

## **ASPAP Partnership and Sponsorship Policy**

Version 1: September 2021

The Asia-Pacific Society for Physical Activity (ASPAP) (legal name: Australasian Society for Physical Activity Ltd) is a professional society whose objective is to advance the science and practice of physical activity in the Asia-Pacific region. The Society provides a forum to bring together researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to share expertise and experiences in the advancement of the field of physical activity.

Our Vision is to advance knowledge and integration of physical activity into health, education, sport and recreation, urban planning and transport practice and policies across all levels of government and non-government organisations in order to benefit the health and wellbeing of all communities in the Asia-Pacific region.

ASPAP is governed by an Executive Committee (EC) of experts from the field of physical activity. To ensure the highest integrity, as well as confidence in the Society among both our members and the general public, ASPAP requires that EC members and potential future EC members disclose any circumstances that could give rise to an actual or perceived conflict of interest to the mission and goals of the Society. All EC members and potential future EC members are required to disclose any circumstances that could present a potential conflict of interest (i.e. any interest that may affect, or may reasonably be perceived to affect, the Board member's objectivity and independence).

It is important that ASPAP works in partnership with other (funding and non-funding) individuals and organisations to facilitate the society's events, and, to achieve its Vision, Mission and Goals through its professional activities. ASPAP's current primary source of financial support is membership dues. ASPAP also has an opportunity to generate revenue from conferences, webinars, and workshops and where appropriate, the private sector. The Conference is a core element of ASPAP's work, requiring extensive partnerships and collaboration to maximise its success and impact for physical activity goals. Specific sponsorship and partnership considerations related to the ASPAP Conference are detailed in section 2 of this policy.

## **SECTION 1. Partnership and Sponsorship**

### **SECTION 1.1: Definitions**

ASPA's relations with other organisations can be categorised in two ways:

1. **Sponsors** are an individual or an organisation that provide financial support to ASPA for a specific activity but do not direct how ASPA activities are implemented or undertaken.
2. **Partners** are individuals or organisations that engage with ASPA either financially or through in-kind support to achieve common objectives and for mutual benefit.

These relationships do not refer to any activity linked to the ASPA Conference, which is addressed separately in Section 2.

### **SECTION 1.2: Guiding principles for partnership and sponsorship**

1. ASPA is committed to advancing research, policy, and practice in physical activity to create a healthy, active world. ASPA will seek and accept partnership or sponsorship only from partners or sponsors whose activities are deemed to be consistent/aligned with ASPA's Vision, Mission, and Goals.
2. ASPA does not work in partnership with or accept any financial support from organisations that have any objectives that are inconsistent/misaligned with or could be perceived to be inconsistent/misaligned with, the promotion of health. This includes tobacco, gambling, and the arms industry. This also includes organisations that promote physical activity if they have other agendas that are not health promoting, for example sugar-sweetened beverages or high fat foods.
3. ASPA will refuse any financial or in-kind support from any organisation that could potentially use the relationship with ASPA to defend products, practices or positions that are not consistent with the Vision, Mission, and Goals of the Society.
4. Requests to sponsor or work in partnership with ASPA should be sent to the ASPA Partnerships Committee for consideration. All members of the Partnerships Committee will be invited to critique the activities and reputation of the organisation or individual and consider the benefits and risks to ASPA of establishing relations. The Partnership committee's recommendation will be submitted to the EC for review. A vote will then be taken by the EC on whether to accept the request for sponsorship or to work in partnership. ASPA will partner with or accept sponsorship from only those organisations receiving greater than 2/3rds vote of support from the EC.

5. Any partners or sponsors remain independent of ASPA and thus are not permitted to influence the governance, conduct, or activities of the Society.
6. All partners and sponsors will be required to enter a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with ASPA, which will include details of the term of the agreement.
7. Partners and sponsors are not permitted to use the ASPA name or logo in any activities or materials, without prior consent from the ASPA EC.
8. Partners and sponsors are not permitted to use the ASPA name or logo in connection with any activity other than as stated in an official agreement.
9. Details of partners and sponsors, and the nature of their support, will be acknowledged on the ASPA website on the 'partners and sponsors' page.
10. Acceptance of funds from partners or sponsors does not imply that ASPA endorses the funding organisations or their activities.
11. ASPA has the right to withdraw from any partnership or sponsorship arrangements if it emerges that potential conflicts of interest were not declared at the outset, or in response to new potential conflicts arising during the term of the agreement as stated in the MOU, or if the partner or sponsor develops their own alignments with industries identified in points 2 or 3 above. In any of these cases, no financial reimbursement to the partner or sponsor will be made.

## **SECTION 2: Support for the ASPA Conference**

### **SECTION 2.1: Definitions**

The ASPA Conference is a flagship of the Society's work, which is intended to be delivered annually. These guidelines on sponsorship and partnerships apply to all ASPA Conferences and Satellite meetings aligned with the ASPA conference.

The ASPA Conference is delivered in collaboration with a wide range of external organisations. The terminologies used to describe collaborations related to the ASPA Conference are:

1. **A Co-host** of the ASPA Conference is an organisation that has agreed to share leadership in the organisation of the Conference and has agreed to share financial responsibility for the Conference.
2. **A conference sponsor** is an individual or organisation providing financial support for the delivery of the ASPA Conference but do not direct how that activity is implemented/undertaken.

3. **Exhibitors** are an individual or an organisation that provide financial support to ASPA in exchange for an exhibition booth at the ASPA Conference.

## **SECTION 2.2: Guiding principles for supporting the ASPA Conference**

1. ASPA will only seek co-hosts for the Conference from organisations which are deemed to be consistent with ASPA's Vision, Mission and Goals.
2. All co-hosts of the ASPA Conference will abide by the ASPA Partnership and Sponsorship Policy for the duration of the contractual agreement, from confirmation of co-host status to delivering the final evaluation report on the Conference.
3. ASPA will not accept any financial or in-kind support for the Conference or Satellite meetings from organisations with any objectives that are inconsistent/misaligned with or could be perceived to be inconsistent/misaligned with, the promotion of physical activity. This includes tobacco, gambling, and the arms industry. This also includes organisations that promote physical activity if they have other agendas that are not health promoting, for example sugar-sweetened beverages or high fat foods.
4. Requests to support the ASPA Conference should be sent to ASPA's Scientific Program Committee for consideration by the Scientific Organising Committee and to the Partnership Committee members. Representatives from the organising committee will be invited to critique the activities and reputation of the organisation or individual and consider the benefits and risks to ASPA of establishing relations.
5. All partners will be required to enter a MOU with ASPA.
6. Conference partners and sponsors are not permitted to use the ASPA name or logo in any activities or materials, without prior consent of the ASPA EC.
7. Conference partners and sponsors are not permitted to use the ASPA name or logo in connection with any activity other than stated in an official agreement.
8. Partners and sponsors are not permitted to engage in commercial activity at the ASPA Conference other than as permitted by agreement or MOU with the Partnership Committee.
9. Sponsors are not permitted to direct the content of the scientific program or direct the choice of speakers at the ASPA Conference.
10. ASPA is not obligated to share delegate names and contact details with partners, sponsors, or exhibitors.
11. All support will be acknowledged in the Conference programme and other relevant media, as appropriate. These arrangements will be agreed in advance and documented in the agreement.

12. Acceptance of funds for the ASPA Conference does not imply that ASPA endorses the funding organisations or their activities.
13. ASPA has the right to withdraw from any partnership or sponsorship arrangements if it emerges that potential conflicts of interest were not declared at the outset, or in response to new potential conflicts arising during the term of the agreement. In this event, no financial reimbursement to the partner or sponsor will be made.