

KRISTY HAVILL

UNIVERSITY: Lincoln University

GRADUATION DATE: May 2019

QUALIFICATION ACHIEVED: Bachelor of Sport and Recreation Management

SPORTING ACCOLADES: Former NZ Representative Clay-Target Shooter & Premier Cricketer

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Broadcast Manager, England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB)

Q: Can you share specific ways in which the skills and qualities you developed through your participation in sport have played a role in securing employment and advancing in your career?

A: When graduates begin their employment journey, few immediately secure jobs due to the common requirement for prior experience. Repeated rejection can be demoralising, but sport teaches us that success doesn't come easy - it requires constant improvement. When you step out onto the court/playing field things won't go your way all the time, you have to keep reflecting on how to improve. Soon you start to reap the rewards for your hard work. Employment is the same. You have to keep putting yourself out there and risking getting knocked back a few times, which isn't a bad thing because it can make you a better applicant and candidate when the successful job application does arrive.

Q: Leadership skills cultivated through sport can be valuable assets in the workplace. Can you share how your leadership experience in sport influenced your role in a team or project at work?

A: In sport, leadership varies in form and can extend beyond designated captains. Leaders can be the designated person for a particular skillset, or an effective leader might pop up when the situation calls for it. These concepts of leadership are what I took most from my time in university sport and which I now apply in my current role. In smooth situations, I don't need to overly involve myself in others' areas. I'm willing to help if asked. During broadcast challenges for example, where there is lots of technology and equipment, I empower the specialist experts. I ask necessary questions, but let them lead and swiftly share information with affected team members.

Q: Can you elaborate on how the teamwork, discipline, or time management skills you honed as a student-athlete have translated into tangible advantages or successes in your career journey?

A: Almost every day for the past five months! We've had a packed cricket summer with Men's and Women's Ashes, the World Test Championship, The Hundred, and tours by Sri Lanka Women, Ireland Men, and New Zealand Men, not to mention domestic cricket. I, along with my manager, handle coordination between broadcasters and venues to ensure everything runs smoothly. Time management is key as we juggle preparation for upcoming matches and work at ongoing ones. Discipline comes into play too, knowing when to push through and when to take a breather to boost productivity later. Teamwork is essential with our colleagues, broadcasters, and venues; it's a collective effort that makes it all happen.

Q: In summary, how has your involvement in sport influenced and shaped your career journey and personal development?

A: Sport has profoundly shaped me personally and professionally. Playing a variety of team and individual sports meant I got to reap the benefits that both types of sport provide, whether it be the teamwork and communication that team sports bring or the self-discipline and time management of going it alone. I know have the ability to apply those qualities in the workplace to a variety of different situations. And I'm not finished yet, I continue to learn and grow from my current involvement in sport, eager to apply new lessons to my professional career.