

England Athletics

Inclusive Club Health Check Disability Athletics

England Athletics are committed to creating the right environment for athletes of all abilities to participate and perform in athletics.

Our *Whole Sport Plan 2013-2017* reflects our commitment to ensuring disabled athletes can participate in athletics in an **integrated** club and coaching environment.

The England Athletics *Inclusion Policy* states that:

*England Athletics is committed to ensure that athletes of all abilities are able to participate equitably within athletics. England Athletics seeks to develop a focus on inclusion, not exclusion, and ensure that we provide appropriate advice to affiliated members to ensure that disabled athletes can participate as fully as possible within athletics. England Athletics will seek to ensure that it complies with the *Equality Act 2010* and encourages its affiliated members to do so.*

This *Inclusive Club Health Check* is not a pass or fail document, it is designed to be used as a check list to see how inclusive your club is. It will enable clubs to identify and prioritise issues and areas where support is needed or action is required. It can be used at any time or as a formal part of the Clubmark accreditation / reaccreditation process.

You are encouraged to work through the document and identify areas where support is needed and specific actions that require follow up. These can be noted at the end of the document or included in your club's development plan.

Once the document has been completed you are encouraged to contact your Club and Coach Support Officer (CCSO) who will provide dedicated support and advice to address the issues appropriately through your whole club development plan and/or athletics network.



The document is made up of the following sections relating to the **Whole Club Planning** process:

1. **People & Member Services**
2. **Member Welfare**
3. **Community Links**
4. **Club Management & Marketing**
5. **Follow-up action required**
6. **Contacts**



1. People and member services

Question	Yes ✓	No X	Action needed	Supporting information & resources * Available from www.englandathletics.org/disabilityathletics
Does your membership include disabled athletes, coaches, officials or volunteers in your club? If yes – please provide a rough breakdown of numbers	✓		General note: see statement in section 5.	Consider that the term disability covers a wide range of impairments, some of which can be hidden i.e. visual impairments and learning disability
Do you encourage disabled athletes to join in with main club training sessions?	✓			Coaches are encouraged to do what they do best – adopt an athlete centred approach and adapt activities appropriately. Where disability specific sessions exist there should be clear pathways for progression into mainstream club training groups. Specific support is available via CCSOs (see contact details below) to provide relevant impairment specific information and other support where required.
Do you integrate disabled athletes in any competitions you provide?	✓			See England Athletics <i>Guidance to Inclusive Practice for Race Organisers</i>
Do you identify appropriate competitions for your disabled athletes?		X		Disabled athletes can compete in mainstream events (e.g. open meets), integrated events (e.g. England Athletics Track & Field Championships) and/or disability only events (e.g. National Disability Sports Organisation events). Disabled athletes should be made aware of all the options available to them so they can decide on the most appropriate events for them See England Athletics <i>Disabled Athlete Pathway</i>
Do you know where to signpost an athlete for classification and advice?	✓			Athletes requiring classification for a physical impairment should contact – classification@uka.org.uk For athletes with an intellectual impairment: www.uksportsassociation.org/athlete_classification For athletes with a visual impairment: www.britishblindssport.org.uk For deaf athletes (no Paralympic pathway)- www.ukdeafsport.org.uk Or for further advice contact your CCSO (see contact details below) See England Athletics <i>Classification Factsheet</i>



2. Member welfare

Question	Yes ✓	No X	Action needed	Supporting information & resources *Available from www.englandathletics.org/disabilityathletics
Are you aware of the Equality Act 2010?	✓			Available via: www.equalities.gov.uk/equality_act_2010
Are you aware of the England Athletics Inclusion Policy?	✓			See England Athletics <i>Inclusion Policy</i>
Do you have an inclusion policy?		X	REVIEW	See England Athletics <i>Template Inclusion Policy</i>

3. Community links

Question	Yes ✓	No X	Action needed	Supporting information & resources *Available from www.englandathletics.org/disabilityathletics
Does your club have links with local schools, disabled people organisations, rehabilitation units or other disability groups? e.g. Hearing units, Aspire, Hedley Court, limb centres, physiotherapists, local authority services, actionaires groups etc		X		Your CCISO will be able to help to find the right contacts via your County Sports Partnership. See England Athletics <i>Inclusive Athletics Guidance</i>

4. Club management and marketing

Question	Yes ✓	No X	Action needed	Supporting information & resources *Available from www.englandathletics.org/disabilityathletics
Do you have a dedicated officer / lead contact responsible for disability?		X		This could just be the membership secretary. Both email and phone number contacts should be available for disabled athletes to contact the club to discuss any reasonable adjustment or additional support required.
Does your club membership form and welcome pack mention disabled athletes?		X	REVIEW	Knowing whether members are disabled will enable you to provide them with the most appropriate training, competition and support. See England Athletics <i>Inclusive Athletics Guidance</i>
Do your coaches, officials & volunteers have a good understanding of disability athletics?		X		Coaching resources at: http://ucoach.com/coaching/event_specific/#disability See England Athletics <i>Inclusive Athletics Guidance</i>



4. Club management and marketing (continued)

Question	Yes ✓	No X	Action needed	Supporting information & resources * Available from www.englandathletics.org/disabilityathletics
Have you provided or have your coaches, officials and volunteers accessed Disability Awareness Training? Please state names and numbers attended.		X		UK Disability Inclusion Training-Athletics course available via: www.englandathletics.org/UKDIT SCUK Effective Communication: Coaching Deaf People in Sport course available via: www.sportcoachuk.org
Have you completed an audit of the disability experience and knowledge of your coaches? Please provide a copy		X		Consider events, different impairment groups, performance level etc.
Do your coaches, officials and volunteers use appropriate terminology?	✓			See England Athletics <i>Terminology Factsheet</i>
Do you have any funding to support disabled athletes or develop disability athletics at your club?		X		Contact your CCSO or County Sports Partnership for details of local and national funding opportunities.
Do you try to encourage and attract disabled athletes to your club? And can show evidence? i.e. flyers, website, promotional activity etc		X		Think about use of photos, language and communication methods (audio and visual) but also how to market your club to disabled individuals and disability organisations locally. See England Athletics <i>Inclusive Athletics Guidance</i> England Athletics <i>Providing Accessible Information Guidance</i>
Do you use images of disabled athletes in your marketing?		X		Think about different impairment groups, ages, genders, performance levels and event groups
Are your facilities accessible to disabled athletes?		X		Think about parking, steps / ramps, signage, toilets, changing, doors, lifts / stairs, 3-2-1 routes, throws fixings etc Sport England Guidance: www.sportengland.org EFDS Guidance: www.efds.co.uk
Do you have access to appropriate equipment for disabled athletes? e.g. racing chairs, throwing frames, correct implement weights.		X		See England Athletics <i>Equipment and Funding Documents</i> (Running Blades, Racing Chairs, Throwing)
Can wheelchair users access the track for training?		X		



5. Follow-up action required

Any issues/areas for support and actions need to be incorporated into your club's development plan with appropriate timescales for implementation.

Notes

Ilkley Harriers, both junior and senior sections, welcomes and supports runners with mild disabilities who can take part in regular Club activities. However we do not have the facilities or the coaches to provide specialist support for those with greater needs and we direct runners who need more support to nearby clubs that do have this infrastructure in place, or to England Athletics for advice. This policy will be reviewed with changes in coaching volunteer capabilities and interests, and with demand.

6. Contacts

Further support, information and advice on disability athletics is available through your Club and Coach Support Officer (CCSO).
For your local CCSO see: www.englandathletics.org/yourarea
England Athletics website: www.englandathletics.org/disabilityathletics

