

Revitalising ISI Sports Statistics Special Interest Group

ISI wishes to revitalise its Special Interest Group (SIG) in Sports Statistics. For this purpose, the ISI Executive Committee has invited two Elected Members, Paola Zuccolotto and Marica Manisera (University of Brescia, Italy), to collect expressions of interest among members of ISI and its family of Associations. Paola Zuccolotto and Marica Manisera have a longstanding experience in the field at national and international level (see <http://bodai.unibs.it/bdsports/>). Below is their call expressing their ideas about the activity. Those interested people are warmly invited to contact Paola and Marica at SportsStats@isi-web.org.

In the last decades, quantitative thinking in sports has gained a rapidly growing interest. This is reflected by the scientific production on this theme and also by the publication of collections of statistical analyses applied to data from a wide range of sports, including football, basketball, volleyball, baseball, ice hockey and many others.

The aim of the Sports Statistics Committee is to promote the understanding, development and good practice of sports statistics worldwide, with particular regard to the methodological problems involved and the in-field application of methods and models, from three different perspectives: scientific research (a), Statistical Capacity Building (b), and education (c).

Re (a), specific goals are concerned with organizing workshops, specialized sessions at conferences and events, promoting special issues in scientific journals, disseminating internationally useful and comparable data on sports. Re (b), special effort is devoted to enable statistical practitioners in the sport sector to use state-of-the-art methods for data collection, analysis and interpretation. Point (c) is ambitious but the aim of the SIG will be to network amongst individuals and groups who are pursuing this at different levels (schools, universities, sport societies, national and international federations), and to involve more in this aim. The three channels do not develop independently, but the specific activities are integrated and put in synergy with each other.

The Sports Statistics SIG aims to be of relevance across all of the ISI and its family.