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The Road to Breaking Barriers and Bashing Records

Debbie Gonzales • Illustrated by Rebecca



On-sale date: May 14, 2019 ISBN: 978-1-58089-747-1 HC \$16.99 Ages 6-9 • 11 x 8 ½ • 32 pages Full-color illustrations

## No chasing! No stretching or straining! And never, ever sweat.

These were the rules girls were forced to play by until Title IX passed in 1972. And it was a game-changer.

Historically, women have been discouraged from participating in sports. Running and jumping were considered un-ladylike, activity was too strenuous for the gentler sex, and exertion might lead to "bicycle face." Horrors!

But, women persevered. Without pioneers like Senda Berenson Abbot, Gertrude Ederle, Althea Gibson, and more, would women like Mia Hamm, Venus and Serena Williams, and Danica Patrick ever be considered top athletes? Discussion of equality in sports continues today.

A celebration of the strength, endurance, and athleticism of women and girls throughout the ages, *Girls With Guts!* keeps score with examples of women athletes from the late 1800s up through the 1970s, sharing how women refused to take no for an answer, and how finally, they pushed for a law to protect their right to play, compete, and be athletes.

With brightly rendered illustrations full of pep and energy, readers will be inspired to put this book down and get out and play!

**Debbie Gonzales** is an educator, curriculum consultant, former school administrator, and adjunct professor. She's the author of six books for New Zealand publishers Giltedge. She earned an MFA in writing for children and young adults from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. Debbie lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**Rebecca Gibbon** is an acclaimed illustrator whose credits include Players in Pigtails and Elizabeth Leads the Way. She paints in watercolor ink and colored pencil, and bases her characters on the people she has met and seen over the years. Rebecca lives in the UK.

To receive a review copy or to arrange an interview with Debbie or Rebecca, please contact Donna Spurlock at (617) 926-0329, ext. 122, or via email <u>dspurlock@charlesbridge.com</u>.

