



Austin Digby

Evaluating MASH Methods

After the London 2012 Paralympic Games, the World Para Athletics (WPA) implemented rules that would require a maximum allowable standing height (MASH) for each athlete to be determined via specific anatomical measurements. This MASH estimates the athletes standing height as if they had legs. During competition, athletes must measure under their MASH. Multiple formulas are used to calculate the MASH with each producing differing results. The purpose of this study is to determine which formula is most valid. Thirty able-bodied subjects will have their body limbs and standing height measured according to WPA guidelines. Calculations from each formula will be used to compare results with actual measured standing height. This research will help determine which method to use so para athletes can spend less money on prosthetic changes, have less variable height injuries, and compete against able bodied athletes. Data were not available at the time of this writing.