International Association for Communication and Sport (IACS)
Call for Papers/Panels
2026 Summit on Communication and Sport
Dublin, Ireland
March 12-14, 2026

The International Association for Communication and Sport (IACS) invites you to submit your work for a presentation or panel discussion for the 2026 Summit on Communication and Sport. The IACS Summit is the only stand-alone conference for communication researchers interested in exploring sport and welcomes submissions from diverse critical, methodological, theoretical, and perspectives.

This year's Summit is being organized in combination with the Sport & Discrimination Conference, which will be held March 11-12 on the same site as the Summit. The Sport & Discrimination Conference will distribute its own call for abstracts and will administer a separate review process, but scholars will have the opportunity to jointly register for and attend both conferences. Details to come later.

IACS SUMMIT SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
- Oct. 15, 2025 at 11:59pm ET (U.S) / Oct. 16, 2026 at 4:59am UTC
- **The submission site** is available here.
- As the submitting author, you will be automatically assigned up to three abstracts to review as part of the anonymous review process. If you are not the submitting author and are willing to serve as a reviewer, please sign up using this link.

EVALUATION:
All submissions will be evaluated through an anonymous peer review process.

DECISION DEADLINE:
Author(s) will receive the outcome of their submission in the first week of December.

AUTHOR LIMITS:
A maximum of two (2) submissions in total (papers, panels, or one of each) from a single author.

SESSION INFORMATION:
Research and panel sessions are 75 minutes long. Research sessions will be constructed to allow for at least 15 minutes of discussion following the presentations.

Scholars interested in submitting to the 2026 Summit have two options:
      1. An extended abstract submission
      2. A panel discussion proposal

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:
All papers must be original and not simultaneously submitted to another journal or conference. The following submission categories are welcome:

EXTENDED ABSTRACTS:
Extended abstract submissions **may not exceed 500 words** in length (excluding cover and reference pages) and should be prepared for anonymous peer review (clear of any identifying information about the author(s)). Here are tips from Taylor & Francis regarding how to anonymize your document.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS:
Panel Discussions must focus on a clearly defined theme suitable for an interactive discussion format. Submissions must include a title, a description of up to **250 words** explaining the focus and rationale, and a list of all panelists' institutional or professional affiliations.

TOP STUDENT PAPER:
IACS will recognize the Top Student Paper submitted to the Summit with a certificate and a cash award. For award consideration, a full-length manuscript, solely authored by a student(s), must be submitted to the review committee by **Friday, January 30, 2026**. Students must submit an abstract at the October deadline. Submissions will be reviewed by anonymous peer review.

Abstracts, panel proposals, and student papers should be submitted as a Word document or PDF.

REVIEW INFORMATION:
There is only one set of review criteria for extended abstract submission. Regardless of whether an abstract reflects works in-progress or completed papers, all should be submitted as extended abstracts and will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Clarity of thesis
- Definition of problem
- Theoretical perspective

- Background; review of the literature
- Research questions/hypotheses and/ or rhetorical/critical argument
- Appropriateness of methodology

REVIEWERS:
Reviewers will be selected from submitting authors and self-nomination through the submission process. Reviewers must have, at minimum, a completed master's degree, and have knowledge in the academic disciplines of communication and sport. Reviewers must identify their area of reviewing expertise (quantitative methodology, qualitative methodology, rhetorical/critical). If you are not a submitting author, please consider signing up here.

SUBMISSION AGREEMENT:
By submitting an abstract or panel to the 2026 Summit on Communication and Sport, you understand that your submission enters you into an obligation to review up to three other submissions. You also understand that you are obligated to attend the Summit, if your submission is accepted. At least one author listed on the paper must attend the Summit. If you cannot be there to present, it is your responsibility to ensure one of your other authors can be present. Please be conscientious that last-minute cancellations prevent others from being invited to the Summit to present their work.

AI POLICY FOR SUBMISSIONS:
If Generative AI was used in preparing your submission, this must be disclosed. Authors should not submit to the IACS Summit if AI replaced any core research responsibilities (e.g., coding, original writing, referencing). AI usage should be limited to assistance for enhancing your own original work. See the following guidance from Sage.

SUMMIT INQUIRIES:
For questions about submissions, contact IACS Vice Chair Guy Harrison at gharri37@utk.edu. For questions about IACS or conference events, contact IACS Executive Director Lauren Smith at smithlau@rowan.edu**.**

Visit **www.communicationandsport.com** to join IACS and to find Summit details as they become available.