SCRIPT 4 - Is Women’s sport as important as Men’s?

CUE: Sexist comments recently made against Beth Tweddle, when she attempted to take part in a question-and-answer session on the Sky Sports Twitter page, highlighted how women in sports are not as appreciated as the likes of David Beckham and Wayne Rooney. Men’s football is broadcast for all to see every weekend. Women’s, though? Hardly do we see a time where the results are even announced. So, is women’s sport as important as Men’s – and should it be? P1 and P2 Report.

PRESENTER 1: We’ve all spent time at the weekend either watching the football games or listening to passionate parents shout at the TV screens like the players on the pitch can hear them. We’ve all seen the Rugby shirts and listened to the news where the main focus is on the next game that Wales – the men’s team – is playing.

PRESENTER 2: After London 2012, and recently Sochi 2014, everyone has suddenly become aware that there are female athletes. That there are women that participate in the same sports as the men, but just don’t have the publicity, or the **pay-check**.

PRESENTER 1: Girls are not seen as the next generation of footballers, rugby-players or netball-team members. Is it time that they are? Each weekend, tournaments take place across the country that the public cease to hear about. Tournaments that they win, or may even lose, should be featured in Sports sections like the men’s’ games.

PRESENTER 1: What happened to Beth Tweddle is a perfect-example of how women are belittled in the sporting-world, a question that is currently being raised is about whether women’s sport is as important as men’s.

PRESENTER 2: Many of Britain’s most celebrated athletes are in fact women. To name just a few, along with Tweddle, there’s: Victoria Pendleton, Rebecca Aldington, Laura Trott and Jessica Ennis. Last month, a women won Team GB’s first Gold Medal on snow at the Winter Olympics, and Jenny Jones is now a house-hold name.

PRESENTER 1: With this success, you have to question why women’s sport has not got the sponsors that the men’s events seem to have.

PRESENTER 2: Only just over half of the girls in Wales participate in sports; many avoid it for the fact that it can be seen as being drenched in sweat is embarrassing. Others though, just don’t know that there is that much out there.

PRESENTER 1: Speaking to the PE Department, we asked them if girls’ sport is important – and why there is a lower percentage taking part.