

Changing the way we think in regard to sport for disabled people.

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Inequality

- Equality does not exist.
- Disabled people do participate at the same levels as non-disabled people.
- Not to do with fitness, social cohesion, medical issues, charitable ideals, personnel development, health etc
- Those areas not unique to disabled people.

What is causing the inequality?

- Barriers to participation.
- But what are the barriers?
- Where are they?
- Who created them?

SE Disability Survey 2000 - Survey of People with a Disability and Sport

Barriers to participation in sport



Research concluded that without intervention the traditional forces of supply and demand were unlikely to address the needs of disabled people in the sport and physical activity environment.

Barriers

- Barriers created by perception.
- Not ramps, not toilets, not equipment.
- Created by providers.
- Created by disabled people.
- Created by society.
- Cerebral rather than real.

So whose to blame?

- Everybody
- We have created a vision and an ideal of a exclusiveness
- Made it easy for the mainstream to opt out.
- Turned disability sport into a 'good deed'
- Into a worthy cause. Not top any agenda (apart from mine)



Disability Sport

vs.

**Sport for
Disabled People**

Disability Sport

- Exclusive opportunities
- About sports that are targeted at disabled people
- Adapted for disabled people
- Played by disabled people
- Worthwhile place
- But are sports alongside other sports –

Sport for Disabled People

- The wider picture
- The concept of disabled people accessing mainstream sport as equals
- The concept of mainstream provision being inclusive of disabled people.
- Disabled people choosing the sport of their choice rather than their impairment decreeing the sport

Inclusion

- “Those who have the strategy, policy and provision responsibility for sport for non-disabled people are responsible for the strategy, policy and provision for sport for disabled people.”
- “No matter a persons ability or disability, they have the right to participate”

Key Messages

Disability sport has its place
Exclusive provision has its place

BUT

is it in detriment to disabled people equally
accessing mainstream provision?

Key Messages

SBC Leisure Services & EFDS will support clubs to be inclusive.

EFDS Inclusive Club Health Check
- working towards inclusion in your club.