Roundtable I: Augustus Hallmon, Northwest Missouri State University  
“Relationship Building as a Key Practice for Minority Sport Participation”

The goals of this study was to develop a better understanding of the beliefs that Black mothers hold and how these beliefs may be realized through their children’s recreational participation. The findings emphasized beliefs of positive youth development in the choices Black mothers made, which impact how children's recreation opportunities were provided and marketed to marginalized populations. A key determining factor revolved around relationship building, where parents wanted their child to be involved in sport programs that emphasized relationship building between adults (e.g. coach) and children. With the increasing change in community demographics, we are seeing communities experiencing more diversity among their constituencies. With this change, sport professionals will need to keep the changing demographic in mind as they are creating and implementing sport programs. The most effective way to approach this would be to train staff to become more culturally competent and have better cross-cultural communication (Holland, 2014). As Black mothers expressed their perceptions, their voice gave the impression that relationship building may be more important for sport participation than originally believed. Practitioners will receive insights that would assist in recognizing where their organization is currently and areas where they can improve with tips on how to do so.

Roundtable I: Maura Long, James Madison University  
“Analyzing Socio-Cultural Factors and Motivations that Promote Youth Participation in Sport”

The purpose of my contribution to this roundtable discussion is to share my research of socio-cultural, institutional, and structural factors that lead to the lack of participation or motivation (i.e. parental influence and pressure, obesity, and over-served athletes) to physical activity amongst youth. I will highlight remedies to challenge, encourage, and sustain continuous youth involvement in community and recreational sports programs. For instance, Cote and Hay’s (2002) Development Model of Sport Participation (DMSP) suggests sport sampling be encouraged at a young age. Children are able to try out different sports rather than specializing and investing in one particular activity. This model provides an example that allows youth the opportunity to find activities that they enjoy and can succeed in, which may lead to an active lifestyle as an adult. By observing a child’s background, practitioners and researchers can better understand their motivations for participation or lack of participation, and therefore better equipped to address their needs. By discussing these factors along with others, I hope to assist in establishing proactive solutions that promote physical activity and enjoyment among youth within recreational and community sport.

Roundtable I: Erin Morris, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
“Youth Sport Retention Through Non-Traditional and Recreational Sports”

Within the context of youth sport recruitment and retention, the discussion often focus on mainstream sports, those that we watch on TV or played during gym class. But those sports have been accessible (to differing levels) for years and are clearly not retaining and supporting enough youth participants. A focus on growing non-traditional sports may help to increase physical activity levels of youth who have not found a home in traditional sport. Rugby, ultimate Frisbee, and triathlon have all experienced increases in their youth participation in the last five years. This shows there is a market and need for alternative athletic outlets from the standard sports historically offered to youth. In addition to new sport options, there is a need for recreational sport opportunities for older youth. Many programs end their house/rec leagues around U12 or U14. This leaves teenagers who are not skilled enough, do not want to, or cannot afford to play on competitive teams without a pathway to sport above this age. In order to increase youth
retention in sport, there is a need for increased recreational pathways, including house and coed options for youth of all ages.

**Roundtable I: Taryn Price**, Oklahoma State University & **Nicole Been**, Langston University

“The Value of Implementing a Youth-Adult Partnership in Youth Sport”

Youth are consistently introduced into progressive development programs that seek positive youth development (PYD) outcomes (Coakley, 2011; Hansen, Larson, & Dworkin, 2003). Positive youth development outcomes include, but are not limited, the development of necessary life skills that enhance youth voice, empowerment, and leadership development, among other qualities (Mitra, 2003; Hansen, Larson, & Dworkin, 2003). A primary area of interest that has long been garnered to provide youth with these development skills is youth recreational sport participation. Recognizing that most PYD programs are developed by adults for youth development, the current research effort sought to understand the impact of a program developed by a youth-adult partnership (Camino, 2000; Larson, Walker, & Pearce, 2005). Results from the youth-adult partnership established by collegiate and high school students will be presented based on their collaboration of planning a recreational sport event within their local community. Among the observed findings, the benefits of the partnership provided insight for the adults who will be planning recreational sport events for their communities in their careers, while also increasing the youth participant’s sport enjoyment and value for recreational sport within their community.

**Roundtable I: Emily Hardell**, San Jose State University & **Jessica Chin**, San Jose State University

“Youth Sport Development Pathways of Division I Collegiate Female Soccer Players”

Early youth sport specialization is a growing trend and a contentious issue in the US. Some young athletes are encouraged to begin specialized training in a single sport at an early age with the belief that it will lead to a collegiate level scholarship (Malina, 2010). Within contemporary society, parents are driven by success for their children and usually perceive an early start in sport as necessary to achieve higher levels of play (Coakley, 2009). Few studies have examined youth sport development using the Developmental Model of Sport Participation (DMSP) as a guiding framework, and no published studies exist that describe youth sport development pathways for NCAA Division I women’s college soccer players (Côté, Baker, & Abernethy, 2007; Côté & Fraser-Thomas, 2007). The purpose of the current study is to examine the youth sport development pathways and experiences of female collegiate soccer players using the DMSP. Data was collected through fifteen semi-structured interviews with athletes from two Division I university soccer programs in Northern California. Preliminary findings include personal accounts of prevailing trends in elite youth soccer development pathways, such as: early specialization, professionalization, commercialization, injury, and the growth of the club system in the US.