ASAPD

AUSTRALIAN SPORTING ALLIANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

OTIUM

SPORT + LEISURE + COMMUNITIES

DISABILITY SPORTS – COMMUNITY FACILITY GUIDELINES

Volume 2: Outdoor

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FORWARD

Sport and active recreation play a vital role in fostering inclusion, wellbeing, empowerment and community connection. For people living with disability, access to inclusive and accessible outdoor sporting environments is fundamental to participation, achievement, health and social engagement. While significant progress has been made, many outdoor sport and recreation facilities continue to present barriers that limit opportunities for people living with disability to participate fully and confidently.

The Disability Sports – Community Facility Guidelines (Volume 2: Outdoor Facilities) have been developed to help address these challenges. This resource provides practical guidance for planners, designers, asset owners, managers, sporting organisations and community stakeholders involved in the planning, development, upgrade and operation of outdoor sport and recreation facilities.

As Australia progresses towards the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, there is a unique opportunity to ensure that investment in community sporting infrastructure delivers a lasting legacy of increased participation, inclusion and accessibility. These Guidelines support that legacy by encouraging outdoor sporting environments that welcome and enable participation by people living with disability at every level of sport and active recreation.

Informed by the lived experiences of athletes, participants, coaches, administrators, facility managers and organisations committed to advancing inclusive sport across Australia, these Guidelines identify design and operational considerations that support meaningful participation. They recognise the diversity of disability experiences and seek to embed accessibility and inclusion from the earliest stages of planning through to ongoing facility management.

The Guidelines are founded on the principles of universal design, sustainability, collaboration and community benefit. By promoting multi-use, adaptable and welcoming environments, they aim to maximise participation opportunities for people of all abilities while delivering facilities that benefit the broader community.

As part of the Australian Sporting Alliance for People with a Disability's commitment to national leadership in inclusive sport and active recreation, we hope this document will assist local governments, sporting organisations, facility managers, planners, designers and funding bodies to create outdoor spaces that are accessible, inclusive and fit for purpose. Through a shared commitment to inclusion, we can create environments where everyone has the opportunity to participate, connect and thrive.

John Croll AM
Chair and Independent Director
Australian Sporting Alliance for People with a Disability



1. INTRODUCTION

The **Disability Sports—Community Facility Guidelines (the Guidelines)** are a practical resource for planning, designing, managing and utilising community sports facilities for activities involving people with disabilities and their associated organisations.

1.1. GUIDELINE NEED

While positive strides are being made to enhance outcomes within sports infrastructure for people with disabilities, a significant disparity remains between the community participation opportunities available to the able-bodied and those available to people with disabilities. This inequity spans locational accessibility, facility functionality and design, access to fields of play, and the overall experience of people and delivery organisations, highlighting a critical need for improvement.

There is a genuine desire within the government and the sports sector to address the challenges mentioned; however, limited resources are available to guide public servants, sporting organisations and industry advisors. A comprehensive tool that integrates the needs of people with disabilities and associated organisations from early planning to delivering and managing community sporting infrastructure can significantly enhance outcomes. By adopting a realistic, sustainable and phased approach, we can ensure that people with disabilities enjoy the same opportunities and experiences as other members of the sporting community.

The runway to the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games has, and will, provide several opportunities to reimagine and develop new strategies and visions that can create positive legacies for the sporting landscape in Australia. One of these areas is the development of best practise facility strategic advice that provides guidance and purpose in the design of the facilities for people participating in sport who have a disability, impairment, or a limitation. The aim is to normalise standards so a universal planning strategy can be created for all Australians at all venues. All venues must be accessible, ensuring all people are valued.

In developing this guidance, accessibility, impairment, and inclusion (including competitors, officials, volunteers, and spectators) will be the driving parameters for future facility developments for all, without the need to develop a standalone facility for people with a disability, impairment, or limitation.

The Guidelines provide access to sports facilities for all people regardless of their disability, noting the intersectionality of disabilities where people may have more than one disability.

The Guidelines are needed in order to support people with a disability with:

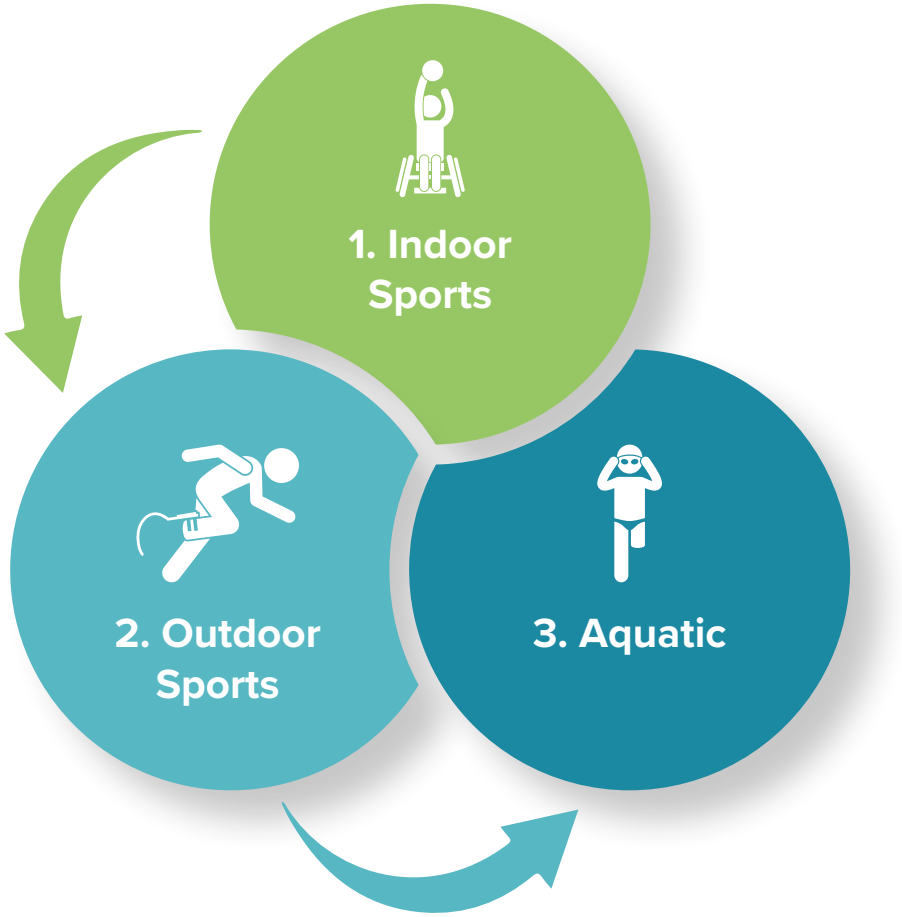
- Improved accessibility to venues and outdoor facilities
- Growth in participation and sustainable competition opportunities
- Improved sports participation integration between people with disabilities and able-bodied athletes
- Enhanced knowledge sharing and education between sports for people with disabilities and able-bodied sports
- Venues and facilities that are designed to incorporate the needs of and to optimise the user experience for athletes with a disability.

1.2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Guidelines is to inform community sporting infrastructure locational accessibility, management and access arrangements, and facility design. The Guidelines are envisaged to support sporting organisations, planners, architects, builders, operators, government agencies, and educational institutions in enhancing sporting outcomes for people with disabilities.

1.3. SCOPE

The Guidelines are prepared for the specific needs of the following sports infrastructure types:



Volume 1 (Indoor Sports) was released in 2025, whilst this, Volume 2, informs the needs of outdoor sports facilities.

Otium Planning Group (Otium) prepared the Guidelines for the Australian Sporting Alliance for People with a Disability. To ensure Guidelines accuracy and capacity for implementation, advice on the standards and peer review activities has been undertaken by:

- Deaf Sports Australia - Cindy Lu Bailey OAM
- Sport Inclusion Australia - Chantel Lewis CEO
- Blind Sports Australia - Matt Levy PLY OAM
- Inclusion Sports Design
- ASAPD - Ross Ashcroft.

Given that most sporting facilities are non-sport specific, the Guidelines consolidate the needs of partner sports into a single document, with a focus on achieving multi-use outcomes.

1.4. STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

The Guidelines are informed by leveraging and are consistent with the following Australian Sporting Alliance for People with a Disability strategic documents:

ASAPD
AUSTRALIAN SPORTING ALLIANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

Members sport specifications, guidelines and recommendations

Produced by Australian Sporting Alliance for People with a Disability.

2. FACILITY HIERARCHY

2.1. VISION

The Vision of the Guidelines is for community sports facilities for people with disabilities to:



Provide a similar level of locational accessibility to community sports facilities to that enjoyed by able-bodied athletes.



Provide peak time accessibility to fields of play for training and competition opportunities for people with disabilities.



Encourage a collaborative and integrated environment between people with disabilities and the able-bodied.



Enhance opportunities to put sport for people with disabilities on display to the broader community.



Support a healthier community by optimising opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in sport, socially integrate and be physically active.



Enhance the investment in and sustainability of sports infrastructure by optimising use and viability.

2.2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Guiding Principles for the planning, design, development and management of sports facilities for people with disabilities are:



Respect and Recognition

Future community sports facilities will recognise and celebrate the important role that sports play in supporting a healthier community for people with disabilities.

Diversity

Future community sports facilities will offer numerous opportunities for individuals with disabilities to engage in sporting activities.





Collaboration and Integration

Future sports facilities will cater to disabled and able-bodied athletes, promoting social interaction, knowledge sharing and collaboration.

Sustainability

Future community sports facilities will support the sustainable growth of sport participation for people with disabilities and optimise the use and financial performance of infrastructure.



2.3. HIERARCHY

Regional, state, national, international and high-performance standard sports facilities provide important pathways in sport for people with disabilities. However, these guidelines focus on optimising community sports participation for people with disabilities and do not include the broader classification needs of these higher-standard uses and facilities.

Outlined below is a summary of the purpose, provision, catchment and accessibility for district standard (community) outdoor sports facilities designed to meet the participation needs of people with disabilities and those without:

	DISTRICT STANDARD (COMMUNITY)	REGIONAL, STATE, NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL AND HIGH PERFORMANCE STANDARDS
Purpose	Can be standalone or incorporated within a broader, multi-purpose space that accommodates the outdoor sporting needs of the local community of people with disabilities for home and away fixtures, social sport, training activities and participation programs. Outdoor sports facilities considered within these Guidelines include: « Sporting ovals, courts and fields « Surf lifesaving facilities « Golf courses « Outdoor sports amenities.	*Outside of the scope of these Guidelines.*
Provisional Rate	« One outdoor sports space : 1,200 people.	
Locational Accessibility	« Outdoor sports facility to be located within a 5-minute drive time of most residents.	
Catchment Size	« Minimum 5-minute drive time catchment for a new facility = 3,500 people.	



3. FACILITY STANDARDS

The following facility standards are intended as a guide for preferred requirements, rather than minimum standards. Facility standards should be reviewed and applied in conjunction with relevant industry and construction standards.

The facility standards outlined below are general guidelines for multi-use community sports facilities designed to accommodate individuals with disabilities and those who are able-bodied.

3.1. INFORMATION

Publicly available information on a venue's suitability is the starting point for people with disabilities and influences their experience. To help people with disabilities research a venue's accessibility before they arrive, a range of strategies can be implemented that are informative, transparent, and easy to access, including:

- Dedicated section within the venue web page, including the potential for a companion website, including:
  - Use of visual aids
  - Photos
  - Videos
  - Virtual tours
  - Virtual maps for route planning pre-arrival
  - Floor plans.
- Implementation of a companion app.
- Provide the opportunity for accessibility ratings and reviews.
- Offer downloadable resources.



3.2. ARRIVAL AND NAVIGATION

Transport and access to facilities are among the largest barriers preventing participation in sport for people with a disability, with access starting before the venue entrance. On this basis, the preferred arrival and navigation facility standards are:

- Accessible parking located closest to and on the same level as the main accessible paths and entry.
- Drop-off zones for accessible taxis, community transport, and buses.
- Continuous step-free paths from parking to entry.
- Provide wide, step-free paths of travel, automatic doors with sufficient circulation space and wide corridors.
  - Minimum pathway width: 1.8m for two wheelchairs to pass.
- All internal and external floor surfaces for paths of travel should be smooth, firm, non-slip and designed to reduce friction as much as possible (no gravel or unstable pavers).
- Wayfinding from public transport stops to venue entrances
  - Planners should map the arrival experience by walking the entire journey as if they were a wheelchair user, vision-impaired visitor, or family with a support worker.
  - Incorporate understandable symbols that provide directional and positional outcomes for all, including people whose first language is not English.
- Optimise co-location of key facilities such as fields of play, changerooms and other amenities.
- Incorporate automatic doors where applicable.
- Ensure a clear line of sight to exit points.

3.3. SURFACES

Outdoor sports facilities can often unintentionally exclude, and therefore key design considerations should incorporate:

- Step-free access to playing surfaces.
- Accessible athlete entry tunnels.
- Rubberised pathways around fields and tracks.
- Storage for adaptive equipment (sports wheelchairs, frames, etc.).
- Accessible dugouts/ benches for athletes with mobility impairments.



3.4. ACOUSTICS

Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons can have a range of hearing abilities, and many will use assistive devices, such as hearing aids or cochlear implants, to enhance sound. These devices can often amplify reflected sound waves, which can be distracting and even painful. Strategies to support deaf and hard-of-hearing persons include hearing loops, communication and explanation tools, acoustic barriers and captioning on screens.

The five key areas planners should consider for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons are: space and proximity; mobility; acoustics and electromagnetic interference; sensory reach; and light and colour.

Background noise and reverberation can be addressed through:

- Hallways and outside sidewalks being made wider to allow conversations to occur while walking.
- Building entrances should utilise automatic sliding doors to enable conversations to continue while entering and exiting buildings.
- Ensure that the spaces are free of visual clutter and obstructions to support clear sight lines for sign language.
- Avoid strobe (not suitable for people with epilepsy) or flashing lights added to building alarm systems.
- Consider visual signs that are portable (i.e. scoreboard, signalling, start light systems, information).
- Installation of strategically located soundproof panels.
- Create buffers from external noise sources such as traffic, other sports, or public areas.
- Rental/ loaned/ sale of earmuffs/ headphones, including having an “emergency” kit available with these items for situations where an attendee/ volunteer experiences sensory overload.

3.5. LIGHTING

The preferred lighting facility standards are:

- Ensure adequate, uniform lighting within a venue for those with minimal light perception and to support Auslan interpretation.
- Field of play lighting intensity should be at least 300 lux.
- Avoid areas that have shadows from windows and/ or lighting sources for vision-impaired athletes.



3.6. AUDIO/ VISUAL/ TEXTURAL

The preferred audio/ visual/ textural facility standards are:

« High-quality public address systems with minimal echo and distortion for announcements and cues.
« Public address systems designed to prevent sound bleed into the field of play during play.
« Include hearing loop technology throughout the venue.
« Employ directional speakers or sound beacons to help visually impaired athletes orient themselves.
« Ability to incorporate consistent, recognisable sounds for game signals and navigation.
« Ensure digital displays support real-time visual information on large, readable screens, including the ability to accommodate a sign language interpreter and/ or live transcription service alongside scoreboards.
« Use colour-coded zones or signage to indicate different areas within a venue.
« Incorporate textured or raised floor markings in buildings to assist with navigation.
« Include braille and raised-letter signage for room labels, exits and venue maps, including consideration of tactile maps in amenity facilities.
« Combine visual, auditory and tactile cues for navigation.
« Ensure wall colourings differ from equipment colours.
« Ensure clear glass has bright colour on it, at an appropriate height for people using a wheelchair.





3.7. CHANGEROOMS AND AMENITIES

The preferred changerooms and amenities standards are:

« Incorporate additional ambulant cubicles with grab rails and easy-access fittings.
« Design with wide circulation spaces.
« Ensure lockers, benches and pathways are at accessible heights and allow for side-by-side turning and passing, including provision for companion seats.
« Showers should include
  – Roll-in showers in the changeroom with a fold-down seat, handheld shower head, and grab rails.
  – Open shower areas for ease of access with curtain separation where appropriate.
« Toilets should include
  – Accessible toilets per team zone.
  – Additional ambulant toilets to meet peak-time demand.
« Ceiling hoists.
« Individual accessible cubicles.
« Adult change tables.
« Designated area that provides for fidget devices, including a chill-out space.
« First aid rooms should be nearby and in a calm, accessible environment.



3.8. COACHING/ OFFICIATING

The preferred coaching and officiating facility standards are:

« Incorporate accessible viewing and coaching areas to support observing and interaction with athletes.
« Ensure flexible layouts that can be reconfigured to accommodate different sports and coaching styles.
« Provide visual and auditory aids for coaches, officials and athletes, such as screens, tablets, or assistive technology.
« Ensure clear sightlines to the field of play over any facility barriers.



3.9. SPECTATORS

The preferred spectator facility standards are:

« Design spectator areas and position spectator seating sufficiently away from the field of play to prevent sound interference with play.
« Incorporate acoustic barriers between spectator areas and the field of play where practical.
« Wheelchair and companion spaces
  – Must be on an accessible route and not overlap circulation paths or aisles
  – Companion Seating
    • At least one companion seat should be provided next to each wheelchair space
    • Alignment should allow shoulder-to-shoulder seating with the wheelchair user
    • Should be a standard seat, not a folding chair or temporary seat.
  – Wheelchair users must have comparable lines of sight to other spectators
  – Wheelchair and companion seating must be dispersed throughout the venue across different viewing angles and price levels
  – Clear sightlines to the field of play, scoreboard, and interpreters
  – Large visible screens for scores and announcements
  – Choice of viewing positions (shade, sun, elevated)
  – Clear sightlines, including when spectators stand.



3.10. STORAGE

The preferred additional storage facility standards for disability sports are:

« Sports chairs
  – Area for 10-15 sports chairs
  – 35-45m2
  – Capacity to accommodate a wide base of up to 900mm
  – Secure access and adjacent team lockers.
« Equipment storage
  – Include an additional 40m2 per activity space for disability sport needs.



3.11. ENVIRONMENTAL COMFORT AND SAFETY

The preferred environmental comfort and safety facility standards for disability sports are:

« Shade structures along paths and seating
« Rest areas every 50–80 metres
« Accessible drinking fountains
« Weather protection (heat, rain)
« High-contrast edges on steps
« Tactile indicators near hazards.

4. MANAGEMENT AND ACCESS

The provision and standard of sports facilities are essential components in enabling people with disabilities to participate. Equally important is ensuring that management and access arrangements support fair outcomes for people with disabilities.

4.1. USER ACCESS

Peak hour use of formal outdoor sport facilities is typically:

- Monday to Friday
  - 4pm until late.
- Saturday and Sunday
  - 9am to 6pm.

Similar to other members of the community, people with disabilities attend educational institutions, work and care for others. As a result, many athletes with a disability have minimal to no available time during traditional working days and hours for their sporting pursuits.

To encourage participation growth and maintain competition sustainability, it is essential to provide training and competition opportunities for people with disabilities during peak times. Additionally, peak time participation opportunities should be integrated with other sports facility activities and programs to promote social interaction, knowledge sharing and collaboration.



4.2. MANAGEMENT TERMS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Regardless of the model implemented for managing outdoor sport facilities, the management arrangements should aim for best practice standards. Such standards include incorporating performance measures to ensure the objectives of a sports facility are realised.

For an outdoor sports facility, tenure is typically granted via a lease or right-of-use agreement. The following measures should be incorporated into tenure agreements to enhance sporting outcomes for people with disabilities, the following measures should be incorporated:



Peak time access
Minimum of eight (8) hours per sports activity space per week for dedicated activities for people with disabilities.



Off-peak access
Minimum of ten (10) hours per sports activity space per week for dedicated activities for people with disabilities.



Integration
Where possible, integrate activities for people with disabilities simultaneously as activities for other community members (except for activities by persons with disabilities requiring a quieter and/ or less lit environment).



Program and development
Develop new programs and activities aimed at increasing participation opportunities for people with disabilities.



Program diversity
Ensure sports facilities for disabled sports provide access opportunities for multiple, diversified activities.



Key stakeholder status
Include disability sport user groups in venue communications and planning alongside other community groups.



Data and reporting
Support future advocacy of the benefits of disability sports by recording participation levels of people with disabilities.



Maintain facility standards
Endeavour to maintain sports facilities to meet the standards of service outlined in the Guidelines.



Employment
Endeavour to optimise employment opportunities at venues for people with disabilities.

4.3. IMPLEMENTATION OF GUIDELINES

The Guidelines should be implemented based on a site-specific nature. The Guidelines should be peer-reviewed by people with a variety of lived experiences. Communication with the target groups (multiple people) is vital to the success of a facility in optimising opportunities for people with a disability. Adapt the standards on a site-specific basis following extensive engagement.

5. WARRANTIES AND DISCLAIMERS

The information in this report is provided in good faith. While Otium has applied its experience to the task, it has relied upon information supplied to it by other persons and organisations.

We have not conducted an audit of the information provided by others but have accepted it in good faith. Some of the information may have been provided 'commercial in confidence', and these venues or sources of information are not specifically identified. Readers should be aware that the preparation of this report may have necessitated projections of the future that are inherently uncertain and that our opinion is based on the underlying representations, assumptions and projections detailed in this report.

Otium's advice does not extend to, or imply professional expertise in the disciplines of economics, quantity surveying, engineering or architecture. External advice in one or more of these disciplines may have been sought, where necessary, to address the requirements of the project objectives. There will be differences between projected and actual results because events and circumstances frequently do not occur as expected, and those differences may be material. We do not express an opinion as to whether actual results will approximate projected results, nor can we confirm, underwrite, or guarantee the projections' achievability, as it is impossible to substantiate assumptions based on future events.

Base level functional layout sketches, including renders and animated fly-throughs, are for indicative purposes only (not for design, construction or detailed costing purposes).

This report does not constitute advice, investment advice, or opinion and must not be relied on for funding or investment decisions. Independent advice should be obtained in relation to investment decisions.

Accordingly, neither Otium nor any member or employee of Otium undertakes responsibility arising in any way whatsoever to any persons other than the client in respect to this report for any errors or omissions herein arising through negligence or otherwise caused.



APPENDIX A: OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITY STANDARDS AUDIT CHECKLIST

PART 1 | INFORMATION, ARRIVAL, SURFACES AND ENVIRONMENT

FACILITY	**AUDITOR**
AUDIT DATE	**FACILITY CONTACT**

Rating: *Tick Yes, No or N/A. Record evidence, location, defect and recommended action in notes. These are preferred guideline requirements and should be considered with applicable industry and construction standards.*

1. Information

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Venue website contains a dedicated accessibility section or companion website.	☐	☐	
2	Accessibility information includes photos, videos, virtual tours, route maps and site plans.	☐	☐	
3	A companion app or equivalent accessibility support platform is available.	☐	☐	
4	Downloadable accessibility resources are available.	☐	☐	
5	Users can provide accessibility ratings, reviews or feedback.	☐	☐	

2. Arrival and Navigation

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Accessible parking is located closest to and on the same level as the main accessible path and entry.	☐	☐	
2	Drop-off zones accommodate accessible taxis, community transport and buses.	☐	☐	
3	Continuous step-free paths connect parking and set-down areas to the venue entry.	☐	☐	
4	Primary pathways are at least 1.8 m wide to allow two wheelchairs to pass.	☐	☐	
5	Paths and circulation surfaces are smooth, firm, non-slip and free of gravel or unstable pavers.	☐	☐	
6	Wayfinding is provided from public transport stops to venue entrances.	☐	☐	
7	Wayfinding uses understandable symbols and supports users whose first language is not English.	☐	☐	
8	Fields of play, changerooms and amenities are logically co-located.	☐	☐	
9	Automatic doors are provided, where applicable, with sufficient circulation space.	☐	☐	
10	Clear lines of sight to exit points are maintained.	☐	☐	

3. Playing Surfaces and Athlete Access

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Step-free access is provided to playing surfaces.	☐	☐	
2	Accessible athlete entry tunnels or field access points are provided where applicable.	☐	☐	
3	Rubberised or similarly low-resistance pathways are provided around fields and tracks where appropriate.	☐	☐	
4	Accessible dugouts or team benches accommodate athletes with mobility impairments.	☐	☐	
5	Routes between changerooms, fields of play and team areas are continuous and accessible.	☐	☐	

4. Acoustics

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Circulation routes are wide enough to support signed or face-to-face communication while moving.	☐	☐	
2	Automatic sliding entry doors allow communication to continue during entry and exit.	☐	☐	
3	Spaces are free of visual clutter and obstructions that compromise sign-language sightlines.	☐	☐	
4	Building alarms avoid strobe or flashing lights that may create hazards for some users.	☐	☐	
5	Portable visual signs or signalling systems are available where required.	☐	☐	
6	Strategically located soundproof or sound-absorbing panels reduce reverberation.	☐	☐	
7	Buffers reduce noise from traffic, other sports and public areas.	☐	☐	
8	Earmuffs or headphones, including an emergency sensory kit, are available.	☐	☐	

5. Lighting

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Lighting is adequate and uniform for people with minimal light perception and supports Auslan interpretation.	☐	☐	
2	Field-of-play lighting achieves at least 300 lux.	☐	☐	
3	Shadows from windows, structures or lighting sources are minimised in activity areas.	☐	☐	
4	Lighting avoids unnecessary glare and supports clear visual communication.	☐	☐	

PART 2 | COMMUNICATION, AMENITIES AND PARTICIPATION

6. Audio, Visual and Textural

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Public address systems provide clear cues with minimal echo and distortion.	☐	☐	
2	Public address systems minimise sound bleed onto the field of play during play.	☐	☐	
3	Hearing-loop technology is available throughout the venue.	☐	☐	
4	Directional speakers or sound beacons assist people with vision impairment.	☐	☐	
5	Consistent, recognisable sounds are used for game signals and navigation.	☐	☐	
6	Large digital displays provide readable, real-time information.	☐	☐	
7	Displays can accommodate an Auslan interpreter and/or live transcription alongside scoreboards.	☐	☐	
8	Colour-coded zones or signs support orientation.	☐	☐	
9	Textured or raised floor markings assist navigation within buildings.	☐	☐	
10	Braille, raised-letter signs and tactile maps are provided where appropriate.	☐	☐	
11	Wayfinding combines visual, auditory and tactile cues.	☐	☐	
12	Walls and equipment use effective visual contrast.	☐	☐	
13	Clear glazing includes bright contrasting markings at a height visible to wheelchair users.	☐	☐	

7. Changerooms and Amenities

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Additional ambulant cubicles include grab rails and easy-access fittings.	☐	☐	
2	Wide circulation supports wheelchair turning and passing.	☐	☐	
3	Lockers, benches and pathways are at accessible heights and include companion seating.	☐	☐	
4	Roll-in showers include fold-down seats, handheld showers and grab rails.	☐	☐	
5	Open shower areas provide curtain separation where appropriate.	☐	☐	
6	Accessible toilets are provided in each team zone.	☐	☐	
7	Additional ambulant toilets meet peak-time demand.	☐	☐	
8	Ceiling hoists are provided where required.	☐	☐	
9	Individual accessible cubicles and adult change tables are provided.	☐	☐	
10	A designated chill-out space accommodates fidget devices and sensory regulation.	☐	☐	
11	First-aid facilities are nearby, calm and accessible.	☐	☐	

8. Coaching and Officiating

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Accessible viewing and coaching areas support observation and interaction with athletes.	☐	☐	
2	Layouts can be reconfigured for different sports and coaching styles.	☐	☐	
3	Visual and auditory aids or assistive technology are available for coaches, officials and athletes.	☐	☐	
4	Clear sightlines to the field of play are maintained over barriers.	☐	☐	

9. Spectators

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Spectator seating is positioned to minimise sound interference with play.	☐	☐	
2	Acoustic barriers separate spectator areas from the field of play where practical.	☐	☐	
3	Wheelchair and companion spaces are on an accessible route and clear of circulation paths and aisles.	☐	☐	
4	At least one standard companion seat is beside each wheelchair space.	☐	☐	
5	Companion seating allows shoulder-to-shoulder alignment.	☐	☐	
6	Wheelchair users have comparable sightlines to other spectators, including when others stand.	☐	☐	
7	Accessible seating is dispersed across viewing angles, price levels and shaded, sunny or elevated positions.	☐	☐	
8	Accessible viewing positions provide clear sightlines to the field of play, scoreboard and interpreters.	☐	☐	
9	Large visible screens provide scores and announcements.	☐	☐	

PART 3 | STORAGE, SAFETY AND MANAGEMENT

10. Storage

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Dedicated secure storage accommodates 10–15 sports chairs.	☐	☐	
2	Sports-chair storage provides approximately 35–45 m^2.	☐	☐	
3	Storage accommodates equipment with a base up to 900 mm wide.	☐	☐	
4	Sports-chair storage is adjacent to team lockers.	☐	☐	
5	An additional 40 m^2 of equipment storage is provided per disability-sport activity space.	☐	☐	

11. Environmental Comfort and Safety

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Shade structures are provided along paths and at seating areas.	☐	☐	
2	Rest areas are provided at intervals of approximately 50–80 m.	☐	☐	
3	Accessible drinking fountains are provided.	☐	☐	
4	Weather protection addresses heat and rain exposure.	☐	☐	
5	Steps have high-contrast edges.	☐	☐	
6	Tactile indicators are provided near hazards.	☐	☐	

12. Management, Access and Participation

#	AUDIT CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A / NOTES
1	Dedicated activities for people with disabilities receive at least 8 hours of peak-time access per sports activity space per week.	☐	☐	
2	Dedicated activities for people with disabilities receive at least 10 hours of off-peak access per sports activity space per week.	☐	☐	
3	Activities are integrated with other community programs where appropriate.	☐	☐	
4	New programs and activities are developed to increase participation by people with disabilities.	☐	☐	
5	Facilities provide access to multiple and diverse disability-sport activities.	☐	☐	
6	Disability-sport user groups are included in venue communications and planning.	☐	☐	
7	Participation levels of people with disabilities are recorded and reported.	☐	☐	
8	Facility standards are maintained in accordance with the Guidelines.	☐	☐	
9	Employment opportunities for people with disabilities are actively supported.	☐	☐	
10	Site-specific implementation is peer-reviewed by people with varied lived experiences.	☐	☐	
11	Target groups are engaged when adapting standards to the site.	☐	☐	

Audit Summary and Priority Actions

PRIORITY	FINDING / REQUIRED ACTION	RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
High			
Medium			
Low			

Overall Audit Outcome

☐ Meets preferred standards ☐ Partially meets preferred standards ☐ Significant improvements required



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