Application for Exception due to Anatomical Limitation – Seated Throws

This application is for USA **non-licensed** athletes to allow them to compete at WTFUSA and/or WASUSA Community and Regional competitions, National Junior Disability Championships™ and/or WTFUSA Adult Nationals. If an athlete wishes to compete at US Paralympic Nationals, IPC championship events or IWAS competitions then s/he must secure an IPC license and apply for the IPC exemption. For more information, visit http://www.teamusa.org/US-Paralympics. The WTFUSA Exception does NOT carry over to IPC competitions.

Who should apply for a WTFUSA Exception?

1. Athletes competing as a U11 or a U14
2. Athletes without an IPC License competing as a U16, a U18, a U20, a U23, an Open or a Master

How and when to apply

Athlete must submit an application to WTFUSA through his/her Coach and undergo an in-competition observation. The application must reach WTFUSA no less than 45 days prior to the competition in which the athlete intends to compete and undergo in-competition observation. Additionally, there must be a National Classification panel at the competition. This application form can be found on the WTFUSA website http://www.wasusa.org/athleticstrackfield.htm.

Once an application has been received, WTFUSA shall form a review panel consisting of those individuals with expertise in the fields of classification and technical officiating. The panel shall review the application; if needed, the panel may request further supporting materials/documentation in order to come to a final decision. WTFUSA shall inform the athlete through his/her coach of a preliminary decision of the review panel within 28 days of receiving the exception request.

The athlete may be requested to be present for further assessment by a National Classification Panel prior to the competition. During the course of the in-competition observation, the Technical Delegate and the Chief Classifier shall either confirm or reject the findings of the review panel and that decision shall be final and non-appealable. If the TD and the Chief Classifier fail to agree the athlete will be permitted to compete at the competition at which the observation took place and the party that does not agree that the exception should be granted will provide a full written report of his or her reasons to WTFUSA within 20 days of the date of the observation.

Athletes who have been granted an exception to Rule 36 following assessment by the review panel and confirmed by both the Lead Ref / TD and Chief Classifier at an event shall be permitted to compete according to the agreed exception until the rule changes in a material way or the athlete secures an IPC passport and license. An athlete that did not satisfy both the TD and the Chief Classifier at an event will normally be scheduled to be observed again in-competition at a future event. Until that time, however, the athlete does not have an exemption.

> Note: Until an official exception has been granted following the in-competition observation, Rule 36 shall be strictly applied.

An exception may be revoked by WTFUSA at any time if both the Lead Ref/TD and Chief Classifier for an event file a written report indicating that they both disagree with the granting of the exception. However, WTFUSA is not bound to follow the recommendation of such report and it will generally ask the athlete affected by the report to submit his/her own statement in support of his/her exception before reaching a decision.

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IPC Athletic Rules and Regulations – Rule 36

1. *In Secured Throw Events, all athletes (Sport Classes F31-34, F51-57) shall throw implements from a Throwing Frame in a seated position. The seated position is defined as follows:*
    a. *The athlete must sit so that both legs are in contact with the seat surface from the back of the knee to the back of the buttock (Ischial tuberosity)*
    b. *This sitting position must be maintained throughout the throwing action until the throw has been marked. Strapping across the upper thighs and or pelvis is encouraged.*

Note (i): The intention of this rule is to minimize the contribution of the legs to the athlete's performance.

Note (ii): If an athlete presents with anatomical limitation that prevents adherence to the above requirements, then an assessment shall to be made by IPC Athletics in advance of the event. IPC Athletics shall establish a process for such exception to be granted so that the athlete is throwing within the spirit of the rules.

Note (iii): For the purposes of this rule, the back of the buttock refers to the most posterior part of the buttock which remains in contact with the seat surface when the athlete is seated and bends as far forward as possible at the hips, so that chest goes towards the knees and the ischial tuberosities remain in contact with the seat surface.

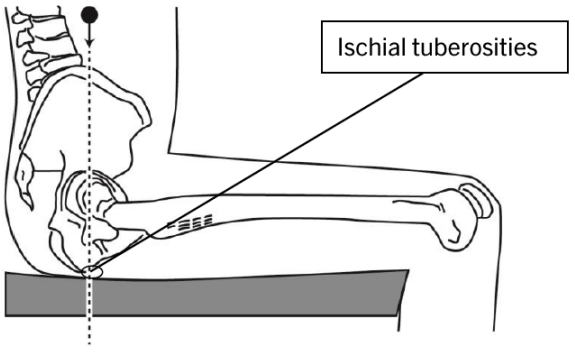

Figure 17 Ischial tuberosities

WTFUSA Master List

WTFUSA shall maintain on its website (http://www.wasusa.org/athleticstrackfield.htm) a list of U11 and U14 or non-licensed U16, U18, U20, U23, Open, and Master athletes who have been granted the exception of adherence to Rule 36. The aforementioned list of athletes granted exceptions shall also be made available to the appointed WTFUSA and/or IPC appointed Technical Delegate and/or technical officials at all WTFUSA and WASUSA competitions. If an athlete would like the list sent to a competition sanctioned outside of WTFUSA or WASUSA, s/he should contact Phil Galli, WTFUSA Chairman.

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Applications for Exception must be legible and completed in English. The application must be submitted by the athlete's coach and must reach WTFUSA 45 days prior to the start of the competition in which the athlete intends to compete and undergo in-competition observation.

Requests are to be submitted to WTFUSA:
Email: philg1234@comcast.net
Post: WTFUSA, 10 Deer Run, Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Athlete Information:

Last Name			
First Name			
Team/Coach			
Age Group as of 12/31/15	U___		
Date of Birth			
Gender	☐M ☐F		
Sport Class		Sport Class Status (ie: Confirmed, Review, or New)	

Next Scheduled Competition:

Competition Name	
Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	
City, State	
Is National level classification offered?	☐**Y** ☐**N**

Anatomical Limitation: (Supply pictures & Video)	

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Athlete Information:

Last Name	
First Name	

Clause in which the athlete is seeking exception and to what extent:	
Specifications of Throwing Frame. (supply pictures)	

The following supporting documentation should be submitted with application:

- Medical Documentation proving the anatomical limitation that prevents the athlete from complying with WTFUSA Rule 36
- Picture(s) of the throwing frame and its specifications.
- Video(s) of athlete throwing (from different perspectives)