

ASPA Advocacy Committee

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The purpose of the ASPA Advocacy Committee is to promote and lobby to increase physical activity across Australasia.

2. ASPA Principles

Participation and respect - All opinions and ideas of committee members will be heard and all members will be treated with respect.

Focus on the 'greater good' - While guided by their personal context and perspectives the committee leadership team will focus upon the broad goal of creating a positive outcome in the Australasian region.

Evidence-informed - Where possible, committee recommendations will be supported by, and contribute to, evidence related to effective physical activity policies, practices, processes and outcomes.

Alignment – Planned activities will align with ASPA policies.

Equity, Inclusivity, and Diversity – Some populations and geographical regions face greater barriers to participation in ASPA. The committee will apply an equity and inclusion lens across sectors (e.g. education, sport) and roles (e.g. academic, practitioner) to ensure broad participation and promotion across the Asia Pacific region.

3. Objectives and general purpose

The objectives of the ASPA Advocacy Committee are to:

- support the ASPA executive to advocate for increased physical activity across Australasia
- support the ASPA executive to integrate advocacy throughout the core business of ASPA operations

The general purpose of the ASPA Advocacy Committee is to:

- Provide advice to the ASPA Executive on strategies and where directed support action to raise awareness of the benefits of physical activity across sectors throughout Australasia
- Provide advice to the ASPA Executive on strategies and where directed support action to enhance existing physical advocacy networks across Australasia
- Identify annual key advocacy priorities for review by the ASPA Executive
- Support ASPA goals regarding mentoring and training future physical activity advocates to help build physical activity advocacy capacity across Australasia

Other Responsibilities

The Advocacy Committee is also responsible to:

- Promote GAPPA, the Eight Best Investments for Physical Activity and the implementation of GAPPA targets

4. Relationship to other committees

The Advocacy Committee connects directly to the Executive Committee via its Chair/s, and will work collaboratively with other ASPA committees to achieve its purpose. Other ASPA committees may inform the Advocacy Committee of any specific advocacy opportunities they would recommend pursuing.

5. Committee composition, terms of office, and recruitment

The Advocacy Committee shall consist of:

- A Chair and Co- or Deputy Chair, at least one of which will be a member of the ASPA EC
- Chairs will be appointed for a maximum 4-year term (with potential for renewal if no ASPA member nominates for the role).
- Only current Advocacy Committee members will be eligible to become Co- or Deputy Chair.
- Outgoing Advocacy Committee Chairs may be given the option of remaining involved on the Committee.
- New chairs will be elected via vote by the Advocacy committee.
- New committee members will be recruited via a call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) distributed to members via email. EOI should include a brief (one paragraph)

biography. New committee members will be appointed via consensus of the Advocacy Committee or by consensus of the EC if required. In cases where there are more nominees than positions, a confidential ballot will finalise appointments.

- A minimum of four and a maximum of 10 Advocacy committee members will be identified in addition to the Committee Co-/Deputy Chairs.
- Terms of committee members shall be between 2-4 years, with a preference for members to step down after this period. If no new nominees are received, previous members can nominate to extend their position.
- Committee membership will include representatives from research, policy and practice across the Asia Pacific region, all of whom are full ASPA members.
- Committee membership will include a mix of experience levels, in order to facilitate capacity building among less experienced physical activity advocates
- Contributions of Advocacy Committee members who have served terms for a minimum of one year should be recognised at the end of their term by an email from the ASPA President acknowledging their contribution.

6. Communication

The Advocacy Committee will meet via tele-/video-conference at least three times per year, and at other times as required. The Committee will also communicate informally via other electronic networks (eg Whatsapp Group, Teams Group) as required.

The Chair of the Advocacy Committee (or their delegate) will provide the ASPA EC with a written update of committee activities prior to the monthly Executive Committee meeting, and/or a verbal update at each Executive Committee meeting.

7. Planning and Reporting

At the beginning of each calendar year, the Advocacy Committee will present a 12-month plan to the EC for approval, that details the intended actions, timeline, budget, and outcomes of the committee. The progress/outcomes relating to the plan will be presented to the EC four weeks prior to being presented at the annual ASPA AGM.