



News and Resource Update March 2017: Your guide to what's happening around the world

We want to hear about what you and your related organisations are doing and the information you are producing. You can send your information and news to any member of the executive board for inclusion in the 'Update' each month – [view their contacts details](#)

Keep right up to date with our news

We have set up social media accounts to share all our latest news with you:



You can now follow us on Twitter - [take a look](#)

facebook

We're on Facebook too - [view our page](#)

IAPESGW 18th World Congress - *Women and Girls in Sport: Research to Action* Barry University, Florida, USA 17 – 21 May 2017

Themes:

- Pedagogy of Physical Education, Sport, and Dance
- Lifelong Physical Activity for All
- Global to Local Initiatives and Assessment
- Sport Sciences

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN - to book your place on our 18th Congress please [visit the booking website](#)

IAPESGW AWARDS – NOMINATION TIME – DEADLINE 21 April 2017

To all members and interested friends,

With two months to go before the quadrennial 18th World Congress is held in Miami, Florida, it is time to receive nominations for the long-standing and prestigious awards IAPESGW give to honour outstanding women in the field. Please consider the different awards and the contributions of women you have known who might qualify. The nomination process is explained and requires:

- The permission of any person before nomination;
- The CV of the nominee;

- A letter of support stating how they have met the criteria and why they deserve the award.

All nominations must be emailed by 21st April to Rosa Lopez de D'Amico (President) ropezdedamico@yahoo.com; Karin Lofstrom (Secretary) klofstrom15@gmail.com; and Tansin Benn (Chair of Executive Board Awards Panel) tansinbenn@sky.com.

Thank you for your consideration

[View the list of awards , their purpose and the criteria for nominations.](#)

International

International Women's Day, 8 March - some news item celebrating the day:

United Nations Women (6 March 2017)

Speech: Making equality a reality

Remarks by UN Women Deputy Executive Director Lakshmi Puri at FIFA conference on 6 March

Mr. Gianni Infantino, FIFA President, Madam Fatma Samoura, FIFA Secretary-General, Distinguished participants, Ladies and gentlemen,

Thank you very much to FIFA for inviting UN Women to be part of this important conference that brings together the worlds football constituency to celebrate the International Women's Day.

Remember that what we are pledging today requires us to work for women's human rights not just once a year, once a month or once a day but to awaken and arise ourselves and through multiple actions ignite change with everyone around us every moment!

Herstory in Football

Today we are here to make herstory in football and we are excited to be a part of the new journey FIFA is embarking on. "FIFA 2.0: The Vision of the Future" provides a vision for what FIFA aspires and intends to be once and for all - a more inclusive, gender equal federation empowering all women and girls in its reach which is immense.....

[View the full transcript of the speech](#)

World Rugby (8 March 2017)

World Rugby shares new vision for women's game on International Women's Day

World Rugby is celebrating International Women's Day 2017 and its #BeBoldForChange initiative with a renewed commitment to further the profile, development, sustainability and success of the women's game.

- Eight-year plan pledges to drive growth and build a stronger game for all
- Rugby community to support #BeBoldForChange campaign
- Women's game continuing to experience record growth

World Rugby is celebrating International Women's Day 2017 and its #BeBoldForChange initiative with a renewed commitment to further the profile, development, sustainability and success of the women's game.

Under the guidance of the Women's Advisory Committee, World Rugby will commence an

unprecedented and comprehensive consultation process with players, fans, unions, regional associations, commercial and broadcast partners. Designed to capture the needs of a game that continues to experience record growth, **it will lead to a dynamic 2017-2025 plan for women's rugby.**

The new global plan will aim to build on this record growth, with World Rugby pledging to work with the rugby community to:

- Increase participation through sustainable development
 - Build high performance through quality competition
 - Drive inspirational leadership and inclusive governance
 - Build an impactful profile, breaking down barriers
 - Grow audience and investment
-

[View the full news item](#)

Inside the games reports (8 March 2017)

International Hockey Federation Executive Board member calls for more female leaders at national level

International Hockey Federation (FIH) Executive Board member Hazel Kennedy believes female sporting leaders need to be encouraged at a national level so that they can then make strides globally.

Kennedy, secretary general of the National Olympic Committee of Zambia and President of the Zambian Hockey Federation, was involved at the International Federation Women in Leadership Forum in Lausanne.

She joined the panel discussion "Translating policies into practice - a framework to inspire change" at the second edition of the Forum.

The main focus of the event, which has attracted more than 60 people, is to train female attendees on how they can run for leadership positions within the world of sport.

Just two Olympic sports currently have female Presidents - with Marisol Casado heading up the International Triathlon Union and Kate Caithness holding the top job at the World Curling Federation (WCF).

[View the full news item](#)

Inside the games reports (8 March 2017)

Blauwet receives IPC's International Women's Day Recognition Award

Dr Cheri Blauwet has been awarded the International Paralympic Committee's (IPC) International Women's Day Recognition award.

The 36-year-old triple Paralympian and seven-time medallist in wheelchair racing has been praised for "extending her legacy beyond the field of play".

The American has maintained an active sports medicine practice at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital and the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Her published research has helped increase participation in Para-sport by studying injury rates and other causes specific to athletes with disabilities.

She has also helped in the battle to use sport to promote disability rights.

Blauwet, who serves as an assistant professor in physical medicine and rehabilitation at Harvard Medical School, chairs the IPC's Medical Committee.

[View the full news item](#)

Laureus Sport for Good Foundation (8 March 2017)

Laureus celebrates International Women's Day

Laureus Sport for Good's vision - 'Using the power of sport to end violence, discrimination and disadvantage. Proving that sport can change the world' - aligns closely with International Women's Day's goal of forging a more inclusive, gender equal world.

In five of the six target areas on which Laureus Sport for Good focuses our resources - Employability, Education, Inclusive Society, Peaceful Society and Health - the question of gender is key. And during the planning of our strategy, during programmes meetings, during funding discussions with our partners and donors and during grant assessments, it is often noted that the sixth focus area - Women and Girls - can in many ways be seen not just as a focus in its own right, aligned to SDG5 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, but as underpinning all other areas of our work in a genuine and tangible way.

That is not just in the form of programming, but in encouraging diversity throughout our partner organisations, from beneficiaries to boards. It is in our research spend - for example in the ongoing study we recently commissioned into whether having more female coaches improves girls' participation and success at our projects. It is in our own Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning, and that of our partners. In that comes a recognition that we are far from having all the answers or getting everything right - but that we are determined to help the Sport for Development sector achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

International Women's Day calls for us all to #BeBoldForChange. Laureus Sport for Good is proud to work with projects such as **Moving The Goalposts Kilifi** and **OSCAR**, who both explain below a part of what that means for them. We are determined to help them, and all our projects, continue to do more.

[View the full news item](#)

Health Club Management, in the UK reports (8 March 2017)

Nike targets Middle East female fitness market with hijab

Nike is planning to launch a hijab for female Muslim athletes, as it looks to tap into the Middle East fitness market.

The pull-on design has been made from durable single-layer Nike Pro mesh, which is breathable and stretchy, and allows for a personalised fit that adapts to both the wearer's head and her sport.

The sportswear firm were made aware of problems with wearing a traditional hijab after meeting with athletes. Amna Al Haddad, a female weightlifter from the United Arab Emirates, said the traditional garment's weight, the potential for it to shift during action and its lack of breathability disrupted her focus during competition.

Nike's design team created a range of prototype hijabs for testing by athletes from around the Middle East, including runners and cyclists.

As each country has its own particular hijab style, Nike asked the opinions of advocates and local communities to ensure the design met cultural requirements.

The company said: "Nike aims to serve today's pioneers as well as inspire even more women and girls in the region who still face barriers and limited access to sport. Fewer than one in seven girls participate in locally recommended sport activities for 60 minutes or more." The Nike Pro Hijab will be available early next year.

[Source of information](#)

[There's another article on this product in the Brisbane Time - and the images are better](#)

Inside the games reports (6 March 2017)

Second IF Women in Leadership Forum begins in Lausanne

Female representatives from all 28 Olympic sports are in attendance at the second edition of the International Federation (IF) Women in Leadership Forum in Lausanne, which began today.

The main focus of the event, which has attracted more than 60 people, is to train attendees on how they can run for leadership positions within the world of sport.

Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) President Francesco Ricci Bitti, who opened the Forum, admitted there was currently a "huge lack" of female sporting leaders.

International Olympic Committee (IOC) member Lydia Nsekera of Burundi was also in attendance on the opening day, along with IOC director general Christophe de Kepper, who chairs the Women in Sport Commission.

"Women can bring an important skill set and perspective to sport organisations which, in my view, counts much more than satisfying quota demands," Ricci Bitti said.

"In sport, we still have a huge lack of female leaders, that's why we aim to use this Forum to help develop them.

"It is an action driven event and we have been encouraged by the positive outcomes we saw after the first edition last year."

[View the full news item](#)

European Commission (3 March 2017)

Have your say on Erasmus+

As part of the mid-term review of Erasmus+, the European Commission is carrying out a [consultation](#) on the programme.

The Commission welcomes feedback from all citizens, especially young people, students, teachers, youth workers, sport persons, organisations, staff, employers and others with a stake in the programme.

The consultation is set to run from March until May 2017, and those interested in submitting a response are encouraged to do so via the [online questionnaire](#). The results of the consultation will be published as a report later in 2017.

[Source of information](#)

Inside the games reports (9 March 2017)

Wrestle Like A Girl founder handed UWW Women and Sport award

Sally Roberts was presented with United World Wrestling's (UWW) Women and Sport award yesterday at the second edition of the International Federation Women in Leadership Forum in Lausanne.

Roberts, a double UWW World Championships bronze medallist in 2003 and 2005 from the United States, is the executive director and founder of Wrestle Like a Girl, which "aims to support and promote women's wrestling by focusing on the entire athlete, rather than just on-the-mat achievements".

She also leads the organisation's camp initiative which provides a two-day wrestling camp where the attendees learn the sport's techniques and life skills.

The camps are specifically tailored to girls between the ages of 12 and 18 who want to learn wrestling and "the championship life skills involved with success both inside and outside the sport".

Each camp or clinic has a support network of high calibre national team athletes and regional staff who "guide athletes as they develop their skills".

.....
[View the full news item](#)

International Olympic Committee (16 March 2017)

IOC launches bold initiative on gender equality

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) Executive Board today approved a major review project regarding gender equality in the Olympic Movement.

With the help of its partners, the Summer and Winter International Sports Federations (IFs) and National Olympic Committees (NOCs), the IOC is undertaking a comprehensive review of the current state of gender equality in the Olympic Games with a mandate to produce action-oriented recommendations for change.

"The IOC is taking a leadership role in the world of sport to push gender equality globally and effect real change," said IOC President Thomas Bach. "The outcomes from this Gender Equality Review Project will benefit the IOC, all International Sports Federations and National Olympic Committees, as well as all the athletes of the Olympic Games. It will also be a further tangible outcome of Olympic Agenda 2020."

The IOC Gender Equality Review Project is a joint initiative of the IOC's Women in Sport and Athletes' Commissions, and aims to raise continued awareness of the importance of gender equality within the Olympic Movement, share best practices and present initiatives to further advance gender equality both on and off the field of play.

Five essential themes will be assessed: Sport; Portrayal; Funding; Governance; and Human Resources. The work will be conducted by a Working Group chaired by IOC Member and

President of the International Triathlon Union Marisol Casado, and comprising IOC Members and NOC and Summer and Winter IF representatives.

[View the full news item](#)

British Universities and Colleges Sport reports (20 March 2017)

FISU Gender Equality-Sport Award

The FISU Gender Equality-Sport Award will be presented during the Summer Universiade in August 2017 in Taipei.

The FISU Gender Equality-Sport Award is given to an existing project developed by a federation, an organisation, an institution or an individual to promote gender equality in the framework of university sport. Particular attention is given to projects that could act as models for other countries, regions and/or continents.

The award aims to increase the proportion of women involved in university sport and to promote better gender balance in academia, and therefore it complements the resources that institutions allocate to gender equality.

The successful project will promote and strengthen Gender Equality in University Sports, promoting the incorporation of women in the different spheres of university sport (leaders, coaches, athletes, scientific researchers, academic environment).

Eligible projects must have been/be carried out from 2015 and/or 2016 onwards, and activities must be implemented at the regional or national level, or only in one BUCS member university. The award winner will receive 5,000€ towards the future development of the project.

For further information please click [here](#).

[Source of information](#)

Anita White Foundation, University of Chichester Women's Sport Leadership Academy - fundraising

We hope that 2017 has started well for you. We are excited to announce that 36 women from fifteen countries have been accepted to participate in the Women's Sport Leadership Academy (WSLA) 2017. WSLA's aim is to enable more women to move into senior positions in sport and 'sport for development' organisations and significantly impact on sport across the globe. Our forthcoming newsletter will provide further details.

As with previous years, we are supporting non-UK women to attend WSLA with registration fee waivers and travel grants. However, other women still require financial support in order to attend WSLA.

One fundraising activity being undertaken is by Lucy Piggott. Lucy is a PhD student at the University of Chichester who is working closely with the AWF and is a coordinator of WSLA 2017. Lucy is completing an arduous trek in South America to raise enough money for one woman to attend WSLA. If you would like to read more about Lucy's challenge and contribute to her fundraising efforts, please press the link below. We appreciate all donations received.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/WSLA2017>

Some general articles of interest...flagged up by Janice Crosswhite...

United Nations - Women

A Brief History of the CSW

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) first met at Lake Success, New York, in February 1947, soon after the founding of the United Nations. All 15 government representatives were women. From its inception, the Commission was supported by a unit of the United Nations that later became the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) in the UN Secretariat. The CSW forged a close relationship with non-governmental organizations, with those in consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) invited to participate as observers.

[View the brief history](#)

OR - [Read a more detailed history of the CSW \(20 pages\)](#)

Janice Crosswhite - *I like this article - probably because I am a masters athlete (basketball – have World masters games in New Zealand late April). But the message is clear – move more, sit less, use weights for muscle mass and do some hard work sessions too.....*

World Economic Forum (2 February 2017)

How to grow old like an athlete - Ageing is not a fixed process - we can change its trajectory

Driving an F1 car is not a particularly healthy thing to do... I want to live a quality life when I'm old, and not suffer from horribly degenerated discs.

—Four-Time Formula One World Champion, Sebastian Vettel

The question of how to maximise 'health span' – the period of life during which we are generally healthy and free from serious disease – is increasingly prevalent both in and out of sport.

Global average lifespan [doubled during the 20th Century](#), and this trend continues. Someone who is 50 today [could expect to live until they are 83](#). A baby born in 2007 in the US, UK, Japan, Italy, Germany, France or Canada has a 50% chance of living until [they are over 100](#).

It's likely that we will live and work for more years than any generation before us. For many, this will be a necessity as much as a choice, as the increasing social costs of an ageing population are pushing back retirement age in many countries. These changes will have significant economic, social and psychological impacts, but one of the key questions we need to ask concerns the kind of life we're hoping for, over this time course.

.....
[View the full news item](#) - *Editor* - *I like the photograph*

Australian Sports Commission (March 2017)

Smart Talk: Physical activity's role in prevention and treatment of lifestyle diseases [audio]

There's a role for physical activity in medicine, especially through primary health care. Nottingham University's Prof Mark Batt explores the place for physical activity in modern medicine and ponders the potential for prescribing physical activity.

[Listen to the discussion](#) (14 minutes)

New York Times (1 March 2017)

Frequent, brisk walks may aid those with early Alzheimer's

For some people with early-stage Alzheimer's disease, frequent, brisk walks may help to bolster physical abilities and slow memory loss, according to one of the first studies of physical activity as an experimental treatment for dementia.

But the study's results, while encouraging, showed that improvements were modest and not universal, raising questions about just how and why exercise helps some people with dementia and not others.

Alzheimer's disease affects more than five million people in the United States and more than 35 million worldwide, a number that is expected to double within 20 years.

There are currently no reliable treatments for the disease.

But past studies of healthy elderly people have found relationships between regular exercise and improved memories. Physically active older people are, for instance, significantly less

likely than those who are sedentary to develop mild cognitive impairment, a frequent precursor to Alzheimer's disease.

[View the full news item](#)

Research on physical activity....

Eur J Public Health ckw187. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckw187> Published: 15 March 2017. A systematic review of the relationship of physical activity and health status in adolescents. Granger, E et al

Background: Reduced physical activity is a known risk factor for many illnesses. Research in adolescent populations found increased physical activity levels improves objective health outcomes, but there is conflicting evidence regarding the relationship between physical activity levels and self-reported health status.

Aims: To synthesise current evidence on the association between physical activity and self-reported health status in adolescents. Secondary objectives are to assess whether the relationship is dose dependant, and the appropriateness of WHO recommendations on adolescents' physical activity.

Methods: The main databases were searched using keywords for the main outcome of interest (health status, health behaviour and self-perception) and exposure of interest (motor activity, physical activity and exercise), supplemented with manual searches, secondary citation and reference searches. Quality appraisal was carried out using the Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology checklist.

Results: Eleven studies entered this review. Nine studies reported a significant relationship between increased levels of physical activity and improved self-reported health status, however two did not. Two studies followed up participants and found that the relationship persisted over time. Two papers described a dose-response relationship. Improvements in self-perceived health can be observed even below the current recommended levels of physical activity.

Conclusion: The review supports initiatives to encourage adolescents to engage in physical activity as it improves self-reported health status. Sub-optimal levels of physical activity can

also be beneficial. Further research should use standardised measurement scales and objectively measured physical activity levels. The roles of gender, income and culture should be further investigated.

[Source of information](#)

Journal of Physical Activity and Health: The Official Journal of the International Society for Physical Activity and Health. Volume 14, Issue 2, February 2017

Editor - the abstracts from the articles in this current edition to be placed on their website are now available.

[View the abstracts](#)

Article abstract to note:

How Self-Objectification Impacts Physical Activity Among Adolescent Girls in Costa Rica. Authors: Rafael Monge-Rojas, Tamara Fuster-Baraona, Carlos Garita-Arce, Marta Sánchez-López, Uriyoán Colon-Ramos and Vanessa Smith-Castro.

Specific countries

AUSTRALIA

ABC News (27 February 2017)

Tennis Australia to set up help line for alleged victims of abuse

Tennis Australia is hoping to set up a Crimestoppers-style hotline within the next few weeks for athletes allegedly abused by coaches and others who have control over them, the ABC has learned.

The measure comes almost a [year after the Child Abuse Royal Commission began hearings into the conduct of tennis NSW authorities towards a teenage state-level player in the 90s](#) who accused her coach of verbal harassment and sexual abuse.

The mother of that alleged victim, and the coach who first alerted investigators to those allegations, have accused Tennis Australia of just "ticking the boxes" since the Commission, condemning its slowness to respond.

Tennis Australia will this week receive 24 recommendations in the final report from the Australian Childhood Foundation (ACF), that Tennis Australia commissioned to conduct a nationwide review of the sport's policies to protect children and whistleblowers.

The hotline is understood to be one of the 10 measures the ACF recommended in an interim report last December.

.....
[View the full news item](#)

Australian Sports Commission, Australian Government (8 March 2017)

ASC supports development of female sporting leaders

A new program to further develop female leaders in sport will commence at the AIS in Canberra from 15-17 March.

[Stepping In](#) is an extension of the [Women Leaders in Sport program](#), initiatives to further the leadership potential and opportunities for women in sport.

The programs are managed by the Australian Sports Commission in partnership with the Office for Women.

Minister for Sport Greg Hunt and Minister for Women Michaelia Cash have this morning announced the 18 successful applicants to take part in the inaugural Stepping In program.

Stepping In builds on the highly successful and long-running Women Leaders in Sport program which, in 2017, will assist 92 projects, including 78 individuals and 14 organisations, reaching more than 350 females across 42 different sports.

[View the full news item](#)

Netball Australia (8 March 2017) Pacific Women's Sports Leadership Program

In December, Netball Australia, together with Cricket Australia and the ICC ran the Pacific Women's Sports Leadership Program in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, with a video released this week, to highlight the success of the program.

The Program was a week of in-depth professional development and networking which saw 20 women representing 12 different sporting organisations and six Pacific Island nations, come together in Port Moresby.

The Pacific Women's Sports Leadership Program is a joint initiative of the International Cricket Council, Cricket Australia and Netball Australia, made possible through the Australian Government's Pacific Sports Partnerships Innovation Funding. The Program has been designed and delivered in partnership with Conversant, a professional training and communications company.

[View the video \(6mins 51 sec\)](#)

The Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (8 March 2017) JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT from Australia's peak education bodies - Australia's peak education bodies call for Health and Physical Education needs to be at the forefront of our children's education

Australia's peak education and health, sport and physical education professional bodies are voicing collective concern about the recent new evidence showing that we are putting our kids at early higher risk of chronic disease and impeding their academic progress by failing to provide quality Health and Physical Education in all schools.

In their first joint statement this year, the influential associations warn that now more than ever before, health education, physical education and sport needs to be at the forefront of our children's education.

"Findings from the Australian Lifestyle of our Kids (LOOK) study led by Professor Dick Telford has demonstrated that children who were taught quality Health and Physical Education entered secondary school with a substantially increased progression in nationally assessed numeracy and literacy, in addition to a range of important health benefits", said National Executive Director of the Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (ACHPER), Ms Alison Turner.

[View the full statement](#)

Vicsport (8 March 2017)

Victorian Sport Celebrating Women

Women play such an integral role in the Victorian sport industry, from athletes to coaches, officials, administrators and volunteers. International Women's Day (8 March, 2017) is a fantastic opportunity to recognise the outstanding work and achievements made by these women in our sports and organisations.

Vicsport CEO, Steven Potts said "It is testament to the strength of Victorian sport to see so many organisations promoting International Women's Day, celebrating the hard work and achievements of the thousands of women actively involved in sport."

Across Victoria, sports are hosting a variety of events and activities to celebrate this special day:

[View the full news item](#)

Australia Plus (8 March 2017)

Game changers: A sporting chance for Pacific women

They still face significant barriers to gender equality, but right across the Pacific brave and bold women are taking on the traditionally male-dominated realm of sport. That's something worth celebrating this [International Women's Day](#).

Sport is a treasured part of Pacific life, particularly among its once-exclusively male custodians, so the increasing influence and visibility of women is both remarkable and hugely influential.

Many major sports for development programs, including four in Samoa, are led by women. The Australian Aid-funded Pacific Sports Partnerships' (PSP) programs reached more than 170,000 women in 2016, promoting health, gender equality and the importance of education, and when the PSP staged sports communication workshops across six Pacific nations, more women completed the courses than men.

But the statistics cannot reveal the individual stories of lives transformed by sport, so please enjoy this pictorial tour with the women of Pacific sport.

[View the full news item](#) - *lots of great images*

Sydney Morning Herald (8 March 2017)

Love her body

Two are in love with their butts. Two are having an impact on keeping Indigenous kids in remote communities active. And the one thing they all want young women to know is it's okay to "be yourself". We've united 10 of our nation's most talented female athletes for a kick-arse conversation on body image for International Women's Day.

[View the news item](#) - *again, lots of images*

An issue for communities across the world....

Good Sport (16 March 2017)

Community sport takes charge in major push to tackle 'ice'

Australia's local sporting clubs will lead a major push to tackle 'ice' in a new \$4.6 million program to reduce the drug's devastating impact on communities.

The Federal Health Minister, Greg Hunt, and Olympic gold medallist, Kim Brennan, will tonight launch the Good Sports Tackling Illegal Drugs program south-east of Melbourne by announcing 75 community forums over four years to help clubs across the nation safeguard their players and supporters.

Funded by the Australian Government, community sporting clubs will receive tailor-made alcohol and drug harm prevention training as part of the four-year project.

.....
'Ice' and other illegal drugs impact all areas of the community. With 40 per cent of Australians having tried illegal substances, sporting clubs can provide a protective environment to help prevent drug harm in our communities.
.....

[View the full press release](#)

Inside the games reports (20 March 2017)

Roche to challenge Coates for Australian Olympic Committee Presidency

Danielle Roche says she will not take a salary if she is elected President of the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) after she announced her plan to run against long-standing incumbent John Coates.

Roche, who won Olympic hockey gold at the Atlanta 1996 Games, is the first person to challenge Coates for the Presidency, which he has held since 1990.

The elections for the President and AOC Executive Board are scheduled for May 6.

.....
[View the full news item](#)

Queensland Government (22 March 2017)

JOINT STATEMENT: Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning The Honourable Jackie Trad

**Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Sport
The Honourable Mick de Brenni**

Free travel throughout SEQ on Queensland's super Saturday of sport

The Palaszczuk Government will be providing free public transport across the entire South East Queensland network for the historic AFL Women's Grand Final clash between the Brisbane Lions and Adelaide Crows.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Transport Jackie Trad said that the inaugural AFL Women's Grand Final at Metricon Stadium on the Gold Coast was an event not to be missed.

"This Saturday we will be making public transport right across South East Queensland free and I encourage sporting fans and families to get on board to witness this historic moment," Ms Trad said.

“This is the inaugural AFL Women’s Grand Final and first ever AFL Grand Final played outside Victoria and we’re going to prove we can do it better in Queensland.

“In fact, it is an exciting day for football with four matches across three different codes to be held at Metricon Stadium, Cbus Super Stadium and Suncorp Stadium.

[View the full news item](#)

BAHRAIN

Inside the games reports (28 February 2017)

Bahrain Olympic Committee aim to boost development through GCC Women's Games

Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) Board member Shaikha Hayat bint Abdulaziz Al Khalifa believes the country's participation in the upcoming Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Women's Games will further boost sporting development in the nation.

The event is due to be held from March 7 to 17 in the Qatari capital of Doha, where the Bahrain team will bid to win the competition for the third straight edition.

They were victorious on home soil in 2013 and then repeated the feat in Oman two years later.

Shaikha Hayat is set to lead the Bahrain delegation at the fifth GCC Women's Games, which features 13 sports - athletics, basketball, bowling, chess, equestrian, fencing, handball, shooting, table tennis, taekwondo, tennis, volleyball, as well athletics for people with disabilities.

The 2017 GCC Women's Games are expected to attract around 500 participants, according to organisers.

It represents the first-ever edition of the competition to be held in Qatar.

[View the full news item](#)

BULGARIA

Inside the games reports

Kostadinova re-elected President of Bulgarian Olympic Committee

High jump world record holder Stefka Kostadinova has been re-elected President of the Bulgarian Olympic Committee (BOC) after standing unopposed for a fresh four-year term.

The 52-year-old obtained 49 votes out of the 51 delegates present at the General Assembly in Sofia.

It will mark her fourth term in office after she was first elected to the post in 2005.

Kostadinova is one of just four female heads of 50 European NOCs. Ireland's Sarah Keane, Liechtenstein's Isabel Fehr and Lithuania's Daina Gudzinevičiūtė are the other three.

[View the full news item](#)

IRELAND

Inside the games reports (2 March 2017)

Malone unveiled as new Paralympics Ireland chief executive

Miriam Malone has been announced as the new chief executive of Paralympics Ireland, replacing Liam Harbison.

Malone will take up the role after 11 years as the business partnerships director and member of the management team of the Football Association of Ireland (FAI).

Before that, Malone led the Kilkenny Local Sports Partnership and also worked for Special Olympics in a development role.

[View the full news item](#)

JAPAN

Inside the games reports (20 March 2017)

Tokyo 2020 golf venue changes rules to allow female members

The club that will be used to host golf competition at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games has changed its rules to make women eligible for full membership.

Kasumigaseki Country Club voted to permanently change its membership policy today at an extraordinary meeting of its Executive Board.

Fierce criticism had been pointed towards the private club, which did not allow women to become full members and also limited the days they can play there. It led to calls for the venue in Saitama prefecture to be switched to an alternative location such as the Wakasu Golf Links.

Tokyo 2020 President Yoshirō Mori has welcomed the change of rules in a statement released today, but does not refer specifically to the acceptance of full female memberships.

[View the full news item](#)

NAMIBIA

Beyond Sport reports (10 March 2017)

Gals & Goals expands to Northern Namibia

The Namibia Football Association is taking its popular development program, Galz & Goals to the Oshana and Zambezi regions through football and healthy lifestyle festivals.

The Galz & Goals programme combines football with life skills, HIV/Aids and health education to create a platform through which adolescent girls can gain skills and knowledge by active participation and learn to make healthy choices.

According to a media statement availed by the NFA, Zambezi will host the first festival on 11 March, while Oshakati in Oshana will host one on 18 March. There will be football tournaments for u13, u15, u17 and u20 teams and lifestyle skills activities by Score Namibia - a sport for development organisation.

At the same time, health education and services such as free HIV counselling and testing for parents and other adults will be provided by the Ministry of Health and Social Services. The

NFA's partner in the programme, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), will be represented at both events.

National manager of the NFA Galz & Goals project, Jackie Gertze, stated: "We are very excited about taking Galz & Goals to Zambezi and Oshana and believe the programme will make an impact in the young girls' lives, as it has done in other regions."

Both regions have a high prevalence rate of HIV/Aids among women, hence the NFA's decision to reach out to girls there with life skills and health education through football, the statement added. With the help of UNICEF, the programme has so far reached 18,000 girls around Namibia and at least 4,000 girls are expected to play in the Galz & Goals u13, u15, u17 and u20 leagues this year.

Leading up to the festivals, as many as 70 coaches will receive training in health lifestyle, HIV/Aids and life skills coaching from Score Namibia. International Federation of Football Associations (FIFA) instructor, Jacqui Shipanga, will also train them in how to coach girls and women in football.

[Source of information](#)

PAKISTAN

The Guardian, UK reports (6 March 2017)

Enter disguised as a boy: how Maria Toorpakai rose to squash stardom

As a promising female athlete from a conservative, male-dominated area of Pakistan, Maria Toorpakai was forced to pose as a boy to learn her craft.

In a mountainous land, where girls rarely leave their homes and sport is forbidden, a young child vows to follow her dream of becoming an athlete. To do so, she dresses as a boy.

The life of [Maria Toorpakai](#), who overcame cultural restrictions to become an international squash player, reads like a Hollywood script.

And now Toorpakai, from Waziristan, a tribal region of Pakistan, is indeed the star of a new film, one that has its UK premier at the [Human Rights Watch film festival](#), beginning in London on 6 March.

"I want to tell girls, fear is taught; that you are born free and you are born brave," says Toorpakai in the documentary, Girl Unbound, which charts the 26-year old's journey from a homeland dubbed the [most dangerous place on Earth](#) due to its struggle with Islamist extremism, to represent Pakistan on the national team.

[View the full news item](#)

SAUDI ARABIA

Leisure Management, in the UK reports (9 March 2017)

Fitness First Middle East to open ladies-only gyms in Saudi Arabia

Fitness First Middle East will launch ladies-only gyms in Saudi Arabia this year, complementing the existing portfolio of men's clubs it has in the Kingdom.

In line with new regulations issued by Saudi Arabia's General Authority for Sports, the operator will be recruiting internationally qualified female personal trainers.

The clubs will offer classes, including BodyPump, Zumba and RPM and exclusive group training 6D, which is based on six dimensions of fitness: move, lift, core, burn, function and recover.

[View the full news item](#)

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Inside the games reports (26 February 2017)

Trinidad and Tobago begin search for first female Olympic medallist

The Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee (TTOC) is set to launch its "Future is Female" programme, an initiative focused on assisting the country's women athletes to break their Olympic medal drought.

It will be a focused element of the #10golds24 athlete welfare and preparation fund.

The "#10golds24" programme aims to raise funds which will be used to help provide financial assistance to athletes, which will enable them to train, recover and compete as they look towards future Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Athletes are supported in several ways, from direct financial support and health insurance, to medal bonuses and anti-doping education.

After 70 years of Trinidad and Tobago Olympic history, the nation is yet to have a female Olympic medallist, despite winning 19 medals so far.

"It isn't because of a lack of talent or strong mind or a burning desire for success on the part of the athletes," TTOC President Brian Lewis said.

"#futureisfemale making a difference changing the game."

[View the full news item](#)

TURKEY

World Health Organization - Europe (23 March 2017)

WHO publishes evaluation of the Turkish Healthy Nutrition and Active Life Programme

Turkey has taken significant steps to combat obesity and promote a healthy diet and active lifestyle over the last decade. After hosting the WHO European Ministerial Conference on Counteracting Obesity in 2006, Turkey established the Healthy Nutrition and Active Life Programme 2010–2014. In 2016, WHO was invited by the Turkish Government to assess progress in tackling obesity, unhealthy diets and physical inactivity. The report of this evaluation presents the main findings and recommendations, highlighting notable achievements, opportunities for further improvement and guidance for action in the coming years.

To perform the assessment, a group of international and national experts undertook a qualitative evaluation during a mission to Turkey in 2016. This included interviews with key informants in health and other sectors in Ankara, and field visits to 3 provinces (Eskisehir, Konya and Afyonkarahisar). The group considered not only the overall population impact but

also the distribution of impact(s) according to age, gender and indicators of socioeconomic status, such as level of education, wealth and urban or rural residence. The dual focus of the evaluation was to assess the extent to which the aims and objectives of the Programme had been met and whether the action taken was consistent with international evidence, recommendations and guidance.

[View the full news item](#)

UK

sports coach UK (28 February 2017)

International Reach event celebrates women coaches

An international women in coaching event took place in Kensington, London on the 23-24 February.

Run by Reach – Sports Coach UK’s national brand for supporting women in coaching – the ‘Shine: Elite Women Coach Event’ saw 40 elite level coaches from Britain, Sweden and Norway come together to share coaching experiences across cultures and engage in professional development.

Noted as the force majeure, these six presentations, were an opportunity for presenters to speak to delegates on an area of their expertise. Highlights included: ‘Why does gender inequality persist in our coaching workforces and what can we do about it’ by Dr Leanne Norman, Research Fellow at Leeds Beckett University and ‘Rattle I Rio’ by Ulrika Sandmark. The Swedish Swimming Federation’s Head Coach, talked openly about the differences between a successful and unsuccessful Olympics (the Swedish swimming team won no medals at London 2012 but won gold, silver and bronze in Rio).

[View the full news item](#)

Sport Industry Group reports (1 March 2017)

Eni Aluko partners with UN Women UK

England and Chelsea Ladies striker Eniola Aluko has become the first volunteer champion for UN Women NC UK.

The partnership, developed by Mediacom Sport & Entertainment, will see Aluko take an active role across a range of programmes and campaigns including HeForShe Arts Week, the soon to be launched Student Champion Programme, FeelGoodForGood, the broader HeForShe movement and Step it Up for Gender Equality.

Established in 2010 by the UN General Assembly, UN Women works to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women.

UN Women is focussed on engaging the active support of men, women, boys and girls from all backgrounds to empower women, eliminate discrimination against women and girls and create a world where equal opportunity exists for men and women.

[View the full news item](#)

The Amateur Swimming Association (2 March 2017) Rule change makes competitive swimming more inclusive

New swimwear guidance for competitive swimming will allow more people to participate in events across England.

The ASA has announced a relaxation of Regulation 411 which previously banned swimwear that covered the whole body.

The new guidance means swimmers who wear full body suits for religious beliefs or a pre-existing medical condition, are now able to compete in all ASA licensed swimming meets and national events.

Swimwear guidance for competitive swimming already in effect

The new guidance is already in effect. It applies to all levels of ASA licensed meets (1,2,3 and 4) and ASA National Events.

The guidance was developed by the ASA Swimming Management Group following recommendations from the MSWD.

It also covers those involved in running the events including technical officials and volunteers.

Full details of the type of swim wear covered by the [guidance can be accessed here](#).

[View the full news item](#)

British Cycling (6 March 2017)

Julie Harrington appointed as new British Cycling CEO

Jonathan Browning, British Cycling's new Chair, announced today that the sports governing body has appointed Julie Harrington, currently the Football Association's group operations director, as British Cycling's new chief executive officer.

Harrington, currently responsible for running both Wembley Stadium and St George's Park, in addition to women's and development team games away from Wembley, has almost 15 years' experience in senior leadership roles in a sports environment.

[View the full news item](#)

Sport England / Club Matters (7 March 2017)

Welcoming women and girls to your club

To support the return of Sport England's This Girl Can campaign, we've created guidance specifically for sports clubs to help you think about how you can welcome women and girls. Check out the new page on our website, where you can access the new interactive guide. In the guide, we explore motivations for participating in sport, we outline potential barriers which may stop them from becoming regular club members and give practical tips that you can follow at your club to overcome these.

As more women and girls look to get active across the nation, we want to help your club be first in line to offer a positive and welcoming experience.

Visit our [Women and your Sports Club page](#) or log-in to access our [Creating a Welcoming Sports Club for Women and Girls](#) interactive guide.

[Source of information](#)

British Universities and Colleges Sport (8 March 2017)

This Girl Can funding confirmed for 10 universities

BUCS is pleased to announce the 10 universities that have been selected to support the Sport England funded This Girl Can activation in partnership with BUCS, delivering targeted projects across the remainder of the 2016/17 academic year.

Today, 8 March 2017, is [International Women's Day](#), and following the launch of [This Girl Can's new video ad](#) at the end of February, BUCS have now confirmed a total of £25,000 of Sport England funding for 10 universities across England.

The universities will work in partnership with BUCS to engage inactive female students in a range of sport and physical activity over the coming months, with a particular focus on getting students from under-represented groups, including BAME and international students, active.

The institutions receiving This Girl Can funding from Sport England are:

University of Birmingham
University of Bristol
University of East Anglia
Kings College London
Kingston University

Leeds Trinity University
Northumbria University
Nottingham Trent University
University College London
University of Warwick

BUCS is also working with sports coach UK and Women in Sport to deliver tailored activator training for female students seeking to engage more women in sport. This will support institutions' efforts to engage a broader demographic of female students via collaborative efforts with student groups across their respective campuses.

[View the full news item](#)

England and Wales Cricket Board (8 March 2017)

Greenway on female coaches – the future is bright

World Cup and Ashes winner Lydia Greenway hopes others will follow her example and get involved in coaching.

The countdown is on.

With 108 days to go until the [start of the 2017 ICC Women's World Cup](#), the focus on all areas of women's cricket in England and Wales continues to grow, not least that of female coaches.

These are exciting times for the women's game, from grassroots right through to the very top level, according to former England middle order stalwart and coach Lydia Greenway.

The Kent women's player-coach recently participated in one of three ECB-run national women's coaching conferences, held in Hatfield, Preston and Birmingham, which brought together female coaches of all levels working in clubs and communities to develop their skills and knowledge in addition to sharing new ideas to inspire players to keep choosing cricket.

[View the full news item](#)

Kick it Out (8 March 2017)

Articles celebrating International Women's Day

Editor - they included a number of articles - *only criticism is that they are focused on the south of the country* :

[Women Working in Football - Hampshire FA referee Ffion Eade](#)

[Women Working in Football - Football Foundation's Preeti Shetty](#)

[Women Working in Football - Charlton Athletic Women's Sue Prior](#)

[Women Working in Football - Crystal Palace Foundation's Susan Patterson-Smith](#)

Cycling UK (8 March 2017)

Cycling UK's Women's Festival of Cycling throughout July

To mark International Women's Day today (8 March), Cycling UK is launching its Women's Festival of Cycling. The festival will take place in July and will be a celebration of female-friendly leisure cycling, both on and off-road.

In the UK, more men cycle than women and Cycling UK would like to address this gender imbalance, as in Holland, more women cycle than men.

Cycling UK's Women's Festival of Cycling aims to inspire more women to ride bikes for their mental and physical wellbeing, as well as for fresh air, friendship and fun.

The series of rides will take place across the UK, with many of Cycling UK's 200-plus groups and 800-plus affiliated cycling clubs putting on female-specific rides.

Register rides and find out more at: www.cyclinguk.org/womensfestivalofcycling

[View the full news item](#)

Rugby Football League (8 March 2018)

Rugby League celebrates International Women's Day - The Rugby Football League is to launch a new 'Framework for Women in Rugby League' this spring

The Framework will bring together all the ways that women are involved in Rugby League - as players, coaches, match officials, volunteers, administrators, media, parents, fans and supporters.

Sarah-Jane Gray is Development and Public Affairs Director at the Rugby Football League. "Rugby League is incredibly well supported by women. "40 per cent of ticket buyers are women, a ratio that is far better than most major sports.

"Women are involved in every part of the sport and we are committed to helping more women to gain a coaching qualification, as many women are involved in informal coaching and supporting young players.

"We have refreshed the Women's League this year, including the addition of our first Women's Super League fixtures.

"We are working with clubs, Foundations and partners to increase the number of playing opportunities for girls and women and we are proud supporters of Sport England's This Girl

Can campaign and our Sky Try campaign is giving tens of thousands of young girls the chance to get involved in our sport for the first time.

[View the full news item](#)

Legacy 2014 (8 March 2017)

New 'Street Soccerise' Initiative Launched on International Women's Day 2017

Scottish Government supports new health programme aimed at socially disadvantaged women.

A new health initiative aimed at women has been launched on International Women's Day by the award winning social enterprise Street Soccer Scotland.

The new initiative called 'Street Soccerise' was introduced to Aileen Campbell MSP, Minister for Public Health and Sport by members of Scotland's high achieving Women's Homeless World Cup squad from Glasgow 2016 at an event in Edinburgh today (8th March 2017).

'Street Soccerise' is an aerobic fitness programme using football techniques and footballs throughout the session.

The 'Street Soccerise' programme will be trialled in Edinburgh and initially aimed at women who attend Street Soccer Scotland sessions throughout the year and to women who don't wish to be directly involved in playing football.

[View the full news item](#)

The FA (13 March 2017)

FA plans to double women's and girls' participation by 2020

The FA plans to double the number of women and girls taking part in football by 2020, it was revealed on Monday.

The organisation's new 'Gameplan for Growth' details how it will grow participation and create a sustainable and successful high-performance system to ensure England teams compete with distinction on the world stage at every age group.

At the launch of the ambitious new strategy, Baroness Sue Campbell, The FA's head of women's football, outlined the vision on how to build consensus, collaboration and co-ordination across every level of the game by focusing on eight key priority areas:

- Building a sustainable and successful high-performance system
 - Building a world-class talent pipeline
 - Increasing the number and diversity of women's coaches, referees and administrators in the sport at all levels
 - Developing participation opportunities and infrastructure
 - Changing perceptions and social barriers to participation and following
 - Enhancing the profile and value of the England team and players
 - Signposting opportunities to participate, watch or follow
 - Improving the commercial prospects in women's football.
-

Click here to [read the Gameplan for Growth in full](#). For a full calendar of women's events, click [here](#).

[View the full news item](#)

Newcastle University (14 March 2017)

Physical activity levels tail off in boys and girls from age seven

Physical activity levels may start tailing off as early as seven-years-old, rather than during adolescence as is widely believed, new research reveals.

The findings of a study by [Newcastle University](#) and the [University of Strathclyde](#), published online in the [British Journal of Sports Medicine](#), question the assumption that decline only happens among teens and is gender specific.

And there is no evidence to indicate that the decline is greater among girls than it is among boys, the results show.

Researchers say the prevailing view among policy makers and health professionals is that physical activity levels during childhood are adequate, but fall sharply during adolescence, and that the decline is significantly greater among girls.

But there is little hard evidence to back this up, and what research has been carried out in this area has mostly been done before the impact of new technologies would have been felt, the experts add.

Activity levels of boys and girls

Four distinct patterns emerged for the boys: low levels that slowly tailed off from the age of seven (3%); initially high but rapidly declining levels from the age of seven (17%); moderate levels that gradually tailed off from the age of seven (61%); and stable levels of moderate to vigorous physical activity throughout (19%).

There were three different patterns among the girls: low levels of physical activity to start with, which slowly declined from the age of seven (19%); moderate levels that gradually tailed off from the age of seven (62%); and high initial levels that fell sharply from the age of seven onwards (19%).

This is an observational study, so no firm conclusions can be drawn about cause and effect, added to which, although representative of North East England, the study findings may not be applicable to other areas of the country, or other nations, say the researchers.

But they point out: "The present study found that 100% of boys and girls fitted into longitudinal trajectories which were inconsistent with the orthodox view that physical activity begins to decline at adolescence, declines much more rapidly at adolescence and/or declines much more rapidly in adolescent girls than boys."

[View the full news item](#)

OR - [view the full 6-page article](#)

sports coach UK (14 March 2017)

Blog: Liz Burkinshaw, Development Lead Officer, Sports Coach UK - Four ways coaches can help more women get active

As a coach you may have been inspired by the [#ThisGirlCan](#) celebration of active women. Sports Coach UK wants to support the campaign by providing coaches with practical ideas to help women overcome the fear of judgement, which stops them from joining in.

Here are four essential ways coaches can get more women active.

[Create a welcoming environment](#). Creating a welcoming environment for women is just as important as the technical coaching and activities you are delivering.....

[View the full blog](#)

Beyond Sport reports (16 March 2017)

Scottish Rugby launches women's campaign

Scottish Rugby has launched a new campaign entitled '#BeTheBestYou' aimed at highlighting the positive benefits of playing rugby to women and girls. According to Scottish Rugby, the initiative is designed to help change perceptions about women's rugby and capitalise on its growing popularity in Scotland as a participation sport, at all levels, as part of a wider strategic objective to grow rugby in Scotland, known as Everyone's Game.

#BeTheBestYou will be promoted throughout Scotland, initially as a digitally led activation using video, digital creatives and social media interaction from players across the women's game, encouraging women and girls to visit: www.scottishrugby.org/bestyou to register for 'come and try' events across the country.

.....
[View the full news item](#)

Rugby Football Union (21 March 2017)

RFU nominated for Women's Sport Trust awards

- RFU nominated for four awards
- Winners announced on 11 May

The Rugby Football Union and its initiatives have been shortlisted for four awards at the [Women's Sport Trust #BeAGameChanger Awards](#).

Less than a week after England Women landed their first Six Nations Grand Slam since 2012, the RFU has been nominated for national governing body of the year.

The Red Roses campaign, the identity under which England Women play, launched in October 2016, is shortlisted for media initiative of the year.

The 'Meet Your Inner Warrior' campaign, which aims to encourage more women and girls to take up contact rugby, is listed for imagery of the year.

RFU director of digital, marketing and communications Joanna Manning-Cooper is nominated for ambassador of women's sport.

.....
Public voting decides the winners and winners will be announced at the #BAGC2017 awards in London on Thursday 11 May 2017.

[View the full news item](#)

An article of interest....

BMC Public Health BMC series – open, inclusive and trusted 201717:208. DOI: 10.1186/s12889-017-4136-8. Time to ‘re-think’ physical activity promotion for young people? Results from a repeated cross-sectional study. Best, P et al

Abstract

Background: The aim of this study was to investigate the relationship between knowledge of the current UK physical activity (PA) guidelines and amount of daily PA using a sample population of 11–16 year olds in Northern Ireland.

Methods: Cross-sectional survey data from the 2010 and 2013 Young Persons’ Behaviour and Attitudes Survey of 10,790 young people provided information on PA, knowledge of guidelines and socio-demographic characteristics. Multinomial logistic regression was used to investigate the associations between knowledge and amount of daily PA.

Results: Results from 2013 showed 67.0% of respondents were aware of PA guidelines with 15.4% reporting meeting them. Males were more likely to meet PA guidelines than females (OR 3.36, 95% CI 2.47, 4.59). Males who were active for 60 min or more, 7 days per week were less likely to be aware of guidelines (OR = 1.51, 95% CI 1.02, 2.24). For females, knowledge of PA guidelines had no significant association with amount of daily PA (OR = 1.74, 95% CI 0.99, 3.07). Those who did not enjoy being active were less likely to meet the guidelines (OR = 0.05, 95% CI 0.02, 0.12).

Conclusions: Knowledge did not appear to be an important predictor of PA in young people. Consequently, threshold based messaging containing recommended minimum PA guideline information may not be appropriate for this age group. Re-branding PA promotion to include the use of humour may offer a new direction for public health messaging based around fun and enjoyment.

[View the 9-page article](#)

An event next year....so very advanced awareness....

Staffordshire University - Women in Sport and Exercise Conference 2018: Blood, Sweat and Fears

13 - 14 June 2018, Staffordshire University, Leek Road, Stoke on Trent

The themes of the conference will include:

- Female-specific health and medical issues arising from participation in sport and exercise
- Issues and opportunities for women's participation in sport and exercise

Confirmed Keynote speakers:

Baroness Sue Campbell, CBE. Head of Women's Football Association

Further details will be issued shortly. If you have any direct queries please contact the event coordinator Joel Sumnall Joel.sumnall@staffs.ac.uk

[Source of information](#)

Publications....

Beyond 30%: Female leadership in sport. Women in Sport, March 2017 (23 pages)

Women in Sport’s seventh annual audit looks into the numbers and experiences of women on the board and in senior leadership roles in NGBs in England and Wales.

The Women in Sport Beyond 30% report aims to get the National Governing Bodies of Sport

(NGBs) in the UK to broaden their focus from simply improving the gender diversity of their boards, to addressing diversity across their entire organisations and making wholesale cultural change.

[Download a copy](#)

[View the related news item \(8 March 2017\)](#)

Active Colleges Briefing Paper: Focus on female students. CFE Research for Sport England, no date - December 2016 - earlier? (5 pages)

This paper outlines the impact of the Active Colleges programme on female students. It brings together data from the evaluation of the Active Colleges programme in general, as well as examples from three Colleges:

- **City College Plymouth** – a college with a national reputation in promoting enterprise, employability and STEM subjects and with more than 12,000 students on full or part-time courses. It is a multisite college and historically has experienced low levels of sport participation amongst females. The College Sport Maker is Kim Eschbaecher.
- **North Nottinghamshire College** – a college with nearly 2,000 largely 16-18 year old full-time students. All courses are mainly delivered on one site, with another approximately 10 miles away. The College Sport Maker is Lucy Willets.
- **Greenwich Community College** – is located in an area of high social deprivation and has approximately 2000 students on full and part time courses. There are approximately 700 16-18 year old students and many are ESOL students from overseas. There is a great ethnic and religious mix at the college and in particular a large Nepalese community. The College Sport Maker is Lee Amalzeg.

[Download a copy](#)

Everybody Active, Every Day: Two years on An update on the national physical activity framework. Public Health England, 13 March 2017 (36 pages)

The document reviews the progress of the framework's 4 areas for action:

- active society: creating a social movement
- moving professionals: activating networks of expertise
- active environments: creating the right spaces
- moving at scale: scaling up interventions that make us active

[Download a copy](#)

Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 5 in the UK. Select Committee Report. House of Commons Women and Equalities Committee, March 2017 (55 pages)

There are nine targets under SDG 5. These are:

- End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.
- Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.
- Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.
- Recognise and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.

- Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.
- Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences.
- Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.
- Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.
- Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.

[Download a copy](#)

USA

Beyond Sport reports (3 March 2017)

espnw gives voice to every woman and girl

espnW has kicked off Women's History Month with *When I Play*, a film which captures the inspiration and strength of female athletes and gives a voice to women and girls.

espnW's *When I Play* is a film that directly and proudly celebrates women and gives voice to women and girls who see their athleticism as a way to reclaim themselves, to find themselves, and to embrace their power. It embodies how espnW defines its message and mission. Starting with a poem written by espnW's Allison Glock (who is also the film's executive producer and co-director) and produced by an all-woman senior production team, the film features real athletes - not actors - from the cultural hotbed of Atlanta, who volunteered to participate.

.....
 Additionally in March, ESPN will present more than 140 hours of live women's events programming across its linear networks, including all 32 games of the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament, beginning March 17, as well as women's professional tennis, college softball and more. Full schedules will be announced at a later date.

You can view the video here - www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXE1ka4HJs

[View the full news item](#)

Beyond Sport reports (10 March 2017)

Figure skating in Harlem expands to Detroit

Beyond Sport Award Winner, *Figure Skating in Harlem*, which helps girls transform their lives and grow in confidence, leadership and academic achievement is launching in Detroit, the first city selected in the program's plan for national expansion.

Figure Skating in Detroit, will serve 300 Detroit girls ages 6-15 in its inaugural year. The after-school program will use the Campus Martius ice rink, the Jack Adams Arena in northwest Detroit, the Detroit Skating Club in Bloomfield Township and, possibly, the new Little Caesars Arena.

Figure Skating in Detroit not only will teach girls the mechanics of the sport but also offers STEM classes, leadership and social skills training and healthy lifestyle resources through a program called I Can Excel, or ICE. The signature after-school program includes four to six afternoons weekly of skating instruction and off-ice conditioning and educational services.

Similar to the Harlem-based program, girls will also have access to special community workshops, summer camps and skating events. Williams, who is well-known across metro Detroit for her lengthy work within the philanthropic community, said she learned about the program potentially expanding to Detroit through a friend, who put her in touch with Cohen.

.....
[View the full news item](#)

Inside the games reports (21 March 2017)

USA Hockey and women's team claim progress in pay row amid boycott threat

Progress appears to have been made in the dispute over wages between USA Hockey and the women's national ice hockey team, amid threats of a boycott at the upcoming World Championships.

However, no agreement was reached during a meeting held in Philadelphia.

Both parties expressed optimism following the conclusion of the meeting, where "nearly 20" players either attended in person or dialled in by phone.

Senior representatives from USA Hockey, including President Jim Smith and executive director Dave Ogrea, also attended.

.....
The women's team said last week that they would not compete at their home World Championships, due to begin in Plymouth in Michigan on March 31, unless an agreement was reached.

They are attempting to secure wages and support equal to the men's programme.

.....
[View the full news item](#)

Updating the position....

Inside the games reports (21 March 2017)

United States women agree not to boycott World Championship

Defending champions the United States will not boycott the Women's World Ice Hockey Championship on home ice after they reached a last-ditch agreement with USA Hockey.

The team had threatened to refuse to participate in the event, due to begin on Friday (March 31), following a dispute over wages.

USA Hockey and the players have confirmed, however, in a joint statement that the situation had been resolved.

The national governing body claim the deal will provide "groundbreaking support" for the women's team.

Along with an agreement over pay, the deal will also see more marketing, promotion and fundraising for the women's side.

According to ESPN, their new contracts are worth an additional \$2,000 (£1,600/€1,850) per month, boosting their monthly salary to \$4,000 (£3,200/€3,700).

USA Hockey will also create a \$950,000 (£765,000/€880,000) compensation pool for the players, it has been reported.

.....
[View the full news item](#)
