



**IAPEGW International Update, February 2019: News and resources from 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](#)

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**Our next Regional Congress.....**

### **The Madrid 2019 IAPESGW Regional Congress: Call for abstracts**

The Madrid 2019 IAPESGW Regional Congress looks for organizations, scientists, academics, professionals and future professionals in the fields of physical education, sport and physical activity contribute to the growth and development of those areas. In this way, our main objective is to bring together interested scholars and practitioners of many countries working to improve the advancement position of girls and women in these fields.

#### **Programme Structure**

The Madrid 2019 IAPESGW Regional Congress programme structure will consist of different session types:

- Plenary Keynote sessions(by invited speakers)
- Scientific and Professional paper presentations
- Poster displays
- Workshops
- Panels

#### **Topics**

IAPESGW invites you and your colleagues to submit your proposals to be considered for presentation in the conference. Authors are free to choose between oral presentation or poster submitting in one of the following topics:

- Physical education and school sport: equity issues
- Women in recreational sport
- Participation of women in high performance sports
- Physical activity and sport for all: equity and attention to diversity
- Employment, occupations and the labor market of women in physical activity and sport
- Innovative strategies for the promotion and development of woman physical activity and sport

**Deadline for submission of abstracts, in English language please, NOW extended from 28 February 2019 to 15 March 2019**

[View the full details](#)

**IAPESGW's 70th Celebrations 2019: the last 20 years history project - being undertaken by our previous president, Tansin Benn**

As my preparations for the book on the recent history of IAPESGW 1999 - 2019 are drawing to a close I invite any member to write a paragraph on how the Association made a difference in your life, or in the life of women / girls in your country.

**All contributions to: [tansinbenn@sky.com](mailto:tansinbenn@sky.com) as soon as possible please**

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#### **February Editorial**

**The date has been extended to March 15th for the submission of abstracts for our Madrid Congress.** So take it easy, you are not too late, but get to work on your abstract as we want to see you in sunny Madrid next July!

Around the world, plans are underway for events that will celebrate International Women's Day (IWD) on Friday March 8th. Originating in New York in 1909 it was some years later that the United Nations began celebrating IWD in the International Women's Year in 1975. Two years later, in 1977, the UN General Assembly invited member states to proclaim March 8 as the UN Day for women's rights and world peace.

Over the years it has become a significant time to reflect on our progress towards gender equality and to commit to effective action that will help us achieve it. One such action is to invest in IAPESGW so that you are supporting women and girls in physical education, sport and physical activity.

If you've not already booked into an event for International Women's Day, look for an event near you. Whichever theme you choose to celebrate - #MorePowerfulTogether or #BalanceforBetter - they share the same goal - a world in which every woman and girl can reach their full potential.

I look forward to receiving news for the March Update on how you celebrated IWD in 2019.

The launch of Women in Sport (WISPA) New Zealand's promotional campaign for the International Working Group (IWG) Secretariat and Conference 2018-2022 has been announced and will start on March 8th. Their extensive planning document is well worth a read.

We have covered some amazing breakthroughs and launch announcements from around the world. FIFA (\$100 million allocated), UNESCO and the World Food have launched a Football in Schools program for Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Female boxers can now wear the hijab. Yet in France a feminist group has called for a ban on the sport hijab for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

We have included more news coverage of Caster Semenya's appeal to CAS over the IAAF's rule change for female athletes with Differences of Sexual Development for events from 400 metres to the mile and hurdles.

You will hear a lot more in the media next week when the result of her appeal is publicly known.

Look at the results of the Laureus Foundations sports awards, more new publications are listed and there is some amazing stories and news from the following countries: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada (where at their Winter Games athletes will be able to live and compete as the gender they identify with), France, Iran, Jordan, Mexico, Nepal, New Zealand, UK, Northern Ireland and USA.

Have a great IWD on March 8th!

#MorePowerfulTogether or #BalanceforBetter

**Janice Crosswhite OAM**  
**Communications Director**

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## International

### **Women in Sport Aotearoa, Ngā Wāhine Hākinakina o Aotearoa, (WISPA) Launch - 8th IWG World Conference promotional campaign**

Women in Sport Aotearoa, Ngā Wāhine Hākinakina o Aotearoa, (WISPA) exists to transform New Zealand society through leadership, research and advocacy, ensuring that all women and girls gain equity of opportunity to participate, compete and build careers in sport and active recreation. It delivers initiatives and programmes domestically and is also the

appointed global delivery agent for the International Working Group (IWG) on Women and Sport Secretariat & Conference 2018-2022.

The IWG is the world's largest network dedicated empowering women and girls and advancing sport. Established in May 1994, it developed and is guardian of the Brighton Declaration on Women and Sport. Updated in 2014, the Brighton plus Helsinki Declaration now has 550+ signatories – global organisations demonstrating their commitment to actively supporting women and girls in sport and physical activity. The IWG works year-round to bring attention to issues, partnering with agencies including the UN and UNESCO. Every 4 years it stages the world's largest conference on gender equity in sport, attracting 1,500+ experts. The next conference takes place in Auckland, May 2022.

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### Vision

Carve out space for IWG/WISPA on a busy media and social media day for organisations that support women's empowerment and gender equity. Position IWG/WISPA as leading women's voice for sport.

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[View the full briefing](#)

### An event for awareness....

**PACIFIC WOMEN LEADERS COALITION**

**MARCH 26-27, 2019**  
**MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS**

**Call to Connect**

President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, H.E. Dr. Hilda C. Heine, will convene the first conference of the Pacific Women Leaders' Coalition (PWLC) and is encouraging women leaders from various fields to participate in the Conference to raise the profile and build wider support for women's issues regionally and locally. This Conference is expected to include Woman Heads of States/Governments, senior policy-makers, members of Parliament and Legislatures, Regional Organizations, Academia, Private Sector, Civil Society Organizations, Traditional Leaders, communities and Non-Government Organizations.

Three (3) key outcomes:

1. The establishment of PWLC interim leadership;
2. To elaborate the purpose, focus, and direction of the PWLC; and
3. To discuss and consider options to support the work of the PWLC

The conference to be convened in the Marshall Islands will engage Pacific women leaders in a combination of live and virtual interactions including presentations, panel Q&A sessions and an open forum for questions, enabling interested women from anywhere in the Pacific to ask questions of Pacific women leaders in attendance.

For more information contact us at [pacificwomenleaderscoalition@gmail.com](mailto:pacificwomenleaderscoalition@gmail.com)

### **Beyond Sport reports (8 February 2019)**

#### **FIFA, UNESCO and the World Food Programme Launch “Football For Schools”**

Earlier this week, FIFA President Gianni Infantino, UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay and UN World Food Programme Executive Director David Beasley signed a letter of intent to strengthen their collaboration in support of their common goal to enhance children’s access to sport and to promote important life skills.

The collaboration will contribute to the education, development and empowerment of children through the “Football for Schools Programme” which aims to make football more accessible to both boys and girls around the world by incorporating football activities into education curriculums.

As part of FIFA’s strategic roadmap [FIFA 2.0: The Vision for the Future](#), the design and implementation of the programme will contribute to using the growth of football internationally to service local communities. It will provide support through tangible actions and tools, such as the provision of education and instructional materials (including apps and an online platform) for teachers to incorporate football into learning.

Implementation of the Football for Schools Programme will begin in mid-2019 with the roll-out of pilot projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America. FIFA has allocated a \$ 100 million budget to the programme, which will run until 2022.

[View the full news item](#)

### **Inside the games reports (12 February 2019)**

#### **AIBA to allow female boxers to wear hijabs after uniform changes approved by Executive Committee**

Female boxers will now be permitted to wear sport hijabs at major International Boxing Association (AIBA) events under a rule change passed by the governing body’s Executive Committee.

In a statement released following the latest Executive Committee meeting in Istanbul, AIBA said women would be allowed to wear them "should they want to due to religious reasons".

The change was confirmed after AIBA updated its uniform guidelines, which also features a rule that they can include colours of countries.

The alteration regarding the hijab, a veil worn by some Muslim women, sees the AIBA follow other governing bodies in authorising their use during competition.

They have been used by women in sports including fencing, volleyball and basketball.

At Rio 2016, fencer Ibtihaj Muhammad became the first Muslim American woman to wear a hijab while competing for the United States in the Olympics.

[View the full news item](#)

**Numerous news item on this CAS case - just adding one for awareness....**

**Inside the games reports (14 February 2019)**

**IAAF deny reports they will argue Semenya is biologically male at CAS**

The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) has denied reports it will tell the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) that female athletes with high testosterone levels, such as Caster Semenya, should be classified as a biological male.

South Africa's world and Olympic 800 metres champion Semenya is challenging a proposed new rule brought in by the IAAF which, if upheld, would force her to either take medication to reduce her testosterone levels or compete against men.

Semenya has called the rule - which only affects athletes competing in events between 400m and the mile - unfair, and the case is due to be heard at the CAS in Lausanne next week.

The British newspaper *The Times* had claimed that when the case begins, the IAAF will argue Semenya is a biological male.

The newspaper stated lawyers for the IAAF are preparing to argue that the 28-year-old two-time Olympic champion and other athletes with differences of sexual development (DSD) should be treated as female but are in fact biologically male.

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[View the full news item](#)

**Laureus Sports Foundation (18 February 2019)**

**2019 Laureus World Sports Awards.- *picking out the ones that recognised women and girls***

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After her record-breaking performance at the gymnastics world championships, in which she won four gold, one silver and one bronze medal, Simone Biles was crowned Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year. Biles, who also won the Sportswoman Award in 2017, made history last year by becoming the first woman to win four all-around world championships. At just 21, she now has a record 14 career world titles.

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Japan's first Grand Slam tennis star Naomi Osaka received the Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award for her victory in the US Open, where she defeated five-time Laureus Award winner Serena Williams. Osaka, 21, who is now number one in the world after recently winning the Australian Open, makes history as Japan's first Laureus Award winner.

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17-year-old American snowboarding sensation Chloe Kim, who became the youngest woman to win a Winter Olympics snowboarding gold medal at the Pyeongchang Winter Olympics, won the Action Sportsperson of the Year Award. Slovak alpine skier Henrieta Farkašová and her guide Natalia Subrtova won the Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability Award after becoming the most decorated Winter Paralympian in Pyeongchang with four gold medals in vision-impaired Downhill, Giant Slalom, Super Combined and Super-G, plus silver in Slalom.

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Attended by sports stars, celebrities and business leaders from around the world, the Awards also shone a light on the transformational work of Laureus Sport for Good. In 2018, nearly 300,000 young people all over the world directly benefited from more than 160

Laureus Sport for Good-supported programmes in 40 countries, working to end violence, discrimination and disadvantage by using sport as the tool for change.

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**Yuwa, a sport for development organisation that works in the rural region of Jharkhand in northern India, received the Laureus Sport for Good Award for their life-changing work in using football to improve the lives of young girls from disadvantaged communities.** Through football, the girls overcome violence, build self-confidence and start to change perceptions of what a girl from a rural village in India is capable of achieving. One of Laureus Sport for Good's key focus areas is promoting equality, empowerment and safety for young women and girls. Of the 296,300 children and young people Laureus Sport for Good programmes reached worldwide in 2018, 49% were young women and girls.

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Skiing great Lindsey Vonn's incredible career was recognised by the Laureus Academy with the Laureus Spirit of Sport Award. The Spirit of Sport Award is given at the discretion of the Academy, to recognise an athlete or team who have achieved remarkable success and displayed a relentless dedication to their sport. The greatest female skier of all time, Vonn recently announced her retirement from the sport. Vonn is one of only two female skiers to win four Overall World Cups and has won a record eight World Cup Downhill titles.

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[View the full news item](#)

#### **Inside the games reports (20 February 2019)**

##### **Former Swiss President appointed chairperson of Gymnastics Ethics Foundation Council as body holds first meeting**

Former Swiss President Micheline Calmy-Rey has been confirmed as President of the Council of the Gymnastics Ethics Foundation as the new safeguarding panel's ruling body held its first meeting in Lausanne.

The Foundation, established in response to the USA Gymnastics sexual abuse scandal, was given formal approval by the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) at its Congress in Baku in December.

It formally came into operation last month and the first meeting of the Council - which will serve as the Foundation's supreme body - took place in the Swiss city yesterday.

The Council also includes International Olympic Committee (IOC) member Prince Feisal bin Hussein, who chairs an IOC committee which aims to tackle harassment and sexual abuse problems in sport.

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[View the full news item](#)

## ***Publications.....***

### ***A book review to share with you.....***

**Organization and Administration of Physical Education: Theory and Practice. Jayne D. Greenberg and Judy L. LoBianco.  
(2020) Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics**

**Reviewed by Darlene A. Kluka (IAPESGW Life Member)**

There continues to be a sparse group of contemporary texts that exclusively focus upon the organization and administration of physical education. The authors of and contributors to this text have skillfully combined theory with practice, targeting those who are undergraduate students in physical education pedagogy. The book comprises a unique grouping of professional elementary school, middle school, high school, and college levels as well as urban, suburban and rural. This is one of the first books to include content for those also seeking roles in physical education administration. Each chapter has new skills and innovative ideas to expand their skill sets to improve physical education as part of a well-rounded education. The reader has the advantage of theory and application combined in manners that transcend state borders.

The book is divided into five parts: (I) topics of a physical education administrator as a leader; management and operations; organizing and planning a quality physical education program; (II) curriculum development and evaluation; quality instruction; teacher evaluation; and event planning and special programs; (III) facilities, design criteria, and equipment as well as technology in physical education; (IV) communications, internal and external public relations and advocacy; legal issues in physical education; and human capital management. The final part, Part V, incorporates fiscal management; grant writing and outside funding. Chapters are formatted into learning objectives, key concepts, conclusion and review questions. There are also web resources available for each of the portions.

Examples of grants and fundraising opportunities are also presented, with sample letters and grant applications. Planning and designing new or existing school facilities as well as specifications for sustainable environmental design are also shared. Curriculum theory and mapping, and program evaluation using a variety of systematic processes are also featured. The notion of lobbying and advocating for physical education at the local and national levels are also included, along with leadership theory and management qualities that facilitate effective and efficient communication.

This text is a MUST for undergraduate physical education pedagogy program students, with coursework focusing on the organization and administration of physical education in schools. The authors provide real-world samples of budgets and bids as well as procurement management rules and regulations. Teaching personal and social responsibility, tactical games, sport education, and conceptual physical education or fitness education models are discussed and details for implementation are suggested. Although this text is primarily designed for those who will work in school systems in the USA, there are numerous advantages for an international audience to embrace the book as well to analyze and sequence theory with practice in the administration of physical education.

***A publication of interest to members....***

**Inclusive Systemic Evaluation for Gender equality, Environments and Marginalized voices (ISE4GEMs): A new approach for the SDG era. Authors/editor(s): Anne Stephens, Ellen D. Lewis, and Shravanti Reddy. United Nations Women, 2018 (224 pages)**

With the advent of the United Nations' [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs), there is a call for new approaches and methodologies to understand and evaluate combinations of these global challenges, their integrated nature, and their complexities. Accordingly, the [UN Women Independent Evaluation Service](#) has released a new evaluation guide on the Inclusive Systemic Evaluation for Gender equality, Environments and Marginalized voices (ISE4GEMs) approach.

The ISE4GEMs approach brings together innovative systemic evaluation practice with intersectional analysis. It promotes transdisciplinary evaluation methods, rethinks systemic evaluation methodology, and introduces the Gender equality, Environments and Marginalized voices (GEMs) framework.

This guide provides an introduction to the new approach and includes both a summary of the key theoretical concepts and guidance and tools for applying it in practice.

[Download a copy on this page](#)

**Journal of Physical Activity and Health: The Official Journal of the International Society for Physical Activity and Health. Volume 16, Issue 2, February 2019**

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

[View the abstracts](#)

## **Specific countries**

### **AFGHANISTAN**

**Inside the games reports (7 February 2019)**

**Afghanistan and FIFA urged to act amid sexual abuse allegations**

Pressure has been placed on both FIFA and authorities in Afghanistan to act amid the sexual abuse allegations enveloping football in the country.

Humans Rights Watch (HRW) and international football social enterprise AFDP Global have both made statements in the wake of horrific claims from female players.

Afghan Football Federation (AFF) President Keramuudin Karim and five others temporarily left their positions with the national body after the Afghanistan Attorney General's office launched an investigation into the accusations, first published in British newspaper The Guardian.

It is claimed that players from the women's team have faced sexual and physical abuse including rape and beatings from individuals including Karim.

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[View the full news item](#)

## AUSTRALIA

### **Inside the games reports (13 February 2019)**

#### **Australia's biggest netball festival set for return to Sunshine Coast**

NetFest, Australia's biggest netball festival, is set to return to Queensland's Sunshine Coast for the second year running, it has been announced.

The event, due to take place in Mooloolaba and Maroochydore from October 10 to 13, will see netball fans from all over Australia and New Zealand enter teams to enjoy four days of fun and light-hearted netball activities.

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[View the full news item](#)

### **Australian Leisure Management (14 February 2019)**

#### **Western Australian parents urged to stay silent on the sidelines at junior sport**

A local adaptation of the international initiative to improve parental behaviour at junior sport will see community clubs in Western Australia introduce 'Silent Sidelines' days, weekends or rounds in which spectators are asked not to make comments to players, coaches, officials or spectators during games.

Part of the Western Australian Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' True Sport campaign that promotes fun, fair and safe environments, the initiative aims to stamp out bad spectator behaviour and promote good sportsmanship.

Aimed at changing the behaviour of parents who yell abuse at players, umpires or coaches or who try to coach or umpire from the sidelines, the Silent Sidelines initiative started in Europe and North America in 2014 and has already been promoted in NSW and Queensland. It was created as an antidote to what former England footballer and now television presenter Gary Lineker termed the "bile and nonsense parents spout" at junior games.

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[View the full news item](#)

### **Australian Financial Review (15 February 2019)**

#### **'Dress it up as women's sport': the new pork barrel**

"Dress it up as women's sport." Those are the words of a football code lobbyist trudging the corridors of parliament house in Canberra this week, seeking millions of dollars of taxpayer money to build a sport facility to be used predominantly by men.

There was one problem – the original construction plan at the rugby venue had omitted to include women's change rooms.

Better fix that before talking to the politicians!

Women's sport is the new catchcry for sports organisations lobbying for taxpayer money, even if well-paid male sportsmen are the real beneficiaries.

If women are involved, how can a politician say no?

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[View the full news item](#)

### **Inside the games reports (21 February 2019)**

#### **Basketball Australia appoint Rechter as new chief executive**

Basketball Australia has appointed Jerril Rechter to replace Anthony Moore as chief executive, the organisation has announced.

Rechter joins the national governing body from VicHealth, where she also served as chief executive, and takes over from interim boss Paul Maley.

Basketball Australia said she has an executive-level career spanning over 20 years and was "known as an innovator, a leader and an influencer".

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[View the full news item](#)

### ***A publication of interest.....***

#### **Pathway to Pay Equality: Elite women athletes. Male Champions for Change, February 2019 (17 pages)**

The new report from Male Champions of Change Sport outlines:

- the difference between like-for-like pay equity and sustainable pay equality in the context of sport
- a model to achieve equal base pay in sport
- why arguments against equal pay for elite women athletes don't stack up
- support required across the entire sports ecosystem to achieve pay equality
- a 'point in time' self-assessment of each MCC Sport member's progress on the Pathway to Pay Equality

[Download a copy](#)

[View the press release on the publication of the report \(18 February 2019\)](#)

## **BANGLADESH**

### **Female Coaching Network reports (18 February 2019)**

#### **Mirona becomes first female coach of men's team in Bangladesh**

Dhaka City FC officially signed a deal with Mirona Khatun on December 24 last year

A momentous event unfolded in the Bangladesh football scenery as Mirona Khatun, a former national women's team player, became the first woman to lead a men's football team, reports BFF.

The Bangladesh Navy athlete was appointed coach of Dhaka City Football Club as the previously appointed regular coach, SM Abu Noman Nannu did not have the prerequisite AFC "B" grade coaching license required in Bangladesh Championship League laws.

Mirona achieved her B license under the AFC Coaching Courses programme initiated by the BFF.

BFF president Kazi Salahuddin took the initiative to support coaches, in particular female coaches, who face numerous hurdles otherwise.

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[View the full news item](#)

## **BRAZIL**

*Information supplied by IAPESGW vice president Beatriz Ferreira....*

### **The Physical Activities Programs to benefit girls and women in Brazil developed by CELAFISCS - Agita São Paulo and Agita Mundo**

The Agita São Paulo Program is a multi-level plan launched in December 1996, by the Physical Fitness Research Center from São Caetano do Sul – CELAFISCS. It promotes messages about the health benefits of Physical Activity- PA and coordinates activities and interventions for broader PA opportunities among more than 40 million inhabitants (in 645 municipalities) of the state of São Paulo, Brazil. The main goal of the Program is to change the general population's PA behavior. The Program activities and messages are intended to turn sedentary individuals into somewhat active ones, persons who are not very active into active ones, those who are regularly active into even more active ones, and those who are already very active into individuals able to remain so, at no risk of suffering injury. The main message used by the Program recommended that adults should accumulate at least 30min of moderate intensity PA per day either done in one session or in multiple sessions lasting at least 10 min each.

The Agita São Paulo program emphasizes activities for girls and women of all ages, such as Agita Galera [age at school], elderly, disabled and pregnant groups. There are two mega events: World Physical Activity Day and Active Community Day—“Agita Galera”

The Agita Galera is used to stimulate permanent actions in schools, such as developing more activity programs, improving physical education, adding activity- related educational materials to the library, and stimulating student peer groups to enhance PA at school

The success of this program influenced many programs in the developing countries, and also the organization of the Agita Mundo Network [a global network]. It was launched in October 2002, at a gathering of national and international institutions representing physical activity and health, and mandated by the Declaration of São Paulo to Promote Physical Activity in the World. Since 2015 has an independent council of the International Society for Physical Activity and Health [ISPAH]. Its objective is to bring together the partner institutions, national and international network advisors, as well as invited guests to discuss strategies for successful intervention around of the world, and the themes for the [World Day of Physical Activity](#) and for the Implementation of the Global Agenda for Promotion of Physical Activity.

The April 6 became the World Day of Physical Activity. In commemoration of this day many events are held worldwide. Every year has different theme, the 2019 one is “Active Life! Long Life!

The Physical Fitness Research Laboratory of Sao Caetano do Sul – CELAFISCS – is inviting organizations to take part in the 2019 World Day for Physical Activity and to register on the event website <http://www.portalagita.org.br/en/>

**NGIME - The Center for Research in Inclusion, Movement and Distance Education of the Federal University of Juiz de Fora** is the main institution in Brazil developing actions with IAPESGW. It was responsible for the publication of the Inspirational Women: Making a difference in Physical Education, Sport and Dance Continental Series [America, Asia, Africa, Europe, Oceania]

**The purposes of NGIME are:**

- 1) The Inclusion and Human Movement in the fields of physical activity and dance and the relationship of these movements with disability and chronic-degenerative diseases.
- 2) Distance Learning: encompasses studies in the area of distance learning and its relation with the theme of inclusion. The most recent course is on Audio-description.

The NGIME received the visit on February 7th from the Secretary of Specialized Modality of Education, Ministry of Education (MEC), Bernardo Goytacazes de Araújo.

In a meeting with the coordinator, Eliana Lucia Ferreira and the vice-coordinator Flávio Iassuo Takakura, the secretary met the NGIME facilities and the initiatives promoted by the nucleus in the area of inclusive education, such as the several postgraduate distance courses, besides its differentiated educational production, focused on accessible materials.

Currently about 1,000 students are enrolled in courses offered by the core, which focuses on promoting the educational, cultural and social inclusion of students with disabilities in all parts of the country. During the visit was proposed by the secretary the approach with the National Institute of Education of the Deaf (INES), as well as new actions were aligned in partnership with the MEC.

**References**

Sandra Mahecha Matsudo et al. Evaluation of a physical activity promotion program: The example of Agita São Paulo. *Evaluation and Program Planning* 29 (2006) 301–311

<http://www.ispah.org/>

<http://portalaqita.org.br/en/>

<http://www.ngime.ufjf.br/site/>

**CANADA****Inside the games reports (11 February 2019)****Investigation reveals more than 200 Canadian coaches convicted of sexual offences against minors since 1998**

The Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) and Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC) have claimed they stand for sport "free of harassment, abuse or discrimination of any kind" after a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) investigation.

The probe revealed that at least 222 coaches who were involved in amateur sports in Canada have been convicted of sexual offences in the past 20 years, involving more than 600 victims under the age of 18.

CBC News and CBC Sports also found that the cases of another 34 accused coaches are currently before the courts.

Analysis shows the charged and convicted coaches were involved in 36 different sports.

In response to the publication of an article on the investigation, COC President Tricia Smith and CPC counterpart Marc-André Fabien issued a joint statement.

"We are committed to the health and safety of all who play or work for the Canadian Olympic and Paralympic teams and to doing our part to ensure safe sport is the standard," it reads.

"We will both be in Red Deer, Alberta, next weekend, for the 2019 Canada Winter Games.

"We look forward to meeting with the Minister of Sport and our partners in the sport system to advance this important conversation and to take action to better safeguard those in sport today and into the future.

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[View the full news item](#)

### **CBC Canada (18 February 2019)**

#### **Canada Winter Games using new gender inclusion policy at 2019 event**

Over 3,600 athletes, coaches participating across 19 sports in Red Deer, Alta.

Athletes at the 2019 Canada Winter Games can live and compete as the gender they identify with.

It's another groundbreaking initiative for a Canadian multi-sport event that prides itself on being ahead of the curve.

"Inclusiveness is something we've done since Day 1, and so this is an extension of that," said David Patterson, president and CEO of the Canada Games Council.

The Canada Games board adopted its gender inclusion policy in December, and it has been implemented for the Winter Games that are happening now through March 3 in Red Deer, Alta.

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[View the full news item](#)

### ***Publications.....***

***This Recommendation Report was released to the public on 19 February 2019, by the Federal Provincial Territorial Sport Council (FPTSC) Workgroup on Women and Girls in Sport***

#### **Recommendation Report: Federal-Provincial/Territorial Sport Committee Work Group on Women and Girls in Sport, October 2018 (33 pages)**

This recommendation report is the result of a two-year review undertaken by the FPTSC Work Group on Women and Girls in Sport, aimed at increasing the participation of women and girls in all aspects of sport.

Increasing the participation of women and girls in sport is an urgent and complex issue that permeates the sport system at all levels. While there are many examples of remarkable initiatives enabling women's participation in sport, particularly in the area of high performance sport, there remains many areas where progress has not been made, and where a coordinated and collaborative approach could lead to significant improvements. Canadians who identify as women and girls continue to face barriers to full participation and representation in the Canadian sport system, at all levels and in all capacities. This report does not discount the steps accomplished over the last 40 years; it builds upon those beneficial changes and focuses upon the areas where the system has been resistant to change.

The Work Group recognizes that women and girls do not represent a homogeneous group and has taken into consideration socio economic status, ethnocultural background, physical/mental ability and other intersecting identify factors as part of the review process and the development of the recommendations. Marginalized populations such as Indigenous Peoples, members of minority ethno-cultural groups, asylum seekers and refugees, homeless people, and those living in poverty need to be appropriately considered as it has long been

recognized that physical activity and sport can be used as a vehicle to promote the social inclusion of marginalized populations, and to contribute toward better understanding among communities.<sup>1</sup> In particular, we are focused on insuring recommendations are relevant for Indigenous women and girls. <sup>2</sup> We draw significantly upon the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada with respect to sport, and urge that they be implemented with a gendered lens. Policy, program, evaluation and monitoring solutions for sport require both an understanding of intersectional factors and collaboration with other policy sectors in order to achieve sport outcomes and advance larger social capital and sustainable development goals.

Further, the Work Group recognizes that a sustainable and equitable sport system requires contributions of all stakeholders, partners and participants. Leadership and action by men and boys are vital, as this is not just a 'women's issue,' it's a human rights issue. All are encouraged to take an active role in improving gender equity in sport and to participate in making the proposed recommendations a reality.

[Download the report](#)

## FIJI

### **Inside the games reports (5 February 2019) Netball Fiji to receive financial boost from Australia to prepare for World Cup as part of Pacific Sports Partnership**

Netball Fiji will receive a financial boost from Australia in the run up to the 2019 Netball World Cup as part of the Pacific Sports Partnership.

The Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Fijian Prime Minister Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama recently released a joint statement reaffirming the friendship between Australia and Fiji.

Included in this was the announcement that the Pacific Sports Partnership, Australia's flagship sport for development programme in the Pacific, will now extend to the Fijian national netball team.

This will see Netball Fiji receive financial support to help them prepare for the Netball World Cup, scheduled for July 12 to 21 in Liverpool.

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[View the full news item](#)

## FRANCE

### **Inside the games reports (4 February 2019) French feminist group call for hijab ban at Paris 2024**

French feminist group, the International League for Women's Rights (ILWR), has called on the organisers of the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris to ban the hijab and other items of Islamic clothing during the Games, to ensure female Muslim athletes can compete free from religious restrictions.

In a blog posted on ILWR's website, Annie Sugier called for Islamic nations to be prevented from forcing female athletes to cover their entire bodies during competition as it against the Olympic Charter.

Sunier, co-author of a book How Islamism Perverted the Olympics, claimed Islamic countries have been allowed to ban women from taking part in mixed team events and only allowed women to compete in sports "compatible with Islamic law".

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[View the full news item](#)

## IRAN

**Editor** - thanks once again to our national rep Robabeh Rostami for supplying an overview of activity in Iran for February 2019, and all the excellent photographs, in a very informative news compilations - view the February news via the IAPESGW website on this page: <http://www.iapesgw.org/news-and-events/monthly-newsletter-archive>

**A example from the February compilation:**

### **Female skiers collect 12 medals at Armenia's intl. alpine event**

The 20-year-old Mahsa Yarkhah stunned the viewers by pocketing 4 gold medals in the female's category, two in slalom and two in giant slalom. Donya Tabari was the next successful female athlete in the tournament and managed to gain three silver medals, one in slalom and two in giant slalom. Zahra Alizadeh won one silver and one bronze medal in slalom while Zahra Moghdid managed to earn two bronze medals for her country. Alireza Ahmadpour won the only bronze medal of Iran in men's slalom event. Dubbed as 'SES Alpine CUP 2019', the tournament was held from January 29 to February 01 in Armenia.



## JORDAN

### **Beyond Sport reports (1 February 2019)**

#### **Adapted baseball program takes on gender equality in refugee camps**

This week, the [World Baseball Softball Confederation](#) (WBSC) completed a two day coaching workshop in Jordan introducing Baseball5 - a play anywhere street version of the games - to Zaatari as part of its partnership with the organisation [Peace and Sport](#). Zaatari is the world's largest camp for Syrian refugees, operated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

The workshop, which ran in one of UNHCR community centres in the camp taught Baseball5 basics to more than thirty local coaches, teachers and project coordinators working at the camp. It is a low-cost and easily accessible version of baseball developed by WBSC, that is a part of the governing body's plans for sport-for-development initiatives.

In the coming weeks, coaches will begin introducing WBSC's new low-cost and youth-focused discipline to many of the 80,000 refugees living in the densely populated camp. The camp has

become Jordan's fourth largest city, with nearly 60% of its population under the age of 24. All of the programme equipment is being donated by WBSC.

For the first time in the history of the sport activities in the camp, Baseball5 allowed men and women, boys and girls to play together in mixed teams. Through the urban version of baseball-softball, WBSC has levelled the playing field for both genders to enjoy and access the health benefits and social values of team sport together.

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[View the full news item](#)

## MEXICO

***Many thanks for this news item from the national representative for Mexico Claudia Espinosa....***

### **Liz Angeles: an overcoming story**

FIFA highlighted the road that Liz Angeles had to pass to conquer the Mexican soccer league. The female soccer player worked as police officer at the investigation department as long as she played in her job's soccer team. After, she participated in Homeless World Cup in 2015 where she won the championship with Mexico's soccer team. In 2017, Angeles was hired by Club Pachuca F.C. and now she is one of the best players in the female MX league.

Full text in Spanish by Angeles Corchado 16-February-2019

Link: [https://mexico.as.com/mexico/2019/02/17/futbol/1550361476\\_365864.html](https://mexico.as.com/mexico/2019/02/17/futbol/1550361476_365864.html)

## NEPAL

***Editor - I hope you don't mind me adding this general item. I just want to raise more attention to this barbaric practice - I was very shocked to read about the recent deaths in this article....***

### **Liverpool John Moore's University (1 February 2019)**

#### **Nepal's menstrual huts: what can be done about this practice of confining women to cow sheds?**

The tragic recent deaths of a mother and her two sons in a [chhaupadi hut in Nepal](#) has again brought the issue of this exclusionary practice to the forefront of international human rights and media attention.

Despite [being illegal](#), chhaupadi, the practice of exiling menstruating women and girls from their home – often to a cow shed – is still practised in some areas of Western Nepal. Chhaupadi is an extreme example of the stigmas and restrictions around menstruation that exist not only in Nepal, but [also globally](#). The recent protests at the [Sabarimala temple](#) in India, which women of menstruating age are not allowed to enter, is another example of menstrual pollution beliefs.

The image of menstruating women and girls being forced to leave their homes and be confined to a cow shed [dominates media coverage](#) of the issue in Nepal. But this view oversimplifies what is a much more complex issue. Chhaupadi is not only limited to the physical practice of sleeping in a shed – it goes beyond this to include deeply rooted cultural beliefs about impurity, which see women and girls as inferior, and lead girls to internalise these feelings. Girls are told they are impure from a young age, which can have a damaging effect on their psyche and sense of self-worth.

Many NGOs and activists are [destroying the sheds](#) – and the Nepalese government has

introduced new penalties and sanctions, such as removing state food support and other services. While this might seem like a welcome move, in some areas there are reports that this can make it more dangerous for women and girls as instead they sleep outside in caves or the jungle without shelter or mosquito nets. These practices are deeply ingrained in culture and society, so many women may leave their homes despite sanctions for fear of bringing harm if they don't.

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[View the full news item](#)

## NEW ZEALAND

### **The Black Ferns Sevens - perform their own version of the Haka**

The female team version of the Haka is different to what you see before the NZ men's teams plays. [They performed to celebrate their 2018/19 Dubai Sevens title in November 2018](#) and also as they won the Sydney 7s in February 2019.

[View the video](#) - from the February 2019 event

## UK

### **British Cycling (28 January 2019)**

#### **GB cyclists front #OneInAMillion campaign to boost women's cycling by 1 million by 2020**

Laura Kenny, Lizzie Deignan, Sir Chris Hoy, Elinor Barker and Joanna Rowsell Shand are just a few of the world and Olympic cycling champions to join a host of 'real women' in backing a long-standing campaign which aims to narrow the vast gender cycling gap and get one million more women on bikes by 2020.

Our latest research shows that two thirds of frequent cyclist in Britain are men (69%), compared to countries like Denmark where male cyclists account for 47% and female cyclists 53%.

There is also a vast disparity in confidence levels amongst women and men, with more than six in ten women (64%) saying they don't feel confident riding their bike on the roads (26% higher than men) and a similar number claiming that infrastructure (63%) and driver behaviour (66%) does not make them feel safe (17% and 13% higher than men, respectively). If these barriers were removed, statistics indicate the true potential to grow women's cycling - with 36% of women – equating to 9,720,000 - saying they would like to cycle more frequently.

In 2013 we launched our women's strategy when just 525,000 women were cycling regularly - with the aim to boost this figure by 1 million, by 2020. The initiative, backed by Sport England's This Girl Can campaign, has helped to inspire over 800,000 women to take up cycling to date, however despite this progress, the stubborn gender disparity and dwindling confidence levels indicate there is much more to be done.

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[View the full news item](#)

### **Sustrans (29 January 2019)**

#### **Blog: How can we challenge the cycling gender gap?**

In 2018 we had a flurry of activity around the Sustrans Bike Life report, and in particular the launch of [Women: reducing the gender gap](#) which highlighted - amongst other statistics - that there are two men to every one woman cycling.

## **How can we challenge the gender gap?**

In 2018 we had a flurry of activity around the Sustrans Bike Life report, and in particular the launch of Women: reducing the gender gap which highlighted - amongst other statistics - that there are two men to every one woman cycling.

Now I know we should get away from this binary distinction but still, it is a startling fact. If you attended the launch event in Bristol you will have heard from Dr Rachel Aldred who showed us the statistic that in Holland there is greater parity and that actually more women than men cycle.

And with that lack of parity comes a male-dominated culture – the bikes, the clothes, the way we ride, the routes and neighbourhoods we and others design. What part of that equation can we, as individuals change to help close the gender gap and essentially generate a massive increase in the numbers of people cycling?

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[View the full blog](#)

## **Women in Sport (31 January 2019)**

### **Women in Sport and MISSFITS launch fundraising partnership**

Women in Sport and MISSFITS, the female-focused protein brand, have teamed up in a new partnership aimed to encourage women to get active.

The two organisations want all women to be able to experience the physical and mental benefits of activity and feel confident about being active. To help achieve this, MISSFITS will be supporting the charity's work by donating 1% of all sales to Women in Sport.

The two organisations will be inspiring women to get involved in physical activity and sport so that they can take advantage of the lifelong benefits that sport provides.

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[View the full news item](#)

## **British Triathlon (1 February 2019)**

### **Tri January facilitates surge in female participation**

British Triathlon's Tri January campaign successfully introduced 5330 individuals to multisport, with women representing nearly three-quarters of the figure committing to swim, bike and run in January.

The campaign asked participants to incorporate triathlon activity into their lives, with the emphasis on completing one of three distances over the course of the month in their own time and at their own pace. 73% of Tri January sign-ups were females pledging to get involved.

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Building on the momentum of the campaign, British Triathlon have developed a three-step plan for both Tri January participants and those that have been inspired to get involved to embark on. Those wishing to continue swimming, cycling and running in their own time can continue to do so by downloading digital calendars to track their activity each month. For individuals looking to take their journey further, three Tri January [GO TRI](#) events will be taking place across Great Britain in spring 2019, one suited to each campaign team. Looking ahead to June, British Triathlon will be staging Tri January [GO TRI](#) waves at both the AJ Bell World Triathlon Leeds (8-9 June) and Accenture World Triathlon Mixed Relay Nottingham (15 June) for [GO TRI](#)ers wanting to soak up the atmosphere of a bigger event but still enjoy manageable distances alongside fellow Tri January alumni.

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[View the full news item](#)

## **Sport Industry Group reports (5 February 2019)** **Price chair of new Tennis Integrity Unit Supervisory Board**

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Jennie Price, former Chief Executive Officer of Sport England, has been appointed Independent Chair of the new Tennis Integrity Unit Supervisory Board.

The international governing bodies of tennis (ATP, WTA, ITF and Grand Slam Board) selected Price for the newly created position following an extensive international search.

The creation of a Supervisory Board for the Tennis Integrity Unit was a governance recommendation off the back of the Independent Review Panel Final Report, published in December.

Taking up the role from February, Price will Chair a nine-person Board, joined by four members from tennis, representing the ATP, WTA, ITF and Grand Slam Board, as well as four additional soon-to-be-appointed independent members.

### [Source of information](#)

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## **England Athletics (5 February 2019)** **Get involved in our new Women's Coaching Network events**

England Athletics are holding a series of events specifically for female coaches.

We are looking to create local networks to support female coaches further their development; particularly supporting those with an aspiration of coaching at higher performance levels, whether it be moving from Leadership in Running Fitness to Coach in Running Fitness, Coaching Assistant to Athletics Coach or progressing into Event Group coaching.

Across the country we have four events taking place with a focus on you having practical solutions and actions to have a positive impact on your development and coaching whilst offering supportive environments to help you be the best version of you.

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### **2 March 2019 NE - Gateshead Stadium, NE10 0EF**

[www.trybooking.com/uk/book/event?eid=5415&](http://www.trybooking.com/uk/book/event?eid=5415&)

### **9 March 2019 Midlands - Alexander Stadium, Birmingham B42 2LR**

[www.ulearnathletics.com/cpdEvent/88891](http://www.ulearnathletics.com/cpdEvent/88891)

### **10 March 2019 South West - Yate Outdoor Sports Complex, Broad Ln, Yate, Bristol BS37 7LB**

[www.ulearnathletics.com/cpdEvent/88890](http://www.ulearnathletics.com/cpdEvent/88890)

### **17 March 2019 London - Clarendon Hotel, SE3 0RW**

[www.ulearnathletics.com/cpdEvent/88889](http://www.ulearnathletics.com/cpdEvent/88889)

### [View the full details](#)

## **Women in Sport (8 February 2018)**

### **Jane Dowling from Meno and Me on menopause and exercise**

Ahead of our [menopause webinar on 25 March](#), Jane Dowling from [Meno and Me](#) has shared how exercise is helping her cope with menopause.

We all strive to be the very best version of ourselves. We also know that beauty comes from within, but during this time of life, struggling with menopause symptoms as well as ageing; it can be tough.

I know if I am not on my A game with exercise and eating well, not only does my mind and body suffer it shows in my face, skin and body.

Symptoms like fatigue, weight gain, hot flushes, sore muscles and low mood are common during this time, but exercise can help to cope with them.

In [Women in Sport's menopause research](#), 82% of women said they had experienced menopause symptoms, while 70% felt their symptoms had a moderate-severe impact on quality of life.

The study found that active women were more resilient in coping with these symptoms and used physical activity to manage them.

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[View the full news item](#)

**Women in Sport - E-Newsletter, February 2019 - [available to view](#)**

### **StreetGames (11 February 2019)**

#### **Jane Ashworth OBE discusses 'Women in Sport' with Club Matters**

StreetGames' CEO Jane Ashworth was among the three sector experts invited to join the 'Club Natters' podcast this past week, as participants discussed the many challenges and opportunities surrounding women's participation in sport. StreetGames would like to thank Club Matters, as well as fellow panelists Rachel Yankey (former England International and Coach), and Lisa O'Keefe (Sport England Insight Director) for being a part of this enlightening discussion!

[Listen to 'Club Natters' Episode 5](#)

[Source of information](#)

### **Brunel University London (11 February 2019)**

#### **First UK university unveils sports hijab**

Brunel University London has become the first UK university to unveil a sports hijab for its Muslim sportswomen

It's hoped the move will help bolster traditionally-low sports participation amongst hijabi students.

"Brunel is one of only four UK universities to offer a free sports programme, and we noticed that there was a gap in female sports participation," said Ranjeet Rathore, President of the Union of Brunel Students, who has driven the hijab's introduction.

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[View the full news item](#)

### **England Squash (15 February 2019)**

#### **Join us in celebrating International Women's Day**

England Squash are celebrating International Women's Day on Friday 8th March with a series of case studies, videos and competitions to help get more women and girls involved in squash.

Many coaches, leaders and [clubs are already seeing the benefits](#) of joining the Squash Girls Can campaign, so why not use International Women's Day to get involved or to celebrate your current activities.

## **Ways to get involved**

You can celebrate and share your activities on social media using #SquashGirlsCan and #IWD2019, and by using content from the [Squash Girls Can toolkit](#) on your channels. Simply download the content you want to share and schedule your social media posts to promote your activities.

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[View the full details](#)

## **England Netball (22 February 2019)**

### **WIs get walking to celebrate partnership with England Netball**

This week we celebrated the growth and success of our partnership with the National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI), which began more than one year ago.

The aim of the partnership between us and the trusted female organisation is to empower women through physical activity and netball. This has led to a project that looks to introduce Walking Netball sessions to WIs across the country, and to train WI members as hosts to allow them to continue delivering the programme in order to leave a lasting legacy and encourage WIs to stay active.

Over the last 12 months, approximately 360 WIs have expressed an interest in Walking Netball, 65 Walking Netball sessions have been introduced and 70 WI members have been trained to become Walking Netball hosts, a fantastic achievement, given 12 months ago they hadn't even started playing Walking Netball. There are also a further 92 WIs scheduled to start Walking Netball in the second year of this partnership.

On Wednesday 20th February, WIs from across the country came together at Denman College, the home of the NFWI in Oxfordshire, to celebrate the growing participation of WI Walking Netball.

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[View the full news item](#)

## ***Latest news report from Sport Northern Ireland....***

### **Active, Fit and Sporty**

#### **Every Body Active 2020**

The National Lottery funded programme has been continuing to develop initiatives to increase and sustain women participating in sport. Throughout the 11 district council areas, there are a variety of successful programmes with Ladies Circuit class at Mid Ulster Sports Arena, Cookstown in Mid Ulster District Council. The aim of this project was to make the class accessible to all women, in particular low income households or women who may never have exercised before. The women enjoy the programme as they can go at their own pace while gaining a number of social benefits from the class. A number of the women have availed of the other Every Body Active activities such as park runs, as a result of the circuit classes. See video below:

<https://youtu.be/QvZ10khgs7E>

Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council have implemented a Buggy Blitz programme in 3 locations across the council area. This free programme is aimed at mothers with young children, in particular first time mothers who can be with likeminded people as well as maintaining their fitness. The mothers walk along the trails of the Centres and then complete a

series of circuits while babies can play on the mats. A main benefit taken from this programme is that the mothers can get their daily exercise without having to struggle with childcare. See video below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HbkkOZRBxds&t=1s>

Other case studies from Every Body Active 2020 include inclusive archery, Begin Her tennis and walking netball.

### **Female Sports Forum**

Three key aspects of the Female Sports Forum's strategy for Active, Fit & Sporty involve; providing opportunities for the development of leadership skills, increasing the visibility of female successes through social media platforms and inspiring role models.

The Female Sports Forum Female Leadership Development Programme has had four of its five meetings over recent months, with one final session taking place in March. The Female Leadership Development Programme is lead by Podium Leadership, and has twelve attendees from twelve different NGB's. Attendees receive support and ideas of how to better themselves as female leaders within their NGB's, covering a range of topics which include: understanding self; building your strengths – understanding your network; learning and managing change; resilience for performance; planning my future; and developing and Implementing an impact project.

The Female Sports Forum financially supported and coordinated the running of a Sports Leaders UK Level 2 course at Ulster University, which is an accredited Sports Leader UK facility. This course saw 24 females successfully complete the course, which took place over two weekends. The attendees came from fourteen different NGB's and ranged from 15 to 47 years of age.

The Female Sports Forum have been continuing their 'Active Female Competition' which highlights the special contribution individuals have made to female sport in Northern Ireland. This involves open nominations, from which three females are shortlisted, and the public are given the opportunity to vote for their active female of the month through social media platforms. The most recent winner was Futsal player, Beth Kelly, who had represented the Republic of Ireland team at the European Deaf Women's Futsal Finals in Finland, where she successfully qualified for a place in the World Deaf Women's Futsal Finals next year.

The EXPO event saw the Female Sports Forum occupy space in six shopping centres across Northern Ireland, inviting one sport to each location to showcase their sport and allow the general public to get involved. The six sports included rugby, football, netball, ice hockey, volleyball and table tennis.

The Female Sports Forum Conference is due to take place on Tuesday 12th March in Stormont Hotel, Belfast. The title of the conference is, "The Ultimate Goal: Embedding Cultural Change". Keynote speakers are Amy Williams (Skeleton Bobsleigh Olympian Champion), Kate Grey (Paralympic Swimmer and Broadcaster) and Ali Oliver (CEO of the Youth Sport Trust). Four workshops will be delivered on the day covering the topics of: mental health and wellbeing, leadership in female sport, caring for female participants and the effective use of media.

### **Youth Sport Trust**

On the 15th-17th February 32 girls from 6 schools came together to take part in the Youth Sport Trust Girls Active Coaches Camp NI. This was the first time the event had been held in Northern Ireland and it was clear to see how much of a success it was. My role throughout the camp was a Team Leader, this involved me keeping the energy levels high throughout the long days, supporting the girls during the workshops and acting as a role model. The camp had a number of workshops which focused on developing their leadership skills and improving

their coaching skills with either Disability Sport NI or Netball NI. All workshops had the same aim of equipping the Girls with the skills they need to make a difference in their schools. Overall, it was an amazing weekend seeing so many young girls grow in confidence and be so enthusiastic about getting more girls active in their schools.

**Amy Smyth, Development Officer, Sport Northern Ireland**

## USA

### **Beyond Sport reports (1 February 2019)**

#### **New fund to support women in coaching and scouting roles**

On Wednesday, the [Women's Sports Foundation](#) (WSF) and Atlanta Falcons Assistant General Manager Scott Pioli announced the "[Scott Pioli & Family Fund for Women Football Coaches and Scouts](#)." The endowed fund supports the development, education and training of aspiring female football coaches and scouts who are pursuing careers in collegiate or professional football in the United States.

Currently in his 27th season in the National Football League (NFL) and sixth year with the Falcons, Scott Pioli has served as a mentor for women within the industry, and he joined the Women's Sports Foundation Board of Trustees in the fall of 2018.

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The fund is now accepting applications and will award its first grant this year. The selection committee is comprised of an esteemed group of female coaches and scouts in the industry who have competed in elite athletics including offensive assistant coach for the San Francisco 49ers, Katie Sowers, and two-time USA Women's Football National Team member and Co-Founder of the Women's National Football Conference (WNFC) Odessa Jenkins.

[View the full news item](#)

### **Inside the games reports (19 February 2019)**

#### **Leung appointed President and chief executive of scandal-hit USA Gymnastics**

Scandal-hit USA Gymnastics (USAG) have announced the appointment of Li Li Leung as the organisation's President and chief executive.

Leung is the latest appointment to the positions at USAG at the tumultuous time for the organisation, which faces a threat of decertification from the United States Olympic Committee (USOC).

USAG also filed for bankruptcy last year following fallout from the Larry Nassar sexual abuse scandal.

Leung becomes the fourth President and chief executive of USA Gymnastics in the past two years.

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[View the full news item](#)