# **2025 SFIA EXCELERATOR MENTOR Program**

# **Application Process and Form**

# As of January 16, 2025

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW and PROCESS**

SFIA and its members are committed to diversity, inclusion, and belonging. While there has been progress in advancing traditionally underrepresented talent among the leadership ranks of our industry, there is more to be done. SFIA is committed to promoting professional development in our industry. To that end, we’re focusing on high-performing, early-career professionals and the next generation of leaders.

SFIA’s **EXCELERATOR** Program started in 2023 and represents SFIA’s (and the industry's) commitment to accelerating the careers of exceptional early-career professionals (“Associates”) from diverse communities in the sports industry and empowering them to become the next generation of leaders.

It is a five-to-six-month cohort experience starting in the spring. It features a robust and impactful curriculum drawing on the knowledge and expertise of the industry’s best leaders. Participants can expect to build and expand their network within and outside the sports and fitness industry, grow their professional toolkit, and gain visibility into the opportunities available across the industry.

The SFIA EXCELERATOR Mentor Program aims to strategically match Associates with industry leaders to foster career mobility, professional development, and leadership growth. Mentors play a crucial role in shaping the next generation of sports industry leaders through one-on-one guidance and support.

Mentors and mentees (Associates) will be paired based on application submissions – preferences, functional roles, mentor experience, areas of guidance, etc. Mentor applicants will be notified by mid-March.

**Complete and submit the application form to Glenn Horine (****ghorine@sfia.org****) by February 14, 2025**

**Personal Information**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

LinkedIn URL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Professional Background**

Current Role and Responsibilities:

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Areas of Expertise:

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**Experience Verification**

 I confirm that I have 15+ years of cumulative work experience in the sports and fitness industry

**Mentorship Preferences**

Do you prefer to be matched based on any of the following? (Check all that apply)

 Gender

 Race/Ethnicity

 Functional Area

 Geography

 Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please elaborate on your matching preferences:

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**Mentorship Experience & Motivation**

1. Why do you want to be involved in this mentoring program?

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2. Have you been in a formal, professional mentoring relationship before (as either mentor or mentee)?

 Yes

 No

 If yes, please share what worked or didn't work:

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3. Please share one book, podcast, or professional development event you have recently found valuable:

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**Time Commitment**

 I confirm that I can commit to at least 1-2 hours per month supporting my mentee

 I understand this commitment includes the following:

 Regular one-on-one meetings with mentee

 Attendance at key EXCELERATOR events (virtual or in-person)

**Areas of Guidance**

Please select the areas where you feel most qualified to provide mentorship (check all that apply):

 Career Planning and Development

 Leadership Skills

 Industry-Specific Knowledge

 Networking Strategies

 Professional Communication

 Work-Life Balance

 Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Information**

Is there anything else you'd like us to know about your potential contribution as a mentor?

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**Authorization**

I confirm that all information provided is accurate and that I am committed to supporting the goals of the SFIA EXCELERATOR Mentor Program.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_