

## **BAY AREA & WESTERN CHAPTER OF THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA'S SPORTS FUNDING GUIDELINES (Updated 11/12/19)**

To be eligible to participate in sports or recreation programs with financial sponsorship by the Bay Area & Western Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America (BAWPVA) you must be a member in good standing of the BAWPVA.

### Major National Sporting Events

Members of BAWPVA who have never competed in an event before will be considered novices for up to two years and may compete in two major sporting events (The Winter Sports Clinic and National Veterans Wheelchair Games). Travel and lodging will be covered. Food and transportation (taxi) will be considered but may not be approved depending on the budget during that fiscal year.

Members of BAWPVA who have competed in an event before and are not considered novices may compete in one major sporting event (The Winter Sports Clinic or National Veterans Wheelchair Games). Travel and lodging will be covered. Food and transportation (taxi) will be considered but may not be approved depending on the budget during that fiscal year.

Members that require personal care services to attend national sporting events may petition the Chapter's Board of Directors for additional funding for attendants. No member will be denied support for a national sporting event solely because he/she needs assistance of a caregiver to travel or participate. Shared team caregivers may be required if practical.

### Other National and State Sporting Events

Members of BAWPVA who are considered novices for up to two years may request for funds for national and state tournaments which may include: Archery, Basketball, Boccia Ball, Bowling, Rugby, Table Tennis, etc. Travel, lodging, and registration fees will be covered at 75% of the total request for the first event and 50% of the total request for up to two events. Food and transportation (taxi) will be considered but may not be approved depending on the budget during that fiscal year.

Members of BAWPVA who are not considered novices may request for funds for national and state tournaments which may include: Archery, Basketball, Boccia Ball, Bowling, Rugby, Table Tennis, etc. Travel, lodging, and registration fees will be covered at 50% of the total request for up to three events. Food and transportation (taxi) will be considered but may not be approved depending on the budget during that fiscal year.

Members that require personal care services to attend national and state sporting events may petition the Chapter's Board of Directors for additional funding for attendants. No member will be denied support for a national and state event solely

because he/she needs assistance of a caregiver to travel or participate. Shared team caregivers may be required if practical.

### Local Recreational Sports Events and Clinics

Participation in local recreational sports events and clinics are the same for novice and veteran athletes. BAWPVA will provide a guide/coach for these events but participants are responsible for all of their own expenses (travel, lodging, meals, caregivers, etc.). The Chapter has limited equipment for these activities which may be used if available. Most events will be at local VA Hospitals. Travel may be approved for Sports Directors and Staff who are running the clinics.

### General Terms and Conditions

Travel: Travel by air will be based on the most economical fares available 45 days in advance for economy, round trip airfare. If travel is by other means (automobile, train or bus), reimbursement will be at rates authorized by the Chapter's Board of Directors and will not exceed the roundtrip economy airfare for the same travel.

Lodging: Hotel/motel accommodations will be reimbursed based on one half the double occupancy rate of the approved facility.

Registration Fees: Entry fees or registration fees for approved sporting events will be reimbursed by BAWPVA.

Meal Expenses: Meal expenses for sporting events may not be reimbursed by BAWPVA. The ultimate decision is up to the Chapter's Board of Directors.

Requests for Funds: All Request for Funds for sporting events are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.

Team Uniforms: If team uniforms are available, participants, coaches and support personnel will be provided team uniforms without charge subject to budgetary limitations and availability.

Practice Sessions: Team members must attend scheduled practice sessions/clinics in order to get full funding as described above.

Exceptions to these Policies: All exceptions to these policies must be approved in advance by the Chapter's Board of Directors.

#### Athlete Participation:

All athletes should be a Certified Member of BAWPVA or are in the process of becoming a Certified Member.

Articles and Presentations:

For the athlete to be approved, a written article is required by the athlete and will be published in *The Bridge*. The athlete is also required to present to peers and/or community once a year about their experiences at the event or events.

Other:

Other sporting activities or events may be approved at the discretion of the Chapter's Board of Directors.

If an event or activity takes place more than 100 highway miles (one way) from your home, the Chapter's Board of Directors will decide if travel will be approved.

Exceptions to these policies must be approved by the Chapter's Board of Directors.

**Breakdown of Policy:**

**Novice Athletes:**

**Coverage:**

Major National Sporting Events (2 Events)	100%
- Travel and Lodging	
Other National or State Sporting Events (1 <sup>st</sup> Event)	75%
- Travel, Lodging, and Registration Fees	
Other National or State Sporting Events (2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Event)	50%
- Travel, Lodging, and Registration Fees	

**Veteran Athletes:**

**Coverage:**

Major National Sporting Events (1 Event)	100%
- Travel and Lodging	
Other National or State Sporting Events (Up to 3 Events)	50%
- Travel, Lodging, and Registration Fees	