



PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL

LUDIS IUNGIT

Project approved by the International Board
TOP SENSITIVE SPORT-FOR-ALL CLUB

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The need for actions ensuring assistance to disabled people is felt in a particularly dramatic way by the weakest sections of the population; in particular, it emerges that families bear the greatest burden for the care of their loved ones.

Yet, even with enormous investments from the State, these measures fail to reach and maintain the expected levels of efficiency and sustainability.

These considerations end up being particularly important when compared to the "after us" issue, a complex subject which involves some very delicate aspects, not just emotional, but also legal and financial.

Panathlon International has decided to make this criticality its own by committing to support these groups so to overturn the paradigm according to which social care is something that comes after development. On the contrary, *Panathlon International* wants to demonstrate that the third sector, voluntary work, families and the establishment, can together bring forward an innovative welfare by sparking a process of self-development.

Regarding the above, *Panathlon International* intends to turn its attention to the support for disabled people, both in sports and not, and wants to reward the Clubs that will further DEVELOP inclusive projects during 2021. Studies on the participation of disabled people in sport activities have shown that, over the years, this brings various benefits in those who take part in it, and contributes to stimulating mental, social, aesthetic, moral, as well as motor development.

Educating through sport is sometimes interpreted exclusively as a rehabilitation effort. In the majority of cases, however, it becomes a strong driving force, focussed on the recovery of the person, not just towards improved motor functioning, but also towards the acceptance of one's condition.

In fact, sporting activity helps the recovery of people who have become or were born disabled, in their emotional and interpersonal aspects and in relation to their surrounding social context.

Sport in general continues to create great interest, and through it disabled people have the chance to express their autonomy, organize their spare time, thus integrating into their socio-cultural context.

Nonetheless, it is equally important to give disabled people the possibility to access studies and cultural life in general, offering them the opportunity to discover the world that exists outside their home.

Panathlon International, therefore, intends to establish the *Top Sensitive Sport-for-All Club* awards as a tool to urge the Clubs to become progressively open to the more vulnerable, to those who have difficulty in accessing "civil society". Many, in fact, still see disability as something to be ashamed of and, for lack of public spirit find

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it hard to accept the so-called "DISABLED". Even more so out of ignorance, because everything that is unknown is frightening. We often mistakenly think that disability is synonymous with "non-productivity"; this is due to the difficulty in fitting into a society, so busy in pursuing its own economic ends that it marginalises all those who appear "different".

Panathlon International will take into consideration those projects that focus on the following issues:

- critical issues relating to the mobility of the disabled;
- removal of architectural barriers;
- purchase of games adapted for stately homes and parks;
- purchase of sports equipment;
- payment of sports lessons;
- payment of studies (books, fees, etc.);
- organization of trips to amusement parks, or to theatres, cinemas, museums, etc.

The project evaluation criteria will be:

- economically disadvantaged groups;
- type of disability of the people involved;
- number of people involved;
- possible public aid;
- impact on the community;
- place where the project takes place (suburbs, schools at risk, etc.);
- duration of the project;
- continuity of the project;
- what it leaves to the local community.

The project will award a cash prize to three Clubs that, according to a ranking established by a jury chaired by the International President, will have best implemented the objectives of the project.