Protect, respect and remedy. Global sport and human rights

Brendan Schwab LL.B MBA, Executive Director

World Players Association

“[T]he sport rendered athletes inherently vulnerable... [T]here were embedded cultural norms... that eroded normal impediments to abuse... The culture was intense, severe and unrelenting. It demanded obedience and deference to authority. It normalized intense physical discomfort as an integral part of the path to success.”

## Human rights commitments of Sports Governing Bodies (SGBs), 2016 – 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIFA</th>
<th>UEFA</th>
<th>IOC</th>
<th>CGF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Article 3 FIFA Statutes, 2016  
• Ruggie report, 2016  
• FIFA 2.0, 2016  
• FIFA Human Rights Policy & Activity Update, 2017  
• 2026 FIFA World Cup bid & host requirements, 2017  
• FIFA Human Rights Advisory Board, 2017 - 2019 | • 2024 EUROs bidding requirements & staging agreement, 2017  
• Expanded commitment with SRA to all events & activities (e.g. UEFA Champions League) | • 2024 & 2028 Host City Contract, 2016  
• IOC Supplier Code, 2018  
**Contrast:**  
• IOC Declaration of Athletes' Rights & Responsibilities, 2018  
• International Athletes’ Forum, 2019 - $ support ACs & career transition | • CGF Human Rights Policy, 2017  
• CGF Transformation 2022 (Refresh), 2019 |
## SGBs & respect for human rights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. <strong>Formal commitment to respect human rights, inc. player rights</strong></th>
<th>2. <strong>General commitment to respect human rights, but not player/athlete rights</strong></th>
<th>3. <strong>Deny any responsibility to respect human &amp; athlete rights</strong></th>
<th>4. <strong>Undeveloped or unknown position re human &amp; athlete rights</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • FIFA  
• UEFA  
• CGF | • IOC  
• WADA | • IAAF (a ‘non-state actor’; use of ‘private contract’) | • The others  
• Note FIBA has joined the CSHR (potentially 1) |

**Challenge:** remedy & accountability  
**Challenge:** embed athlete rights (constitution, policy, due diligence, remedy, tracking & engagement)  
**Challenge:** engage and educate. Leverage through collective action  
**Challenge:** engage and educate
A new fundamental principle of Olympism

• “The Olympic Movement is committed to respecting all internationally recognised human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights.”
Thank you