

INTERNATIONAL HIGH PERFORMANCE SPORT TRAINING CENTRES

A CHARTER FOR COLLABORATION

Introduction

The first two International Forums on Elite Sport were held in 1999 and 2001. They brought together representatives of High Performance Sport Training Centres (HPSTCs) around the world to discuss issues of common interest. At the 2001 Forum at Sant Cugat in Spain, a number of representatives agreed that a Working Group should be established to explore ways of formalising collaboration between HPSTCs across the world.

This Charter emerged from discussions of the Working Group. The signatories are HPSTCs who meet specific criteria, namely:

- a. Mission and activity focused on high performance sport;
- b. Support or recognition from their respective national governments and/or Olympic Committee;
- c. Capability of providing technical support services to athletes and coaches competing and training at high performance level;
- d. Willingness to host employees and officers of other signatories for a period of work experience and mutual exchange of ideas and methods.

All the signatories meet these criteria and have agreed to work to a framework built on the principles outlined in the next section.

Principles

1. Principle 1 – Respecting the Autonomy of HPSTCs:
 - 1.1. The main purpose of the HPSTCs is to contribute to the development of sporting talent in their own countries. They recognise that at times they are in competition with each other and, therefore, each other's independence, authority and autonomy will be respected.
 2. Principle 2 – Collaboration With Others:
 - 2.1. Notwithstanding the autonomy of individual Centres, HPSTCs will collaborate to generate initiatives of mutual benefit to themselves and to athletes, sport and the wider community. They will also collaborate with international organisations and associations able to assist in promoting the implementation of the principles in this Charter.
 3. Principle 3 – Maintaining an Ethical Approach:
 - 3.1. Promotion of the rights of high performance athletes by the HPSTCs is essential. Specifically this should focus on their right to train and compete in a fair, ethical, healthy and safe environment.
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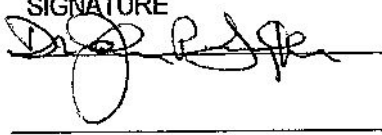
4. Principle 4 – Enhancing Staff Development:
 - 4.1. HPSTCs are committed to adding value to the training and development of their staff by providing opportunities for staff exchanges.
5. Principle 5 – Sharing Information and Knowledge:
 - 5.1. As far as possible, the HPSTCs will share and exchange knowledge and experiences on preparation for high performance sport. They will also make information available about their Centre through the Forum web-site (<http://www.forumelitesport.org/>) to enable facilities and services to be promoted to athletes and coaches across the world.
6. Principle 6 – Identifying Best Practice:
 - 6.1. Identifying and sharing best practice is an essential element in the development of learning. The HPSTCs will develop concepts of 'best practice' through sharing experience and knowledge in operation and management.
7. Principle 7 – Supporting an International Forum on Elite Sport:
 - 7.1. The HPSTCs will support the organisation of a biennial International Forum on Elite Sport as a means to share and develop understanding and knowledge on high performance sport.

Implementing the Charter

8. HPSTCs who meet the criteria outlined in the 'Introduction' can be signatories to this Charter. The proceedings at each International Forum will include an Assembly of representatives from HPSTCs to discuss business matters relating to the Charter. These matters will include the following:
 - 8.1. Amendments to the Charter;
 - 8.2. Consideration of new applicants who have provided documented evidence to demonstrate they meet the criteria and a statement that they will abide by its principles;
 - 8.3. Review of existing membership to ensure compliance with the terms of the Charter (when necessary).
 9. At each Assembly a Working Group comprising:
5 representatives (Preferably from each continent):
1 representative from host country of previous Forum
1 representative from host country of next Forum
1 representative from country hosting Secretariat
 10. The working group will oversee the implementation of the Charter until the next Forum. They will also make recommendations on proposed amendments and act as a point of reference should any issues emerge in relation to the Charter, or the interpretation of its principles. The Working Group will decide who its Chairman will be at its first meeting following the Forum.
 11. An annual membership fee of 100 euros per centre has been established to support the cost of the Secretariat and maintenance of the website www.forumelitesport.org
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12. CAR Sant Cugat, Barcelona will be the host Secretariat to proceed with the implementation of the charter.

SIGNATURE	CENTRE	COUNTRY
	ACT ACADEMY OF SPORT	AUSTRALIA
	WA INSTITUTE OF SPORT	AUSTRALIA
	Hong Kong Sports Institute	Hong Kong
	UNIVERSITY OF STELLENBOSCH	South Africa
	MONTREAL	CANADA
	NATIONAL INST. TALENT CARE	HUNGARY
	Beijing Sport University	CHINA
	National Institute of sports science, China	
	CEREBRAL PALSY SPORTS	KENYA
	INSEP - PARIS	FRANCE
	Japan Institute of Sports Sciences	Japan
	New Zealand Academy of Sport	New Zealand
	SPORTS INSTITUTE NORTHERN IRELAND	NORTHERN IRELAND
	SCOTTISH INSTITUTE OF SPORT	SCOTLAND
	MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEPT. & SPORTS	SINGAPORE
	NATIONAL SPORTS INSTITUTE, NATIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL OF MALAYSIA	MALAYSIA
	Canadian Sport Centre - Atlantic	Canada
	Centre d'Alt Rendiment CAR	SPAIN
	SPORTS INST. OF FINLAND	FINLAND
	UK Sport	U.K
	Lakeshore Foundation Olympic & Paralympic Training Site	USA

SIGNATURE	CENTRE	COUNTRY
	USOC - OTCs	USA