

(12) to encourage and provide assistance to amateur athletic activities for women;

(13) to encourage and provide assistance to amateur athletic programs and competition for amateur athletes with disabilities, including, where feasible, the expansion of opportunities for meaningful participation by such amateur athletes in programs of athletic competition for able-bodied amateur athletes;

(14) to encourage and provide assistance to amateur athletes of racial and ethnic minorities for the purpose of eliciting the participation of those minorities in amateur athletic activities in which they are underrepresented;

(15) to promote a safe environment in sports that is free from abuse, including emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, of any amateur athlete; and

(16) to effectively oversee the national governing bodies with respect to compliance with and implementation of the policies and procedures of the corporation, including policies and procedures on the establishment of a safe environment in sports as described in paragraph (15).

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1466; Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title I, §142(d), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-603; Pub. L. 115-126, title II, §201, Feb. 14, 2018, 132 Stat. 320; Pub. L. 116-189, §§4(a)(3), 6(a), Oct. 30, 2020, 134 Stat. 945, 947.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220503	36:374.	Sept. 21, 1950, ch. 975, title I, §104, as added Nov. 8, 1978, Pub. L. 95-606, §1(b), 92 Stat. 3046.

Before clause (1), the word “objects” is omitted as included in “purposes”.

In clause (4), the word “competition” is omitted as included in “each event”.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2020—Par. (3). Pub. L. 116-189, §4(a)(3)(A), substituted “the Pan-American Games, and the Parapan American Games” for “and the Pan-American Games” in subpars. (A) and (B).

Par. (4). Pub. L. 116-189, §4(a)(3)(B), substituted “the Pan-American Games, and the Parapan American Games” for “and Pan-American Games”.

Par. (9). Pub. L. 116-189, §6(a)(1), inserted “and access to” after “development of”.

Par. (16). Pub. L. 116-189, §6(a)(2)-(4), added par. (16). 2018—Par. (15). Pub. L. 115-126 added par. (15).

1998—Pars. (3), (4). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(d)(1), substituted “Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games” for “Olympic Games” wherever appearing.

Par. (13). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(d)(2), added par. (13) and struck out former par. (13) which read as follows: “to encourage and provide assistance to amateur athletic programs and competition for individuals with disabilities, including, where feasible, the expansion of opportunities for meaningful participation by individuals with disabilities in programs of athletic competition for able-bodied individuals; and”.

§ 220504. Membership

(a) ELIGIBILITY.—Eligibility for membership in the corporation is as provided in the constitu-

tion and bylaws of the corporation, and membership shall be available only to national governing bodies.

(b) REQUIRED PROVISIONS FOR REPRESENTATION.—In its constitution and bylaws, the corporation shall establish and maintain provisions with respect to its governance and the conduct of its affairs for reasonable representation of—

(1) national governing bodies, including through provisions that establish and maintain a National Governing Bodies’ Council that is composed of representatives of the national governing bodies who are selected by their boards of directors or other governing boards to ensure effective communication between the corporation and the national governing bodies;

(2) amateur athletes who are actively engaged in amateur athletic competition or who have represented the United States in international amateur athletic competition, including through provisions that—

(A) establish and maintain an Athletes’ Advisory Council;

(B) ensure that the chair of the Athletes’ Advisory Council, or the designee of the chair, holds voting power on the board of directors of the corporation and in the committees and entities of the corporation;

(C) require that—

(i) not less than 1/3 of the membership of the board of directors of the corporation shall be composed of, and elected by, such amateur athletes; and

(ii) not less than 20 percent of the membership of the board of directors of the corporation shall be composed of amateur athletes who—

(I) are actively engaged in representing the United States in international amateur athletic competition; or

(II) have represented the United States in international amateur athletic competition during the preceding 10-year period; and

(D) ensure that the membership and voting power held by such amateur athletes is not less than 1/3 of the membership and voting power held in the board of directors of the corporation and in the committees and entities of the corporation, including any panel empowered to resolve grievances;

(3) amateur sports organizations that conduct a national program or regular national amateur athletic competition in 2 or more sports that are included on the program of the Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, the Pan-American Games, or the Parapan American Games on a level of proficiency appropriate for the selection of amateur athletes to represent the United States in international amateur athletic competition; and

(4) individuals not affiliated or associated with any amateur sports organization who, in the corporation’s judgment, represent the interests of the American public in the activities of the corporation.

(c) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—An athlete who represents athletes under subsection (b)(2) shall

not be employed by the Center, or serve in a capacity that exercises decision-making authority on behalf of the Center, during the 2-year period beginning on the date on which the athlete ceases such representation.

(d) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—The bylaws of the corporation shall include a description of all generally applicable certification requirements for membership in the corporation.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1467; Pub. L. 105–277, div. C, title I, §142(e), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681–603; Pub. L. 116–189, §§4(a)(4), 6(b), 7(a)(2)(A)(i), Oct. 30, 2020, 134 Stat. 945, 948, 956.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220504	36:376.	Sept. 21, 1950, ch. 975, title I, §106, as added Nov. 8, 1978, Pub. L. 95–606, §1(b), 92 Stat. 3048.

In subsection (a), the words “is as provided in” are substituted for “shall be determined in accordance with” for consistency in the revised title.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2020—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116–189, §6(b)(1), inserted “, and membership shall be available only to national governing bodies” before period at end.

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 116–189, §7(a)(2)(A)(i), amended par. (1) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (1) read as follows: “amateur sports organizations recognized as national governing bodies and paralympic sports organizations in accordance with section 220521 of this title, including through provisions which establish and maintain a National Governing Bodies’ Council composed of representatives of the national governing bodies and any paralympic sports organizations and selected by their boards of directors or such other governing boards to ensure effective communication between the corporation and such national governing bodies and paralympic sports organizations;”.

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 116–189, §6(b)(2), amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (2) read as follows: “amateur athletes who are actively engaged in amateur athletic competition or who have represented the United States in international amateur athletic competition within the preceding 10 years, including through provisions which—

“(A) establish and maintain an Athletes’ Advisory Council composed of, and elected by, such amateur athletes to ensure communication between the corporation and such amateur athletes; and

“(B) ensure that the membership and voting power held by such amateur athletes is not less than 20 percent of the membership and voting power held in the board of directors of the corporation and in the committees and entities of the corporation;”.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 116–189, §4(a)(4), substituted “the Pan-American Games, or the Parapan American Games” for “or the Pan-American Games”.

Subsecs. (c), (d). Pub. L. 116–189, §6(b)(3), added subsecs. (c) and (d).

1998—Subsec. (b)(1), (2). Pub. L. 105–277, §142(e)(1), added pars. (1) and (2) and struck out former pars. (1) and (2) which read as follows:

“(1) amateur sports organizations recognized as national governing bodies under section 220521 of this title;

“(2) amateur athletes who are actively engaged in amateur athletic competition or who have represented the United States in international amateur athletic competition within the preceding 10 years;”.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 105–277, §142(e)(2), inserted “, the Paralympic Games,” after “Olympic Games”.

§ 220505. Powers and duties

(a) CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS.—The corporation shall adopt a constitution and bylaws. The corporation may amend its constitution only if the corporation—

(1) publishes, in its principal publication, a notice of the proposed amendment, including—
(A) the substantive terms of the amendment;

(B) the time and place of the corporation’s regular meeting at which adoption of the amendment is to be decided; and

(C) a provision informing interested persons that they may submit materials as authorized in clause (2) of this subsection; and

(2) gives all interested persons an opportunity to submit written comments and information for at least 60 days after publication of notice of the proposed amendment and before adoption of the amendment.

(b) GENERAL CORPORATE POWERS.—The corporation may—

(1) adopt and alter a corporate seal;

(2) establish and maintain offices to conduct the affairs of the corporation;

(3) make contracts;

(4) accept gifts, legacies, and devises in furtherance of its corporate purposes;

(5) acquire, own, lease, encumber, and transfer property as necessary to carry out the purposes of the corporation;

(6) borrow money, issue instruments of indebtedness, and secure its obligations by granting security interests in its property;

(7) publish a magazine, newspaper, and other publications consistent with its corporate purposes;

(8) approve and revoke membership in the corporation;

(9) sue and be sued, except that any civil action brought in a State court against the corporation and solely relating to the corporation’s responsibilities under this chapter shall be removed, at the request of the corporation, to the district court of the United States in the district in which the action was brought, and such district court shall have original jurisdiction over the action without regard to the amount in controversy or citizenship of the parties involved, and except that neither this paragraph nor any other provision of this chapter shall create a private right of action under this chapter; and

(10) do any other act necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of the corporation.

(c) POWERS RELATED TO AMATEUR ATHLETICS AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES.—The corporation may—

(1) serve as the coordinating body for amateur athletic activity in the United States directly related to international amateur athletic competition;

(2) represent the United States as its national Olympic committee in relations with the International Olympic Committee and the