News Release

BRIDGESTONE AMERICAS, INC.
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For Immediate Release

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Bridgestone Awards $25,000 to the American Association of AdaptED Sports Programs to Expand Adapted Sports Access in Georgia Public Schools

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (December 3, 2025) – Bridgestone Americas (Bridgestone) celebrated International Day of Persons with Disabilities by awarding a $25,000 grant to support adapted sports programming in Georgia public schools through the American Association of AdaptED Sports Programs, Inc., one of eight organizations nationwide to receive a total of $200,000 in funding. Grants awarded through the Bridgestone Americas Trust Fund will directly benefit 1,400 students at 62 public schools.

"Access to sports is a serious barrier for young people with disabilities across the country," said Wade Munday, Director, Corporate Philanthropy and Social Impact, Bridgestone Americas. "Bridgestone has long supported equitable access to sports because of the lifelong skills they provide on and off the field. With these grants, we look forward to empowering more young people with the opportunity to play."

While more than 7 million students in the U.S. receive special education services for disabilities in public schools, a 2010 study by the U.S. General Accountability Office found they participated in athletics at significantly lower rates than their peers. Of the nearly 100,000 public schools in the U.S., only 2,490 currently offer adapted sports programs for students.

"The American Association of AdaptED Sports Programs (AAASP) is honored to provide adapted sports opportunities to student athletes across Georgia in partnership with the Georgia High School Association and school districts statewide," said Dr. Jenny Millward, Executive Director of AAASP. "The generous support of this special grant from Bridgestone Americas is enabling us to secure much-needed sports equipment for our expanding adapted track and field program, opening the door for even more student athletes to participate in education-based competition. As a legacy organization of the 1996 Paralympic Games, we understand the critical importance of removing barriers so young athletes can participate fully in sport. We are deeply grateful to partners like Bridgestone Americas who help us bring more student athletes *off the sidelines and into the game*."

Non-profit organizations and public schools in districts spanning eight states – California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico, Ohio, and Tennessee – were awarded grants to grow existing or establish new athletic programs for students in grades K through 12. The funds provided to The American Association of Adapted Sports Programs will allow kids of all abilities to participate in sports like track and field.

Bridgestone previously served as a Worldwide Paralympic Partner from 2018 to 2024. Since that time, it has continued to make investments with local community organizations to help expand access to adaptive sports. The company also works with a selection of world-class adaptive athletes as "Team Bridgestone" ambassadors who support equipment innovation, community engagement, and brand initiatives.

"When I was 12, I met a Paralympian who used a wheelchair just like me, but he was faster than I could ever imagine being! That encounter changed my life because I realized there was a place for me in sports," said Chuck Aoki, American wheelchair rugby player, Paralympic medalist and member of Team Bridgestone. "Access to adaptive sports is transformative for people with disabilities, and I am proud that Bridgestone remains committed to reducing barriers for all athletes."

Bridgestone's contributions to adapted sports are the latest example of its commitment to empowering future generations and advancing accessibility for underserved communities. These initiatives help deliver the values of the Bridgestone E8 Commitment, a global corporate commitment that outlines eight areas where the company is focused on contributing to a more sustainable world. Bridgestone's work with adaptive sports supports the values of "Emotion" and "Empowerment".

For more information, visit BridgestoneAmericas.com and adaptedsports.org.

About Bridgestone Americas, Inc.:

Bridgestone Americas, Inc. is the U.S.-based subsidiary of Bridgestone Corporation, a global leader in tires and rubber, building on its expertise to provide solutions for safe and sustainable mobility. Headquartered in Nashville, Tenn., Bridgestone Americas employs more than 45,000 people across its worldwide operations. Bridgestone offers a diverse product portfolio of premium tires and advanced solutions backed by innovative technologies, improving the way people around the world move, live, work and play.

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