The Code for Sports Governance

Improving governance in British sport

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Introduction to UK Sport

• UK Sport is the United Kingdom’s elite sport agency.

• Established by Royal Charter, we’re an arms-length governing body of the UK Government.

• We strategically invest National Lottery and tax income into Olympic and Paralympic sport.

Total funding for Tokyo 2021 Olympic and Paralympic Games: £345,279,427

Total funding for Pyeongchang 2018 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games: £30,685,668
A snapshot of GB & NI at Rio 2016

The first host nation to win more Olympic AND Paralympic medals at the next Games

- 67 Olympic Medals
- 147 Paralympic Medals

Best Olympics since 1908
Laura Kenny - First British female to win Olympic titles
4 Gold medals won in 15 different Olympic sports
First ever GB Olympic gold medals in Diving, Gymnastics and Women's Hockey
Joe Joyce - won 700th Olympic medal since National Lottery funding began

Jason Kenny - equaled Sir Chris Hoy's record of six Olympic golds
6 Medals won in 19 different Olympic sports
More than any other country

Anne Dickins - won 800th Paralympic medal since National Lottery funding began
GB won 12% of all Paralympic gold medals awarded. Best since Tel Aviv in 1968

Kadeena Cox - First Briton since 1984 to win gold medals in two different sports at the same Paralympic Games
14 Medals won in 15 different Paralympic sports
Most ever with USA in 2004

Charlotte Dujardin - First British woman to retain an Olympic title in an individual event
130 Olympic medallists

125 Paralympic medallists
The first nation to win a medal in every class at a Paralympic rowing regatta

Dame Sarah Storey - Became the most successful female GB Paralympian of all time
3 Medals won in 15 different Paralympic sports
Most ever with USA in 2004
They don't bike it up 'em!

Golden for Brits

On top of the world!

Brits' Olympic glory

Hearts of gold

Children to religious leaders: £1m custody case

Fury as sour grapes losers from France, Germany & Oz snipe at our all-conquering cycle heroes

Great British record

The greatest games

Brothers in arm

Olympic souvenir special

History girls

Exclusive

Team GB wins another gold as gymnast Max bags a double
A Code for Sports Governance
A Code for Sports Governance

Available at:

http://www.uksport.gov.uk

Or search for

‘A Code for Sports Governance’
Government’s Strategy: Sporting Future

“The UK should aspire to set and deliver the ‘Gold Standard’ for governing sports bodies. UK Sport and Sport England will ... agree a new UK Sports Governance Code by September 2016.

This new UK Sports Governance Code will be mandatory for all sports bodies seeking public funding in the next funding period.”
The Five Principles

**Principle 1 - Structure**
Organisations shall have a clear and appropriate governance structure, led by a Board which is collectively responsible for the long-term success of the organisation and exclusively vested with the power to lead it. The Board shall be properly constituted, and shall operate effectively.

**Principle 2 - People**
Organisations shall recruit and engage people with appropriate diversity, independence, skills, experience and knowledge to take effective decisions that further the organisation’s goals.

**Principle 3 - Communication**
Organisations shall be transparent and accountable, engaging effectively with stakeholders and nurturing internal democracy.

**Principle 4 – Standards and Conduct**
Organisations shall uphold high standards of integrity, and engage in regular and effective evaluation to drive continuous improvement.

**Principle 5 – Policies and Procedures**
Organisations shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations and to take responsible financial strategic planning, and have appropriate controls and risk management procedures.
Some key requirements:

• Board supremacy
• Term limits for all board members.
• Minimum 25% independent, non-executive directors.
• Skills-based recruitment of all board members.
• A commitment to work towards gender parity on the board.
• Great transparency (publication of information and data)
• Integrity
Governance Action Plans

• Analyses of 60 sport national governing bodies against each of the 58 requirements of the Code completed in April 2017.

• Bespoke Governance Action Plans for compliance drawn up.

• Date for compliance: 31 October 2017.
Support

• Dedicated Governance Manager
• Technical support
• Legal support
• Professional advice
Re-writing of how British sport is run....

• The board is now the ultimate decision-making body of the organisation.

• Council members and directors are now subject to term limits.

• Boards cannot exceed 12 members unless in the few cases where special circumstances apply, which are agreed by Sport England and UK Sport.

• At least 25% of the board must be independent, non-executive directors.

• All organisations must adopt a target of 30% of each gender on the board and make publically commit to progress towards gender parity and greater Board diversity.
Assessing Compliance

• Over 3,000 individual governance requirements
• Organisations have submitted to us in excess of 1,000 individual pieces of evidence
• Assessment process is underway!
Consequences of Non-Compliance

• The Code is not mandatory.

• Compliance with the Code is a mandatory requirement of UK Sport and Sport England’s funding agreements.

• Non-compliance will be treated as a breach of these agreements and could lead to a withdrawal of funding.

• ‘Right of Remedy’
Highlights

• Over 60 national sports bodies have taken part in the most advanced and large scale sports governance reform process implemented anywhere in the world.

• An estimated 1,000 pieces of evidence have been submitted.

• Over 34 bodies who needed to make significant constitutional changes to achieve compliance with the Code have now done so.

• We have used our funding agreements to drive improved leadership and governance aligned with the new Code for Sport Governance – the most advanced set of sports governance standards in the world