

ICSC International Sports Chiro Module 10

FICS and the World of Sport Presentation (Part 2)

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Video Lesson: 16:03

This goes now for me to talk a little bit about our involvement with the IWGA, the International World Games Association. They provide a multi-sport event called the World Games. They strive to provide the widest possible exposure for these sports and their governing bodies to the public and media, and that is the World Games concept. They have had games since 1986. The first games occurred in a place called Santa Clara, California, which is very close to where I currently am here in San Jose. We have been involved in the last four games. The first one in 2005 was FICS. We had a delegation there in Duisburg, Germany, and also then in Kaohsiung, Taiwan in 2009, Cali, Colombia in 2013. Last year (2018), we were in Wroclaw, Poland, providing care there.

The World Games is made up of different types of sports from different types of federations, and they have divided them into artistic and dance sport, ball sports, martial arts, precision sports, strength sports, and trend sports. Interestingly, you will see that there are some sport disciplines there that come from very well-known international sports federations that are involved in the Olympics, for example gymnastics.

We all know that artistic gymnastics is one of the foundations of the Olympic agenda and participate in the Olympics. But at the World Games, we have involvement of rhythmic gymnastics, tumbling and trampoline, acrobatic gymnastics, and aerobic gymnastics. By being involved with the World Games, we are actually supporting, again, an IF that's so very involved with the IOC and the Olympics. We are continuing to work, through the World Games, we have been able to then get some great relationships with those international sports federations that's opening up doors, not only for us to then work at their world championships and other events, but we have now formed agreements with some of the federations to put chiropractors on their medical commissions.

By working with their medical commissions, again, this is an ultimate strategy for us to be more involved with the Olympics, but with the federations that are involved in the Olympics, but also to demonstrate to the IOC that we are not just there to provide care for their Olympic games. But we really are there to become integrated more into the world of sport. The next slide, I have got a video of the International World Games, which I encourage you to watch. It gives you a really nice background on some of the events at the World Games and what is happening at the World Games. So, as an associate member of Sport Accord, or now the General Assembly of International Sports Federation, GAISF, since 1991, we have become more and more involved in multiple sport games, such as the World Games, GAISF, since 1991, we have become more and more involved in multiple sport games, such as the World Games, the All African Games, Commonwealth Games, Pan-Am Games, Mediterranean Games, and so on. It is through this association with these sports federations, the IFC, and GAISF that these doors have been opened up. We are continuing to work that, work through those by attending Sport Accord every year to continue developing this relationship and educating the sports federations on the value of working with FICS to provide chiropractic care to all athletes in the world sport.

I have demonstrated some of the different logos of the World Games and our involvement in them, as I have previously talked about. If you are part of a FICS chiropractic delegation what is really your roles and responsibilities, and what you do at an international sporting event? Well, you support and follow the regular medical protocols. You are part of a medical team that is made up by the local organizers, and we are attached to that. We cooperate fully with the athletes and coaches and the rest of the medical team to provide an additional chiropractic care for all athletes that are competing at that event and all the volunteers. The delegation is representative of chiropractors from all around the

world that have a minimum qualification of the International Chiropractic Sports Physician accreditation, (since March 2019 now called the International Certificate in Sports Chiropractic the ICSC), as that is a requirement from the International Sports Federations, that our docs have this minimal level of qualification. We will be continuing to assist at the World Games through this standing agreement, but also the CSIT Games, and we are hoping to open up other opportunities in the future.

The FICS chiropractic delegation really represents the best sports chiropractors in the world. They go through a stringent selection process. Our goal is to provide the opportunity for many different chiropractors from around the world to be a part of this chiropractic delegation. The nice part about the selection process is that we do not only take all those with the highest rank within the selection process. But we often take newcomers into sports chiropractic because we know that that is our legacy, that we need to continue to have a good delegation that represents, first of all, a balance in gender, a balance in representation from all over the world, so that the IOC and others, and in proper support of our profession, we get representation from all around the world at an international sporting event.

The FICS delegation, once they have responsible, they need to provide their own way to the games. But once they are there, the host city provides the FICS delegation with housing, food, transport around the games, a uniform, and the equipment in order to take care of the athletes. The real benefit of going on a FICS chiropractic delegation is, first of all, working at an international sporting event, but also working side by side with your colleagues from different parts of the world in providing this care to the international athletes. It is a phenomenal experience, and everyone that has gone on a FICS trip to an international sport comes back with really a life-changing type of experience. It is also one of the best lab practical that you will ever have in your profession, to be able to learn from each other and help each other as you are assisting the athletes at an international sporting event.

Our role as the FICS delegation at the World Games is that you are part of the medical provision for the World Games. As the SPEAKING FRENCH, for the World Games, I meet every single morning with the medical commission and the chair of the medical commission in order to discuss what has happened in the previous day, what areas do we need to improve on, and what FICS is doing to provide their service at these games. This allows us, again, to fully integrate into the world of sport as it is happening at an international venue. We do not provide care on the field of play. That is the domain of the local medical providers, and so we are there mainly to provide chiropractic care in the form of treatments and not so much an acute care injury. This really gets us back to our grass roots of providing a hands-on type care for the athletes and the volunteer both pre and post competition. This care is extended to any of the volunteers that are accredited or support personnel through the World Games.

The nice thing about FICS and the World Games is that the World Games is one of the largest multi-sports games around. It is an organized sporting event that is very much in the Olympic fashion in how its run. The World Games support federations that may someday be in the Olympics, which strategically allows us to be part of that group that may then move with them to support their athletes if they are called up to the IOC and the World Games. The World Games are now, as I have said previously, under direct view and review of the IOC. This positions us to indirectly be reviewed and observed by the IOC on what we have to offer, and so the World Games and the support of the IWGA establishes really a template for FICS involvement in the IOC and other sporting events, such as the Olympics, and that hopefully we will someday move up into the Olympic involvement. It really entrenches our legacy as an organization and as individuals in the world of sport.

What is the continued work for FICS? We need more national chiropractic sports councils. We need more sports chiropractors active in their NCSCs. We definitely need volunteers to work at events. We need a much more diverse delegation that we have providing at the World Games, CSI Games, and so on. We need to really focus and target on certain IFs to become involved with them, because we are

already working with them at the World Games, but we need to work with them at their world championships and get our NCSCs working with them at a national level. This is really important. FICS really works on an international world stage and does not get itself involved in a national championship. That is the role of the NCSC in that nation. So, we do not conflict or tread on those areas. That is the responsibility and the role of that NCSC, to work with your national championships. If it is a world championship, yes, then FICS is involved.

Now, we will, of course, support the NCSC if they need any of our assistance for national championships, but that really is the responsibility of the NCSC to work at the national level. For FICS, we need to continue to present and be present to the IOC and the IOC Medical Commission, GAISF, and any time that we have the opportunity to educate the administrators of the world of sport on what chiropractic care is and what we can provide for their athletes.

The future of FICS, we are a special interest group. We need more members both at the National Chiropractic Sports Council and their individual members. They need to be active in their NCSC and within FICS. Of course, we always need to continue funding so that we can go to GAISF and go to world championships and support our members that are providing this very important service to athletes from around the world. We need to support our research projects and researchers on what sports chiropractic is and the possibility of furthering sports performance all through chiropractic care.

We are doing a very important job for chiropractic internationally in the world of sport. We are the only organization recognized on the world stage of sport through our recognition as the associate member with GAISF. What can you do? Well, if you feel it is important that chiropractic is represented internationally with the IOC, if going to the Olympic Games, World Games, world and regional sporting championships is something that you feel is important for our profession, if having direct access to Olympic athletes, that all athletes should have the provision or right to access of chiropractic care, that providing and supporting research into the effects of chiropractic on athletic performance is important for our profession, and if you feel your country's athletes need chiropractic and have a right to access of this type of care, then it is important that you set up an NCSC if there isn't one in your country. Or join your NCSC and be active and support FICS.

It has been my pleasure to talk to you today about FICS and the world of sport. I hope you have gained an understanding of really the organization of the world of sport and how FICS and you as an individual sports chiropractor can become involved and more involved. I have also tried to share with you some of the strategies that we have within FICS in becoming more involved in the world of sport and, ultimately, not only getting recognition by the IOC and firmly entrenching our place and our legacy in the world of sport, with the IOC, but it is mandated that FICS and chiropractic is part of the core services provided at all Olympics, and not just certain Olympics when the local organizers will allow us to be involved in them. We need to gain our rightful place in the world of sport. But in order to do that, we have to do the homework. We have to get involved in the world of sport. That first means that we need to understand it, and as you can see, it is very complex, and it is oftentimes difficult to understand.

However, by navigating through this, becoming more involved, seeing what we do, and educating the administrators on what FICS can do for their athletes, will hopefully someday gain us this full recognition and our rightful place, providing support for athletes from around the world in the world stage of the Olympics and other world championships. I will leave you with a video of the World Games that I hope touches you and goes to the core of why you are involved in sports chiropractic. I encourage you to get more involved with your NCSC and with FICS. I hope to work someday alongside you at a world sporting event. Thank you very much, and I appreciate your time and effort.

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