



AIPS Young Reporters' at the 1st European Games in Baku, Azerbaijan, June 12-28, 2015

AIPS, the International Sports Press Association will conduct a sports journalism education programme to provide young sport reporters with a unique training experience during the Baku 2015 European Games. The team of 12 journalists (mainly Europeans) will be made up of six males and six females, and two Azerbaijani journalists. Participants will all be students, interns and young professional journalists already working in the news media.

The programme will be conducted by a number of international specialists together with media training from seasoned mentors from AIPS.

All expenses for successful Young Reporter candidates will be covered. This includes: economy class airfares to Baku from the participant's home city, accommodation, meals and medical insurance cover for the duration of the games.

KEY ELEMENTS

Training will be offered in print, photography, and online and new media reporting, incorporating on-the-job training in competition venues during the Baku 2015 European Games.

All Young Reporters will be required to participate in all training sessions and will be given daily reporting assignments. Photographers will be required to produce written and video/audio content just as written journalists will be required to take photographs. All training will be conducted in English.

Assigned articles, photo galleries and video reports will be published on the AIPS website www.aipsmedia.com and be provided to the official website of Baku 2015 www.baku2015.com. Each successful candidate must sign an agreement setting out the conditions of course participation and the use of editorial material produced as part of the coursework.

Basic technology needed for the seminars will be provided by BEGOC, but participants will be required to bring their own personal equipment (e.g. laptop computers, voice recorders, digital photo and video cameras) as they see fit to fulfil their assignments.

The project will commence with an introduction to sports reporting and the techniques used when covering a major international sports event. The first assignment will be to cover the Opening Ceremony, which will take place in the Baku National Stadium on 12 June 2015.

Coursework will include basic elements of event coverage: writing, interviewing, photos and video, and the Internet. All Young Reporters will receive assessments of their work throughout the course, then an official Certificate of Participation on completion. All coursework will be undertaken in English. Additional translation and interpretation will not be available.

SELECTION TIMELINE

All interested individuals are welcome to apply until April 15, 2015; April 16-30 applications will be reviewed by AIPS.

Successful applicants will be notified early May and will subsequently commence the visa application process with the assistance of the Baku 2015 organisers.

June 11 the Selected Young Journalists arrive in Baku; June 29, the Young Journalists will depart Baku.



AIPS Young Reporters at the UEFA U21 championships in Israel.

COURSE DETAILS

All Young Journalists will undertake both general and specialised training in various aspects of sports reporting and the coverage of events across all the venues that will host the 20 sports. The course will look at what makes a good sports story, how to tell it informatively and entertainingly, when to look for more background detail, and why accuracy and fairness still remain the cornerstones of sports reporting.

According to their specific interests, participants will specialise in areas of media, such as print reporting (newspaper, magazine and agency), news and sports photography, and Internet/new media.

Stories, photographs, audio and video packages will be published on the AIPS website, Baku 2015 website and will be freely available, without rights, to media organisations worldwide.

There will also be the opportunity for stories to be used by the participants' member National Associations and media organisations for publication in their home countries and regions.

All filming will be subject to News Access Rules and the Filming and Photography Guide. BEGOC will provide a copy of both guides when they have been finalised. No filming of the field of play (including competition action) will be permitted because of commercial rights-holder agreements.

Training and course work will be undertaken in English only. Translation and interpretation will not be available.

AIPS SELECTION CRITERIA

Candidates will mostly be between the ages of 18 and 24, and will be students or journalists already working in the media. Recent university graduates working as interns or in similar training roles in established news organisations may also be considered after consultation with the hosts. Applicants must be proficient in writing and presenting news reports in English.

Candidates must be nominated by an AIPS member National Association.

Each candidate must submit a short essay in English (500 words or less) on ‘Why I wish to be selected and what benefits I expect to gain from participation in the AIPS Young Reporters’ Programme during the Baku 2015 European Games.’

Strong supporting references and evidence of published work will be an advantage. Candidates must be able to travel on the required dates and be available to partake, full time, in the complete course over the duration of the event. Each successful candidate must provide evidence of a current travel insurance policy. Candidates must be willing to sign an agreement form setting out the conditions of their participation in the AIPS Young Reporters’ Programme, which will include copyright free usage of their course content.

Candidates must have a valid passport for international travel. Upon selection they will receive the necessary documents from Baku 2015 organisers for their visa. The final decision on the suitability of nominated candidates remains with AIPS and BEGOC.

Final successful candidates will be chosen by the AIPS Bureau, which will then be forwarded to the local organising committee BEGOC by May 2015.

ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA Fluency in French, Spanish and/or Arabic (in addition to English) will be considered an asset.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS Individuals interested in applying are asked to submit in English:

Current and detailed CV and photo with covering letter; Two letters of reference; A brief paper (500 words or less) on “Why I wish to be selected and what benefits I expect to gain from participation in the AIPS Young Reporters’ Programme, at the 1st European Games in Baku.

Applications will be accepted until April 15, 2015. Applications should be sent to: youngreporters@aipsmedia.com

Please note: Applications will be reviewed by the AIPS Bureau.