

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (a)(6), (7). Pub. L. 105-277, which directed substitution of “Games, the Paralympic Games, and” for “Games and” in pars. (6) and (7) of this section, was executed by making the substitution in pars. (6) and (7) of subsec. (a) to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

§ 220524. General duties of national governing bodies

For the sport that it governs, a national governing body shall—

(1) develop interest and participation throughout the United States and be responsible to the persons and amateur sports organizations it represents;

(2) minimize, through coordination with other amateur sports organizations, conflicts in the scheduling of all practices and competitions;

(3) keep amateur athletes informed of policy matters and reasonably reflect the views of the athletes in its policy decisions;

(4) disseminate and distribute to amateur athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials in a timely manner the applicable rules and any changes to such rules of the national governing body, the corporation, the appropriate international sports federation, the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, and the Pan-American Sports Organization;

(5) allow an amateur athlete to compete in any international amateur athletic competition conducted by any amateur sports organization or person, unless the national governing body establishes that its denial is based on evidence that the organization or person conducting the competition does not meet the requirements stated in section 220525 of this title;

(6) provide equitable support and encouragement for participation by women where separate programs for male and female athletes are conducted on a national basis;

(7) encourage and support amateur athletic sports programs for individuals with disabilities and the participation of individuals with disabilities in amateur athletic activity, including, where feasible, the expansion of opportunities for meaningful participation by individuals with disabilities in programs of athletic competition for able-bodied individuals;

(8) provide and coordinate technical information on physical training, equipment design, coaching, and performance analysis;

(9) encourage and support research, development, and dissemination of information in the areas of sports medicine and sports safety.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1474; Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title I, §142(o), 112 Stat. 2681-608.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220524	36:392(a)(1)-(3), (5)-(9).	Sept. 21, 1950, ch. 975, title II, §202(a)(1)-(3), (5)-(9), as added Nov. 8, 1978, Pub. L. 95-606, §2, 92 Stat. 3052.

In clause (4), the word “by” is substituted for “under its auspices or that of . . . other” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “the national governing body” are substituted for “it” for clarity.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Pars. (4) to (9). Pub. L. 105-277, added par. (4) and redesignated former pars. (4) to (8) as (5) to (9), respectively.

§ 220525. Granting sanctions for amateur athletic competitions

(a) PROMPT REVIEW AND DECISION.—For the sport that it governs, a national governing body promptly shall—

(1) review a request by an amateur sports organization or person for a sanction to hold an international amateur athletic competition in the United States or to sponsor United States amateur athletes to compete in international amateur athletic competition outside the United States; and

(2) grant the sanction if—

(A) the national governing body does not decide by clear and convincing evidence that holding or sponsoring an international amateur athletic competition would be detrimental to the best interest of the sport; and

(B) the requirements of subsection (b) of this section are met.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—An amateur sports organization or person may be granted a sanction under this section only if the organization or person meets the following requirements:

(1) The organization or person must pay the national governing body any required sanctioning fee, if the fee is reasonable and non-discriminatory.

(2) For a sanction to hold an international amateur athletic competition in the United States, the organization or person must—

(A) submit to the national governing body an audited or notarized financial report of similar events, if any, conducted by the organization or person; and

(B) demonstrate that the requirements of paragraph (4) of this subsection have been met.

(3) For a sanction to sponsor United States amateur athletes to compete in international amateur athletic competition outside the United States, the organization or person must—

(A) submit a report of the most recent trip to a foreign country, if any, that the organization or person sponsored for the purpose of having United States amateur athletes compete in international amateur athletic competition; and

(B) submit a letter from the appropriate entity that will hold the international amateur athletic competition certifying that the requirements of paragraph (4) of this subsection have been met.

(4) The requirements referred to in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection are that—

(A) appropriate measures have been taken to protect the amateur status of athletes

who will take part in the competition and to protect their eligibility to compete in amateur athletic competition;

(B) appropriate provision has been made for validation of any records established during the competition;

(C) due regard has been given to any international amateur athletic requirements specifically applicable to the competition;

(D) the competition will be conducted by qualified officials;

(E) proper medical supervision will be provided for athletes who will participate in the competition; and

(F) proper safety precautions have been taken to protect the personal welfare of the athletes and spectators at the competition.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1474.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220525(a)(1)	36:392(a)(4).	Sept. 21, 1950, ch. 975, title II, §202(a)(4), (b), as added Nov. 8, 1978, Pub. L. 95–606, § 2, 92 Stat. 3052, 3053.
220525(a)(2)(A).	36:392(b) (words before cl. (1)).	
220525(a)(2)(B).	(no source).	
220525(b) (words before par. (1)).	36:392(b)(1) (words before subcl. (A)), (2) (words before subcl. (A)).	
220525(b)(1)(2)(A).	36:392(b)(1)(A), (2)(A).	
220525(b)(2)(A).	36:392(b)(1)(C).	
220525(b)(2)(B).	36:392(b)(1)(B) (words before subcl. (i)).	
220525(b)(3)(A).	36:392(b)(2)(C).	
220525(b)(3)(B).	36:392(b)(2)(B) (words before subcl. (i)).	
220525(b)(4)	36:392(b)(1)(B)(i)–(vi), (2)(B)(i)–(vi).	

In subsection (a), the words “and determine whether to grant such sanction, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section” and “As a result of its review under subsection (a)(4) of this section” are omitted as unnecessary. Clause (2)(B) is added because of the reorganization of the section.

In subsection (b), the language before paragraph (1) is substituted for 36:392(b)(1) (words before subclause (A)) and (2) (words before subclause (A)) because of the reorganization of the section. Paragraph (1) is substituted for 36:392(b)(1)(A) and (2)(A), and paragraph (4) is substituted for 36:392(b)(1)(B)(i)–(vi) and (2)(B)(i)–(vi), to avoid repeating identical language.

§ 220526. Restricted amateur athletic competitions

(a) **EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION.**—An amateur sports organization that conducts amateur athletic competition shall have exclusive jurisdiction over that competition if participation is restricted to a specific class of amateur athletes, such as high school students, college students, members of the Armed Forces, or similar groups or categories.

(b) **SANCTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION.**—An amateur sports organization under subsection (a) of this section shall obtain a sanction from the appropriate national governing body if the organization wishes to—

- (1) conduct international amateur athletic competition in the United States; or

(2) sponsor international amateur athletic competition to be held outside the United States.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1475.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220526(a)	36:396 (1st sentence).	Sept. 21, 1950, ch. 975, title II, §206, as added Nov. 8, 1978, Pub. L. 95–606, § 2, 92 Stat. 3058.
220526(b)	36:396 (last sentence).	

§ 220527. Complaints against national governing bodies

(a) **GENERAL.**—(1) An amateur sports organization or person that belongs to or is eligible to belong to a national governing body may seek to compel the national governing body to comply with sections 220522, 220524, and 220525 of this title by filing a written complaint with the corporation. A copy of the complaint shall be served on the national governing body.

(2) The corporation shall establish procedures for the filing and disposition of complaints under this section.

(b) **EXHAUSTION OF REMEDIES.**—(1) An organization or person may file a complaint under subsection (a) of this section only after exhausting all available remedies within the national governing body for correcting deficiencies, unless it can be shown by clear and convincing evidence that those remedies would have resulted in unnecessary delay.

(2) Within 30 days after a complaint is filed, the corporation shall decide whether the organization or person has exhausted all available remedies as required by paragraph (1) of this subsection. If the corporation determines that the remedies have not been exhausted, it may direct that the remedies be pursued before the corporation considers the complaint further.

(c) **HEARINGS.**—If the corporation decides that all available remedies have been exhausted as required by subsection (b)(1) of this section, it shall hold a hearing, within 90 days after the complaint is filed, to receive testimony to decide whether the national governing body is complying with sections 220522, 220524, and 220525 of this title.

(d) **DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINT.**—(1) If the corporation decides, as a result of the hearing, that the national governing body is complying with sections 220522, 220524, and 220525 of this title, it shall so notify the complainant and the national governing body.

(2) If the corporation decides, as a result of the hearing, that the national governing body is not complying with sections 220522, 220524, and 220525 of this title, it shall—

- (A) place the national governing body on probation for a specified period of time, not to exceed 180 days, which the corporation considers necessary to enable the national governing body to comply with those sections; or

- (B) revoke the recognition of the national governing body.

(3) If the corporation places a national governing body on probation under paragraph (2) of