



World T.E.A.M. Sports

Mission Statement & Historical Summary

World T.E.A.M. (The Exceptional Athlete Matters) Sports was created to encourage, promote, and develop opportunities in sports for all persons, especially persons with disabilities. We are about greater access; the coming together of all people through sports to learn and grow.

At World T.E.A.M. Sports, we believe the power of learning comes through participation; creative programs, clinics, outreach programs, sporting events which provide opportunities for everyone. As individuals and organizations join together in sports, attitudes change and differences disappear, uniting humanity under one common vision. To put it quite simply... ***We All Ride The Same Road.***

Our primary mission is:

- *To organize and host innovative and challenging sporting events which encourage all athletes, especially those with disabilities, to participate in lifetime sports,*
- *To sponsor highly visible integrated amateur athletic teams which participate and promote awareness of the capabilities of individuals with disabilities,*
- *To develop programs which inspire the athletic community to undertake volunteer roles, and,*
- *To create marketing and public relations strategies aimed at increasing awareness of these issues.*

Timeline:

1987 – "Ride Across America"

- In conjunction with California Special Olympics
- 2,650 Mile Bicycle relay from Newport Beach, CA to Jacksonville Beach, FL
- October 3, 1987 – November 2, 1987

1990 – "Kilimanjaro Confidence Climb"

- 2 mentally challenged athletes and 15 able-bodied athletes
- February 16, 1990 – February 25, 1990
- Documentary Film: "Let Me Be Brave" aired as a CBS Sports special on July 15, 1990, narrated by James Brown. Emmy Award Winner – Outstanding Program Achievement.



1995 – "AXA World Ride 95"

- 13,000 mile bicycle adventure, 16 countries; 16 world capitals; 16 states
- 5 core disabled riders, 400+ stage riders, 25 core coaches, 10,000+ day ride participants
- March 17, 1995 – November 21, 1995 , Atlanta, New York, Boston, Dublin, London, Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam, Bonn, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Warsaw, Minsk, Moscow, Novosibirsk, Irkutsk, Ulan Bator, Beijing, Osaka, Tokyo, Los Angeles, Washington, DC
- Documentary Film: "World Ride: The Possible Dream" aired as NBC Sports Special on Thanksgiving Day, 1995, narrated by Charles Kurault

1998 – "Vietnam Challenge"

- 1,250 mile bicycle expedition from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City
- Combined 70 member disabled team for former combatants (United States and North Vietnam) with 20 able-bodied coaches

January 3, 1998 – January 20, 1998

- Documentary Film: "Vietnam Long Time Coming", originally aired as NBC Sports Special Veterans Day, 1998. Hosted by Dick Enberg; Emmy Award Winner – Outstanding Program Achievement

2000 – "Face of America"

- Unique bicycle relay featuring two teams departing from San Francisco and Boston respectively, meeting at the Memorial Arch, St. Louis, MO in July 2000
- Covered over 400 miles combining disabled and able bodied riders from all 50 states

2002 – "Face of America"

- 9/11 Memorial Bicycle Ride, combined team of 1,300 riders
- 277 miles over 3 days, Ground Zero, NYC to the Pentagon, Washington, DC

2003 – "Face of America"

- Reprise of 9/11 Memorial Ride, September, 2003
- Same course, scope, rider content, and impact

2006, 2007, 2008 & 2009 – "Face of America"

- Washington, DC to Gettysburg, PA bike ride
- Features returning disabled and able bodied U.S. Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans
- Increasing participation each year – 125 in 2006; 340 in 2009

2007 – "Return to Kilimanjaro"

- 7 Mentally challenged athletes return to Africa supported by 15 able bodied coaches
- January 20, 2007 – February 1, 2007

2007, 2008, 2009 – "Adventure Team Challenge" (formerly "Real Deal")

- Colorado adventure race
- Multiple 5-person teams (2 disabled) "compete" in a multi-faceted, 2-day adventure race along the Colorado River in the Gore Mountain wilderness north of Vail, CO
- Features mountain running & biking, whitewater rafting, rock climbing, rappelling, zip lines, and race orienteering.
- Held annually in June