

2025 Move United Education Conference Agenda

Disability Inclusion: Catalyzing Change Through Sport

May 5-7, 2025

Pre-Conference Workshops May 2-5, 2025

Park City, Utah

Hosted by the National Ability Center

About:

This year's conference invites sport providers to gather over a common interest in ensuring athletes with disabilities have access to sport. Anticipating 400+ attendees at the event, discussion will center around improving access to sport and recreation for individuals with disabilities. The event will feature pre-conference workshops, 30-, 60- and 90-minute educational sessions and workshops, roundtable discussions, research poster displays, socials, an exhibitor hall, and more. Educational sessions will fall under one of the following tracks:

- Sport-Specific Instruction
- Non-Profit Management
 - Executive-Director/Organization Leadership sub-track
- Inclusion in Schools & Universities
- Intersections with Medical Professionals
- General

All attendees can follow a specific category track or choose their own adventure!

Location:

The 2025 conference will be locally hosted by the [National Ability Center](#). Sessions will primarily take place at the National Ability Center Campus, although some sessions will take place at either the host hotel or another off-site venue.

Conference Structure

May 3-5: Pre-Conference Workshops

- The first three days are comprised of single and multi-day workshops open to anyone looking to add a few days to the conference! Unlike the main conference, these workshops require sign-ups in advance. There will be a small fee associated with pre-conference workshop to support to cost of transportation and lunches.

May 5: Opening Reception, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

- For those not attending pre-conference workshops, Monday, May 5 will primarily be an arrival day. The event will kick off with an opening reception at the National Ability Center's McGrath Mountain Center, located within walking/rolling distance of downtown Park City.

May 6-7: Main Conference

- The main conference runs for two days and is made up of a variety of session styles ranging from networking events and poster display exhibits to round table discussions, and exhibitor hall, and more formal 30 minute "TED" style talks and 60- or 90-minute workshops.

You can find a details about each session below. These are organized by track category. Please note, this information is subject to change.

Session Offerings:**Saturday May 3rd****Pre-conference Workshops:**

Title: 3-Day BICP Adaptive Mountain Biking Level 1 Instructor Certification

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm, Day 1 of 3

Description: A professionally facilitated 3-day adaptive mountain biking instructor certification course. Upon completion of this Level

1 course, participants will be qualified to:

- Instruct individual or group mountain bike skills clinics in a professional, systematic, and safe manner
- Assess the level of each rider in their group through a pre-ride assessment
- Assess and diagnose common errors within each rider's fundamental skills
- Prepare and implement teaching plans, progressions, and goal planning for future skills clinics
- Make responsible choices when instructing mountain bike skills clinics

Learning Objectives:

Prepare and implement teaching plans, progressions and goal - planning.

- Conduct thorough assessments of adaptive riders fundamental skills.

- Make safe and responsible choices when instructing adaptive mountain biking skills clinics.

Facilitator(s): TBD

Venue: TBD

Registration Fee: \$700/person **Please note that that instructors who teach disabled

Veterans at no cost will be eligible to register at not cost. If this applies to you, please enter discount code "AMTB25" at registration check-out to redeem this complimentary registration.

Title: Dare2tri Train2Coach Camp

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm, Day 1 of 3

Description: This multi day event will train adaptive sports programmers/professionals from across the country, many of whose organizations have swim, bike and/or run as part of their program offerings already, on how they can incorporate Multisport (i.e. duathlon, aquathlon, triathlon or any combination of) into their programs. It will engage more athletes into community based recreation and sport opportunities as well as growing the Multisport community across the country.

Dare2tri will host sessions in swimming, cycling, running/pushing and transition. We will also cover how to put together a camp, clinic or training session. We want to help you figure out what works best for each individual program and help you build and develop the model that will work best for your organization.

Dare2tri will showcase a variety of possibilities, while giving you the hands-on experience of working with athletes. Take what you learn back to your organization and get your athletes training to compete at the Move United Nationals Paratriathlon this July and beyond!

Facilitator:

Keri Serota – Dare2Tri, Co-Founder/Executive Director

Dan Tun – Dare2Tri, Co-Founder/Program Director

Chris Palmquist – Dare2Tri, Program Coordinator and USAT lead Paratriathlon Educator

Ryan Quilty – Dare2Tri, Program Manager

Learning Objectives:

- Adaptive sports programmers will return to their programs with the knowledge and ability to bring multisport to their community
- Attendees will walk away with tactical and practical skills for implementing a Multisport event
- Attendees will be confident in understanding what Multisport is and how it complements the programming they are already providing

Venue: Classroom, Pool, Parking Lot/Bike Path

Fee: \$40

Title: Adaptive and Inclusive Trainer Certificate Seminar

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm, Day 1 of 2

Description: An assessment-based certification course that provides a comprehensive education in adaptive fitness methodology, risk management, exercise adaptations, and whole health programming. Participants learn and practice procedures that will enable them to conduct safe and effective fitness training for a wide spectrum of people with

disabilities, while also providing an inclusive setting using universal design principles. Upon completion of the required coursework and passing the final certification exam, participants earn the title of Certified Adaptive & Inclusive Trainer (AIT).

Learning Objectives:

- Apply safe and effective adaptive and inclusive fitness training principles and methods.
- Communicate effectively using multiple methods and appropriate disability terminology and adaptive fitness nomenclature.
- Identify common and individualized safety risks and implement sufficient risk mitigation policies and strategies to maximize trainee safety.

Facilitator(s): Alec Zirkenbach, Director at Adaptive Training Academy, Jenna Muri-Rosenthal, Seminar Staff at Adaptive Training Academy & Kevin Ogar, Seminar Staff at Adaptive Training Academy

Host Gym: TBD

Cost: \$999

VA/ATA Grant Application: [Here](#) Covers 100% of the course

Seminar Registration: [Here](#)

[More Information Here.](#)

**Please note, this event is hosted externally. Attendees will need to provide their own transportation. Please direct all questions to Alex Zirkenbach (alec@ata.fit).*

Sunday May 4th

Pre-conference Workshops:

Title: 3-Day BICP Adaptive Mountain Biking Level 1 Instructor Certification

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm, Day 2 of 3

Description: A professionally facilitated 3–day adaptive mountain biking instructor certification course. Upon completion of this Level

1 course, participants will be qualified to:

- Instruct individual or group mountain bike skills clinics in a professional, systematic, and safe manner
- Assess the level of each rider in their group through a pre-ride assessment
- Assess and diagnose common errors within each rider’s fundamental skills
- Prepare and implement teaching plans, progressions, and goal planning for future skills clinics
- Make responsible choices when instructing mountain bike skills clinics

Learning Objectives:

- Prepare and implement teaching plans, progressions and goal planning.
- Conduct thorough assessments of adaptive riders fundamental skills.

- Make safe and responsible choices when instructing adaptive mountain biking skills clinics.

Facilitator(s): TBD

Venue: TBD

Registration Fee: \$700/person **Please note that that instructors who teach disabled Veterans at no cost will be eligible to register at not cost. If this applies to you, please enter discount code "AMTB25" at registration check-out to redeem this complimentary registration.

Title: Dare2tri Train2Coach Camp

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm, Day 2 of 3

Description: This multi day event will train adaptive sports programmers/professionals from across the country, many of whose organizations have swim, bike and/or run as part of their program offerings already, on how they can incorporate Multisport (i.e. duathlon, aquathlon, triathlon or any combination of) into their programs. It will engage more athletes into community based recreation and sport opportunities as well as growing the Multisport community across the country.

Dare2tri will host sessions in swimming, cycling, running/pushing and transition. We will also cover how to put together a camp, clinic or training session. We want to help you figure out what works best for each individual program and help you build and develop the model that will work best for your organization.

Dare2tri will showcase a variety of possibilities, while giving you the hands-on experience of working with athletes. Take what you lean back to your organization and get your athletes training to compete at the Move United Nationals Paratriathlon this July and beyond!

Facilitator:

Keri Serota – Dare2Tri, Co-Founder/Executive Director

Dan Tun – Dare2Tri, Co-Founder/Program Director

Chris Palmquist – Dare2Tri, Program Coordinator and USAT lead Paratriathlon Educator

Ryan Quilty – Dare2Tri, Program Manager

Learning Objectives:

- Adaptive sports programmers will return back to their programs with the knowledge and ability to bring multisport to their community
- Attendees will walk away with tactical and practical skills for implementing a Multisport event
- Attendees will be confident in understanding what Multisport is and how it compliments the programming they are already providing

Venue: Classroom, Pool, Parking Lot/Bike Path

Fee: \$40

Title: USA Archery Level 2 Certification Practical Course

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm

Description: The USA Archery Level 2 Instructor Certification online course provides graduates the necessary tools to serve as the lead instructor for community and long-term archery programs such as Junior Olympic Archery Development (JOAD), Adult Archery and Collegiate Archery Program clubs, adaptive archery programs, and the Explore Archery Program. To successfully complete the requirements for this certification, students must successfully pass the USA Archery Level 2 Instructor Certification online course, including the online exam and register for and complete the “in-person” USA Archery Level 2 Instructor practical course.

The USA Archery Level 2 Instructor Certification online course includes the USA Archery Level 1 Instructor online certification course information and provides students with an introduction to the National Training System (NTS) Steps of Shooting for recurve and compound, equipment and accessory setup, athlete development and events. In addition to passing the course, instructors must have current U.S. Center for SafeSport training, current USA Archery Background Screen, and a current USA Archery Membership.

Learning Objectives:

- Archery Range Safety
- USA Archery Steps of Shooting
- USA Archery Programming and Adaptive Archery Resources

Facilitator(s):

USA Archery Representative

Venue: Archery Range

Fee: Online Level 2 Instructor Course Cost: \$50 (plus sales tax as applicable by state).

Students will complete online course prior to the in-person practical course.

USA Archery Membership: \$70

Background Screening: \$35

Title: Reaching New Heights: Creating Fun and Inclusive Adventure Experiences

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm, Day 1 of 2

Description: This two-day pre-conference workshop will use a challenge course and climbing wall format for creating and implementing inclusive adventure programming. This will include facility and program design and implementation, staff education, equipment adaptation and participant opportunities and choice. This workshop will include lectures, discussion and lots of participatory learning opportunities.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand universal mindset and invitational education as it pertains to adventure programming and inclusion.
- Utilize accessibility assessment tools to determine what is needed in designing a facility and programming for all.

- Practice with specialty equipment that may be needed to facilitate an inclusive program.

Facilitator(s):

Carla Hacker – Experiential Systems, Inc., Trainer/Universal Accessibility Specialist

Melanie Wills – Experiential Systems, Inc., Chief Operating Officer

Venue: Challenge course, climbing wall, classroom

Fee: \$40

Title: Adaptive Sports Product and Program Innovations for Athletes With Complex Physical Injuries, Illnesses, Or Conditions

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Description: Participants will learn and practice safe transfer techniques for the complex athlete. Participants will explore advanced safety protocols for the complex athlete. Participants will be introduced to the challenges of providing safe recreation experiences for the mechanically ventilated athlete.

Several athletes with complex disabilities (with and without mechanical ventilation) will be on-site to provide additional insight and to help with equipment and transfer demonstrations.

Participants will have an opportunity to sail on Jordanelle Reservoir using a joystick and breath interface.

Learning Objectives:

- Develop a deeper understanding of the unique needs of the athlete with a complex disability
- Describe 4 devices that can offer independence and performance for the complex athlete
- Develop skills in the safe and independent operation of an adaptive sailboat through both breath and joystick interfaces

Facilitator: Jeffrey Rosenbluth

Venue: Jordanelle Reservoir

Fee: \$20

Title: Adaptive and Inclusive Trainer Certificate Seminar

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm, Day 2 of 2

Description: An assessment-based certification course that provides a comprehensive education in adaptive fitness methodology, risk management, exercise adaptations, and whole health programming. Participants learn and practice procedures that will enable them to conduct safe and effective fitness training for a wide spectrum of people with disabilities, while also providing an inclusive setting using universal design principles. Upon completion of the required coursework and passing the final certification exam,

participants earn the title of Certified Adaptive & Inclusive Trainer (AIT).

Learning Objectives:

- Apply safe and effective adaptive and inclusive fitness training principles and methods.
- Communicate effectively using multiple methods and appropriate disability terminology and adaptive fitness nomenclature.
- Identify common and individualized safety risks and implement sufficient risk mitigation policies and strategies to maximize trainee safety.

Facilitator(s): Alec Zirkenbach, Director at Adaptive Training Academy, Jenna Muri-Rosenthal, Seminar Staff at Adaptive Training Academy & Kevin Ogar, Seminar Staff at Adaptive Training Academy

Host Gym: TBD

Cost: \$999

VA/ATA Grant Application: [Here](#) Covers 100% of the course

Seminar Registration: [Here](#)

[More Information Here.](#)

**Please note, this event is hosted externally. Attendees will need to provide their own transportation. Please direct all questions to Alex Zirkenbach (alec@ata.fit).*

Monday May 5th

General Sessions:

Event: Opening Reception

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Location: McGrath Center

Pre-conference Workshops:

Title: 3-Day BICP Adaptive Mountain Biking Level 1 Instructor Certification

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm, Day 3 of 3

Description: A professionally facilitated 3–day adaptive mountain biking instructor certification course. Upon completion of this Level

1 course, participants will be qualified to:

- Instruct individual or group mountain bike skills clinics in a professional, systematic, and safe manner
- Assess the level of each rider in their group through a pre-ride assessment
- Assess and diagnose common errors within each rider’s fundamental skills
- Prepare and implement teaching plans, progressions, and goal planning for future skills clinics
- Make responsible choices when instructing mountain bike skills clinics

Learning Objectives:

- Prepare and implement teaching plans, progressions and goal planning.
- Conduct thorough assessments of adaptive riders fundamental skills.
- Make safe and responsible choices when instructing adaptive mountain biking skills clinics.

Facilitator(s): TBD**Venue:** TBD

Registration Fee: \$700/person **Please note that that instructors who teach disabled Veterans at no cost will be eligible to register at not cost. If this applies to you, please enter discount code "AMTB25" at registration check-out to redeem this complimentary registration.

Title: Dare2tri Train2Coach Camp**Time:** 9:00am – 11:00am, Day 3 of 3

Description: This multi day event will train adaptive sports programmers/professionals from across the country, many of whose organizations have swim, bike and/or run as part of their program offerings already, on how they can incorporate Multisport (i.e. duathlon, aquathlon, triathlon or any combination of) into their programs. It will engage more athletes into community based recreation and sport opportunities as well as growing the Multisport community across the country.

Dare2tri will host sessions in swimming, cycling, running/pushing and transition. We will also cover how to put together a camp, clinic or training session. We want to help you figure out what works best for each individual program and help you build and develop the model that will work best for your organization.

Dare2tri will showcase a variety of possibilities, while giving you the hands-on experience of working with athletes. Take what you learn back to your organization and get your athletes training to compete at the Move United Nationals Paratriathlon this July and beyond!

Facilitator:

Keri Serota – Dare2Tri, Co-Founder/Executive Director

Dan Tun – Dare2Tri, Co-Founder/Program Director

Chris Palmquist – Dare2Tri, Program Coordinator and USAT lead Paratriathlon Educator

Ryan Quilty – Dare2Tri, Program Manager

Learning Objectives:

- Adaptive sports programmers will return back to their programs with the knowledge and ability to bring multisport to their community
- Attendees will walk away with tactical and practical skills for implementing a Multisport event
- Attendees will be confident in understanding what Multisport is and how it compliments the programming they are already providing

Venue: Classroom, Pool, Parking Lot/Bike Path
Fee: \$40

Title: Reaching New Heights: Creating Fun and Inclusive Adventure Experiences

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm, Day 2 of 2

Description: This two day pre-conference workshop will use a challenge course and climbing wall format for creating and implementing inclusive adventure programming. This will include facility and program design and implementation, staff education, equipment adaptation and participant opportunities and choice. This workshop will include lecture, discussion and lots of participatory learning opportunities.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand universal mindset and invitational education as it pertains to adventure programming and inclusion.
- Utilize accessibility assessment tools to determine what is needed in designing a facility and programming for all.
- Practice with specialty equipment that may be needed to facilitate an inclusive program.

Facilitator:

Carla Hacker – Experiential Systems, Inc., Trainer/Universal Accessibility Specialist
Melanie Wills – Experiential Systems, Inc., Chief Operating Officer

Venue: Challenge course, climbing wall, classroom

Fee: \$40

Title: Wheelchair Track Coaching Clinic

Time: 9:00am – 12:00pm

Description: Based off of our Summer Wheelchair Track Coaching Clinic, participants will learn the fundamental skills that serve as the backbone of the University of Illinois wheelchair track program. Through lecture style presentation, attendees will learn how to teach the basic stroke mechanics for wheelchair track; learn different seating option based on the skill and ability of the athlete; will be introduced to glove options, and how to structure a practice. Audiences who are new to the sport or who have experience would benefit from this clinic.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will learn how to teach basic stroke mechanics
- Participants will learn about different seating and glove options
- Participants will learn how to structure a practice

Facilitator:

Adam Bleakney – University of Illinois, Head Coach, Illinois Wheelchair Track Team
Maureen Gilbert – University of Illinois, Program Director, Illinois Wheelchair Athletics

Venue: \$20

Title: Beyond the Budget: How to Deliver Powerful Messages with Limited Resources

Time: 9:00am – 12:00pm

Description: In today's world of limited budgets and tight resources, delivering impactful and inclusive marketing messages can feel daunting—especially for small teams or nonprofit organizations. This session explores how to create powerful, equity-driven communication strategies that resonate with diverse audiences without overextending your resources or burning out your team. You'll learn creative approaches to maximizing your marketing impact while maintaining sustainability. Through peer-to-peer conversations, group work, live applications, and a post-event challenge, this interactive workshop will equip you with actionable tools to amplify your message and reach communities in meaningful ways. Whether you're a marketer, nonprofit leader, or part of a small team, this session will empower you to do more with less, ensuring that your communication efforts remain effective and inclusive.

The session will include:

- **Intro and Open Discussion/Community Building:** A brief introduction, followed by an open discussion to foster connections and shared experiences.
- **Learning Presentation:** A focused presentation on the key strategies for delivering powerful, resource-efficient messages.
- **Live Application:** Hands-on group work where participants will engage in peer-to-peer conversations, collaborative activities, and practical application of the strategies discussed.
- **Workshop Projects and Presentations:** Small groups will work together to develop ideas and then present them for peer feedback and collective learning.
- **Post-Event Challenge:** A challenge will be issued for participants to implement one learned strategy in their own work, with follow-up sharing opportunities after the event.

The session will be designed to be accessible to all participants, including live captions, high-contrast visual aids, and ensuring that any mobile-based interaction tools are fully accessible. I'm also happy to adjust based on the needs of the room.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand how to craft impactful and inclusive marketing messages that resonate with diverse audiences while working within a limited budget.
- Learn creative and resource-efficient strategies to maximize the reach and effectiveness of marketing campaigns, ensuring equity and inclusivity.
- Identify practical tools to avoid burnout while achieving high-impact communication goals, including sustainable work habits for small marketing teams.

Facilitator: Miki Grace – Urban Initiatives, Lead Director of Communications

Venue: Classroom

Fee: \$20

Title: Adaptive Skateboarding & WCMX 101

Time: 9:00am – 12:00pm

Description: S.M.C.L Foundation & Associates and Ability Skateboarding & Action Sports will be providing an Introduction to Adaptive Skateboarding & WCMX(Wheelchair MotoCross). The introduction to the sports will be hands-on for organizations, instructors and individuals interested in adaptive skateboarding/wcmx. It will cover equipment, instruction, accessibility. Together we will showcase how adaptive equipment is used in a skatepark as well as show how you can include and teach people living with disabilities to be a part of the action sports community.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn what is adaptive skateboarding and wcmx
- Learn about the equipment for the sports
- Learn how a program or clinic would look for instructors and organizations

Facilitator:

Andrew Garcia – Ability Skateboarding & Action Sports, Executive Director

Tony Torres – SMCL Foundation & Association, Board Member

Venue: TBD

Fee: \$20

Title: Adaptive Sports Product and Program Innovations for Athletes With Complex Physical Injuries, Illnesses, Or Conditions

Time: 9:00am – 12:00pm

Description: Participants will learn and practice safe transfer techniques for the complex athlete. Participants will explore advanced safety protocols for the complex athlete. Participants will be introduced to the challenges of providing safe recreation experiences for the mechanically ventilated athlete.

Several athletes with complex disabilities (with and without mechanical ventilation) will be on-site to provide additional insight and to help with equipment and transfer demonstrations.

Participants will have an opportunity to sail on Jordanelle Reservoir using a joystick and breath interface.

Learning Objectives:

- Develop a deeper understanding of the unique needs of the athlete with a complex disability
- Describe 4 devices that can offer independence and performance for the complex athlete
- Describe 4 devices that can offer independence and performance for the complex athlete

Facilitator: Jeffrey Rosenbluth
Venue: Jordanelle Reservoir
Fee: \$20

Title: Hackathon

Time: 11:00am – 4:00pm

Description: ThrivAbility, NAC and CAF will partner to run a multi-stakeholder ½ day workshop using human centered design and engineering expertise to develop ideas and prototypes for inexpensive adaptive activity equipment.

Calling all athletes, engineers, prosthetists, students and more! Submit drawings or photos of sport equipment you have adapted or hacked. We will choose 3-4.

Learning Objectives:

- To evolve existing hacks and to rethink active mobility and accessible solutions. Follow-ups will include bringing designs to University of Utah and other university design engineering classes to build and refine.

Facilitator: Susan Pinkwater

Venue: Classroom

Fee: \$20

Title: Archery for All

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Description: Learn a safe range set up. How to develop a successful adaptive archery program. Including a discussion of different available apparatus, bow, arrow, and accessory suggestions. Working with all capabilities, limb differences, and disabled athletes. Additionally, a time of immersion, shooting a mouth tab, simulated wheelchair, visually impaired and other methods. Become comfortable with equipment, interacting and asking necessary questions for positive sessions.

Learning Objectives:

- How to provide a safe, successful program with minimal equipment requirement changes.
- Experiential, hands on sport learning. Learning how-to by doing.
- Provide confidence and resources necessary to add archery to any program.

Facilitator:

M.J. Rogers – USA Archery, Paralympic Archery Coach

Venue: Archery Range

Fee: \$20

Title: Wheelchair Basketball Coaching Clinic

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Description: Based off of our Summer Wheelchair Basketball Coaching Clinic, participants will learn the fundamental skills that serve as the backbone of the University of Illinois wheelchair basketball program. Through lecture style presentation, attendees will learn how to prepare an effective season and practice plan, how to coach to the development of the team, how to coach during a game, and coaching professionalism. Participants can range from new to experienced coaches.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will learn how to prepare/structure an effective practice
- Participants will learn how to teach skill development from individual to team skills
- Participants will learn the qualities of a good, effective coach and will learn how to develop their coaching philosophy.

Facilitator:

Stephanie Wheeler – University of Illinois, Head Coach, Illinois Women’s Wheelchair Basketball Team

Jacob Tyree – University of Illinois, Head Coach, Illinois Men’s Wheelchair Basketball Team

Matt Poland – University of Illinois, Assistant Coach, Illinois Men’s & Women’s Wheelchair Basketball Teams

Venue: Classroom

Fee: \$20

Title: Adaptive Play Facilitator Workshop

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Description: A tennis Adaptive Play Facilitator Workshop Assistant empowers beginner tennis coaches with the skills and knowledge to inspire and guide beginner adaptive players of all ages and abilities.

This dynamic workshop offers a comprehensive overview of how to engage adaptive athletes of all ages and abilities to play the game of tennis. Through a blend of theoretical and hands-on sessions, we’ll dive into effective play engagement strategies, tennis play, and community engagement to help you launch a thriving tennis program or enhance your current one. An individual who is new to coaching adaptive tennis or has little experience would like to assist in delivering adaptive tennis to beginner players of all ages. This could include high school players, collegiate players, adult league players, parents, grandparents, school teachers, and PE teachers.

Learning Objectives:

- Adaptive Play Facilitators will be able to identify the three adaptive tennis disciplines and the types of disabilities that fit each.
- Adaptive Play Facilitators will gain a greater understanding of how to provide modifications for the athletes’ success and take-home best practices to use to support local adaptive programs and individuals.

- Adaptive Play Facilitators will be provided with Community Engagement strategies to inspire broad community involvement in and access to beginner adaptive tennis players, age, or background, and they will share how they might implement Community Engagement strategies in their communities by identifying resources for finding adaptive tennis players.

Facilitator:

Andrea Snead – United States Tennis Association (USTA), Director of DEI

Venue: Indoor Sport Court

Fee: \$20

Title: Adaptive Skateboarding & WCMX 101

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Description: S.M.C.L Foundation & Associates and Ability Skateboarding & Action Sports will be providing an Introduction to Adaptive Skateboarding & WCMX(Wheelchair MotoCross). The introduction to the sports will be hands-on for organizations, instructors and individuals interested in adaptive skateboarding/wcmx. It will cover equipment, instruction, accessibility. Together we will showcase how adaptive equipment is used in a skatepark as well as show how you can include and teach people living with disabilities to be a part of the action sports community.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn what is adaptive skateboarding and wcmx
- Learn about the equipment for the sports
- Learn how a program or clinic would look for instructors and organizations

Facilitator:

Andrew Garcia – Ability Skateboarding & Action Sports, Executive Director

Tony Torres – SMCL Foundation & Association, Board Member

Venue: TBD

Fee: \$20

Title: Adaptive Sports Product And Program Innovations for Athletes With Complex Physical Injuries, Illnesses, Or Conditions

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Description: Participants will learn and practice safe transfer techniques for the complex athlete. Participants will explore advanced safety protocols for the complex athlete. Participants will be introduced to the challenges of providing safe recreation experiences for the mechanically ventilated athlete.

Several athletes with complex disabilities (with and without mechanical ventilation) will be on-site to provide additional insight and to help with equipment and transfer demonstrations.

Participants will have an opportunity to sail on Jordanelle Reservoir using a joystick and breath interface.

Learning Objectives:

- Develop a deeper understanding of the unique needs of the athlete with a complex disability
- Describe 4 devices that can offer independence and performance for the complex athlete
- Describe 4 devices that can offer independence and performance for the complex athlete

Facilitator: Jeffrey Rosenbluth

Venue: Jordanelle Reservoir

Fee: \$20

Title: Backcountry Trip Planning

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Description: Coming Soon.

Facilitator: TBD

Venue: TBD

Fee: TBD

Tuesday May 6th

General Sessions:

Title: Coffee Hour/Networking Session

Time: 6:45am – 7:45am

Title: Move United Welcome & Keynote Session

Facilitator: Speaker To be Announced

Time: 8:00am – 8:45am

Lunch Break

Time: 12:05pm – 1:35pm

- Will be complimentary for event registrants

Roundtable Discussions:

Time: 12:20pm – 1:20pm; concurrent roundtable discussions

Join these industry professionals for an engaging group discussion. Grab some lunch and join in a conversation of interest to you!

Including Athletes with Disabilities with Adaptive Support on Mammoth Mountain Ski and Snowboard Teams

Led by: Katherine Landeau – Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra, Program Supervisor & Inclusion Specialist and Emily Estremo – Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra, Program Supervisor & Staff Trainer

Working Together to Improve Adaptive Sports Apparel and Gear

Led by: Tracy Vollbrecht – Vollbrecht Adaptive Consulting, Founder & Consultant

Barrier Reduction and Diversity in Adaptive Sports

Led by: David Robbins – Sportable Richmond Adaptive Sports and Recreation, Outreach Coordinator

Exhibitor-Exclusive Time

Time: 1:35pm – 2:35pm

Poster Sessions Time at the Exhibitor Hall

Time: 1:35pm – 2:35pm

Conference Social

Location: National Ability Center

Time: 5:00pm – 7:30pm

Sport Specific Instruction Track:

Title: Parafencing Clinic

Time: 9:45am – 10:45am

Description: Interactive clinic with hands on experience in wheelchair fencing. Participants will be able to ask questions, sit in a chair, and try the sport in this clinic. We will go through some introduction topics such as how to move in the chair, attacks, and parries.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will be able to explain the basics of parafencing to a peer.
- Participants will be able to perform an attack and parry.
- Participants will display the ability to find local clubs for programming.

Facilitator(s):

Beth Mahr – USA Fencing, Parafencing Director

Venue: Indoor Sport Court

Title: Adaptive Mountain Biking Demos

Time: 9:45am – 10:45am

Description: The NAC staff will pair you with the right equipment from our wide variety

of adaptive and upright mountain bikes to help you explore miles of dirt road and Utah's world-class intermediate to advanced single track trails. Whether you are an experienced biker or want to try a new piece of equipment, join us on the trails right next to the NAC's campus.

Facilitator: NAC Staff

Venue: NAC Parking Lot

Title: ParaCheer and Dance

Time: 11:05am – 12:05pm

Description: This session will be a clinic of cheer skills and provide education of coaching adaptations for cheer and dance for coaches, programs and athletes. Also included will be modification of skills such as jumps, stunts, dance, tumbling and cheering.

Learning Objectives:

- Everyone can cheer and or dance.
- There are novice to advanced level of opportunity
- It is easy to multi sport

Facilitator(s):

Lee Trudell – ParaCheer Spirit/USA Cheer, International Cheer Union – Director

Keely Icardi – ParaCheer Spirit, Athlete

Venue: Indoor Sport Court

Title: Incorporating Multisport into your Organizational Offerings

Time: 11:05am – 12:05pm

Description: Dare2tri will share the benefits of including multi-sport (some combination of swim, bike, run/push) into their program offerings. A discussion of how this can be done, sharing what practices, camps and clinics can look like as well as best practices for working with local race directors to make events in their communities accessible and inclusive. An abbreviated version of the pre event workshop that will be much more in-depth and hands on.

Learning Objectives:

- Adaptive sports programmers will return back to their programs with the knowledge and ability on how to incorporate multisport to their community.
- Attendees will feel comfortable with how to approach and work with local race directors to advocate and include athletes with disabilities into existing events.
- Adaptive sports programmers will understand the inclusive benefits to adding multisport to their organizations offerings.

Facilitator(s):

Kari Serota – Executive Director, Dare2tri

Dan Tun – Program Director, Dare2tri

Ryan Quilty – Program Manager, Dare2tri

Chris Palmquist – Program Coordinator, Dare2tri/ USAT lead Paratriathlon Educator
Venue: Classroom

Title: Adaptive Climbing

Time: 11:05am-12:05pm

Description: Climb with the NAC team at our indoor climbing wall. Boulder close to the ground or conquer a new route to the top. Our team will use a variety of mechanical advantage systems and more to help you adapt while ensuring a safe, yet challenging experience.

Facilitator: NAC Staff

Venue: Rec Center Climbing Wall

Title: Breaking Barriers

Time: 2:35pm – 3:05pm

Description: What is Para Alpine and Para Snowboard competition and best practices to integrate with able bodied multi sport programs.

Learning Objectives:

- What is Para Alpine and Para Snowboard competition.
- Differences between para and able bodied alpine and Snowboard.
- How best to Integrate.

Facilitator(s):

Erik Leirfallom – Para Sport Director, US Ski & Snowboard

Venue: Classroom

Title: Sled Hockey

Time: 3:15pm – 4:55pm

Description: Sled Hockey – also called Sledge Hockey – is a high-energy, rowdy, fast-paced adaptive sport. Players sit on their skates using an adaptive device known as a sled, which is affixed with two skate blades and a runner in the front to form a tripod. Come join us for some fun on the ice!

Facilitator: NAC Staff & Volunteers

Venue: Ice Rink

Title: Amputee Soccer Skills and Games

Time: 3:25pm – 4:55pm

Description: This interactive session will teach participants of all abilities how to play the sport of amputee soccer. Starting with the fundamentals of movement on forearm crutches and the basics of ball control, the clinic will finish with full sided amputee soccer games! Forearm crutches will be provided for participants. Participants will leave with an understanding of the fundamentals of amputee soccer, a sense of how to

instruct others to get started, and a good sense of fun!

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will develop the fundamentals of amputee soccer through a structured clinic.
- Participants will make connections with others through playing an amputee soccer game.
- Participants will be introduced to the available resources and opportunities to play amputee soccer, join the AASA league, and pursue a competitive pathway.

Facilitator(s):

Nicolai Calabria – Director of Regional Development, American Amputee Soccer Association

Venue: Indoor Sport Court

Title: Paralympic Classification 101 and Code Updates

Time: 3:25pm – 4:55pm

Description: Tyler Carter, PLY, Manager, Classification, of the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee will provide an overview of the Paralympic classification system, the Paralympic eligible impairments, and eligible sports. He will also cover the new changes brought forth by the International Paralympic Committee in their new version of the Athlete Classification Code. The history of the athlete classification process and the differences between national and international classification will also be reviewed.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand what impairments are eligible for Paralympic Sport.
- Discuss key changes from the new Athlete Classification Code.
- Understand the athlete evaluation process to be classified in a Paralympic Sport.

Facilitator(s):

Tyler Carter – Manager, Classification, U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee

Venue: Classroom

Title: Equine Assisted Learning (EAL)

Time: 3:25pm – 4:55pm

Description: This unmounted program provides experiential education focused on self, family or group development. Horses are known to mirror human intentions, and Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) uses that behavior to focus on self-awareness, interpersonal relationships and communication skill. All people, including those with developmental disabilities, PTSD (or exposure to trauma), substance abuse, and other social emotional differences can benefit from EAL.

Facilitator: NAC Staff

Venue: Equestrian Center – Indoor Arena

Non Profit Management Track:

Title: Working with VA Medical Centers and the Department of Veterans Affairs

Time: 9:45am – 10:45am

Description: Coming Soon.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn about the VA adaptive sports grant and the VA organizational structure and how to formulate and MOU with a VAMC.
- How to outreach and work successfully with VAMC staff and departments.
- What can and can't be offered to VA staff and facilities with an adaptive sports grant.

Facilitator(s): TBD

Venue: Classroom

Title: 40 Years of Rolling Strong: Lessons from Our Junior Wheelchair Sports Camp

Time: 9:45am – 10:45am

Description: The idea for this presentation is to celebrate four decades of a camp designed for young athletes who use wheelchairs to compete in sport. The camp serves as a platform for empowerment, skill development, and community building among participants, helping them to excel in various sports while fostering confidence and resilience, in addition to recruitment for our adaptive sports program.

Learning Objectives:

- Empowerment Through Sports
- Recruitment for Adaptive Sports Program
- Lessons learned after 40 Years.

Facilitator(s):

Molly McKinney – Sports Coordinator, Mary Free Bed Wheelchair and Adaptive Sports

Maria Besta – Manager, Recreation Therapy, Wheelchair and Adaptive Sports,

Mary Free Bed Wheelchair and Adaptive Sports

Venue: Classroom

Title: United for Impact: Statewide Partnerships as a Catalyst for Para-Athlete Development

Time: 9:45am – 10:45am

Description: In this session, Texas Parasport leaders Wendy Gumbert and Ross Davis will share insights on how strategic statewide collaborations can foster the growth of para-athletes from grassroots to elite levels. Drawing on decades of experience in adaptive sports, they will explore best practices for building partnerships with National Governing Bodies, schools, and community organizations. Attendees will learn how collaborative approaches can increase accessibility, resource-sharing, and talent development, creating more equitable opportunities for athletes with disabilities to thrive.

Learning Objectives:

- **Identify Effective Collaboration Strategies:** Attendees will learn to recognize and implement best practices for forming partnerships with various stakeholders, including National Governing Bodies, schools, and community organizations, to enhance the development of para-athletes.
- **Enhance Accessibility and Inclusion:** Participants will explore methods to create more equitable opportunities in adaptive sports, focusing on resource-sharing and community engagement to improve accessibility for athletes with disabilities.
- **Foster Athlete Development Pathways:** Attendees will gain insights into building comprehensive athlete development pathways that support individuals from grassroots participation to elite competition, ensuring a sustainable future for para-sport initiatives.

Facilitator(s):

Wendy Gumbert – Executive Director, Texas Parasport

Ross Davis – President, Board of Directors, Texas Parasport

Venue: Classroom

Title: Move United Grant Program Overview

Time: 9:45am – 10:45am

Description: Move United provides grant opportunities to its member organizations to support and implement adaptive sports programs in the community. Join this session with Move United Grant Manager, Najeeb Siddiqui, to understand the Move United grant process.

Learning Objectives:

- Understanding the grant application process
- Understanding the grant reporting process
- Program impact and reporting materials

Facilitator(s):

Najeeb Siddiqui – Grants Manager, Move United

Venue: Classroom

Title: Empowering Communities: PlayLA Adaptive Sports creating Access and Opportunity for all

Time: 2:35pm – 3:05pm

Description: This presentation delves into the transformative power of adaptive sports in fostering inclusive growth within local communities. With lessons from the PlayLA Adaptive Sports Program, we will uncover the role of city and community partnerships in expanding access, breaking down barriers, and promoting inclusivity for all abilities. Participants will gain practical strategies to collaborate with local stakeholders, create impactful programs, and sustain growth through community engagement—ultimately building a stronger, more connected community fabric and empowering residents of all backgrounds.

Learning Objectives:

- Inclusion
- Providing Access

- Creating Opportunity

Facilitator(s):

Caroline Lammers – Principal Recreation Supervisor I/ PlayLA Adaptive, City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

Irving Moreno – Senior Recreation Director Play LA Adaptive, City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

Erika Luna Diaz – Facility Director – PlayLA Adaptive, City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

Venue: Classroom

Title: Unlock the Power of Your Team’s Leadership Identity

Time: 2:35pm – 3:05pm

Description: Join the visionary Founder of BREAKTHRU Brands, author, and leadership development expert, Laura Barnard, for this interactive and barrier-breaking session to help you unlock the leadership potential within your team. Learn how to identify and activate your team’s individual and collective motivations and gain insights into ways your team can break down barriers and dismantle stereotypes to better connect, communicate, relate, and inspire each other.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify and celebrate the unique leadership styles of the members of your staff and team.
- Uncover and amplify the unique strengths of your staff and team
- Learn about a strategic approach to activate your team’s collective motivations and highlight ways your team can best connect, communicate, and inspire each other.

Facilitator(s):

Laura Barnard – Founder, BREAKTHRU Brands

Venue: Classroom

**The Unlock the Power of Your Team’s Leadership Identity session is part of the Executive Director/Organization Leadership Track*

Title: Radical Inclusion: Fostering Disability Representation at High Levels of Your Organization

Time: 2:35pm – 3:05pm

Description: As committed and qualified as non-disabled allies and organizational leaders might be, they can’t bring the lived experience to the table that is so vital to inclusion and understanding within the adaptive sports community. Therefore, it is imperative that organizations create opportunities to foster growth and create space for those with disabilities who desire inclusion at higher decision-making levels of adaptive organizations.

This session will focus upon the tips, tools and cultural landscape that foster the radical inclusion that's necessary to be a truly representative organization.

ACF has worked toward radical inclusion in several ways:

- An origin story that includes founders with disabilities
- A focus on clinics led by adaptive climbers
- Qualified safety managers (crag captains) who are from the adaptive community
- An approach that encourages self reliance, ingenuity and agency for participants

Learning Objectives:

- Attendees of the presentation will understand practical, real-world techniques for growing leadership qualities in the communities they serve.
- Attendees will develop tools for “radical inclusion” at leadership levels that include checklists for hiring practices and board member selection.
- Attendees will leave the presentation with several first “action items” to practice or enhance leadership inclusion within their organization. - Action items will be dependent upon where organizations are in the process.

Facilitator(s):

Shane Farver – Communications Director, Adaptive Climbers Festival

Maureen Beck – Education Director, Adaptive Climbers Festival

Venue: Classroom

Title: Finding Catalysts: Assessing and Building Organizational Capacity in Adaptive Sport

Time: 3:25pm – 4:55pm

Description:

During the workshop, I will explain how capacity building aims to enhance organizational effectiveness and address deficiencies through a process of change. While no single approach to capacity building fits all organizations, I will introduce a framework that outlines how this process typically begins, including how organizations evaluate their existing capacities, needs, and readiness for growth. Using a research-based framework as a guide, participants will engage in activities focused on ways in which they can build their organization's capacity and assessing their current capacity building process.

By breaking down the organizational capacity and capacity building process frameworks, participants will gain insights into how to assess their existing capacities and processes of developing organizational capacities. In addition, the workshop will highlight common practices and provide an opportunity to discuss and establish actionable steps to take back to their organization. Through sharing insights and identifying commonalities, participants will foster a supportive network that enhances collaboration and knowledge exchange within the adaptive sports community.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify and evaluate current organizational capacities within adaptive sports.
- Understand capacity building as a systematic, phased process.
- Create and discuss actionable steps for developing an effective organizational capacity-building plan.

Facilitator(s):

Christine Maleske – Assistant Professor of Teaching, Wayne State University

Venue: Classroom

Title: Dynamic Strategic Planning

Time: 3:25pm – 4:55pm

Description: Adaptive Sport and Recreation leaders need to provide direction for their organizations. They need to listen to the multitude of interests of their many customers, collate those aspirations, determine priorities, affirm what they will say “yes” to – and what they will say “no” to, serve their organization’s mission and use sound business practices to measure progress all along the way. In short, they need dynamic strategic planning. This session will provide the basics of best practices for dynamic strategic planning, showcase the cycle of planning, and give attendees a chance to develop a segment of a sample plan.

Learning Objectives:

- Provide the basics of best practices for strategic planning.
- Review and showcase the steps in a strategic planning cycle.
- Develop a segment of a sample strategic plan using tools from the session.

Facilitator(s):

Ed Bronsdon – Consultant

Kim Krebs – Consultant, Kim Krebs Consulting

Venue: Classroom

**The session Dynamic Strategic Planning is part of the Executive Director/Organization Leadership Track*

Title: Navigating Tough Conversations

Time: 3:25pm – 4:55pm

Description: Learn our proven 5-step formula for having a tough conversation, without feeling like a jerk! You learn ways to be aware of your body language and know exactly what to do when the conversation doesn’t go as planned. You’ll get a chance to practice scripting your own Tough Conversations, and all the right phrasing. Get ready to change and elevate the way you have tough conversations to amplify your effectiveness!

Facilitator: Jill Shoyer – Expedition HR

Venue: Classroom

Inclusions in Schools & Universities Track:

Title: Breaking Barriers in Adapted Physical Education: Fostering Inclusion through Collaboration

Time: 9:45am – 10:45am

Description: This presentation will focus on the critical role of inclusion in Adapted Physical Education (APE) and how collaboration between APE teachers, related service professionals (such as physical therapists), and general education teachers can create an inclusive environment for all students. By exploring real-life examples and case studies, this session will provide actionable strategies for breaking barriers to inclusion in APE. The session will also emphasize problem-solving through collaborative approaches and innovative techniques to address challenges that arise in schools and universities.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the Importance and Benefits of Inclusion: Explain how inclusive practices in Adapted Physical Education (APE) positively impact students with and without disabilities, fostering a supportive and diverse learning environment.
- Identify Barriers and Develop Strategies for Overcoming Them: Recognize common barriers to inclusion in APE and apply effective strategies to address these obstacles, creating equitable access for all students.
- Collaborate and Implement Inclusive Practices: Utilize collaborative approaches among APE teachers, related service providers, and educators to develop and apply actionable, inclusive practices in educational settings.

Facilitator(s):

Melissa Ponzio – Adapted Physical Education Teacher, Bedford Central School District
Erica Maiorano – School Based Physical Therapist, Bedford Central School District

Venue: Classroom

Title: 3D printing sport and recreation equipment

Time: 11:05am – 12:05pm

Description: Three-dimensional (3-D) printing is becoming a useful approach to prototyping and manufacturing custom equipment in almost every market. It is also accessible to all levels of designers from professionals to hobbyists. It is specifically appropriate for adaptive sports and recreation as everyone's abilities are different and the assistance that they need or want from technology varies greatly. People with disabilities may need to use some assistive technology, but they want to use the abilities that they do have instead of using a technology that does too much. For example, bowling has many types of assistive technology, including handled ball pushers, ramps, and ball's with retractable handles, because not everyone who can't bowl in the traditional form wants to use a ramp. The most appropriate equipment is customized to the user's abilities and desires.

The session will cover an introduction to the 3-D printing process including how to design a 3D model and how to have a device printed with various materials, methods, and machines. It will also demonstrate how virtually anyone can design a part and have

it built. Lastly, there will be numerous examples shown of sports related assistive technologies that have been designed and built by the presenter and colleagues. These will include handles that can be clamped to table tennis paddles and billiards sticks, a clamp for attaching a putter to a fore arm for miniature golf, a board game piece pusher, swimming paddles, and RC controller adaptations

This session is intended to introduce the audience to the capabilities and availability of 3-D printing and inspire them to utilize it to make sports and recreation more accessible and fun for themselves or other people with various disabilities. The session will be a presentation style with time for discussion and questions and answers. There are no larger space requirements.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn how to use computer-aided design software.
- Learn about 3-D printing technology.
- See other devices that have been designed and be inspired to design your own.

Facilitator(s):

Jonathan Duvall – Investigator, University of Pittsburgh

Venue: Classroom

Title: Empowering Excellence: Advancing Adaptive Sports in Higher Education

Time: 11:05am – 12:05pm

Description: Clemson Adaptive Sports and Recreation would like to invite you to join us for an engaging session focused on the transformative power of adaptive sports at the university level. This discussion will highlight innovative programs, best practices, and the significant impact adaptive sports have on student-athletes at the collegiate/university level, promoting inclusivity and physical well-being. Attendees will gain insights into creating and enhancing adaptive sports programs within their institutions, fostering a culture of accessibility and empowerment.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify Best Practices: Participants will learn about successful adaptive sports programs and strategies that promote inclusivity and engagement for all students.
- Develop Program Implementation Skills: Attendees will gain practical tools and resources for creating or enhancing adaptive sports initiatives at their universities.
- Foster Community Engagement: Participants will explore methods to build partnerships with local organizations and stakeholders to support adaptive sports and increase participation.

Facilitator(s):

Jeff Townsend – Co-Director of Clemson Adaptive Sports and Recreation, Clemson University

Ariel Bailey – Program Coordinator at Clemson Adaptive Sports and Recreation, Clemson University

Venue: Classroom

Title: Supporting the Whole Athlete: A Framework for Successful College Transitions in Adapted Sports

Time: 3:25pm – 4:55pm

Description: Participants will explore evidence-based strategies for supporting adapted athletes through successful collegiate transitions. Drawing from extensive interviews with athletes, parents, coaches, and program directors, this session addresses a critical gap: why talented athletes with scholarships sometimes struggle to thrive in collegiate programs despite strong athletic abilities.

The presenters will share comprehensive research findings that illuminate key transition challenges including life skills development, medical care coordination, and independence building. Special attention will be paid to supporting athletes with multiple marginalized identities and creating comprehensive support systems that recognize intersectional needs.

Presenters bring unique perspectives as a Paralympic athlete/researcher and an active wheelchair basketball coach/program administrator to share practical frameworks for preparing athletes both on and off the court. Participants will leave with concrete tools and strategies to implement in their own programs, helping to ensure their athletes' success extends beyond receiving a scholarship to thriving in collegiate settings.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify common barriers that impact collegiate success for adapted athletes, particularly those with multiple marginalized identities.
- Understand critical components of comprehensive transition planning, including life skills development, medical care coordination, and independence building.
- Apply evidence-based strategies to develop support systems that address both athletic and non-athletic needs of transitioning athletes.

Facilitator(s):

Kara Ayers – Associate Professor, University of Cincinnati Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Adam Ayers – Prep Head Coach, Cincinnati Dragons Wheelchair Basketball Team

Venue: Classroom

Intersections with Medical Professionals Track:

Title: Catalyzing Program Growth and Diversity with Medical Professional Partnerships

Time: 9:45am – 10:45am

Description: Medical team in partnership discuss how adaptive sports programming can benefit patient rehab outcomes, and the annual Utah mobility clinic that introduce participants to adaptive programs. Physical Therapist and Prosthetist duo will share about their annual mobility clinic, hosted in Utah, enhancing patient rehab goals, improving mobility, confidence and sense of self and building community. They connect

resources and communities. They will share how patient events that can grow reach of programming, and enhance use of prosthetic or adaptive equipment specific to people with limb loss, limb difference, or neurologic injuries. They will share their experience to barriers for potential participants engaging with adaptive programs so programs managers can design ways to break down these barriers. They work to educate others on rehab team about benefits of referring participants to adaptive programs, the process, and support medical care team providers to engage in programs with their patient population to better understand the outcomes of these experiences.

Learning Objectives:

- Consider impact of building program engagement with medical professionals.
- Increase reach for new and varied participant recruitment.
- Build community and foster collaboration of ideas and outcomes across fields.

Facilitator(s):

Wendy Remington Brewer – Prosthetist, Hanger Clinic, Adaptive Athlete Spouse
Spencer Thompson – Physical Therapist, University of Utah

Venue: Classroom

Title: Development of a Therapeutic Recreation Online Data Tool

Time: 9:45am – 10:45am

Description: In this presentation, we will describe the ongoing development over the past 4 years of a RedCap data collection tool for Spaulding Adaptive Sports Centers' use in research (of this tool's feasibility) and in daily documentation of client sessions. We have demonstrated increasing consistency across the network in capturing client goals, sport specific tracking of daily sessions, and progress towards goals each season. The evolution of the tool highlights our inter-disciplinary team approach, recognition of different models of therapeutic recreation and benefits, and the various staff roles we provide to promote holistic goal attainment. The importance of objectivity and data collection for improving programs, client outcomes, and staff consistency across our network will be emphasized.

Learning Objectives:

- Describe the evolution of our online (RedCap) Documentation platform for program, client and research purposes.
- Discuss therapeutic underpinnings and models used to categorize goals and guide intervention planning.
- Teach steps for the development of adaptive sports program documentation.

Facilitator(s):

Kathleen Salas – Boston Program Manager, Spaulding Adaptive Sports Centers (SASC)
Elizabeth Dahlen – Network Coordinator/Cape Cod Manager, Spaulding Adaptive Sports Centers

Jennifer Packard – North Shore Program Manager, Spaulding Adaptive Sports Centers

Venue: Classroom

Title: US Army Adaptive Recovery Program; adapting treatment and therapy in a changing (non-active war) scenario—meeting the needs of Service members in relative peacetime.

Time: 11:05am – 12:05pm

Description: As major hostilities die down the US army adapts the Wounded Warrior soldier recovery program from large scale musculoskeletal and amputee rehabilitation to more general rehabilitation including traumatic brain injury, behavioral health, complex care of disease/cancer and other metabolic disease processes. Moving the paradigms forward while addressing the needs of those who are injured or ill in active-duty service while transitioning to civilian/ veteran status.

Current programs and changes to older programs that meet multiple battlefields injuries and amputations to non-battlefield injuries and illnesses. The soldier recovery unit in Hawaii is seen as a model for “what can be” due to its ideal climate for outdoor activities and adaptive recovery program’s staff. The adaptive recreation program is seen as a conduit for getting people out of their shell and out of their limitations on to their successes and empowerment. Nuts and bolts system will be presented with practical applications and outlines of what was done and what was changed and how we did it. Will have data on participation rates growth, successes and failures and programs used.

Learning Objectives:

- What is the US Army doing for their wounded and ill soldiers now that major hostilities have resolved.
- Beyond the programs what sets the Solider Recovery Unit in Hawaii (SRU-HI) apart form other sites in the ARMY/DOD?
- How can we duplicate the programs and the attitude at the SRU-HI to other places without being on an island.

Facilitator(s):

Joseph Scholz – Solider Recovery Unit–Surgeon; Adaptive Recreation Program Chair, US Army

Peter Robles – Physical Therapy Assistant, US Army

Dallin Thomas – Brigade Surgeon, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Consultant, US Army

Venue: Classroom

Title: Power in Partnership: Therapists and Coaches Collaborating for Inclusive Adaptive Sports

Time: 11:05am – 12:05pm

Description: This presentation will explore the unique approach that Able Athletics has taken to offer inclusive adaptive sports programs by closely collaborating with medical professionals. It highlights the essential partnerships with occupational, physical, and speech therapists to create adaptive curricula that meet the diverse needs of children with physical, motor, speech, and behavioral disabilities. Participants will break into

small groups to discuss hypothetical case studies where they design an adaptive sports plan for a child with a specific disability. Groups will present their collaborative solutions.

Learning Objectives:

- Explore Collaborative Success in Adaptive Sports: Participants will gain insights into how collaboration between medical professionals and adaptive sports coaches supports the success of children with diverse disabilities.
- Identify Effective Interdisciplinary Strategies: Attendees will discover practical strategies that foster inclusivity and address the unique needs of children through tailored, interdisciplinary approaches.
- Understand the Evolution of Able Athletics' Model: Participants will learn about the origins and growth of Able Athletics and how its unique partnership with therapists contributes to the development of adaptive sports curricula and inclusive programming.

Facilitator(s):

Vanessa Dias – Chair, CEO, Co-Founder, Able Athletics

Melissa Ponzio – Chief Programming Officer and Director of Field Hockey, Able Athletics

Erica Maiorano – Vice Chair, Co-Director of Curricular Adaptations and Therapeutic Events, Able Athletics

Venue: Classroom

Title: Mountaineering for Individuals with Amputations

Time: 2:35pm – 3:05pm

Description: This presentation will provide individuals with amputations, as well as their health care providers, with information necessary to improve participation in mountaineering as well as other high altitude and winter-based sports. The audience will be engaged with several case studies as well as a Q&A.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand adaptive equipment that is helpful and/or essential for mountaineering.
- Understand physiological effects of high altitude on climbers and energy expenditure specific to individuals with amputations.
- Understand medical complications impacting individuals with amputations at high altitude and how to prevent and manage them.

Facilitator(s):

Clair Helenek – Physical Therapist, Adaptive and Inclusive Trainer, Harbor Amputation Rehabilitation & Adaptive Training

Venue: Classroom

Title: Pioneering Concussion Baseline Testing in Collegiate Adaptive Athletes: Addressing Gaps and Challenges

Time: 3:25pm – 4:25pm

Description: Concussions in adaptive sport athletes are understudied, and concussion programs in this population are underdeveloped. The topic of this presentation is to

show our groups develop and implement a baseline concussion testing program for a collegiate adaptive sport program to facilitate clinical care for this population and establish a structure for future research. Despite intentionally designing the program for this population, we observed numerous instances where test performance was influenced by disability-related factors outside of the construct the test is intended to measure. For example, performance on numerous cognitive tests was adversely affected by impaired upper limb motor control or low vision. This project demonstrated that concussion testing in adaptive athletes cannot utilize a one-size-fits-all protocol and requires modification to match the needs and abilities of each individual athlete. We will present a presentation with an in-person practical practice of a concussion baseline test we modified. Ways to engage the audience are to pose questions throughout the presentation towards the audience as well as their thoughts and comments throughout the practice baseline test.

Learning Objectives:

- What is Currently Known about Concussions in Adaptive Sport Athletes.
- What were Themes Found from Concussion Baseline Testing.
- What can be Done to Promote Concussion Care in Adaptive Sport Athletes.

Facilitator(s):

Lily Tiefel – Lead Presenter, University of Michigan

James Eckner – Presenter, University of Michigan Concussion Center and Neuro Sport

Melissa Tinney – Presenter, University of Michigan’s Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Venue: Classroom

Title: Athlete Health In and Out of Season: Physical Therapist Perspective on Training and Injury Prevention

Time: 3:25pm – 4:55pm

Description: It takes a team to keep athletes healthy and performing well in sport. The speakers will present their perspectives, as Physical Therapists, for strength and conditioning considerations in Para Sports. The speakers will give evidence-based general and sport-specific examples for standing and seated athletes. Injury prevention principles will be compared to align with training goals in and out of season.

Learning Objectives:

- Compare training goals in and out of season.
- List injury risk factors that are sport and/or impairment specific.
- Describe components of strength and conditioning training programs for seated and standing athletes.

Facilitator(s):

Jennifer Gruenhagen – Assistant Professor, Midwestern University

Katie Lucas – Assistant Professor, Creighton University

Venue: Classroom

Wednesday May 7th

General Sessions:

Coffee Hour/Networking Session

Time: 6:45am – 7:45am

General Session

Time: 8:00am – 8:45am

Exhibitor-Exclusive Time

Time: 11:15am – 12:15pm

Lunch Break

Time: 12:15pm – 1:45pm

- Lunch will be complimentary to registered event attendees

Roundtable Discussions:

Time: 12:30pm – 1:30pm

Join these industry professionals for an engaging group discussion. Grab some lunch and join in a conversation of interest to you!

Medical Providers as “Entry Points” to Adaptive and Inclusive Sports: How do we do it well and how do we teach that skill?

Led by Nathan Rosenberg – Nationwide Children’s Hospital / Ohio State University, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Physician / Associate Professor of PM&R; Trevor Miller – VA Portland Health Care System, Recreation Therapist HUD-VASH; Courtney Bishop – Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Physician Assistant in orthopedics with a focus on neuromuscular, cerebral palsy care

Adaptive Sports and Recreation in Rural Schools

Led by Nate Hanson – Adaptive Sports Partners

Storytelling through Photography

Led by Tim Brown – Move United, Communications & Marketing Specialist

Closing Session

Speaker To Be Announced

Time: 5:15pm – 5:45pm

Location: TBD

Sport Specific Instruction Track:

Title: Introduction to Volt Hockey: The Competitive Power Wheelchair Team Sport Taking Root in the USA

Time: 9:45am – 11:15am

Description: Our presentation will provide attendees with an in-depth overview of volt hockey. Through a 15-20 minute PowerPoint presentation, we will explore the history, rules, equipment, and the current state of volt hockey both nationally and internationally. We will emphasize how volt hockey offers a unique opportunity for individuals with limited upper and lower mobility—such as those with muscular dystrophy or spinal cord injuries—to participate in competitive team sports. The sport promotes physical activity, teamwork, and social inclusion, empowering participants who may have limited access to such experiences elsewhere.

Following the presentation, we will hold a 30-minute interactive demonstration where attendees can sit in volt hockey chairs and try out drills alongside experienced players, giving them a hands-on introduction to the game. To conclude, we will host a 10-minute Q&A session to provide insights on volunteer opportunities and ways to help grow the sport by forming new teams in local communities.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the fundamentals of volt hockey, including its rules, equipment, and unique adaptations for athletes with limited mobility.
- Gain practical experience by participating in drills and activities using volt hockey chairs, fostering familiarity with the sport's mechanics and teamwork.
- Identify ways to support and promote the growth of volt hockey in their communities, including opportunities for volunteering and team formation.

Facilitator(s):

Marley Robinson – President, United States Volt Hockey Association

Avery Melam – Vice President, United States Volt Hockey Association

Venue: Indoor Sports Court

Title: Frame Running For Inclusion

Time: 9:45am – 11:15am

Description: Frame Running For Inclusion is an activity to support inclusive running which can be enjoyed nearly anywhere, recess, play, recreation and competitive sport. It is designed to support and provide ease of movement for individuals with mild to severe physical disabilities.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify participants with diverse abilities and ages who could use frame running to promote active participation and inclusion.
- Understand basic components of fitting an individual to a frame runner.
- Understand the opportunities of inclusion using the frame runner in PE, recess, recreation and competitive sports.

Facilitator(s):

Tressa Johnston – Associate Director; Service Division, PT DPT, Utah State University, Institute for Disability Research Policy and Practice (IDRPP)

Erica Lundahl – Director of Employability, Top Sports Coordinator, USU, IDRPP

Venue: Classroom

Title: Equine Assisted Learning (EAL)

Time: 9:45am – 11:15am

Description: This unmounted program provides experiential education focused on self, family or group development. Horses are known to mirror human intentions, and Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) uses that behavior to focus on self-awareness, interpersonal relationships and communication skill. All people, including those with developmental disabilities, PTSD (or exposure to trauma), substance abuse, and other social emotional differences can benefit from EAL.

Facilitator: NAC Staff

Venue: Equestrian Center – Indoor Arena

Title: Wheelchair Curling

Time: 9:45am – 11:15am

Description: In wheelchair curling, players use a wheelchair and slide a stone across the ice towards a target, known as the house, to score points. Each player delivers the stone using a specially designed stick while sitting in a chair. Teams consist of four players, and the sport requires strategy, precision, and teamwork. The game is played on a sheet of ice, with each team taking turns to deliver stones. This program will be held at the Park City Ice Arena.

Facilitator: NAC Staff & Volunteers

Venue: Ice Rink

Title: Coaching Neurodiverse Athletes with confidence

Time: 1:45pm – 2:15pm

Description: This presentation explores practical strategies for coaches to support neurodiverse athletes effectively, drawing from insights gathered through extensive research and firsthand experiences of neurodiverse individuals in sports. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of neurodiversity and learn adaptive techniques to create a more inclusive, confidence-building environment. From modifying communication styles to designing sensory-friendly practice spaces, the session offers tools that foster teamwork, enhance skill development, and build athletes' self-confidence. Coaches will leave better equipped with actionable advice, case studies, and resources to ensure neurodiverse athletes can thrive and succeed.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the unique needs of neurodiverse athletes in sports.
- Recognize the impact of neurodiverse-inclusive coaching on personal and team growth.
- Identify practical strategies to drive neurodiverse inclusion in sports.

Facilitator(s):

Sheri Byrne-Haber – CEO, Haber Consulting LLC

Venue: Classroom

Title: ReCreating Beauty: Wheelchair/Adaptive Tai Chi Chuan as a Transformative Adaptive Sport

Time: 2:35pm – 3:35pm

Description: After watching a demonstration of wheelchair/adaptive tai chi chuan (W/A TCC), students with no experience facilitating adaptive sports programming or with the modality itself were asked to describe impressions of what they watched in short phrases or words. Instead of focusing on the wheelchair or the martial art as distinctive entities, impressions were categorized into terms of flow, power, calm, mindfulness, and aesthetics. The emphasis for these observers was not on disability, but on ability and beauty. In a changing society where inclusion is becoming more highly regarded than it has been in the past, it is important to understand how mechanisms such as adaptive sport can change the perception of disability to ability. For medical professionals, this has direct implications for rehabilitative and integration services where individuals are learning to adapt to a new normal or to adjust their current perception of self-abilities. Our presentation will focus on connecting patient and provider perceptions of beauty, power, and ability into more broad sociocultural perspectives of how adaptive sport and medicine align. This will enable participants to learn how W/A TCC can serve as a transformative adaptive sport and rehabilitative medical modality, as well as participate in the practice itself.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will be able to identify 2-3 ways that W/A TCC can impact patient perspectives of power, beauty, and/or ability.
- Participants will be able to identify 2-3 ways that W/A TCC as an adaptive sport can align with rehabilitative and reintegrative healthcare.
- Participants will actively engage in 2-3 W/A TCC moves from a sitting, standing, or wheelchair position.

Facilitator(s):

Danielle Lauber – Assistant Professor, Middle Tennessee State University

Zibin Guo – UC Foundation Professor and Chair, University of Tennessee-Chattanooga

Venue: Classroom

Title: Challenge Course

Time: 2:35pm – 4:55pm

Description: Explore adaptive elements of our 40' tall course like a high bridge wide enough for a wheelchair, a zipline without an abrupt stop and more to move past fears or barriers while building trust with members of your team or family. This “choose your own adventure” program has a thrill for everyone!

Facilitator(s):

NAC Staff

Venue: NAC Challenge Course

Title: Parafencing Clinic

Time: 3:55pm – 4:55pm

Description: Interactive clinic with hands on experience in wheelchair fencing. Participants will be able to ask questions, sit in a chair, and try the sport in this clinic. We will go through some introduction topics such as how to move in the chair, attacks, and parries.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will be able to explain the basics of parafencing to a peer.
- Participants will be able to perform an attack and parry.
- Participants will display the ability to find local clubs for programming

Facilitator(s):

Beth Mahr – Parafencing Director, USA Fencing

Venue: Indoor Sports Court

Non Profit Management Track

Title: Adaptive Sports & Equity in Access to Economic Impact Data

Time: 9:45am – 10:45am

Description: Economic impacts and visitor spending are an increasingly common data point that recreation non-profits and user groups leverage to advocate for funding and investments. There is now extensive data available for almost every kind of recreation activity out there, and advocates have become adept at using this data to bring more people into the “tent” of supporting investment in the trails, parks, and other facilities that support their favorite recreation activities. Just in the past few years, MoveUnited has begun to explore this for adaptive sports at the nationwide level. However, in many states, there is very little or no economic impact data for people with disabilities and adaptive sports recreators, placing them at a disadvantage when competing for funding and leaving decision-makers unaware of the significant economic impacts this group produces. Our industry has made incredible strides over the past few years in expanding equitable access to adaptive recreation experiences, but it’s time we moved beyond talking about increasing physical access alone. We also need to advocate for equitable access to information. This session will share the current state of economic impact data available for people with disabilities and then dive more deeply into a yearlong study of the economic impact of Vermont Adaptive Ski & Sports operations, programs, and participants. Presenters will share background information about the project and how Vermont Adaptive intends to communicate findings to benefit their

organization, staff, volunteers, and participants.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will be able to communicate the potential economic impact of adaptive sports recreators and people with disabilities in their own community or state.
- Participants will be able to effectively advocate for equitable access to information and the additional study and analysis of the economic impacts of adaptive recreators and people with disabilities.
- Participants will understand the potential economic impact to their local community and fiscal impact to their land/recreation management agency because of adaptive sports recreators and people with disabilities.

Facilitator(s):

Drew Pollak-Bruce – Founder & Principal, CRO Planning & Design

Jeff Alexander – Director of Strategic Partnerships and Business Development, Vermont Adaptive Ski & Sports

Venue: Classroom

Title: 10 Tips to Prevent “Sticky HR Situations” in your Business/Organization

Time: 9:45am – 11:15am

Facilitator: Jill Shoyer – Expedition HR

Venue: Classroom

**This Session is part of the Executive Director/Organization Leadership Track*

Title: Kicking It: Leveraging Pan-disability Training to Grow Your Sport

Time: 9:45am – 11:15am

Description: Adaptive Soccer. Brief lecture will give context for event and expectations of participants, as well as key points for session leader to emphasize on the court. Court: interactive pan-disability soccer session such that participants can observe and/or support. Brief group reflection post-session on the court prior to end.

Learning Objectives:

- Plan for mixed abilities.
- Adapt in the moment
- Leverage growth potential.

Facilitator(s):

Joslynn Bigelow – President, United Adaptive Soccer Association

Venue: Classroom

Title: The Future of Paraclimbing – How

Time: 1:45pm – 2:15pm

Description: This will be formatted as a lecture / presentation about how a community can gather behind adaptive sports and recreation to create an inclusive pipeline for individuals with disabilities to excel at a sport at different levels including nonprofits, gyms and training facilities, universities, and healthcare clinics. I will overview how the

adaptive program was first created at the front and how it was able to grow to what it is today through partnerships with the National Ability Center, Hanger Clinic, Neuroworx Clinic, and others within the Salt Lake Community. We'll talk about the importance of having specialty groups that have emphasis for beginners, intermediate, and advanced adaptive recreation within a sport as well as community spaces that are intended to merge the different leveled athletes and engage socially beyond the sport.

Learning Objectives:

- How to engage the local community in the creation of adaptive spaces.
- How to effectively build a pipeline for athlete success and identity surrounding the sport.
- How to address accessibility concerns and roadblocks as pertains to risk management.

Facilitator(s):

McKenna Guilds – Adaptive Program and Partnerships Manager, The Front Climbing Club

Venue: Classroom

Title: The Importance of Sports Diplomacy and International Exchange Programs: Forget Passing Laws...Pass the Ball!

Time: 1:45pm – 2:15pm

Description: Our session's main topic will focus on Sports Diplomacy and how we inspire change at home and abroad using sports, with a specific focus on our adaptive sports programs. Evan and I will briefly discuss our roles and talk about what sports diplomacy is and its importance to the U.S. government and sports communities in the United States. This will be a lecture format, since our primary goals are to get the word out about our programs and put out a call for adaptive sport organizations to get involved in our programs. We will give examples and show photos of how we connect with partner organizations such as the Endeavor Games, provide examples/photos of our groups visiting American universities to learn about their adaptive programs and playing new adaptive sports, visiting rehab and community centers, how they connect with Americans with disabilities, and the response our partners have to our programs, which is overwhelmingly positive! We require a projector for a PowerPoint presentation and two microphones for an unlimited capacity lecture. We will engage the group by asking them to talk about their experiences in other countries and how that differs to the US. We will also provide opportunities for the audience to give examples of talk about sport metaphors, and how sometimes administrators need to adjust their language when working with different group of people with varying experiences and abilities.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the role of sports and diplomacy and their interconnectedness.
- Provide an opportunity for nonprofits to get involved in international exchange programs.

- Create moments to talk about the Eurocentric/American worldview when it comes to disabilities and sport and how we can adjust our language to be more accessible for global audiences.

Facilitator(s):

Jane Merriman – Program Officer, FHI 360

Evan Campbell – Program Manager, FHI 360

Venue: Classroom

Title: Crush Your Media Presence! Best Practices in Building Awareness as we Approach LA28

Time: 1:45pm – 2:15pm

Description: This session will outline best practices in obtaining and optimizing media coverage for your program, using Angel City Sports as a successful case study. This is important for the viability and sustainability of your program, as well as the overall growth of the Paralympic movement. Unfortunately, the adaptive and Paralympic sports movement in the U.S. has a significant awareness problem. Yes, things are changing after Paris24 and ahead of LA28, but the vast majority of Americans don't really understand what the Paralympics are. In fact, many in the media also do not understand what adaptive and Paralympic sports are. All adaptive sports programs across the country can be an important part of changing this.

Learning Objectives:

- The importance of maintaining personal relationships in the media (and tips on how to do so).
- The importance of identifying and developing media ambassadors.
- The importance of educating the media on proper language as related to the Paralympic movement.

Facilitator(s):

Clayton Frech – Founder and CEO, Angel City Sports

Venue: Classroom

Title: Navigating Nonprofit Challenges: The Power of Transparent Communication

Time: 2:35pm – 3:35pm

Description: In the ever-evolving landscape of nonprofit management, transparent communication emerges as a vital tool for overcoming challenges and fostering an inclusive organizational culture. This session will explore how effective communication strategies can address key issues within the nonprofit sector, including the evolving DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) environment, volunteer shortages, and staff recruitment and retention.

Join us as we delve into the importance of building trust and collaboration through clear and open communication. We will discuss practical approaches to enhance volunteer recruitment efforts, ensuring that organizations attract and retain passionate individuals

from diverse backgrounds. Additionally, we will explore how transparent communication can empower staff members, fostering a positive workplace culture that enhances retention and job satisfaction.

This session is particularly relevant for executive directors and organizational leaders, providing insights into how they can leverage communication best practices to navigate challenges effectively and create a thriving nonprofit environment. Attendees will leave with actionable strategies and tools to implement in their organizations, promoting a culture of transparency that drives engagement, inclusivity, and success.

Learning Objectives:

- **Understand the Role of Transparent Communication:** Participants will gain insights into how transparent communication is essential for fostering an inclusive culture within nonprofit organizations, particularly in the context of disability inclusion in sports. They will learn the principles of effective communication that build trust and collaboration among stakeholders.
- **Identify Strategies for Enhancing Inclusion:** Attendees will be able to identify and implement specific strategies for using transparent communication to enhance volunteer engagement, recruit individuals with disabilities, and create responsive programming that meets the needs of diverse communities.
- **Develop Actionable Communication Plans:** Participants will learn to develop actionable communication plans that prioritize inclusivity and accessibility. They will leave with practical tools and examples to effectively communicate their organization's commitment to disability inclusion, ensuring that diverse voices are represented and engaged in their programs.

Facilitator(s):

Vince Abramo – Organizational Peace Specialist, Bambooshoot

Venue: Classroom

Title: Being Allies Against Ableism in the Workplace

Time: 2:35pm – 3:35pm

Description: In this presentation, presenter will lead an in-depth discussion about how we, as service providers, can be allies against ableism in the workplace. Presenter will share lived experiences as well as perspectives of other blind/low vision professionals. In addition to exploring ableism and allyship in the workplace, we will explore practical ways to support students in developing their self-advocacy skills that they can utilize in the workplace.

Learning Objectives:

- By the end of this presentation, attendees will be able to define overt and covert ableism and describe at least 3 examples of each in a workplace setting.
- By the end of this presentation, attendees will be able to describe at least 3 actionable steps they can take to be allies against ableism.
- By the end of this presentation, attendees will be able to brainstorm at least 3 ways to support students in their workplace self-advocacy development.

Facilitator(s):

Kristen French – Senior Programs Manager, Camp Spark & Sports Adaptations,
Northwest Association for Blind Athletes

Venue: Classroom

Title: Building Better Boards

Time: 2:35pm – 3:35pm

Description: All nonprofits need strong and supportive boards. Sometimes, though, organizations may settle for people willing to serve, whether or not they may be right for the needs of the organization. This session will provide the basics of best practices for building better boards and provide attendees a framework to do so.

As described in the book, *The Board-Building Cycle*: “The most effective boards — those whose members are deeply committed to the organization’s mission and purpose, who bring expertise in key areas, and who represent diverse experiences, points of view, and cultural backgrounds — evolve over time and have a sustained focus on good governance.”

Learning Objectives:

- Introduce best practices of *The Board-Building Cycle*.
- Review and showcase the three phases of building better boards Phase 1: Strategic Recruitment Phase 2: Effective Engagement Phase 3: Intentional Revitalization.
- How to put together an action plan to engage better board governance work for your organization.

Facilitator(s):

Ed Bronsdon – Consultant

Kim Krebs – Consultant, Kim Krebs Consulting

Venue: Classroom

**This session is in the Executive Director/Organization Leadership Track*

Title: Database-driven Programming: The importance of database structure and automations

Time: 3:55pm – 4:55pm

Description: This session will take a dive into Sportable’s use case of the Salesforce Program Management Module. From the beginning stages of building the database structure, to unique uses of applications and automations, we will cover key factors that permitted our organization to sit back and allow a database to drive our program operations.

Learning Objectives:

- After participating in this session, attendees should be able to explain why creating a data structure that fits their operational processes is key to success.
- After participating in this session, attendees should be able to identify processes in their daily operations that would benefit from the use of automations.

- After participating in this session, attendees should understand that creativity is key in formulating data solutions that are unique to their data needs.

Facilitator(s):

Michelle Page – Director of Administration, Sportable Adaptive Sports and Recreation
Tyler Rowe – Acting Program Director, Sportable Adaptive Sports and Recreation

Venue: Classroom

Title: Strategic Leadership and Vision: Steering Sports Organizations to Excellence

Time: 3:55pm – 4:55pm

Description: In this session, Bruce Bode will offer a deep dive into executive-level leadership within sports organizations, sharing his extensive experience from his role as Executive Director of the United States Adult Soccer Association (USASA). He oversees a quarter of a million members and associates of the USASA. Bruce will highlight key strategies for setting a visionary direction, aligning executive goals with organizational mission, and driving strategic initiatives that foster long-term success. Attendees will learn about the importance of strategic planning, executive decision-making, and stakeholder engagement in crafting a robust organizational framework. Bruce's discussion will provide valuable perspectives on leading with foresight, building a high-performance team, and navigating the challenges of managing a large-scale sports association, offering actionable insights for executives aiming to elevate their organizations in a competitive landscape.

Learning Objectives:

- Strategic Vision and Goal Alignment: Learn to develop and communicate a clear vision that aligns with the organization's mission and drives long-term success
- Executive Decision-Making and Leadership: Discover how to make high-impact decisions and foster a culture of accountability and innovation at the executive level
- Stakeholder Engagement: Get familiar with strategies for effectively engaging stakeholders and ensuring cohesive communication to support organizational objectives

Facilitator(s):

Bruce Bode – Executive Director, United States Adult Soccer Association (USASA)

Venue: Classroom

Title: Tips to Be a Marvelous Manager

Time: 3:55pm – 4:55pm

Facilitator: Jill Shoyer – Expedition HR

Description: Learn how to be a marvelous manager through learning the exact ways to build trusting relationships with your team. In this training, you'll learn uplevel your emotional intelligence, communication, and difficult conversation skills, as well as learn the exact words to use and avoid when interacting with your team.

Venue: Classroom

Inclusion in Schools & Universities Track:

Title: From Coursework to Competition: A Model for “Infiltrating” a University to Increase Interdisciplinary Adaptive Sports Education and Launching a University-based Adaptive Athletics Program

Time: 9:45am – 11:15am

Description: This session presents an innovative framework for introducing adaptive sports in academic and healthcare settings, developed to address a crucial need for adaptive athletics in Cincinnati. By leveraging our positions within local hospital systems and partnerships with the University of Cincinnati (UC), we created sustainable education pathways, increased programming for adaptive sports, and established the UC’s Adaptive Athletics program. This lecture will outline our approach, from initial course offerings to large-scale community involvement and national collaboration, underscoring the importance of hands-on experience, interdisciplinary partnerships, and funding strategies.

Participants will explore the frameworks developed to educate future healthcare providers and medical students about adaptive sports. This session will also dive into the course designs, event planning, and logistical frameworks that led to the creation of the adaptive athletics program at UC, and it will provide actionable insights for professionals interested in creating similar programs at their institutions. The session will conclude with an interactive affinity mapping exercise where participants can identify specific strategies for introducing adaptive sports at an audience-selected university, generating actionable steps to inspire similar initiatives nationwide.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the importance of adaptive sports in medical education and how it reshapes provider perspectives.
- Learn a replicable model for expanding adaptive sports education and programming at the University level, including course frameworks, hands-on clinical experiences, and interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Recognize effective strategies for securing funding, building partnerships, and navigating institutional support for adaptive sports programs.

Facilitator(s):

Danny Meyer – PT, DPT / Executive Director, Cincinnati Children’s / The Bridge Adaptive Sports and Recreation / University of Cincinnati

Victoria Heasley – MD / Board President, University of Cincinnati / The Bridge Adaptive Sports and Recreation

Venue: Classroom

Title: Adapted PE Activities for Students with Visual Impairments – An Interactive Training

Time: 3:55pm – 4:55pm

Description: In this interactive training, participants will explore different PE activities and lessons specifically adapted for blind/low vision students. Participants will have the opportunity to experience the activities from the perspective of a blind/low vision student. After an in-depth exploration of PE adaptations, participants will have hands on experience learning how both indoor and outdoor activities can be adapted for blind/low vision students. Participants will have the opportunity to try out a variety of different PE units from the perspective of blind/low vision students including blind soccer, beep kickball, locomotor skills, object control skills, track and field, and more. The hands-on training portion will also include discussion about how adaptations can be applied to their students' classrooms. This training will wrap up with time to brainstorm adaptations to specific activities in their classroom, with an opportunity to learn from one another with an open discussion at the end.

Learning Objectives:

- By the end of this presentation, attendees will be able to describe the general adaptations necessary for students with visual impairments to be included in physical education.
- By the end of this presentation, attendees will be able to outline at least 3 activities specifically adapted for students with visual impairments.
- By the end of this presentation, attendees will be able to brainstorm at least 1 activity along with adaptations for students with visual impairments.

Facilitator(s):

Kristen French – Senior Programs Manager, Camp Spark & Sports Adaptations, Northwest Association for Blind Athletes

Venue: Classroom

Title: Ski for the Health of It – Opportunities in School Districts Operating on a Four Day Week

Time: 3:55pm – 4:55pm

Description: The Ski for the Health of It case study will examine the challenges and opportunities of engaging students with disabilities in outdoor sports and recreation activities on Mondays and Fridays when school is not in session on a four-day school calendar. The case study will also examine the challenges of a volunteer-based adaptive sports organization managing growth in demand for services in a small rural tourism dependent Idaho mountain community. The program breaks down the barriers (such as finances and transportation) that prevent individuals from participating and finds real long-term solutions to open access to all individuals with disabilities to participate in outdoor recreation in Idaho.

The session would include all aspects on the implementation of new Ski for the Health of It program targeted to reach local school kids with disabilities that come from disadvantaged families. The session will explain how the program was established,

implementation, barriers, solutions, and lessons learned. The goal of the session is to help other adaptive programs to establish similar programs to reach school age children in their areas.

Learning Objectives:

- Recruit students from the McCall Donnelly School District (MDSD) with limited resources and give them an opportunity to participate in AWeSOMe!'s 2024/25 Ski for the Health of It Program.
- Determine and remove the barriers for each student/family interested in participating in the Ski for the Health of It Program.
- Recruit/train volunteer instructors and implement the Ski for the Health of It Program.

Facilitator(s):

Chris Wernert – Executive Director, Adaptive Wilderness Sports of McCall (AWeSOMe!)

Terry Edvalson – Organization Development Lead, Adaptive Wilderness Sports of McCall (AWeSOMe!)

Beth Guest – Program Director, Adaptive Wilderness Sports of McCall (AWeSOMe!)

Venue: Classroom

Intersections with Medical Professionals Track

Title: Shoulder Rehabilitation & Injury Prevention for the Adaptive Athlete

Time: 9:45am – 10:45am

Description: The presentation will be modified to apply to a more comprehensive audience (i.e. less medical jargon & evidence jargon) for providing key takeaways from current medical evidence in supporting athletes with disabilities with shoulder injuries and injury prevention for athletes in wheelchairs.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the unique shoulder kinematic, biomechanical, & sport-specific demands for seated athletes.
- Identify appropriate performance testing and outcome measures to utilize with adaptive athletes.
- Be able to apply evidence-based interventions for shoulder rehab & injury prevention for seated athletes.

Facilitator(s):

Jacob Graboski – Owner & Physical Therapist, Adapt Physical Therapy & Fitness

Venue: Classroom

Title: Control Everything With Anything – ADA 2.0

Time: 9:45am – 11:15am

Description: Join a spinal cord injury physician with low frustration tolerance on his

journey to accelerate equality in function, performance and independence for the spinal cord injury athlete community. Observe the awkwardness of an aspiring inventor attempting to nudge a traditional academic healthcare system towards an innovation first, research second strategy. See how efforts to translate advances in consumer technology for individuals with complex injuries and illnesses can have a surprising effect beyond the rehabilitation arena. Watch high-tech, low-volume adaptive sports technology products with no chance of commercial success actually make it out into the global community. Finally, imagine what could happen when an entire University system works together to offer patients a radically elevated, long-term quality of life solution.

Learning Objectives:

- Discover new opportunities for individuals with tetraplegia and other complex disabilities.
- Understand the gap between innovation and commercialization.
- Recognize the need for SCI professionals to stay involved to ensure an active lifestyle.

Facilitator(s):

Jeffery Rosenbluth – MD, University of Utah

Venue: Classroom

Title: Collaboration in Care: Uniting Professionals, Families and Nonprofits to Support Injured Service Members Through Sport

Time: 2:35pm – 3:35pm

Description: Injured service members often encounter a multitude of resources during their recovery, yet they may struggle to navigate this complex support network involving medical providers, command teams, family members, friends and external organizations. This session aims to foster a collaborative approach to rehabilitation, enhancing optimal care and seamless transitions to sport.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will learn to clearly define and articulate the roles of various stakeholders involved in the rehabilitation process for patients.
- Attendees will acquire techniques for improving communication with both athletes and their dynamic support teams to foster collaboration and enhance care.
- Participants will explore the importance of a comprehensive support system that addresses the needs of injured service members and civilians, emphasizing a full picture of their recovery journey.

Facilitator(s):

Heather Carey – Recreation Therapy Supervisor, Center for the Intrepid

Venue: Classroom

Title: Collaboration in the prosthetic care for your Amputee Athlete

Time: 2:35pm – 3:35pm

Description: Presentation on prosthetic options for amputee athletes. We will discuss prosthetic specific components as well as some common gait abnormalities that can be rectified with socket modification/ alignment changes as well as best practices for communication with prosthetists regarding your athletes needs. Pathways to funding for devices in O&P.

Learning Objectives:

- Prosthetic terminology/classification.
- Prosthetic Design.
- Sport specific considerations.

Facilitator(s):

Jillian Okimoto – Certified Prosthetist, Hanger Clinic

Venue: Classroom

Title: Return to Recreation

Time: 1:45pm – 2:15pm

Description: This session is a crash course of the barriers that could be present for individuals looking to return to a recreational activity or start up fresh in a new adaptive sport. The process from recently discharged from the hospital going towards engaging in a recreational activity is a challenging road with dozens of hoops to jump through. This presentation will deconstruct the different barriers to recreation, discuss international models of inclusion into recreation and the outcomes associated with a state-directed policy to help engage individuals with disabilities to return to recreational activities.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the barriers to return to recreation.
- Address the progression for returning to recreation.
- Understand the value added upon returning to recreation.

Facilitator(s):

Dane Stair – Internal Director, NeuAbility

Venue: Classroom