

Topic Area 4: The role National Governing Bodies (NGBs) play in the development of their sport

4.1 National Governing Bodies (NGBs)

What NGBs do for their sport:

National Governing Bodies (NGB's) are independent bodies that have responsibility to govern and manage a specific sport within their country. There is a NGB for every sport. However, it is up to the organisation to apply to become the NGB for their sport. They must apply to one of the 5 sports councils

- Sport England
- Sport Scotland
- Sport Wales
- Sport Northern Ireland



Promote participation:

A major role of a NGB is to promote participation. It is only when the sport is getting publicity that knowledge of the activity and participation will increase. It can be done through the following:

- Schemes
- Media coverage
- Equal opportunities

Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) 'Youth Start Scheme'



It is designed to help children who are new to tennis start playing, building their confidence and skills along the way. The LTA Youth Start programme is suitable for children aged between 4-11 years old who have never played tennis before. It cost £29.99 and you receive:

- Six top-class tennis sessions
- Equipment
- Branded t-shirt
- Activity cards
- Certificate upon completion from your coach

The football Association (FA) 'Survive, Revive Thrive'



Its aim is to harness the power of football to unite communities and improve the health of the nation. It has 7 objectives to improve:

- Male participation
- Female participation
- Club network
- Facilities
- Grassroots workforce
- Digital products and services
- Positive environment

England and Wales Cricket (ECB) 'Inspiring generations'



Inspiring Generations is the game-wide five-year strategic plan to grow cricket in England and Wales from 2020-24. The five-year plan will see the whole game united behind a clear purpose to connect communities and to inspire current and future generations through cricket. It is being delivered through six priorities:

- Grow and Nurture the Core
- Inspire through Elite Teams
- Make Cricket Accessible
- Engage Children and Young People
- Transform Women's and Girls' Cricket
- Support our communities

Media coverage:

An increase in media exposure can ensure more people are aware of the sport which generates more interest and inspire people to participate. Examples of media coverage are:

- Social media - you can follow most NGB's on Instagram
- Community engagement - Many professional footballers do community coaching/visits
- Press release - NGB's will publicise upcoming events in newspapers/magazines/internet
- Media deals - Many NGB's will sign media deals e.g., Rugby league with Sky and channel 4



Equal opportunities:

All NGB's should encourage participation from all genders, religions, cultures and ages so that everyone feels the are welcome to take part. The intention is to remove any barriers that may stop you from participating



The FA Charter Standard - Equality policy: A football club will not discriminate or in any way, treat anyone less favourably on grounds of age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability. The club will ensure it treats people fairly and with respect and that it will provide access and opportunities for all members of the community.



England Hockey strives to ensure that our game is played, watched, delivered, governed and enjoyed by all. We are committed to the principles of fair treatment for everyone, embracing differences and creating a culture where everyone is welcome.



England Netball is fully committed to the principles of equality of opportunity and the elimination of unlawful and unfair discrimination. England Netball aims to ensure that anyone participating or wishing to participate in netball can do so in a discrimination free environment.



Develop the sport's coaching and officiating infrastructure:

The role of a NGB is to help develop coaches and officials as well as performers, below is an example from the Football Association (FA)

Coaching - Football (FA):

FA Level 1 - 2 day course good for Under 7's football
FA Level 2 - More experienced coaches, it takes 145 hours
FA Level 3 (UEFA B) - Link between a community coach and professional coach
FA Level 4 (UEFA A) - Coach in the professional game 18 day course
FA Level 5 (UEFA Pro) - For coaches in the Premier League. 18 months course

Officiating - Football (FA):

Level 1 - National List (Football League and Premier League)
Level 2a - Panel Select (Conference Premier)
Level 2b - Panel (Conference North and South)
Level 3 - Contributory (Contributory Leagues)
Level 4 - Supply (Supply Leagues)
Level 5 - Senior County (County Leagues)
Level 6 - County (County leagues)
Level 7 - Junior (Amateur leagues)
Level 8 - Youth (Junior Referee below age of 16)
Level 9 - Trainee



Organise tournaments and competitions:

NGB's organise tournaments and competitions for different levels of performance for example:

Football Association (FA) - Below is a list of some of the competitions the FA organise:

The Emirates FA Cup.
The Vitality Women's FA Cup.
Barclays Women's Super League.
Barclays Women's Championship.
The Isuzu FA Trophy.
The Isuzu FA Vase.
UEFA Women's EURO England 2022.
The FA Disability Cup
Youth and Grassroot competitions



Rugby League (RFL) below is a list of some of the competitions the RFL organise:

Super League (men's and women's)
Challenge Cup (men's and women's)
Championship
League 1
Wheel chair rugby
National conference
Community Leagues



Amend the existing rules and apply disciplinary procedures for rule breaking:

NGB's usually have some role when it comes to changing rules within the sport. In football rules are changed by the International Football Association Board which includes 8 seats. Four are held by FIFA and four are held by the FA. No rules can be changed without a majority. In rugby union, the world Rugby Executive Committee decides any rule changes. Each country's NGB ensures the rule changes are followed. NGB's are responsible for any rule breaking and any disciplinary procedures which can result in fines and bans.



Ensure safety within their sport:

NGB's have to ensure safety within the sport. They are responsible for the equipment used in competitions. For example, using the correct weight shot-puts in athletics or wearing boots and shin pads in football. NGB's are responsible for safeguarding which is the action taken to protect the welfare of children and protect them from harm. NGB's promote safety by promoting anti-doping procedures and guidance. England Athletics lists the banned substances and gives advice to athletes on their website. NGB'S also promote positive behaviour in their sport encouraging sporting etiquette, positive role models and fair play.



Provide support, insurance and technical guidance to members:

NGB's provide support for players coaches and administrative staff in a club. This is available through a website or telephone helplines. Support includes insurance guidance. They often have partnerships with insurance firms that give advice on what insurance is needed for a club. This ensures financial help is available for any breaches of insured rules. Technical advice is available on equipment, clothing, footwear and Rules. Other advice may include details of local clubs, training times and upcoming events.



Develop policies and initiatives:

NGB's introduce many procedures campaigns and strategies that lay out the direction and vision of the sport. NGB's will have policies such as: equal opportunities or safeguarding. They may introduce campaigns to fulfil the policy. Examples include:

The FA 'Kick it out' campaign that has lasted over 25 years with the aim of equality in football. 'Tell us, we'll tackle it' was another campaign from The FA to encourage victims or witnesses of discrimination to speak up. The Rugby Football league (RFL) has similar campaigns The 'Enjoy the game' campaign stresses the importance of behaving with Respect at all levels of the game, there is a fresh emphasis on promoting positive environments throughout all levels of Rugby League. The RFL also has 'Tackle it' which is an anti-discrimination campaign.



Lobby for funding:

NGB's have to lobby to get funding for their sport. Lobbying is providing an argument that seeks to influence another's decision. Funding for sport comes mainly from the Government. Funding can often depend on the success of the sport. Examples of the Tokyo Olympics funding is:

Athletics = £23,007,531
Badminton = £946,779
Boxing = £12,084,436
Cycling = £24,559,306
Karate = £630,000



NGB's are responsible not only to fund the international athletes but to develop grassroots sport. NGB's provide support and advice for local clubs to apply for funding to develop their facilities. This funding may not come directly for the NGB, but the bid/application will need to be endorsed by them. Funding may come from the lottery of Sport England. Although the government provide much of the NGB's funding other sources include:

- Grants
- Lottery funding
- TV rights
- Sponsorship
- Private donations
- Merchandise
- Ticket prices
- Fundraising



NGB's also provide advice and funding for individual athletes. The Lawn tennis Association (LTA) provide information on how to apply for a 12 month funding for elite players, or to help pay for individual trips and expenses. The LTA also provides information on how to apply for funding individual scholarships.

