

Singapore Sports Council (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 19/2025.

Read the first time on 4 November 2025.

A BILL

i n t i t u l e d

An Act to amend the Singapore Sports Council Act 1973.

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of Singapore, as follows:

Short title and commencement

1. This Act is the Singapore Sports Council (Amendment) Act 2025 and comes into operation on a date that the Minister appoints by notification in the *Gazette*.

Amendment of section 2

2. In the Singapore Sports Council Act 1973 (called in this Act the principal Act), in section 2 —

(a) after the definition of “member”, insert —

““mind sport” means a competitive game based on intellectual skill rather than physical skill, such as chess or bridge;”;

(b) in the definition of “National Stadium”, replace the full-stop at the end with a semi-colon; and

(c) after the definition of “National Stadium”, insert —

““sports” includes mind sports and e-sports.”.

Amendment of section 3

3. In the principal Act, in section 3(2), replace “corporation” with “corporate”.

Amendment of section 4

4. In the principal Act, in section 4(1), replace “15 members” with “25 members”.

Amendment of section 6

5. In the principal Act, in section 6(2), after “5 members”, insert “or half of the total number of members of the Council (whichever is the higher)”.

Amendment of section 8

6. In the principal Act, in section 8 —

(a) in paragraph (a), after “sports”, insert “and physical fitness activities”;

(b) replace paragraph (d) with —

“(d) to encourage and organise, in partnership (where appropriate) with any national sports organisation, the Singapore National Olympic Council or the Singapore National Paralympic Council, sports events and competitions of a national, international or other character;”;

(c) replace paragraph (f) with —

“(f) to foster research and study in sports, physical fitness activities and physical education (including sports science, sports medicine and other subjects related to sports, physical fitness activities and physical education), and to prepare and publish such reports or periodicals on these matters as the Council thinks fit;”;

(d) in paragraph (g), replace “persons and organisations concerned with sports and” with “persons concerned with sports, physical fitness activities or”;

(e) replace paragraph (h) with —

“(h) to establish sports stadiums and such other sports facilities and physical fitness facilities as the Council thinks fit, and to manage and maintain them;”;

(f) in paragraph (i), after “sports”, insert “or physical fitness activities,”;

(g) in paragraph (j), delete “and” at the end; and

(h) replace paragraph (k) with —

“(k) to establish any institution or entity for the purpose of developing and training sportspersons to represent Singapore in regional and international sports competitions, and to —

- (i) manage or oversee the sports and other related activities of such institution or entity; and
 - (ii) provide, manage or oversee, with the approval of the Ministry of Education, the academic curricula (if any) for such institution or entity;
- (l) to prepare, manufacture and supply any equipment and items used for sports or physical fitness activities;
- (m) to establish and maintain codes of practice or conduct, guidelines or standards in relation to —
 - (i) coaching, training or instruction in sports or physical fitness activities; or
 - (ii) any equipment, items and facilities used for sports or physical fitness activities;
- (n) to accredit any person, facility, course or activity, or to certify any person or thing, as having complied with or met the requirements of any code of practice or guideline, or attained any standard, as established by the Council;
- (o) to provide educational and career support to sportspersons, whether active or retired; and
- (p) to carry out any other function conferred by or under any other written law.”.

Amendment of section 9

7. In the principal Act, in section 9 —

- (a) in paragraph (a), replace “competitions and games” with “events and competitions”;
- (b) in paragraph (b), after “standards of”, insert “sports education, education on physical fitness activities, and”; 5
- (c) in paragraph (e), replace “or sports organisation subject to such conditions as it” with “subject to such conditions as the Council”;
- (d) in paragraph (h), replace “and physical education; and” with “, physical fitness activities, and physical education,”; 10
- (e) in paragraph (i), delete “or organisation”;
- (f) in paragraph (i), replace the full-stop at the end with “; and”; and
- (g) after paragraph (i), insert — 15
 - “(j) manufacture and supply, or enter into contracts or agreements for the manufacture and supply of, equipment and items used for sports or physical fitness activities.”. 20

Deletion of sections 16 and 17

8. In the principal Act, delete sections 16 and 17.

Miscellaneous amendments

9. In the principal Act —

- (a) in the following provisions, replace “person” with “individual”: 25
 - Section 4(5)
 - Section 12(1) and (2)
 - Section 13; and

(b) in section 9(c), replace “persons” with “individuals”.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This Bill seeks to amend the Singapore Sports Council Act 1973 (the Act) for the following main purposes:

- (a) to expand the functions of the Singapore Sports Council (the Council) to include —
 - (i) the coverage of mind sports and e-sports, and physical fitness activities;
 - (ii) the establishment of any institution or entity for the development and training of sports persons; and
 - (iii) the establishment of codes of practice or conduct, guidelines or standards for coaching and for sports and physical fitness equipment, items and facilities;
- (b) to expand the powers of the Council to support its additional functions mentioned in paragraph (a);
- (c) to increase the maximum number of Council members;
- (d) to remove provisions relating to pensions and pension schemes.

Clause 1 relates to the short title and commencement.

Clause 2 amends section 2 to insert a new definition of “mind sport” and to expand the definition of “sports” to include mind sports and e-sports.

Clause 3 amends section 3 to replace “corporation name” with “corporate name”.

Clause 4 amends section 4 to increase the maximum number of Council members to 25 members.

Clause 5 amends section 6 to increase the quorum of Council meetings to 5 members or half of the total number of Council members (whichever is the higher), arising from the increased maximum number of Council members.

Clause 6 makes a number of amendments to section 8 to expand the Council’s functions to include functions related to physical fitness activities.

Clause 6(a) extends the Council’s functions to the planning and promotion of physical fitness activities.

Clause 6(b) replaces section 8(d) to allow the Council, where appropriate, to partner any national sports organisation, the Singapore National Olympic Council

or the Singapore National Paralympic Council, in encouraging and organising sports events and competitions.

Clause 6(c) replaces section 8(f) to clarify that the Council may foster research and study into sports science, sports medicine and other subjects related to sports, physical fitness activities and physical education, and publish reports or periodicals on such subjects.

Clause 6(d) extends the Council's function of providing information, advice and assistance to persons concerned with physical fitness activities. The reference to "organisations" in section 8(g) is deleted so that section 8(g) only refers to "persons". The word "person" is to be interpreted in accordance with section 2(1) of the Interpretation Act 1965 which defines "person" to include an organisation.

Clause 6(e) and (f) gives the Council additional functions of establishing, managing and maintaining any physical fitness facilities as the Council thinks fit and any clubs for the promotion of physical fitness activities.

Clause 6(h) inserts a new paragraph (k) into section 8 to provide for the Council to have an additional function of establishing any institution or entity for the purpose of developing and training sportspersons to represent Singapore in regional and international sports competitions, and managing or overseeing the sports and other related activities, and academic curricula (if any) of such institution or entity.

Clause 6(h) also inserts new paragraphs (l), (m), (n), (o) and (p) into section 8 to expand the functions of the Council to include —

- (a) preparing, manufacturing and supplying equipment and items used for physical fitness activities;
- (b) establishing and maintaining codes of practice or conduct, guidelines or standards in relation to coaching, training or instruction in sports or physical fitness activities, and equipment, items and facilities used for sports or physical fitness activities;
- (c) accrediting any person, facility, course or activity, or certifying any person or thing, as having complied with any code of practice or guideline or attained any standard;
- (d) providing educational and career support to active and retired sportspersons; and
- (e) any other function conferred on the Council by or under any other written law.

Clause 7 amends section 9 to expand the powers of the Council to include —

- (a) advising on the planning, promotion and standards of sports education and education on physical fitness activities;

- (b) making grants or contributions to any person, which includes any organisation, not necessarily a sports organisation;
- (c) lending money and providing security to any person in matters relating to physical fitness activities; and
- (d) manufacturing and supplying equipment and items used for sports or physical fitness activities.

Clause 8 deletes sections 16 and 17 as they relate to obsolete schemes.

Clause 9 makes miscellaneous amendments to replace the word “person” with “individual” and the word “persons” with “individuals” in provisions where the intended meaning of “person” is an individual. With these amendments, the intent is that the word “person” elsewhere in the Act as amended by this Bill will be interpreted in accordance with section 2(1) of the Interpretation Act 1965 which defines “person” to include an organisation.

EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC MONEY

This Bill will not involve the Government in any extra financial expenditure.
