

# WORLD SPORTS TOURISM CONGRESS 2021



<https://worldsportstourismcongress.org/>

## **A CALL FOR THOUGHT PROVOKING ESSAYS AND POSTERS ON INNOVATIVE IDEAS AND FUTURE RESEARCH TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED AT A SPECIAL SESSION TO BE HELD DURING THE CONGRESS**

The UN **World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)** and the **Catalan Tourist Board (ACT)** are organizing the **World Sports Tourism Congress** due to be taking place in the City of Lloret del Mar, Catalonia, Spain. Europe ON 25<sup>TH</sup> – 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021. The Congress' Scientific Committee would now like to invite academics, researchers, and industry practitioners to submit their thoughts on innovative ideas and future research topics in the form of thought-provoking essays and posters for its consideration.

The Scientific Committee is keen to stress that no one is excluded from making a submission. In the first instance the submissions should be in a written format HOWEVER the Committee is open to suggestions as to how the ideas can be presented in their final format during the Congress (this could include a podcast, video or other new media).

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Following the postponement of the World Sports Tourism Congress (WSTC) due to the COVID19 crisis in 2020, the Organisers have now decided that this Congress will now take place in November 2021. It will take place in Lloret del Mar, Catalonia but will be a hybrid event consisting of real time and virtual activities (plenary sessions, keynote presentations, workshops, panels, and discussion groups).

The dramatic, global, impact on all aspects of sport and of tourism necessitates a wide ranging and critical review of the future of sports tourism on every dimension. The Congress will provide a unique, international, opportunity to consider innovative ideas, discuss new concepts and sports tourism initiatives and to reflect on the long-term opportunities for sports tourism.

The Scientific Committee has (a) contributed ideas for the topics to be included in the core program and (b) identified specific ideas for the specific session that will provide the platform for presenting innovative ideas and research proposals.

The role of the Scientific Committee is to stretch the thinking and move the future agenda in different directions. As a result, the Scientific Committee agrees that its special session during the Congress should move away from the traditional form of academic papers and, instead, encourage new ways of presenting innovative ideas, creative thinking, and research proposals.

## 2. THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE: ITS ROLE AND MEMBERSHIP

Over the past 18 months the Committee's role has included:

- Advising on the development of the topics, themes, and general content of the Congress.
- Defining and designing our own session within the program that will be dedicated to showcasing innovation, new research, and different ways of thinking.
- Organise ways of promoting the Congress and the call for essays, posters participants for our specific session using our networks and other ideas.
- Defining new ways of sharing knowledge at the Congress.
- Reviewing the responses to that call and agreeing who should be invited to present their ideas at the Committee's dedicated session at the Congress.

As at 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021, the membership of the Scientific Committee is as follows:

Professor Terry Stevens (Chair), MD & Founder, Stevens & Associates, Wales, UK

Professor Heather GIBSON, Department of Tourism, Hospitality and Event Management, Eric Friedheim Tourism Institute, University of Florida, USA

Neil MacOmish, Board Director and Lead for The Design Research Unit, Scott Brownrigg Global Sports Architects

Professor Grant JARVIE, Chair and Professor, The Academy of Sport, University of Edinburgh Business School, Scotland

Prof. Jorge V. Pérez-Rodríguez, Ph.D., Quantitative Methods for Economics and Management, Faculty of Economics, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

Professor John NAURIGHT, Dean of the Richard J. Bolte Sr, School of Business, Mount St Mary University, Emmitsburg, Maryland, USA

Assistant Professor Kir Kuščer, School of Economics and Business, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Dr.Franco M. Sancho-Esper is Associate Professor in the Department of Marketing, University of Alicante Spain

Professor Marko PERIĆ, Faculty of Tourism and Hospitality Management, University of Rijeka, Croatia.

Professor Carson Jenkins, Emeritus Professor of International Tourism in the Business School, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow and Visiting Professor, College of Tourism and Service Management, Nankai University, China P.R.

Professor Carles MURILLO, University Pompeu Fabra. Barcelona. Catalonia. Spain

Professor Agustí BOIXEDA, INEFC - University of Barcelona. Catalonia. Spain

Professor Sixte ABADIA, University Ramon Llull - Blanquerna. Barcelona. Catalonia. Spain

Professor Maurici CARBÓ, Ostelea Tourism Management School Barcelona. University of Lleida. Catalonia. Spain.

Dr Alan Sandry, Political Scientist, The Morgan Academy, Swansea University, Wales

Professor Mike McNamee, Professor of Ethics, Faculty of Movement and Rehabilitation Sciences, KU Leuven, Belgium.

Dr. Kamilla Swart, Associate Professor, Sport and Entertainment Management, Program at College of Science and Engineering, Hamad Bin Khalifa University,

### 3. EMERGING TOPICS

The Scientific Committee welcomes submissions addressing the following topics and look forward to submissions on other ideas and topics. We encourage multi-disciplinary, cross-sectoral, and cross-industry research collaboration to meet this challenge.

- There is a need for a macro perspective of the impact of COVID19 on sports tourism from the UNWTO, WTTC, the World Bank and IOC together with an overview from the Catalan Government and two other government representative organizations – such as World Mayors and Healthy Cities
- The contribution that sports tourism can make to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- The importance of e-sports and the future of hybrid events involving e-sports and real time action and the role of social media influencers and bloggers
- This has to be balanced with the micro perspective from the point of view of local destinations and for specific businesses and sports venues / facilities and sports clothing and equipment designers and manufacturers
- There needs to be an overview from tour operators and travel organizers representing specialist (sport tourism) and more general interests
- Sports professionals must be given a voice with representation from elite, professional, amateur and their representative bodies
- The response of sports stadia, arenas, and other venues (future design and operations)
- A special focus should be given to youth and e-sports within a program that discusses the impact and the future prospects for all types of sports including the major international sporting competitions
- The role of sport and tourism as part of re-thinking international relations and diplomacy (soft power)
- There is a need to explore the new geography of post-COVID tourism on a global basis but also within a country. What are the implications for dispersal and the likely challenges for rural areas (coasts, mountains, and countryside)? What about the variable impacts on seasonal sports – winter v summer – and the implications of climate change
- The demand side of the equation must be addressed. What are the changes we will see in the expectations and behaviours of travellers (sports participants, spectators, coaches and trainers, etc) and the view of the tourist

- There needs to be a session on social justice, labour policy, and the issues associated with employees (professionals and amateurs): their rights and their remuneration
- Future planning, actions, best practice, and lessons learned from previous crisis recovery relevant to the macro and the micro levels of sports tourism activity from a country to a region to a destination to an individual facility or business
- The recognition of sporting legends as the extremes of genius and their inspiration for travel and for fans
- The implications of these changes for tourism and sports education and research

#### 4. MAKING A SUBMISSION: ESSAYS AND POSTERS

##### 1. FUTURE THINKING ESSAYS:

The Scientific Committee now invites practitioners, researchers, and academics to submit short, thought-provoking, essays (1500 words) about new research / thinking / projects that they are undertaking, or they believe should be taking place. These will be submitted to Professor Terry Stevens ([terry@stevensassoc.co.uk](mailto:terry@stevensassoc.co.uk)) by the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021. They will then be scrutinised by the Scientific Committee and the most interesting and relevant summarised and included in the delegates packs for the Congress. The Scientific Committee will then select those submissions that will go forward for inclusion in the Congress and for publication in a post-Congress publication to compliment of the official proceedings of the Congress.

##### 2. THE POSTERS

The Scientific Committee now invites practitioners, researchers, and academics to submit a short poster presentation about a proposed innovation in either (a) sports tourism product development or (b) new ways of collecting statistics and information about sports tourism. The submissions should be made to Professor Terry Stevens ([terry@stevensassoc.co.uk](mailto:terry@stevensassoc.co.uk)) by the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The Scientific Committee will select the best submissions that will then be summarised on the Congress website and delegates invited to vote for the best idea. A certificate will be issued by the Scientific Committee to the top FIVE best ideas received as judged by delegate voting.

We wish to keep the process as simple as possible to encourage participation.

- All submissions for both **Future Thinking** and **The Posters** should be in English
- All submissions must be submitted to Professor Terry Stevens ([terry@stevensassoc.co.uk](mailto:terry@stevensassoc.co.uk)) by 17.00hrs on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021

- For Future Thinking essays can be no longer than 1,500 words and the Posters 300 words plus images and the following format is required for both:

#### **NAME OF TOPIC OR PROJECT:**

**Title and author(s) name(s) for example:**

#### **Advice to Authors for the Preparation of the Submission**

Silvia De Ascaniis<sup>a</sup>,  
 Name Surname 2<sup>nd</sup> author<sup>a</sup>, and  
 Name Surname 3<sup>rd</sup> author – different organisation (no titles, affiliations etc.)<sup>b</sup>

<sup>b</sup> Name of the institute / department  
 Name of the University company of other affiliation Country  
 author3@email.edu

#### **Originality:**

All ESSAYS AND THE POSTERS are assumed to be original and not under consideration for publication elsewhere. Authors will need to sign a transfer of copyright before an accepted paper is included in the conference proceedings. All papers submitted will also be run through an anti-plagiarism tool to identify potential copyright violations.

#### **Details:**

An outline / overview of an idea or innovation setting out the context, the potential and the scope for further developing the research project or the idea. Highlight key words. use **Times New Roman** typeface. Please do not use a sans-serif typeface for running text, except for computer programs. Mathematics must be typed. Always justify the text to occupy the full line width, so that the right margin of a paragraph is not ragged. For running text, please use 10-point type size and single line spacing.

#### **Writing Style:**

The paper must be written in the third person and in British English (i.e. “colour” rather than “color” or “organisation” rather than “organization”). Authors should use straightforward declarative sentences, making every effort to help readers understand the concepts presented. Please explain any acronyms or abbreviations clearly.

#### **Printing Area:**

Please use **A4 sized paper** and use Page Setup to set the text area to a single column measuring 12.2 x 19.4 cm. On A4 paper, this equates to top and bottom margins of 5.15cm and left and right margins of 4.4cm. At least two lines of text should follow headings at the bottom of each page; otherwise, the heading should be moved to the subsequent page. There should be no running headers or footers.

#### **Typeface and Size:**

Authors must use **Times New Roman** typeface. Please do not use a sans-serif typeface for running text, except for computer programs. Mathematics must be typed. Always justify the text to occupy the full line width, so that the right margin of a paragraph is not ragged. For running text, please use 10-point type size and single line spacing. Small

print (abstract, figure legend, table legend, and references) should be in 9-point type size with 10-point line distance. Please use italics (rather than bold or underlining) to emphasise words in running text.

### **Tables and Figures:**

Tables and figures should be incorporated directly into the text, careful centred between the margins specified above. Larger tables or figures may be presented in landscape format. All tables, figures or other illustrations should be original. Please do not incorporate material scanned from other sources. A figure or table may precede the reference to it in the text. No figure or table should be after the References section.

**Figures.** Normally, figures will be black line reproductions. Minimum line weight should be 0.25 mm, while the minimum size of any lettering should be 9-point. Please number figures consecutively (word "Fig." and the number of the figure in bold).

**Tables.** Type all parts of tables in 9-point type and exactly 10-point line spacing; an additional 2 points may be added to separate parts of the table to show groupings of data. Centre table captions above tables (word "Table" and number of the table in bold – as shown in the example on previous page). Centre tables on the page and number tables consecutively. Please use Arabic (1, 2, 3) rather than Roman (I, II, III) numerals. Always type the word "Table" in full when making reference to it in the text.

### **Permissions.**

If excerpts from copyrighted works (including websites) such as illustrations, tables, or text quotations are included in your manuscript, the authors must obtain permission from the copyright holder (usually the original publisher) for both the print and online format.

### **Page Numbering:**

Do not include page numbers. The volume editor and then the printer will decide page numbers at the publication stage.

### **Referencing and Citation:**

For citations of references, please use square brackets and consecutive numbers. The following bibliography provides a sample reference list with entries for journal articles [1], a book [2], chapters in edited books [3] conference proceedings with editors [4], as well as a URL [5]. All citations mentioned in the text should be included in the reference list, and vice-versa. Citations such as "personal communication" should not be in the reference list. Instead, they should be added parenthetically in the text.

The reference list, placed at the end of the text, should be spaced at exactly 10-point line spacing, with a hanging indent of 0.95cm and use a 9-point font size. Please use italics rather than underlining for emphasis.