The International Journal of the History of Sport

Instructions and Style Guide for Book Reviews

Updated 16 December 2016
Review Guidelines for *The International Journal of the History of Sport*

The target length for reviews is 600 to 1,000 words per title. Only exceed the upper limit if there are good reasons for doing so, and let the Reviews Editor, Dr Fiona Skillen, know in advance if you intend to do so. Remember that the audience for the review is international in nature, so some contextual information may be required in the review. Jargon is to be avoided. No sexist, racist, or other forms of discriminatory terminology should be used. Refrain from using ‘he’ when referring to readers of both genders. Over-lengthy reviews may be returned for trimming, or cut by the editor, so please do not exceed the word limit. It is expected that reviewers will declare any conflict of interest when requesting a book for review.

Reviews should contain some or all of the following aspects:

- A brief outline of the contents of the book;
- A critical assessment of the book’s contribution to current knowledge of sport history and its place within existing historiography;
- An exploration of research approaches and methods if appropriate;
- A discussion and analysis of the main points and strength of the author’s argument;
- An assessment of how far the book will interest historians of sport.

Formatting conventions must be strictly adhered to, as follows:

- Double-spaced, 12 point, Times Roman font throughout, with indented paragraphs, rather than separating them with a blank line.
- Single, not double, spaces should follow full stops.
- British spelling should be used throughout, with –ize rather than –ise endings (for example, analyze, emphasized, organization).
- Where references are made in the body of the text to quotations in the book under review, please indicate relevant page numbers in round brackets within the text (for example, p. 116), preferably at the end of the quotation or sentence.
- Endnotes to other references are generally to be avoided, but where references (sparingly used) are made in the body of the review text, the format should follow the format of the journal reference style and be placed in endnotes.

It is good for the journal and the authors and publishers concerned to see reviews in print as soon as possible after the release of books. On this basis, reviews should be returned to the Reviews Editor, Dr Fiona Skillen, **no later than three calendar months after receipt of the book,**
unless a different deadline has been agreed. If you find yourself unable to complete the review in a timely manner, please notify the Reviews Editor immediately so extensions can be appropriately managed or so that the book can be allocated to another reviewer.

Please give the following details at the top of the review:

- Title of the book in bold, full name of the author(s)/editor(s), followed by the city of publication, publisher, and year of publication, page numbers (including the total number of forematter pages and text pages), other relevant information, and the price (indicating in brackets whether the price is for hardback or paperback). The ISBN number should also be provided. For example: *Wounded Tiger: The History of Cricket in Pakistan*, by Peter Oborne, London, Simon & Schuster, 2014, xxvi + 592 pp., £25 (hardback), ISBN: 978-0-85720-074-7

The following information should appear at the foot of the review:

- Name of reviewer and institutional affiliation.
- Email address of the reviewer
- Full postal address of the reviewer. This information will not appear in the published review, but is necessary in case the reviewer needs to be contacted by mail. Please note that the reviewer will also be sent a copyright form prior to publication of the review.

Send the review as an email attachment to: Fiona.Skillen@gcu.ac.uk. The submission will be acknowledged in a return email.