

Ethics and integrity in sport — Guidelines

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

ISO draws attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). ISO takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, ISO had not received notice of (a) patent(s) which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at www.iso.org/patents. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

International Workshop Agreement IWA 46 was approved at a workshop hosted by the French Standardization Association (AFNOR), in association with the Minister in charge of Sport, held in Paris, in June 2024.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

0.1 As a political, diplomatic and economic tool, sport, is at the heart of numerous ~~issues. Common to all cultures, it nonetheless aspects of society. Sport~~ evolves in step with ~~the societal changes of society~~ and can ~~therefore consequently~~ be subject to tensions that challenge the very values it seeks to promote: justice, ethics, integrity, respect, fair play and honesty.

~~The increase in illegal~~Illegal and unethical behaviour ~~in sport in recent years jeopardises~~jeopardize these values and ~~its~~the overall ~~attractiveness~~appeal of sport, whether to the general public, ~~to Governments~~governments or ~~to~~investors. Corruption, money-laundering, match-fixing and ~~failure to respect breaches of~~human rights ~~are impacting~~impact sport at all levels, and are likely to reduce confidence ~~and trust~~ in sport ~~and diminish its attractiveness.~~ For the sake of sporting values, ~~stakeholders and~~sports organizations ~~and relevant stakeholders~~ should work together to combat these ~~abuses-issues.~~

~~The fight against deviant~~Combating unethical practices, ~~in a professional approach to managing this fight, manner~~ and ~~the attention paid to its legal, addressing~~ financial and social shortcomings ~~will contribute to its essential development, in compliance with the existing legal framework~~contributes to rebuilding trust and ~~with the constant goal of~~ensuring inclusion, ~~and equality and secularism.~~

~~With this in mind, this framework provides recommendations for sports organizations to limit risks, regardless of the nature of these risks and the sports organizations that will use them as a reference.~~

This document ~~therefore offers~~provides guidelines on ethics and integrity for sports organizations, sports competitions and individuals, ~~who are an integral part of sports organizations.~~ It applies to all types of organizations, including federations, professional leagues, decentralised bodies, sports associations, sports clubs, and competition organizers (private or otherwise), regardless of their size ~~or location.~~ This document also provides guidance on how sports organizations can limit risks relating to ethics and integrity.

0.2 The recommendations provided by this document support and supplement the application of national and international legislation, and are not intended to replace it.

0.2

The activities of sports organizations are ~~also often~~ subject to the international codes and ~~the regulations of federations~~regulations, such as the Olympic Charter of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), ~~to which each of the above mentioned stakeholders is required to adhere.~~^[7] The IOC also requires the sports organizations it ~~recognises~~recognizes, as well as ~~by all~~ their individual members, to comply with the IOC Code of Ethics.^[8] Introduced in 1999, it is regularly updated and is an integral part of the Olympic Charter.

~~†~~The IOC Code of Ethics promotes five fundamental principles:

- respect for the Olympic spirit;
- respect for the principle of the universality and political neutrality of the Olympic Movementmovement;
- respect for autonomy despite working with public authorities;
- respect for international conventions on the protection of Human Rightshuman rights;

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- protecting participants and keeping them safe.

~~#~~The Code of Ethics reflects the Olympic values defended in the Charter, ~~focused and focuses~~ on the notions of ethics, integrity and good governance. ~~As a reminder, this~~The Olympic Charter and ~~these Codes~~Code of Ethics are mandatory. ~~for signatories.~~ Any violation ~~could~~can lead to the application of sanctions, ranging from censure to revocation of the IOC's recognition of the party concerned. The National Olympic Committees and the International ~~Sport~~ Federations, have adopted similar charters based on the ~~IOC's~~IOC Charter.

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NOTE 1 Some national sports organizations can also be subject to extraterritorial national laws of other countries, such as the UK Bribery Act (2010) applying in France, which uses definitions whose scope ~~vary~~varies when applied within their territory or abroad.

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NOTE 2 International conventions can also apply to sports organizations, such as those of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (1997),^[22] the Council of Europe (1999),^[23] the UN with Merida (2003), United Nations (2004),^[24] the European Parliament's text on an integrated approach to Sport Policy: good governance, accessibility and integrity (2017),^[25] or the Macolin Convention (2019),^[26] some of which have been transposed into the national legislation of the State parties.

0.3 At international ~~level, and regional levels, organizations such as~~ the Council of Europe ~~plays~~play an active role in the fight for integrity in sport, as ~~these abuses~~violations of regulations are tackled more effectively at a supranational level. The Council of Europe has been the driving force behind a number of initiatives, recommendations and international conventions.

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To date, three major conventions have been written to improve the governance of sports organizations:

- the European Convention on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events, adopted in 1985 following the Heysel Stadium disaster, ~~which~~came into force in 2017;^[27-28]
- the Anti-Doping Convention of 1989, in force since 1990, which is the cornerstone of the fight against doping, integrity of sport and health of athletes;^[23]
- the Macolin Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions, adopted in 2014, the aim of which is to interlink national organizations that fight match-fixing, and establish binding regulations and a framework for European sports organizations with a view to eliminating these practices. To date, seven States have ratified this Convention, which ~~has~~ entered into force on 19 December 2019;^[26]

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The Council of Europe has also drafted a series of recommendations for the sports sector, such as:

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- Rec(2005)8 on the principles of good governance in sport, adopted in 2005;^[29]
- CM/Rec(2018)12 on the promotion of good governance in sport, ~~and~~;^[30]
- CM/Rec(2011)10 on the promotion of the integrity of sport against manipulation of results, notably match-fixing;^[31]

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Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)9 on the revised Code of Sports Ethics, adopted in 2010, is accompanied by an ~~annex~~Appendix called the Code of Sports Ethics. ~~The latter~~;^[32] This annex helps define sports ethics and the responsibilities of ~~Governments~~governments and sports organizations in promoting integrity in sport, based on the motto "Fair play - the winning way".

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The aim of the recommendations issued by the Council of Europe is to encourage **Governments** of Member States to coordinate and take effective measures to promote the implementation of policies of transparency and ~~compliance with~~conform to democratic principles in sports governing bodies, to reinforce confidence in sport and develop its role in society.

~~Based on these~~This document takes into account such international texts and initiatives, ~~this document proposes and provides aligned~~ operational recommendations and evaluation criteria for sports organizations, to facilitate the process of integrating the principles of ethics and integrity into ~~a dedicated policy~~policies and ~~into their~~ procedures ~~for combatting~~to combat unethical behaviour.

0.4 This document ~~has addressed~~addresses the principles of ethics and integrity in ~~sport~~ according to three main ~~pillars~~areas:

- ethics and integrity of sports organizations;
- ethics and integrity of sports competitions;
- ethics and integrity of individuals.

Each of these ~~pillars~~ comprises various “fields of action”, identified as being essential in terms of ethics and integrity, all of which should be taken into consideration ~~by sports organizations~~:

- Field of ~~Action 1: Compliance with democratic~~action 1: Democratic principles
- Field of ~~Action~~action 2: Financial transparency
- Field of ~~Action~~action 3: Fight against Anti-corruption
- Field of ~~Action~~action 4: Prevention of conflictsConflicts of interest
- Field of action 5: Whistleblowing
- Field of ~~Action 5: Management of whistleblower reports~~action 5: Management of whistleblower reports
- Field of ~~Action 6: Fight against manipulation~~action 6: Manipulation of sports competitions
- Field of ~~Action~~action 7: Fight against dopingDoping
- Field of ~~Action~~action 8: Fight against mechanicalMechanical and technological fraud
- Field of ~~Action~~action 9: Fight against violenceViolence, discrimination and incivility
- Field of ~~Action~~action 10: Fight against violenceViolence in sports arenas
- Field of ~~Action~~action 11: Safeguarding the legal and social situation of registered and professional athletes.

The following points provide information for easier application:
Clauses ~~NOTE~~Table D.1 set the framework provides a list of this workshop contributors.

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