



GoodSport



S R I L A N K A O L Y M P I C W E E K L Y N E W S B U L L E T I N



WINTER WONDERLAND FOR LANKANS SKIERS

Skiing and Lankan sport in general may sound odd in some instances, but in reality it is possible. Veteran Sports Administrator Deva Henry, the President of the Ski and Snowboarding Association of Sri Lanka has been involved with this sport for more than a decade and has real practical experience in sending Lankan athletes to be a part of winter sport.

Henry explained “We started with the South Asian Games where we won a Gold in a women’s discipline in 2011. Sri Lanka competed in the first ever

South Asian Winter Games held in Dehradun and Auli, India from 10 January to 16 January 2011. We sent only one athlete, Anita Rollin, who won gold in snowboarding.

Afterward we took part in the Asian Winter Games in Sapporo 2017, where we took part in the 15 kilometer cross country ski event where Lukas Hettiarachchi, Sajeev de Silva and Shehan Muthugala were a part of it. They took part in the cross-country event and the alpine event. It must be mentioned that even though we did not win a medal, we were among those

who competed the 15km course.

“Also in the agenda is popularizing snow sport among the Lankan diaspora so that they would also feel inclusive – being a part of Sri Lanka while living other destinations.

Hailing from Monaragala G.G. Dhanushka Bandara would never had thought that one-day he is destined to be Skiing instructor in the snowy climes of Norway But, Dhanushka and co-instructress Victoria Hundal

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are in Sri Lanka are looking for avenues of popularizing the snow sport and they are pretty serious about it.

Dhanushka who was bestowed with the responsibility of being the coordinator for this sport, overseas said “I am involved with this sport since 2018 in Norway and now I am a level II instructor of the sport. Victoria and I were dreaming of a way of getting Lankan people interested in this sport and just sent an email looking out, lo and behold we were wowed when we discovered that there is a Ski and Snowboarding Association in Sri Lanka.

“Now we are on the lookout for Lankans who could be a part of this future ski and snowboarding programmes. However, it would be easy if they are a part of the Lankan diaspora and I could train them, that is our primary task. Preferably we would like them to come from Europe so that we could train them to represent Sri Lanka in winter sport.



“I can show myself as an example. The way I was and now how I am a snowboard teacher in Norway. This goes to prove that you don't have to be born in a snowy country to take to winter sports. Now, planning is on the card to make a month long programme in Norway and make them ready for the games.

“Even in Norway, people do not ski every day, it could be vacation time or something similar. So if you practice for one month continuously who can get that inner experience. Unfortunately, there are no intermediate or anyone in that class to compete at Sri Lankan levels. But, if I could get people who are interested, even if they are new to the game, I can train them and elevate them to a certain level. This is for the Asian Games. At these Games the levels are a bit low than real snow-laden countries. There is a minimum standard and if they attain that our guys can participate. Even if these guys have not seen snow prior to that we can train them, we could start with a little skating and thus develop from that point onwards.

“Initially, we have to train those are in the scheme. There are a lot of Lankans outside Norway who are keen to be a part of it, like in Romania, France, Canada etc., we can conduct workshops and if they are real enthusiasts who are keen, I will invite them have the programme



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in Norway. It's not going to be easy, because if anyone is alien to snow there is a chance of them sliding. So my take is 'we have a programme, where you can train and be a part of the Lankan winter dream. We will provide them with the basics like the skis, but they too will have to take the onus of a part of the programme. Because it is an expensive game.

Secretary of the Snowboarding Association Gamini Jayasinghe added "We had our initial meeting last month and we have a programme in place now. We already have around five female hopefuls who are keen to be a part of the scheme. Our main aim is to be a part of the 2029 Asia Winter Games."



IOC and International Federations join forces to tackle competition manipulation

Nearly 50 representatives from 37 International Federations (IFs) came together at Olympic House in Lausanne, Switzerland, on 16 May 2023, for a workshop to share information and exchange knowledge on how to prevent competition manipulation at sports competitions.

Organised by the Olympic Movement Unit on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions (OM Unit PMC), the meeting focused on the three main pillars of the Unit's strategy: regulation and legislation, awareness-raising and capacity-building, and intelligence and investigations. The IFs also received an update on the upcoming PMC activities in the lead-up to Paris 2024.

"It is fantastic to see the group of IF 'Single Points of Contacts' active and well informed about the prevention of competition manipulation," said Friedrich Martens, Head of the OM Unit PMC. "Our aim for years is to ensure all IFs are familiar with our tools and processes to enable them to handle any incidents in a timely and proactive manner – always with the support of the OM Unit PMC. We support them to implement the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions, to actively raise awareness among their sportspersons and on their management of any incidents.

The workshop allowed us to share best practices and experiences in a great atmosphere and we could also give all IFs an inside look into new processes, procedures and tools available to them."

During the meeting, the IF experts were introduced to the new version of the model rules for IFs and National Federations (NFs), which followed the recent update of the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions.

The meeting participants took part in interactive hands-on sessions, sharing best practices about how to run awareness-raising activities for their sportspersons. The involvement of the Believe in Sport ambassadors was also highlighted, as well as the support available through IOC tools, such as the Believe in Sport toolbox.

The workshop also had a strong focus on intelligence and investigations.

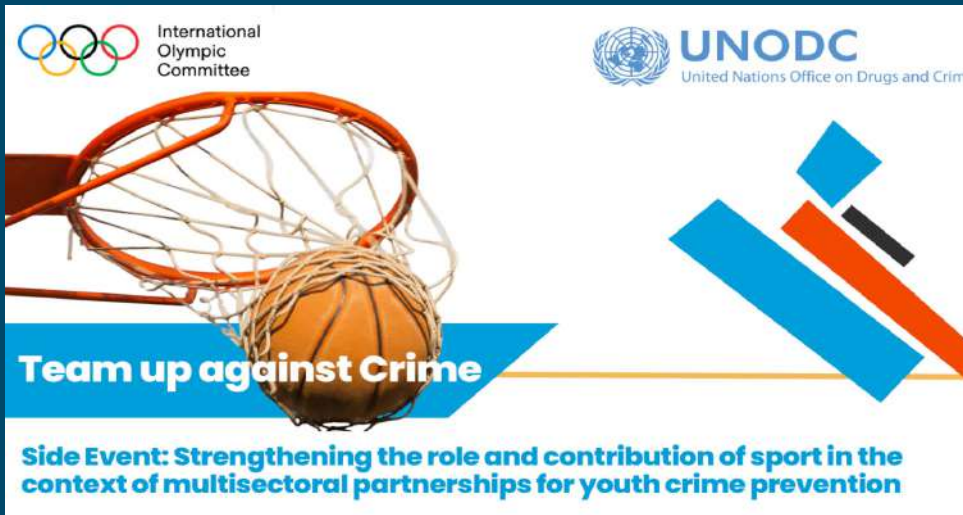
The OM Unit PMC intelligence processes, which apply during the Olympic Games and beyond, were introduced to the participants, as well as the tools available to run intelligence and investigations, such as the IBIS platform and new open-source platforms developed by the Unit.

These meetings form part of the IOC's efforts to engage all key Olympic Movement stakeholders in protecting the integrity of sporting competitions. The initiatives to prevent competition manipulation are led by the dedicated OM Unit PMC, set up in 2017. In March 2023, the IOC decided to allocate a fund of USD 10 million per Olympiad to continue to support the successful work of this Unit.

- IOC News



IOC AND UNODC HIGHLIGHT SPORT'S POWERFUL ROLE IN YOUTH CRIME PREVENTION



Sport plays a crucial role in building safer communities and combatting youth violence and crime. This was highlighted during a hybrid high-level side event organised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on 22 May in Vienna (Austria), as part of the 32nd UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ).

The opening remarks were provided by IOC Member Kirsty Coventry, who was the IOC representative at the CCPCJ and Mr John Brandolino, UNODC Director of the Division of Treaty Affairs.

“Sport is not just physical activity, it’s a powerful means to bring people together and contribute to building more peaceful and safer communities. It is also a tool which fosters cognitive development; teaches social behaviour, and develops transferable skills that support

education and livelihoods,” said Coventry.

“Research and best practices have proven across the world that sport-related policy and community-based approaches can play a critical role in empowering youth to become active agents of positive change in their communities.”

Likewise, Mr Brandolino pointed out the importance of prevention approaches that address the root causes of crime and build strong partnerships with all relevant sectors of Government, civil society and the private sector as well as sport organizations. “It is critical to consider innovative and effective approaches to best reach vulnerable youth in marginalised communities”, including through sport-based interventions.

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youth in marginalised communities”, including through sport-based interventions.

The theme of this year’s session was “Enhancing the Functioning of the Criminal Justice System to Ensure Access to Justice and to Realise a Safe and Secure Society”.

The event – “Team up against Crime: Strengthening the role and contribution of sport in the context of multisectoral partnerships for youth crime prevention” – was hosted with the support of Austria, France, Mexico, the Netherlands and Thailand and was attended by over 170 participants in person and online.

Sharing new learnings and insights

A key focus of the side event was on discussing successful projects that have addressed youth violence and crime prevention through sport, and to share helpful learnings and insights that could help shape future initiatives and partnerships in this area around the world.

“Supporting sport-based crime prevention initiatives throughout communities, is the cornerstone of an inclusive, integrated, healthy and thriving society,” Coventry stated.

Coventry also highlighted SC:ORE - “Sport against Crime: Outreach, Resilience, Empowerment of At-Risk Youth” - as an example of a collaborative project that utilises the power of sport to help create peaceful

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and safe communities and empower young people to make rewarding life choices.

Launched in 2022, SC:ORE is a joint IOC-UNODC initiative helping to prevent and combat violence and crime through sports-based learning and skills training to build more peaceful and safe communities. It builds on the UNODC Youth Crime Prevention through Sport initiative as well as the IOC Olympic Education Values Programme (OVEP), a series of free and accessible teaching resources promoting the long-term impact

of sport on health, enjoyment and social interaction.

It also contributes to the realisation of strategic priorities set by Olympism365, the IOC's strategy to strengthen the role of sport as an important enabler for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through partnerships between stakeholders with the aim of ensuring more people, from more diverse backgrounds, benefit from participating in sports-based programmes, every day, everywhere. Coventry also emphasised the benefits of collaboration between different organisations, detailing how the IOC and UNODC have joined

forces in working towards the shared goal of youth crime prevention through physical activity.

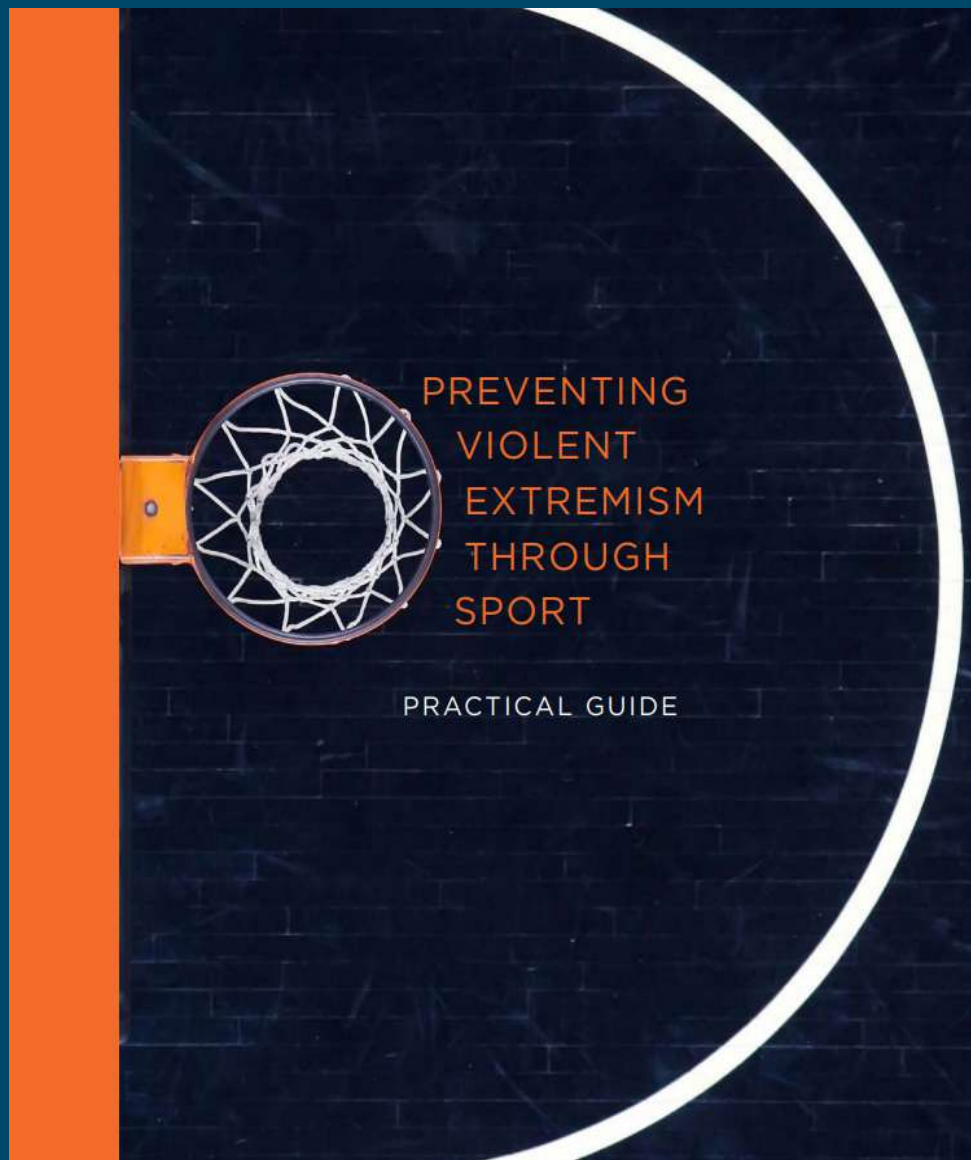
Coventry also addressed the UN Member States at the plenary session of the CCPCJ: "We call for cross-sectoral partnerships, rallying public authorities and civil society organisations in the criminal justice sector, development banks, businesses, and national and regional sports entities and major sports events organisers, to jointly invest in sports-based interventions and policies that can generate a much greater impact on criminal behaviour than enforcement alone, and can improve a broad range of health, education and social outcomes."

IOC-UNODC partnership brings together stakeholders from across the globe

To strengthen the impact of the SC:ORE initiative ahead of a pilot test in two countries and regions, the IOC and UNODC will be organising policy workshops and capacity-building activities for implementing partners, including National Olympic Committees, civil society organisations, and national and local policymakers.

Most recently, from 3 to 5 May, the IOC and UNODC organised a three-day online Expert Group Meeting (EGM), bringing together more than 25 experts from diverse sectors including academia, government, civil society and the sports movement. Representing over 15 countries across various regions, experts shared good practices and insights that will inform the development of a policy guide focused on Preventing Youth Crime and Violence through Sport.

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Delegates from Hashima City - Japan who hosted Team Sri Lanka during the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, visited the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka!

For their all support, they were appreciated and the head of the delegation Ms. Jin Songyue, President of Artistic and Co. Global, Hashima City was presented a token of appreciation by the Secretary General of the NOC Sri National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka.

