

## ***Journal of Sport Psychology in Action (JSPA): Special Issue***

### **Organizational and Systemic Approaches to Sport Psychology Practice**

**Guest Editor: Chris Wagstaff  
University of Portsmouth**

Organizational sport psychology (OSP) is a subfield of sport psychology that is dedicated to better understanding individual behavior and social processes in sport organizations to enable individuals and communities to thrive. This subfield is grounded in the premise that effective practice is characterized by the development of sport systems that are psychologically informed and where practitioners attend to and seek to influence the interactions between individuals, teams, organizations, and systems in their practice. Practitioners adopting organizational or systemic approaches therefore acknowledge the complexity of sport organizations and how those we work with are influenced by social, cultural, or historical factors within their context. Edited volumes (e.g., Wagstaff, 2016) and Special Issues (*JASP*, Issue 31(1), 2020) on OSP have provided a useful conceptual foundation for this topic, and in this special issue we seek to capture practice innovations and developments to advance organizational and systemic practice.

*The Journal of Sport Psychology in Action (JSPA)* exists to provide information about programs, services, and other interventions that can be applied by practitioners as part of their professional practices. Given this remit, the articles to be published in this special of *JSPA* must be grounded in relevant theory and research, presented in a manner that can be understood and used by practitioners, and depict applications within sport systems or organizations. That is, the articles are expected to provide guidance that will be valuable to practitioners who seek to develop psychologically informed environments in sport. Example topics for articles include: (a) service delivery models for working systemically within sport; (b) interventions targeting sustainable performance through organizational advancement; (c) interventions for developing mental health, wellness or safety in sport organizations; (d) work that explores tensions between mental health, wellbeing and performance in sport organizations; (e) approaches outlining attending to and fostering change in organizational-level factors as a psychology practitioner, and; (f) reflections on working in a systemic or organizational way.

While authors are encouraged to prepare manuscripts in a way that best meets the aims and scope of *JSPA* within the Guidance for Authors on the Journal webpage, we offer the following as a potential way to structure your manuscript. We encourage authors to provide an initial scholarly foundation and rationale for the article grounded in relevant theory and research (approximately 2-3 pages). We are particularly interested in manuscripts that then outline and critically discuss organizational or systemic applications of psychology within sport environments (e.g., a program, service or service model, intervention; approximately 5-7 pages). Next, we would recommend

offering clear and precise guidelines for how a sport psychology practitioner might adapt and use this application in their own practice context (approximately 3-5 pages). Manuscripts might also conclude with key resources, recommendations, or summary points that support knowledge translation or practice advancement (2 pages) and should limit references 2 pages.

For informal inquiries about manuscript suitability, prospective authors can contact the Guest Editor, Chris Wagstaff ([chris.wagstaff@port.ac.uk](mailto:chris.wagstaff@port.ac.uk)) or the Editor-In Chief of JSPA, Robert Schinke ([rschinke@laurentian.ca](mailto:rschinke@laurentian.ca)). Manuscripts must conform to the submission guidelines of JSPA and the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th Edition).

Submissions should be made no later than (October 31, 2024) via the electronic portal of Scholar One, where special issue manuscripts can be submitted. Final decisions will be made by the Editor-in Chief. Publication of this special issue is projected for (March 31, 2025).