Drivers with Disabilities - Guidance 2025 / 2026



Introduction

Indoor Carriage Driving ("ICD") endorses the principle of sports equality and will strive to ensure that everyone who wishes to be involved in indoor carriage driving has a genuine and equal opportunity to participate to the full extent of their own ambitions and abilities.

Purpose

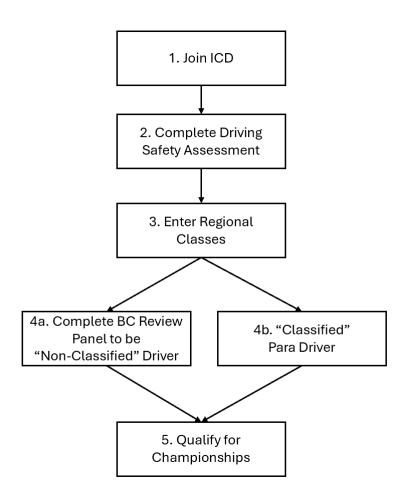
The purpose of this guidance is to provide information for ICD Regional Organisers, Drivers with Disabilities and their supporters to participate in ICD events including the ICD Championships.

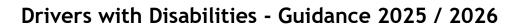
As a British Carriagedriving ("BC") Affiliated Club, ICD supports the BC Protocol for Drivers with Disabilities, which can be found on the BC website along with other useful information - BC website - Para Equestrian Driving

Drivers with Disabilities are able to enter any Championship qualifying class (e.g. Novice Pony, Open Horse), however if they opt to enter the Drivers with Disabilities class at the ICD Championships, they may not enter any other class at the Championships.

How to compete in the ICD Drivers with Disabilities Class

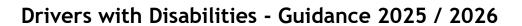
The flow chart with the table below explains the pathway to qualifying for the ICD Championships







No.	Action	Comments
1	Join ICD	ICD Membership is required to qualify for the Championship. It also provides insurance for driver and backsteppers
		For drivers not intending to qualify for the championships, they can enter the club class (if the Region has the class). The driver must have suitable insurance for driving timed events (e.g. BHS & BDS membership is not eligible)
2	Complete Driving Safety Assessment	The "Introductory Safety & Competence Assessment for Clubs - Singles" is required for all BC Affiliated club members and should be completed before the first event, whether an ICD member or not.
		The assessment should be completed with the same turn out (horse, carriage, harness & backsteppers) that will be used for the first events attended. ICD recommend that this should be a minimum of 3 events, ideally the whole season.
		BC Website - Introductory Safety & Competence Assessment for Clubs - Singles
3	Enter Regional Classes	Enter the Driver with Disability class online or through the Regional Organiser (see below for classes)
		Regional Events will often combine Championship classes due to entries, but results will be recorded against the correct Championship class league.
		To qualify for the Championships, Drivers with Disabilities need to enter a minimum of 3 events over the season. However, unlike the other Championship classes, these can be at any region.
		For drivers not intending to qualify for the championships, they can enter the club class (if the Region has the class) or enter HC.
		The ICD Rulebook 2025/2026 onwards has provision for Drivers with Disabilities including the approved method for using a second set of reins.
		ICD Events - <u>ICD Events</u>
4		To ensure fairness, any Driver with Disabilities that wants to qualify for the Championships must either go through the BC Protocol (for "Non-Classified" drivers) or the Para driver "Classification"
		The terms "Para Driver" and "Classified" have a distinct meaning within the BC Protocol and only apply to those drivers who have been assessed and classified by BE National or FEI International assessors. Specific rules concerning classification can be found on the British Equestrian (BE) and FEI websites.
		"Non-classified" Drivers are any other drivers who has been assessed and approved under the BC protocol. They may include drivers waiting to be classified as a Para Driver, drivers whose condition is not eligible for





		classification or who do not wish to be considered for Para Driver classification and drivers who have a temporary disability. NOTE: Compensating Aids and Other Reasonable Adjustments must be communicated clearly to the Regional or Championship Organiser at least 5 days ahead of the event. This gives time for the judges and other officials
		to be correctly prepared.
4a	Complete BC Review Panel to become a "Non-Classified" Driver	The British Carriagedriving (BC) Protocol for Drivers with Disabilities Drivers with Disabilities who wish to qualify for the ICD Championships, must apply to BC using the Application Form which can be found on the BC website - BC DwD Application Form
		The process will record the Compensating aids or Other Reasonable Adjustments. There is no charge to ICD Members to go through the protocol.
		The ICD Secretary and the Regional Organiser(s) where the driver plans to compete should be informed once the assessment has been completed. The driver will then be recorded as eligible for qualifying for the ICD Championships.
4b	"Classified" Para Driver	Drivers who have been assessed and classified by BE National or FEI International assessors. Specific rules concerning classification can be found on the BE and FEI websites.
		The ICD Secretary and the Regional Organisers should be informed once the assessment has been completed. The driver will then be recorded as eligible for qualifying for the ICD Championships.
5	Qualify for Championships	Ideally step 4 (a or b) has been completed at the start of the season (September / October), however Drivers that complete step 4 mid-season are still eligible for the Championships providing they have met the criteria. Qualification Criteria
		ICD MemberAttended at least 3 events (any region)
		A "Non-Classified" or "Classified" Driver
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		The ICD Committee reserves the right to invite notable drivers to enter the Championships if they have not qualified in their own right.

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Classes

There will be 2 Championships Classes - Novice and Open

Novice Drivers

- New drivers to competition
- Not competed at Regional or National Outdoor events (2 or 3 day competitions)
- Not place 1st or 2nd at RDA National Driving competitions

Open Drivers

- Competed at Regional or National Outdoor events (2 or 3 day competitions)
- Competed at International Outdoor competitions
- Competed at Intermediate or Open at ICD events
- Placed 1st or 2nd at RDA National Driving competitions

Progression

Unlike the other Championship classes, Drivers with Disabilities are not automatically moved to the next class if they are placed at the Championships or top of their regional league. Instead, there will be a discussion between the ICD Committee, Regional Organiser and the Driver to agree whether or not the driver will move up a class.

However, a request can be made to the ICD Committee to move into the next class voluntarily.

Questions

Any questions on this guidance should be directed to the ICD Committee, typically through the ICD Secretary.

For questions generally around Para Driving / Drivers with Disabilities, please contact BC's Drivers with Disabilities Committee.