

Issue 9

# touchline

The journal of sport, leisure & risk with an international perspective



**Spotlight on  
Sport: Handball**

**London 2012 Update**

**Space Weather** - part II -  
Is it just pie in the sky?

**Focus on Risk Management** - part IV -  
Are you flirting with disaster or managing it?

plus + | insight | on track | sports shorts | world news round up

## Appointments keep Lloyd's insurer Sportscover on track with expansion strategy



Pictured (left to right): Murray Anderson, Simon Lyons, Robin Blunt, Ally Halstead.

Lloyd's insurer Sportscover is continuing to pursue its ambitious expansion and diversification strategy by announcing the appointment of highly respected Bloodstock underwriter, Robin Blunt.

Robin has been in the insurance industry for more than 40 years, initially as a broker but the latter half of this as an underwriter in the Lloyd's market, most recently with Lloyd's insurer Brit. He has been specialising in Bloodstock since 1979. Robin becomes Bloodstock underwriter for Sportscover's syndicate 3334 with immediate effect.

When asked about his specialisation, Robin commented, "The most interesting aspect of Bloodstock Insurance is that we are insuring a certainty – all living beings ultimately die. Their lives are controlled by humans and they have no way of communicating how they feel or how they are being looked after so our risk has two distinctive parts, the horse itself and those that care for them."

Robin has been insuring horses since 1979 and probably the most famous claim which he has been involved with was "Shergar" who was the subject of one of the largest Bloodstock insurance claims ever following his theft in 1983.

Robin added, "I am looking forward to working with Sportscover's talented and growing team of specialist underwriters. Sportscover have ambitious plans for the future. I am pleased to be part of a team who are determined to be the best in sports and leisure insurance."

Robin is also joined at Sportscover by Ally Halstead. Ally has worked in the London insurance market since 2006, spending two years handling Bloodstock claims for Lexington Insurance Company, part of the AIG Group. In 2008 she joined Marketform syndicate to handle Bloodstock claims, later expanding her role

to include PA, Marine and Specie claims. She has a keen interest in horse racing, but her main focus is the Sport Horse industry, in particular show jumping and eventing.

Matthew Riley, CEO of Sportscover Underwriting Limited, said "I am delighted that we have been able to bring to Sportscover two highly talented insurance professionals in Robin and Ally. We are implementing our agreed development strategy and the recent appointments show that we are making real progress towards our goal of sustainable growth through diversification by employing top quality specialists."

The appointment of Robin and Ally follows on from the employment of Contingency underwriter Simon Lyons in July last year. Simon has over 20 years insurance experience including specific contingency experience in Cancellation, Non-Appearance, Prize Indemnity, Contract Bonus, Weather Day and Commercial Producers Indemnity. His employment has led to a significant increase in open market contingency business written by 3334.

Sportscover has also announced that Murray Anderson has become joint Active underwriter for Syndicate 3334 with Chris Nash.

Chris Nash explained, "Sportscover is seeing a significant increase in business from around the world. Appointing Murray as joint Active Underwriter will enable us to pursue the many business opportunities that we are seeing by focusing on particular geographic regions. This is a sensible approach to ensure that we can make the most of the opportunities being presented to us and provide a high quality service to brokers and clients."

Murray's appointment also sees him elevated to the board of Sportscover Underwriting Ltd.



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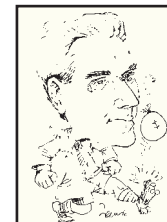
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## Governments need to value grassroots sport



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Recent events have put the spotlight on the sustainability and value of grassroots sport. Whilst these news reports are from the UK they have relevance to sport around the world.

In the first, nine of the UK's leading governing bodies for sport, including the Premier League and the Football Association, have signed a voluntary code to reinvest at least 30% of their domestic television revenues in grassroots projects – an amount of £250m a year.

This is a big 'win' for the Sport and Recreation Alliance (SRA), an umbrella organisation that represents 320 national bodies for sport and recreation in the UK and it will help to secure the future for many amateur sports.

However, whilst this appears to be a welcome philanthropic gesture by the nine organisations (the All England Lawn Tennis Club/Lawn Tennis Association, the ECB, the PGA European Tour, the FA, the Premier League, the Royal & Ancient, the Rugby Football League and UK Athletics), it is also a very necessary move to ensure the future of the elite sports they represent as well. Without a healthy grassroots sport structure many of the elite sports would not be able to exist, or at least, would be far less successful.

The importance of grassroots sport is also recognised by many. Companies such as Sportscover have long sought ways to support local clubs and associations through community programmes and projects such as the Sportscover Sponsorship fund (see page 8), an annual distribution of grants to sports clubs and associations.

But the strength of grassroots sport is not only that it leads to a vibrant elite and professional structure, but that it also delivers many other social and political objectives. In the second piece of news, a recent UK House of Lords Committee report says that the potential of sport is under-exploited at both EU and national level, despite its ability to deliver on core

policy objectives in health, education, employment and social spheres.

Committee chair, Baroness Young commented that sport should not be regarded as a peripheral policy area but should be viewed as a 'powerful and effective tool in the delivery of objectives across the policy spectrum'.

This is not a new concept. Similar statements have been made before by other governments. In Australia, the Australian Sports Commission Act was passed in 1989 with its stated mission is "to enrich the lives of all Australians through sport". The Singapore Sports Council has a similar policy with stated core principles for sport of developing resilient, healthy Singaporeans, bringing a multi-racial society together, enhancing national pride, contributing to a vibrant society and economy and strengthening friendships with other nations.

These objectives are more than just fine statements of intent – or at least they should be. There is no doubt that sport has a major part to play in the health and well being of people but also promotes a number of other sought after virtues, such as racial harmony and national pride. This is something that governments around the world are becoming more aware of but need to regularly re-state and re-affirm and then act accordingly.

Governments around the world need to recognise the tremendous benefits that sport can bring and start to make sport a central part of their social, health and educational programmes. This would be a big step towards a better world.

April 2011



# Sport Profile: Handball



**Handball is a sport worth watching in the coming years.**

Handball, sometimes referred to as European Handball due to its popularity in mainland Europe, has an electric pace and an intensity that draw increasing interest in television and digital media.

With the closing of the 22nd Men's Handball World Championship in Stockholm, on the 30 January, organisers have been quick to point out their game's increasing popularity and established qualities.

In the recent championship, 24 nations were represented, underlining handball's international standing.

Speaking before the final, which saw France beat Denmark (37:35) the International Handball Federation (IHF) President Dr. Hassan Moustafa said "Never before, a World Championship has been broadcasted in so many countries. By reflecting the last ten years the increase to 160 countries is enormous. Aside the number of spectators rose compared with the last World Championship in Croatia. The arenas were full in all venues."

More than 430,000 spectators attended the 98 matches in Sweden.

In an interesting, and some say controversial move, IHF has awarded the rights to host the 2015 finals to Qatar. This move provides a parallel case with the World Cup going to the Gulf state, and similar questions have been raised in the handball community.

Champions France were hopeful of gaining the hosting rights, but respected handball resource teamhandballnews.com suggests they bungled their bid, saying "they relied a lot on reputation, they used their proud French team as the 'poster boys' par excellence, and they seemed to feel it would be a bit too 'gauche' to do any heavy selling of their bid."

Alternatively, "Qatar spared no effort (or riyad) to draw attention to their bid and to what would be special about a Championship hosted in their country."

It would seem that the World Championship in Qatar will be viewed with great interest, not only by handball enthusiasts but also by those in football wondering how Qatar will cope with the

pressures of running a major sporting event.

For those unfamiliar with the sport, it is played in an area roughly the same size as an indoor soccer pitch in game of two 30 minute halves. Teams consist of six outfield players and one goalkeeper, and scores over 30 goals are commonplace.

Players receiving the ball may not carry the ball for more than three paces, and have a limited time to select a pass, to dribble or to shoot.

The modern game of handball was formalised in Northern Europe, where it still enjoys great popularity.

Handball is a contact sport and there is a certain amount of accepted gamesmanship in the matches. Players may not make contact with opponents from the side or behind but may challenge them from the front.

The game is played at such a pace that these levels of contact can make the sport challenging for the players and exhilarating for the fans. Add to this the rapid change from attack to defense and the limits to movement allowed once the player catches the ball and you have a sport in which players are regularly injured. Coachinfo.com even cites handball as responsible for more injuries than any other international sport after soccer.

The most common injuries are in the foot, given the constant shifting and turning as attack turns to defense. A 2005 article the European Journal of Sports Science states that in their research sample "nearly half of the players reported that they had been injured during the previous two years."

Injury in the sport is a serious issue, with most players out of action for at least a week during the regular season. The report found that aside from regular preparation, the players benefited from the use of prophylactic equipment.

Handball is a sport well placed to gain popularity. Relatively untouched by scandal and with a history of high quality international competition, the sport has a global reputation that sees its market share steadily increasing. South American countries are embracing the sport, with Argentina placing 12th in the 2011 championship.

# The IHS - Norway's Innovative Insurance Option

Norway has long been recognised as a society that takes health insurance seriously. The Football Association of Norway (NFF) has funded and designed a new generation of sports insurance and treatment.

The medical centre (IHS) at the Ullevaal Stadium has been up and running for a year now and continues to grow. It is part of a fully-integrated insurance system that handles claims efficiently and comprehensively and is now being offered to sports people outside the world of Norwegian football.

The insurance provided for all Norwegians is renowned as one of the more centralised in the world, and is fully funded by tax income. In the global context, it is a leader - even Michael Moore cites it as an example that the American system cannot hope to emulate.

However, the success of this national insurance provider means that private insurance in Norway is not as readily purchased and while it covers normal civilian health issues, it does not provide elite sports people with the cover they need.

The IHS system fills the gap for Norway's footballers, and increasingly other sports are seeing the benefits of this program.

The guiding principle for the program is to provide "better treatment for more people". In the spirit of this notion, children over the age of 12 who are registered at clubs are not only covered for injuries sustained playing football, but they are covered for all other sports as well. There is no similar cover to be found in Norway.

"Better treatment" is defined by the NFF as a combination of fast response times and state of the art medical treatment. Once a claim is lodged, it can be processed in as little as 2 hours. The claimant is then contacted with 11 hours in order to set up the more appropriate treatment. This impressive turn around is largely made possible through the sophisticated online systems that the program uses for each claim. The scheme is operated in conjunction with the insurer for the NFF, Sportscover.

The system is based on a holistic approach to medicine which is not merely reactive. The levels of coverage can be found on the centre's website <http://www.fotball.no/nff/fotballforsikring/2011/Ytelsler/>. At the highest grade of coverage, not only are acute and gradually-attained injuries covered, but so are x-rays, ultra sounds, eating disorders, surgery, dentistry and disability.

The medical centre at the Ullevaal Stadium is a significant part of the system and incorporates state of the art technologies in the prevention and treatment of injuries. In this constantly evolving centre, players have access to doctors, physiotherapists and cutting edge rehabilitation technology.

While in the past surgeons have come to the centre on a weekly basis, there are plans to employ top-class surgeons that work exclusively for the NFF. This will ensure that rather than the wait of up to three months for surgery from the national insurer, members of the scheme will wait no longer than 10 days for their operation. The implications for the continued well being of both the injured sports person and the federation as a whole are obvious. Faster responses and shorter waiting lists mean that the sports people can get back to playing and entertaining their fans.

The IHS and its insurance scheme is a bold and ambitious plan can take Norwegian sport to another level. Football is already enjoying the benefits of this program. Soon, many other sports around the country could be enjoying similar advantages.





# on track

QUICK NEWS TO KEEP YOU IN THE FAST LANE

## EMERGING MARKETS DRIVE GLOBAL RUGBY

Global participation in rugby has risen by 19% since the 2007 Rugby World Cup, thanks largely because of strong growth from emerging markets – according to research commissioned by MasterCard Worldwide.

MasterCard's study, the Economic Impact Report on Global Rugby: Strategic and Emerging Markets, found that rugby is now the sport of choice for more than 5m men, women and children in over 117 countries.

Compared to 2007 figures, emerging nations are beginning to catch up on more traditional rugby territories such as Europe and Oceania, in terms of participants.

Growth in registered players of the sport has grown by 18% in Asia over the last three years, as well as 33% and 22% in Africa and South America respectively.

At the micro level, the study shows that while the top ten playing nations in terms of participation in 2008 were the traditional Six Nations and Tri Nations sides plus Argentina, this picture is changing, with Japan, Sri Lanka and the US all featuring in the top ten for 2010.

The 33% rise in Africa is largely driven by a surge of young recruits, with more than 80% of the continent's players under 20 years old – with the report attributing the growth to the high profile of Sevens Rugby, and new development initiatives funded through the IRB's Strategic Investment Programme.

Professor Simon Chadwick, director of the Centre for the International Business of Sport (CIBS) at Coventry University said: 'Rugby is in a healthy state with participation now spreading through new territories and across demographics in emerging markets'.

'While traditionally Rugby has been concentrated in relatively small pockets, it is widely accepted that the future strength and development of the sport is dependent on achieving a higher level of competitive balance between the developed and emerging rugby nations'.



## GLOBAL VIEWING NUMBERS INCREASE FOR F1

Formula One's global television audience increased to 527 million people over the course of the 2010 season.

The figures were boosted due to the additional coverage of live free practice, additional qualifying and race programming that were added to television schedules around the world.

Over 16,000 hours of coverage was broadcast to 187 countries as figures were also boosted by an exciting season on the track.



## DOPING MOST SERIOUS THREAT FOR OLYMPICS

Doping is the most serious threat to next year's London 2012 Olympic Games – according to the minister of Sport and the Olympics, Hugh Robertson.

Robertson said: 'Remember that 80 percent of unsecured income that the London organising committee needs to raise is secured against ticketing'.

'If people buying these tickets cease to believe that what they are paying quite large sums of money for is anything other than a fair contest then the integrity of the Games will be lost. It's as simple and complicated as that'.

This comes just days after World Anti-Doping Association director general David Howman reportedly stated that the criminal underworld controlled a substantial part of world sport, and that the trafficking of prohibited performance-enhancing drugs was more lucrative than heroin.

According to media reports, 5,000 dope tests will be conducted, compared to the 4,500 at the 2008 Beijing Games and the number of tests would reach a daily peak of 400.

A confidential 24-hour hotline has also been introduced, that will allow athletes to pass on any information they may have about doping in sport.



## MANCHESTER AND NBA STRIKE MULTI-YEAR DEAL

Manchester City Council and the National Basketball Association (NBA) and USA Basketball have announced a multi-year partnership that will see the city host the first WNBA game in Europe, 2012 USA Basketball friendlies and the first NBA pre-season game in the UK outside of London.

Basketball fans in and around the city of Manchester will have the opportunity to watch premier basketball games from the NBA, Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) and USA Basketball men's and women's national team.

The partnership's scheduled events will begin with 'WNBA Live – Manchester 2011' – featuring the Atlanta Dream – on 29th May, at the 18,000-seater Manchester

Evening News Arena (MEN),

The Olympic gold medal winning USA Basketball men's and women's national teams will play a Global Community Cup tour game in July 2012 ahead of the Olympics.

Finally, the first ever NBA game in the UK outside of London will take place towards the end of 2013.

NBA Europe senior vice president Sophie Goldschmidt said, "We are delighted to bring NBA, WNBA, and USA Basketball games to the internationally renowned sports city of Manchester. This comprehensive schedule of premier basketball events will help grow the sport for years to come."



## RECORD TICKET SALES FOR EURO 2012

More than 12m ticket applications have been received by UEFA for the 2012 European Championships in Poland and Ukraine – according to the European governing body.

The initial application deadline for fans worldwide has passed, with a total of 12,149,425 ticket requests made.

Ticket applications have already surpassed the previous record for the tournament, when 10.4m people applied for ticket to the Euro 2008 championships in Austria and Switzerland.

More than 550,000 tickets are available to the general public for next years competition, and UEFA will stage a lottery from the 19th-22nd April to determine the ticket recipients.

UEFA stated that almost 88% of ticket applicants were from Poland and Ukraine, and overall ticket sales are expected to generate Eur100m.

## SPORT ENGLAND SEES PARTICIPATION INCREASE IN CYCLING & RUNNING

New participation figures published by Sport England have showed a strong growth in running and cycling but a decline in other major sports, including football and swimming.

Overall the figures show that 6,938,000 people now take part in a sporting activity at least three times a week.

Weekly participation in athletics has grown by over 263,000 over the past two years, mainly due to the growing network of informal running groups across the country.

Over the same period, cycling's numbers are up by almost 100,000 whilst netball's participant numbers are up by over 26,000, an increase of a fifth in the size of the sport in two years.

However, there has been a decreased amount of people participating in the only sports with more than two million weekly participants - swimming and football.

Sport England's Chief Executive, Jennie Price, said: 'It would be fair to describe today's results as a mixed bag. It's good to see a wide range of sports – from individual pursuits like running to small team sports like lacrosse - demonstrating that, with the right approach, increasing grassroots participation is a realistic ambition.'

## Townsville Gymnastic's appeal against fine following death of teenager is dismissed

Agymnastics organisation fined \$70,000 for breaching safety obligations which led to the death of a teenager has had its appeal dismissed.

Townsville Gymnastics was charged with breaching the Workplace Health and Safety Act after gymnast Michelle Maitland, 19, (pictured right) fell and hit her head on the concrete floor not covered by a safety mat at the Aitkenvale gym in June 2009. Her life-support was turned off the following morning.

In handing down the original verdict, Magistrate Ross Mack found Townsville Gymnastics had not met its safety obligations. He fined the organisation \$70,000 and awarded an additional \$7,175 in costs. The appeal against this decision was dismissed by President D R Hall on 22 March this year.

Gymnastic's Queensland and the Department of Sports and Recreation have made new arrangements for gym inspections across the state, in conjunction with WH&SQ and at the direction of the previous Attorney-General.

Ann Maitland, mother of Michelle, said "I am relieved that the appeal was dismissed and believe it should be beneficial to current and future participants that the inspections and assessment procedures are being improved. Unfortunately, it is all too late for Michelle and is very little comfort to my family but at least her death won't have been a total waste."

Phil Stevens, Risk Assessor with specialist risk management company VRA Risk, commented, "It is always distressing to hear of accidents, injuries and deaths that have occurred which may have been preventable or minimised by attention to detail before or during an event through the application of good risk management principles. Venue operators should encourage participants to enjoy their activities knowing that on the odd occasions there will be injuries but the risks are minimised because they have done all that is reasonably practicable to provide safe playing surfaces, safe surrounding areas and safe facilities."

He added, "VRA Risk work with the venue operator to minimise risks by surveying venues, highlighting areas that may cause harm and reviewing procedures that are in place, so we very much support gym inspections being introduced. Only recently, on reviewing a gymnasium, I suggested that signs should be on all walls for users to replace weights after use and not leave them lying around the floor for someone else to put away. In the time between the report being written and received a gym user had tripped over a dumbbell left on the floor resulting in a dislocated hip."

Michelle's tragic death is now expected to be referred to a coroner's inquest.

Mrs. Maitland added, "I am hoping that the coroner will recommend the introduction of regulations to ensure that all concrete floors in gymnasiums should be completely covered with protective mats."



## LONDON 2012 UPDATE

### OLYMPIC STADIUM FINISHED

The Olympic Stadium that will host events such as the opening and closing ceremony for the London 2012 Olympic Games, has been completed in record time.

The stadium has been constructed in less than three years – the fastest time that an Olympic stadium has been completed.

Work began in May 2008, and the stadium has also come in £10m under budget.

However, although the stadium has been completed, London 2012 chairman Lord Coe stressed it was not yet ready to host the Games.

The surface of the running track will be laid later this year, so it is not damaged by heavy cranes used to install equipment for the Games and its ceremonies.

Coe said: 'We wouldn't want anyone to run away with the idea that this stadium is ready to stage an Olympic track and field championship tomorrow. With one year and a few months to go, this is a great place to be'.

John Armit, chairman of the ODA added: 'The Olympic Stadium has been finished on time and under budget. To complete a complicated project such as this in less than three years is testament to the skill and professionalism of the UK construction industry'.

### VELODROME OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The velodrome that will host the 2012 London Olympics and Paralympics cycling has been officially opened at the Olympic Park site.

The 6,000 seater venue will hold the cycling and BMX events for the Olympics. It was the first venue to be completed at the Olympic Park.

The velodrome is also expected to come in on budget, at around £93m.

Sir Chris Hoy helped with the design and said: 'The new velodrome



is going to be the best in the world. I can't wait until I can compete on it, all of the Union Jacks will be out and, hopefully, the noise and the atmosphere will give us an advantage, maybe put the fear of death into the other countries, too.'

Organisers have also claimed it will be the fastest cycling track in the world thanks to a range of tailored features such as the track geometry and the temperature and environmental conditions.

### 2012 OLYMPIC SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The schedule of events for the London 2012 Olympic Games has been released, with the first competition, the women's football, kicking off on 25th July, two days before the opening ceremony. The full schedule can be found at <http://www.london2012.com/games/olympic-sport-competition-schedule/>

Tickets went on sale on 15th March for all 26 Olympic sports, totaling 600 sessions of competition overall.

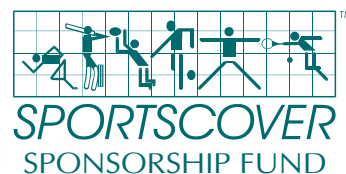
Usain Bolt will hope to be defending his 100m sprint title on Sunday 5th August, and on Monday 30th July, swimming

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## Sports Injuries put Strain on South Africa

An article recently published in the South African Medical Journal (SAMJ, S. Afr. med. j. vol.100 no.4 Cape Town Apr. 2010) which studied rugby-related spinal cord injuries (SCIs) concluded that whilst they are uncommon, each burdens an already strained health care system and contributes to early life loss. It added "South Africa is a developing country with limited resources, so sports injuries in this country may not be a government priority."

Whilst South Africans have a well deserved reputation for being sports fanatics and take part in many different sports on a daily basis there is little tailored insurance cover available to provide for those inevitable accidents. This means that many amateur and professional sports people are not only seriously financially disadvantaged but also struggling to find suitable specialist treatment.

Now South African insurance specialists, Guardrisk, have developed a sports product for professionals and amateurs. These new products are aimed at sports clubs, associations, bodies and even individual sportsmen and women.

David Honeyman of Guardrisk explained, "There is a need to provide high levels of disability insurance for children and adults who participate in contact sports. The cost of looking after a disabled child or adult is extremely high and can potentially ruin a family financially if adequate insurance covers are not in place."

"The cost of modifying a home and vehicle to accommodate someone in a wheelchair, and ongoing costs for physiotherapy and rehabilitation, are prohibitive."

"Disability cover is available at a monthly cost of R6 per R100 000 cover and will not be restricted to sports injuries only. Our cover for disability is extended to include any bodily injury, and includes motor vehicle accidents, assault, injuries at home, snake bites etc."



legends Michael Phelps and Ian Thorpe could potentially go head-to-head in the men's 200m freestyle, with Tom Daley hoping to compete for his first medal of the Games in the 10m synchronised platform diving final.

London 2012 chairman Sebastian Coe said: 'they're the greatest tickets on earth for the greatest show on earth. This is a really big moment, a huge moment'.

Those people who are not a resident of the UK or a designated European country need to apply for tickets via their National Olympic Committee (NOC) or their appointed Authorised Ticket Reseller (ATR). A full contact list for all NOCs and ATRs can be found on the ticket eligibility page of the London 2012 website.

### Construction Milestones to 27 July 2011

The Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) has set out in advance the milestones it plans to achieve for the different phases of the project, so it can be transparent and accountable for the significant public investment in the construction project. The following 10 milestones were set in July 2010 for completion by 27 July 2011, one year from the opening of the games.

#### The 10 milestones are:

1. Construction of the Olympic Stadium will be complete and the venue ready to be handed over.
2. Construction of the Aquatics Centre will be complete and the venue ready to be handed over.
3. Construction of the Velodrome will be complete and the venue ready to be handed over.
4. Construction of the International Broadcast Centre/Main Press Centre (IBC/MPC) will be complete and ready for occupation by the Olympic Broadcasting Service and the London 2012 Organising Committee.
5. Construction of the Handball and Basketball Arenas will be complete and the venues ready to be handed over.
6. Construction of the Lee Valley White Water Centre will be complete and the venue handed over to Lee Valley Regional Park Authority.
7. Construction work on Eton Manor and Royal Artillery Barracks will be underway and on track to be completed as planned in spring 2012.
8. The external structure of the Olympic Village will be finished with the internal fit out complete in most of the blocks.
9. Construction of all permanent bridges will be complete. All utilities will be operational. Landscaping will be well advanced across the Park.
10. Construction work at Stratford Regional Station will be complete, with Londoners already benefiting from hundreds of millions of pounds of additional investment across London's transport system.

So far, in addition to the main stadium and velodrome, the 12,000-seat Basketball Arena and 7,000 seat Handball Arena have been finished. With the wave-shaped Aquatics Centre steel roof structure in place, roof covering work is well underway. The concrete dive pool and two 50m competition and training pools have also been dug out, lined and tested. Construction has been finished on the Lee Valley White Water Centre, the first brand new London 2012 venue to be completed.

## Natural disasters and civil unrest take toll on sports events

The devastating impact of natural disasters in New Zealand and Japan and the continuing unrest in the Middle East is creating problems for some of the world's major sporting events.

With New Zealand hosting the 2011 Rugby World Cup from 9th September to 23rd October, matches due to be played at the AMI Stadium (pictured) in Christchurch have been moved.

The stadium suffered major structural damage caused by the earthquake which struck on 22nd February and will not be fit for purpose in time for the start of the tournament in September. The pitch sustained serious liquefaction - when soil behaves like liquid - and the stadium itself suffered structural damage when the quake, which measured 6.3 on the Richter Scale, struck.

The Crowne Plaza, the five-star hotel allocated to England's squad for their scheduled four-week stay in Christchurch, was also seriously damaged by the quake.

With an estimated 80 per cent of roads impassable, a third of buildings damaged and major utilities all seriously hit by the quake, the national and city authorities are set to plough their resources into rebuilding the city instead of making the stadium a priority.

Three of the five Rugby World Cup pool matches that were to have been held in Christchurch will remain in the South Island. Nelson, Dunedin and Invercargill will each host an additional match, with the remaining two to be held in Wellington and North Harbour on Auckland's North Shore.

The two quarter-finals, due to be played in Christchurch on 8th and 9th October, will be played at Eden Park in Auckland.

The rescheduled matches mean Argentina will play England in Dunedin on 10th September, Australia plays Italy at North Harbour, Auckland on 11th September, England faces Georgia in Dunedin on 18 September, Argentina plays Scotland in Wellington on 25th September, and Australia plays Russia at Nelson on 1st October.

As part of the rescheduling, one non-Christchurch match, Scotland against Georgia, will be moved from Dunedin to Invercargill on 14 September, for operational reasons.

Rugby World Cup Ltd chairman Bernard Lapasset said that all tournament stakeholders had been supportive throughout the rescheduling process.

"Following the difficult decision to transfer the Christchurch matches, all involved have worked hard to confirm the new venues as quickly as possible. We are pleased that three of the five matches will remain in the South Island," Lapasset said.

Rugby NZ (RNZ) 2011 also announced that the new fully enclosed Otago Stadium in Dunedin, which is nearing completion, has met the criteria to be confirmed as a World Cup match venue.

Organisers also said that ticket purchasers for all Christchurch matches and Scotland's game against Georgia match will receive a refund and the opportunity to secure replacement tickets to the rescheduled matches during a priority purchase period.

The deadly 8.9 magnitude earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan in March has resulted in the Japanese MotoGP being postponed until later in the season. The race is staged in Motegi, and although it did not suffer irreparable damage itself, the road network



between Motegi and Tokyo has been heavily damaged, making the staging of a major event in the MotoGP season unlikely.

The race, originally set for 24th April, has now been rescheduled for 2nd October, and is the second year in succession the Japanese race date has been changed. The first being during the volcanic ash crisis in Iceland last year, when an ash cloud prevented the majority of the teams from flying from Europe to reach the Far East circuit.

This year's MotoGP season began on 20th March in Losail, Qatar, and runs until the 6th November with the final round in Spain - the home of reigning World champion Jorge Lorenzo.

Meanwhile, Formula One's Bahrain Grand Prix was cancelled because of anti-government protests and political unrest in the country. The race was due to open the new season on 13th March.

Organisers of the Bahrain Grand Prix have been given until 1st May to prove the postponed Formula One race will be able to go ahead later in the season.

The Formula One season consequently opened in Melbourne with the Australian Grand Prix on 27th March.



# Jumps Racing Debate Heats Up With Fatal Fall

The controversy surrounding jumps horse racing in Australia was brought back into focus with a fatal fall in the second of two hurdle races at Warrnambool, Victoria in early April.

The fall reignited the jumps debate at the start of arguably the most important season in the sport's history.

While there are more jumps races programmed, more prize money on offer at more venues, there is already one fewer competitor after gelding Casa Boy broke an elbow at the race on 3rd April and was put down after crashing heavily in the maiden hurdle.

Two others, Chatillion and Olympic Light, fell but were not seriously injured in the first two races. After last season's unprecedented success with only two fatalities in hurdle and steeplechase races over new obstacles, it was a disastrous start. Two years ago Racing Victoria dumped the controversial sport, only for it to be given a reprieve after pressure from industry stakeholders.

Racing Minister Denis Napthine, who is the member for Warrnambool, said he was distressed by the horse's death. "Today's incident will be subject to a review and, as is the case with every aspect of racing, the safety of jockeys, horses and indeed all participants is of the highest priority," Dr Napthine said.

"As a former veterinarian, I absolutely understand the safety issues surrounding jumps racing and I am aware of measures already put in place by the industry to improve safety for both the horses and jockeys."

The RSPCA's Hugh Wirth was reported as saying the death of Casa Boy was as upsetting as it was predictable. "You cannot expect horses that are bred for flat racing can safely jump obstacles," Dr Wirth said.

Robin Blunt, Bloodstock underwriter with Sportscover's Lloyd's syndicate 3334 commented, "All horse racing carries inherent

danger. Horses break down and are destroyed in flat racing, as they are in jump racing. Many more horses are lost on the gallops as a result of accidents as opposed to at the racetrack but this is out of the public gaze and is rarely publicised, except amongst the racing fraternity. The single biggest cause of horse mortality losses is as a result of gastro intestinal problems."

He added, "In the UK, the trainers' returns for 2009 showed that out of a total of 14,859 horses in training, 5,251 were jumps-only or hunter-chasers, 35% of the total population. Without jumps racing, many of these horses, specifically bred for jumping, would simply not exist. In Australia, there are approximately 32,000 horses in training of which there are around 200 horses registered as jumpers with a total of 95 races in Victoria and South Australia. There is an argument that expansion of jumps racing would increase the level of expertise amongst trainers and jockeys, as well as leading to horses being bred for purpose and better equipped to race over fences."

Referring to Dr Worth's comments, Mr Blunt continued, "Few horses in Australia are bred specifically for the purpose of jumps racing – most are 'failed' flat horses. Jumps racing provides these animals with a second career. It is likely that horses with no future on the flat and no other competitive purpose would be destroyed for economic reasons. There is now a 'Racehorse Outplacement Programme' which seeks to find homes for ex-racehorses, but this will handle only a small proportion of the numbers of horses coming out of racing every year."

The government's backing of the sport has resulted in an increase from 63 to 70 in jumps races this season and prize money has increased 16 per cent on last season. Jumps racing will be conducted at nine courses in Victoria.

The controversy is set to continue.





# Space Weather

Part II Chris Hootton

## Is it just Pie in the Sky?

***In the last issue of Touchline we started exploring a risk that not many are familiar with that could be set to have an increasing influence over the next few years – space weather. We began by looking at the origins and effects of space weather upon Earth. In part 2 we will now look at the preparation and action that need to be considered to minimise a doomsday scenario.***

The day is 27 July 2012. The Olympic stadium bustles and buzzes with anticipation, its angular floodlights bathing the running track in a swathe of luminescence. A murmur ripples round the capacity 80,000 crowd as the Olympic torch is spied, and as Danny Boyle's opening ceremony reaches its crescendo... the lights flicker off, the power fails and the arena is plunged into night leaving the masses to tweet their displeasure... in the darkness.

This may sound like scare mongering, but the 2012 Olympics could fall victim to the effects of a geomagnetic storm if the Met Office and NASA predictions come to fruition.

It is perhaps an unfortunate coincidence that London's glorious moment in the global spotlight may be overshadowed by the arrival of a solar maximum. Scientists are concerned that the beginning of the current solar cycle has been delayed by several years, meaning the maximum period will arrive between 2012 and 2013, potentially bringing major infrastructure disruption.

Only recently the Sun has emitted the largest flare for four years and space weather experts are warning of a potential financial impact surpassing those of a hurricane.

As we noted in the last edition of Touchline, we are more vulnerable now than ever to the effects of space weather due to our dependence on interconnected technologies. Space weather can cripple power grids, distort navigation systems, interrupt communications and derail transport services, all of which could leave affected areas with fragile power grids and without electricity for weeks, even months, before repairs are carried out.

But what can be done to mitigate the effects of space weather?

The first logical step is to improve the prediction and forecasting technology available. There are steps being taken, particularly by the space and aviation industries, to forecast solar activity, and there are satellites being developed to warn of impending space weather spikes.

Some of the main forecasting services include the International Space Environment Service (ISES), the US Air Force Weather Agency (AFWA) which provides space weather data for the US Department of Defence and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Space Weather Prediction


Centre (SWPC) which supplies information for civilian and commercial users. These services can give early warnings of adverse weather, and geomagnetic storms can be predicted up to three days in advance with reasonable accuracy. However, this is only applicable to the slower moving Coronal Mass Ejections, not the unpredictable, faster solar flares.

Complete surround surface imaging of the Sun has been captured for the first time on 7th February this year by NASA and their orbiting space telescopes. The telescopes named 'Ahead' and 'Behind' launched in opposite directions in 2006 and reached their opposite points at 186m miles apart on their mission to provide 360-degree images of the Sun. The telescopes are capable of penetrating deep into the Sun's atmosphere and the imagery can then be used to measure magnetic activity on the surface and help to predict when our star is about to spew radioactive particles towards Earth. This is a big step in helping to minimise the effects of Coronal Mass Ejections, allowing satellites time to be switched to a lower voltage or rotated so that their shields are facing the superheated energy. These advance warnings could also allow power grid operators to reroute power away from potentially disruptive magnetic storms or shutdown vulnerable areas.

Dr Richard Fisher, a NASA scientist of 20 years, in an interview with The Telegraph recently compared the effects of space weather to a natural disaster like a hurricane, and the National Academy of Sciences warned that a powerful solar storm could cause 20 times more economic damage than Hurricane Katrina in 2005, a storm that wreaked more than \$125bn of damage.

So, this is obviously a risk that needs to be considered seriously.

Understandably there is a concerted industry effort to implement changes to alleviate the impacts of space weather.

In an ideal world, technologies that are susceptible to space weather would be made more robust and be capable of operating through geomagnetic storms. However, the extra cost imposed on businesses proves prohibitive and difficult to justify in the recent times of low space weather activity. The space industry is not surprisingly the leader in implementing these upgrades to satellites as they are most exposed, and electricity utility companies have worked to protect power grids given the heavy reliance on their service. 1940 shows the first instance 



## **Understandably there is a concerted industry effort to implement changes to alleviate the impacts of space weather...**

of a power shutdown as a result of space weather, and technology has certainly progressed since, exemplified by automatic grid shut down technology implemented to protect against surges.

An interesting note is that renewable energy sources tend to be more vulnerable to damage. Renewable energy plants, such as solar energy, are often located in remote areas to maximise their effectiveness. This necessitates longer, more susceptible, power lines. Are increased risk and protective costs going to remain viable as the trade off for environmentally friendly energy?

Communications developments in general over the past 30 years have drastically reduced the threat from space weather with the move towards fibre optics. Whilst landlines and the internet will remain unaffected, the one area that remains weak is wireless and mobile phone signals which can be upset by solar radio bursts.

For all the commuters out there, rail transport has actually become more at risk with the development of technology. Space weather would have little impact upon the steam trains of yesteryear, but our modern trains are open to not only power disruption but also signalling failure. Train signalling is communicated via the metal rails which suffer from the same problem as power grids – increased current can be forced into the rails by a geomagnetic storm, causing signal failure. There is awareness of this risk in countries more frequently affected by the phenomenon (countries closer to the Arctic) such as Sweden, so this problem looks avoidable with some collaboration.

If physical changes are not feasible, then contingency plans should be devised.

A prime example in the power industry occurred in 2000 when space weather warnings allowed PJM (a major power distributor in eastern USA) to restrict long distance flow and prevent damage to the grid. This did however result in a spike of \$50 per megawatt-hour during the peak of the storm.

In the aviation industry, flights can be forced to change or even abandon flight paths over the Arctic in periods of increased space weather to combat radiation and communications disruption. Airlines rarely purchase business interruption cover (as shown by the Icelandic ash cloud disruptions last year), so one response is the development of the Canadian Polar Communications and

Weather satellite. This will be stationed over the polar region to provide an alternative communication relay and allow flights to continue; however this is also vulnerable in times of intense space weather and cannot be relied upon as the sole source of airplane communications.

The availability of improved information and understanding of space weather will help previously uneducated industries to better prepare (although this is dependant on specialist data analysis), and physical in built protection are good starting points for defence. We finally need to consider the implications for the insurance industry as the last line of protection.

Whilst there is a more established market for satellites, there is limited availability of insurance products covering the low frequency, high severity impacts of space weather on terrestrial risks at present. Many of the perils arising from space weather may fall outside of coverage, be specifically excluded or remain an uninsured peril.

This is an area that may change in the coming years as the perils of space weather are highlighted, especially in the area of Business Interruption. There are a litany of knock on impacts – consider consequential loss after a power blackout, disruption to the financial sector when satellite run time stamping is disrupted or lost revenue after a suppliers' delivery or computer system failure. Would a geomagnetic storm be considered the proximate cause where power cables or pipelines are damaged? The BI delays may be lengthy when power transformers are damaged as they are produced by only a limited number of manufacturers and the majority are purchased by newly industrialised countries such as China and India.

Additionally, it is not just the large events that cause damage. Aggregation is an issue with transformers where more moderately sized space weather events can cause their gradual degradation and incur maintenance and replacement costs.

Should these be considered fundamentally uninsurable risks? Who should bear the ultimate responsibility? There are many more questions raised by the space weather issue that need careful consideration concerning business sectors that perhaps weren't obvious victims at first glance. Certainly, the issue needs to be addressed before the Olympic opening ceremony...

# FOCUS on Risk Management

James McIntyre, Senior Associate, Litigation & Dispute Resolution, DLA Phillips Fox, Brisbane, Australia.

## Are you flirting with disaster or managing it?

The word disaster can be used flippantly in connection with sport to describe the loss of a key player through injury or a particularly one-sided scoreline. However, recently in Australia and New Zealand sporting bodies have been dealing with real life disasters in the form of earthquakes, floods and a cyclone in north Queensland. Although it is impossible to completely avoid the effects of an earthquake, tropical cyclones or rising floodwaters, there are some steps that sporting bodies can take to mitigate their potential loss arising from such disasters and manage risks in the aftermath of such disasters.



### Identifying your risks

Ideally, the first steps to disaster recovery can be taken before the local dam levels become critical or other signs of impending disaster appear. That first step is thinking about and planning for the natural disasters which a sporting body might confront.

Once you have started to think about what might previously have been unthinkable, the process of recovery planning is analogous to other forms of risk management, such as monitoring the condition of a club's playing fields.

Like any other risk management exercise, the first question a sporting body needs to consider is what type of natural disasters could occur. Location is a key factor. Rowing or sailing clubs are clearly vulnerable to possible flood damage. Town planning factors often see ovals and clubhouses located on flood plains unsuitable for housing. Surf clubs take the full brunt of cyclonic winds and waves while bushland carries higher fire risks.


### Can insurance cover the risk?

After identifying the natural hazards to which it might be exposed, a sporting body should review its insurance arrangements to assess whether its insurance policies will respond to those risks. The availability of insurance will depend upon individual circumstances of the potential insured and its location and the cost of obtaining cover for flood needs to be considered against the potential risk. The policy wording, particularly the definitions of the risks being insured against, should be reviewed to ensure that they meet with the club's needs. For example, do you have

flood cover or is it just storm run-off cover? What about storm surge or tidal wave? Is it new for old or just indemnity cover? Is the insured value adequate? If there is any uncertainty, an insurance broker is an invaluable ally. Document your queries and responses so following committees know where they stand.

### Responding to the risk

Although insurance is a critical part of a sporting club's disaster recovery strategy, it is invariably better to avoid the loss in the first place. Clubs should also take steps to minimise the damage they might suffer in the event of a natural disaster rather than simply relying upon insurance.

It is difficult to respond well to a disaster in the heat of the moment. Forethought and planning is the key. Procedures for foreseeable disasters need to be thought through, documented and then displayed in a prominent place in the club. Evacuation or alternative storage locations should be designated. Step by step procedures and precautions need to be spelt out. For example, rowing clubs need to be on the water, so floodproofing is practically impossible. A more appropriate response is to have a plan in place for equipment to be removed and be located to drier ground in the event of a flood. The club should also identify an office holder to be responsible for reviewing and updating the plan and, if necessary implementing that plan. The rowing club in this example would be fortunate as it is likely to have ready access to boat trailers and plenty of available muscle to assist in moving equipment so long as someone has the presence 





of mind to mobilise this in good time.

In addition to preserving some, if not all of its equipment, such a plan should assist a club in demonstrating to its insurers that it had adopted reasonable measures to mitigate its loss from the disaster as well as keeping premiums down and enhancing the club's prospects of maintaining some form of continuity in its sporting activities.

### Recovery

Even after the natural disaster has passed, if a sporting body's premises has been affected, the physical risks for those involved in cleaning up will remain. While physical debris is a readily identifiable hazard, sporting bodies need to be conscious of the microscopic hazards, such as e-coli bacteria, which can linger in the wake of a disaster such as a flood.

In the aftermath of a natural disaster, there is a natural temptation for an organisation to put 'all hands to the pumps' to assist in the clean-up. However, as a risk management strategy, sporting bodies should endeavour to ensure that those involved in the clean-up are safe. Machine such as bobcats need to be kept clear of helpers on foot. Power supply needs to be checked as safe. Damaged structures need to be cordoned off. Helpers should wear appropriate clothing such as, at the minimum, closed shoes, trousers, long sleeved shirts and work gloves. In the wake of the Brisbane floods, the local government issued extensive guidance in relation to appropriate clothing and equipment to be

used in clean-up activities. Consequently, in the event of persons pursuing claims for injuries sustained in clean-up activities, it could be difficult for a sporting body to argue that they were not 'on notice' of the need to ensure that persons assisting in the clean-up were wearing appropriate clothing or protective equipment.

Just as sporting bodies need to manage the risk associated with the clean-up process, before sporting activities can resume, sporting bodies need to conduct a close inspection of their playing fields to ensure that they are free from physical debris and that the playing surface has not become uneven as a result of floodwaters or vehicles driving across them in the clean-up. Again, in the wake of a dramatic natural disaster, it would be difficult for a sporting body to argue that they were not on notice of the possibility that their playing surfaces might be affected by the disaster. As with normal playing surface inspections, the post disaster inspection should be documented to allow the club to demonstrate that it had taken reasonable steps to ensure that the playing surface was reasonably fit for sporting activities to resume.

As noted above, even if the physical hazards have been identified and removed, in the case of events such as flood, microscopic hazards may remain. Many sporting bodies who use sports fields managed by a local authority are likely to be subject to the guidance of the local authority as to when fixtures can resume after possible contamination. However, sporting bodies which own their own playing fields should conduct appropriate testing to assess whether ground contamination has been properly addressed before resuming fixtures. Similarly, water quality, debris and submerged hazards need to be assessed for water sports.

### Quantifying the loss

In the clean-up process there is also temptation to dispose of contaminated and damaged goods as quickly as possible. However, where possible, sporting bodies should attempt to retain or at least document or photograph the items which it will be forced to dispose of as a result of damage. This is likely to assist discussions with insurers in quantifying claims under the policy.

Depending upon the scale of its operations and the revenue which a club might generate from events at its grounds, as part of its risk management strategy, a club should also investigate whether business interruption or contingency insurance would be appropriate to mitigate the loss flowing from a natural disaster.

### The scoreboard - lessons learned

In summary, sporting bodies should consider the following matters when formulating the disaster management plan:

- Identify the type of natural disaster(s) to which it might be exposed.
- Will insurance arrangements respond to the risks arising from the disaster? Is the cost of any additional cover economic compared to the likelihood of the event occurring?
- Prepare a response plan and identify an officeholder to review the plan and be responsible for implementing the plan, if necessary.
- Take care that persons involved in any cleanup are safe.
- Conduct and document an inspection (and possibly testing) of playing fields before resuming sporting events.
- If possible, retain damaged items to assist insurers in processing claims. If it is not practical to retain the items, photograph or otherwise document the items which have been disposed of.
- Does the sporting body need business interruption insurance to cover lost revenue?

# World Sports News Roundup

## JAPAN - Tokyo Announces Olympic Bid Plans

The city of Tokyo has announced that it intends to bid for the 2020 Olympics, as part of Japan's recovery from the devastating earthquake and tsunami which hit the country in March.

City governor Shintaro Ishihara has been re-elected for a fourth term, with Japan's recovery from the disaster at the forefront of his campaign.

Ishihara said: 'Although they [the 2020 Games] are nine years from now, we can start raising our hand'.

'If we work hard with hope, it will be a big catalyst for our country's reconstruction and revival'.

In 2009, Tokyo lost out to Rio de Janeiro to host the 2016 Olympics.

Candidates for 2020 must submit their bids to the International Olympic Committee by 1st September this year, with the host city revealed in Buenos Aires in September 2013.

Durban, Berlin, Busan, Doha, Rome and Istanbul have also indicated interest in bidding to stage the 2020 event.

## USA - San Francisco to Host America's Cup

San Francisco has been selected as the host venue for the 34th edition of the America's Cup.

San Francisco Bay will be home to the 2013 America's Cup Finals and the Challenger Selection Series for the Louis Vuitton Cup, as well as an America's Cup World Series event in 2012.

'We sought a venue that fulfills our promise – to showcase the best sailors in the world competing on the fastest boats and hosting the America's Cup in San Francisco will realize that promise,' said Richard Worth, Chairman, America's Cup Event Authority.

The 34th America's Cup is reportedly projected to add an estimated \$1.4 billion dollars into the San Francisco region.

The lack of entries for the next America's Cup in 2013 has forced the flagship sailing race's organisers to slash entry fees by almost three-quarters.

Only five teams, including defenders BMW Oracle and challengers of record Mascalzone Latino, have committed to the event which is due to kick off in June with a series of preliminary regattas in smaller versions of the official America's Cup 72ft wing-masted catamarans.

## FRANCE - Horse-Surfing Coming to a Beach Near You

Horse surfing is popular in Baule, on the Atlantic west coast of France, where surfers travel across waves at speeds of up to 56km/h while attached to a galloping stallion on the beach.

The new adrenalin craze was created by pro kitesurfer Harold Quinquis while in search of new thrills.

"We have friends who go down to the beach on their horses and enjoy galloping in the waves," Mr Quinquis said.

"You can never go as fast on a surfboard as you can on a horse - and I thought it would be great to be able to go that fast.

"Then we came up with the idea of attaching the board to the saddle and being dragged along."

Mr Quinquis says it's difficult to get used to at first, but once you master it, "it's fantastic".

"We've had a really positive response from people - and we've even seen other people giving it a go on the beach."

Horse surfing appears to be catching on in other European countries and it follows on from another new equine-related pursuit: horse-boarding.

Horse-boarding involves being pulled on a skateboard at up to 56kph. It has become so popular that a training centre has opened and Britain's first championships are to be held this year.

## ENGLAND - Manchester to Host Taekwondo Championships

Manchester will host the European Taekwondo Championships being held weeks before the Olympic Games in 2012.

The European Taekwondo Union Executive Committee made the decision at a meeting in Athens, at which Sport Taekwondo UK and the British Taekwondo Control Board presented their bid to the federation.

The news will offer sport in Britain the opportunity for the British team to finalise their preparations for the London Games.

Jeremy Beard, chairman of Sport Taekwondo UK said: 'this is fantastic news for Taekwondo fans across the UK and provides us with a real chance to showcase the sport at a time when excitement will be growing ahead of the Olympics. It also recognises Sport Taekwondo UK's ability to stage world class events and indeed Manchester's reputation as global sporting capital'.

## USA - Recreation groups seek lawsuit protection

Local officials and outdoor enthusiasts in Hartford have urged Connecticut lawmakers to help protect municipalities from lawsuits over injuries that occur on some municipally owned lands.

They say large jury awards could lead to restrictions on access to public properties. The pleas follow a \$2.9 million award last year for a cyclist who was injured after hitting a gate on West Hartford land owned by a regional water and sewer authority.

Maribeth Blonski of Rocky Hill, broke four vertebrae in her neck when she hit a steel gate on a trail near a reservoir in the Talcott Mountain Recreation Area. The authority has appealed the jury's decision.

The case has prompted an outcry from outdoor enthusiasts who fear the size of the award will cause municipalities to restrict public access to such property.

The Connecticut Forest and Park Association listed recent examples of recreational liability lawsuits that it says led to cities and towns limiting recreational activities on municipal land, or at least consider it. Besides this case, the group cites Waterbury losing an \$8 million verdict to a woman who was seriously injured after crashing into a metal bench while snow tubing in a public park. Middlebury is now considering closing a popular sledding area.

## ISRAEL - Helping to Train Palestinian Competitors for London 2012

In a surprise move, Israel has promised to provide training facilities for Palestinian athletes in the lead up to the London Olympics in 2012.

International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Jacques Rogge helped to broker the deal that would allow Palestine to be involved in the Olympics for the first time.

Palestinian athletes face obstacles that hamper training and travel to sports events.

"In the short run, priority will be given to assisting Palestinian athletes to move towards their dream of taking part in the Olympic Games in London next year," the IOC said. "In that respect, the representatives of the Olympic Committee of Israel said they were ready to offer training opportunities to Palestinian athletes".

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in October that he would try to ease travel restrictions for Palestinian athletes.





## SCOTLAND - Bid for 2017 Tour de France Stage

The 2017 Tour de France could be taking off from Glasgow or Edinburgh, if Scotland's bid is successful.

EventScotland is hoping to secure the opportunity to host the Grand Départ of the world's most prestigious cycling event by 2013. EventScotland is already hosting two other prestigious sporting events - the Ryder Cup at Gleneagles and the Glasgow Commonwealth Games, both in 2014 - and is keen to hold further major competitions.

The national events agency will face stiff competition from countries such as Japan, the US and several countries in the Middle East. However, Paul Bush, chief operating officer of EventScotland is confident about Scotland's bid.

He said: "The Tour de France is an obvious fit for Scotland. We can certainly operate it logistically, we've got a fantastic cycling heritage, we've had fantastic cycling performances in the last few years and in terms of visual pictures for the Tour and challenges for the riders, it would be absolutely outstanding."

With two prominent sporting events under its belt, it would further raise Scotland's profile if the country's bid is successful.

England previously hosted the Grand Départ in 1974, 1994 and 2007 and Ireland in 1988.

Although EventScotland's bid could cost an estimated £5 million, the agency hopes the impact the event had on London will be repeated north of the border, bringing in around £100 million over the three or four days.

Scotland's most prestigious cyclist, Sir Chris Hoy, has given his support to EventScotland's decision to bid for the opening stage. He said: "I think it's a great idea. It would be amazing to have the Tour on Scottish soil."

This year's Tour de France will start on 2 July at the Vendée in France for the fifth time, returning to its home country after last year's Grand Départ in Rotterdam.

## CHINA - Shanghai Extend Formula One Deal

Formula One's Chinese Grand Prix will be held in Shanghai until at least 2017, after a new contract was agreed.

According to media reports the deal was reached after F1 bosses agreed to charge a reduced rate to host the race at the loss-making track. Organisers have said they will now cut ticket prices and address other problems that have led to the poor attendances and consequent loss of revenue.

Formula One debuted at the Shanghai circuit in 2004, but has seen attendances drop from 270,000 spectators in 2005 to 155,000 last season.

# Scottish Mountain Biking

In many ways Scotland is the perfect country for adventure tourism. Its relatively low population means that there are many isolated regions for adventurous sports people to explore, while its size and proximity to England make it very accessible.

Mountain biking is a sport particularly well suited to the hills and valleys of Scotland. The range of paths available to enthusiasts is ever increasing and allows a great range and levels of difficulty.

While the potential of the area for adventure tourism is clear, the risks involved in mountain biking in Scotland should not be underestimated. The Scottish highland are famous for their violent changes in weather conditions, where storms are frequent and a mild and sunny day can turn into a maelstrom in the blink of an eye.

Add to that the inherent risk of biking along the sides of high canyons and down steep ravines and you have a potentially hazardous situation. Moreover, what makes the remoteness of some of the regions so appealing for riders makes it difficult to get help when required.

Naturally, these risks are part of the fun for the sport's growing number of enthusiasts. Reflecting on one ride, featured in the Mountain Biking Scotland blog, Tony Haresign says "Are we mad? Maybe, but it was a different reaction as we returned soaked and grinning ear to ear. Everyone wishing the light would last a little longer and we had an inexhaustible supply of dry cycling gear". Clearly the dangers of the sport are part of its attraction.

To help mitigate some of the risks, the Scottish Forestry Commission designed a colour code for labelling tracks. It ranges from the blue track for novices to the ominous black tracks for the elite. On the black trails steep gradients and unforeseeable obstacles can make the going tough.

Most committed bikers are aware of the dangers and use correct protective clothing, helmets and goggles being supplemented by protective clothing. The Forestry Commission also encourages riders to be prepared for changes in the weather and to map out their route and make the relevant authorities aware of their itinerary before riding.

Last year Fort William hosted the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup, its lofty peaks a perfect terrain for the event which started in 1989. In the downhill event the riders "dropped 555m down the 2.8km boulder-strewn course, cheered on by thousands of spectators, to finish at the bottom gondola station at the Nevis Range."

There are also awards for cross-country, marathon and dual slalom.

Mountain biking in Scotland is a thrilling sport where the scenery is matched to the thrills of speed and endurance.

## S P O R T S

Recent research seems to suggest that sports drinks do indeed give professional athletes the edge.

In an article published in the prestigious journal *The European Journal of Sports Science*, research has shown that “ingestion of sports drinks increases sustainability of a given workload, with an average 36% greater endurance capacity than with water and placebo”.

This finding is in line with other research, but this is the first study that has attempted to chart the effect of consumption of the drinks prior to, during and after strenuous exercise.

The report goes on to state that- “for athletes participating in repeated exercise bouts within a single day, ingesting sports drink during exercise and recovery will improve subsequent endurance capacity compared with water and placebo”.

The Australian Institute of Sport endorses the use of sports drinks, indicating that they assist in athletic performance and in recovery. One of the reasons for their endorsement

## D R I N K S

of the drinks is the taste, which promotes greater consumption than water. They also credit the drinks with the replacement of electrolytes, particularly sodium, which is useful for maintaining thirst drive and may help to reduce urine losses during post-exercise recovery.

While athletes clearly benefit from the consumption of energy drinks, people who engage in less strenuous exercise should be wary of drinking too much energy drink.

Choice magazine claims that ordinary people risk gaining weight because of the high sugar content of the drinks. Adults should be especially wary of children’s intake, because the salt in sports drinks is even more undesirable for children than it is for adults because their maximum recommended intake is less. The acid in the drinks can also be damaging for tooth enamel.

### Sports Drinks: the facts

- Sports drinks should be regarded as the sports supplement with the greatest potential to enhance performance in a wide variety of sporting situations.
- Sports drinks are an ideal fluid to consume during and after training and competition sessions, allowing the athlete to replace fluid and electrolyte losses, and simultaneously providing an additional source of carbohydrate fuel. In many situations, sports drinks are a better choice than water
- Sports drinks are likely to promote better fluid intake than water.
- Sports drinks increase retention of fluid consumed post-exercise by reducing urine losses.
- Sports drinks provide an additional source of fuel that may enhance performance and reduce immune stresses.
- In situations in which these benefits do not occur, sports drinks do not detract from performance compared to water.

#### However:

- They should only be consumed when undertaking regular, intensive exercise
- Children should drink minimal quantities
- There is no evidence that they can help to relieve the symptoms of a hangover.



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# The Qatar Bid

In the lead up to FIFA's announcement of the hosts for the 2022 World Cup of Football, few outside the world of football guessed that Qatar would come out on top. Since then, much has been written on alleged shady practice and the impracticability of the Gulf state hosting the event.

Now that the dust has settled, it is worth looking at just how the event will take shape, and perhaps find some positives amongst the confusion and concern.

For the right to host the event, Qatar has made some quite extraordinary promises. \$3 billion will be spent on stadia alone, and the entire bill has been estimated at 645.5 million.

Somehow more shockingly, if Israel were to qualify, they would be welcome at the event. "All nations participating in the FIFA World Cup are welcome," said Hassan Abdulla Al-Thawadi, chief executive of the Qatar 2022 bid. This promise has been made despite Qatar's failure to recognize the Jewish state.

Alcohol will also be permitted to players and fans, a decision running counter to Qatari law.

These accommodations seem to be a small price to pay for a Gulf state that is rich in oil but perhaps not given the global respect it craves.

While many of the nations whose bids failed have bemoaned the negative aspects of the choice of venue, these concessions in a Middle-eastern context can be interpreted as a sign of a more open stance that could have a lasting impact.

Another positive that could come out of the 2022 event is the safety of the players and fans. The custom-built stadia will be in a concentrated area, and in the documentation tabled before December, FIFA said that "in terms of safety and security, the Qatar bid considers its compact hosting concept as advantageous". In an uncertain geopolitical climate and with the dangers of terrorism at any major event, FIFA may have seen the positive security possibilities of a virtual series of soccer cities built with the needs of the organisers in mind.

Much has been made of the punishing weather in Qatar's summer, but this too can be looked at in context. Temperatures can easily reach 50 degrees Celsius, which would render playing impossible. Even at night, the heat would still sap the players' ability to provide quality football. Qatar has plans in place to air-condition the stadia in order to

minimize player discomfort. Such technology was not considered practical or feasible in the past, so at World Cups such as Japan in 2002, the matches were slowed down by the oppressive, muggy heat. By adjusting the internal stadium temperatures, players will be given the chance to play at their peak.

One major concern about the Qatar bid was the carbon cost of the requirement to cool stadia and training facilities, but there is a "strong commitment to having a carbon-neutral FIFA World Cup, especially through utilization of environmentally friendly cooling technologies" according to the organisers. Again, the custom built stadia have more chance of using new green technologies than can be tacked on to existing stadia, as would have to be done in England or Spain.

One further benefit that may come out of the event is the promise to re-gift the stadia to parts of the developing world. Football has long been trying to open its doors to Africa and Asia, and while African players are now fully incorporated into the elite leagues of Europe, Asian players are only just beginning to emerge. Infrastructure has long been to issue that limits their ability to produce world class stars, but the 'trickle-down' effect being suggested here may have dividends in the future.

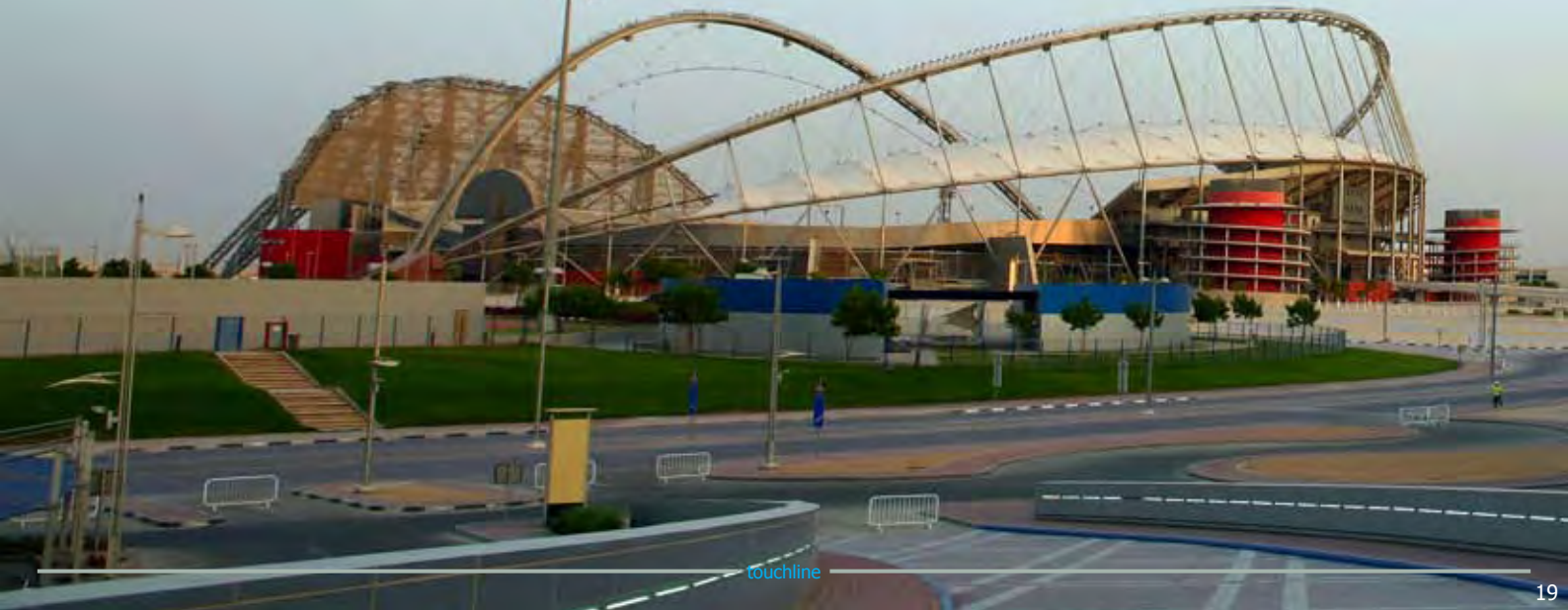
Lastly, the effect of including the Middle-east in the world game should not be underestimated. This will be the first time a Middle-eastern nation has hosted a major sporting event, and should they put on a good show, the good will gained could be immeasurable. For football to be a global sport, the Gulf is in many ways the final frontier.

Qatar 2022 was always going to be controversial. There is room for suspicion and perhaps even concern. But there is also potential for this to be an exciting and professionally managed World Cup, and one that could even break a few misconceptions.

## In Numbers

<b>Stadia required:</b>	12
<b>Stadia built:</b>	3
<b>Stadia in development:</b>	9
<b>Host cities:</b>	7
<b>Rooms required:</b>	60,000
<b>Rooms contracted:</b>	84,000
<b>Projected sellable tickets:</b>	2,869,000
<b>Total expenditure budget:</b>	\$645 billion

*Picture: The Aspire Sports Complex, Doha, Qatar, host venue for the football World Cup in 2022.*



## HMAS Adelaide gracefully slips into new role

HMAS Adelaide, the Australian frigate which served in war, rescued asylum seekers and sailed solo round the world – slipped gracefully under the ocean to start a new role in life as an artificial dive reef.

The decommissioned ship sank in waters off Avoca Beach on the Central Coast of Australia – one hour's drive north of Sydney – at 11.50am on 13 April 2011.

The scuttling was delayed for more than 90 minutes to allow for the departure of a pod of dolphins who had also come to watch. The sinking finally came after more than a year

of battles between the NSW government and environmentalists over whether to turn it into a dive wreck. The No Ship Action Group failed to halt the sinking over their environmental concerns in the end of a battle that dates back to late 2009.

The wreck is destined to become a big tourist attraction for divers who want to explore the wreck and the underwater inhabitants that it will attract over time.

Thousands of spectators watched the event from the beach and other vantage points close to the site.



## Football's Rich List



Deloitte's Football Money League has Real Madrid perched in the top of the ladder once again.

The Spanish giants, coached by Jose Mourinho, sit second in La Liga but are first when it comes to wealth.

Manchester United remains the top English side, followed by Arsenal, Chelsea and Liverpool.

Bayern Munich occupies fourth place and the Italian giants AC

Milan and Internazionale and Juventus round out the top ten.

The notable improver was Manchester City, fuelled by hundreds of millions of petrodollars. They climbed from 20th to 11th.

The earning power of clubs will become even more important once Uefa's new financial fair play rules come into force. Clubs will only be able to spend what they earn, which places high earning clubs - such as Real - at a considerable advantage in the future.

In fact, Uefa is quoted as saying that more than one in eight top European football clubs is facing an uncertain financial future with many in danger of going out of business if current spending levels continue.

If Chelsea's transfer window layout of £75 million is anything to go by, the clubs on this year's list should be fine in the short term.

### The Cash Table

1.	<b>Real Madrid</b>	€438.6 million
2.	<b>FC Barcelona</b>	€398.1 million
3.	<b>Manchester United</b>	€349.8 million
4.	<b>Bayern Munich</b>	€323 million
5.	<b>Arsenal</b>	€274.1 million
6.	<b>Chelsea</b>	€255.9 million
7.	<b>AC Milan</b>	€235.8 million
8.	<b>Liverpool</b>	€225.3 million
9.	<b>Internazionale</b>	€224.8 million
10.	<b>Juventus</b>	€205 million
11.	<b>Manchester City</b>	€152.8 million
12.	<b>Tottenham Hotspur</b>	€146.3 million
13.	<b>Hamburger SV</b>	€146.2 million
14.	<b>Olympique Lyonnais</b>	€146.1 million
15.	<b>Olympique de Marseille</b>	€141.1 million
16.	<b>Schalke 04</b>	€139.8 million
17.	<b>Atlético de Madrid</b>	€124.5 million
18.	<b>AS Roma</b>	€122.7 million
19.	<b>VfB Stuttgart</b>	€114.8 million
20.	<b>Aston Villa</b>	€109.4 million



# Surgeon says LARS Knees Sure To Fail

Renowned knee surgeon Merv Cross has warned sports people against the much-hyped LARS procedure, saying the operation is guaranteed to eventually fail.

Cross, who advised Roosters doctor John Orchard on how Anthony Cherrington should deal with his latest shocking knee injury, has spoken out against the increasingly popular ligament augmentation and reconstruction procedure he says puts athletes at high risk of “disasters and complications”.

LARS has become attractive for athletes with anterior cruciate ligament tears because it returns them to sport eight weeks earlier than a traditional operation.

“It sounds very good - you put a bit of string in the knee and you’re back quicker

than normal,” said Cross, a knee surgeon for 40 years.

“It’s a simple operation and you’ll find people who’ll say it’s the best thing since sliced bread. But it’s garbage. It’s not a miracle. To do the LARS when you’ve got living alternatives is wrong and it’s risky. It’s OK to experiment on goats. But we are experimenting on humans.”

The procedure is banned in the US. It gained prominence when athletes such as AFL players Nick Malceski, Brad Fisher, David Rodan and Brett Ebert chose it.

Others recipients include basketballer Renae Camino, rugby league player Luke Covell, netballer Vanessa Ware and golfer Nick O’Hern.

Because the procedure is new, little data is available. Central to Cross’s concern is that the artificial ligament used can cause major problems, including inflammatory reactions and infection, and repair is difficult. Early arthritis is also possible.

“It’s not an easy secondary operation when it fails,” said Cross, who tested artificial ligaments in the 1970s and ‘80s, all of which failed. “Taking a broken graft out of a joint is very difficult.”

Cross repaired earlier knee injuries in Malceski and Cherrington, but whereas Malceski went for the LARS the second time, Cherrington stuck to the older method, which involves grafting from the hamstring or patellar tendon to replace the torn ACL.

“Cherrington didn’t do the LARS this time because he’s young and if it were to fail in a few years he’d have all the difficulties

of having a graft, putting it in enlarged tunnels in the bone, possible infection...” Cross said.

“This is a mechanical implement and it’s guaranteed to fail with time. The LARS will get you back a few weeks quicker. But for someone to sacrifice a knee for eight weeks is unjustifiable.

“You buy yourself some time but you have all the possible disasters and complications that can eventuate. You only use artificial joints if there’s no alternative. Putting it into a young person, knowing it’s going to eventually fail, is wrong.”

Former West Coast Eagles doctor Peter Annear said that in his experience, LARS procedures had been successful.

“The controversy, however, is over how long it will last,” he said. “The only scientific data we have, from China, tells us that after five years the recipients are still doing well. But that’s no guarantee that it will be going well from five to 10 years after the operation.”

Annear said, the material in the LARS ligament “might last longer than previous synthetic ligaments.” However, he warns his patients of the pitfalls before performing the 45-minute procedure.

“The reasons I would do a LARS is if the athlete is desperate to get back, say, to compete in the Olympics or some upcoming big match. If the patient wants something that is proven to work, they should go for the [traditional] graft, which is a much slower recovery but we know will last 10 years or more.”

*Sydney Morning Herald, 20 February 2011*



## Cheerleading: Most Dangerous Sport

An internet blog on the most dangerous sports ranks cheerleading as the most likely way to get injured.

Fans of the popular website [the-top-ten-lists.com](http://the-top-ten-lists.com) have voted cheerleading as the most dangerous of all sports globally.

The combination of aerobics and choreography make the sport extremely dangerous. In the US alone, there were more than 20,000 reported injuries last year alone, making cheerleading the world’s most injury-prone sport.

Horse-riding comes in at number two, while lacrosse is the highest ranked team sport. Three codes of football are present in the list: American football, soccer and rugby league.

Australia’s most dangerous sport, as reported in 2006, is Australian Rules, but this sport failed to reach the top ten list.

### The Top Ten List

1. Cheerleading
2. Horse riding
3. Lacrosse
4. Gymnastics
5. Soccer
6. Bull riding
7. Motocross
8. American football
9. Hockey
10. Rugby League



Image by Carole Carey

# Sports Shorts

## RFU Toughens Stance on Overseas Players

The Rugby Football Union has issued a sound warning to English players plying their trade overseas that they run the risk of not being selected for the national team after the Rugby World Cup in 2011.

England currently have three members of their senior elite squad in Jonny Wilkinson, James Haskell and Tom Palmer all playing club rugby in the French championship.

But RFU chief executive John Steele warned them and any others playing abroad that they would only be selected for the team under 'exceptional circumstances'.

The strong statement is due to the RFU's belief that to win the World Cup on home soil in 2015, the players have to be in England.



## Sport England reduces funds

The board of Sport England has decided to reduce the funding available to England Basketball by £1.2m, after the board decided that England Basketball's plans had not adequately addressed the challenge of increasing participation beyond the governing body's current audiences.

England Basketball's four-year funding had been structured to encourage a greater commitment, and improved approach, to increasing participation in the sport, with the maximum award of £1.2m available only if England Basketball was able to produce a robust strategy for growing the whole sport.

Sport England's chief executive Jennie Price, said: 'England Basketball has not demonstrated the necessary focus on improving its plans for increasing participation, despite continued support and encouragement to do so. This was an important factor in our decision'.

Subject to performance, funding will now remain at its current level of £1.35m per year, until March 2013.



## Goal line technology tests show technology is "not good enough"

The International Football Association Board (IFAB) has announced that tests on various goal-line technology systems will continue for another year, with the possibility of using the technology at the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

According to Jerome Valcke, the governing body's secretary general, only two companies have come close to meeting FIFA's standards in relation to the technology.

Valcke said: 'Even as an empty goal, just throwing the ball through to the goal, only two companies reached 98% and 94%. There's not one company who has reached 100%. It means that either it's a technical problem, or it's not good enough to be used for a 90-minute game. That's where we have to be very careful'.

FIFA however, are calling for 100% accuracy, and remained unconvinced following the testing of ten systems in Zurich last month.



## ICC Backs Strong Corruption Stance

International Cricket Council (ICC) chief executive Haroon Lorgat has stated that the bans handed to three Pakistan players found guilty of corruption is a strong stance to protect the image of the sport.

Salman Butt, Mohammad Asif and Mohammad Aamer have been handed lengthy bans by the ICC's anti-corruption tribunal for so-called 'spot-fixing' – deliberately bowling no-balls – in a Test match against England last year.

Butt was banned for 10 years, with five years suspended, while Asif and Aamer were handed bans of seven years each with two and five years suspended, respectively.

'We are satisfied at the tribunal's decision, which was taken on solid evidence, and we hope with this decision that the image of the game will improve,' Lorgat told a press conference in Doha.

In a separate development, British prosecutors charged the three players as well as agent Mazhar Majeed, the alleged mastermind behind the scheme, with corruption offences and summoned them to appear at a London court on 17th March.



## Arsenal takeover by American businessman

American businessman Stan Kroenke has increased his stake in Arsenal Football Club to 62.89%, and has agreed to make an offer for the rest of the club.

Kroenke first bought shares in Arsenal in 2007 and a full takeover has now been triggered after Kroenke Sports Enterprises acquired the stakes of Danny Fiszman and Lady Nina Bracewell-Smith, who owned 16.1% and 15.9% respectively.

Arsenal's shares have been priced at £11,750 and the club has been valued at £731m – however, with the club carrying debts of £147m, the club's real worth can be put at close to £900m.

The 63 year-old's company, Kroenke Sports Enterprises, also controls the NBA's Denver Nuggets, the NHL's Colorado Avalanche, NFL's St Louis Rams, and Major League Soccer side the Colorado Rapids.





# Sports Shorts

## Bin Hammam to Run Against Blatter

Asian football chief Mohamed Bin Hammam has announced he will stand against current FIFA president Sepp Blatter in the presidential election in June.

Blatter is seeking re-election for a fourth term.

Bin Hammam stated: 'Change is necessary and needed.'

He promises to decentralise the FIFA administration if elected and he would also like to expand the executive committee to give more people a say in decision making.

Bin Hammam, who played a central role in securing the 2022 World Cup for Qatar, said the current FIFA board of 24 should be increased to 41 – a plan that would dilute the power of Europe and South America – while boosting the representation from the rest of the world. He also made it clear that he would support the introduction of goal line technology, and of the extra two officials behind the goals.

The elections take place at the two-day FIFA Congress in Zurich from 31st May.



## IOC Sets September Deadline for 2020 Bids

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has announced a 1st September deadline for nations seeking to host the 2020 summer Olympics. The bid process will culminate with a host city vote in Buenos Aires on 7th September 2013

Any national Olympic body which submits a bid must first comply with rules of the World Anti-Doping Agency. It must also accept the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

In another first, national committees must notify the IOC by 29th July whether they propose to hold the Games outside the usual 15 July-31 August period. The IOC will rule by the end of August if the dates are acceptable.

In the previous bid contest, the Qatari city of Doha proposed staging the 2016 Games in October to escape the summer heat.

The IOC will first select the 2018 Winter Games host on 6th July in Durban. The candidates are Annecy, France; Munich in Germany; and Pyeongchang in South Korea.



## World tour by English Premier League

The Premier League and Barclays are taking the Premier League around the world, after their announcement of a new three-year global tour, offering fans across the world an interactive experience to promote the league.

The tour began on 18th March in Abu Dhabi, before appearing at other cities around the Middle East, then onto Asia, North America and Africa during the 2011/12 and 2012/13 seasons.

The free experience is separated into four domes: 'The changing room', dome number one, contains unique items of football memorabilia from Premier League players, and fans can test themselves with challenges such as 'can they kick a ball harder than Obafemi Martins?' or 'run faster than Theo Walcott?'.

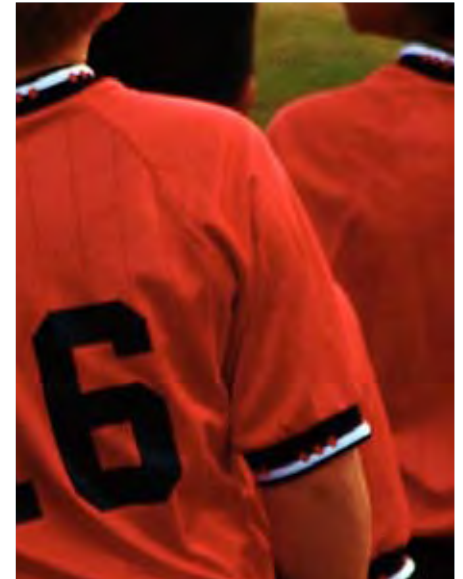
The 2nd dome called 'The Centre Circle' gives fans the chance to experience what it might be like to stand in the middle of a Premier League stadium, 'The Trophy Room' will have the official Barclays Premier League Trophy on show, and 'Becoming a Third Lion', the fourth and final dome using green screen technology to enable fans to have a photo of themselves lifting the trophy.

## F1 and Rugby Mourns Walkinshaw

Owner of Gloucester Rugby Club and former F1 team chief Tom Walkinshaw died on 12 December aged 64 after a long battle with cancer. The Scottish racing car driver was founder of racing team TWR, which won the 24-hour Le Mans race team.

Walkinshaw was also chairman of Premier Rugby from 1998-2002 where he was largely successful - with average attendances nationwide increasing by 33% during his four-year stint.

Walkinshaw also had strong ties to F1 - owning Benetton, Ligier and Arrows teams and helped recruit designer Ross Brawn and driver Michael Schumacher to the successful Benetton team.



## US\$66m award to woman paralysed by exercise machine

A WOMAN in the US who was paralysed when a 300kg weight exercise machine fell on her has been awarded US\$66 million.

The award to 30-year-old Natalie Barnhard followed an eight-week product liability trial in the New York state Supreme Court in Buffalo.

Medway exercise equipment maker Cybex International is responsible for most of the award. Cybex managers call the verdict disappointing and say it isn't supported by the facts or law. An appeal is likely.

Ms Barnhard was paralysed from the neck down in 2004 and is gradually regaining some use of her limbs.

The accident happened at Amherst Orthopedic Physical Therapy, where Ms Barnhard was a physical therapy assistant.



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