Considerations for Engineering Projects

Engineering programs at colleges and universities are reaching out to local adaptive programs to contribute their expertise to collaborate on design and production of adaptive equipment. These projects are a great opportunity to open new doors and advance adaptive sports. That being said, there are several considerations that should be addressed prior to proceeding with potential projects.

Vet the Project/Program

- What is the program’s area of expertise?
- What is the goal of the project?
- Does the goal of the project align with your goals/mission or would participation be mission creep?
- What is the return on investment for your program?

What is the nature of the relationship?

- Define what each entity is responsible for. Who is doing what?
- What is expected of your group? Expertise? Time? Financial commitment?

What is the end goal?

- Will the project create a concept of a product or the actual product for use within your program?
- Is the product specific to one athlete/program or does it have broader implications within adaptive sports?
- Is the final product sustainable? Is there a mechanism in place for reproduction?

Liability Considerations

- Does the academic program have insurance/coverage in place for products they manufacture?
- What does your insurance coverage say about manufacturing products for use within your program?
- Is additional coverage required? Who should hold any additional coverage?

If your member organization is interested in learning more about potential opportunities to work with engineering programs, please contact Kyleen Davis.