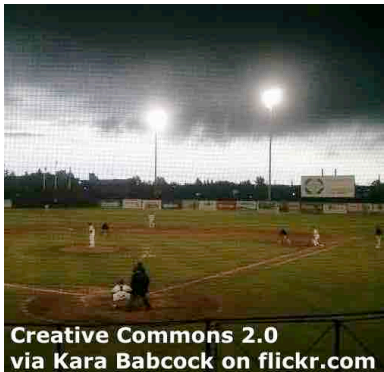


Climate crisis threatens future of global sport

22nd June, 2020



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A new study has revealed that climate change will threaten global sports events over the next three decades. The report was published by the Rapid Transition Alliance. This group monitors climate change, development and global issues.

Researchers said that nearly all sports would be impacted by what they called "an accelerating climate crisis". They highlighted how the weather has already disrupted major sports events. Bushfires in Australia made playing conditions hazardous at the Australian Tennis Open and torrential rain from a huge typhoon disrupted last year's Rugby World Cup in Japan. The report predicts that fires, floods, heatwaves and rising sea levels will cause greater disruption.

Rapid Transition Alliance coordinator Andrew Simms urged the sports industry to do more to become carbon-neutral. He said: "Sport provides some of society's most influential role models. If sport can change how it operates to act at the speed and scale necessary to halt the climate emergency, others will follow." He added that the carbon emissions from sports events worldwide are equal to those produced by a medium-sized country. The report's author, David Goldblatt, said sport should be more proactive. He said: "Making a carbon-zero world the common-sense priority of the sports world would make a huge contribution to making it the common-sense priority of all politics."

Sources: [theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com) / [yahoo.com](https://www.yahoo.com) / [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com)

Writing

Sports events should not be allowed to take place if they are not carbon neutral. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

study / climate change / sports events / global issues / weather / hazardous / fires / industry / role models / speed / scale / carbon / emissions / equal / common sense

True / False

- a) Climate change will endanger sports events in the next 30 years. T / F
- b) A report into sports events was published by Oxford University Press. T / F
- c) The report said all sports would be affected by climate change. T / F
- d) The report said floods and heatwaves would disrupt sports events. T / F
- e) The report's publisher said sport didn't have to be carbon-neutral. T / F
- f) The publisher said that if sport acted on emissions, others would follow. T / F
- g) Sports create as much carbon emissions as a medium-sized country. T / F
- h) The report's author said sports could affect political priorities. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. revealed | a. perilous |
| 2. published | b. stop |
| 3. monitors | c. issued |
| 4. disrupted | d. prime concern |
| 5. hazardous | e. impeded |
| 6. urged | f. enterprising |
| 7. halt | g. tracks |
| 8. equal | h. recommended |
| 9. proactive | i. identical |
| 10. priority | j. disclosed |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think of sports?
- b) Why do so many people not enjoy watching sports?
- c) What is the best sport in the world?
- d) What do you think of your country's national sport?
- e) How might climate change affect sport?
- f) Should all sport be held inside?
- g) What are the benefits of sports to the world?
- h) How can sports deal with climate change?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. A new study has | a. role models |
| 2. threaten global sports events over | b. rain |
| 3. the weather has already disrupted | c. revealed that |
| 4. torrential | d. the next three decades |
| 5. rising sea levels will cause | e. to do more |
| 6. Andrew Simms urged the sports industry | f. sense priority |
| 7. some of society's most influential | g. greater disruption |
| 8. the speed and | h. emissions |
| 9. carbon | i. major sports events |
| 10. a carbon-zero world the common- | j. scale necessary |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What can sports events do to be carbon neutral?
- Who are sports biggest role models?
- How do sports events create global emissions?
- Should sports events be carbon neutral before they can go ahead?
- What's your favourite sport and why?
- How big a priority is carbon-zero sports events?
- What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

Spelling

- A new study has eeelvrda that
- over the next three ecddesa
- what they called an cteaegiarcln climate crisis
- made playing conditions hodzusaar
- noartreitl rain from a huge typhoon
- rising sea levels will cause greater sidpuirton
- Rapid Transition Alliance oiortdrcaon
- do more to become carbon-autnrle
- some of society's most ieltialnfnu role models
- carbon ssoenimis
- sport should be more toepiravc
- making it the common-sense ipiryort

Answers – Synonym Match

1. j	2. c	3. g	4. e	5. a
6. h	7. b	8. i	9. f	10. d

Role Play

Role A – Football

You think football is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): skiing, archery or horse racing.

Role B – Skiing

You think skiing is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): football, archery or horse racing.

Role C – Archery

You think archery is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): skiing, football or horse racing.

Role D – Horse Racing

You think horse racing is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): skiing, archery or football.

Speaking – Sports

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| • cycling | • football |
| • archery | • tennis |
| • horse racing | • skiing |
| • swimming | • wrestling |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	F	c	F	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.