

TOPIC 6 – Athlete Development

Date: 5 December 2024 (Day Two)

Speakers: Mr Mike Miller (Keynote)

Mr Babak Amir-Tahmassebi

Dr Taisuke Kinugasa

Ms Chantal Buchser Kelley



Mr Mike Miller (Keynote)

- Chief Executive Officer (World Olympians Association)


Mr Miller is currently the CEO of the World Olympians Association, the IOC recognised organisation that globally represents the interests of all the living Olympians and involves them in projects that benefit society.


He is also co-founder and chairman of Human Telemetric, a company formed to capture real-time metrics from the human body and surrounds to allow diagnosis and action plans that improve human performance, wellbeing, health and safety.


Mike has over four decades of experience in the media and sports business. He has worked in newspapers, radio, television and the electronic media, becoming the Head of Sport at Channel 4 UK and then the Controller of Television Sport at the BBC.

Presentation Abstract – “Winning isn’t the only thing”

Why are we doing this? What is the point of developing elite athletes? And what sort of human beings are we creating? If elite athletes can play a larger role in society, if elite athletes can have an impact by their behavior both on and off the field of play, and if elite athletes can make a real difference to peoples’ lives and to the world,

	<p>then what does that say about the way we seek to develop them, the values we hope to instill in them and the support we should give them throughout the various stages of their lives.</p>
	<p>Mr Babak Amir-Tahmasseb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director (International and Grand INSEP Network) <p>Mr Amir-Tahmasseb, Olympian (Sydney 2000 & Athens 2004) and kayak world champion, is currently Director of International Relations and the Grand INSEP network at the French Institute of sport, expertise and performance (INSEP).</p> <p>Over and above his twenty-year sporting career, his commitment to sport has been marked by his activities as an elected official, member of commissions and employee with the French Ministry of Sport, the French Canoe and Kayak Federation (FFCK), the French Olympic Committee (CNOSF), the Association of French Olympian (AOF) and, more recently, international associations such as the Association of sports performance centres (ASPC), representing INSEP.</p> <p>Of Franco-Iranian origin, Mr. Amir-Tahmasseb has always had a keen interest in intercultural issues and international relations. In particular, he has worked extensively on human performance issues. Thanks to his personal and professional background, he favours intuitive decision-making and emotional experience.</p> <p><u>Presentation Abstract</u></p> <p>After an initial presentation of the services offered to Oly and Ply athletes by a high-performance center such as INSEP, the focus will be on the challenges of supporting athletes over the long term, throughout their lives as athletes.</p> <p>#Infrastructure & Facility Management #Technology & Innovation #Performance Optimization #Educational Integration</p>

	#Mental Performance & Wellbeing
	<p>Dr Taisuke Kinugasa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Research Scientist (Japan High-Performance Sport Centre (HPSC) and Japan Sport Council (JSC)) <p>Dr Kinugasa obtained his PhD in exercise physiology from the University of Queensland, Australia in 2004. He worked extensively with both youth and elite athletes and is responsible for developing and implement an evidence-informed HPSC total conditioning support for medal potential athletes. He has established the evidence-informed Japanese FTEM (Foundation, Talent, Elite, and Mastery) framework for National Sports Federations and practitioners and co-designed sport-specific pathway models over 20 Olympic and Paralympic sports in Japan. Before joining JSC, he was Head Sports Physiologist at Singapore Sports School and Senior Sports Physiologist at Singapore Sports Institute from 2004 to 2012.</p> <p><u>Presentation Abstract: “A Japanese perspective on Athlete Development Pathways”</u></p> <p>The presentation will focus on the practical application of evidence-informed Japanese FTEM (Foundation, Talent, Elite, and Mastery) framework for sport and athlete development (Kinugasa et al, 2019). The national framework has been applied to Olympic and Paralympic sports to bridge the gap between the theory and practice of athlete development, taking into account the cultural and social context in Japan. Through the gap-bridging initiatives, case studies were then conducted on the development of sport-specific pathway models which were jointly constructed by the National Sports Federations and JSC (Hagiwara & Kinugasa, 2022). The following insights were collected from the case studies: (1) sharing the pathway models with athletes and their stakeholders by visualising the whole of sport pathway in a language that promotes common understanding; (2) presenting the visualised pathway models to the stakeholders to facilitate a common understanding and clarify their roles; (3) involving more stakeholders to collaborate and individuals</p>

	<p>to work together according to the overall aim. In addition, a national survey of the athlete development experiences of 604 talented Japanese athletes across 53 sports was conducted as a part of understanding the entire athlete development pathways (Kinugasa & Gulbin, 2021). Ultimately, using insights such as the voices of athletes and their entourages would ensure that long-term policies and strategies to support athlete development pathways are strong, sustainable, and relevant for practitioners.</p>
	<p>Ms Chantal Buchser Kelley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Athlete Support & Partnerships (International Olympic Committee) <p>Ms Chantal Buchser Kelley is the Head of Athlete Support & Partnerships at the IOC and has over eleven years’ experience delivering holistic athlete support. In this role, she leverages relationships with the Worldwide Olympic Partners and Media Rights-Holders to curate mutually beneficial athlete support services while delivering unique added value to partners. Additionally, Chantal oversees the delivery of the IOC’s athlete well-being services, including in the areas of dual career, career transition and mental health. Her prior professional experience includes grassroots sports programming and international public health. Chantal is Swiss-American, bringing the best of both cultures to her work, and holds a Master of Advanced Studies in Sports Administration & Technology and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.</p> <p><u>Presentation Abstract: “Athletes’ Holistic Development”</u></p> <p>In the realm of sport, the pursuit of excellence often focuses on physical prowess, technical skills and performance. However, the concept of holistic athlete development emphasises a more comprehensive approach, integrating mental, emotional and social dimensions to foster well-rounded athletes.</p> <p>This presentation explores the critical importance of enabling athletes’ holistic development, highlighting how it contributes to</p>

sustained performance, and overall well-being.

We will discuss key elements such as education, life skills and career planning, and will share current research that shows how a balanced approach not only enhances athletic performance but also prepares athletes for life beyond sport.

Attendees will gain insights into the information and resources developed by the IOC in this area, and the key role of athletes' entourage members in guiding athletes and helping them navigate the complexities of their careers and personal lives.

Ultimately, this presentation aims to promote a culture that values the "complete athlete". By embracing holistic development, we can cultivate athletes who are champions not only in their sport, but also in their lives.