

Philippine Sports Commission 
PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS
2023-2028

I. INTRODUCTION

SPORTS can advance values, human progress, peace, social cohesion, and nation-building.

Nelson Mandela perfectly captured the value of sports at the inaugural Laureus World Sports Awards, declaring that:

***“Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire.
It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does.
It speaks to youth in a language they understand.”***

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO International Charter on Physical Education and Sports, of which the Philippines is a signatory, underscores the following:

- The practice of physical education, physical activity, and sport is a fundamental right of all;
- Physical education, physical activity, and sports can yield a wide range of benefits to individuals, communities, and society at large;
- All stakeholders must participate in creating a strategic vision, identifying policy options and priorities;
- Physical education, physical activity, and sports programs must inspire lifelong participation;
- All stakeholders must ensure that their activities are economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable;
- Research, evidence, and evaluation are indispensable components of the development of physical education, physical activity, and sport;
- Teaching, coaching and administration of physical education, physical activity, and sports must be performed by qualified personnel;
- Adequate and safe spaces, facilities, and equipment are essential to quality physical education, physical activity, and sport;
- Safety and the management of risk are necessary conditions of quality provision;
- Protection and promotion of the integrity and ethical values of physical education, physical activity, and sport must be a constant concern for all;
- Physical education, physical activity, and sports can play an essential role in the realization of development, peace, and post-disaster and post-conflict objectives;
- International cooperation is a prerequisite for enhancing the scope and impact of physical education, physical activity, and sport.

II. MANDATES AND NATIONAL POLICIES IN PHILIPPINE SPORTS

Section 17 under Article II (Declaration of Principles and State Policies) of the 1987 Philippine Constitution stresses that:

“the State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development.”

Section 19 of Article XIV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that:

“the State shall promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry.” It also provides that priority attention shall be given to the needs of *“the underprivileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women and children.”*

The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) inspires global action for development in the field of Sport for Development and Peace, noting:

“Sport is an important enabler of sustainable development. We recognize the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace in women and young people, individuals, and communities, as well as to health, education, and social inclusion objectives.

“Sport contributes to well-being regardless of age, gender, or ethnicity. It is enjoyed by all, and its reach is unrivaled. Given the personal and social development benefits sport offers, increasing access and participation is a primary development goal. Sport, in its most basic form, encourages balanced participation and has the capacity to promote gender equality. It contributes to making cities and communities more inclusive. Additionally, sport can be used as a meaningful tool for the prevention of conflict and the promotion of long-lasting peace, since sport and its universality has the ability to transcend cultures.”

Republic Act 11470, signed on 9 June 2020, established the National Academy of Sports System, aiming *“to develop the athletic skills and talents of students in world-class sports facilities which are at par with international standards.”* The NAS System is attached to the

Department of Education (DepEd) in close coordination with the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC). Under the law, the New Clark City Sports Complex will serve as the location of the NAS campus, with the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) in charge of the construction of classrooms, dormitories, other sports facilities, and related amenities.

Republic Act No. 11214, signed on 14 February 2019, created the Philippine Sports Training Center (PSTC) to develop athletes in the national team and the country's grassroots programs. It will also serve as the official home of Philippine Sports, the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex, and a sports science and research hub led by the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) services.

Republic Act 10699, signed on 13 November 2015, also known as the "*National Athletes and Coaches Benefits and Incentives Act.*" This act is aimed to promote excellence in sports by providing benefits and incentives for national athletes and other athletes who win in international sports competitions and bring honor and recognition to the country. National athletes who represented the country in international sports competitions and who won gold, silver, and bronze medals in international sports competitions shall be entitled to cash incentives upmost to PHP10,000,000.00 for winning an Olympic Gold Medal. Coaches of national athletes shall also be entitled to cash incentives if they have personally trained and rendered service to the athletes or teams who win in international competitions. The cash incentives and retirement benefits under this act shall be taken from the net cash income of the PAGCOR, to be remitted directly as a special account to the PSC National Sports Development Fund (NSDF).

Memorandum Circular 49, series of 2013, established the *Laro't Saya sa Parke (LSP)* as a park-based sports for fun and recreation program to be held every Saturday and Sunday. It aims to promote an active lifestyle by engaging Filipino families in sports and physical fitness activities. This aligns with the Philippine Sports Commission's (PSC) mandate of promoting physical education, fostering physical fitness, self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence to develop a healthy and alert citizenry through a unified national sports promotion and development program.

Republic Act No. 10588, signed on 27 May 2013, institutionalized the *Palarong Pambansa* as the co-curricular activity and laboratory in Physical Education and sports of the Department of Education (DepEd). The *Palarong Pambansa's* main objectives are to serve as a venue for talent identification, selection, and recruitment of student-athletes and encourage the local government units (LGUs) to take a proactive role in the promotion of the DepEd's national school sports program. For its part, the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) is tasked to ensure the success of the *Palarong Pambansa*.

The PSC, in cooperation with the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) and through the

appropriate NSAs, shall make available its manpower and technical resources and facilities for the *Palarong Pambansa* and other school-based sports and physical education programs of the DepEd and formulate and implement a training program for outstanding athletes of the *Palarong Pambansa* to ensure the continuity of their athletic development and education.

Executive Order 44 of 1998 established the Philippine Youth Games – *Batang Pinoy* while Executive Order 163 of 1994 established the *Philippine National Games*. Both programs have become an integral part of the national policy and program for sports development at the grassroots level. The *Batang Pinoy* and PNG also serve as a recruitment base for sports specialization, including training for other high-level leagues, national tournaments, and intentional competitions.

Executive Order 63 series of 1993 centers on the creation of the *National, Regional, Provincial, City, Municipal, and Barangay Physical Fitness and Sports Development Councils (PFSDC)*. The Council serves as the nationwide organizational network to assist the PSC in the planning, information dissemination, and actual implementation and monitoring of the National Policy and Program of “*Sports for All*.” Its primary functions include overseeing the performance of the physical fitness and sports program and activities in consultation with other public and private entities concerned in their respective localities and assisting in the identification, recruitment, and training of gifted and talented athletes from their areas to ensure a wide base for the selection of national athletes who will represent the country among other things.

Executive Order 64 series of 1993 centers on the national policy of “*Sports for All*” which shall make accessible to all Filipinos—regardless of age, gender, talent, and capabilities—a program of physical fitness and sports; and preserve and promote the desirable traditional and universal values in physical fitness and sports. This includes Women in Sports, Para Sports, and Indigenous Peoples Sports.

Republic Act No. 7549, signed on 22 May 1992, provides that all prizes and awards granted to athletes in local and international sports tournaments and competitions held in the Philippines or abroad and sanctioned by their respective national sports associations shall be exempt from income tax: Provided, that such prizes and awards given to said athletes shall be deductible in full from the gross income of the donor: Provided, further, that the donors of said prizes and awards shall be exempt from the payment of donor's tax.

Finally, Section 6 of Republic Act 6847 mandates the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) to set the priorities and direction of a national sports agenda, giving emphasis to grassroots participation. It was enacted into law on January 24, 1990, as the sole policy-making and coordinating body of all amateur sports development programs and institutions in the Philippines. Based on its mandate, its primary function is “*to provide the leadership,*

formulate the policies, and set the priorities and directions of all national sports promotion and development, particularly giving emphasis on grassroots participation.”

III. THE PLAN: TOWARDS SUSTAINED AND INCLUSIVE PHILIPPINE SPORTS

The five-year National Sports Development Plan 2023-2028 aims to ensure the long-term viability of multi-sectoral and grassroots programs provide the necessary support for Filipino athletes in their quest to bring honor and glory to the country.

This Plan shall achieve its targets through *sustained and inclusive growth*, incorporating athlete-centered, and forward-looking strategies relevant to present needs and issues.

Focusing on sports inclusivity redounds to a widespread propagation of Philippine sports programs that could reach and benefit the greatest number of Filipino people. The accessibility to sports needs to be felt and experienced by Filipinos across various demographic and socio-economic segments.

To sustain the growth of Philippines sports would be to encourage every child to play, learn and engage in at least one sport; Every family to spend time to play with their children or provide a support system that enables them to embrace an active, healthy lifestyle; Every community leaders to acknowledge that sport is the language of the youth, and a potent tool to drive them away from undesirable activities – and thus must be provided with friendly sporting opportunities, venues, and facilities.

Sustaining the growth and inclusivity of Philippines sports is developing the groundworks that will eventually create a wide base of athletic talents – and offering them enabling mechanisms to stimulate athletic excellence.

IV. DEVELOPMENT VISION

The vision for the Filipino nation is to develop a sporting culture that generates a healthy lifestyle and widen the base of athletic talents and high-performing athletes. It provides the people the opportunities to engage in sports, whether for recreation or competition, as this will improve the quality of their lives and push the sports agenda as an integral part of nation-building.

Sporting culture harnesses sport as a potent instrument in promoting human development and peace. It also encourages the development of Filipino athletes who can excel and be at par with the world’s best.

V. NATIONAL SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

The National Sports Development Plan is anchored on a framework that sustains and provides inclusive growth of Philippine sports through its two flagship programs: 1) The Grassroots and Sports For All Development Program and 2) The High-level Sports Development Program.

Grassroots and Sports For All Development Program

Grassroots and Sports For All Development Program is one of the mandates of the PSC to offer programs and projects for the development of sports nationwide.

For the Grassroots Sports Development, the PSC offers competition programs such as the Batang Pinoy and Philippines National Games, the skills development aspects of regional athletes through Sports Clinics advocacies, the coaching competency development of regional coaches by way of Training the Trainers projects, and Establishment of Regional Training Centers.

For the Sports For All Development, the PSC has lined-up a number of institutional projects to ensure participation in sports for enjoyment, for physical fitness, for generation of support system, and for preservation of culture such as Women in Sports, Laro't Saya, Indigenous Peoples Games, and Pilipinas Para Games.

High-level Sports Development Program

High-level Sports Development Program is a program that prepares Filipino athletes to become world-class. Among measures of excellence are performances in international competitions, such as the Southeast Asian Games, Asian Games, Olympics, and other top-level competitions.

It also provides the athletes the needed high-level training, facilities, resources, and international exposures. A significant support mechanism through multi-sectoral, corporate partnerships, and resource mobilization strategies shall be installed to enable a sustainable and rationalized elite sports program, thereby also augmenting the National Sports Development Fund and the GAA.

This program provides for significant support system for elite athletes through:

- High-Performance Training
- Training Facilities
- Foreign Coaches
- International Exposures

- Quality Sports Equipment
- Advancement in Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Sports Research

VI. STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

The six (6) strategic directions of the Plan are as follows:

1. Sports Governance

- To enhance the capability and accountability of PSC to lead, manage, implement, and assess sports programs in the country in accordance with the mandates under R.A. 6847
- Policy Statements:
 - Maintenance of PSC QMS-ISO Certification
 - Compliance with the Citizen's Charter of Anti-Red Tape Act
 - Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Engagements
 - Digitalization

2. Sports Promotion and Awareness

- To enhance sports awareness of Filipinos on the role of sports as a vehicle for personal and community development
- Programs and Projects:
 - Maximize engagement and the involvement of Social Media Users in the PSC Official Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Website
 - Utilize all forms of media platforms including Print, Radio, and Social Media to promote extensively the progress of the PSC and the agenda of sports
 - Establish linkages and partnerships with all stakeholders, private and public, in the promotion of sports

3. Sports Accessibility

- To make sports accessible to the greatest number of Filipinos through a grassroots sports program that will provide sports activities at all levels leading to pathways to success
- Programs and Projects:
 - Grassroots Sports Development (Laro't Saya, Batang Pinoy, Philippine National Games, Sports Certification Courses, Training the Trainers, Establishment of Regional Training Centers)
 - Sports For All Development (Women in Sports, Indigenous Peoples Games, and Philippine National Para Games)

4. High-Performance Sports Development

- To focus on sports training and support athletes' international competitions to

- develop world and international champions
- Programs and Projects:
 - Support to National Athletes & Coaches by providing allowances and incentives, International Exposures and Competitions, Uniforms and Equipment, Elite Coaches, New Teachings in Sports Training, and Medical Services
 - Financial Assistance to National Sports Associations

5. Sports Infrastructure and Support

- To improve the present sports infrastructure and to erect new sports facilities at par with global standards
- Programs and Projects:
 - Construction of the Philippine Sports Training Center
 - Public-Private Partnership (PPP) for construction of sports facilities, enhanced training support in sports sciences, technology, and innovation and other athletic requirements

6. Sports Linkages

- To strengthen local and international linkages in sports
- Programs and Projects:
 - International Bilateral Agreements
 - Strengthen the Inter-Agency Cooperation Program
 - Create a National Sports Development Council (NSDC) as the lead organization for the grassroots programs of the PSC

LEAD AGENCY'S OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

The PSC Chairman and its Board of Commissioners provides supervisions and oversight towards the overall implementation of this Plan.

As a policy-making body, it may review existing policies and programs as needed, and direct support mechanisms and resources to be allotted for the implementation. Being the lead Agency for this Plan, the PSC Board may likewise call on partners and stakeholders in sports for linkages and various avenues of collaboration.

As head of the PSC, the Chairman shall directly institute all necessary means to ensure the successful implementation of this Plan.

The Executive Director shall monitor this Plan's implementation and provide overall management of its programs and projects being carried out by assigned offices under the PSC. The Executive Director shall be assisted by the Deputy Executive Director for Administrative, Financial and Management Services (AFMS Bureau); and the Deputy Executive Director for Coordinating Secretariat and Support Services (CSSS Bureau) in carrying

out this task.

Various offices under the two bureaus have been placed in-charge of the implementation of programs and projects under this Plan. Their respective assignments are in line with their official functions as stated in Section 3 under Rule V of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 6847.

FUNDING

The PSC's main fund sources as mandated by law are the General Appropriations Act (GAA) and National Sports Development (NSDF) Funds.

The General Appropriation Act (GAA) Fund is derived from the Agency's projected expenditures for personnel services, general services, procurement, maintenance, and other operating expenses. It includes remittances from the Manila Jockey Club, Inc. (MJCI), Philippine Racing Corporation (Philracom), and the Bureau of Customs (BoC) which are collected under the Special Account in the General Fund (SAGF).

The National Sports Development Fund (NSDF), as presented in Section 1, Rule VII of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 6847: is to finance the country's integrated sports development program, including the staging of national games and other multi-level sports competitions, as well as the country's participation in international sports competitions such as, but not limited to the Olympics, Asian Games, and Southeast Asian Games.

Government sources of the NSDF include proceeds from the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR), the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), the Philippine Racing Commission (Philracom), the Philippine Post Office, and other income generated by the PSC such as venue rentals, sponsorships, and donations.

Private corporations are encouraged and enjoined to actively participate and contribute to the growth of Philippine sports by way of sponsorships and donations, maximizing opportunities for tax exemptions as provided for in RA 6847.

Mutually beneficial Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) for certain institutional and long-term programs and infrastructure projects will be seriously considered between PSC and private sector institutions.