



International Para Bobsleigh Rules 2022

All rules listed in the current International Bobsleigh Rules apply equally to Para Bobsleigh except as explicitly specified in this document. Article reference numbers in this document refer to the corresponding Article numbers in the current International Bobsleigh Rules.

Article 1.4 – International Training Period

The Organisers of the Para World Championships must offer an International Training period, to prepare for the championships and it must take place during the same competitive season in which the Para World Championships are organised. They are exempt from doing this if during the preceding competitive season a Para World Cup competition had been organised on the same track.

During the periods in preparation for Para World Championships, the Organiser shall offer training runs upon payment of a maximum of €15 for monobob training run.

Article 1.6 – Gender

For Para World Cup competitions and Para World Championship competitions the races are mixed gender with men and women competing together.

Article 2.4.2 Para Bobsleigh

Article 2.4.2.1 Para Bobsleigh (PB)

Article 2.4.2.2 Para Bobsleigh Push (PBP)

Article 3 – Admission

In addition to the other specified requirements, for Para events the athletes must also complete the classification process as defined in the IBSF Classification Rules for Para Bobsleigh and Para Skeleton and receive a classification of either PB or PBP.

Participation in Para Bobsleigh Push (PBP) requires a classification of PBP, while participation in Para Bobsleigh (PB) requires a classification of PB.

Article 4 – Right to Participate in Competitions.

For Para World Championships only athletes who have participated and been ranked in at least three races on at least two different tracks in the current season or previous season are eligible to participate. No more than 3 male athletes and 3 female athletes in each discipline from any nation may participate.

For Para World Cup events, a max of 5 athletes of each gender from all nations may participate. The organiser may place limits on the maximum participation by discipline if necessary due to track limitations and this limitation will be announced in the invitation.

Article 4.4 – Continental Championships

The eligibility to compete in Continental Championships are identical to those of Para World Cup races if the Continental Championships are held in conjunction with a Para World Cup race.

Article 5 – Event

For Para events the IBSF is the sanctioning body.

Article 6 – Jury and Technical Delegates

For Para World Championships and Para World Cup

- One Technical Delegate
- A Jury President
- One Jury Member

Article 8.4 – Licenses

The minimum age for participation in Para Bobsleigh is the same as for Bobsleigh and not the same as for Monobob.

Article 8.6 – Entries

Entry fees for Para Bobsleigh events are determined by and payable to IBSF. Entry fees will be announced in the event invitation. Entry fees have to be paid via wire transfer. Upon prior agreement with the IBSF Para Sport Coordinator, entry fees may be paid prior to the first Team Captains' Meeting on-site.

In addition to the entry fee, athletes will need to sign a Track-specific waiver which must be given to the IBSF coordinator before the 1st TCM. For athletes under 18, these waivers must be signed by a parent/guardian.

Article 8.12.2 – Freely Available Advertising Areas

For Para Bobsleigh events the sleds are owned 100% by IBSF and the entire sled is reserved for IBSF sponsorship.

Article 10.1 – Official Training

Training runs will be determined by the Jury and will be announced in the event invitation or at the initial Team Captains' Meeting. At all Para competitions a minimum of two successful training runs without accident are required for entry into the race.

If an official Para Bobsleigh Push race is not held during an event then it will be permitted for an athlete to participate in an organized Para Bobsleigh Push demonstration as part of the event without the demonstration run being counted as a training run or a disqualifying run.

During a double-race event week, nations may substitute different athletes in the races so long as each athlete has successfully completed a minimum of two training runs. If substitute athletes are entered for the second race, they will use the same sleds as the original athlete and no additional training runs will be permitted.

For Para WC, athletes will train within groups in sled number order for Day 1, reverse sled order for Day 2, sled number order for Day 3, reverse order for Day 4, and so on.

For Para WCH, athletes will train within groups in the same sequence as above, except that on the final training day athletes will train within groups in IBSF current year rank order (and alphabetically for unranked athletes).

Equipment Preparation

After the first Team Captains' Meeting and following each training session 1 hour will be provided for the athletes and Team Captains to prepare the equipment they will use during the next day. Only athletes will be allowed to polish the runners. Athletes who are sharing sleds are required to work together throughout the training period to prepare the equipment.

Team Captains, team mechanics or athletes, upon approval of the Jury, may check runner alignment and steering during this period with the assist of IBSF officials.

Other than the checks for runner alignment and steering described above, no work on the mechanics inside of the sled will be permitted by the athlete or coach. If there is any concern with the mechanics of the sled the athlete or Team captain may request an IBSF mechanic to make further investigations or adjustments. No modifications of any type are permitted to the exterior of the sled, including the addition of tape, decals or graphics.

Team captains must inform the IBSF mechanics within 1 hour after each training session what ballast weight they would like added to the sled for the next day of training or racing. After the final training session each Team captain must confirm by signature the requested ballast weight they would like added to the sled for the race.

Article 10.6.1 – Race Heats

Para World Championships are held over four heats. Para World Cups are held over two heats.

For a two-heat race the groups will race:

Heat 1: A-B-(C...)

Heat 2: (...C)-B-A

In a four-heat race the groups will race:

Heat 1: A-B-(C...)

Heat 2: (...C)-B-A

Heat 3: A-B-(C...)

Heat 4: (...C)-B-A

Article 10.6.4 – Start Number

Sleds are assigned to athletes in a random draw during the first Team Captains' Meeting as described below. For Para Bobsleigh 2-heat races the start number is assigned to the pilot, based on the sled they use. For Para Bobsleigh 4-heat races athletes choose their start number within group based on their IBSF current-year ranking during the Team Captains' meeting following the final day of Official Training, with unranked athletes choosing their start numbers in alphabetical order of surname after the ranked athletes have selected their start numbers. For purpose of efficient race management, the athlete's sled number will be their BIB number, rather than their start number being used as their BIB number.

In a double-race competition athletes will start in start number sequence in Heat 1 of the first race, and in reverse start number sequence in Heat 1 of the second race. If there are substitute athletes for a nation in the second race, the substitute athlete will use the sled and start number assigned to the original athlete. In the event of substitute athletes, the athlete from the first race will be used for group assignments.

If there are more athletes than available sleds, then the sleds will be shared and the athletes will be assigned to groups based on their IBSF rank with the highest ranked athletes in group A, then next highest in group B and so on. For the first step, in order of rank (and then in alphabetical order for unranked athletes) each sled will be randomly assigned to an athlete until all available sleds have been allocated to an athlete. Next, the Jury will assign sleds to the remaining athletes, if any. In the second step they will begin with the ultimate sled which was assigned in the first step and assign it to an athlete, and then they will assign the penultimate sled, and then the antepenultimate sled, and so on until all athletes have a sled assignment or until all sleds have a second assignment. Each of these assignments in the second step will be determined by the Jury in a manner to optimize race management (e.g., by matching up athletes with similar ballast weight requirements). If the second step has been completed and there are still athletes without a sled assignment, then a third or more steps are performed by repeating the process used in the second step starting with the ultimate sled assignment from step one.

Example 1: There are 13 athletes using 10 sleds in a Para Bobsleigh competition. The top 10 ranked athletes will be in Group A and the remaining athletes will be in Group B. Athletes ranked 8 – 10 in Group A will share their sleds with athletes in Group B.

Example 2: There are 23 athletes using 10 sleds in a Para Bobsleigh competition. The top 10 ranked athletes will be in Group A, athletes ranked 11 – 20 will be in Group B, and the remaining athletes will be in Group C. All Group A athletes will share their sled with an athlete in Group B. In addition, athletes ranked 8 – 10 will also share their sleds with an athlete in Group C.

Article 10.6.8 – Start

For Para Bobsleigh (PB) the athlete loads into the driver's position in the sled prior to the sled arriving at the start. A mechanical launch device provided by IBSF is used to push the sled at the start with a uniform start velocity for all sleds. If a mechanical launch device is not available then the Jury will control a "gravity start" in which each sled is taken to a fixed point near the start of the track and then released to begin the run. Depending on track characteristics, the Jury has the right to determine the start location for the race.

For Para Bobsleigh Push the athlete must take a minimum of three steps on the ice pushing the sled before loading into the monobob.

Article 10.6.13 – Pilot Sleds

Before Para Bobsleigh races either 2-man bobsleighs or monobobs may be used as pilot sleds.

Article 10.7 – Parc fermé

A Parc Fermé should be implemented and adapted to the specific conditions of the respective track.

The Parc Fermé will open 75 minutes before the beginning of the race to allow athletes to prepare runners and sleds. The Parc Fermé closes 45 minutes before racing and all preparation work must stop. Only athletes are allowed to work on the sled and runners in the Parc Fermé except that the IBSF mechanics can assist in sled preparation when required upon the approval of the Jury.

Between heats, sanding of runners by athletes will only be permitted in the event of damage to the runner upon approval of the Jury.

After the first heat of the following group in the race, athletes who share sleds will be permitted to polish

their runners for 10 minutes.

Article 10.8.2 – Runners

The use of any means of propulsion is prohibited except for Para Bobsleigh (PB) as described in Article 10.6.8.

Article 10.9 – Technical Inspections

For Para Bobsleigh the sleds and runners are owned and controlled by IBSF and are not subject to additional technical inspections during the race.

Article 10.11 – Measurement of Runner Temperatures

For Para Bobsleigh the runner temperatures are checked in the Parc fermé prior to the start of the race.

Article 10.14 – Weight

For Para Bobsleigh (PB) the maximum weight of athlete plus additional athlete ballast is 100 Kg. For Para Bobsleigh Push the maximum weight of athlete plus additional athlete ballast is 110 Kg.

After the Parc Fermé is closed and before the start of the first heat, the Jury will select 3 sleds at random and confirm that the athlete ballast weight is correct.

All athletes will be weighed outside of their sleds after the first heat. This weight plus the athlete ballast must not exceed the limits specified above. Three athletes chosen at random by the Jury will be weighed again after the second heat of racing.

Article 11.1 – Ranking List of the Race Series

Para Bobsleigh Ranking lists are added to the list of race series for which series rankings and awards are applicable.

Article 11.2 – IBSF Ranking Lists

Ranking lists for Para Bobsleigh World Cup will be treated the same as for Bobsleigh WC series races and will use the same Points Table in 11.3.

Article 12 – Bobsleigh Constructions with Drawings

These entire articles are not applicable. Para Bobsleigh competitions will use IBSF-owned and controlled Monobobs. For a given competition all of the Monobobs used will be from the same manufacturer and essentially identical to each other in construction and specification.