



Unlocking Potential: Making Golf Inclusive for All

Imagine a sport where every playing field welcomes diversity, and every player—regardless of ability—feels valued. The EDGA 8-Stage Pathway, supported by The R&A, is turning this vision into reality, creating opportunities for individuals with disabilities to fully and meaningfully participate in golf. This isn't just a strategy; it's a call to action for National Federations, clubs, golf facilities, and communities to embrace inclusivity, innovate, and lead the change.

A Journey with Purpose

Every journey begins with a single step. But what if you are unsure of your starting point or where you're heading? The 8-Stage Pathway acts as a map, helping golf organisations pinpoint their current position, define their destination, and navigate the way forward. Grounded in sport development principles, the needs of people with disabilities, and insights from the golf industry and medical industry, this programme equips organisations with practical tools and resources to grow and sustain golf for the disabled (G4D).

By breaking the journey into eight clear stages, the pathway offers a tailored approach to suit any golf organisation, no matter its starting point. It's about building capacity, addressing gaps, and fostering inclusivity so that golf can reflect the diverse communities it serves.

The Stages of Change

The pathway's eight stages provide actionable steps to inclusivity:

1. **Self-Assessment:** Establish where you stand, assess your knowledge, and identify gaps.
2. **Accessible Facilities:** Evaluate and improve locations to ensure they are welcoming to all.
3. **Workforce Preparation:** Train directors, staff, volunteers and coaches to anticipate and meet diverse needs.
4. **Inclusive Communication:** Raise awareness within the disabled community and educate the golf world about the benefits of G4D.
5. **Participation Pathways:** Encourage newcomers to fall in love with golf and progress to active participation.
6. **Competitions and Events:** Create opportunities for golfers with disabilities to compete, from grassroots to elite levels.
7. **Coach Development:** Equip PGA professionals and coaches with the skills to support players with impairments.
8. **Legacy Building:** Create a sustainable future where golf is a sport for everyone.

Why Take Action?

Golf is a game of inclusion at its core: almost anyone can take a club, hit a ball, and aim for a target, whether alone or with others. The stationary nature of the ball makes the sport uniquely accessible. Yet, the golf industry itself can often feel less accessible.

By removing the barriers many individuals with disabilities face, golf can become one of the most inclusive sports, offering unparalleled physical and mental well-being benefits. Embracing the 8-Stage Pathway allows you to unlock the potential of this underserved demographic, enrich your organisation, and leave a transformative legacy.

With EDGA's resources—including training modules, communication tools, and expert consultancy—the golf industry is empowered to make inclusivity a reality. From creating accessible facilities to hosting events that celebrate talented players, this pathway ensures golf is more than a sport—it's a beacon of belonging.

Join the Movement

The 8-Stage Pathway is more than a framework; it's a chance to lead the way in making golf a sport for everyone, rather than trying to play catch up when legislation demands greater inclusivity. Let's break down barriers, celebrate diversity, and shape a future where the game reflects the community it serves.

For guidance or simply to get started, contact EDGA today. Together, we can make golf truly inclusive and inspire the next generation of players.

The time to act is now. Will you be one of the leaders?