Inclusion of Student-Athletes with Disabilities

NCAA INCLUSION STATEMENT
As a core value, the NCAA believes in and is committed to diversity, inclusion and gender equity among its student-athletes, coaches, and administrators. We seek to establish and maintain an inclusive culture that fosters equitable participations for student-athletes and career opportunities for coaches and administrators from diverse backgrounds. Diversity and inclusion improve the learning environment for all student-athletes and enhance the excellence within the Association.

NCAA INCLUSION STATEMENT (CONT.)
The Office of Inclusion will provide or enable programming and education, which sustains foundations of a diverse and inclusive culture across dimensions of diversity, including, but not limited to age, race, sex, class, national origin, creed, educational background, disability, gender expression, geographical location, income, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation and work experiences.

Adopted by the NCAA Executive Committee, April 2010
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES
- Increase awareness
- Provide education
- Establish NCAA Student-Athletes with Disabilities Subcommittee
- Seek collaborations and partnerships
- Create long-term vision

NCAA STUDENT-ATHLETES WITH DISABILITIES THINK TANK (OCT. 2013)

Objective and Structure
To provide opportunity to hear and learn about measures the NCAA may take to continue meeting the needs of student-athletes with disabilities. Invited think tank participants included university and intercollegiate athletics administrators, individuals experienced in disability access to sports and NCAA national office staff.

Areas of Focus
- Mainstreaming/accommodations
- Adapted sports
- Supporting those with education-impacting disabilities
- Best practices
NCAA STUDENT-ATHLETES WITH DISABILITIES THINK TANK (CONT.)

Outcomes

- Ideas exchanged
- Opportunities and challenges identified
- Prioritized considerations developed

NCAA STUDENT-ATHLETES WITH DISABILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Recent/Current Action Steps

- Add additional expertise to composition of subcommittee
- Increase awareness and education to the membership via NCAA communication vehicles (e.g., NCAA Convention, NCAA Inclusion Forum, NCAA print/on-line media)

NCAA STUDENT-ATHLETES WITH DISABILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE (CONT.)

Recent/Current Action Steps (CONT.)

- Assess and improve communication accessibility for all within the membership (e.g., closed captioning and interpretation services)
  - Data collection
  - Best practices guide
Dialogue