

Changing the Game: Transformative Advances in Youth Sport
Virtual Conference to be Hosted by the Association for Applied Sport Psychology

CHAGRIN FALLS, Ohio – March 2015 – Children’s participation, personal development and sport performance are among the key topics headlining the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP) virtual conference ***Changing the Game: Transformative Advances in Youth Sport***. The conference will be hosted May 20, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST.

Dedicated to informing and inspiring youth sport organizations, coaches, athletic directors, public health officials, and members of professional organizations, the conference will address evidence-based science, practice and policy approaches to youth sport. The three-hour conference will be shared by six leading authorities and moderated by Dr. Dan Gould, Director of the Institute for the Study of Youth Sports and a professor at Michigan State University.

Featured speakers include:

- **Jean Côté, PhD**
A Personal Asset Approach to Youth Sport
Professor at Queen’s University, Ontario, Canada, Dr. Côté discusses a new framework for promoting performance, participation and personal development through youth sport participation, while highlighting the transformative advances for children in sport.
- **Amanda J. Visek, PhD, CC-AASP**
The FUN MAPS: A 360° Evidence-Based Paradigm Shift
Associate Professor at The George Washington University, Washington, D.C., Dr. Visek discusses the most important factor for keeping children engaged in sport activities, and how the FUN MAPS can be used as tools for fostering skill development and performance achievement thereby transforming youth sport culture.
- **Tom Farrey**
State of Play 2015
Author of "*Game On: The All-American Race to Make Champions of our Children*" and Director of Sports & Society at The Aspen Institute, Washington, D.C., Tom Farrey outlines the Institute’s Project Play strategies that sectors can use to deliver universal access to early positive sport activities.
- **Lindsey Blom, PhD, CC-AASP**
Sport for Social Change: Increasing Positive Sport Experiences for Youth in Developing Countries
Associate Professor at Ball State University in Indiana, Dr. Blom shares sport-based development projects designed to increase positive sport experiences including the program development, coaching education and research outcomes related to projects focused on reducing conflict.
- **Vicki Harber, PhD**
Canadian Sport for Life (CS4L): Advancing Physical Literacy, Long-Term Athlete Development and Lifelong Participation in Sport and Physical Activity
A member of the Canadian Sport for Life Management Group and Leadership Team, Dr. Harber provides an overview of CS4L’s initiatives and progress. The CS4L has evolved from a project to a national movement dedicated to improving the quality of sport and physical activity in Canada.

- **Katherine Tomaino, MPH**
Increasing Access to Quality Youth Sport Programming Through a Collective Impact Approach
Evaluation and Learning Specialist at Laureus Foundation USA, New York, Katherine Tomaino will share the Foundation's Model City Initiative supporting New Orleans-based sport for development organizations and how a collective impact approach increases access to quality youth sport programming at national and global levels.

“When youth become involved in physical activity during their formative development, they are set up for a high quality of life. Although much of the focus in sport is on high performance contexts, the most profound contributions to changing lives occur below this level through physical activity initiatives much earlier on. In fact, sport as a human capital vehicle is important to the world’s global landscape,” said Robert Schinke, President of AASP. “We are pleased to host this innovative conference as sport psychology professionals play an important role in assisting coaches, parents, athletic administrators, and youth themselves in physical activities of all sorts.”

Held in partnership with AASP and American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM), registration is \$75 for AASP, ACSM and partner organization members, and \$99 for non-members. Students can access the conference for \$49. Registration closes on Friday, May 15. Registrants will need a telephone and computer access with a high-speed Internet connection.

For additional information about the 2015 virtual conference, including online registration and schedule, please visit the official conference page at <http://www.appliedsportpsych.org/resource-center/webinars/> or contact the AASP office at (317) 205-9225.

Members of the media are invited to attend and should register through the AASP Public Relations Office at 440-543-8615 or email st@yp-pr.com.

The Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP) promotes ethical practice, science and advocacy in the field of sport and exercise psychology. Since 1986, AASP has been an international, multidisciplinary, professional organization that offers certification to qualified professionals in the field of sport and exercise psychology. With more than 2,300 members in 57 countries, AASP is a worldwide leader, sharing research and resources with the public via its website, www.appliedsportpsych.org.

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