Publishing in peer-reviewed academic journals is a key indicator of success in many academic disciplines, including sport management. Reviewing is a key element of this process. Most journals in the field follow a double-blind review process, experts who assess the manuscript do not know the author’s identity, nor does the author know who offered the feedback. Journal editors also work to ensure timely reviews of high quality. The end goals of peer-review include (a) assessing quality and contribution of the manuscript; (b) helping the author to build on strengths and address the shortcomings; and (c) helping the editor to make an informed decision on the status of the manuscript, among other functions.

Despite the importance of peer-review, the process is not without its flaws. Long review times extend the time to publication; biases against (suspected) authors, types of research, and null findings; and low quality of reviews, among other criticisms, all plague the review process (DeSilva & Vance, 2017; Manchikanti et al. 2015; Magua et al., 2017; Smith et al., 2018).

Given the primacy of reviewing, the purpose of this symposium is to explore the peer review process in sport management. The editors of the primary journals in sport management—Sport Management Review, Journal of Sport Management, European Sport Management Quarterly, Sport Marketing Quarterly, and Sport Management Education Journal, and International Journal of Sport Marketing and Sponsorship—will serve as panelists. The editors will discuss (a) the peer review process; (b) elements of a quality review; (c) steps authors can take when responding to reviewers to better ensure acceptance; (d) circumstances in which it is appropriate to contact the editor with questions; and (e) approaches to overcoming the flaws with the peer-review process. The panelists will leave time for audience questions and comments, thereby facilitating greater understanding among all parties.