



UNITED STATES WHEELCHAIR RUGBY ASSOCIATION

Rule Difference USWRA vs WWR

These differences are effective later of 9/1/2025 or the start of the USWRA 2025-2026 8-point season

Article 21. Uniform

Additional wording added to the first paragraph – The first paragraph now reads:

On each team, all uniform tops must be of the same color and shade. Anything worn under the uniform top that is visible must be of the same color and shade as the dominant color of the uniform top. In the event a dominant color of the uniform is not worn a **solid white can be substituted for home jerseys or solid black can be substituted for away jerseys.**

In addition, the following wording was added previously - A sleeveless undershirt must be the similar hue of jersey being worn OR it may be black color (away team) or white color (home team)

Article 34. Players

Instead of a maximum of 12 players, the USWRA has a maximum of 15 players

Article 35. Classification

The sum of the classification points of the team's players on the court may total 8.0 or less. However:

- a. For each female player classified 0.5 to 1.5, a team will be allowed an extra 0.5 points over and above 8.0 points for the team on the court. For each female player classified 2.0 to 3.5 on the court a team will be allowed an extra 1.0 points over and above the 8.0 points for the team on the court.



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- b. For each player below age 16, and each player age 45-54, a team will be allowed an extra 0.5 points over and above the 8.0 points for the team on the court.
- c. For each player age 55-64, a team will be allowed an extra 1.0 points over and above the 8.0 points for the team on the court
- d. For each player age 65+, a team will be allowed an extra 1.5 points over and above the 8.0 points for the team on the court.

The number of players whose age adjustment is used to determine the maximum number of points that are allowed for a team is limited to two (2).

No age allowance will be given to any player that is a current or former member (within the last year) of their international team (USA or any country). Member of a national team will be defined as an individual that participates on a Paralympic or World Championship team.

Article 36. Rosters

For postseason only - Each player will be required to display their classification on the back of their chair. The display will be white with black ink, letters being ≥ 5 inches tall, and adhered to the chair at or below the back bar. Black circles/dots (≥ 1 inch in diameter) will be placed to the right of the class number for bonuses (For example: A 45-year-old female player with a 1.5 classification will display "1.5 F ●"). The location and safety of the display will be assessed by officials at chair check. Failure to display classification will result in the player not being allowed to enter the game. If a player displays an incorrect classification or bonus, identified by the opposing team, table official, Game Commissioner or on-court official, a technical foul will be assessed. The player will sit outside of the penalty box and a substitute player will be placed in the box to serve the penalty. Once the penalty has been served, the substitute may reenter the game, and the offending player will return to his/her bench by wheeling outside of the court. The card will be corrected and attached to the chair. The player may ask the official to approve the correction at the next dead ball. Once approved, the player may return to the game.



Article 52. Forty Second Clock Operations

The 40 second clock will not be reset to 40 seconds for these calls:

- a. Inadvertent whistle
- b. Officials time (ball on the court, fallen player)
- c. Defensive equipment

If the 40 second clock is under 15 seconds, it will be reset to 15.

Article 56. Time Outs

- a. A coach who is also a player on the court is now allowed to call a time out while playing. The time out will be administered at the next dead ball.
- b. Coaches on the bench will be allowed to request a time out directly from an official instead of requiring them to go to the table.

Article 90. Contact Before the Whistle Foul

Contact before the whistle foul has been eliminated. Any legal contact is now allowed before the whistle. Fouls that will continue to be called are pushing, flagrant foul, spinning, etc...

Article 102. Excessive Points Technical Foul

The opposing coach is to notify game officials during a dead ball timeout if they suspect their opponent has violated the above gameplay rules.

- a. If a team is found to be in violation of the gameplay rules above, technical foul shall be charged to the bench. The coach will select a player from the line up on court to serve the technical foul. When the player is identified, a substitution to correct the error can then be made.
- b. If a team has a 2nd violation, they are subject to game forfeiture.
- c. If the team is found to not be in violation, a technical foul shall be charged to the coach who made the request.



Additional rules

Hopping

If a player “hops” out of a double team and ends up on the floor, there will be no penalty on either defender attempting to hold the trap. Additionally, if this happens, it will result in a turnover (if hopping player’s team is on offense and possesses the ball) OR it will result in a thirty (30) second, try-release penalty (if hopping player’s team is on defense and not in possession of the ball).

Definition of hopping player – When a player that is clearly trapped between two (2) or more opposing players attempts to get free by lifting one or more of his wheels/front castors off the floor over the opposing players’ wheelchair.

Hopping foul – When a player in the process of “Hopping” falls to the floor. The player is assessed a common foul called “Hopping”. The sanction is the same as any common foul, if the player’s team is on offense – loss of possession and if the player’s team is on defense – thirty (30) second, try-release penalty.