

June 12, 2019

IWRF Member Nations
Via email

Amendments to the International Rules for the Sport of Wheelchair Rugby

On the recommendation of the IWRF Technical Committee, the IWRF Board of Directors has approved amendments to Article 31 of the *International Rules for the Sport of Wheelchair Rugby*.

These changes clarify and update the rules regarding ball holders and include photo diagrams demonstrating legal and illegal ball holders. All changes have been reviewed by the Equipment Subcommittee and the IWRF Athletes Council. A copy of the changes and the new images is attached to this email.

In addition, minor edits have been made to correct a typographical error in Article 107 regarding the interval between regulation and over-time, and to correct the layout of team benches and penalty boxes in Annex A.

These changes will take effect from June 15, 2019. The Technical Committee will publish an updated Wheelchair Check Form to referees that incorporates these changes.

The new version of the Rules is available for download at the IWRF web site at www.iwrf.com.

If you have any questions regarding these amendments please contact Darren Roberts, Chair of the IWRF Technical Committee, at droboterts@iwrf.com.


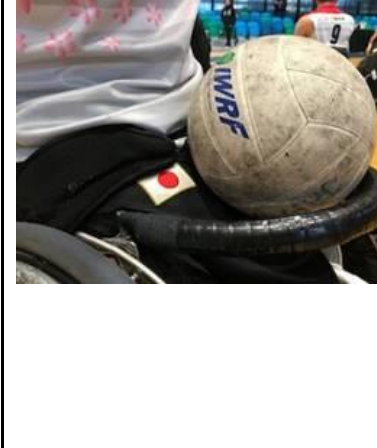

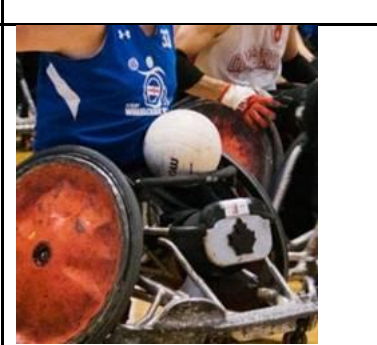




Best regards,



Eron Main
Chief Executive Officer
IWRF

Amendment to the International Rules for the Sport of Wheelchair Rugby – effective June 15, 2019

Current Text	Revised Text
<p>Article 31 – Comfort and Safety</p> <p>(Paragraphs a. to i. – No change)</p> <p>j. Players may use additional devices to support the ball. This support must be even with or higher than the seat frame. No part of the ball can rest within the seat frame. Devices used to secure the ball must ensure that 75% of the ball is available to be played and the device only makes contact within the bottom 25% of the ball. Note: Percentage refers to the diameter of the ball.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Any material used in the construction of the device to support the ball must be a minimum diameter of 1.9 cm and must be well padded where contact with another player may occur. ii. The ball holder must be rigid, fixed to the chair and even with or higher than the seat of the frame. iii. When a ball is placed in the ball holder no part of the ball can rest within the seat frame. iv. If a ball holder is a closed shape in the horizontal plane then the longest allowable distance across the ball holder is 14cm (inside measurement) 	<p>Article 31 – Comfort and Safety</p> <p>(Paragraphs a. to i. – No change)</p> <p>j. A player may use an additional device to support the ball. The support device, or ball holder, must make contact with no more than the bottom 25% of the ball. The ball holder must ensure that 75% of the ball is visible to be played. Note: Percentage refers to the diameter of the ball.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. When a ball holder is fitted to a chair it must be rigid and made from materials measuring no less than 19mm in diameter. ii. The ball holder may be permanently mounted to the chair or fixed to the frame with brackets that allow the device to be removable or adjusted. iii. The primary function of the ball holder must be to support the ball. When the ball is placed in the device, and the athlete is in a neutral position, the ball must rest against the device. The ball holder must partially support the ball to remain on the lap. iv. No part of the ball can rest within the frame. v. 75% of the ball must be visible above the height of the ball holder. vi. The ball holder must not create a mechanical advantage (i.e. it must be free of adhesive, cannot be spring loaded or allow the ball to be pressure fit within the device). vii. The device must be well padded. viii. If the ball holder is a closed shape, it must measure 14cm or less between the widest 2 points (inside measurement - including padding).

	<p>Illegal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The device is not supporting the ball 2) The device covers more than 50% of the ball 		<p>Legal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The ball is supported by the device 2) The ball holder is well padded 3) It is rigid as well as removable (spares were checked and are also legal)
	<p>Illegal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The device is not supporting the ball 2) The device covers more than 50% of the ball 		<p>Legal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The device is supporting the ball 2) 75% of the ball is available to be played
	<p>Illegal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The ball is inside the frame 		<p>Legal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The device is supporting the ball 2) The ball is outside the frame
	<p>Illegal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Inside measure is greater than 14cm 2) The ball can be pressure fit to the device. 		<p>Legal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The measurement between the two closest points is less than 14cm 2) 75% of the ball is available to be played 3) The device is supporting the ball