

Application for Vice President, ISSP 2025-2029



**Professor Chris Harwood,
Nottingham Trent University,
United Kingdom**

Nominated by: Professor Kris Henriksen,
Seconded by: Professor Gangyan Si
for Vice-President.

Biography:

As a Professor of Sport Psychology at Nottingham Trent University and an Honorary Professor of Loughborough University in the UK, I am a scientist-practitioner with a longstanding interest in the scientific and professional development of sport and exercise psychology. Prior to joining the Managing Council of ISSP in 2017, I served as Vice-President of the European Federation of Sport and Exercise Psychology (FEPSAC; 2007-2011) and as the Division Chair for Psychology within the Chartered Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (2014-2018) in the UK. My applied research and practice career has focused on the integration of psychological principles into youth sport settings and the roles of the coach, parents, and the wider organisational support system. I have published over 170 journal articles, book chapters and books on these topics, and serve on several journal editorial boards. Beyond my academic work, I am a HCPC Registered Practitioner Psychologist and have held the position of lead psychologist within professional football clubs and for the Lawn Tennis Association. With a keen interest in the professional and ethical development of young sport psychologists, I have contributed to the development and oversight of the regulated UK qualification and accreditation programmes in sport psychology. Most recently I was elected on the European EuroPsy Committee to represent the European Federation of Psychology Associations (EFPA) in its regulation of the new European Certificates in Sport Psychology.

Personal Statement

I have been highly active as an Executive Officer in my current term as Vice President of ISSP and wish to continue to build on the progress made. Importantly, I have served as Chair of the ISSP Registry Committee (ISSP-R) - an initiative that is pivotal to the professional development of sport psychology practitioners and supervisors for all nations, but particularly for emerging nations who need support in the absence of their

own national accreditation schemes. Supported by my committee, we have proactively grown the Registry with over 70 practitioners across the globe, who have completed the established or emerging routes alongside our three ISSP-R modules on Mental Health, Cultural Competence and Ethical Practice. We have launched the supervisor training programme as part of growing our ISSP-Registry for Supervisors in order to create more opportunities for young practitioners to receive supervision. As Vice-President in this next term, I am focused on a project that seeks to build ISSP partnerships with regional/national associations to endorse/accredit them as ISSP-R providers/assessors in order to grow pathways to the ISSP-Registry in more local systems. Having acted as an ISSP Ambassador to India, I recognise that this will require consideration of factors such as language/cultural aspects within the application process while maintaining clear education and supervised experience standards in sport psychology practice. I am also interested in developing the benefits for ISSP-Registry members, increasing the value of the Directory around CPD for the community and, in turn, the motivation to apply for ISSP-R status.

Online Promotion

As ISSP Vice-President, I am motivated to continue as Chair of the Registry Committee (ISSP-R), focus on the professional development of practitioners and supervisors for all nations, and grow the Registry through more local, culturally-sensitive partnerships with regional and national associations. I will continue to be a highly proactive Executive Officer focused on maintaining the excellent momentum of the society.

