



IBTA GUIDELINES FOR EYESHADES

Eyeshades refer to blindfolds, masks or goggles used during IBTA sanctioned competition. Samples of Paralympic approved eyeshades are provided at the end of this document.

Participation Requirements

Per section 2.3 of the IBTA Classification Rule And Procedures, B1 players will play with blindfolds, but other classes cannot compete in the B1 sport class, even if they wear a blindfold.

Per section 5 of the IBTA Classification Rule And Procedures, players competing in the B1 sport class are required to wear a blindfold as mentioned in section 2.3. Only proper eyeshades providing ample cover around the eyes, support and light obstruction will be accepted. Makeshift or non-sport specific blindfolds will not be accepted (Example: Sleeping masks). Similarly, damaged beyond functionality blindfolds (allowing the player to peek through or under) will also be rejected. Tempered blindfolds will be ground for disqualification.

In accordance to Rule 10 of the IBTA Technical Manual, Paralympic approved eyeshades are accepted (see samples on page 3). A player will be allowed to lift and remove their eyeshades to clean their face when changing sides.

Rule 10: Blindfold

- B1 players must wear a standard Paralympic approved blindfold.
- The blindfold may be removed only one time per game and during pauses in between games.
- Players should signal to the umpire if they need to remove the blindfold in any way.

Equipment Requirements

1. Eyeshades must be opaque and shut out all light and vision.
2. Eyeshades must provide excellent protection of the player's eyes, forehead and nasal root (see samples on page 3).
3. Eyeshades must be comfortable and made with breathable and absorbent material with padding on the front.
4. Eyeshades should be affordable to make the product accessible to all players.



Patching and Monitoring Eyeshades

In addition to the required equipment, in order to promote fairness and protect the eyes, B1 players shall use eye patches in both eyes per IBSA rules during the 2023 IBSA World Games in Birmingham to align with other IBSA sports and as a trial during the IBTA World Championships in Poland.

The IBTA Technical Supervisor shall monitor eyeshades during all IBTA sanctioned tournaments. The IBSA Technical Delegate shall also monitor eyeshades during the tennis event at the IBSA World Games if necessary.

Per the IBSA Back To Competition Sport Guidelines, officials have to sanitize hands before and immediately after the eyeshades check procedure with each player. Extra time may be required for this and should be taken into consideration.

Before a B1 match starts, umpires must do a full eyeshade check for both players. Before the warm-up, please follow these instructions to check both players' eyeshades:

- 1) Take eyeshades from each player and look into them towards the light to ensure you cannot see anything.
- 2) Ensure the eyeshades are not damaged.
- 3) Ensure player is wearing eye patches underneath their eyeshades.
- 4) Make sure the player is looking away from the court.
- 5) Ask the player to put their shades on and ensure they are on their face straight and naturally. Then ask the player to look up and ensure they cannot see a gap that the player could potentially see through.
- 6) Make sure the eyeshades fully cover the players' eyes and leave no pockets of light around the nose area.

A volunteer should then guide the player to the court (if needed). If you have any concerns or wish to check anything, please call the LTA Tournament Referee or the IBTA Technical Supervisor to court.



IBTA

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 <p>TARGE</p>	
 <p>HANDI LIFE SPORT</p>	



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