How do you manage your retirement from elite sport?

Michael Schmid, University of Bern



Retiring from elite sport is a turning point in life. It marks the beginning of a new chapter in which various opportunities can arise. Active career Post-career Preventive measures **Challenges associated with** Resources Barriers Prepare at an early stage for a retirement from elite sport Social support Exclusive athletic identity Adjusting your identity Education/work experience Injuries vocational career • Plan your retirement/make a multi-year Financial resources Dissatisfaction with athletic career Adjusting your daily routine Conflicts in club/federation plan/assess your current situation Bodily changes Psychological resources (e.g., resilience) • Explore other areas of life and Vocational reorientation meaningful activities • Take advantage of Swiss Olympic's career counseling Successful **ATHLETE HUB** transition For more information, please contact athletehub@swissolympic.ch or visit www.swissolympic.ch/nachsport Tips: • The process of letting go takes time • Seek out and take advantage of the opportuni-6 ties that arise in the new phase of your life · Gain serenity with regard to your sports career • Be mindful of your well-being **Crisis-like transition** • Do not hesitate to use your network or **Crisis intervention** e.g., involuntary unemployment, social counseling services if you feel you are stuck withdrawal, depressive mood e.g., career counseling, sport psychology counseling

Author: Michael Schmid, contact: athletehub@swissolympic.ch Model adapted from Stambulova (2003). For information on the literature used and/or for further reading, please contact the address above.