responsible for team governance, travel, or selection.

To form a team, athletes must **FIRST**: contact the USWRA commissioner for the following potential support. All support must be approved by the USWRA Board. The process requires no less than 30 days' notice.

The USWRA Board will consider the following supports:

- Use of league's 501(c)(3) status for fundraising
- Promotion via USWRA social channels
- Notification to the USWRCA Head of Classification

Upon approval, USWRA will notify USAWR, who will, upon request:

- Obtain WWR licenses (athlete's expense)

- Register teams for tournaments through WWR's portal (athlete's expense)
- Approve USA-related terminology within 5 business days (e.g., logos, signage, uniforms, fliers). Note all USA IP must be approved in advance.
- Support travel insurance acquisition (athlete's expense)
- Assist with uniforms and travel planning (expenses by athlete; up to 3 hours support available)
- Notify the State Department via USOPC and share guidance.
- Upload classification documents to MALS if a panel is planned.

Classification

Both Tier I and Tier II could include classification and/or assessment panels.

International classification panels do supersede domestic classification. Athletes will play under that classification in all situations moving forward including ongoing play in the USWRA league IF it is an official WWR panel.

It is important to note that many tournaments are conducting temporary assessments. The temporary outcome of these assessments **does not** supersede U.S. classifications and are only valid for the tournament during which they were conducted,

The USWRCA Head of Classification must be informed as noted above of the tournament and can provide upon request:

- Copies of applicable USWRA Classification documents
- Up to one hour of support prior to the competition to discuss any classification or assessment questions or clarifications.

At the conclusion of tournaments with a valid classification panel, WWR will update the master list posted online. Information on that master list will be considered official and utilized by The Parties in the USWRA league. At the conclusion of the event, the athlete must also communicate with the USWRCA Head of Classification who will verify with WWR and the master classification list. The USWRCA Head of Classification will communicate classification outcomes to USAWR.