

# **SPORTS POLICY 2001**

## SPORTS POLICY 2001

This policy aims at promoting sports in the country by developing sports at grass root level. The declining standards of sports in the country has deeply concerned the government to take remedial measures and bring about changes which may remove flaws and bottlenecks for smooth functioning of the sports institutions and revive the booming past of sixties. In the present set up Pakistan Sports Board, Pakistan Olympic Association, National Sports Federations, Provincial Sports Boards, Associations, departments and educational institutions are main sports organizing agencies. Sports at Tehsil and District levels are mere formalities and at times not held at all. The sporting facilities in provinces are also not upto the mark. Very few stadiums or gymnasiums with proper facility exist in the country. Federations have their own constitutions and do not at times abide by the provision, perhaps due to hegemony of influential office bearers who have been occupying positions in the Federations for decades. Departments have played a vital role in recruitment of players, and keeping the sports traditions alive in our country. We salute them. The educational institutions which

are supposed to be sports nurseries almost ceased to produce talented sportspersons who could replace our aging stalwarts. All this has necessitated in looking inwards, and finding a solution to our declining standards in sports.

2. The Sports Policy. The policy envisages initiating sports at grass root level. The people of Pakistan have lost interest in games organised at national and provincial levels, due to lack of identification with the teams. National tournaments which are held mostly between departments do not attract crowd or mass participation. Under the proposed sports policy, all players including departmental players will have to be affiliated with a club and participate in Inter club, tehsil, district, provincial and national tournaments. Clubs will be based on area basis and will form part of one tehsil/equivalent administrative areas in the country. The criteria for registration of a club will be enunciated by each sporting National Federation. Clubs in a Tehsil must also register with the Sports Officer of the Provincial Government deputed in Tehsil/equivalent Administrative area for scrutiny/financial help/utilization of Government sporting facilities, where necessary. This will bring in mass participation and also help improving our sporting abilities. This will also

provide an opportunity to our young sportspersons to rise upwards and eventually be part of National teams.

3. Games selected for club based Tournaments. The policy of holding tournaments, as indicated later, will initially be applicable to the following games:-

- a. Athletics.
- b. Swimming (on availability of Swimming Pools).
- c. Hockey.
- d. Football.
- e. Volleyball.
- f. Handball.
- g. Wrestling.
- h. Kabaddi.
- j. Squash
- k. Badminton.
- l. Basketball.
- m. Boxing.
- n. Table Tennis.
- o. Snooker/Billiards.
- p. Weightlifting.
- q. Cricket (should also be organised in the same manner)

4. Tournaments to be organised. Following tournaments will be organised every year in respect of the above mentioned games:-

- a. Inter-Department National Tournament. Sporting tradition in Pakistan is alive primarily because of Departments. The departments have played a major

role in promotion of sports in the country in the last decade. In order to keep the commitment of the departments towards supporting sports and sportspersons, the following will be done:-

- (1) National Federations of the above mentioned sporting disciplines will organise a tournament every year for departments only.
- (2) Departmental players under 25 years of age will participate in national tournaments held from tehsil level to national level through their clubs/tehsils etc.
- (3) Winning Departments of different sporting disciplines will automatically become members of the National Federation of that game, and will have two votes in general council of the Federation in the year in which they are the winners. In all other cases the departments will have one vote.
- (4) Departments having maximum number of players in National Teams in the above mentioned disciplines will be given "Pride of Performance Trophy" for that particular game and "President's Pride of Performance Trophy" for maximum number of players collectively in all above mentioned disciplines.
- (5) Clubs, Tehsils and Districts will demand players (under 25 years of age) from Departments through Sports Officers, who will send their names to the Provincial Sports

Boards, who in turn will send their names to Pakistan Sports Board. Pakistan Sports Board will be authorised to issue instructions to Departments on behalf of the Government of Pakistan to spare these sportspersons from their duties to represent their clubs/ tehsils/ districts /provinces.

- (6) All expenses of sportspersons of Departments will be borne by the sports organisations calling them for the purpose.
- (7) Private sector teams will also be allowed to take part in Inter-Departmental Tournaments.

b. National Tournaments. National Federations will announce dates to hold National Tournaments, a minimum of six months after holding the Inter-Departmental Tournaments. Provinces, Districts and Tehsils will thus announce dates for their tournaments, to progress upwards towards national tournaments. Following tournaments will be organised:-

(1) Tehsil level Tournaments

- (a) These will be held by tehsil level associations in close coordination with the Tehsil Sports Officers and officials of the Local Governments.
- (b) Registered clubs in Tehsils will participate in these Tournaments.

(c) After holding these Tournaments, Tehsil level teams will be formed to participate in District level Tournaments.

(2) District level Tournaments.

(a) On culmination of tehsil level tournaments and giving adequate time to tehsils to train their teams, District level tournaments will be organised.

(b) District level tournaments will be organised by the District Associations of that game in coordination with District Sports Officer and officials of Local Government. The officials of Local Government/District Sports Officers will ensure smooth conduct of these games.

(c) At the end of these tournaments a team will be selected to represent the District.

(3) Zonal Tournaments. Districts will be grouped into various Zones for ease of holding Tournaments by Provincial Governments. Zonal Tournaments will be organised by Districts in rotation for the particular Zone. The winner Districts will be eligible to participate as a team in Provincial Tournaments.

(4) Provincial Tournaments. These tournaments will be organised by Provincial Sports Associations in coordination with Provincial Sports Boards and Provincial civil

administration. Winner Districts of Zonal championships will participate in it as teams, and a district will emerge as winner in that particular sport in the Province. On culmination of Provincial Tournaments, provincial level teams will be selected from the entire Province. A minimum of two teams will be selected from NWFP, Punjab, Balochistan and Sindh, and one each from FATA, AJK and Northern Areas to participate in National Championship of that particular game.

**(5) National Tournaments.**

**(a) On culmination of Provincial Tournaments, National Tournaments will be organised by National Federations of respective games, in which following will participate:-**

**i) Two teams each from Provinces of NWFP, Punjab, Balochistan and Sindh.**

**ii) One team each from AJK, FATA, and Northern Areas.**

**(b) National Federations will hold these tournaments in coordination with Pakistan Sports Board.**

**(c) On culmination of National level Tournaments, National Teams will be**



selected to participate in International Tournaments.

- (d) Members of National Teams will be allowed to participate in the Zonal Tournaments and above only, i.e. they will be part of district level teams only, if available within the country not participating in any International Tournament, at that particular time.

- c. National Inter District Tournaments. The third National Tournament will be organised in three disciplines only - HOCKEY, VOLLEYBALL and WRESTLING. In this National Tournament, winners and runners up Districts in Provincial Tournaments of NWFP, Punjab, Balochistan and Sindh, and winner Districts/ corresponding units of AJK, FATA and Northern Areas will participate. In the end one District/corresponding unit of AJK, FATA, Northern Areas will emerge as Champion of that particular game in the country.

5. Role of Pakistan Sports Board. In addition to the tasks already being performed by Pakistan Sports Board, it will undertake following tasks to assist in implementation of Sports Policy 2001:-

- a. Ask departments on behalf of Government of Pakistan to provide players under 25 years of age, as requested by Provincial Sports Boards, to clubs/tehsils/districts etc.

- b. Assist National Federations in holding of national level tournaments by providing sporting facilities free of any charge. Sports facilities under this policy will mean playing fields/grounds only.
- c. Assist National Federations in selection of National Teams.
- d. Coordinate dates for holding National level Tournaments in relation to Inter Department Tournaments and International commitments.
- e. Adjudicate as representative of Government of Pakistan on any matter requiring adjudication with respect to "Sports Policy 2001".
- f. Construct Sports Complexes for these games down to every District Headquarters in Phase-I and Tehsil Headquarters in Phase-II on availability of funds. However, these complexes on completion will be handed over to local governments and District/Tehsil sports officers for maintenance and use.

6. Provincial Sports Boards.

- a. All Provinces including FATA, Northern Areas and AJK will appoint sports officer down to tehsil and corresponding level with requisite staff to implement this Sports Policy, within three months of announcement of the policy.

- b. Provincial Sports Boards will assist Provincial Associations of all these games in conduct of Provincial level Tournaments.
- c. Provincial Sports Boards will instruct district/tehsil sports officer to organise local tournaments as enumerated above in coordination with corresponding associations .

7. Role of Civil Administration.

- a. Civil Administration at District and Tehsil level will play the most important part in implementing this policy.
- b. They will coordinate holding of tournaments at Tehsil, District and Zonal levels with corresponding sports officer and association of games.
- c. They will ensure maintenance/availability of sports infrastructure to conduct these tournaments.
- d. They will assist sports officers/members of local associations in raising funds for tournaments and training of their respective teams.
- e. They will provide all possible assistance for training of teams for their Districts/Tehsils.
- f. Due recognition will be given to these civil administration officials for meritorious performance in the field of sports.

8. Provincial Governments. All Provincial Governments and Government of AJK, FATA and Northern Areas will issue their own instructions in line with this policy for its implementation.
9. Islamabad. For sports purposes Islamabad will be grouped with the Province of Punjab.
10. National Sports Federations. National Federations will be restructured on the following lines, within one year:-
  - a. Applicable to National Federations of Games selected in this Policy.
    - (1) Their voting members, and executive bodies will comprise provincial associations and corresponding associations of FATA, AJK and Northern Areas with Punjab, Sindh, NWFP and Balochistan having two votes each. Departments affiliated will continue as at present.
    - (2) They will raise/organise Provincial Associations, where not in existence presently, within one year of issue of this policy.

- (3) Provincial Associations will be elected directly by district associations, which will be elected by tehsil associations.
- (4) Tehsil associations will be elected by member clubs.
- (5) Winner departments of a particular discipline will automatically become a member of the National Federation and will exercise right of two votes in all National Federation affairs, in the year in which they are the winner. In all other cases, the departments will have one vote.

b. Applicable to all existing National Federations.

- (1) One tenure of any member of Federation/ Association will be of 4 years only.
- (2) One person will be allowed a maximum of two tenures, in any office of the Federation/ Association. After which he will become ineligible for holding any office of that particular Federation/Association. However, a person will be allowed to contest for next higher Association at any time.
- (3) Those individuals who have already completed two tenures in any Federation/Association will become ineligible to contest new election in line with this policy.
- (4) An office bearer of one Federation/ Association will not be allowed to be a member of any other Federation/Association within the

country. He will however be allowed to hold office in International Federations/Associations without any bar.

c. Women Sports

All Sports Federations will organise appropriate sports for women. All clubs of appropriate games to have women teams also.

d. Elections as per this Policy.

- (1) All Federations will organize themselves in line with this policy by holding elections from club level upwards in all tehsils/corresponding administrative units of the country.
- (2) Representatives of Provincial Sports Boards will be invited as observers during elections in formation of tehsil level to provincial level Associations.
- (3) A representative of Pakistan Sports Board will be invited as an observer during elections being held to form National Sports Federations.
- (4) Federations may ask for any assistance from Provincial/Pakistan Sports Board as deemed necessary for conduct of smooth elections to form sporting bodies from tehsil upwards in line with this policy.

- e. **One individual will be allowed to represent one Club/Tehsil/District only. Violator will be liable to disciplinary action by the Pakistan/Provincial Sports Board.**
- f. **The implementation of these instructions will be completed within one year of issue of this policy.**

**11. National and Provincial Olympic Committees:**

- a. **These will be elected by constituent National Sports Federations/Provincial Sports Associations.**
- b. **One tenure of any office bearer of these committees will be of four years.**
- c. **One office bearer will be allowed two tenures only. He will become ineligible for any office after two tenures and must vacate his position for a new incumbent. However, an individual will be allowed to contest for next higher Association at any time.**
- d. **Those individuals who have already completed two tenures in various Associations will not be eligible to contest elections in line with this policy.**
- e. **Present National and Provincial Olympic Committees to continue till formation of National Federations as per this policy. Once, all National Federations are in place, new elections must be held to elect office bearers as per this policy.**

**12. Sports Policy for Educational Institutions.**

- a. Ministry of Education will monitor all universities, Boards of Intermediate and Secondary Education in implementing instructions pertaining to all educational institutions.
- b. Following disciplines will be mandatory to be held every year at school, board and university levels:-
  - (1) Athletics - Field and Track events (minus Marathon).
  - (2) Hockey.
- c. One to two additional disciplines will be selected out of list defined in this policy every year.
- d. All schools to organise proper games in games period, a minimum of two periods per week.
- e. All schools/colleges/equivalent institutions and above, to create sports facilities or get affiliated with sports grounds within one year. Failure to do so will make these schools/colleges liable for action against them as considered appropriate by Ministry of Education.
- f. Ministry of Education to establish a separate directorate to handle/monitor sports affairs preferably headed by a Grade-20 officer.

**13. Sports Academies. On availability of funds, Pakistan Sports Board will establish one sports academy (Residential)**



in each Province for boys, and one for girls in Islamabad. These academies will serve as follows:-

- a. Boys and Girls of 12 years of age in class 7th, will be selected and put in these academies.
- b. These academies will hire the services of the best coaches, and International level sporting infrastructure will be created for their use.
- c. Students, besides going through normal academic pursuits, will be trained on most modern lines in various sporting disciplines.
- d. Students who will complete F.A./F.Sc in these academies by the age of 18 years, will have undergone enough training to be part of National Teams.
- e. These will be residential academies run on the lines of Cadet Colleges.
- f. The main stress in these academies will be on sports.

14. Financial Donors. The donations to any Sports Board or institution recognized by the Federal Government for the purposes of promoting, controlling or regulating any sport or game, are exempt under clause (91) of Part-I of the Second

Schedule to the Income Tax Ordinance 1979, upto the following extent:-

- In case of a company, upto 10% of its total income;  
and
- In any other cases, upto 25% of income.

15. Conclusion. This policy will "Insha Allah" give opportunity to our sportspersons to excel beyond the frontiers of our beloved country and achieve laurels at International Level in the coming years. The Government of Pakistan, however, reserves the right to modify any of the above, staying within the main parameter of this policy. May "Allah Almighty" help us to achieve glory in the field of sports and make our future generations the proudest Pakistanis. Ameen!