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*Tell us about yourself.*

I was born and raised in Wisconsin and have been moving around ever since I went to college in Connecticut when I was 18. While in school, I got a job for my college athletics program and fell in love with working in sports. As a woman working in sports, I have faced many obstacles in a male-dominated industry and I have learned to use these challenges as motivators to succeed! I learned early that as a female in sports I would have to work a little harder and I was more than willing to put in the work. I love working in sports and would not change anything about my path - even the tough parts! I am very lucky to be where I am!

*When in your life/career have you been a G.I.R.L. (go-getter, innovator, risk-taker, leader)?*

I think that from the moment that I decided to pursue a career in sports I have been a go-getter. It is a necessary quality for those forging a non-traditional path and I would not be where I am today without my go-getter mentality. I also think that I have to take risks every day to put myself out there and be taken seriously in this industry and it really pays off! I have only recently come into the role as a leader, and I love it! For so many years, I had various female mentors in the sports industry, and I am finally at the place where I am able to be a mentor for those younger than me who are looking to work in sports!

*What does it mean to “take the lead?”*

I think that “taking the lead’ can mean a lot of different things depending on time and circumstances, but the baseline aspect is usually the same. I have always found taking the lead starts with trusting my moral compass. No matter how old you are, it is important to trust what you know is right in your gut and have confidence in it. What is morally right is not always the popular answer, but I always try to have confidence in what I know in my heart to be morally right and take the lead by articulating it. It is not always easy, but I find that if I articulate what my morals are telling me is right, a lot of people come out and start to agree and not feel bad about it!

*Why is it important for girls and women to “take the lead?”*

It is important because girls and women have so much potential and they often get silenced by society. We should never feel like our feelings are less important or should not be articulated because the world is a better place when we are who we are and are PROUD of it!

*What has helped you achieve success?*

I think from the moment that I decided what I wanted to do, I never took no for an answer. I think that determination was really important in achieving success. I also had a lot of strong female mentors who helped shape who I am and my view of the world from a more experienced perspective.

*Were you a Girl Scout? If so, tell us about your experience and what is the most important thing Girl Scouts taught you?*

I was a Girl Scout for just a few years but I think it taught me a lot about leadership and how to work together to achieve a common goal!

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