

## Advocacy Committee Mission Statement

The Advocacy Committee (AC) will be responsible for coordinating the Association for Applied Sport Psychology's (AASP) internal and external advocacy initiatives as they relate to AASP membership, and sport-related issues within local, state, national, and international sectors. Often in collaboration with AASP's Diversity Committee (DC), the Ethics Committee (EC), and the International Relations Committee (IRC), the AC's role is broadly focused on generating and coordinating advocacy efforts that *put into action* AASP's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and social justice.

Within the context of sport, exercise and performance psychology (SEPP), **advocacy** can be broadly understood as actions, behaviors, or initiatives by organizations or individuals, who hold some degree of power (e.g., influence, status, authority), done on behalf of (and often in collaboration/solidarity with) those with less power or greater vulnerability (Sappington & Carter, 2020). In this way, the AC will work with the AASP Executive Board, Diversity and Inclusion Council, other AASP committees, and AASP membership to create structural change that fosters an inclusive culture as well as advocates for and fosters the physical, emotional and psychological safety and well-being of individuals within sport and the SEPP community - particularly those among historically marginalized groups.

The committee's objectives and mandates will evolve in response to social justice-related needs and issues in sport, exercise, and performance settings. Examples of AC initiatives or "projects" may include, but are not limited to:

- Responding to modern and historical forms of injustice in sport by generating and coordinating initiatives that confront racism, sexism, patriarchy, White supremacy, homonegativity, trans negativity, sexual violence, ableism, classism, xeno negativity, and other longstanding forms of discrimination, hate, oppression, and harm
- Working in collaboration with the Diversity, International Relations, and Ethics Committees and Special Interest Groups (SIGs) to generate and coordinate initiatives that promote research and applied work focused on issues of diversity, inclusion and social justice
- Identifying and disseminating evidence-based advocacy knowledge and ethical best practice for applied SEPP practitioners
- Building working relationships with key stakeholders in sport, academia, and other related fields to support integrative and collaborative approaches to advocacy (e.g., NCAA, NASSS, NASSM, FEPSAC, ISSP, IOC and APA – Division 47)
- In concert and collaboration with aligned AASP committees and SIGs, monitoring and contributing to advocacy policies of local, state, national, and international sport psychology, athletic organizations, and areas that impact the practice of sport psychology
- Working jointly with AASP committees and SIGs to prepare analysis of proposed policies, resolutions, or oversight topics and writing testimony, position statements, fact sheets, comment letters, and Q&A related to advocacy initiatives
- Establishing a clearinghouse of position papers, documents, and other digital resources related to advocacy in sport and exercise settings. (e.g., resource lists, better practices)