

*The following is an excerpt from the **SPORT CANADA SPORT FUNDING AND ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK - 2005-2010 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA***

A1: Sport Definition Parameters

SPORT IS A REGULATED FORM OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY ORGANIZED AS A CONTEST BETWEEN TWO OR MORE PARTICIPANTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING A WINNER BY FAIR AND ETHICAL MEANS. Such contest may be in the form of a game, match, race, or other form of event.

Sport is governed and sanctioned by a sport governing body (sport federation) that holds the responsibility for, notably, setting out the rules of play, either at the national level or at the world level, for awarding the organization of its championship(s), and designating the winner(s) of its championship(s). For the purpose of determining eligibility to its funding programs, Sport Canada has established that a sport should meet the following set of characteristics.

Its primary activity involves physical interaction between participants and/or between participants and the environment: air, water, ice, snow, ground, special surface or apparatus, with or without the use of a special conveyance (e.g., bicycle, canoe, horse, luge, parachute, sailboat, skate, ski, wheelchair).

It requires specialized neuromuscular skills - such as speed, strength, stamina, flexibility, balance, precision and coordination - that involve large muscle groups or those which the individual has the ability to utilize, and which can be taught, learned and improved.

It relies on recognized general principles of Long Term Participant/Athlete Development that are adapted to the specific sport and are designed to provide a technically and ethically safe and sound sport experience at all levels of the continuum from initiation to playing, to training and competing up to and including performing at the highest levels of the sport, under the guidance of qualified coaches.

It involves formal rules and procedures to ensure a safe and fair outcome for all participants.

It requires fair, ethical and effective tactics and strategies.

It requires a competitive format and structure, sanctioned by the recognized governing body for the sport, either at the national or world level, and open to all participants who meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the rules of the sport.

Its competitive events require the on site presence of officials sanctioned by the sport governing body to objectively, fairly and consistently apply the rules.