

117-340, set out as a note under section 220505 of this title.

§ 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;

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

(G) the amateur sports organization or person requesting sanction from a national governing body will implement and abide by the policies and procedures to prevent the abuse, including emotional, physical, and child abuse, of amateur athletes participating in amateur athletic activities applicable to such national governing body.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1474; Pub. L. 115-126, title II, §203, Feb. 14, 2018, 132 Stat. 323.)

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), 220525(a)(2)(B), 220525(b)(1) (words before par. (1)), 220525(b)(1)(A), 220525(b)(2)(A), 220525(b)(2)(B), 220525(b)(3)(A), 220525(b)(3)(B), 220525(b)(4)	36:392(b) (words before cl. (1)). (no source). 36:392(b)(1) (words before subcl. (A)), (2) (words before subcl. (A)), 36:392(b)(1)(A), (2)(A), 36:392(b)(1)(C). 36:392(b)(1)(B) (words before subcl. (i)), 36:392(b)(2)(C). 36:392(b)(2)(B) (words before subcl. (i)). 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.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (b)(4)(G), Pub. L. 115-126, which directed amendment of section 220525(b)(4), without specifying the title to be amended, by adding subpar. (G), was executed to this section, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

§ 220526. Restricted amateur athletic competitions

(a) EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION.—An amateur sports organization that conducts amateur athletic competition shall have exclusive jurisdic-

tion 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) HEARINGS.—The corporation 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.

(c) 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 this subsection, it may extend the probationary period if the national governing body has proven by clear and convincing evidence that, through no fault of its own, it needs additional time to comply with sections 220522, 220524, and 220525 of this title. If, at the end of the period allowed by

the corporation, the national governing body has not complied with those sections, the corporation shall revoke the recognition of the national governing body.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1476; Pub. L. 116–189, §7(d), Oct. 30, 2020, 134 Stat. 960.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220527(a)(1)	36:395(a)(1) (1st, last sentences).	Sept. 21, 1950, ch. 975, title II, §205(a), as added Nov. 8, 1978, Pub. L. 95–606, §2, 92 Stat. 3055.
220527(a)(2)	36:395(a)(1) (3d sentence).	
220527(b)(1)	36:395(a)(1) (2d sentence).	
220527(b)(2)	36:395(a)(2).	
220527(c)	36:395(a)(3)(A).	
220527(d)	36:395(a)(3)(B)–(D).	

In subsection (b)(2), the words “or person” are added for clarity and consistency in the section. The words “all available remedies” are substituted for “its remedies” for consistency with subsection (b)(1) of this section. The words “within the applicable national governing body” are omitted as unnecessary.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2020—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 116–189, §7(d)(1), (3), redesignated subsec. (c) as (b) and struck out former subsec. (b) which related to exhaustion of remedies before filing a complaint.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 116–189, §7(d)(3), redesignated subsec. (d) as (c). Former subsec. (c) redesignated (b).

Pub. L. 116–189, §7(d)(2), substituted “The corporation” for “If the corporation decides that all available remedies have been exhausted as required by subsection (b)(1) of this section, it”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 116–189, §7(d)(3), redesignated subsec. (d) as (c).

§ 220528. Applications to replace an incumbent national governing body

(a) GENERAL.—An amateur sports organization may seek to replace an incumbent as the national governing body for a particular sport by filing a written application for certification with the corporation.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROCEDURES.—The corporation shall establish procedures for the filing and disposition of applications under this section. If 2 or more organizations file applications for the same sport, the applications shall be considered in a single proceeding.

(c) FILING PROCEDURES.—(1) An application under this section must be filed within one year after the final day of—

- (A) any Olympic Games, for a sport in which competition is held in the Olympic Games or the Paralympic Games, or in each of the Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, the Pan-American Games, and the Parapan American Games; or
- (B) any Pan-American Games or Parapan American Games, for a sport in which competition is held in the Pan-American Games or the Parapan American Games, as applicable, but not in the Olympic Games or the Paralympic Games.

(2) The application shall be filed with the corporation by certified mail, and a copy of the ap-