

Accessible and Inclusive Sport and Active Recreation



Customer contact - first impressions last

Making the interactions with prospective and existing members of your club or association more accessible and inclusive:

 Train your staff to be disability confident: Use person first language e.g. 'person who is blind', 'person who uses a wheelchair'. Do not use terms like 'wheelchair bound' or 'has a development issue'. Use the diagnosis e.g. 'has Autism', 'is blind', 'has low vision', 'is Deaf'. Do not use descriptors such as 'the blind man'. A person is not defined by their disability. Be patient, listen and respond appropriately and respectfully Sit at the same level as someone in a wheelchair Interact with the person not with their interpreter or carer and don't assume they speak on behalf of them Don't pat or distract a Guide Dog or Assistance Animal Speak normally Don't assume they have other disabilities Ask what adjustments you may provide so they can fully participate Learn basic Auslan signs and keep a pen and paper handy or the Deaf Society
 Make your physical premises accessible and compliant with the Disability Access to Premises Standards: Ramps not steps and continuous paths of travel Clear, colour contrasted accessible signage Accessible toilets Wide doorways Remove obstructions Low counter and table heights for users of mobility equipment Install a Hearing Loop system Provide shade and seating Remove or minimise things that can trigger people with sensory sensitivities and consider reduced lighting, a sensory retreat space and keeping ambient noise to a minimum
Be assistance animal friendly, put some water bowls out
Host an information session and present the accessible features of the club and registration process
If hosting a BBQ or providing catering, consider the dietary needs and preferences of attendees e.g. food allergies and intolerances, people with limited mobility, cultural appropriateness of food served, needs of older people, children etc