



**NATIONAL
WHEELCHAIR
BASKETBALL
ASSOCIATION**

Amendment: Identification of Military/Veteran conditions for membership
Section: Section 5.1: MEMBERSHIP – Types of Membership
Proposed by: Jess Markt – Denver Lady Rolling Nuggets

Summary of Proposed Change

This amendment will identify conditions for the inclusion of Active Duty Service Members and Veterans with disabilities as athletes in the NWBA.

Current Bylaw:

ARTICLE FIVE: Membership
Section 5.1: Types of Membership

There shall be two types of NWBA membership:

A. Active Members (Voting)

Any group of individuals organized as a team or club for the purpose of playing wheelchair basketball, which accepts and observes the principles of, and functions in accordance with, the Bylaws of the NWBA, is eligible for active membership.

1. As a condition of membership, active members and their players and staff agree to establish and maintain high standards of eligibility, ethical conduct, and fair play. In particular:

- a. All members will adhere to the NWBA Code of Conduct and the NWBA Code of Ethics.
- b. All players will be persons with physical disabilities resulting in at least some functional limitations of the lower extremities, who meet the NWBA player eligibility rules and policies.

Proposed Bylaw

ARTICLE FIVE: Membership
Section 5.1: Types of Membership

1. As a condition of membership, active members and their players and staff agree to establish and maintain high standards of eligibility, ethical conduct, and fair play. In particular:

b. All players will be persons with physical disabilities resulting in at least some functional limitations of the lower extremities, who meet the NWBA player eligibility rules and policies.

c. The only exception to Section 5.1A1.b (types of membership) will be players who are current active duty military service members or veterans of the Armed Forces recognized by the Department of Defense or the Department of Veteran Affairs as a person with a traumatic brain injury (TBI) or Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) who play within the current NWBA player classification rules and policies.



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Rationale for change

This allows veterans and active duty service members who are interested in playing wheelchair basketball to do so under our current classification rules. Most players will end up with a classification of 4.5, but it will allow them to seek out the NWBA team in their community and continue to play the game they have been introduced to during their rehabilitation.

This also specifically limits the membership change to adults with current or past military service who wish to play on adult NWBA teams.