

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SPORT POLICY AND POLITICS

The future of youth sport and youth sport policy

Website: www.tandfonline.com/RISP

Deadline for the submission of abstracts: **22nd March 2013**

The development of young people and particularly their health, education and broader socialisation is a ubiquitous public policy concern. For many governments sport is an important element in youth policy whether as an element in the school curriculum, a vehicle for health education, an aspect of community/youth work or as an element in leisure provision. For a significant minority of governments the participation of young people in sport is also part of an elite sport development strategy predicated, to an extent, on the early identification of sporting talent.

Whether the public policy concern is primarily welfare, education or elite development the current socio-economic and political context poses a number of substantial challenges for policy-makers and for those organisations responsible for service delivery. In many countries the context for youth sport will be a society which is older, poorer and more culturally diverse. In some countries in relation to the political context it is argued that the dominance of neo-liberal values will continue and that ideology will continue to be given preference over evidence.

Not only is funding for youth sport under pressure in those countries still struggling to recover from the economic recession, but the relationship between youth sport and elite sport is increasingly complex. For example, it may be argued that the successful hosting of a major sports event is likely to generate a negative legacy for youth sport insofar as the event will further prioritise investment in elite sport over youth and community sport and will enable politicians to highlight the inspirational effect of elite sport success thus distracting attention from the decline in facility provision and in the funding of sports leaders.

The impact of the contemporary economic and political context of youth sport and the relationship between youth sport and high performance/elite sport for the development of youth sport policy are broad overarching themes for this special issue. However papers would

be welcome on topics which relate to a broad range of aspects of the future of youth sport and youth sport policy.

Among the topics which might be covered are the following:

The Youth Olympic Games

Developments in youth sport policy at the domestic government level and/or at the level of international federations/IOC

Youth talent identification and coaching/training

Strategies for effective implementation of youth sport policies

Protecting the rights of young athletes

Achieving welfare objectives through youth sport

Strategies for promoting youth participation in sport

The relationship between sport and education

The relationship of school sport to physical education

Youth sport and citizenship development

Using youth sport to tackle health issues

Youth sport policy and the Global South

Submission Instructions

Deadline for the submission of abstracts: 22nd March 2013

Abstracts should be sent to David Haycock, Editorial Assistant at:
david.haycock@edgehill.ac.uk

Deadline for submission of papers: 30th November 2013

Paper length: Between 8,000 and 10,000 words including references

Submission process: Papers should be submitted through ScholarOne - <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/risp>

Further information about the journal and the submission process can be found at: www.tandfonline.com/risp