



[www.usadb.us](http://www.usadb.us)

# United States of America Deaf Basketball, Inc.

*An IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation*

Contact: Carl Denney  
Email: [commissioner@usadb.us](mailto:commissioner@usadb.us)  
Website: [www.usadb.us](http://www.usadb.us)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **USADB STANDS ALONE**

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The USADB Executive Board voted last November to "cut the cord" on all regional affiliations for the foreseeable future. The decision was the result of two years of internal debate, meetings and discussions.

Ideally, a National Sports Organization (NSO) has bylaws, guidelines and decisions. They are intended to be set in stone, with periodical revisions to follow current trends and modern changes to best serve the teams nationwide.

However, it has been difficult to maintain order amongst club teams given regions differing philosophies, the emergence of another national sports organization that is for-profit and the lack of administrative structure within differing regions along with teams themselves declining leadership.

Traditionally, it has been one solid NGO (National Governing Organization) which in this case, was the AAAD with eight (8) solid regions who marched in lockstep with the AAAD in philosophy, guidelines and rules.

Today, that is not the case. Those days are long gone, faded into the mists of history.

With dwindling attendance, fewer and fewer teams participating, and different philosophies amongst regions, the USADB's decision is a firm one in which the Executive Board will focus on the national club tournament and its thriving Youth Division.

Both aspects of the USADB serve a genuine purpose, putting the non-profit ideologies of the USADB at work annually. This way, the USADB can maintain control over its own tournament with its own participation requirements while continuing the USADB Youth's growth.

That said, it is with hope the USADB emerges stronger, better marketed and relevant once again in the national Deaf Consciousness.

The American Athletic Association of the Deaf (AAAD) was established in 1945 in Akron, OH to promote basketball opportunities for deaf athletes. In 1995, restructure of the AAAD led to the formation of USA Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF) with USA Deaf Basketball (USADB) becoming the new national basketball governing body. USADB sponsors and promotes national basketball tournaments for deaf adults each year and the Youth All-Stars. For more information, go to [www.usadb.us](http://www.usadb.us).

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