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# HOW YOU PLAY THE GAME: THE CONTRIBUTION OF SPORT TO THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS



**CONFERENCE SYDNEY 1 to 3 SEPTEMBER 1999**

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## SELECTED HIGHLIGHTED SPEAKERS

**HIGHLIGHTED SPEAKERS (Click here [CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS](#))**

Dr Doris Corbett is the President of the International Council for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport and Dance, a world-wide international organization represented in more than 135 countries. Her keynote address is entitled “Ethics and Moral Behavior in Sport: A Human Rights Issue”

Lloyd McDermott, the first assessor appointed to assist the Federal Court with Aboriginal land title claims is one of Australia’s quiet achievers. Not only was he the first Aborigine to be appointed as a barrister in Australia but he was also the first Aboriginal Rugby Union international. His paper is entitled “The Level Playing Field – Myth of Reality”.

Alwyn Morris is a Mohawk Indian who serves as the chairperson of the Aboriginal Sport Circle and the Kahnawake Athletic Commission in Quebec Canada. He is a former member of the Canadian Olympic Team and 1984 Olympic Gold and Bronze medallist.

Professor Colin Tatz was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1997 and is Director of the Centre for Comparative Genocide Studies at Macquarie University. He has called his paper ' Sport, Race and Human Rights'.

Andre Odendaal was active in various anti-apartheid groups during the 1980s including the National Sports Congress. He attended the historic 1987 Dakar Conference in 1987 and was the only white provincial cricketer to join the non-racial South African Cricket Board during the apartheid years. He was involved in the planning and establishment of the Robben Island Museum, the former prison where Nelson Mandela spent so many years. The title of his talk is simply 'Sport and human rights in South Africa'.

Darren Godwell is a Research Fellow with the Centre for Indigenous Natural and Cultural Resource Management. He is the recipient of an Australian Research Council grant to examine the participation and influence of Australia's Indigenous peoples in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

Dr Richard Giulianotti is a lecturer in Sociology at the University of Aberdeen and an international editor of the journal Culture, Sport, Society. His paper examines how sports like soccer have immense potential in combating traumatic experience for people, especially young people in zones of conflict, but warns that sport can underpin a form of slave trade of cheap export to the Western sports market.

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## **PROGRAMME**

### **HOW YOU PLAY THE GAME CONFERENCE: THE CONTRIBUTION OF SPORT TO THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

SWISS GRAND HOTEL, BONDI BEACH NSW AUSTRALIA

#### **DAY ONE - Wednesday, September 1**

09:00 - 10:30 **Opening ceremonies** - Pavillion Ballroom

Chair: Chris Sidoti, Australian Human Rights Commissioner

Traditional Aboriginal 'Welcome to country'  
Introductory remarks, Andre Frankovits, HRCA

Welcome by

Vice-Chancellor, UTS, Professor Tony Blake  
Commissioner Jim Wright, ATSIC  
Social Justice Commissioner, Bill Jonas  
Race Discrimination Commissioner, Zita Antonios

Messages of goodwill

Father Joe Glackin, Liberia

Sandy Hollway and Lois Appleby, Sydney Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games

His Excellency Dr Bhadra Ranchod, High Commissioner for South Africa

10:30 - 11:00 **Distinguished public address: Sir William Deane, Governor General**

11:00 - 11:30 Morning refreshment

11:30 - 13:00 **Keynote addresses** – Pavillion Ballroom

Chair: Michael Curtotti, Australian Forum of Human Rights Organizations

Darren Godwell, "Sporting symbolism on an international stage: The right to appeal to humanity"

Alwyn Morris, "The Olympic experience: An Aboriginal perspective"

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 - 15:30 **Keynote addresses** – Pavillion Ballroom

Chair: Charles Perkins, Former Head of Department of Aboriginal Affairs

Chris Sidoti, "Rules Beyond the Game"

Richard Giulanotti, "Sport and Social Development in Africa: some major human rights issues"

15:30 - 16:00 Afternoon refreshments

16:00 – 17:00 **HUMAN RIGHTS AND SPORT**

**SESSION 1 - PROTECTING THE ATHLETE** – Reef Room 2

Chair: Janet Cahill, Olympic Manager, University of Technology Sydney

“Beyond a Boundary: Sexual Harassment in Sports Employment and how to avoid it”, David McArdle

“Sport, human rights and industrial relations”, Braham Dabscheck

Comment: Michael O'Loughlin, Sydney Swans

**SESSION 2 - PROTECTING THE CHILD** – Reef Room 1

Chair: Michael Antrum, NSW Law Foundation

“Children their Rights on and off the Field” Graham Opie

“Child’s Play: In the Best Interest of the Child”, Patricia Stirbys

“Child Abuse in Sport: Are Legal Protections Adequate?”, Maria Shand

**SESSION 3 - ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION** – Reef Room 3

Chair: Simon Darcy, School of Leisure and Tourism Studies UTS

“Skating on Thin Ice: Human Rights in Youth Figure Skating”, Christopher Grenfell

“Athletes Fighting for Their Right to Compete - A Case study”, Catherine O’Brien and Rosa Lopez D’Amico

“Sport and Human Rights in Early German Democratic Republic”, Wolfgang Buss

**SESSION 4 - THE ATHLETE IS HUMAN** – Pavillion Ballroom

Chair: Harris van Beek, Director Australian Youth Traineeship Foundation

“The Games we Play: Realizing the Right to be fully Human”, Simon Longstaff

“The Genetically Engineered Athlete”, Andy Miah

17:00 - 18:00 **The athlete as role model**

“Bread and Circuses in America”, Stephen Mosher - Video presentation followed by discussion

## **DAY TWO - Thursday, September 2**

09:00 - 10:30 **Keynote addresses** – Pavillion Ballroom

Chair: Zita Antonios, Australian Race Discrimination Commissioner

Richard Lapchick, “The Sports and its Impact on Social and Human Rights Issues”

Colin Tatz, “Sport, Race and Human Rights”

10:30 - 11:00 Morning refreshment

11:00 - 12:30 **SPORTING EVENTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

SESSION 5 - **SHARE THE SPIRIT** – Pavillion Ballroom

Chair: Patrick Earle, Human Rights Council of Australia

“Ideals of Olympism” Janet Cahill

“... ‘that’s another fine mess you’ve got us into Pierre’: The Olympic Games and Women’s Rights”, Peter Horton and Kristine Toohey

“Olympic Games and the Citizens. A look at the potential impact of hosting the Games”, Charlene Houston

SESSION 6 - **SPORTING EVENTS AND THE CITIZEN** – Reef Room 1

Chair: Jeremy Jones, National Vice President, Executive Council of Australian Jewry

“Enhancing Healthy Mega-Events: Planning for Health Rights”, Martin Horrocks and Donald Stewart

“Mega Events and Human Rights”, Brent Ritchie and Michael Hall

“Equity and Justice: The Maccabiah Disaster”, Robert Kaye

**SESSION 7 - ACCESS TO SPORTING EVENTS – Reef Room 2**

Chair: Jeff Kildea, Human Rights Council of Australia

“The Paralympic Athlete: A Cry from the Heart”, Keith Gilbert

“Being Visible - Gay Games and Cultural Festival”, Stuart Borrie

“Ethics in Sport: Is there a role for the law” Ian Fullagar

**SESSION 8 - LAND AND THE OLYMPICS – Reef Room 3**

Chair: Mick Dodson, Director UNSW Aboriginal Law Centre

“Histories of Homebush Bay and the Sydney Aboriginal Fight for Recognition”, Emma Lee

“Sharing the Spirit, the impact of the Sydney Games on human rights”, Beth Jewell and Kylie Kilgour

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 - 15:00 **SPORT, THE LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES**

**SESSION 9 - SPORT AND THE LAW – Pavillion Ballroom**

Chair: Tim Anderson, Secretary NSW Council for Civil Liberties

“Football Fans Cry Foul?”, Siobhan Leonard

“Kicking Rights into Touch” Mark James

**SESSION 10 - DRUGS AND THE RIGHTS OF ATHLETES – Reef Room 1**

Chair: Andrew Naylor, Human Rights Council of Australia

“Drug Testing, Human Rights and the Law”, David Kinley and Lucy Rafferty

“Sport, Drugs and ‘Human Rights’”, Michael Burke

Respondant: David McArdle

#### SESSION 11 - **SPORT AND TOLERANCE** – Reef Room 2

Chair: Robin Gurr, Human Rights Council of Australia

“The Potential of Sport for Reducing Racism and Xenophobia”, Alan Evans

“Reconciliation and Olympism: The Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and Australia’s Indigenous People”, Michelle Hanna

#### SESSION 12 - **REGULATING THE PLAYING FIELD** – Reef Room 3

Chair: Kristine Toohey, University of Technology Sydney

“The Level Playing Field – Myth or Reality”, Lloyd McDermott

“ ‘Levelling the playing field...’ Indigenous Footballers, Human Rights and the AFL’s Racial and Religious Vilification Code”, Greg Gardiner

15:00 - 15:30 Afternoon refreshment

15:30 - 17:00 **PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS**

#### SESSION 13 - **WOMEN AND SPORT** – Pavillion Ballroom

Chair: Sharon Davis, Human rights award-winning journalist

“Women in Sport: A Global Example?”, Margot Foster

“Solidarity for Female Sports in Islamic Countries”, Faezeh Hashemi

“Harassment-free Sport: Creating a Safe Environment”, Debbie Simms

**SESSION 14 - SPORT AND EMPOWERMENT – Reef Room 3**

Chair: Garth Nettheim, School of Law University of NSW

“Reclaiming Aboriginal Identity through AFL: A legacy of the ‘Stolen Generation’”,  
Stella Coram

“Aboriginal Involvement in Elite Football”, Chris Hallinan and Tony Buti

Respondants: Jason Cockatoo,  
Adam Goode, Sydney Swans

**SESSION 15 - SPORT AND THE STRUGGLE FOR RIGHTS – Reef Room 1**

Chair: Greg Kirk, Principal Solicitor Public Interest Advocacy Centre

“Sport and Human Rights in South Africa”, Andre Odendaal

“West Indies Cricket and the Politics of Apartheid” Aviston Downes

**SESSION 16 - JOURNALISTS’ PANEL – Reef Room 2**

Chair: Dr David Kinley, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission

- Peter Fitzsimmons (Sydney Morning Herald)
- Tracy Holmes (Channel 7)
- Les Murray (SBS Television)
- Robert Milliken, Foreign Correspondents’ Association

**CONFERENCE DINNER**

**DAY THREE - Friday September 3**

09:00 - 10:30     **Keynote addresses – Pavillion Ballroom**



Chair: Darren Godwell, National Aboriginal Community Development Foundation

Doris Corbett, “Ethics and Moral Behavior in Sport - A Human Rights Issue”

Wilton Littlechild, “Sports Are Human Rights: An Indigenous Perspective”

10:30 - 11:00 Morning refreshment

11:00 – 12:30 **ETHICS, CULTURE AND THE SPORTS BUSINESS**

**SESSION 17 - ETHICAL CONDUCT AND THE SPORTS BUSINESS – Reef Room 2**

Chair: Ian Rogers, Banking Editor Australian Financial Review

“The Sporting Business: Ethical Challenges” Andre Gorgemans

“Where’s the Umpire: the Codes of Labour Practice for Goods Licensed for the Sydney Olympics and Paralympics”, Tim Connor

“Sport and Labour Rights”, Alan Matheson

**SESSION 18 - CULTURE AND SPORT – Reef Room 1**

Chair: Helen Grace, Senior Lecturer in Cultural Studies, University of Western Sydney

“To Serve and to Sell: Media Sport and Cultural Citizenship”, David Rowe

“Sports and the Right to Take Part in Cultural Life”, Virginia Dandan

**SESSION 19 - PROMOTING GOODWILL – Reef Room 3**

Chair: Margaret Piper, Refugee Council of Australia

“National Sporting Organizations: A contribution to civil society”, Lisa Hayes

“UNHCR’s Goodwill Sporting Representatives Program”, Chloe Flutter

**SESSION 20 - ATHLETES’ PANEL – Pavillion Ballroom**

Chair: Amanda Smith, Presenter The Sports Factor, ABC Radio National

- Ian Roberts
- Sharon Finan
- Brendon Schwab, Australian Professional Footballers' Association

12:30 – 13:00 **Concluding Plenary Senator Aden Ridgeway**

13:00 Close



## **HOW YOU PLAY THE GAME**

The Sydney 2000 Olympics will be sport's greatest celebration of human achievement, richness and diversity. In a unique global gathering at the dawn of the new Millennium over ten thousand athletes from 200 countries will compete before an estimated worldwide audience of over three and a half billion people.

More than ever before sport today is central to human society and inseparable from human rights. So, as the world marks the Fiftieth Anniversary of that great human achievement the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the time is right for an exploration of the relationship between sports and human rights.

## **SPORTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS – AN OLYMPIC TRADITION**

When black American athlete Jesse Owens broke the winner's tape in the 1936 Berlin Olympics thus shattering Hitler's propaganda of German racial superiority, he showed the power of the Olympics to advance the struggle for human dignity and human rights. This capacity was recognized in the opening ceremony of the 1998 Nagano Winter Games with the participation of land mines survivor, campaigner and athlete Chris Moon as Torch bearer and the call of Juan Antonio Samaranch for an Olympics Truce in the Middle-East.

The Olympic Movement took a lead in opposing apartheid and in welcoming the new South Africa back into the world sporting community. The Seoul Olympics is credited with helping to transform South Korea from dictatorship to democracy.

In the 1968 Mexico Games black American athletes on the winner's podium made a powerful statement for civil rights when they raised their clenched fists in victory. And in the face of tragedy at the 1972 Munich Olympics athletes took a brave stand against terror.

The relationship between sports and human rights goes beyond the Olympics. David Ginola, former French footballer of the year, was chosen to succeed Princess Diana as figurehead of the international campaign to ban land mines. Cathy Freeman's eloquent gesture in holding aloft the Australian and Aboriginal flags on her lap of honour at the Commonwealth Games expressed the mood of a nation searching for reconciliation.

The mass protests in Australia and New Zealand against the Springboks tours in the apartheid years expressed popular expectations of the contribution that sports people and institutions can play in respecting, protecting and promoting human rights.

Today this contribution can be seen in the dusty streets of South Africa townships, the divided countryside of Burundi and the city streets of Paris where sport is being used to build tolerance, understanding and respect, and to offer new opportunities to those with few.

## **THE CONFERENCE – A FIRST**

As a contribution to the International Decade of Human Rights Education and to the Olympic spirit, the Human Rights Council of Australia proposes coordinating the first international conference of its kind on sports and human rights. The conference will bring together sports men and women involved in human rights advocacy, those who have survived human rights breaches, administrators and sports organizations that have contributed toward human rights and academics involved in the growing field of sports and ethics, and sports and society.

The Conference will provide a unique forum for discussion and help to stimulate further work in this area.

## **CONFERENCE ISSUES**

International speakers will be invited to the Conference which will run over two and a half days in a major venue in the centre of Sydney. While the program is still to be finalized it is expected that it will include the following issues:

- The role of team sports in building reconciliation and tolerance: Experiences from Africa, Europe and Australia
- The role of sports people in human rights campaigning and as advocates for change: Australian and international experiences

- Issues facing indigenous sportsmen and women: Australia, Canada, Japan, Latin America
- Addressing discrimination in sporting bodies: on the field, selection of teams/individuals - off the field, participation in administration and management. Issues include HIV/AIDS, disability, gender, sexual preference, ethnicity.
- Solidarity between sportsmen and women: how can sports people support those in other countries – the role of professional sporting associations
- Drugs and sport: the human rights issues
- Opportunities for addressing human rights and for human rights advocacy around major sporting events: from cooperation to confrontation; from briefings to boycotts
- Human rights in the sports business – from running shoes to football kits: What are the responsibilities of sporting firms to their employees? How can consumers have a voice?
- Sport and the human rights to health and leisure: programs for popular participation in sport, access to sporting institutions by the poor and marginalized, the rights of spectators, the role of regulation in maintaining public access and free to air broadcasts.
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## **SUPPORT FOR THE CONFERENCE**

Expressions of support for the conference have already been received from the Australian Sports Commission, the Australian Football League, the Sydney Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games, the NSW State Government and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission.

## **REGISTRATION**

For quick and easy on-line registration and information on the venue of the conference please click here: [□](#)

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## **Members of the HRCA**

- Dr Meaghan Morris, Chair
- Ms Andrea Durbach, Vice-Chair
- Mr André Frankovits, Executive Director
- Mr James Dunn, Convenor
- Mr Andrew Naylor, Treasurer
- Mr Eric Sidoti
- Dr Roger Gurr,

- Mr Jeff Kildea
- Mr Harris van Beek
- Mr Chris Sidoti
- Dr Mary Edmunds
- Dr David Kinley
- Mr Pat Walsh
- Ms Robin Gurr
- Sister Pat Pak Poy
- Mr Patrick Earle



Page created: 27 August 1999