

## Athlete Ambassadors:

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To: All INAS Member Organisations

Cc: All INAS Committees

## Dear INAS Members

In 2017, INAS introduced additional eligibility groups into competition on a trial basis; II2 for athletes with more significant impairment and II3 for athletes with high functioning autism.

Since its introduction, the II2 group has been restricted to athletes with Down syndrome until such time that a wider eligibility criteria and assessment tool is developed. It is envisaged that a revised II2 criteria 'for athletes with more severe and/or multiple impairment' will be introduced in early 2020 subject to successful research and testing over the coming year.

The research has already shown however that, within the II2 group, there is a considerable performance difference between athletes with different forms of Down syndrome, in particular where athletes with Mosaic Down syndrome have a significant competitive advantage over other athletes. After analysis of competition results since late 2017 and in response to numerous requests from the INAS membership, the Eligibility Committee have agreed an amendment to the II2 criteria and – from 1st January 2019 - athletes with the Mosaic form of Down syndrome will compete in the II1 category.

We believe this creates fairer competition but will continue to review and refine our policy as more data becomes available. The new rule is effective for all competition featuring the II2 group from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

Athletes with Mosaic Down syndrome who are currently registered in II2 will automatically be moved to the II1 group where evidence has already been provided in respect of the II1 criteria. Athletes who have not provided such evidence will be invited to apply for the II1 category (any INAS registration fee will be waived).

If you have any questions about this policy amendment this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Prof. Jan Burns MBE

Chair INAS Eligibility Committee