

World Fair Play Day 7th September

A MANIFESTO



The World Fair Play Day (WFPD) is a sports initiative designed to promote fair play and Ethical Values in sport. Everyone in sport both on and off the pitch is invited to highlight fair play initiatives, projects and successes every year on this date. This year, on the 7th September, the first global World Fair Play Day will be inaugurated in Brussels with both formal signings and local sports activities and events.

The WFPD is coordinated by a joint worldwide partnership between Panathlon International, and the World and European Fair Play Organizations, CIFP and EFPM, inspired by Panathlon Wallonia-Brussels (PWB), where Fair Play Days have happened annually since 2013 in French-speaking Belgium on 7th September.

The idea of the day recognizes that fair play can be promoted by large national initiatives and small simple gestures, so PWB invited all athletes, practitioners, leaders, coaches, trainers, referees, parents, supporters and those around them to join the campaign and take concrete action on the ground and demonstrate exemplary behaviour in all circumstances. To make this day a true celebration of fair play in sports.

The date of 7th September was not chosen at random by PWB, because it was on this day in 1963 that the founding members of what was to become the International Committee for Fair Play (CIFP), met on the initiative of the French Tennis Champion Jean Borotra. The International Olympic Committee later endorsed the CIFP as champion of the values of the Olympic Charter.

The key strategic ambition for the day is to enable the values of sports ethics and fair play to be understood as a real component of education both in sport, society and life itself.

The outcomes of the WFPD will also contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations particularly no 4 (Quality Education) and no 17 (Partnerships). In line with International Olympic Committee recommendations the day will also contribute to the aims of Unesco's International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport and the European Sports Charter of the Council of Europe.

Why have a World Fair Play Day?

- sport, when it is practiced with fair play values, helps develop better communities and individuals, improves education, and can promote peace and harmony
- fair play teaches values such as respect, integrity, solidarity, tolerance, inclusion, fraternity, sharing, exchange, as well as self-control and self-development
- fair play impacts on concepts and issues that are wider than sport including integrity, equal opportunities, social inclusion and disability, race and gender equality
- fair play also attacks cheating, doping, match fixing, illegal gambling, money laundering, harassment, and any forms of physical and moral violence
- The Olympic values and Olympism itself are achieved through demonstrating fair play

Yet there is no “world day” recognising these benefits to society.



The International Fair Play Committee,
the European Fair Play Movement
and the Panathlon International united by Fair Play
at the initiative of Panathlon Wallonia-Brussels

So, building on the approach and success of the PWB Days of Fair Play since 2013 this World Fair Play Day aims to recognise and promote three key areas of fair play:

1. Practical actions and tools for fair play e.g. “fair play card” to be available as a booklet and web resource
2. A communication and media campaign through all available channels
3. Symbolic events, innovations, and celebrations i.e. “Moments for Fair Play”

All the four agencies, signatory to this manifesto below, commit to encourage and enable through their web sites, activities, members and partners promotion of these 3 areas of activity. What the four Presidents as signatories to this manifesto for the World Day of Fair Play said:

“This day is vital as we seek to make the world a better place to live and grow up in through the example of sport in fair play. Please sign this manifesto!”

Jeno Kamuti - International Fair Play Committee

“It is great to see this very important day established as a beacon to promote fair play across all continents of the world. We ask all our members to promote this day”

Christian Hinterberger - European Fair Play Movement

“Fair Play is the fundamental principle that inspires the behavior of the honest man in sport and in all circumstances of life. We welcome the World Day of Fair Play as an opportunity to highlight it.”

Pierre Zappelli - Panathlon International

“It is with great pleasure and pride that this important day is to be inaugurated in Brussels building on the work of PWB over recent years.”

Philippe Housiaux - Panathlon Wallonie-Bruxelles who inspired the project

“We urge you to sign up to this manifesto, and support the day this year and every year”



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In recognition of the important role that fair play has in sport and society in building sports and individual integrity, we (named below) commit our organization to the World Fair Play Day Manifesto and fully agree to engaging as an organization and through our members to:

- develop and publish appropriate policies, structures, mechanisms, activities and programmes to promote fair play
- ensure that the knowledge and understanding of fair play increases and is contributing to the development of sports integrity
- cooperate with the founding organizations and signatory institutions to exchange best practice, to implement events and promote actions
- celebrate World Fair Play Day annually every September 7th with specific events as the highlight of the year reflecting the actions carried out throughout the previous year
- undertake to use and display the WFPD official logo for all campaigns, communications and promotion actions of its WFPD events according to the Style Guide

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