



Blind and Visually Impaired (B & VI)

Athletes

Blind and visually impaired cyclists compete on the rear of tandem bicycles with a sighted pilot, in one of **two Divisions**: men and women. Events include road races and time trials on the road and individual time trials of 1000m and 4000m along with matched sprints (men only) on the velodrome (a banked cycling track).

Blind and Visually Impaired (B & VI) Class profiles

From no light perception in either eye up to visual acuity of 6/60 [or 20/200] and/or visual field of less than 20 degrees. This minimum equates to IBSA class B3. Classification is assessed in both eyes with the best correction (i.e. all athletes who use contact or corrective lenses must wear them for classification, whether they intend to wear them in competition or not).

Eligible for Paralympic Cycling competitions are athletes with a functional class profile as defined for each class under these rules. All athletes, including tandem pilots, wishing to compete must hold a valid racing license issued by USA Cycling (www.usacycling.org) or a Local Association. To compete internationally athletes must hold a valid international racing license from their UCI recognized national cycling federation. Athletes that have not been classified may compete domestically in sanctioned events but are not eligible for selection to U.S. Paralympics Cycling teams until an official classification has taken place.

Tandem pilots

When selecting a pilot ensure that the cyclist is proficient in the skills necessary to maneuver a bicycle in a safe fashion. Your local cycling club is a good place for recruitment of a suitable pilot (www.usacycling.org/clubs/).

When competing in Paralympic cycling specific events, professional cyclists who are members of a UCI registered team may not take part as a tandem pilot. Cyclists who were members of a UCI Pro Team or UCI Professional Continental Team must respect a waiting period of 36 months after their contract expires before taking part as a tandem pilot. This waiting period is reduced to 24 months for cyclists who were members of one of the other UCI teams described at article 1.1.041 of the UCI rules.

Men and women cyclists over 18 years of age, may race as tandem pilots, provided they have not been selected by their national federation in one of the following events (all disciplines included):

- UCI World Championships and Olympic Games - 36 months preceding the Paralympic cycling event UCI World Cup, Regional Games and Championships 24 months before the Paralympic cycling event.

Each blind or visually impaired athlete is allowed a maximum of one pilot for any Paralympic cycling competition.

2009 U.S. Paralympics Tandem Cycling Standards

- National Standards are calculated using the combined average of 3rd place times from the 2004 Paralympic Games, 2005 European Championships, 2006 and 2007 World Championships, and the 2008 Paralympic Games.

- Talent Pool Standards are calculated using the combined average of 6th place times from the 2004 Paralympic Games, 2005 European Championships, 2006 and 2007 World Championships, and the 2008 Paralympic Games. Standards marked * have been calculated using 105% of the National Standards due to low athlete participation.
- Emerging Standards are calculated using 115% of the National Standards.
- Military Standards are calculated using 120% of the National Standards.
- Road Standards reflect average time per kilometer ridden during a Time Trial.

Road Events	Class	2009 National Team Standards	2009 Talent Pool Standards	2009 Emerging Standards -115%	2009 Military Standards -120%
Tandem TT Women	B 1-3	01:30.3	01:33.1	01:43.8	01:48.4
Tandem TT Men	B 1-3	01:18.5	01:19.5	01:30.3	01:34.2

Track Events	Class	2009 National Team Standards	2009 Talent Pool Standards	2009 Emerging Standards -115%	2009 Military Standards -120%
Tandem 3km Pursuit Women	B 1-3	03:43.3	03:52.9	4:16.78	04:27.9
Tandem 4km Pursuit Men	B 1-3	04:28.1	04:34.9	05:08.4	05:21.8
Tandem Kilo TT Women	B 1-3	01:12.5	1;15.53	01:23.4	01:27.0
Tandem Kilo TT Men	B 1-3	01:04.7	01:05.8	01:14.4	01:17.6
Tandem 200m TT Men	B 1-3	10.83	11.33	12.46	12.99