

International guidelines for sports in Sweden





International guidelines

The Swedish Sports Confederation (RF) has been mandated to work with matters of common concern for the sports movement, both nationally and internationally (in accordance with Chapter 2 of RF's Statutes).

The task of the Swedish Sports Confederation in its international work is to represent the Swedish sports movement at an international level to create favourable conditions for sport in Sweden, and also to stimulate and in various ways support special sports federations (SF) in their international activities. This also means assisting through making its competence available with the aim of developing the sport internationally. The Swedish sports movement will exercise powerful international influence through coordination.

These Guidelines are based on a belief in the sports movement as an international meeting place and bridge-builder between people. This is founded on the independence and impartiality of the sports movement. The sports movement has no party political or religious affiliations and can, in many cases, aid increased openness throughout the world. We have also observed at the same time that political leaders may sometimes exploit major sports competitions with ulterior motives. The position of the sports movement is that it should be possible for athletes to have whatever nationality, religion or political views they wish yet still participate on equal terms. It is then that sport's potential as a meeting place is greatest.

These International Guidelines set out fundamental standpoints for the international action of the Swedish sports movement. This requires each SF to apply the Guidelines in their international exchanges and participation. The strategy for the international work of the Swedish Sports Confederation, adopted by the Executive Committee of the Swedish Sports Confederation (RS) in the spring of 2013, is based on these Guidelines and includes objectives and targeted approaches for strong international action.

The joint national strategy for international sports events, adopted by RF and the hospitality industry, sets out objectives and focus areas to bring more international events to Sweden.

Guidelines

1. The Swedish sports movement will comply with the UN Declaration of Human Rights, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the international



UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

2. Our fundamental principles (Chapter 1 of RF's Statutes) form the basis of the Swedish sports movement's international work. This means that enjoyment and community, democracy and participation, everyone's right to be involved and fair play will form an integral part of the work carried out by the Swedish sports movement internationally;
3. Sport is an international phenomenon and RF's point of departure is that sport should promote extensive exchanges between countries. The Swedish sports movement believes in independent and impartial sport as an international meeting place that creates space for contacts and builds bridges between people;
4. RF has been mandated to work with matters of common international concern for the Swedish sports movement. RF will work to facilitate cooperation between the Swedish Sports Confederation, National Olympic Committees, Paralympic Committees and international special sports federations. The Swedish Olympic Committee (SOC) is responsible for planning, implementing and following up Swedish participation in the Olympic Games in consultation with the Olympic Special Sports Federations. SOC also represents Sweden in the Olympic Movement and is a member of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) and the European Olympic Committees (EOC). Parasport/Swedish Paralympic Committee (SPC) is responsible for planning, implementing and following up Swedish participation in the Paralympic Games in consultation with the Paralympic Special Sports Federations.
5. The Swedish sports movement will always assure 'good governance', which among other things includes democratic processes, transparency and anti-corruption. The Swedish sports movement will work to facilitate the development of international sport on its own terms and on a democratic basis;
6. The Swedish sports movement will work to facilitate active Swedish international exchange and strong Swedish representation in international organisations;
7. The Swedish sports movement will satisfy its international obligations in relation to the Olympic Games, World Championships, European Championships and similar competitions of an international nature, regardless of political system and regardless of whether or not there are diplomatic ties with Sweden. Exceptions



will be made for countries that are the subject of a binding UN or EU sanction of relevance to the field of sport;

8. RF does not encourage boycotts by anyone, either individual athletes or associations. Exceptions will be made for countries that are the subject of a binding UN or EU sanction of relevance to the field of sport. RF is charged with informing SF if this is the case;
9. SF works to encourage the international special sports federations to incorporate into their rules provisions requiring them to comply with the UN Declaration of Human Rights, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the international UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. SF will also encourage international special sports federations to impose requirements on organising countries in respect of financially, socially and environmentally sustainable events. Representatives of Swedish sport should consider the above when choosing between organising countries;
10. SF will decide about participation at international events when there is a security risk owing to state of war, natural disaster or the like;
11. Information and recommendations may be obtained from RF, which will monitor the situation in each individual case in consultation with the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. SF, which will obtain the opinion of RS on matters relating to international sporting exchange, is obliged to comply with a recommendation made by RS.