



**SIGA**

SPORT INTEGRITY  
GLOBAL ALLIANCE

**SIGA GLOBAL AGENDA  
FEMALE EMPOWERMENT  
& LEADERSHIP IN SPORT  
2023 / 2024**

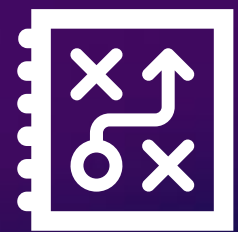
**#SIGAWomen**

# WHAT IS #SIGAWOMEN?

---



Gender Equity is part of good governance in Sport. SIGA is working with sports organisations to enhance their governance as better governance equals better business.



**SIGAWOMEN's** purpose is to address the gender gap in sports leadership positions by providing **mentorship**, **training**, and **networking opportunities** to women at all stages of their careers, creating more pathways for female leaders across the sports industry.



By increasing the representation of women in sports leadership, **SIGAWOMEN** aims to create a more diverse and inclusive sports industry that better reflects the communities it serves.



In pursuance of its efforts to enhance good governance at all levels of Sport, SIGA is committed to promoting a gender equity governance culture, where access to leadership roles in sport organisations is determined, not by gender, race or any other discriminatory factor, but by merit. This doctrine is enshrined in the [SIGA Universal Standards on Good Governance in Sport](#), Standard 3.3, together with the principles of diversity and inclusion of the board.

Since its inception, SIGA has been a strong advocate for gender equity and female leadership in Sport. A series of impactful initiatives have since been developed. This included consecrating gender equity and diversity within the decision-making structures of sports organisations as a bespoke universal standard, launching the SIGA Global Mentorship Programme for Aspiring Female Leaders in Sport,

[\(#SIGAWomen Global Mentorship Programme\)](#) in 2018, and organising a series of special sessions on Good Governance and Female Leadership in different points around the globe.

[The #SIGA Women Global Mentorship Programme](#) is now in its fifth year and has grown exponentially during the 2022/2023 intake and is now 100 women strong, aiming to double this number in 2023/2024. SIGA is building a strong community of likeminded women in the industry who are providing vital leadership skills and sharing their career experiences with the next generation of female leaders in sport to practically implement the SIGA Universal Standards on Good Governance and drive change at a faster pace.

➔ [Click on the underlined purple text to access the links](#)

# #SIGAWOMENPROGRAMME





## Why do we need to kick start change?

An independent survey carried out by SIGA and presented on 28th June 2019 during the third edition of our “**Female Leadership in Sport**” thought leadership event, hosted by the Sorbonne University during the 2019 FIFA Women’s World Cup, demonstrated that the percentage of women’s representation at the highest executive organs of the 32 international federations recognised by the International Olympic Committee was merely **18.3%**.

This survey was subsequently updated in March 2021 and presented during the inaugural [SIGA Web Summit on Female Leadership in Sport](#). Results show that the percentage of women’s representation in the same bodies had decreased to **17.8%**.

During the SIGA Summit on Female Leadership in Sport hoisted by Mastercard on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 in New York, SIGA unveiled that **26.9 %** of executive positions in international federations are held by women. Annika Sorenstam (International Golf Federation), Petra Sorilng (International Table Tennis Federation) and Marisol Casado (World Triathlon) are the only three women to chair international federations.

Ultimately, whilst there has been some improvement, we still have a long way to go to shape the world we wish to see!!!

The SIGAWomen Programme is designed to close the gender gap in Sport.



SIGA continues to commit to making Gender Equity a key component of its Good Governance agenda in 2023/2024:

Initiatives include include:

- **Gender Parity** as a mandatory rule in the composition of all **SIGA Internal Organs**. Leading by example, SIGA's Council now embodies the principal of gender parity.
- **Expansion of the #SIGAWomen Global Mentorship Programme:** Having delivered global mentorship to 50 women from over 32 countries during 2022/2023, SIGA aims to double the impact of the global mentorship programme during the fifth cycle opens. Applications open 3 May to 30 June.
- **SIGAWoW Show** - SIGA will continue to regularly host a combination of in person and virtual **SIGAWoW - Women on Wednesdays Shows**. This thought leadership initiative is designed to ensure this issue is on the sports industry's radar on a permanent basis, rather than just confined to International Women's Day. On the 3rd Wednesday of every month, SIGA will showcase thought leadership initiatives protagonised by female executives, senior industry leaders, sportswomen and influencers who will address, from a female prism, the most critical integrity challenges facing contemporary Sports.
- **SIGA Summit on Female Leadership in Sport 2024** :This is the flagship thought leadership event of the SIGAWomen Programme and is hosted by SIGA Founding Member, Mastercard in New York. In its 4<sup>th</sup> year, the Summit in March 2024 aims to be the biggest and best yet!
- **Masterclass on Female Leadership in Sport:** SIGA will offer a half day in person masterclass on key topics to driver greater gender equity in the sports industry. Stay tuned!



## Want to get involved?

Gender Equity is a shared global responsibility that can only be achieved through collaboration and collective action. SIGA invites female leaders worldwide to join our growing group of likeminded women to be global mentors. SIGA also encourages young aspiring female leaders to grasp the opportunity and apply for mentorship.

## Brands: Answer SIGA's Call!

SIGA is actively looking for commercial partners to work with us in changing the rules of the game on a global scale. If diversity and inclusion is at the heart of your organisation and you want to contribute to meaningful change in the sports industry, please contact [katie.simmonds@sigasport.com](mailto:katie.simmonds@sigasport.com) for a partnership deck that outlines the opportunities.

## Key Dates for Your Diary:

Third Wednesday of Every Month: **WoW - Women on Wednesdays**

3 May 2023: **Applications open for #SIGAWomen Global Mentorship Programme 2023 / 2024**

30 June 2023: **Applications close for #SIGAWomen Global Mentorship Programme 2023 / 2024**

4 - 8 September 2023: **IV SIGA Sport Integrity Week**

TBC September 2023 **First Group Digital Workshop of the #SIGAWomen Global Mentorship Programme**

TBC March 2024: **SIGA Summit on Female Leadership in Sport**



# SIGA

SPORT INTEGRITY  
GLOBAL ALLIANCE

**#SIGAWomen**