PhD project title
Social capital in sports clubs / clubs’ contribution to social inclusion.

Supervisors
Geoff Nichols

Project description
This research has synergy with a project examining the contribution of volunteer led sports clubs to social inclusion and volunteering across ten European countries.

More information on this project is available at: [http://www.sdu.dk/SIVSCE](http://www.sdu.dk/SIVSCE)

The proposed research could use a measure of social capital developed by Australian colleagues to examine the role volunteer led clubs in contributing to social capital. This measure has been applied to leisure centre users. However, social capital is a complex subject and the research will help conceptualise the nature of bonding and bridging capital in clubs [1]. It will also contribute to understanding the role of clubs in reducing social inclusion. A question here is if clubs for minority groups reinforce a broader social exclusion or reduce it by allowing the members to express their distinctive identity. [2].

References


PhD candidate profile
The PhD candidate should meet the following requirements:

- Be enthusiastic, well-organised and have good inter-personal skills.
- High motivation and a keen interest in the research area.
- A first degree that is equivalent to a UK classification of upper second class honours or above. In addition, a good masters level qualification of merit or above, with a minimum of 60 per cent in the dissertation, research project element or equivalent experience. We also accept an MBA from an accredited school where the candidate can demonstrate that a significant research element has been undertaken. For further information on entry requirements, please see: [http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/management.study/researchdegrees/howtoapply](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/management.study/researchdegrees/howtoapply)

Duration and start dates
Full or part time study for 3 or 6 years is available, and remote location study is also possible. We have two start dates a year for PhD students. Our preferred start date is 1 October, however we do recognise that not everyone will be able to commence studies at that time, so we also offer a second start date of 1 February. If you are unable to start in October or February, it may be also possible to start your PhD at a different time of the year.
Closing date for applications
Applications will be considered until a suitable candidate has been identified. For the 1 October start date, a full application must have been received by 15 July. For 1 February start date, a full application must have been received by 15 November.

How to apply
See http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/management/study/researchdegrees/howtoapply for full details of how to apply.

For an informal discussion about this opportunity, please contact Geoff Nichols at g.nichols@sheffield.ac.uk.