**Meet the Speakers**

**Stuart Armstrong**

**Sport and Workforce Development Professional, Skill Acquisition and Coaching Specialist, Talent Development Coach, Coach Developer, Mentor, Speaker, Facilitator.**

**Producer and host of ‘The Talent Equation Podcast’** [**www.thetalentequation.co.uk**](http://www.thetalentequation.co.uk)

**Profile**

Stuart is a Sports Science Graduate from University of Wales who has worked in sports development, talent and performance sport for the over 20 years. In 2000 Stuart designed and launched a ground-breaking golf programme aimed at children aged 5 to 11 called Tri-Golf which has gone on to become a globally recognised development product that has now provided golf experiences to over 2,000,000 children across 22 countries.

Stuart has held positions in performance and talent development at England Golf, UK Coaching and the Rugby Football Union that have all focussed on creating optimal development environments for young people to thrive and reach their potential. Stuart is currently the Head of Coaching and Professional Workforce at Sport England. He has been responsible for writing and publishing two national strategy documents, *‘Coaching in an Active Nation: The Coaching Plan for England’* and *‘Working in an Active Nation: The Professional Workforce Strategy for England’.*

Stuart is a highly regarded public speaker having delivered keynote presentations across the globe for a range of organisations both in and out of sport. He is also an expert facilitator who leads workshops for organisations striving to support people to be the best they can be. Stuart also owns the website [www.thetalentequation.co.uk](http://www.thetalentequation.co.uk) and is host of the 5 star rated podcast ‘The Talent Equation’ which is dedicated to providing advice, guidance and support to people at the cutting edge of coaching and performance development.

Stuart has coaching qualifications in Hockey, Cricket, Rugby and Golf, He has coached internationally, at national league level and has held roles as a National Age Group Talent Development Coach at England Hockey working with some of the top U16 and U18 players in the country. Alongside all this Stuart also volunteers at his local clubs and faces his biggest coaching challenge with 50 U10 hockey players in the winter and 40 U11 cricketers during the summer!

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**“I am passionate about helping people to explore the limits of their potential. I believe human beings have limitless possibilities and with a skilful guide by our side, we can better explore the realms of opportunity that are within our grasp”**

**Margaret Domka**

**Executive Director of the U.S. Center for Mental Health & Sport**

**Website:** [**https://mentalhealthandsport.org/**](https://mentalhealthandsport.org/)

The mission of the U.S. Center for Mental Health & Sport is to bring optimum mental health to sport communities with a vision to leverage the strengths of sport communities to ensure that thriving mental health is promoted and accessible to all individuals involved in any capacity, and to educate and inspire those communities to utilize strategies that allow for the prevention and early intervention of mental health challenges.

**We can’t afford to lose one more…** we can’t afford to lose one more athlete, coach, administrator, parent, official or other soccer community member to suicide. We also can’t afford to have any of our participants leave our soccer communities due to struggles with mental health challenges like depression and anxiety. Therefore, Margaret has co-founded this non-profit organization along with Dr. Skye Arthur-Banning to provide training and a variety of mental health programs that help participants better understand how to support each other. The USC-MHS ACT! Mental Health Awareness Training has been presented to audiences at all levels of sport from youth and grassroots sport to Division 1 collegiate sport across the United States and internationally.

Margaret is in the final stages of her PhD at Clemson University where she is researching mental health and sport. Skye and Margaret were recently awarded a 4-year grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, to carry out research and expand mental health awareness training within sport communities.

Margaret is also a former FIFA referee and was the only American selected to officiate in the FIFA Women’s World Cup Canada 2015. She continues to be very involved with officiating soccer as she is an active international referee for the International Federation of Cerebral Palsy Football, Blind Soccer, and Special Olympics.

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**“Bringing optimum mental health to sport communities by providing mental health training and resources, opening pathways to access additional mental health support services, and committing to the advancement of mental health and sport research.”**

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**Brian Scott**

**Risk Management Coordinator for Oregon Youth Soccer Association**

Brian was the Manager of Member Services for Oregon Youth Soccer from 2007 until his retirement in 2018. Despite formally retiring, Brian has remained with the Association to continue as Risk Management Coordinator. He holds a B.A. from St. John’s College, Annapolis Maryland and a J.D. from Lewis & Clark College, Northwestern School of Law, Portland, Oregon.

Brian has had a long association with soccer in Oregon. Before joining OYSA he was a player in adult leagues for men and co-ed, both indoor and outdoor from 1975. He is a USSF C licensed coach with experience coaching recreational youth soccer, competitive youth soccer, and high school soccer. He has been active in soccer administration as a recreational club president, a member of PYSA’s committee on Small-sided Soccer, chair of PYSA’s Coach Development. Committee, a member of the OYSA Recreation Council, and Secretary of the PYSA board of directors.

As the Manager of Member Services for Oregon Youth Soccer, Brian helped clubs to review and revise bylaws to accomplish club goals while complying with legal requirements and sound management principles. He developed and continues to maintain a template for drafting bylaws for a soccer club that is organized as a corporation with members. Brian has made presentations about soccer club organization and management at several Oregon Youth Soccer annual meeting workshops.

**Jamie Hogland, Paige Zizzi, David Grbavac**

**Oregon Soccer Referee Organization**

The Oregon Soccer Referee Organization (formerly known to many as the Oregon Referee Committee) is a non-profit organization that prides itself on the recruitment, training, development, and ongoing support of all USSF soccer referees in the State of Oregon.  We are committed to being a community partner and helping soccer to be great for all who have a passion for the sport, working with organizations to identify areas of opportunity or gaps in the sport, as well as identifying opportunities to promote and celebrate the referees in our state.

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*“We are better together!”*

**Patrick Sampson**

**Chief Executive Officer at Cogeo**

Patrick is the Chief Executive Officer at Cogeo ([www.cogeo.us](http://www.cogeo.us)), a firm that specializes in organizational development and fundraising services for 501c3s and social enterprises to optimize their efficiency and long-term sustainability.

In its sports division to-date, Cogeo has spoken with over 550 clubs, academies, and governing bodies across the US about fundraising, engaged with over 60 nationwide, and raised over $27mm for their programs and facilities. Cogeo is also in its 6th year of leading two educational breakout sessions at the annual USYS Coaches Convention about fundraising for soccer clubs, academies, and governing bodies.

Before founding Cogeo, from 2010-2012 Patrick was a Registered Investment Advisor with Sampson Investment Management. There he assisted with the management of $60mm of client investments and was tasked with co-managing client financial planning services.

****An avid soccer player and fan, as a youth player Patrick played for FC Portland, led Lakeridge HS to the state championship in 2004, and was a collegiate division 1 soccer goalkeeper and team captain for Loyola Marymount University. Patrick also was a Lowe’s Senior Class Award National Finalist in 2009.