Making Athletic Fields More Inclusive
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ASBA 2019 Technical Meeting & Trade Show
Orlando, Florida | Rosen Shingle Creek
Topics

• Terminology
• Demographics
• Accessibility
• Proper Use of Space
• Traditional Spaces for Non-Traditional Uses
• Organizations
Terminology
What are adaptive sports?

• **Adaptive sports** are competitive or recreational sports for people with disabilities.
  • They allow modifications necessary for people with disabilities to participate
  • Many **sports** use a classification system that puts athletes with physical challenges on an even playing field with each other
What are adaptive sports?

• Program Recreation
• University
• Paralympic
### What are Adaptive Sports

- Basketball
- Curling
- Rugby
- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Beep ball
- Softball
What is a spectrum?

• A disability rarely follow a clear diagnosis
• A condition or event can effect individuals very differently making it very difficult to supply a one stop shop option
• Our best approach to try and create a solution which helps the greatest majority
Cerebral Palsy is a neurological disorder it can effect muscle tone, spasticity, and in some instances cognitive ability.
This is also an athlete with CP
Notice different abilities and vast difference in facility needs.
Demographics
People with Disabilities Living in the Community as a Percentage of the US Population, by State, 2016

- 9.9% to 11.6%
- 11.7% to 13.1%
- 13.2% to 14.5%
- 14.6% to 20.1%
Age Distribution of Disability in the US Population, 2016

- Under 5 years: 99.3% without disability, 0.7% with disability
- Ages 5-17: 94.4% without disability, 5.6% with disability
- Ages 18-64: 89.4% without disability, 10.6% with disability
- Ages 65 and over: 35.2% with disability, 64.8% without disability
12.8%
Percentage of People in Society with a Disability

50%
Largest Demographic: People Aged 18-64
People with **Ambulatory Disability**, by Age Group 2016

People with **Cognitive** Disability, by Age Group, 2016

Key Points

Ambulatory Disabilities

- Even excluding elders (which we probably shouldn’t) there are roughly 10 times the number of adults with Ambulatory disabilities than children!
- They don’t group out of the challenges, but unfortunately the public interest in them does.
- Sometimes, compromised or weak immune systems

Cognitive Disabilities

- A much larger population is that of children with cognitive disabilities, but how do we adapt facilities to meet their needs?
Golf
## Focus Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Applications/Use</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimal Activities for people aged 18-30</td>
<td>As people age, requirements change</td>
<td>Requirements Change</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Accessibility
Standard ADA Requirements

- Access
- Parking
- Mobility through a facility
- Common issues areas
Extra Considerations

- Larger Gates
- Hard Surface for Access
- Bathroom/Locker Room Access
- Hand Rails
Widening Access for Equipment
Widening Access for Equipment

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Venues

Must Have

• Parking
• Accesses

Keep in mind ideal situations

• How to use facility
• Suitable surface for sport
Adaptive Sports Venues

• Areas of activity
• Surfaces
• Inclusive location of the space in the facility
• Building materials: ideal and dangerous
Obstacles:
Know your user

- Surface conducive to sport or application
- Heat issues outdoor cooling areas
- Noise quite space
Limited use to inclusive
Baseball Field
Need for Added Space
Shoe on the other foot
Traditional Spaces for Non-Traditional Uses
Track – Blind Runner
Track – Rookies
Track
Proper Use of Space
Organizations
Climbing
Organizations

Inclusive Recreation Resource Center  www.Inclusiverec.org
Disabled Sports USA  www.disabledsportsusa.org
International Paralympic Committee (IPC)  https://www.paralympic.org/united-states-america
Special Olympics  www.specialolympics.org