

Minor Adaptations, Major Inclusion

Blind Sports & Adaptive PE for the Visually Impaired

Understanding Exclusion...



Forget Competition

Children with visual impairments are faced with differing challenges:

- Peer Relations
- Inclusion in Group Activities
- Mentor Relationships
- Independence
- Depression

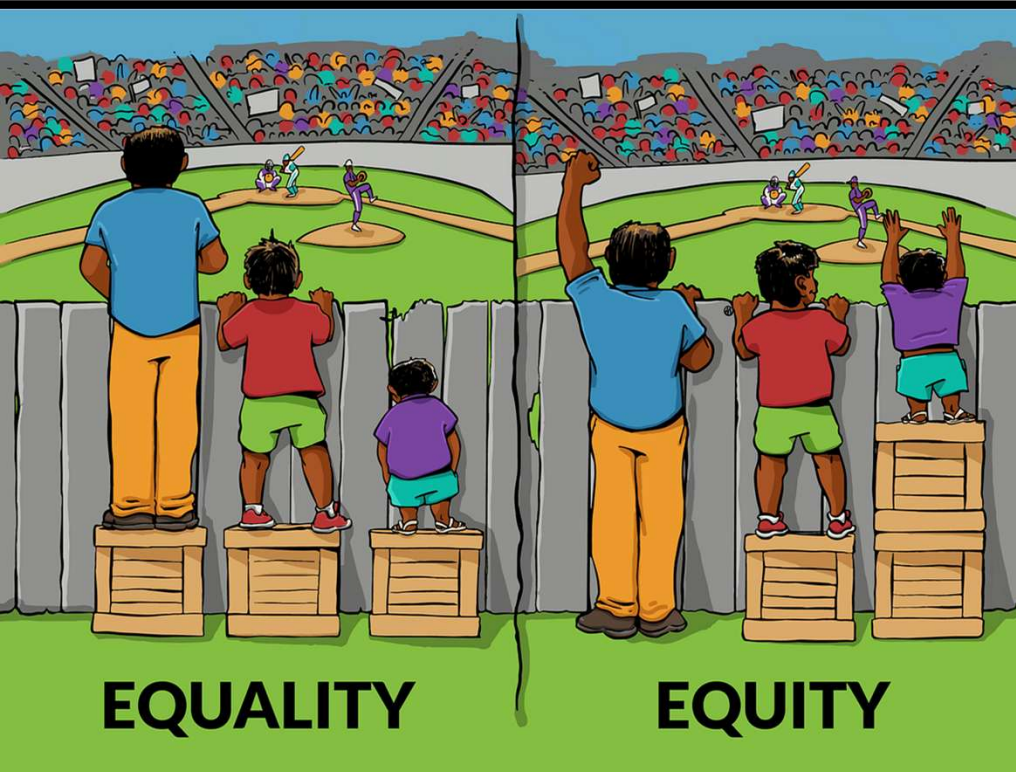
It's. Not. About. Sports.

"Organized sport programs provide a unique developmental context... not because of the activity itself, but because they provide a 'natural' laboratory where youth are required to negotiate the complexities of social interaction, peer pressure, and collective responsibility under the guidance of adult mentors."

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— *Dr. Nicholas L. Holt, "Positive Youth Development Through Sport"*

The Fight For Equity



Inclusion for the visually impaired community has always been equity based.

And sometimes all that is needed.

How Comfortable Are You

The question was, “How comfortable are you with visually impaired kids doing anything?”

Any takers?

It's just a sense...



History of Blind Sports

- 1946 - Goalball invented
- 1964 - Beep Baseball Invented
- 1976 - Goalball Paralympic debut
- 1981 - International Blind Sports Federatoion Formed

Paralympic

- Swimming
- Cycling
- Equestrian
- Climbing
- Judo
- Alpine Skiing
- Nordic Skiing
- Triathlon
- Rowing
- Track & Field

Team Sports

- Blind Hockey
- Beep Baseball
- Blind Baseball
- Blind Cricket
- GoalBall
- Blind Soccer
- Blind Sailing

Individual Sports

- Blind Golf
- Blind Tennis
- Blind Bowling
- Powerlifting
- Archery
- Wrestling
- Skateboarding
- Surfing

The Impact is Obvious

While the smile in a child immediately feeling included in a sport they have always wanted to play is impactful, this should be the smile when they find THEIR community, not the thrill of inclusion.

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The threshold is inclusion.

Period

Sight Loss is Traumatic

The inclusive ability of a large obnoxious hockey puck to ensure former athletes there is still a place for them in the game they love is life saving.

Life. Saving.

Period.

Can We Play Now Coach?

Live Demo of Each Sport Offered:

Blind Hockey (stickhandling and shooting)

Blind Tennis (small court doubles)

Blind Baseball (soft toss)

Blind Soccer (dribbling)

Blind Kickball