Women and leadership

"Leaderhip has no gender" Mentoring Program



Dear potential Mentee,

It is time to empower women in Swiss sports organisations and increase the number of women in leadership roles. The information kick-off meeting on September 26 in Bern highlighted the strong interest in being part of this vital work: closing the gender gap in Swiss sports and achieving the goal of 40% women in leadership positions.

We are excited to invite you to apply to join the Swiss Olympic/Sportif/SheSkillz Global Mentoring Program via the SheSkillz Global platform.

This unique mentoring program connects female professionals in Swiss sports with experienced mentors from diverse professions at both national and international levels. Starting with the program kickoff on March 6, 2025, our mission is to empower women to pursue leadership roles, strengthen professional networks, and champion diversity in sports organisations—ultimately creating a world where "Leadership Has No Gender."

WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN THIS PROGRAM AS A MENTEE?

This mentoring program is a joint initiative by Swiss Olympic's Office for Equality and Diversity, Sportif, and SheSkillz Global. It aims to promote gender equality and diversity by actively supporting women in Swiss sports organisations. By investing in women's professional development, sports organisations can foster equality, enhance diversity, and unlock untapped potential within their teams.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The SheSkillz Global Mentoring Program offers a nine-month journey of growth, connection, problem-solving, and inspiration. As a mentee, you will benefit from:

- Individual Mentorship: Four tailored mentoring sessions with two mentors—one from SheSkillz Global and one from the Swiss sports network—designed to support your leadership development and career goals.
- **Webinars:** Every two months, webinars will address relevant topics, with opportunities for group discussions and shared insights.
- **Task Groups:** Collaborate with 4–5 other participants on a topic related to women and leadership in Swiss sports.
- **Final Event:** Present your task group projects to invited guests from Swiss sports at the program's in-person closing event.

Participating organisations must commit to supporting your career development, providing internal guidance, and exploring career opportunities within their teams.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The program is open to:

- Women currently working within sports organisations who are eager to take the next step in their careers or leadership roles.
- Female athletes transitioning into leadership careers after their competitive sports journeys.
- Applicants with the support of their sports organisation.
 If you lack organisational support but wish to work in Swiss sports and believe you are a strong candidate, please contact us to discuss open spots or possible connections within the Swiss sports community.
- Candidates with a good level of English communication, as the program involves participants and mentors from across Switzerland and beyond.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS

- **Cost:** Thanks to funding from the Swiss Sports Promotion Foundation, this program is free for all accepted mentees.
- Application Deadline: January 31, 2025.
- **Kickoff Event:** The program begins with an in-person kickoff on March 7, 2025, offering a valuable opportunity for networking and community building.
- First Cohort: Limited to 25 participants.

READY TO APPLY?

To apply, please email guro@sheskillzglobal.com with:

- A brief introduction (max. five lines) about yourself and the sports organisation you represent.
- A signed mentoring agreement: tinyurl.com/4eufhuab

If accepted, you will receive access to the SheSkillz Global platform, where you will:

- Complete your profile with a motivation letter.
- Provide a brief statement about your mentoring needs and select your preferred topics for mentoring.
- Optionally upload documents or videos to support your application.
- Submit a letter of support from your sports organisation.

Selected candidates will be invited for a brief Teams interview. If accepted, you will receive an invitation (by February 7, 2025) to the March 7, 2025, kickoff event. (Mark your calendar now!)

Thank you for considering this exciting journey. Together, we can create a stronger, more diverse leadership landscape in Swiss sports.

Warm regards, Karin, Luana, and Guro Swiss Olympic/Sportif/SheSkillz Global Mentoring Program Team

For more information or questions, please contact: **Karin Iten**, Subject Matter Expert for Equality and Diversity, Swiss Olympic - karin.iten@swissolympic.ch **Luana Bergamin**, Co-Präsident, Sportif - luana.bergamin@sportif.info **Guro A. Johnsen**, CEO, SheSkillz Global - guro@sheskillzglobal.com