

# INCLUDING PHYSICAL DISABILITIES IN SCOUTING

**Special Presentation for Peralta District's  
May, 2023 Round Table**

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District Champions for GGAC's Special Needs & Disabilities  
Commission

# GOALS FOR TONIGHT'S PRESENTATION

- To heighten awareness of the challenges for people with disabilities
- Discover ways to address these challenges
- Understand the importance of being prepared and proper planning
- Introduce the Inclusion Tool Box

**PLEASE CONNECT TO:**

**<https://ablescouts.org/toolbox>**



# INCLUSION TOOLBOX MODULES

- Module **F** includes strategies for many types of disabilities
- Module **R** of the toolbox covers mobility and motor disabilities



# DON'T RE-INVENT THE WHEEL!

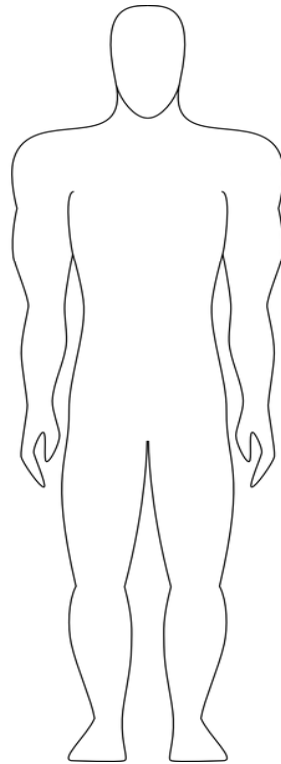


Use the new Inclusion Toolbox at <https://ablescouts.org/toolbox>

It covers many special needs and disabilities.

# PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

- Challenges moving or controlling the body



# **[Scout Name], LIFE SCOUT**



- A member of Troop 202 since 2018
- Current Patrol Leader of the [Patrol]

[Their] leadership, modeling the Scout Oath and Law, has contributed to our troop's belief in personal responsibility, staying the course, and doing one's best at all times.

**AS MODULE R SUGGESTS  
PREPARATION IS KEY**





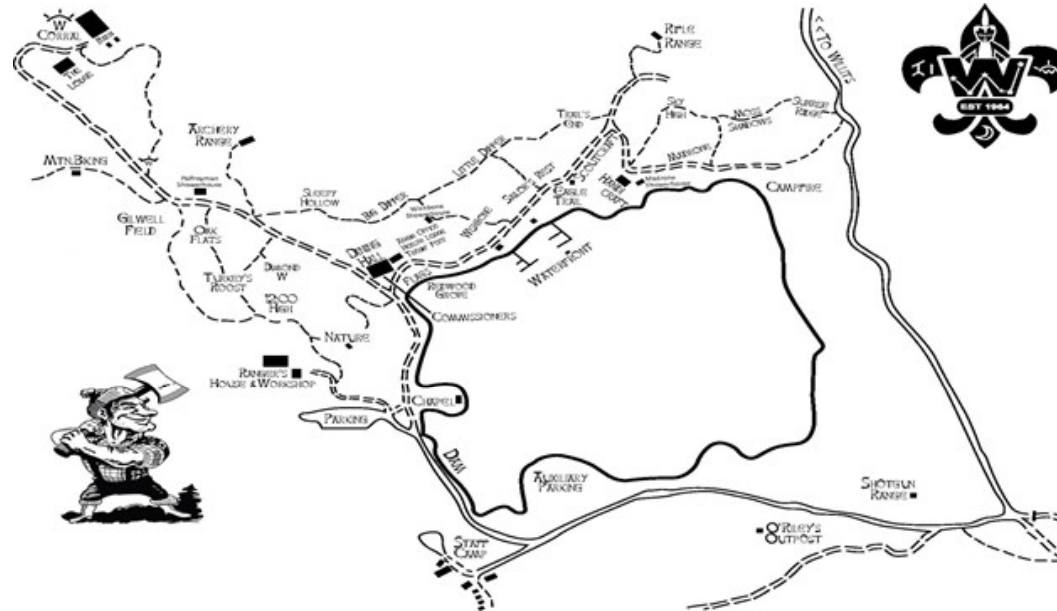
# MODULE R: “BEING PREPARED”

- Regular meeting sites: accessible?
- Ask scout and family what adaptations are needed for upcoming events
- Consider visiting a location in advance
- Talk to summer Camp Director about special needs and what the scout wants to attempt



# BEING PREPARED: SUMMER CAMP

- **Transportation While in Camp**

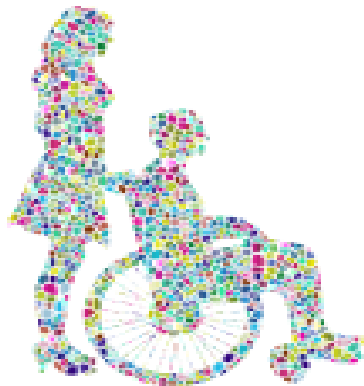


- Mapping campsite and all areas the troop will use for the disabled scout (special bathrooms, paths, etc.)
- See Module R, “Using Transportation”

# BEING PREPARED: OUTINGS AND SUMMER CAMP

- **TRAINING A PEER ADVOCATE**

1. To help the SN Scout speak up
2. To assist with needs
3. Someone the SN Scout trusts



# **BEING PREPARED: OUTINGS AND SUMMER CAMP**

- **COACHING SCOUTS**

**Coach the Scouts on the kinds of help that are needed.**

**Here are some common needs: (Module R “Helpers”):**

- Opening and holding doors
- Carrying things from place to place
- Lending a hand or an arm to steady someone
- Helping a wheelchair get over a small obstacle
- Carrying a food tray in a dining hall or restaurant
- Reaching for things that are too high or too low for the Scout to reach
- Stowing and getting out mobility aids when using vehicles
- Doing small tasks for people whose hands don't work well, like packing and unpacking
- Exploring ahead to locate an accessible entrance for the Scout

# BEING PREPARED: OUTINGS AND SUMMER CAMP

- **COACHING FOR THE SN SCOUT**



1. Emphasize they are helping by giving the unit Helpfulness practice and a reassurance that everyone belongs
2. Acknowledge how difficult this leadership role is, analogous to being on point during a hike

# ASSISTANCE BEYOND UNIT MEMBERS

- Parents/other family members



- Paid helpers: delegated permission and responsibilities



# LOWER BODY MOBILITY CHALLENGES: SURFACE TEXTURE

- *The ideal surface*



- *Reality*





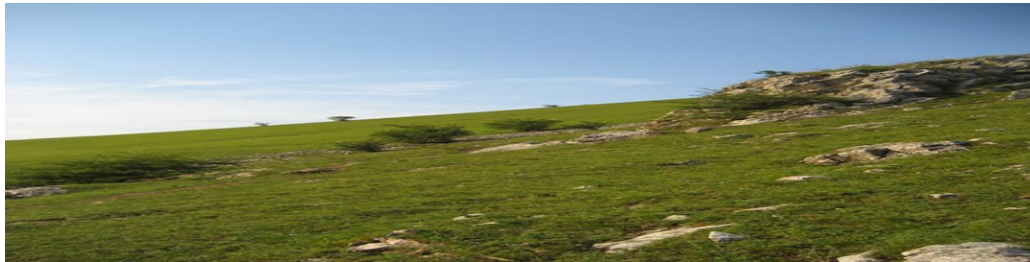
# OTHER “MOBILITY CHALLENGES”

## TOOLBOX, MODULE R

### 1. Bumps, steps, and Thresholds



### 2. Up and down slope    3. Left-right cross slope



### 4. Doorways



### 5. Pathfinding





# DEVICES A SCOUT MIGHT USE

- Braces for legs, knees, ankles, wrists
- Prosthetic limbs
- Cane
- Underarm crutches
- Forearm crutches
- Walkers
- Manual Wheelchairs
- Powered Chairs/Scooters
- Golf Carts
- Utility Off-road Vehicles (UTV)
- Wheelchair Accessible Conversion Vans/SUVs



# UPPER BODY CHALLENGES

*You do not need a lower body disability to have an upper body limitation, **but they may coincide.***

Pinching



Gripping



Arm Strength



Feeling



Positioning



Shaking



# “FUNCTIONAL PRIVATE SPACE”

## MODULE R

Tents



Bathrooms



Changing Clothes



Incontinence Needs



# ADAPTATIONS FOR SCOUTING

## ACTIVITIES – MODULE R

Hiking



Cycling



Orienteering



Shooting



Archery



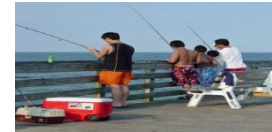
Swimming



Boating



Fishing



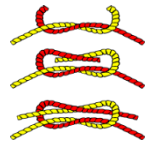
Fire building



Cooking



Knots



Rock climbing





# BATHROOM ACCESSIBILITY

**See this venue through the eyes of someone  
with mobility needs**

