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**New Issue of *Journal of Sport Psychology in Action*
Explores Motivational and Training Environments**

Indianapolis (August 3, 2017) – Motivational and training climates play a vital role in sport. New research in the current issue of the [*Journal of Sport Psychology in Action*](#) (JSPA) offers insight for how sport psychology consultants can successfully work with and train athletes in a variety of elite and professional sports. JSPA is a publication of the [Association for Applied Sport Psychology](#) (AASP) and designed to provide sport psychology practitioners with information and informed guidance that is applicable to their practice.

JSPA research highlights include:

- **[Bringing a knife to a gunfight: A coherent consulting philosophy might not be enough to be effective in professional soccer.](#)**
Professional soccer is big business and high politics. The primary concern of professional clubs is achieving good results and winning the next game. Integrating sport psychology is a lengthy process, and in order to succeed in professional sports, there is a need for a stable environment. For practitioners to be effective in professional sports organizations, they need to understand various levels of organizational culture.
- **[A three-stage adversity coping model for Chinese athletes.](#)**
The development of a three-stage model of adversity coping in which Chinese athletes were categorized into three stages: climb, plateau, and enlightened stage is discussed. Specific, stage-related sport psychology services are recommended in this model. Particularly, sport psychology practitioners are encouraged to assist climb-stage athletes with mental skills and achievement motivation and help coaches establish an empowering motivational climate.
- **[Cultivating Olympic champions: A trampoline development environment from grass roots to podium.](#)**
Olympic athletes' training environments influence their abilities to develop and excel as Olympians. Authors considered a Canadian trampoline training environment with a history of developing Olympic medal-winning athletes from the grassroots through to Olympic podium. The sport environment is presented, drawing upon guided walks, through a cursory description in accordance with the Environmental Success Factors model derived from a holistic ecological approach to talent development. This presentation of the Skyriders Training Environment (STE) reveals how environmental

factors facilitate Olympic talent development culminating in the highest level of artistic sport performance.

- **[Sport psychology consulting in professional rugby union in the United Kingdom.](#)**
This article explores a sport psychology consultant's experiences working within a professional rugby union in South Wales, United Kingdom. Initially, the consultant located the context of professional rugby union in the country alongside how his various subcultural understandings of the sport were obtained. After outlining his consulting philosophy developed for working in a professional rugby union context, subsequent cultural challenges for practitioners working in the sport are then explored, together with example strategies used to account for such cultural considerations. He concludes by reflecting upon the importance of practitioners possessing and developing contextual intelligence and cultural competency to work effectively in high-performance environments.

Additional studies in this issue look at Talking across the divide: Reflections and recommendations for context-driven, cultural sport psychology; Experts focus on the context: Postulates derived from the authors' shared experiences and wisdom and a guest column on Context-driven sport and exercise psychology practice: Widening our lens beyond the athlete.

To request full copies of the studies or to schedule an interview with the authors, please contact Lindsay Spivak at lindsay@rosengrouppr.com.

About Association for Applied Sport Psychology (www.appliedsportpsych.org)

Founded in 1986, the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP) has been the preferred organization for sport psychology consultants and professionals who work with athletes, coaches, non-sport performers (dancers, musicians), business professionals, and tactical occupations (military, firefighters, police). AASP currently has over 2,400 members in 50 countries worldwide, with backgrounds in a variety of areas including sport science, social work, counseling and clinical psychology. Follow AASP on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#).