

Preparing competent sport psychology consultants in Korea:
The past, present, and future of certification process

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This presentation summarizes how the Korean Society of Sport Psychology (KSSP) has developed the certification process since 2004. Recently, the KSSP published an article regarding the current statuses of certification process (Kim et al., 2023). The KSSP has produced more than 3,000 Sport Psychology Consultants (SPC) since its inception. The SPC certification levels are categorized into three degrees: First; second; and third. A total of 35 rounds (as of Jan. 2024) of intensive training camps has been offered by KSSP. This week-long intensive certification camp involves series of lectures on psychological skills training (e.g., goal setting, imagery, concentration, relaxation, etc.), basic counseling skills, and ethical issues. At the end of each training camp, the certification examination is administered. In order to obtain the third degree SPC certification the applicants should pass the test. For the first and second degree certification, the applicants should apply for the supervised experiences. The minimum contacting hours are 200 for 1st degree and 140 for 2nd degree. During the presentation, similar sport psychology consulting certifications (i.e., CMPC and ISSP-R) from other organizations are presented and compared. Two years ago, the KSSP launched a task force in order to acquire a nationally recognized SPC certification. This should greatly impact the future of sport psychology practices in Korea. Finally, the future implications of the KSSP's SPC certification will be discussed.