

Lending A Hand

A Few Starter Ideas for Increasing Equity

Look up your school's EADA (if college level)) and compare data to reality. Then evaluate the results for compliance issues with Title IX. EADA (Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act) website: <http://ope.ed.gov/athletics>

Call, write, or visit your congressperson and inquire about the status of *House Bill 458: High School Athletics Accountability Act of 2011*. Encourage your congressperson to do all that is possible to move the bill to enactment. Wait a couple of weeks and call again. (See www.Thomas.gov to track progress of bill.

Look up you state's high school data at www.nfhs.org and compare it to the national data available from the same website (See 'Participation Report' at website). Decide how to start making your state's data a bit better than it is today.

Contact your feeder high school, middle school, or athletic clubs and offer your services and those of your team (if appropriate) to serve as career day speakers or sport clinic workers. Your athletes as well as students in the feeder systems will benefit from the connections.

Contact the high school English, History/Social Studies, debate club etc. departments to suggest running a competition or composition assignment about girls and women in sport. Offer to be, or provide judges of the essays/compositions/debates. Engage your team members in the evaluation process if appropriate.

Contact your school or community library about adding a book relating to girls and women in sport to the summer reading list.

Find book clubs in your area and suggest Title IX/women in sport related books.

Become the most knowledgeable person on your staff about the rights and responsibilities of Title IX. Make sure your knowledge is accurate and expect the same from your campus Title IX designated officer.

Invite the Title IX designated officer to speak to your teams/classes/parents. (Gently engage the Title IX designated officer to be more engaged in the issue on campus.

Contact your *state* legislator and find out how to develop a *state* Title IX law. The legal need for state Title IX laws is complicated but the value is tremendous.