



Sports ETA

SPORTS EVENTS & TOURISM ASSOCIATION



Disability Awareness & Sport Tourism:

A stylized illustration of a stadium at night, rendered in shades of blue. The stadium is filled with a crowd of spectators. Several large floodlights are visible, some of which are illuminated, casting a glow. Small flags are attached to the stadium's structure.

Disability Awareness –
Laying the Groundwork



Disability Awareness Laying the Groundwork

Introduction:

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Defining Disability

World Health Organization – Disability

- Umbrella term covering impairments, activity limitations, and participant restrictions
 - 1. Impairment** = Concerns body structure or function
 - Spinal cord injury
 - Blindness
 - Autism
 - 2. Activity limitation** = difficulty encountered by an individual in executing a task or action
 - Walking
 - Seeing
 - Processing information
 - 3. Participation Restriction** = “problem” experienced by an individual and their involvement in life situations
 - Climbing a ladder
 - Reading a written book
 - Comprehending detailed directions
 - **GOAL: MINIMIZE RESTRICTION TO ALLOW FOR INVOLVEMENT IN LIFE, COMMUNITY**



Medical vs Social Model of Disability

Medical Model

- Disabled because of medical condition, impairment, or difference in need of treatment
- Disabled need “fixing” – what is “wrong” with the individual
- Disability is a medical problem
- Creates low expectations, decreased independence, choice and control
- Does not involve one’s personal experience of disability



Medical vs Social Model of Disability

Social Model

- Disabled because of societal barriers
 - Physical
 - Social/Attitudinal
 - Institutional
 - Communication
- The more society is accessible with less barriers, disability IS no longer the “issue” – equal playing field
- Disability is neither good or bad, it’s just part of our personal experience
- Removing barriers creates equality, offering disabled more access, independence, choice and control – Creating opportunities to **PARTICIPATE IN LIFE**



Defining Disability

Medical vs Social Model of Disability

Social Model

“We are more disabled by the society in which we live than by our bodies or diagnoses”

- Stella Young, Australian Disability Advocate, Comedian



Diversity of Disability

Disability is different and unique for everyone (social model of disability – personal experience)

- 61 million Americans have a disability
- Disability encompasses 15-20% of the population
 - Physical disabilities
 - Invisible disabilities (TBI, epilepsy, diabetes)
 - Anxiety disorders, depression,
 - Sensory disabilities
 - Intellectual disabilities
 - Longhaul COVID – disability numbers are increasing



Diversity of Disability

- Disability touches and intersects with:
 - Every community
 - Every race and ethnicity
 - Every religion
 - All genders
 - All ages
 - All sexual identities
- Disability doesn't discriminate
- Disability is the minority group that anyone can become a part of at any time in life



Diversity of Disability

Disability is different and unique for everyone (social model of disability – personal experience)

- Disability Onset
 - Since birth, congenital (17%)
 - Acquired later in life (83%)
- Type of Disability
 - Spinal Cord Injury
 - Congenital (dwarfism, spina bifida)
 - Traumatic Brain Injury
 - Amputee/limb loss (congenital or acquired)
 - Vision Impairment (congenital or acquired)
 - Autism/Asperger's (Sensory)
- Injury or Illness
 - Car/bike accident
 - Combat injury
 - Cancer, MS



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