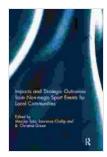
# Unveiling the Impact and Strategic Outcomes of Non-Mega Sport Events for Local Communities



Impacts and strategic outcomes from non-mega sport events for local communities by Brad Kullman

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The realm of sport events has traditionally been dominated by megaevents, such as the Olympics and the World Cup. However, non-mega sport events also play a significant role in local communities, offering a multitude of positive impacts and strategic outcomes.

This article aims to unravel the profound influence of non-mega sport events on local communities. We will explore how these events can stimulate economic development, foster social cohesion, promote cultural exchange, and enhance environmental sustainability. By understanding the transformative power of non-mega sport events, we can harness their potential to create positive change in our communities.

#### **Economic Impact**

Non-mega sport events can inject a significant amount of money into local economies. Participants, spectators, and organizers spend on accommodation, food and beverage, transportation, and retail goods and services. This increased spending creates jobs, supports businesses, and boosts tax revenues.

For example, the 2019 UCI Road World Championships in Yorkshire, England, generated an estimated £90 million for the local economy. The event attracted over 1 million spectators and created over 2,000 jobs.

#### **Social Cohesion**

Sport has a unique ability to bring people together and create a sense of community. Non-mega sport events provide an opportunity for residents to come together, celebrate their shared interests, and build relationships.

The 2015 Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, USA, is a prime example of the social impact of non-mega sport events. The event brought together over 7,000 athletes from 177 countries, along with thousands of volunteers and spectators. The Games not only showcased the abilities of athletes with intellectual disabilities but also fostered a spirit of inclusivity and acceptance.

### **Cultural Exchange**

Non-mega sport events can also promote cultural exchange between different communities. These events bring together people from diverse backgrounds, who share their customs, traditions, and perspectives.

The 2019 Rugby World Cup in Japan is a notable example of the cultural impact of non-mega sport events. The tournament attracted fans from all

over the world, who were eager to experience Japanese culture and traditions. The event also provided a platform for Japanese people to showcase their culture to the world.

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

Non-mega sport events can also play a role in promoting environmental sustainability. By adopting sustainable practices, such as reducing waste, using renewable energy, and promoting public transportation, these events can minimize their environmental impact.

The 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast, Australia, is a model of sustainable event management. The Games organizers implemented a comprehensive sustainability plan that included reducing carbon emissions, conserving water, and using recycled materials. The event also left a lasting legacy of sustainable infrastructure and practices.

#### **Strategic Outcomes**

In addition to their positive impacts, non-mega sport events can also contribute to specific strategic outcomes for local communities. These outcomes can include:

- Place branding: Non-mega sport events can help to raise the profile of a community and create a positive image. This can attract tourists, businesses, and investments.
- Community development: Non-mega sport events can provide opportunities for community development, such as improving infrastructure, creating new green spaces, and revitalizing neighborhoods.

- Health and well-being: Non-mega sport events can promote physical activity and healthy lifestyles. They can also provide opportunities for social interaction and mental well-being.
- Education and skills development: Non-mega sport events can provide opportunities for education and skills development, such as volunteering, working in event management, and learning new languages.

Non-mega sport events have the potential to make a profound impact on local communities. They can stimulate economic development, foster social cohesion, promote cultural exchange, and enhance environmental sustainability. By understanding the strategic outcomes of these events, we can harness their power to create positive change in our communities.

As we look to the future, it is essential to recognize the importance of nonmega sport events and to support their development. By investing in these events, we can create more vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable communities.



Caption: Non-mega sport events provide an opportunity for residents to come together, celebrate their shared interests, and build relationships.



Caption: Non-mega sport events bring together people from diverse backgrounds, who share their customs, traditions, and perspectives.



Caption: Non-mega sport events can minimize their environmental impact by adopting sustainable practices.

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