



COUNCIL *for*
RESPONSIBLE
SPORT

Responsible Sport Standard for Organizations

VERSION 1

RELEASED AUGUST 2021

About the Standard

The Council for Responsible Sport has developed a relevant measurement and reporting framework for the global sports event sector. The first-ever *Responsible Sport Standard for Organizations* is a collection of standards of good practice that have been thoroughly reviewed and revised through a robust process of stakeholder input and feedback.

The new standard is based on the recognition of the following core principles:

Power of Sport - Sport is a diverse, global, culturally influential platform that can engage and inspire people at nearly all scales and in any place on Earth.

Resolving Climate Change - There is an urgent need to balance (reduce) atmospheric greenhouse gases in the current decade in order to prevent the further destabilization of Earth's climate, while mitigating the harmful effects of humans' consumptive activities and largest-in-history global population.

Enabling Social Justice - Sport platforms that work to reduce inequities along racial and socio-economic lines enable progress towards a more equitable society.

Business of Sport - Organizations must create and employ viable and ethical economic models upon which they can attempt to operate indefinitely in the marketplace.

Those who aspire to meet the new *Responsible Sport Standard for Organizations* will demonstrate leadership towards a world where all events are produced with a greater sense of responsibility and intention for verifiable accounting of impacts than ever before.

The standard was designed to equally balance social and environmental responsibility, and is organized into five categories. In this first collection of good practices, there are 21 indicators and 94 actions, plus a scoring system available to organizations seeking to self-assess and/or certify their adherence.

Who is this framework for?

The Responsible Sport Standard for Organizations is a relevant measurement and reporting framework for the responsible management of organizations operating in the sports event sector. This collection of good practices is intended for practical application by companies and institutions that are involved with the production, hosting, and delivery of large-scale sporting events, whether participatory or spectator-oriented.

Private or public companies, organizing committees, athletic departments, production and marketing agencies, franchises and venue operators can all look to this framework for standardized guidance. This framework is for organizations wishing to operate with ecological and social purpose while accepting responsibility for the impacts of their actions and events.

Overview | The Five Pillars of Responsible Sport



Planning & Communications

- commitments
- comprehensive planning
- audience engagement
- governance
- health & safety
- biodiversity



Procurement

- purchasing practices
- supply chain diversity
- waste prevention
- circular economy



Resource Management

- GHG emissions measurement
- GHG emissions mitigation
- waste management
- water use conservation
- transportation planning



Access & Equity

- physical accessibility
- community representation
- socio-economic inclusion
- introduction to the sport



Community Legacy

- economic impact and development
- collaboration for the common good
- charitable activities and fundraising



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Reference #	Description	What and Why
1	Public commitments to social and environmental responsibility	
1.1	Executive leadership has made a public statement of accountability and commitment to diversity, inclusion and equity	Directive from organizational leadership enables and encourages action in accordance with stated social and environmental commitments.
1.2	Executive leadership has made a public statement of commitment to measurement and mitigation of environmental impacts	Directive from organizational leadership enables and encourages action in accordance with stated social and environmental commitments.
1.3	Organization has a stated governing purpose (or mission statement) linked to societal benefit and its core business	Purpose-driven organizations add value in many ways to the communities they serve and in turn are rewarded with customer and workforce loyalty, helping to ensure the longer-term viability of the organization.
1.4	Organization has formally committed to the United Nations' 'Sports for Climate Action' declaration and framework	The United Nations Climate Change offers the 'Sport for Climate Action' initiative to support and guide sports actors in achieving global climate change goals.
1.5	Organization has committed to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050	Science-based targets are goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions that are accordant with the speed with which the best current science says that global society must eliminate the production of greenhouse gas emissions associated with human activities in order to prevent the worst effects of climate change, and which align with the 2015 United Nations Paris Agreement to take appropriate action to limit global warming to 1.5 celsius above pre-industrial mean global temperatures by approaching net zero emissions mid-century. The transition to a low-carbon economy is underway and accelerating globally. Every sector in every market will be transformed. Taking ambitious action now helps companies stay ahead of future policies and regulations to limit GHG emissions.
2	Create a comprehensive social and environmental responsibility plan	
2.1	Existence of a written plan	Capturing and reflecting engrained actions and approaches in a written format creates consistency over time. The written plan document intends to identify the key social and environmental impacts of the organization's activities (including events), and summarizes strategies both in action and planned to align the organization's vision, mission and core values to its actions.
2.2	Plan reflects organization's approach to increasing physical accessibility to events hosted by the organization	An access policy and/or plan intends to ensure that event organizers have considered the needs of populations with a wide range of sensory, ambulatory and mental capacities and/or circumstances be they participants, staff, volunteers or spectators. Capturing and reflecting engrained actions and approaches in a written format creates consistency over time.
2.3	Plan reflects organization's approach to increasing equity and representation at events hosted by the organization	An equity policy intends to ensure that event organizers have considered the needs of underrepresented populations (including minorities) who have been or are systematically underprivileged be they participants, volunteers or spectators. Capturing and reflecting engrained actions and approaches in a written format creates consistency over time.
2.4	Plan reflects organization's approach to resource management	Plan or policy addresses: (1) Supply chain considerations, (2) event-generated waste; (3) water; (4) direct energy (e.g. facilities, transportation) and; (5) direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions. Administratively, it addresses (1) communication of the plan; (2) staff and volunteer training, and; (3) resources and references to assist staff and other stakeholders in achieving the goals of the plan (e.g. Responsible Sport Standards). It offers directive and priorities to guide organizers acting on behalf of the organization with intent to minimize resource use, move towards circular material flows, and identify opportunities for improvement.
2.5	Plan shared with leadership and staff	Internal communication within the organization clarifies leadership's position on key social and environmental issues and increases trust and acceptance of programs and initiatives by all.
2.6	Plan identifies and describes United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs or 'global goals') that apply to elements of the organization's work and/or events	The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while addressing climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests. Identification of work that is relevant to achieving the SDGs is recommended, including the identification of contributory stakeholders involved



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2.7	Internal stakeholder feedback regarding sustainability efforts is sought and received	Feedback mechanisms that assist with internal evaluation of efforts to reduce the environmental footprint and enhance the social impacts of activities help measure success against objectives.
2.8	External stakeholder feedback regarding sustainability efforts is sought and received	In addition to internal evaluation of efforts to reduce your event's environmental footprint and enhance its social impacts, asking stakeholders what worked well, and what could be improved can be helpful in measuring success against objectives.
3	Governance, diversity and equality disclosures	
3.1	Organization has an active diversity, equity and inclusion plan	Build the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion into your organization's structure, workforce, and operations. A plan is not a solution, but rather a starting point for an organization seeking to achieve parity. This plan is comprehensive to the reporting organization as a whole, and may include or overlap with elements from 2.2 or 2.3-which are specific to event planning, but additionally should include the organization's approaches to diversification, equity, and belonging with regards to human resources, hiring, and governance.
3.2	Organization demonstrates pay practices that approach structural equity	Measurement of compensation and benefits to employees in the workforce in relation to their role, gender, and ethnicity are important for identifying and correcting systemic disparities. In a market-driven labor economy with demonstrated gendered and ethnic 'pay gaps', providing fair compensation and benefits to employees in the workforce with similar roles and duties regardless of race, ethnicity and gender is important in achieving an equitable work environment.
3.3	Public disclosure of organization's governance format and current leaders	The individuals that govern organizations have significant influence on the quality of oversight and the decisions made. Publicly sharing information about governance increases the transparency of an organization.
4	Share socially and environmentally responsible messages with key audiences	
4.1	Dedicated web page on organization's website addresses environmental and social elements	Sharing information publicly enhances transparency amongst all stakeholders, sets a positive example, raises awareness, and can influence action.
4.2	Direct event communications with responsibility-related messages	Sharing information publicly enhances transparency amongst all stakeholders, sets a positive example, raises awareness, and can influence action. For example, visitors should routinely be strongly encouraged to use public and active transit modes to travel to and from events. Communication formats might include e-mail, audio/visual messages at events, signage, booths, loudspeaker announcements. (Note: event wayfinding signage does not qualify)
4.3	Indirect event communications with responsibility-related messages	Sharing information publicly enhances transparency amongst all stakeholders, sets a positive example, raises awareness, and can influence action. Indirect communications formats might be sponsored content including social media posts, marketing emails, organizational newsletters, web pages, published reports, etc.)
4.4	Communicate Responsible Sport efforts and performance to audiences	Sharing information with specific internal and external groups (e.g. staff, volunteers, contracted laborers, vendors, local governments, sponsors, delivery partners, etc.) enhances transparency, sets a positive example, raises awareness, and can influence action.
4.5	Share case studies of specific initiatives and their outcomes	Sharing case studies and examples with other event and industry professionals helps them learn how to advocate, plan and achieve new and improved outcomes.



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5	Plan for the health, safety and security for all at events	
5.1	Develop a safety and security plan and chain of communication for all events	Update and distribute timely and accurate emergency communication information. Identify everyone in events' chains of communication (e.g. event staff, volunteers, participants, suppliers, vendors, and key community partners) and establish systems for sharing information. Maintain up-to-date contact information for everyone in the chain of communication. Identify platforms, such as automated text messaging to help disseminate information.
5.2	Develop and implement a child protection policy as part of safety and security planning	Policy should include at least the following elements: (1) explanation of processes and protocols implemented to keep children safe at the event; (2) explanation of process in case of a lost child or youth-related emergency, including staff or other contacts (e.g. policy or security personnel);(3) the plan for training/communicating the child protection protocols to event staff and volunteers, and; (4) suggestions for adult guardians to help keep kids safe at the event.
5.3	Events practice good public health hygiene	Ensure that events have sanitation supplies for staff, volunteers (if applicable), guests and participants. Hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, tissues, disposable facemasks, and disinfectants are recommended. Require staff and volunteers to stay home if they are sick or caring for a sick household member. Hand washing and sanitization are some of the best defenses against the spread of infectious disease and therefore should be widely available when people are out in public.
6	Planning identifies and seeks to mitigate environmental impacts	
6.1	Identify and plan to mitigate sensitive environmental areas and potential or expected impacts to biodiversity	Site assessments are useful for identifying and understanding impacts as well as clarifying priorities, threats and opportunities for improvement. Action to recognize, prevent, and minimize the potential ecological impacts resulting from sports events should be prioritized. Potential impacts include: habitat loss or modification, disturbance or damage to wildlife, introduction of new flora and fauna, soil erosion and compaction, depletion of water resources, pollution, climate change and unsustainable sourcing (Brownlie, Bull, Stubbs 2020)
6.2	Minimize biodiversity-related impacts	Self-reported impacts by key event delivery partners responsible for the stewardship of event sites generates awareness of negative results and either acknowledges and accepts them, and/or helps plan to prevent them at future events held at those sites
6.3	Identify sources and plan for the mitigation of air quality pollution	Measurement of the concentration and types of ambient air pollutants that sporting events generate is a critical step in identifying and understanding opportunities to reduce the impact of pollution and growing the body of knowledge around the impacts of air quality on athletic performance as well as athlete and event visitors' health. Measuring outdoor and indoor air quality before, during and after events and devising mitigations to keep local air quality within international standards during events and their preparations (e.g. team training) is considered good practice, particularly for large-scale events (e.g. 10,000+ person gatherings). Prioritize actions looking at synergies with (GHG) emissions reduction. Begin by identifying suspected emission sources (hotspots) and plan to quantify the impact of known sources (e.g., desert dust) with instrumentation and/or sensor technologies.



Procurement

- purchasing practices
- supply chain diversity
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7	Create a procurement policy with detailed social and environmental criteria	
7.1	Existence of written procurement or purchasing policies and protocols	The written Procurement Policy explains the full set of criteria to be considered when making purchases on behalf of the organization. When detailing purchasing protocols, the policy should explicitly state goals and tactics to increase access to contracts by local minority and women-owned businesses while identifying and prioritizing the material sustainability elements to be considered when making purchases.
7.2	Policy communicated to board and staff	Sharing information internally is necessary to influence policy implementation.
7.3	Policy encourages and enables the selection of social and environmentally preferable goods and services	Cost flexibility is a mechanism that allows the consideration of factors of environmental and social impact and value that have historically been overlooked or labeled as 'externalities' in favor of lowest-cost only policies. Equipping people with the power to make decisions that align with the organizations stated social and environmental values and intentions puts the 'triple bottom line' into actual practice.
7.4	Policy implements tracking mechanism(s) for key social and environmental criteria within accounting procedures	Creating pathways for information gathering is essential to accurate measurement and calculation of impacts and performance
8	Make improvements to social and environmental sustainability through supply chains	
8.1	Reduce inbound supply chain waste	Bolster waste reduction in supply chains by prompting partners and suppliers to reduce or eliminate paper use, packaging, cans, cartons, plastic wrap and other materials used to package goods and supplies, and to utilize reusable and locally recyclable options when packaging is unavoidable
8.2	Show measured reduction in GHG impacts from a purchasing or sourcing change when compared to a baseline or the previous year	Measurement of change over a baseline year is a tactic that helps track performance towards goals over time, analyze data, and assists with communicating the results of programs and policies.
8.3	Gifts, awards, and other physical hand-outs at events are durable, useful, and designed for reuse and/or waste prevention	Giveaways that support an environmentally conscious lifestyle (e.g. grocery bags, beverage vessels) set a good example and create demand for sustainable goods while reducing demand for wasteful ones.
8.4	Purchase from and/or contract with locally owned businesses (within 100 miles of event location or headquarters) for event-related production needs	Support the local economies and homegrown businesses where events are held.
8.5	Make purchases from women and minority-owned owned businesses	Support a more equitable economy by contracting with women and minority-owned businesses for event-related production needs
8.6	Purchase and/or contract with suppliers and vendors that have earned sustainability credentials for their businesses and properties	Support a more environmentally sustainable economy by contracting with businesses certified in accordance with industry best practices for event-related production needs
8.7	Utilize post-consumer recycled paper for office/headquarters and event operations	Reduce deforestation and waste by utilizing and creating market demand for recycled content paper for all printing needs
8.8	Requests for proposals (RFP) for event-related hospitality routinely include specific preferences for sustainable food production techniques	Incorporating environmental terms into procurement processes helps organizations incorporate the value of nature and its services by demonstrating the intention to make choices that cause less harm
8.9	Event menus and offerings feature food and beverages manufactured with sustainable production techniques	Incorporating environmental terms into food and beverage selection processes helps organizations demonstrate and communicate willingness to make choices that cause less ecological and climatic harm.
9	Prevent waste	
9.1	Save, donate, or sell leftover, unused and gently-used goods for reuse, upcycling, recycling, or redistribution	A key element of environmental sustainability is the concept of continual use and re-use of materials. 'Circular' systems employ reuse, sharing, repair, refurbishment, remanufacturing and recycling to minimize the use of raw resource inputs and the creation of waste, pollution and climate changing greenhouse gas emissions.
9.2	Eliminate material elements of event production activities used in previous years	Support a more resource conscious society by reducing the use of natural resources and generating less waste.
9.3	Avoid paper waste by utilizing web-based registration, ticketing, and communication systems	Reduce deforestation and waste by seeking to eliminate the use of printed materials in office functions, the event registration process and ongoing communications with participants and staff/volunteers.
9.4	Replace single-use plastic and difficult-to-recycle materials with reusable, recycled, or recyclable options	Conserve resources and support a more ecological society by reducing demand for plastic, of which only approximately 10 percent of what has been produced has ever been recycled. Instead, utilize goods and servicewares that are durable or which can compost back into useful soil instead of sitting in landfills for hundreds of years or being incinerated after a single use
9.5	Employ food waste and general waste reduction tactics in hospitality contracts, areas and concessions outlets	The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that roughly 30 percent of edible food goes to waste. Prevention is the first step to reducing food waste. Management of food and scraps to achieve the highest beneficial use is next. Beneficial uses include donations to feed people and animals, conversion to fuel, energy capture, and composting.



Resource Management

- GHG emissions measurement
- GHG emissions mitigation
- waste management

Reference #	Description	What and Why
10	Measure energy use	
10.1	Obtain fuel use information from vendors and suppliers	Measurement of fuel use from services and goods events rely on is a critical step in understanding the scale of the environmental impact and where there may be opportunities to reduce it. Many suppliers track this data internally (because they pay for fuel) and can share it when requested, making calculations of event-related impact more accurate.
10.2	Measure total electricity use (in kWh) at owned and operated facilities	Measurement of total electricity use (in kWh) at year-round facilities (e.g. headquarters, warehouse/storage) whether owned or leased is a critical step towards understanding the scale of the environmental impact the organization is responsible for and where there may be opportunities to reduce it.
10.3	Measure electricity use (in kWh) at facilities occupied during events	Measurement of electricity use (in kWh) at facilities occupied during the complete production of the event—beginning with load-in and ending with 'teardown' or clean-up—is a critical step towards understanding the scale of the environmental impact and where there may be opportunities to reduce it.
10.4	Measure cumulative direct fuel use at owned and operated facilities	Measurement of direct fuel use at year-round facilities (e.g. headquarters, warehouse/ storage) is a critical step in understanding the scale of the environmental impact and where there may be opportunities to reduce it.
10.5	Measure cumulative direct fuel use for events (e.g. facilities occupied during events, staff trips)	Measurement of direct fuel use from events and their operations is a critical step in understanding the scale of the environmental impact and where there may be opportunities to reduce it.
10.6	Estimate fuel use resulting from attendee travel to and from events	Estimating the types and amounts of fuel used to get people to and from events is a critical step in understanding the scale of the environmental impact and where there may be opportunities to reduce it.
10.7	Measure cumulative indirect fuel use (deliveries and pick-ups during staging, on-site vendors)	Measurement of fuel use from services and goods events rely on is a major step in understanding the scale of the environmental impact and where there may be opportunities to reduce it. Many suppliers track this data internally and can share it when requested.
11	Measure greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions resulting from organizational activities	
11.1	Calculate the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from event operations—direct and indirect fuel use (scope 1)	Measurement of the contribution of climate-changing greenhouse gases resulting from the services and goods events rely on, including the shipping of participant and/or spectator services items is a critical step in understanding the scale of the environmental impact and identifying opportunities to reduce it.
11.2	Calculate the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from electricity used at permanent and temporary facilities (scope 2)	Measurement of the contribution of climate-changing greenhouse gases resulting from electricity used at venues events rely on is a critical step in understanding the scale of the environmental impact and identifying opportunities to reduce it.
11.3	Calculate the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from attendee travel (scope 3)	Measurement of the contribution of climate-changing greenhouse gases resulting from travel necessary for participants, spectators, partners, sponsors, and volunteers is a critical step in understanding the scale of the environmental impact and identifying opportunities to reduce it.
11.4	Calculate the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from key supply chain (purchased) elements (Scope 3)	Measurement of the contribution of climate-changing greenhouse gases generated in the production and transportation of key event-production related purchases is a critical step in understanding the scale of the environmental impact and identifying opportunities to reduce it.
12	Reduce contributions to climate change	
12.1	Site selection and event design minimize transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions	The movement of large amounts of people and goods necessary to stage mass gatherings is one of the primary sources of event-related contributions to climate change. Thoughtful event design minimizes the use of sub-urban or rural locations because they require more transit-related energy use and create attendance barriers, especially for people who rely on public transit and active modes of transit. Efforts should be made to concentrate events and ancillary gatherings in centralized locations easily accessible by public transit, shuttles, and pedestrian modes while minimizing the need for single-occupancy vehicle based travel to and from event sites.
12.2	Encourage and enable attendees' use of public and active transit modes for event-related travel	Attendees travel to and from events is routinely responsible for a majority share of event-related GHG emissions. While a long-haul flight generates roughly 2 metric tons of GHG emissions, taking public transit to a local event generates an exceedingly small amount by comparison, while cycling, walking and other active modes generate negligible amounts (only respiration). Make a habit of encouraging and even incentivizing the use of bus, rail, subway, cycling and carpooling to minimize the climate impacts of attendee travel.



Resource Management

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12.3	Demonstrate a GHG reduction from a change in operations, compared to a baseline or the previous year	Reducing the GHG impacts of event operations reduces the human contribution of GHG into the atmosphere that affects the global carbon cycle and causes warming. The most responsible organizations are those that demonstrate a commitment to continual improvement and making choices that cause less harm.
12.4	Supply permanent facilities and temporary event sites with electricity from emissions-free renewable energy sources	Procuring GHG emissions-free electricity for event-related operations, whether purchased or generated at event venues and sites, is a key tactic to reduce the scale of environmental impact resulting from event productions and support the global transition to renewable energy sources that produce fewer climate-changing emissions than their fossil fuel counterparts.
12.5	Compensate for GHG emissions with voluntary carbon offsets purchases and/or support projects with quantified emissions reductions	Even with the most determined efforts to reduce direct energy use, and thus GHG emissions, most organizations still generate some GHG emissions that contribute to climate change. The primary current means of taking responsibility for the environmental harm caused by those emissions is to ensure that an equivalent amount is absorbed via natural 'carbon sinks,' or, that atmospheric emissions are prevented elsewhere in the natural carbon cycle. When considering and purchasing voluntary carbon offsets, it is recommended (but not required) that they be verified by a third-party (e.g. Gold Standard, Verified Carbon Standard, Climate Action Reserve, Clean Development Mechanism).
13	Measure quantities of materials disposed	
13.1	Measure the quantity and types of materials recycled from events	Measurement of the quantity and types of materials events generate that are recycled is a critical step in identifying and understanding opportunities to move towards more circular material flows. Ensure waste haulers report final waste quantities by type, volume and weight promptly after servicing each event.
13.2	Measure the quantity and types of materials composted from events	Measurement of the quantity and types of materials events generate that are recycled (compost is a form of re-cycling the elements contained in organic materials) is a critical step in identifying and understanding opportunities to move towards more circular material flows.
13.3	Measure the quantity and types of materials sent to landfills or incinerated from events	Measurement of the quantity and types of materials events generate that are sent to landfill or incineration is a critical step in identifying and understanding opportunities to move towards more circular material flows.
13.4	Measure the quantity and types of materials composted at permanent facilities and/or organizational headquarters	Measurement of the quantity and types of materials that are recycled (compost is a form of re-cycling the elements contained in organic materials) is a critical step in identifying and understanding opportunities to move towards more circular material flows.
13.5	Measure the quantity and types of materials recycled at permanent facilities and/or organizational headquarters	Measurement of the quantity and types of materials recycled is a critical step in identifying and understanding opportunities to move towards more circular material flows.
13.6	Measure the quantity and types of materials landfilled or incinerated from permanent facilities and/or organizational headquarters	Measurement of the quantity and types of materials operations generate that are sent to landfill or incinerated is a critical step in identifying and understanding opportunities to move towards more circular material flows.
14	Divert materials from the landfill or incineration	
14.1	Compost organic materials generated as waste at events	Roughly 30 percent of edible food goes to waste according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Prevention and donation are the first steps to reducing food waste. Management of food and scraps to achieve the highest beneficial use is next.
14.2	Source separate and recycle plastic, paper, aluminum and glass materials generated as waste at events	Recycling is an integral tactic of a more circular system to meet humans' material wants and needs. It reduces demand for raw materials and resources while extending the usefulness of goods.
14.3	Measured reduction in the overall quantity of material waste generated at events compared to a baseline or the previous year	Waste reduction is the ideal recommended waste management technique because it reduces the need for natural resources in the first place and reduces the need to manage and convey large quantities of materials after their use and disposal. Demonstrate that continual improvement efforts to reduce the generation of waste are working.
14.4	Measured increase in overall diversion from landfill or incineration of material waste generated at events compared to a baseline or the previous year	Demonstrate that continual improvement efforts to reduce the quantity of waste going to landfill or incineration are working. Reporting scopes should agree for the comparison years (same quantity of events in the scope)
14.5	Donate or redistribute unserved food and beverages leftover after events	Arrange for the pickup or delivery of leftover pre-consumer food to an organization that is equipped to handle and distribute it responsibly. Inquire about requirements for packaging and storage so that you can make arrangements with food vendors.
15	Measure and conserve use of water	
15.1	Measure total water use at owned, leased and operated facilities (e.g. headquarters, offices, warehouse/storage)	Measurement is an imperative first step towards better conservation and management practices.
15.2	Measure water used at facilities and venues during events and for event operations	Efficient water use practices should be implemented at every event, even those held in rainy places. Measurement is an imperative first step towards better conservation and management practices.
15.3	Conserve water at owned and operated facilities	Efficient water use practices and fixtures should be implemented at all facilities.
15.4	Reduce water use at facilities and venues during events and for event operations compared to a baseline figure measured with real data	Efficient water use practices should be implemented at every event, even those held in rainy places.

Access & Equity



- physical accessibility
- community representation
- socio-economic inclusion

- introduction to the sport

Reference #	Description	What and Why
16	Increase accessibility to and at events	
16.1	Publish information in at least the two languages most commonly spoken in event locations	Increase the likelihood that people who speak different languages feel included by reducing language barriers. Reduce language barriers by making public information regarding ticketing/purchasing/registration, websites, advertising communications, and on-site signage available in multiple languages, particularly when there is a second language commonly spoken in the region where events take place.
16.2	Provide information and a publicly available inquiry and response mechanism for people seeking specific accommodations	Provide information on the organization's website about accommodations available and not available to guests. Or provide a mechanism (e.g. contact form or information) for people to ask a question or request an accommodation. This practice is not about the ability of organizers to meet individual or specialized accommodations requests (e.g. closed captioning, listening devices, quiet zones, escorts to and from event and transit/parking areas), but to ensure that people have a way to make their needs known and be responded to in a timely manner. For a person with a need for specific accommodations, information about the organizers' ability to meet their needs is important when deciding whether to attend.
16.3	Event sites accommodate people with physical disabilities	That event sites be accessible to people with physical and ambulatory disabilities is expected and compulsory. A site tour should be performed at all permanent and temporary event venues to identify difficult-to-navigate areas (e.g. gates, vertical transitions, carpets, gravel, and loose flooring are difficult to travel across in a wheelchair or scooter) and address them according to the guidance offered by the Americans with Disabilities Act or comparable international equivalent for addressing mobility needs of all types at event sites.
16.4	Provide accommodations for attendees and/or participants with a wide range of sensory, ambulatory, and developmental capabilities	Ableism refers to discrimination and social prejudice against people with disabilities or who are perceived to have disabilities. Sports are an area of society in which ableism is often evident and apparent. Think and work diligently to create clear ways for people with differing mobilities to engage and participate in events. For spectator sports: Providing service(s), resources, and other accommodations to assist people who are blind, deaf, have limited ambulatory mobility, who are developmentally delayed, who experience mental instability and/or sensory sensitivity can enhance their enjoyment of recreational and competitive sporting events. See the resource referrals for additional detail. For participatory events: Host events that include differently-abled athletes. Create opportunities for direct participation of individuals with varied mobility types. Typical barriers for people with disabilities to participate in sport include: lack of awareness on the part of people without disabilities as to how to involve people with disabilities adequately; lack of opportunities and programmes for training and competition; too few accessible facilities due to physical barriers (DePauw and Gavron 2005); too few accommodations to support the navigation of facilities and enjoyment of events, and; limited information and limited access to information and resources. Engagement and participation will look different across events and event types.
16.5	Host staff and volunteer training(s) on accessibility, accommodations protocols, and etiquette	Educating staff and volunteers about access and equity etiquette equips them with the proper language and action steps to address any guest's needs and questions at events.
17	Increase attendance/participation by underrepresented groups	
17.1	Gather input from community groups in event locations about their interest in, and barriers to participating	Actions to host more diverse, inclusive events will necessarily include local demographic research and direct inquiry with representatives of various groups suspected or known to be underrepresented at the organization's events. Inquiry about whether they would like to participate and why they have not historically done so is encouraged. Research and direct inquiry is the foundation of an intentional approach to hosting genuinely inclusive events. 'Underrepresented groups' typically refers to demographics such as race, ethnicity, nationality, age, household income, and primary language.
17.2	Take action to remove barriers to participation for underrepresented group(s)	Organizations with genuine commitments to diversity and inclusion will voluntarily pursue creative and ethical business models that seek to authentically address the effects of substantial, long-standing wealth inequalities, often occurring along racial and ethnic lines, but varying by place. Underrepresented groups may include national or regional racial or ethnic minorities, youth and their guardians from low-income or underserved housing, households, neighborhoods, schools, or other underrepresented peoples specific to event locales. While research and direct inquiry are the foundation of an intentional approach to hosting genuinely inclusive events, adjustments and actions in response to the feedback received through inquiry demonstrate integrity. Intentional inquiry is insufficient if not accompanied by authentic responsive action.
18	Provide interactive educational activities or services	
18.1	Teach healthy training skills to people new to the sport with clinics, camps, and other ancillary activities or experiences	Give people information and resources to help them learn to train properly if they have little to no experience with the sport or event activity. Resources should be free or provided at a nominal cost to participate. In-person clinics with instruction or demo opportunities at events are ideal, but virtual activities and programs are also acceptable.
18.2	Organization and/or partners stage free interactive educational element(s) for visitors to engage with at events	'Interactive' means offering something interesting for people to do. 'Educational' presumes that people can learn factual information about a topic. Whether its trivia or a game, a scavenger hunt, an inspirational figure appearance, a tour, or a competition—giving people opportunities to engage with messages relating to social or environmental elements beyond a pamphlet sitting on a table is recommended



Community Legacy

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- collaboration for the common good
- charitable activities and fundraising

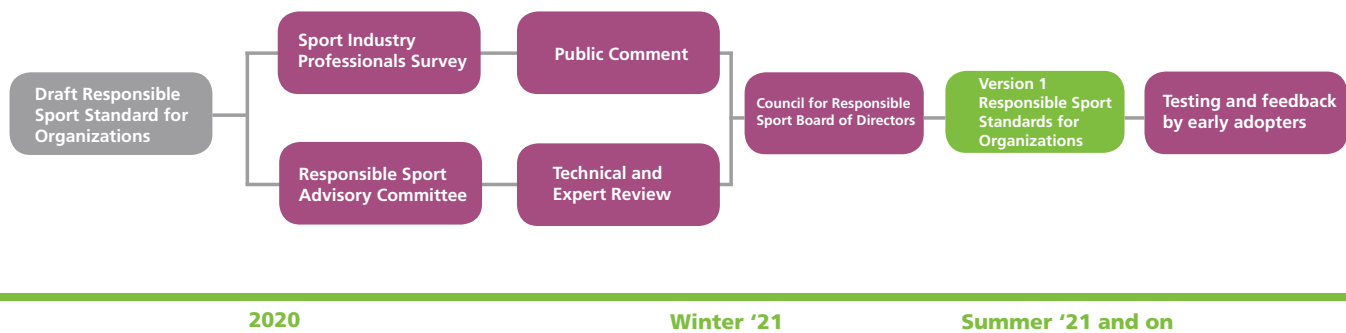
Reference #	Description	What and Why
19	Economic impact of events	
19.1	Measure the local and total economic impact of events	Events catalyse economic activity, with the potential of positive benefit to a city or county where they occur, from the use of local vendors for event production needs, to patronage of local accommodations and businesses by visitors. Measuring or estimating the local economic activity resulting from events as an element of the overall economic stimulus from events can build support with local officials and residents alike
19.2	Provide programs and/or marketing collateral to help local businesses realize opportunities for business generated by events	Local businesses, especially smaller ones, don't always have the capacity to maximize the opportunity provided by events as they come to and through their neighborhoods and cities. Level the playing field by helping them out with communications and marketing assets (such as ideas for special promotions, an opportunity to offer event attendees a coupon, offer to participate in a joint promotion campaign) or other information that can help them get the most business out of the buzz and potential traffic generated by the event(s).
20	Make direct donations to charities and/or community groups	
20.1	Make donations from the organization to charities or community groups during the reporting period	Making donations to groups that have purpose-driven missions in support of community and wider societal or planetary health helps that work to continue. Disclosure of donated goods and services is a practice in transparency, helping build trust about the organization's commitment to contributing to the greater good
20.2	Disclose results of charitable or community fundraising activities during the reporting period	Disclosure of donated goods and services is a practice in transparency, helping build trust about the organization's commitment to contributing to the greater good.
20.3	Compensate community groups that provide volunteers or services to help deliver the event	Many participation-based sport events, and some spectator sports organizations rely on volunteerism. Support for the delivery of events should adequately compensate the efforts of grassroots community groups, and should be both representative and inclusive of the community demographics at-large.
21	Provide fundraising mechanisms or programs for charities and/or community groups	
21.1	Include donation opportunities during ticketing/registration/points-of-sale	Put specific mechanisms in place to ensure that funds can be raised for charity or community partners during the ticketing/registration process or at an event-related point-of-sale (e.g. concessions, merchandise).
21.2	Disclose funds raised for charity partners through donations made during the ticketing/registration process	Transparently disclosing the amount of funds raised for charities is critical to building and maintaining trust among all parties (event organizers, charity partners, people donating) and reduces the chances of corruption.
21.3	Collaborate to raise funds through ancillary activities with proceeds benefitting charity partners	Events provide creative platforms to engage and educate people about charity partners' efforts while helping them raise funds for many important social and environmental causes.
21.4	Disclose funds raised for charity partners through donations made through ancillary activities	Transparently disclosing the amount of funds raised for charities is critical to building and maintaining trust among all parties (event organizers, charity partners, people donating) and reduces the chances of corruption.
21.5	Support community groups with social or environmental benefit causes with in-kind trades, services and/or in-kind donations	Whether a booth, ancillary activity (e.g. employee volunteerism), special event, recognition via PSAs or video boards, signage or other form of drawing attention to their cause(s) and efforts, non-profit and charity partners working for the common good can advance their cause-related work with and through access to events, their employees and networks. Discounted or free co-marketing are acts of solidarity organizations can provide to non-profit and charity partners working for the common good to advance their work with and through access to events.

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How the Standard was Created

Stakeholder Input Process Flow Responsible Sport Standard for Organizations, version 1



The Council for Responsible Sport ensured the robust review and revision of the Responsible Sport Standard for Organizations (version 1) through a multi-pronged, 15-month process of stakeholder input and feedback that lasted from April 2020, through June 2021, when the first version of the standard was approved by the Council's board of directors.

Process elements included the creation and facilitation of a 24-member advisory committee that met between July and October 2020; an industry professionals survey that garnered 39 complete responses, 98 incomplete responses, and 728 views; a public comment period that was open from February 24 through April 10, 2021 which resulted in 494 views and 32 comments received, and direct discussions with dozens of topic-matter and technical experts. In all, no less than 128 individuals and 31 sport industry organizations provided direct input, while several thousand more clicked informational web links to learn more.

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The Council for Responsible Sport owes a debt of gratitude for the contributions of many sport business professionals, event planners, community outreach leaders, diversity and inclusion experts, economists, environmental scientists and sustainability professionals. Without their voluntary support, there would be no *Responsible Sport Standard for Organizations*. The standard is a reflection of the growing sense of responsibility amongst a broad range of collaborators conducting business in the events sector—a movement the Council for Responsible Sport is honored to serve.

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City of Orlando, Florida | Sustainability
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New York Road Runners
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