2023 Safe Sport International Global Safe Sport Conference

HOPE | HEALING | TRANSFORMATION

18th - 20th September 2023
London, UK

List of Sessions and Speakers / Presenters

@4-Aug-23

Monday 18th September 2023

Research Symposium

18th September
08:30 – 16:00 (TBC)
Loughborough University London, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

Organised by the International Research Network on Violence and Integrity in Sport (IRNOVIS) in collaboration with Safe Sport International and hosted by Loughborough University London.

Includes spotlight presentations from members of the IRNOVIS network, a panel session from researchers in the field, five in five presentations and poster presentations from safe sport researchers.

Monday 18th September 2023

Welcome Reception

18th September
17:15-20:00
The Guildhall, City of London

The City of London Corporation in association with Safe Sport International and UK Sport will host a welcome reception for the SSI2023 Global Safe Sport Conference.

Keith Bottomley, City of London Corporation

Anne Tiivas OBE, Chair Safe Sport International

Hope, Healing, and Transformation Through Sport

18th September
Safe Sport Speaker
17:45

Maclean Atsu Dzidzienyo, Gogetdem Wheelchair Racing Club, Ghana

Introduced by:
Yetsa Tuakli-Wosornu PhD

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Tuesday 19th September 2023

Conference Day 1 Opening

19th September Day 1 Opening 09:30 *Clifford Chance, Canary Wharf*	Anne Tiivas OBE, Chair Safe Sport International Introduction to Conference Supporter – International Olympic Committee

Keynote – Mary Cain

19th September Opening Keynote 10:00-11:00 *Main Auditorium*	Keynote Speaker – Mary Cain, CEO of Atalanta NYC, Track and Field, Board Member for The Army of Survivors Introduced by: Anne Tiivas OBE Q&A: Julie Ann Rivers-Cochran

This keynote will cover Mary's lived experience as a professional track athlete who came forward about her abusive sports environment in a 2019 New York Times opinion piece. In her talk, Mary will share some of the rarely-discussed aftermaths of coming forward with stories of abuse and how she has learned a lot about the importance of finding community while navigating the retraumatizing work of safeguarding. She will also share some of her thoughts on how we build a safer system for all athletes, which includes reframing "coachability", institutional courage, and truly supporting whistleblowers.

Morning Refreshments

11:00 - 11:30	Coffee, Tea, Water

Healing, Transformation, and the Safeguarding Process

19th September Panel discussion 11:30-12:30 *Main Auditorium*	Panel Chair – Julie Ann Rivers-Cochran, Executive Director, The Army of Survivors Panel Members – Dr Mike Bennett, Director of Player Wellbeing, Professional Footballers Association. Joanna Maranhão, Network Coordinator, Sport and Rights Alliance (SRA)

Lunch, Networking and Exhibitor Stands

12:30 - 14:00	Buffet Lunch, Coffee, Tea, Water

The Athletes Voice – finding healing in advocacy

19th September Option 1	Panel Chair – Sue Ravenlaw, The Football Association,

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14:00-15:30 *Main Auditorium*	Presenters/panel members - Jamie Cartwright, Ellie Guedalla, Fahmida Faiza, Founder & Global CEO

Learning into Practice – international perspectives on leading change

19th September Option 2 14:00-15:30 *Room 1n2 (First floor)*	Panel Chair – Kirsty Burrows, Safe Sport Unit, International Olympic Committee Panel Members – Claudia Villa Hughes, Commonwealth Sport, Head of Safeguarding, Anne Vermaak, Operations Manager of GolfRSA & Director of Vermaak Sport Solutions, Malebo Raditladi,

Research Unveiled – improving athlete safeguarding

19th September Option 3 14:00-15:30 *Room 30.1 (30th floor)*	Presenters – Professor Sylvie Parent, Ph.D., Université Laval, Full Professor, Clinical Professor, Dr. Margo Mountjoy MD, PhD, IOC Consensus Statement Expert Writing Group, Dr Tine Vertommen, Researcher at Thomas More University of Applied Sciences

It is accepted that while sport can have a positive influence on participant health, it can also be a context where athletes experience various types of harassment and abuse. As a result, the topic of abuse in sport has garnered attention from sport organizations, decision-makers, media, and academia.

This session brings together leading academics from social sciences, sports science and medicine, to share critical insight into the future of safeguarding sporting spaces. Presented by founding members of the International Research Network on Violence and Integrity in Sport (IRNOVIS), we will articulate the problem of harassment and abuse in sports and share latest insights on international, national and local safeguarding initiatives. Finally, the session will consider safeguarding as a multi-system responsibility.

In addition to the presentations, we will showcase data in an immersive art-based form. Data will be shared in a way that allows attendees to see/hear/feel and confront the contemporary issue of harassment and abuse in sports from the perspective of 'others', bringing the topic to life for attendees.

This session would be relevant to all conference attendees. A core message of this session will be safeguarding as a responsibility for all.

Abuse Through Technology – the problem

19th September Option 4 14:00-15:30 *Room 30.2 (30th floor)*	Panel Chair – Marcella Leonard MBE, Director, Leonard Consultancy Panel Members – Dr Emma Kavanagh, Senior Lecturer, Bournemouth University, Shailey Hingorani, Head of Policy, Advocacy and Research, WeProtect Global Alliance

One of the most challenging aspects of assessing safeguarding concerns has been the increase of technology in every day life. Therefore there is a continued expectation of sports governing bodies to have a greater awareness of how their members are kept safe through their and other's use of technology. The ever emerging platforms and apps creates challenges in maintaining knowledge of how each can be utilised to commit abuse such as cyber – bullying, cyber-violence, online coercion, stalking and image sharing. Alongside this there needs to be a greater understanding of the implications for users of the impact of extensive technology use such as addiction and impact on mental health and wellbeing.

The learning gained from victims of online exploitation has sought to challenge the pre-existing perception of the level of harm experienced as compared with victims of face to face abuse. Victims of technology facilitated abuse have provided greater insight into the specific dynamics of this form of abuse and consequently on the need for a more tailored safeguarding response by sports organisations. Hearing and sharing the voices of young people and their life online provides us with a wealth of knowledge from which to recognise and respond appropriately when technology facilitated abuse is discovered.

Developing a trauma informed safeguarding approach to technology facilitated abuse requires ongoing knowledge on the ever emerging online spaces, the merging of the virtual and physical spaces and both the positive and risk aspects of these spaces. This workshop aims to provide a platform to explore these challenges and assist sports organisations in developing and enhancing their response to abuse through technology.

In summary this workshop will consider the implications of keeping people safe online focusing on:

- The nature of virtual worlds and their ever-merging interaction with the physical space
- Sports focused typologies of harm caused through the use of technologies
- Developing a trauma informed response for victims / targets of mediated violence
- Safeguarding responses specific to technology facilitated abuse

The Forensic Interview – a pathway to protecting victim's stories, healing and justice

19th September Option 5 14:00-15:30 *Room 1c4-6 (First floor)*	Presenter – Crimson Barocca, LCSW-C, is the Manager of Forensic Interview Research & Education (FIRE) at Center for Hope.

This workshop will review the components of a forensic interview and how it can provide a supportive space for victims to talk about their experiences. Participants will learn how this process has benefits for athletes and those conducting investigations. New promising methods like tele-forensic interviewing will be discussed as a way to provide a trauma informed approach.

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You will leave this workshop understanding the value of forensic interview techniques and how they can help you feel confident in obtaining reliable information while also letting the victim take the lead.

Afternoon Refreshments

15:30 - 16:00	Coffee, Tea, Water

Institutional Courage

19th September Afternoon Keynote 16:00-16:45 *Main Auditorium*	Keynote Speaker – Jennifer M. Gómez, Ph.D., Assistant Professor: Boston University, School of Social Work; Faculty Affiliate: Boston University Center for Innovation in Social Work & Health and Center for Antiracist Research; Board Introduced by – Anne Tiivas

Informal Reception

19th September 17:00-19:00 *Room 30.1 (30th floor)*	Safe Sport International invite all attending to a drinks reception and canapes on the 30th Floor of our Clifford Chance conference venue to enjoy lively conversations, stunning views overlooking the River Thames and the City of London, and to reflect on the presentations and panels from the day.

Presentation of Safe Sport Awards

19th September Evening Reception 17:30 *Room 30.1 (30th floor)*	The Safe Sport Awards are presented to athletes, academics, professionals, groups, and organisations in recognition of their outstanding work, and to encourage excellence. INROVIS Research Award SSI Young Professionals Essay Competition Winner SSI Athlete Voice Award SSI Kari Fasting International Research Award SSI Celia Brackenridge Award for Service to Safe Sport

Wednesday 20th September 2023

Breakfast Session – Leadership and reflection

20th September Day 2 Breakfast session	Guro A. Johnsen, SheSkillz Global, Gloria Viseras, ,

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08:00 – 09:00	

Conference Day 2 Opening

20th September Day 2 Opening 09:15 – 09:45 *Clifford Chance, Canary Wharf*	Anne Tiivas OBE, Chair Safe Sport International Introduction to Conference Silver Sponsor – Real Response

Trauma Informed Legal Practice – supporting survivors seeking remedy

20th September Panel discussion 9:45-11:00 *Main Auditorium*	Panel Chair - Julia Lowis, International Tennis Integrity Agency, Legal Counsel Panel Members - Richard Bush, Partner, Bird and Bird LLP, London UK, Miles Benjamin, Clifford Chance, Kat Craig, CEO, Athlead, Joanna Maranhão, Network Coordinator, Sport and Rights Alliance (SRA)

This panel (Kat Craig, Richard Bush, Joanna Maranhão and Miles Benjamin) will look at the various types of legal and quasi-legal models of remedy available to athlete survivors seeking justice, and discuss the benefits and shortcomings of each (taking into account broad complexities posed by (i) cross-jurisdictional discussion and (ii) the lack of a uniform or autonomous global sporting structure).

Panellists will discuss what 'remedy' means for victims and survivors, the opportunities presented by different forums (including criminal, civil, disciplinary, and safeguarding), and practical steps which can be applied and followed in any process to ensure survivors are safely included and supported through it in a trauma-informed way. They will also discuss what models of restorative justice look like and how restorative redress can or should operate in addition to traditional models of redress.

Morning Refreshments

11:00 - 11:30	Coffee, Tea, Water

Safeguards for All – principles and practice for transforming sport

20th September Panel discussion 11:30-12:30 *Main Auditorium*	Chair - Sandra Kirby PhD O.C., Professor Emerita, Department of Sociology, University of Winnipeg Panel Members - Mark Mungal, Sport and Development Consultant, Liz Twyford, Sport Programmes Specialist, UNICEF UK, Lucy Trochet, Safeguarding Consultant, World Archery

Lunch, Networking and Exhibitor Stands

12:30 - 13:30	Buffet Lunch, Coffee, Tea, Water

Organisational Safeguarding Through a Trauma Informed Lens

20th September Option 1 13:30-15:00 *Main Auditorium*	Presenters - Pam Shriver, Pro Tennis, Mathilde Grenet, Founder and President, En Garde

Mathilde Grenet, former tennis player, Safe Sport specialist, founder of the safeguarding consulting firm EN GARDE, will speak about her resilience journey as a survivor of sexual abuse in tennis and what she learned from it. How she went from the status of a victim to the status of a safeguarding advocate and consultant. Mathilde will also share 10 practical tips for sports organisations (NOC, Federations, Clubs) to implement in order to facilitate the athlete survivor journey.

Finally, she will interview the tennis legend Pam Shriver, winner of 133 WTA and 22 major titles who will also speak about her own story and give some great insights into what is happening on the WTA in regard to Safeguarding.

Trauma Informed Coaching – lessons from athletes and athlete survivors

20th September Option 2 13:30-15:00 *Room 30.2 (30th floor)*	Presenters - Kacey Long, Director of Programs, The Army of Survivors, Julie Ann Rivers-Cochran, Executive Director, The Army of Survivors, Grace French, Founder and President, The Army of Survivors

Coaches play a key role in creating safe sporting environments, healthy team cultures, and in preventing abuse in sports. During this session, participants will learn about The Compassionate Coach curriculum which was developed by The Army of Survivors in partnership with athletes and athlete survivors of abuse as well as leading experts in institutional courage, trauma-informed care, and player-centered coaching.

The program educates coaches on understanding trauma, how it affects child athletes, how to recognize it, and how to appropriately adjust their coaching style to create a safe and secure sporting environment. By coaching in a trauma-informed way, coaches have the opportunity to provide a safe and secure environment for athletes who have experienced trauma with the goal of continuing training without the risk of re-traumatization. Coaches will also be able to more easily identify athletes who may have experienced trauma and learn how to respond if they see abuse themselves.

This presentation will provide lessons learned from athletes and athletes survivors and will be further supplemented with guidance on how trauma-informed coaching can enhance pre-existing coaching methodologies to support athlete resiliency and create institutionally courageous athletic environments.

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The Future of Safeguarding Research In Sport

20th September Option 3 13:30-15:00 *Room 30.1 (30th floor)*	Panel Chairs - Dr Daniel Rhind, Chartered Psychologist and Reader in Psychology at Loughborough University, Yetsa Tuakli-Wosornu MD MPH, Sports Equity Lab

This session will consider the future of research on safeguarding in sport. We will discuss how this can promote hope, healing and transformation. We will begin with 2 presentations which will summarise the key findings of recent reviews:

- Recommendations from the IOC Consensus Statement on interpersonal violence in sport – Dr Yetsa Tuakli-Worsornu and Dr Daniel Rhind
- Results from a delphi study on future research priorities conducted by the International Research Network on Violence and Integrity in Sport – Dr Sylvie Parent

Dr Dikaia Chatziefstathiou, Head of a Research Group on Sport, Human Rights and Safeguarding at Canterbury Christ Church University, Kent will then outline their commitment to produce interdisciplinary, translational research that aims to address key global challenges of the sports ecosystem, especially in the Global South. To enhance the effectiveness of future safeguarding research, Dikaia will argue that greater collaboration between researchers, sports organizations, and governing bodies is crucial. By integrating the expertise of various disciplines, such as sports science, psychology, sociology, management and medicine, researchers can gain a more comprehensive understanding of the factors contributing to athlete safety.

The second half of the session will then be a 'world café' style event in which we have guided group discussions to consider how we can all work together to address the key research questions in the field. We aim to achieve a broad consensus at the end through identifying a list of priority areas and short term goals to facilitate collaboration (e.g., preparing grant applications, collaborating on journal papers etc.).

The plan would be to re-visit these themes in a similar session at a future SSI conference to report back on progress and agree new priorities to support an on-going, productive and impactful global collaborations amongst researchers working on areas related to safeguarding in sport.

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Emerging Practice at the National Level - reporting and responding to concerns

20th September
Option 4
13:30-15:00
Room 1n2 (First floor)

Panel Chair – Anne Tiivas OBE, Chair Safe Sport International

Panel Members - Marie Claude Asselin, Chief Executive Officer, Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC), Emily Cameron-Blake, Member of the Maltreatment in Sport Sanctions Council SDRCC, Sarah-Eve Pelletier, Sport Integrity Commissioner SDRCC, Dr Paul Oliver Head of Sport Engagement, Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) Emma Gardner, Acting Director Safeguarding, SIA.

Sport organisations around the world have been, for far too long, reactive to child abuse allegations. Historically, the lack of proactive safeguarding frameworks and practice has been uncovered by national inquiries, royal commissions and cultural reviews, shining the light on the gaps in safeguarding, particularly for children and young people. There remain barriers to athletes and participants coming forward with their lived experiences within sport, for myriad reasons, not least the lack of function, of processes and of independence.

But this is changing, with several countries (including Australia and Canada) establishing national agencies to try and break down some of those barriers. They have clearly defined prohibited conduct and responsibilities for sport participants and have established an independent complaint management process which is removed from the sport organizations, with a focus on mediation and conflict resolution led by independent professionals. They also invest in education, prevention and other initiatives to address systemic issues and instil a culture change in sport.

This session will feature expert speakers from two agencies that are breaking new ground in how harassment and abuse complaints are managed: Sport Integrity Australia and the Abuse-Free Sport program of the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada. They will talk about their respective organisation's journeys on how they came to be, the challenges and successes along the way, the partnerships and collaboration needed to be effective, and athletes' contributions to the process.

The Role of Technology in Safeguarding

20th September
Option 5
13:30-15:00
Room 1c4-6 (First floor)

Panel Chair – Chiel Warners

Panel Members - Blake Davidson, Executive Vice President, Real Response, Phil Suddick, Head of Sport, Clue, Kath Bennett, Safeguarding Manager for the England Rugby Football Union, Jonathan Hirschler, CEO, Signify AI

In this panel, leading safeguarding technology companies and end-users from prominent sports organisations will explore the pivotal role of innovative software in enhancing athlete safety and creating safer sporting environments.

Afternoon Refreshments

15:00 - 15:30	Coffee, Tea, Water

Conference Close

20th September Conference Close 15:30-16:00 *Main Auditorium*	Anne Tiivas OBE, Chair Safe Sport International

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