



## Checklist #2: Club Inclusion

This Checklist is aimed at giving you some practical ideas about developing and inclusive sport or recreation club. It will help you focus on some of the practical strategies your club can employ to make it more inclusive – not just of people with disability – many of these strategies will be good for a diverse range of people who could be part of your club. Again, it's a starting point.

There is no 'order' to this Checklist and you may have to adapt further for the specific needs of your club.

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Consider applying for funding grants to adapt your premises or to subsidise your staff or volunteers to go through disability awareness training.

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Develop partnerships with local disability agencies. Invite them to 'open days' or events that showcase what your club has to offer. Visit them on their premises and get to understand the sort of business they operate.

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Develop a Disability Policy for your club. This need not be a huge or complex document – just something that articulates your club's position on inclusion. Make your Policy public by putting in newsletters, or websites or hang it on the club wall.

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Form an Inclusion Committee for your club and ensure that the Committee has a good cross-section of people from within the club. The Committee should report to the Board or management highlighting its main achievements.

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Create a 'buddy' system for new members. The buddy is responsible for introducing the new member to others in the club and to making sure the new member is familiar with how the club operates, when things happen and where facilities are.

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New members should be encouraged to invite family members and significant others to come along to social functions and to watch games;

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Think about your membership structure, particularly how fees are determined. Do you have family memberships so that family and carers can join for the price of one membership. Do you have discounts for disadvantaged populations?

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Tap into any disability awareness training that might be available in your area or ask your local government authority if they provide such training.

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Develop links to Special Schools or schools that have specialist units attached and send your coaches and volunteers to run some activities with the students. After one or two sessions they will be wanting to join your club!

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Consider how your clubs training or general activities might need to be adapted to attract people with disabilities. Talk to people with disabilities and understand what their specific needs are.

**Contact:** There are many more resources and tools coming at The Inclusion Club – please come and visit us at <http://theinclusionclub.com>