



## **CALL FOR BIDS: Inaugural 2027 ISSP International Conference of Sport, Exercise, and Performance Psychology**

### **Preamble**

The ISSP International Conference of Sport, Exercise, and Performance Psychology (ISSP Conference) aims to provide a consistent presence between the ISSP quadrennial World Congresses.

Aligned with our mission to advance the global impact of sport psychology, the International Society of Sport Psychology (ISSP) is considering a biennial event model that alternates between two major gatherings: the ISSP International Conference of Sport, Exercise, and Performance Psychology and the World Congress of Sport Psychology (WCSP). This structured, cyclical approach promotes knowledge sharing, enhances global engagement, and strengthens collaboration within the sport psychology community.

The biennial model is designed not only to enrich the academic and practical aspects of sport psychology but also to bolster ISSP's global influence. Through an alternating schedule of events, the society will be well-positioned to support membership growth and develop revenue streams, fostering long-term sustainability and expansion.

The ISSP International Conference of Sport, Exercise, and Performance Psychology will differ from the WCSP in both scope and scale, offering a focused platform for dialogue and professional development within the field. The International Conference, held over 3.5 to 4 days, is expected to attract 600-800 participants and will be hosted on a university campus to ensure an intimate, engaging atmosphere. With registration fees approximately 20% lower than those of the WCSP and an ISSP royalty of 8% of gross income, the event is structured to be financially accessible while supporting the society's sustainable revenue. Additionally, each conference will be scheduled on a different continent than the previous WCSP, promoting equitable global participation.

By adopting this biennial structure, the ISSP will create more consistent opportunities for members to connect, collaborate, and shape the future of the field, positioning the society as a central hub for sport psychology professionals worldwide.

The ISSP Managing Council considers proposals and chooses a host for an ISSP Conference many years before the event is held. It is then the responsibility of the host (and its scientific community) to organize the ISSP Conference - including developing the program, issuing calls for participation, publicizing the ISSP Conference, arranging accommodation, arranging special programming, and usually arranging additional funding through grants, sponsorship, etc.

### **Who may submit a bid to host?**

- Any national psychological association/society or network of psychological associations/societies in any country may submit a proposal for organizing an ISSP Conference.
- Any ISSP Full Member in good standing may submit a bid for organizing an ISSP Conference in cooperation with a national psychological association/society or network of psychological associations/societies.

### **Determining the feasibility of hosting an ISSP Conference in your country/city**

To determine the feasibility of hosting an ISSP Conference before applying, you might begin with an overview of your country/city as an ISSP Conference venue:

- Is there a conference venue that can host up to 600 – 800 participants?
- Are there sufficient hotel rooms (approx. 600) at a range of rates close to the conference venue, or is transportation from hotel to the conference venue easily accessible?
- Are you willing to host a Managing Council (MC) meeting prior to the ISSP Conference?
- Are you prepared to allocate at between 8% and 10% gross revenue of registration fee as royalty for ISSP?



### How are locations selected?

The ISSP Managing Council narrows down the choices from the submitted applications a. The Managing Council casts the deciding vote on the final location. The Managing Council typically takes the following items into account (not in the order of importance):

- **Geographical rotation among continents and countries for the ISSP Conference and the World Congress.** The location of the ISSP Conference will be not on the same continent as the previous World Congress of Sport Psychology. To guarantee broad geographical coverage, the Managing Council will be likely to favour applications that enable access across the major regions of the world. An additional factor is the location of large concentrations of psychologists. Therefore, some regions may be chosen more frequently than others. For your information, here is a list of recent World Congress venues: <https://issponline.org/meetings-resources/world-congress/previous/>
- **The scientific community in the ISSP Conference country.** You should provide evidence that the scientific community in your country is willing and sufficiently able to develop a strong and balanced scientific program with broad international representation.
- **Scientific exchange.** Developing a good program also requires communication with scientists all over the world. Is there a strong tradition of efficient scientific exchange between your country and the scientific world?
- **Communication.** There is a requirement for intensive and frequent communication between the ISSP Conference Organizers and the ISSP Officers. For example, the overall structure of the scientific program and other ISSP Conference details need to be discussed. It is therefore important that you can ensure good communication with the ISSP Officers, the Chair of the Site and Relations Committee and in particular the ISSP President.
- **Costs for attending the ISSP Conference are another factor.** The ISSP Managing Council will expect that the ISSP Conference registration fee will be reasonable, that there is a range of good hotel rates (particularly including inexpensive ones), and that travel costs can be kept as low as possible. Bidders are encouraged to suggest appropriate registration fees for their region with their bid. The following are the recommended registration fees in USD for 2027:

Category	Early Bird	Stand	Late	On-site
Member Professional	430	490	540	550
Member Emerging Countries	220	240	260	280
Member Student	190	230	270	310
Non-member Professional	510	570	620	630
Non-member Emerging Countries	240	260	300	360
Non-member Student	270	310	350	430
One-day Registration	170	200	210	220

- Despite efforts to keep costs low, travel is expensive for **young sport psychology professionals**, and for professionals from the **emerging and transitioning countries**. It is therefore important to provide a plan that will guarantee special fees, housing, and support for those colleagues. This plan should be clearly outlined in the budget which should be in USD.
- A detailed **balanced budget** should be provided as part of the application for hosting an ISSP Conference. The local Organizing Committee is responsible for covering all costs (see budget template for details) and, should there be losses, ISSP has no financial liability whatsoever. Thus, it is important to show realistically how the revenue (registration fees and other) will cover the expected costs. It may be helpful to consult the organizers of preceding Congresses in drafting the budget. The budget template attached to this Call should be utilized.



- The ISSP International Conference of Sport, Exercise, and Performance Psychology adheres to the **International Council for Science (ICSU) principle of “free circulation of scientists” (ICSU Statute 5)**. Provide evidence that any scientist, from whatever country, will be allowed to enter your country without special requirements (except for the regular passport and visa). Based on former bids, it is a good idea to include an official letter from your country's government (possibly, the Ministry/Department of Foreign Affairs), stating explicitly that your country adheres to the ICSU principle of free circulation of scientists.

#### **How to Submit a Bid**

- Before January 15, 2025 - Fill out the Application Form for Submitting a Bid for an International Society of Sport Psychology and send it to the Chair of the Site & Relations Committee, Dr. Tatiana Ryba. The form is available here. You may submit a brief video presentation (no longer than 10-minutes, via YouTube, Dropbox, WeTransfer or Vimeo link) with your application to highlight your proposal, this is not required.

#### **How will your application be processed?**

Bids for hosting the 2027 ISSP International Conference of Sport, Exercise, and Performance Psychology will be processed by the ISSP Officers and the Managing Council as follows:

1. March 20, 2025 – The ISSP Site & Relations Committee will review your application and, if needed, will request additional information before it goes to the Managing Council. If additional information has been requested, you will be given until April 15 to update your application.
2. June 1, 2025 – The Managing Council will vote on your application. The voting is final. If there is more than one acceptable proposal, the MC will be asked to rank order them. The application at the top of the list will be selected for a site visit to confirm the suitability of the proposed site for hosting an ISSP Conference.
3. Between June and October 2025 – One member of the Site & Relations Committee designated by the President will visit the proposed site for the ISSP Conference **at the expense of the applicant**:
  - a. If they find that the site is suitable, they will provide preliminary advice to the organizers concerning the preparations needed for a successful organization of an ISSP Conference.
  - b. If they find that it is unsuitable, the applicant will be invited to propose an alternate site.
  - c. If no suitable site is found, the bid will be discarded, and the next highest ranked application will be selected for a site visit.

#### **What is ISSP Responsible for?**

The ISSP is responsible for the following:

1. Creation and maintenance of an ISSP Conference website, registration system, and abstract portal
2. Collection of registration fees, transferred to the organizing committee (minus processing fees) every 90 days.
3. Promotion and marketing of the ISSP Conference
4. 50% of the Scientific Committee