European Sport for All Charter (1975/76)\textsuperscript{1}

(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 24 September 1976 at the 26\textsuperscript{th} meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)

The Committee of Ministers,

1. Recognising that the aim of the Council of Europe is the achievement of greater unity between its Members for the purpose of safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage and of facilitating their economic and social progress, in particular by pursuing common objectives designed to protect and promote European culture;


3. Aware of the diverse contributions which sport can make to personal and social development through creative activities and recreational pursuits and of man's need for physical exercise for both his physical and his mental well-being;

4. Acknowledging the universal appeal of sport and its particular value in a rapidly changing world which is characterised on the one hand by increasing leisure and on the other hand by urbanisation and technological development that tend to isolate man from his natural environment;

5. Emphasising that the concept of sport for all, first formulated by the Council of Europe in 1966 to promote cultural development, relates to policies which seek to extend the benefits of sport to as many people as possible;

6. Stressing the comprehensive nature of this concept which embraces sport in many different forms, from recreational physical activity to high level competition;

7. Realising that sport for all raises problems which cannot be satisfactorily solved within a purely national framework;

8. Maintaining in this context that the formulation of common principles would enable national policies to be progressively harmonised;

9. Welcoming the work already done by the Council of Cultural Co-operation and various other international bodies in establishing common principles;

10. Recalling the Conference of European Ministers responsible for Sport held in Brussels (1975);

11. Considering that a text defining these principles, as retained by that Conference of European Ministers responsible for Sport under the title of the “European Sport for All Charter”, might provide a common basis for the actions of governments and other authorities concerned,

   Recommends to member governments:

\begin{footnotesize}
\textsuperscript{1} Council of Europe, European Sport for All Charter. Text and Background [Resolution (76) 41 of the Committee of Ministers, Principles for a Policy for Sport for All, defined by the Conference of European Ministers responsible for Sport in Brussels (1975)], Straßburg 1977.
\end{footnotesize}
a. to base their national policies as far as possible on the principles contained in the “Eu-
ropean Sport for All Charter” appended to this resolution;
b. to distribute the “Charter” as widely as possible among interested persons and bodies
within their territory.

Appendix to Resolution (76) 41

Principles for a Policy of Sport for All

Article I
Every individual shall have the right to participate in sport.

Article II
Sport shall be encouraged as an important factor in human development and appropriate sup-
port shall be made available out of public funds.

Article III
Sport, being an aspect of socio-cultural development, shall be related at local, regional and
national levels to other areas of policy-making and planning such as education, health, social
service, town and country planning, conservation, the arts and leisure services.

Article IV
Each government shall foster permanent and effective co-operation between public au-
thorities and voluntary organisations and shall encourage the establishment of national ma-
chinery for the development and co-ordination of sport for all.

Article V
Methods shall be sought to safeguard sport and sportsmen from exploitation for political,
commercial or financial gain, and from practices that are abusive and debasing, including the
unfair use of drugs.

Article VI
Since the scale of participation in sport is dependent, among other things, on the extent,
the variety and the accessibility of facilities, the overall planning of facilities shall be accepted as a
matter for public authorities, shall take account of local, regional and national requirements,
and shall incorporate measures to ensure full use of both new and existing facilities.

Article VII
Measures, including legislation where appropriate, shall be introduced to ensure access to
open country and water for the purpose of legislation.

Article VIII
In any programme of sports development, the need for qualified personnel at all levels of
administrative and technical management, leadership and coaching shall be recognised.