Dear friends in Sport Integrity,

The global pandemic was declared by the World Health Organisation exactly 40 days ago.

There are now 2,419,724 cases globally, and 165,799 people have unfortunately passed away. Many more are fighting for their lives in hospitals - 1,620,477 to be more precise, of which 3% are in a serious or critical condition. Schools, workplaces and sports grounds remain closed. Billions are confined to their homes. The bells continue ringing, loud and clear, all over the world.

In the days and weeks ahead, we are expecting to see the number of negative news stories climb even higher.

Yes, there are many reasons to be concerned, and keep our guard high. But there are also reasons to #BePositive.

Thanks to a combination of contact tracing, testing and isolating cases, along with other physical distancing polices, several countries have been able reduce the size of their coronavirus outbreaks and flatten the curve.

The number of patients who recovered from COVID-19 is now 633,448. That is nearly 80% of all resolved cases to date.

Several Governments around the world are now considering how best to ease the lockdown and revive their battered economies. Schools, shops and sporting organisations look forward to recovery with expectations of returning to work in the near future, but always with prudence, step by step, on an incremental basis.

From within the world of Sport, positive news stories continue to bring us reasons for optimism and examples of supreme humanity, as this third weekly news selection will highlight.

At SIGA, we remain as active and productive as ever, if not even more so, making significant strides on multiple fronts and advancing our reform agenda for Clean Sport worldwide.

And what a great lesson the world is learning from the 99-year-old hero Captain Tom, who already raised more than £26m for UK National Health System by taking part in a “100th birthday walk”! What a remarkable and inspirational example to us all!

Nobody can guarantee what will happen next, but what is certain is that, for the first time in 40 days, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. And that’s is not a small feat!

Emanuel Macedo de Medeiros
CEO, SIGA
Chairman & CEO, SIGA AMERICA
1. SIGA Strives 11: Integrity body and Soccerex to launch webinar series

2. IMMAF Partners With Peace & Sport
   [https://immaf.org/2020/04/08/immaf-partners-with-peace-sport/]

3. This ex-NFL player is now a doctor working 24-hour ER shifts—here’s what it’s like on the front lines of COVID-19

4. CCM Hockey, its women professional players and NHL Players Donate 500,000 Surgical Masks to Fight COVID-19. CCM Hockey is partnering with CCM Pros to help protect frontline healthcare workers
   [https://ccmhockey.com/en/covid-19]

5. Coronavirus: Why darts is thriving online during lockdown
   [https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/newsbeat-52296846]

6. Concacaf sets up Caribbean professional league working group
   [http://www.insideworldfootball.com/2020/04/16/concacaf-sets-caribbean-professional-league-working-group/]

7. England Women: Lionesses donate to #PlayersTogether to help NHS during coronavirus pandemic
   [https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/amp/football/52288151]

8. Juventus digital fan token gains 17% in first 90 minutes of trading

   The Manchester City man plays alongside Ronaldo at international level with Portugal and has confirmed that the Juventus star was behind the Seleção’s donation of their bonuses
   [https://www.mirror.co.uk/sport/football/news/bernardo-silva-confirms-cristiano-ronaldo-21860781.amp]

10. Italians hail Novak Djokovic for his donation to fight coronavirus crisis
    Novak Djokovic was in imperious form before the pandemic brought the tennis season to a halt with both the men’s ATP Tour and the WTA Tour, which runs women’s competitions, suspended till June 7
11. Belfast Health Trust receives donation of 10,000 bottles of water

12. Portugal's Sporting to cut player wages by 40% amid coronavirus losses

13. Coronavirus: World Rugby provides £80 million relief fund to support national unions. Organisation has called the situation “its greatest challenge”

14. The struggle of U.C. Albino Leffe, the football club at the epicentre of Italy's coronavirus fight.

15. International players' union FIFPRO calls for support for women's football in wake of COVID-19 pandemic

16. Brazillian Athletes gather more than R$ 1 million to help under-privileged families during Coronavirus pandemic

17. Colin Kaepernick is donating $100,000 to coronavirus relief efforts to aid communities of color

18. NBA Players Agree to 25% Salary Cut During Coronavirus Shutdown

19. WNBA honors Gigi Byrant and other teens killed in helicopter crash during league draft

20. Thousands of MLB players, families to participate in coronavirus study
The study will measure the prevalence of COVID-19 among MLB employees across the U.S. by testing for a blood protein the body creates in response to coronavirus