



News Flash

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National Disability Sports Alliance Joins Forces with BlazeSports America

Atlanta, GA- The National Disability Sports Alliance (NDSA) has joined forces with BlazeSports America to increase opportunities in sport and physical activity for individuals with cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and related conditions such as muscular dystrophy and stroke.

"We are thrilled with the opportunity to increase BlazeSports America's capacity to serve an even greater number of youth and adults with physical disabilities and to ensure that individuals with cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, survivors of strokes and many other related conditions have access to recreational and competitive sport options," said Carol Mushett Johnson, executive director of BlazeSports America. "The staff and volunteers of NDSA are to be commended for the excellent work they have done in sports for athletes with disabilities and we look forward to having them as part of the BlazeSports team."

NDSA Executive Director Jerry McCole will be joining the staff of BlazeSports America as Sports Development Manager. His current office in Kingston, R.I. will become the BlazeSports Northeast Regional office. Moving forward there will be no interruption of NDSA services and programs. Upcoming programs include the National Boccia Championships this month in LaGrange, Ill. and the Indoor Wheelchair Soccer Championships Nov. 8-12 at Kingsport, N.Y.

"With the long, rich history of NDSA and the bright, strong future of Blaze Sports America, this collaboration will only enhance the quality of sports, fitness and recreation programs provided to people with physical disabilities throughout the United States," said Jerry McCole executive director of The National Disability Sports Alliance.

As a result of this venture, NDSA will phase out its operations in the next few months. BlazeSports America will assume NDSA's role as the National Coordinating Body for all sports coordinated and administrated by NDSA. Additionally BlazeSports America will formulate the rules, implement policies and procedures, conduct national championships, as well as disseminate safety and sports medicine information related to the implications of cerebral palsy, brain injury, stroke or related conditions on sport and physical activity.

BlazeSports America will be working closely with the United States Olympic Committee and the Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association in their continued efforts to further develop sports opportunities for people with cerebral palsy and related conditions.

About BlazeSports America:

BlazeSports America provides opportunities for children and adults with physical disability to realize their potential through sport and healthy lifestyles. BlazeSports provides sports training, competitions, summer camps, leadership training, and recreational opportunities for youth and adults who use wheelchairs, have a visual impairment, have an amputation, or who have a neurological disability such as cerebral palsy. For more information visit our website at www.blazesports.org