

IAPESGW International Update, April 2018: News and resources from around the world

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IAPESGW Regional event - International Congress Cubamotricidad 22 - 26 October 2018, Havana Convention Center, Cuba

The World Organization of Stimulation, Education and Child Development (OMEEDI), the International Association of Physical Education and Sports for Girls and Women (IAPESGW), the International Association of Sports for All (TAFISA) with the National Institute of Sports , Physical Education and Recreation (INDER) of the Republic of Cuba, with the auspice of prestigious institutions and international organizations are convening the International Congress Cubamotricidad 2018, which will take place from October 22nd to 26th at the Havana Convention Center, Cuba.

View a flyer for the event in English

View a flyer for the event in Spanish

April Editorial

The Gold Coast Commonwealth Games were held in Queensland, Australia from 4-12 April, with 6500 team members from 70 countries competing in 17 sports. A feature of the Games was that for the first time there were equal medal events for men and women and these Games had the largest number of para sports included in the program. Para events counted the same in the overall medal count as able bodied medals. Another first was that in the team sports of hockey, basketball, netball and rugby sevens there were an equal number of men and women technical officials. Congratulations to the Commonwealth Games Federation and to GOLDOC who organized and ran the Games!

Further to this progress, you can read Anna Meare's (former Olympic and Commonwealth Games gold medallist track cyclist) comment on the progress of the UCI to equalize events for men and women.

This month the ESPN Magazine listed its Dominant 20 athletes and only listed four women. One of them was basketballer Lauren Jackson who dominated the WNBA when playing for the Seattle Storm.

You can read the whole ESPN list here (features in our newsletter on page 4). However, I mention Lauren as during the Commonwealth Games we met up again as she, my husband and I hosted Prince Charles at a basketball game. At one stage of the conversation we were all comparing our sports injuries: he has a bad back from falling off too many polo ponies and us basketballers were complaining of bad knees and ankles! Prince Charles had opened the Games on behalf of Queen Elizabeth and then stayed on to watch some of the events.

This April Update contains many interesting articles and publications: such as

- Running during pregnancy
- Anita White's Foundation newsletter
- Human rights issues in the governance of major sporting events
- A request to support the European survey on LGBTI and Sport
- From the UK, the Sports Think Tank Survey on attitudes towards women in sport

And news from Australia, Canada, Jordan, Sudan, the UK, USA and seven amazing pages of news from Iran, with many thanks to their National Representative Robabe Rostami.

Finally, a reminder that IAPESGW's regional Congress this year is in Cuba from 22 - 26 October. More information can be found on our website. Hope to see you there.....

Good reading!

Janice Crosswhite OAM Communications Director

International

Event information received in Spanish....

Workshop Internacional - La igualdad en juego: Las mujeres en las profesiones del deporte

28 y 29 de Junio de 2018, Aula Magna 2 INEFC Barcelona Av. de l'Estadi, 12-22 08038 (Barcelona)

OBJETIVOS:

- ♦ Analizar y comprender los factores que inciden en la menor presencia de mujeres en las diferentes profesiones vinculadas a las Ciencias de la Actividad Física y el Deporte.
- ♦ Conocer y compartir experiencias de buenas prácticas en la promoción de la presencia de las mujeres en todos los sectores profesionales de la AF, la EF y el Deporte en entidades públicas, privadas y comerciales.
- ♦ Desarrollar estrategias innovadoras para incrementar la presencia femenina en las profesiones de la AF, la EF y el Deporte.
- ♦ Favorecer el intercambio, la reflexión y la transferencia de conocimiento entre el ámbito académico y las organizaciones deportivas y educativas que pueden implementar el cambio para favorecer la igualdad efectiva entre hombres y mujeres.

View the full details

Inside the games reports (2 April 2018) Meares praises UCI efforts in boosting gender equality

Two-time Olympic champion Anna Meares has praised the steps taken by the International Cycling Union (UCI) to boost gender equality on the track cycling programme.

The Australian great reflected on recent progress internationally at a Gold Coast 2018 press conference here, which was largely centered around gender issues.

Track cycling is among several sports to have had disciplines added after Glasgow 2014, leading to the Commonwealth Games boasting an equal number of medal events for men and women.

Women's team sprint, keirin and team pursuit events have been added to the programme for the Games here.

The move comes a year on from the women's madison being added by the UCI to their World Cup and World Championships, ensuring gender parity in terms of disciplines.

Both the men's and women's madison events were then added to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic programme in June last year.

Differences still remain between the men's and women's track programmes, with disparities in the distances covered and the number of riders participating in the team sprint events.

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View the full news item

Inside the games reports (4 April 2018)

Brazilian awarded United World Wrestling's Women in Sport Award

Brazil's Aline Silva has been awarded United World Wrestling's (UWW) Women in Sport Award for 2018.

Silva, a 2014 world silver medallist and Rio 2016 Olympian, has spent much of the past 12 months creating an outreach programme in her home city of Cubatão.

The programme provides educational and wrestling opportunities for girls.

"We are very proud of Aline," UWW President Nenad Lalović said.

"She is the type of female leader we want in our sport.

"She has taken her victories on the mat and is making a big impact with younger girls.

"We are honoured to present her this award."

Silva will receive \$10,000 (£5,500/€6,300) from UWW and is expected to hire a coach and English teacher to help instruct 60 public school girls in Cubatão.

The outreach programme will also include weekly empowerment teachings with themes such as leadership, personal development and sexual and re-production rights.

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View the full news item

An item highlighted this month by Janice Crosswhite......

ESPN Magazine's Dominant 20

Australian great Lauren Jackson was "blown away" to be included alongside Roger Federer, Serena Williams and Le Bron James in a list of the most dominant athletes in world sport over the past 20 years. Basketballer Jackson was the only Australian to make the list.

Other women to make the list were: Anika Sorenson (golf), Allyson Felix (athletics) and Serena Williams (tennis).

Jackson's WNBA career with the Seattle Storm plus a World Championship gold medal and silver and bronze Olympic medals helped put her on the list.

View the ESPN list - in celebration of their 20th anniversary

Editor - perhaps when they celebrate their next significant anniversary the list will be more equitable, including more women and some Paralympians

British Universities and Colleges Sport reports (4 April 2018) Request to support the European Survey on LGBTI & Sport

The German Sport University Cologne is going to launch the first Europe-wide online survey on LGBTI and sport. The survey is co-funded by the Erasmus+ Program of the European Union.

The overall objective of the project is to develop educational approaches and strategies to tackle discrimination and prevent violence in sport based on sexual orientation and gender identity (www.out-sport.eu).

It is being carried out by five European partners: Italian Association for Culture and Sport (AICS) | LEAP Sports Scotland | Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation (VIDC) | FRIGO Hungary | German Sport University Cologne (GSU).

In order to reach out to as many respondents as possible, we would like to ask your organization to support the project by sharing the survey link in your network.

https://ww2.unipark.de/uc/Projekt Outsport/ed19/

You are invited to use pictures, texts and videos that can frame the link on social media platforms, web pages or mailing lists in a convenient and appealing way (download via http://bit.ly/outsport-survey-en).

Source of information

Inside the games reports (10 April 2018) Buenos Aires 2018 announce "Feel the Future" as official slogan

"Feel the Future" has been unveiled as the slogan of the 2018 Summer Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires.

The slogan is said to "highlight the hope that the 3,998 athletes competing in the first Games with strict gender equality will become examples of passion, coexistence and unity in diversity, as well as a source of inspiration to create a better world through sport".

Gender equality will be a key theme of the Games in Argentina's capital, with dozens of mixed events on the programme.

There are set to be 1,999 male athletes and 1,999 female athletes competing at the Games due to take place between October 6 and 18.

View the full news item

Inside the games reports (23 April 2018) Russia to have LGBT Pride House for 2018 FIFA World Cup

It has been reported that an LGBT Pride House will be set up in Saint-Petersburg for this summer's FIFA World Cup in Russia.

Pride houses are dedicated temporary locations which host athletes, volunteers and visitors during sporting events who are LGBT - an initialism that stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender.

The first official Pride House was built for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver in Canada.

The Pride House for this summer's World Cup will reportedly be run by prominent LGBT leaders from Russia with international support.

View the full news item

Inside the games reports (25 April 2018)

IFF announce launch of app for upcoming Women's Under-19 World Floorball Championships - 2-6 May 2018

The International Floorball Federation (IFF) have announced the release of an official app for the upcoming Women's Under-19 World Floorball Championships in the Swiss cantons of St. Gallen and Herisau.

The IFF say the new app, which will be available on both Android and iOS systems, will allow users to keep up-to-date with the latest scores and news whilst statistics about the tournament will also be published alongside player bios.

The app will also provide event guides and useful information about arenas and tickets along with links to matches streamed live on YouTube.

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An article of interest.....

British Medical Journal Open Sport & Exercise Medicine 2018;4:e000296. doi: 10.1136/bmjsem-2017-000296. Is recreational running associated with earlier delivery and lower birth weight in women who continue to run during pregnancy? An international retrospective cohort study of running habits of 1293 female runners during pregnancy. Kuhrt, K et al

Abstract

Background: Increasingly, women of reproductive age participate in recreational running, but its impact on pregnancy outcome is unknown. We investigated whether running affects gestational age at delivery and birth weight as indicators of cervical integrity and placental function, respectively.

Methods: 1293 female participants were recruited from parkrun, which organises weekly runs involving 1.25 million runners across 450 parks worldwide. Those under 16 or unable to provide outcome data were excluded. Women were categorised according to whether they continued to run during pregnancy or not. Those who continued were further stratified dependent on average weekly kilometres, and which trimester they ran until. Retrospectively collected primary outcomes were gestational age at delivery and birthweight centile. Other outcomes included assisted vaginal delivery rate and prematurity at clinically important gestations.

Results: There was no significant difference in gestational age at delivery: 279.0 vs 279.6 days (mean difference 0.6 days, CI –1.3 to 2.4 days; P=0.55) or birthweight centile: 46.9%vs 44.9% (mean difference 2.0%, CI –1.3% to –5.3%; P=0.22) in women who stopped running and those who continued, respectively. Assisted vaginal delivery rate was increased in women who ran: 195/714 (27%) vs 128/579 (22%) (OR 1.32; CI 1.02 to 1.71; P=0.03).

Conclusion: Continuing to run during pregnancy does not appear to affect gestational age or birthweight centile, regardless of mean weekly distance or stage of pregnancy. Assisted vaginal delivery rates were higher in women who ran, possibly due to increased pelvic floor muscle tone. Randomised prospective analysis is necessary to further explore these findings. **View the 7-page article**

Newsletters / Journals....

Anita White Foundation Newsletter, Issue 19, spring 2018

Our spring newsletter contains exciting developments with the Women's Sport Leadership Academy (WSLA) and the success of its graduates, news about our involvement at the forthcoming World Conference on Women and Sport, and updates on the various activities undertaken by AWF Scholars.

View the AWF newsletter

Journal of Physical Activity and Health: The Official Journal of the International Society for Physical Activity and Health. Volume 15, Issue 5, May 2018

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

View the abstracts

now available.

Publications.....

Released for the start of the Commonwealth Games

Championing Human Rights: In the governance of sports bodies. Mega-Sporting Events Platform for Human Rights, March 2018 (24 pages)

Sports Bodies are critical actors in delivering mega-sporting events, setting the expectations and standards to which events should be delivered. Through implementing human rights within their own governance and operations, Sports Bodies can take important steps towards protecting the values of sport and implementing respect for human rights.

This Guide introduces human rights to Sports Bodies, large and small, drawing on lessons from the International Olympic Committee, FIFA, UEFA, and the Commonwealth Games Federation and outlining four tangible steps that Sports Bodies can take to build human rights into the governance of their organisations. Focussed explicitly on governance, this Guide is intended for consideration at executive and board level of Sports Bodies.

Download a copy

View an 'Inside the games' news item on the guidance (2 April 2018)

Specific countries

AUSTRALIA

VicSport (April 2018)

Welcoming women and girls to your sport. Here's how...

Helping more Victorians get active means a happier and healthier community, and getting women and girls involved in sport and recreational activities are crucial to what we do at Vicsport.

With the launch of <u>This Girl Can – Victoria</u>, women have been inspired to find sports and recreational activities that suit their needs and get them moving.

The desire to boost activity for women and girls is high on the agenda at State Sporting Associations, Regional Sport Assemblies and Local Government Authorities but the overreaching question is, how?

To start, fitness needs to be fun, social and approachable for women to want to take part. The concept of 'one size fits all' approach feeds into the psychology that women need to fit into a certain mould to play sport. This Girl Can aims to prove otherwise.

Vicsport and VicHealth have developed a suite of resources aimed at breaking down barriers that prevent women and girls from being active, and ideally, keep them coming back for more. These resources can assist sporting organisations to learn, grow and understand how to implement better systems and procedures to welcome women and girls. Resources can be found on the Healthy and Welcoming Sport page on the Vicsport website.

Below are a few tips on how sporting organisations can improve their practices to make women and girls feel more welcome when playing sport. A major focus on how women and girls view sport is through how it's marketed.

An inspirational woman....and a great endorsement for the mental health benefits of physical activity

Australian Geographic (17 April 2018)

Meet the first woman to walk around the whole of Australia solo and unassisted BACK IN 2014 Terra 'Roam' set out to be the first woman to walk around the whole of Australia solo and unassisted and now she's just two weeks from the finish line.

Her commitment to this walk was born out of her struggles with mental illness following a walk across south-west Western Australia.

"In 2010 I bit off more than I could chew during a 1,400km solo unsupported shark conservation awareness walk.

"The violence, stalking and death threats forced me to bail and hide which led to hospitalisation after attempting to take my own life three times.

"In 2011, my therapist pointed out I had been using adventure and nature as therapy since I was a kid and the best thing I could do was start walking again."

View the full news item

CANADA

Canadian Government, Canadian Heritage Department (24 April 2018) - Minister Duncan announces Working Group on Gender Equity in Sport and its 12 members— all leaders and innovators for #EquityInSport

GATINEAU, April 24, 2018: All Canadians should have the opportunity to get involved and excel in sport, regardless of gender, age and ability. They should be able to do so in an environment free of discrimination or harassment.

In 2016, the Dairy Farmers of Canada and the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women in Sport and Physical Activity (CAAWS) released the report *Women in Sport: Fueling a Lifetime of Participation*. It highlighted several areas of gender inequality for Canadian women in sport. According to the research, most Canadian women are missing out on the benefits of sport—while 41 percent of girls aged 3–17 do not participate in sport, this jumps to 84 percent in adult women. Other key findings showed that only 24 percent of all athletic director positions and 17 percent of all head coaching spots in Canadian Interuniversity Sport are held by women, and only 38 percent of senior staff and 29 percent of board members at national and multi-sport organizations are female.

Today, the Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science and Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities, announced a Working Group on Gender Equity in Sport to address the lack of equity. The working group will be chaired by Guylaine Demers, a renowned professor at Université Laval and president of Égale Action.

The 12 members of the working group are:

Guylaine Demers (Chair); Chelsey Gotell; John Herdman; Waneek Horn-Miller; Bruce Kidd; Lorraine Lafrenière; Nancy Lee; *Karin Lofstrom; Allison Sandmeyer-Graves; Carolyn Trono; Adam van Koeverden and Hayley Wickenheiser.

* Karin Lofstrom had been member of the IAPESGW board, recently retiring from the position in May 2017

IRAN

Editor - thanks once again to our national rep Robabeh Rostami for supplying an overview of activity in Iran for April, and all the excellent photographs, in very informative news compilation - **view the April edition** here

An example:

The presence of Iran's representative in the convention on gender equality in Switzerland (3 April 2018)

* The third gathering gender equality in Sport Management in cooperation with the international Olympic committee and the federation of sports held at the summer Olympics in Switzerland. At this gathering, Farnaz Panahi Zadeh, a member of the Women and Sport Commission of the World Trade Organization, was present as the representative of the World Wrestling Union. The meeting was attended by representatives from more than 30 international federations to provide a background for senior executives to discuss the results and recommendations of the gender equality project to share best practices to adapt to their organizations and find new solutions to improve gender equality and Sport leadership talk to each other.



Farnaz Panahi Zadeh

UNESCO (24 April 2018)

UNESCO Celebrates International Day of Sport for Development and Peace Tehran – 23 April 2018: UNESCO and the University of Tehran celebrated the 5th International Day of Sport for Development and Peace to highlight the importance of investment in physical activities for the present and future of the country.

At a ceremony that was hosted by the Faculty of Sports and Physical Education of the University of Tehran, Alexander Schischlik, Chief of the Youth and Sports Section at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris underscored Iran's impressive achievements in the fields of sports and physical education – particularly for persons with disabilities. He stated that Iran could share its experiences and best practices with other countries around the world.

View the full news item

JORDAN

The Football Association, England (17 April 2018)

After helping deliver coaching clinics for girls in Jordan, Rimla Akhtar reports back Rimla Akhtar, a member of The FA Council and Inclusion Advisory Board, made a trip to Jordan earlier this month to help deliver a country-wide project to support women's football and empowerment and to set a world record. She provided her account of the fourteen-day trip for TheFA.com.

This trip had many moments that remain firmly in my mind.

It was the third coaching clinic we held in particular, in the Wadi Rum area, which I can still remember quite vividly and where the enormity of our impact was felt. We had 267 girls turn up to play football for the first time in their short lives on a camel racing track.

View the full news item

SUDAN

Female Coaching Network (3 April 2018)

In Sudan, where a women's national football team remains a distant dream, Salma Al Majidi knew the only way to take part in her beloved sport was to coach ... and that the players had to be men

Ms Majidi, 27, acknowledged by Fifa as the first Arab and Sudanese woman to coach a men's football team in the Arab world, is a pioneer in a sport that dominates the region.

"Why football? Because it is my first and ultimate love," said Ms Majidi, clad in sports gear and a black headscarf, as she led players of the Al Ahly Al Gadaref club at a practice session in the town of Gadaref, east of Khartoum.

"I became a coach because there is still no scope for women's football in Sudan," said Ms Majidi, who is affectionately called "sister coach" by her team.

The daughter of a retired policeman, Ms Majidi was 16 when she fell in love with football.

View the full news item

UK

StreetGames (March 2018)

New case study: Us Girls in Pembrokeshire

Launching on the 28th May 2015, Us Girls Pembrokeshire was a bold initiative aimed at closing the gender gap in sport by getting more females living in poverty in Wales more physically active. By providing activities at the right time, for the right price, in the right place, in the right style and delivered by the right people, the programme set out to focus on a specific market segment – 'Little Lisa' – a young female aged between 13-19 years, inactive/semi-active and living in a Communities First (deprived) area.

View the 5-page case study

There are three more new case studies re US Girls work in Wales (on-line versions to access at present):

Us Girls Provision at Leisure Centres

Blaenau Gwent Us Girls 17/18

Valleys Gymnastics academy: Mainstreaming the Us Girls Offer in a Social Enterprise

Women in Sport (6 April 2018)

Women in Sport team up with British Weight Lifting

Women in Sport and British Weight Lifting are joining forces to help increase the number of women using free weights in gyms.

Weight lifting should be an inclusive activity that women feel is open to them as well as men.

We want to normalise weight lifting for women. We will do this by researching what the perceived barriers women face using free weights and look into how we can change this.

Over the next few months, we will be working together to support more women to choose weight lifting as part of their exercise habits, challenging the existing cultural norms and celebrating the women and men who encourage more women to participate in weight lifting.

View the full news item

British Universities and Colleges Sport (12 April 2018) BUCS Active funded projects announced

12 universities have been successful in receiving BUCS Active funding linked to projects tackling inactive female students and using physical activity to tackle mental health issues. Collectively, these 12 projects will be receiving £125,000 to support activity aimed at targeting over 4,000 new student participants.

This opportunity has been made available through the funding BUCS received from Sport England. BUCS were overwhelmed with the response from members with 44 Expressions of interests received from 40 institutions across England, combining in a request of £470,000 to reach over 18,000 students across the two interventions.

The successful universities who will be receiving BUCS Active funding is as follows:

Tackling inactivity in female students: University of Sussex, University of Warwick, University of Hertfordshire, and the University of Wolverhampton.

Using physical activity to tackle mental health issues: University of Sunderland, University of Essex, University of Birmingham, University of Bristol, University of Exeter, King's College London, Imperial College London and the University of East Anglia.

View the full news item

Sports Think Tank reports (12 April 2018) The UK's Attitudes Towards Women In Sport

Insure4Sport has conducted a national survey focussing on attitudes towards women in sport – and it uncovered some incredible findings.

Whilst the UK widely acknowledges that more should be done to promote women's sports, sexism is still rife in the competitive sport industry, particularly among the older generation. What is arguably even more concerning is that some of the most damning responses about women in sport are from female respondents.

Let's explore the survey's results in full, and assess just how much progress is being made in championing the role of women in sport...

Gender inequality

The survey showed that both men and women clearly recognise inequality within sport.

Of our respondents, more than three quarters of women and 68% of men think there's an inequality. Furthermore, nearly a third of women prefer watching men play sport, indicating that it's not just male spectators holding female sportspeople back.

Worryingly too, only 7% of respondents prefer watching women play sport. This reiterates that a lot of work still needs to be done in bridging the gender gap within sport.

View the full news item

England Golf (17 April 2018)

Bumper year of activity to drive women and girls' golf in 2018

New opportunities are being created for women and girls to get into golf in 2018, with more activity than ever before taking place across Great Britain and Ireland to attract larger numbers to the sport.

With increased participation in golf by women and girls identified as a tremendous growth opportunity for the sport, this year sees a notable rise in the number of dedicated participation initiatives and coaching activities being delivered by leading golfing bodies to encourage more women, girls and families into the game and convert them into club membership.

The Ladies European Tour, England Golf and the Golf Foundation will join forces at Buckinghamshire Golf Club on 13 May for an exciting women's and girls' development event, which coincides with the staging of the US Women's Open Sectional Qualifier.

An afternoon of fun and enjoyable activity will feature leading golfers, women's coaching professionals and <u>Girls Golf Rocks</u> ambassadors, while attendees will also be able to get up close to the Solheim Cup on display.

Women's Golf Day will take place on 5 June to celebrate women's and girls' golf around the world, while the national associations in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales will be promoting opportunities for women and girls of all ages and abilities to give golf a go, including Get into Golf, a national campaign supported by the European Tour, the Ladies European Tour, the PGA, the Golf Foundation and The R&A.

Meantime, England and Wales Golf are both preparing to hold Women & Girls' Golf Weeks to inspire more players to head to the fairways. They will take place from 30 July – 5 August, building on the buzz created by the Ricoh Women's British Open being staged that week at Royal Lytham & St Annes. Budding golfers will also have the opportunity to hone their skills with an all-female group of PGA professionals who will be on site throughout the Women's British Open.

View the full news item

Loughborough University (23 April 2018)

More holistic approach needed to help female football players get to the top

Female football players need more support and better communication to help them reach their full potential, according to research from Leeds Beckett University and Loughborough University.

The study is the first to explore UK female football players' perceptions of their Talent Development Environments (TDE). A player's TDE encompasses all elements within the football setting, as well as considering some of the broader elements outside football.

The aim of the study, which was carried out with colleagues from Loughborough University, was to examine female football players' perceptions with a view to providing an understanding of strengths and areas for improvement within existing female football specific TDEs.

The full research paper can be found at

The full research paper can be found at http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10413200.2017.1410254

Publications.....

Physical activity data tool: statistical commentary, April 2018. Public Health England, 4 April 2018 (on-line)
Main findings

This update shows:

- in 2016 to 2017, the percentage of adults physically active at recommended levels in local authorities ranged from 53.3% to 78.8%
- in 2016 to 2017, the percentage of adults physically inactive in local authorities ranged from 12.4% to 33.3%
- males continue to be more likely to report achieving recommended physical activity levels than females
- the proportion of adults that reported being physically active decreased with age
- significant differences in activity levels remained between those with or without a disability
- those who were long term unemployed or have never worked continued to be least likely to be active and most likely to be inactive

Access the data

Women in Sport Impact Report: Inform; Innovate; Inspire. Women in Sport, April 2018 (9 pages)

Women in Sport has created a document which demonstrates our impact in the sport sector, highlighting all of our achievements, and key statistics, whilst looking towards our next steps and how we can have a further impact on empowering women and girls through sport.

Download a copy

USA

Female Coaching Network reports (16 April 2018)

Nancy Lieberman: Breaking Barriers yet again as a female head coach (USA)

Nancy Lieberman has finally broken a barrier in sports that needed to be broken. She is the first female head coach who coaches the Big 3 and is the first female head coach to coach men's sports. "I am very thrilled that the Big 3 gave me an opportunity to let me coach for them. I have had some of the best mentors that have helped me along the way and it is just amazing that everything has happened. I couldn't do it without the help of my mentors. They gave me the knowledge that I obtained, pushed me when I needed to be pushed, and just supported everything that I have done. It is just a blessing that I have been given."

"Lady Magic" sprinkled her toughness, competitiveness, blood, sweat, and tears into the game that she loves more than anything and she has given a lot of players information on how to improve their game on and off the court. She has a very disciplined structure that matches her personality, but she fights for her players to showcase their full potential. Nancy is the true testament that if you are determined and work hard, anything is possible. Nancy has been inducted into the Nassau County Sports Hall of Fame, Basketball Hall of Fame, Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, and the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame.