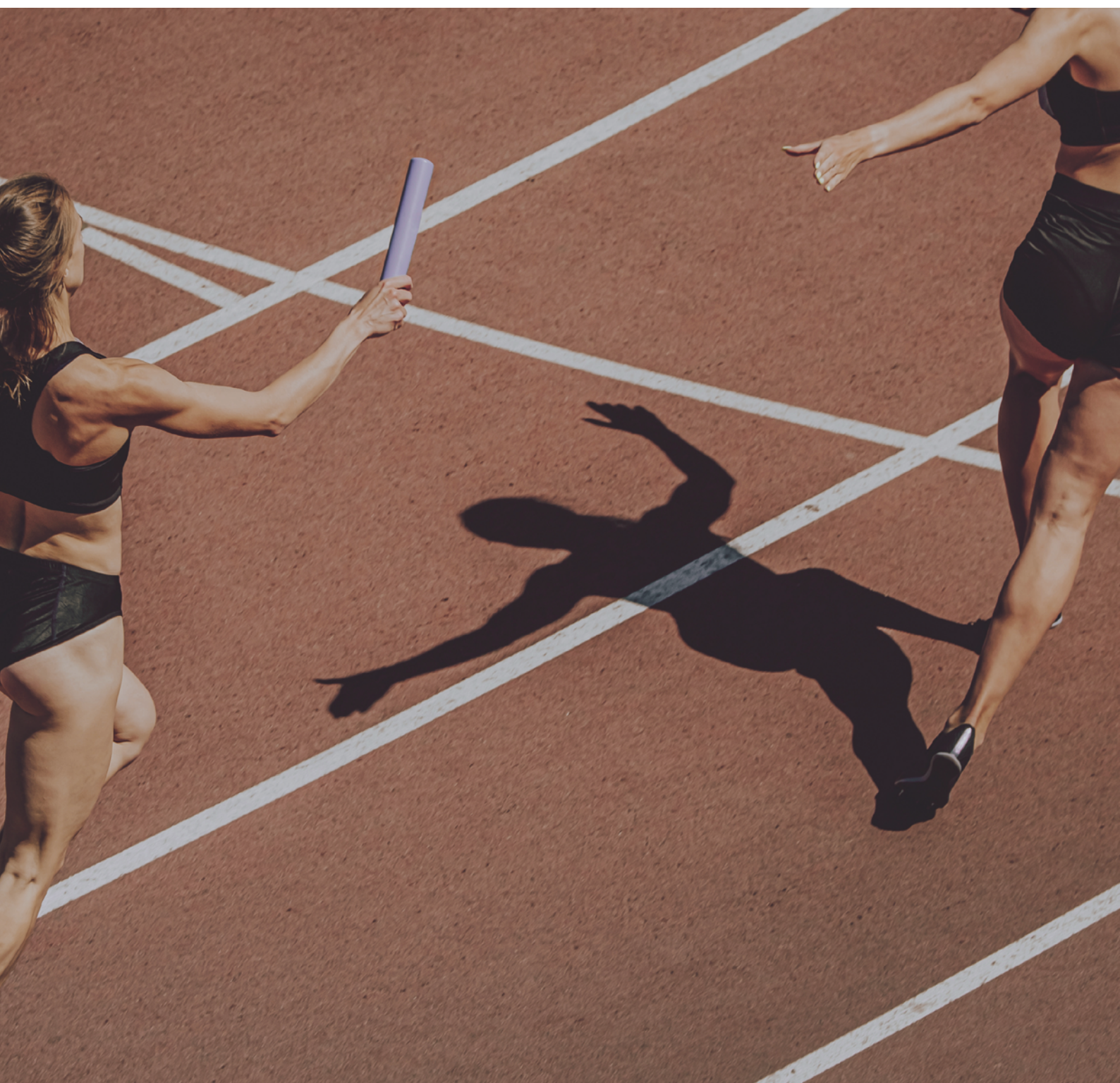




Athletes Network

FOR SAFER SPORTS

Strategic Plan



Sport & Rights Alliance:

Andrea Florence (Director)

Joanna Maranhão (Network Coordinator)

Rachel Causey (Communications Coordinator)

Advisory Council:

Ahmar Maiga, Mali

Jessica Shuran Yu, Singapore

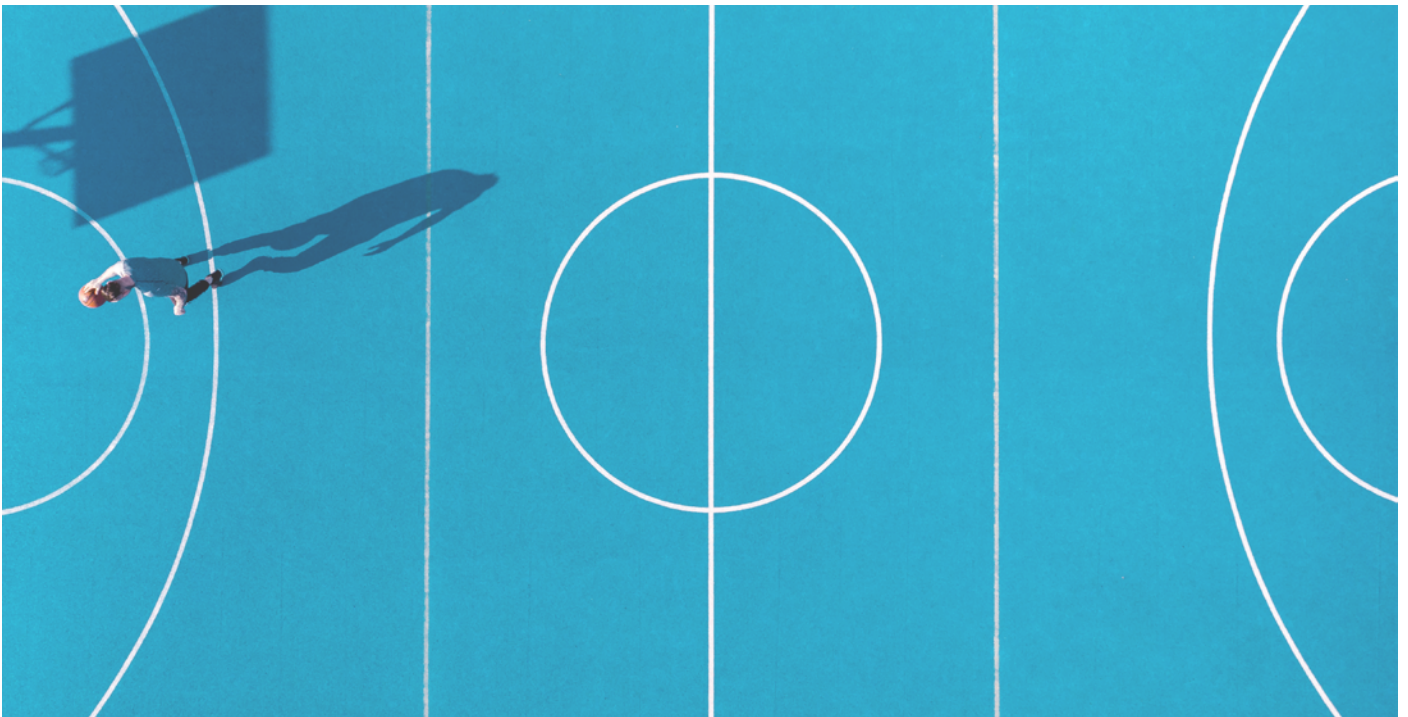
Gabriela Garton, Argentina

Mary Cain, United States

Kaiya McCullough, United States

Graphic Design: Victoria Andreoli

The Sport & Rights Alliance is a coalition hosted and operated by the World Players Association sector of UNI Global Union, registered in Switzerland with an office at 8 – 10 Avenue Reverdil, 1260 Nyon.



Introduction

In 2022, the Sport & Rights Alliance conducted a needs assessment to explore interest, capacity, and opportunities for an international network created and led by athletes with lived experience of abuse in sport.



Building on its goal to represent and elevate the voices of those most affected by the negative impacts of sport, the SRA held a series of focus groups with survivors, whistleblowers, representatives of local and national survivor-led organizations, and similar networks from other sectors.

The consultations revealed a clear need for an international network hosted by the SRA to facilitate greater connection, representation, advocacy and support. In 2024, led by Olympian, researcher and survivor Joanna Maranhão and guided by an advisory council of other athletes and allies, the SRA officially launched the Athletes Network for Safer Sports.

Athletes Network: Strategic Plan

Who We Are

The Athletes Network for Safer Sports, a program of the Sport & Rights Alliance, is an international network of people and organizations connected by their lived experience of abuse in sport. We are a safe space that leverages our collective strength to continue our healing journey, amplify our voices, and achieve systemic change in the world of sport.

Our movement is committed to a human rights-based approach and is led and informed by those with lived experience.

Vision

A world where all can participate in sport free from abuse of any kind, where internationally recognized safeguarding standards are upheld, and a culture of agency, inclusion, wellbeing, is achieved.

Mission

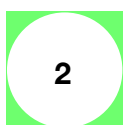
To create and strengthen safe spaces for people affected by abuse in sport to further healing, amplify each other's voices, and advocate for systemic change.

Goals



Healing

To provide safe spaces, information, funding, and greater access to individual and collective support for survivors and their allies.



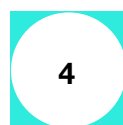
Voice

To ensure that athletes and allies impacted by abuse in sport have a voice and a vote at the highest levels of sport governance where policy decisions affecting their lives are being made.



Accountability

To increase pressure for and strengthen the development of trauma-informed and survivor-led global sport policy and governance structures that ensure accountability.



Sustainability

To build a resourceful, resilient, and sustainable movement that can support these efforts and the long-term wellbeing of athlete advocates.

Theory of Change

By creating safe spaces for people impacted by violence in sports, we build connection and power among impacted athletes, whistleblowers and allies to drive systemic change and make sports safe for all.

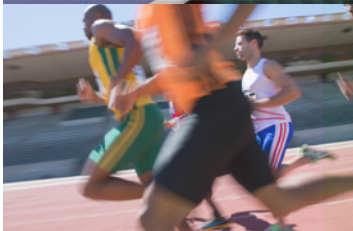
Shared Priorities



Our approach must be built on the experience, perspectives, and leadership of impacted people.



We will be guided by a margins-in approach – ensuring that we include and champion the input, participation and interests of historically marginalized groups from the start, not as an afterthought.



We will increase connection, collaboration, and collective actions across the sports sector.



We will develop and amplify collective campaigns to drive engagement and activism.



We will advocate to ensure people with lived experience are meaningfully engaged in all decision-making processes.

Values

The network's values represent our core beliefs and act as guiding principles for our purpose and direction. The values ground how we operate internally and how we interact with the sport ecosystem as a whole.

Empathy We are mindful of everyone's feelings, rights, and individual journey.

Diversity We value difference and recognize that people have diverse identities, backgrounds, geographies, and experiences.

Survivor-led We center the voices of those affected by abuse and recognize that by doing so, it helps us to better serve individuals, develop programs, and identify key challenges and opportunities.

Trauma-informed We recognize the impacts of trauma and adhere to trauma-informed principles and practices.

Intersectional We recognize the overlap of identity and oppression.

Transparent We are clear about who we are, our intentions, current scope of our work and expected contributions of members, while also recognizing our limitations.

Culturally-appropriate We are responsive to individuals' cultural backgrounds, beliefs, norms, languages, and needs.

Resilient We commit to self- and collective care, recognizing the difficulty and power imbalances inherent to this work, so we can adapt and grow in face of adversity.

Welcoming We serve as a safe space for those who have experienced abuse in sport, working continuously to foster collective and individual support.

Intentional We aim to engage morally, emotionally, intellectually, and socially in all conversations and actions.

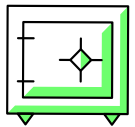
Collaborative We are driven by a belief in the power of collective action and will seek opportunities to promote connection in what we do.

Accountable We consider potential problems and distress as they arise, and collectively seek solutions.

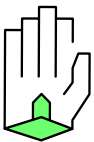
Activities



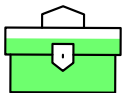
Collective Campaigns & Solidarity



Emergency Fund



Advocacy Training & Support



Wellbeing Support & Resources



Research Analysis & Exchange



www.sportandrightsalliance.org
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RAISING THE BAR FOR
SPORT, HUMAN RIGHTS
AND TRANSPARENCY