

“I am driven by the belief that sport has the power to change all aspects of a person's life. My own life is a testament of its positive impact.”

DAWNA CALLAHAN

Throughout her life and professional career, Dawna Callahan has consistently been a trailblazer for people and athletes with disabilities. At age three, Dawna experienced incomplete paralysis from transverse myelitis, a neurological disorder that causes inflammation of the spinal cord. Dawna was the first student with a physical disability in her hometown to be mainstreamed into public school when she was five.

Dawna began her professional career in HR in Silicon Valley, focusing on diversity initiatives. This, along with her passion for adventure, provided numerous opportunities to regularly hit the ski slopes in Tahoe. It was there that she found a like-minded community and experienced the ‘power of sport.’ These transformational experiences encouraged her to refocus her career on disability advocacy and adapted sport, creating more access and life-changing opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Today, Dawna owns and operates All In Sport Consulting – one of only 77 organizations globally to be recognized as a Business Disability Expert and partner with The Valuable 500. Her consulting firm has worked with numerous nationally and internationally known clients including the U.S. Center for SafeSport, Augusta Sports Council, Hybl Sports Medicine and Performance Center, USA Boxing, USRowing and so many more.

A competitive wheelchair racer, Dawna has completed numerous road races and marathons. She is a keynote speaker, an adjunct professor for Southern Connecticut State University, and is also on the faculty of the Sports & Entertainment Impact Collective.

AFFILIATIONS & CERTIFICATIONS

- Master of Arts Degree in Recreation Management, San Jose State University
- Industrial Organizational Psychology Graduate Studies, San Francisco State University
- Executive Certificate in Sport Philanthropy, George Washington University
- Lakeshore Foundation Advisory Council
- Institute for Adapted Sports & Recreation Board Member
- Founder of Adapted Sport Leadership & Business Symposium (LABS) Annual Conference
- Established First-Ever Economic Impact Study for the Adapted Sport Industry

SPEAKING TOPICS

- Understanding and Changing the Disability Narrative: Becoming a Disability Ally
- Economic Impact: Building the Business Case for Disability Inclusion
- Creating Inclusive Sport Experiences and Environments
- Building Disability-Inclusive Communities
- Sport Changes Everything: The Lifelong Impact of Adapted Sports
- Why Disability Representation in Your Organization Matters

BOOK DAWNA CALLAHAN TODAY! 918.520.8012

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

"Dawna captured the attendees' attention and kept them engaged with her anecdotal stories and expertise, leaving them both inspired and educated on the important topic of adapted sports and how we can make the athlete and spectator experience accessible for all. Dawna is a delight to work with and we highly recommend her as a speaker!"

Jessica Joyce

Director of Event Operations for the Eugene, Cascades & Coast Sports Commission



"It's time to move beyond inspirational or charity-type narratives about people with disabilities. We are a formidable force – both culturally and economically – and should be a critical part of every organization's DEI strategy."

– Dawna Callahan