

NORTH AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR SPORT HISTORY

CODE OF ETHICS

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Preamble

The purpose of the Code of Ethics of the North American Society for Sport History (NASSH) is to set forth principles and professional standards of behavior which are to be used as guidelines in the practice of sport history and in conducting the annual NASSH conference. These are principles which provide guidance on various issues that sport historians may face in the course of their work or in the practice of preparing for, or participating in, the NASSH conference. The NASSH Code of Ethics provides four general principles which are elaborated into ethical standards. The Code also establishes both policies and procedures to assist the NASSH Committee on Professional Ethics in investigating and resolving matters which arise in the practice of sport history or during the business of the conducting the annual NASSH conference, or in selecting and approving sites for the annual conference. However, the ethical standards listed here are not exhaustive.

Sport historians are committed to the life-long practice of acting professionally in their work and to encourage the ethical behavior of others, including peers, supervisors, employees, undergraduate and graduate students, and publishers.

Those who are members of NASSH commit to these ethical standards and are advised of this obligation when they become members. Violations of this Code of Ethics may result in sanctions including the suspension of privileges or the termination of membership within the organization.

General Principles

The following principles serve as a guide for sport historians:

1. **Professional Responsibility**

Sport historians aspire and adhere to the highest professional standards and are responsible for all aspects of their work. Sport historians practice within a community of scholars and students and show the utmost respect for, and collegiality with, others, even though they may disagree with the findings and methodological and theoretical approaches of others. This collegiality shall not compromise ethical standards and shall not override the shared responsibility of maintaining ethical standards.

2. **Professional Competence**

Sport historians undertake work for which they are professionally qualified by appropriate training or education.

3. **Integrity**

Sport historians shall be honest and trustworthy in all aspects of their professional work which may include teaching, research, and service to the profession, community, or to NASSH. Sport

historians are concerned for the welfare and safety of others and shall not deceive or mislead others during the course of their work.

4. Social Responsibility and Human Rights

Sport historians complete their work to serve the public good. They respect the rights of all human beings and owe a responsibility to the diverse societies in which they live and work. Sport historians do not tolerate *any* forms of discrimination and shall remain sensitive to all cultural and individual differences when they perform duties in teaching, research, and service and shall be sensitive to any circumstances that may result in the harm of others.

Ethical Standards of Behavior

1. Sexual Harassment and Exploitation

NASSH members shall not exploit or engage in sexual relationships with any individuals over whom they have a supervisory, evaluative, or authoritative relationship. Sport historians shall not engage in any activities of verbal or non-verbal harassment which is demeaning, unwanted, attacking, or offensive towards any individuals

2. Professional Competence

Sport historians shall accurately represent their areas and degrees of expertise on all subject matter and shall not misrepresent this professional expertise to any parties. Sport historians shall train their students to ensure levels of competence, integrity, and responsibility. NASSH recognizes and respects all professional categories of historians: teaching, non-teaching professionals, adjunct, contingent, part-time, contractual, affiliate, special, irregular, full-time untenured or non-tenure track and off-tenure track, Instructor, Visiting Professor, Research Professor, Professor, Lecturer, and Professor of the Practice and its members shall not discriminate in any NASSH practices related to employment or professional status.

3. Plagiarism

Sport historians shall not represent the work of others, whether during oral presentations, teaching, or in any form of print or electronic publication, as their own. In all forms of presentation, including teaching, research, and service, sport historians shall always identify and credit the work of others and reference the authors when they borrow or cite other peoples' work, whether published in print, electronically, or unpublished. Even if the work is paraphrased, it shall be credited in full. Sport historians shall credit the theories and ideas of others. Sport historians shall discern between previously published work of their own and new work, and previous work which has been translated. Sport historians shall give appropriate recognition to all co-authors and collaborators and with those collaborators fairly determine the order of authorship. Sport historians shall only take credit for work which they have performed or contributed to substantially. Normally, material that is published from a student's work shall provide first authorship to that student.

4. Standards of Publication

Sport historians shall adhere to the highest ethical standards when engaging in processes of peer review and publication, whether as author, reviewer, or editor. Sport historians shall engage in proper consultation with all co-authors and contributors throughout the publication process. Sport historians shall complete the entire process of peer review for all articles and manuscripts before submitting the work to other journals. Sport historians may withdraw their work prior to the acknowledgement of official acceptance by an editor. Sport historians, when serving as editors shall not provide any forms of favoritism or discrimination towards authors during the publications process and they must endeavor to be aware of conflicts or perceived conflicts of interest during the publications process. Editors must maintain all aspects of confidentiality and author anonymity during the review and publications process. Editors must make every effort to ensure a lack of bias in the selection of manuscript reviewers and to maintain confidentiality to preserve the identity of reviewers. Editors shall respect the proprietary rights of authors throughout the review process.

5. Research Ethics

Sport historians are responsible for carrying out all research conducted by them or by others under their supervision or authority in an ethical manner. This includes the foundational principle of informed consent among human subjects or interviewees. Interviewees should understand the principle of informed consent and participate actively in that process. Research shall be conducted with the respect and dignity of the participants in mind and shall obtain consent before any recording, filming, or photographing occurs. Sport historians shall report their findings in total and shall not omit any relevant data. Sport historians shall list any financial supporters of research projects and shall provide a description of the nature of the sponsorship.

6. Conflicts of Interest

Sport historians shall avoid conflicts of interest or perceived conflicts of interest that may be based on personal, political, or financial gain and interfere with the performance of their work in an unbiased manner. Sport historians shall disclose all financial, personal, or professional relationships that may have the potential for a conflict of interest, in the service of their work or NASSH. Sport historians shall not engage in decision-making on matters where they may have conflicts of interest, involving family members, friends, or students.

7. Confidentiality

Sport historians have the obligation to ensure that sensitive information obtained through teaching, research, and service is protected. Sport historians shall protect confidentiality through all processes, including deliberations involving NASSH business, whether through the exchange of verbal comments, documents, or electronic documents or communications.

8. Student Supervision

Sport historians shall follow the highest ethical standards in the supervision of students and shall provide the highest quality of education and training to those students. Part of that training shall include professional ethics in all matters related to the profession.

9. Code of Ethics

NASSH members have the obligation to understand the Code of Ethics and how it applies to their profession. NASSH members shall cooperate fully with the NASSH Committee on Professional Ethics in any investigation or proceedings and shall not make false claims against other members.

Hosting NASSH

The North American Society for Sport History provides a forum for the free expression of ideas based on the highest quality of research, in an environment which respects and values all people. NASSH will not tolerate discrimination or harassment in any form based on sex, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender, career status, identity or expression, religion, or nationality. Towards this end, NASSH invokes its right to a discerning selection process for conference sites, which is cognizant of any local, regional, or national legislation that may be discriminatory towards individuals or groups and may choose, with the support of its membership, to directly address conference location issues. On such matters, the NASSH Committee on Professional Ethics shall be directed to make recommendations to the NASSH Executive.

1. Members of NASSH may raise ethical issues with regard to a proposed or approved conference location with any member of the NASSH Time and Site Committee or Executive Council and that member shall immediately raise the issue with the President
2. The President shall immediately investigate the concerns personally or through a designate
3. Following investigation, the President shall consult with the Time and Site Committee and members of NASSH Council
4. Council shall vote on actions to be taken with regard to conference locations
5. The President shall inform the NASSH membership of any decisions rendered