

1998—Pub. L. 105-277, §142(m)(1), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and inserted heading.

Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(m)(2), added par. (4) and struck out former par. (4) which read as follows: “agrees to submit, on demand by the corporation, to binding arbitration conducted in accordance with the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association in any controversy involving—

“(A) its recognition as a national governing body, as provided for in section 220529 of this title; or

“(B) the opportunity of any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator, or official to participate in amateur athletic competition, as provided for in the corporation’s constitution and bylaws;”.

Subsec. (a)(10). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(m)(3), added par. (10) and struck out former par. (10) which read as follows: “demonstrates that—

“(A) its board of directors or other governing board includes among its voting members—

“(i) individuals who are actively engaged in amateur athletic competition in the sport for which recognition is sought; or

“(ii) individuals who, within the prior 10 years, have represented the United States in international amateur athletic competition in the sport for which recognition is sought; and

“(B) the individuals described in subclause (A) of this clause hold at least 20 percent of the membership and voting power on the board;”.

Subsec. (a)(14). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(m)(4), inserted “or to participation in the Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, or the Pan-American Games” after “amateur status”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(m)(5), added subsec. (b).

§ 220523. Authority of national governing bodies

(a) AUTHORITY.—For the sport that it governs, a national governing body may—

(1) represent the United States in the appropriate international sports federation;

(2) establish national goals and encourage the attainment of those goals;

(3) serve as the coordinating body for amateur athletic activity in the United States;

(4) exercise jurisdiction over international amateur athletic activities and sanction international amateur athletic competition held in the United States and sanction the sponsorship of international amateur athletic competition held outside the United States;

(5) conduct amateur athletic competition, including national championships, and international amateur athletic competition in the United States, and establish procedures for determining eligibility standards for participation in competition, except for amateur athletic competition specified in section 220526 of this title;

(6) recommend to the corporation individuals and teams to represent the United States in the Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, the Pan-American Games, and the Parapan American Games; and

(7) designate individuals and teams to represent the United States in international amateur athletic competition (other than the Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, the Pan-American Games, and the Parapan American Games) and certify, in accordance with applicable international rules, the amateur eligibility of those individuals and teams.

(b) REPLACEMENT OF NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY PURSUANT TO ARBITRATION.—A national

governing body may not exercise any authority under subsection (a) of this section for a particular sport after another amateur sports organization has been declared (in accordance with binding arbitration proceedings prescribed by the organic documents of the corporation) entitled to replace that national governing body as the member of the corporation for that sport.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1473; Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title I, §142(n), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-608; Pub. L. 116-189, §4(a)(9), Oct. 30, 2020, 134 Stat. 945.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220523(a)	36:393.	Sept. 21, 1950, ch. 975, title II, §203, as added Nov. 8, 1978, Pub. L. 95-606, §2, 92 Stat. 3054.
220523(b)	36:393 note.	July 8, 1980, Pub. L. 96-304, title I (last sentence related to limitation on exercise of authority in par. under heading “Salaries and Expenses”), 94 Stat. 898.

In subsection (b), the words “national governing body” are omitted (the first time they appear) to eliminate unnecessary words. The reference to “subsection (a) of this section” is substituted for “section 203 of Public Law 95-606 as hereby amended” because of the restatement. The word “corporation” is substituted for “Committee” because of the definition of “corporation” in section 220501 of this title.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2020—Subsec. (a)(6), (7). Pub. L. 116-189 substituted “the Pan-American Games, and the Parapan American Games” for “and the Pan-American Games”.

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

(a) IN GENERAL.—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 organizations it represents;

(2) minimize, through coordination with other 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;