



DBC Para Subcommittee for Veterans Terms of Reference

Name

The Para Subcommittee for Veterans (PSV) is a duly constituted subcommittee and shall operate at the pleasure of the Dragon Boat Canada/Bateau-Dragon Canada (DBC) board of directors (the Board).

Core Objectives

1. To address Para Veteran issues.
2. To increase access to programming for Para Veterans.

Function

The PSV shall provide leadership and direction regarding the overall involvement of veteran support organizations, veterans, and veterans with disabilities in dragon boating across Canada.

Accountability

The Board is vested with final authority in all areas of DBC Para Athlete programming. The PSV will work with the Para Committee to ensure an aligned approach is taken; the PSV will, however, operate semi-autonomously to address its core objectives unique to Para Veterans.

Structure and Selection

The PSV will consist of a minimum of five (5) members from across Canada with suitable expertise and experience to contribute to the PSV's objectives. Having experience within the dragon boat community will be important; leveraging existing connections or having the ability to network with Para Veterans and the veteran communities will be essential. Members commit to participating in meetings and working collaboratively to achieve the PSV's purpose.

A diverse membership will be drawn from across Canada and will ideally consist of (in priority):

- Para Veteran paddlers;
- Para athletes who are involved in dragon boat teams, clubs, and festivals/events;
- Members of military or veteran teams or clubs;
- Veterans who are involved in veteran groups, dragon boat teams or clubs, or festivals/events, especially in key areas;
- Members and organizers of dragon boat crews/teams/clubs who are "para friendly" or are seeking veterans with disabilities; and/or
- Paddlers with an interest in para and/or veteran paddling.

The PSV consists of:

- Chair (shall be appointed by the Board).
- Two (2) veterans with a disability.
- Two (2) organizers/allies/supporters of veteran events/festivals or programming
- One (1) representative from the Para Committee. The representative may be appointed as the PSV Chair but will otherwise act as the PSV liaison/point of contact to the Para Committee.

The PSV will work with DBC to recommend, select, and onboard committee members who are in good standing. Membership in the PSV will normally be for a term of two (2) years with the intent that members do not rotate out all at the same time.

Operation Responsibilities

The PSV shall:

- Provide recommendations pertaining to its core objectives to the Board, and to the Para Athlete, High Performance, and Festival committees as requested.
- Assess current and anticipated needs of the para and veteran communities and identify opportunities to provide programming for veterans and veterans with a disability.
- Establish and continually strengthen the links between veterans/veterans groups and teams/clubs/events/festivals.
- Establish a community that promotes awareness and fosters collaboration amongst and between veterans, veteran groups, teams, clubs, and festivals/events across Canada.
- Develop a network and resources to champion local/regional Para Veteran needs, develop mutually beneficial relationships, raise awareness, and connect veterans with a disability and their supporters to teams, clubs, and festivals/events across Canada.

Reporting

The PSV will normally meet monthly at a time and place as determined by the Chair. The Chair will ensure minutes of meetings are provided to the DBC Office within 14 days of meetings. The Chair will ensure that periodic subcommittee reports are provided to the Board of Directors, as a minimum biannually (one in preparation for the Annual General Meeting and one as a season wrap up/off season plan).

Term of the Committee

The PSV is a standing subcommittee of the Para Committee. The subcommittee and its core objectives, nature, and structure will be re-evaluated at a later date based on recommendations made by the Para Committee and PSV.