



**Ministry
of Defence**

**JSP 660
Sport in the UK Armed Forces**

Part 1: Directive

Foreword

People lie at the heart of operational capability; attracting and retaining the right numbers of capable, motivated individuals to deliver Defence outputs is critical. This is dependent upon maintaining a credible and realistic offer that earns and retains the trust of people in Defence. In order to achieve this, all personnel must be confident that, not only will they be treated fairly, but also that their families will be treated properly and that Service veterans and their dependants will be respected and appropriately supported.

Sport makes a significant contribution to the delivery of operational capability; indeed it is a core activity in the UK Armed Forces. I am therefore most eager to encourage the active participation of all ranks at all levels of sport. I am aware that the majority of sport is organised by Service personnel on a voluntary basis; knowledge of, and access to, the necessary regulation of activities can be difficult. This important document brings together the policies for, and detailed guidance on, the conduct of sport in the UK Armed Forces.

I commend it to all your staff involved in sporting activity and in particular to your sports association officials who deliver sport at and above unit level.

**Lt Gen Richard Nugee
Chief of Defence People
Defence Authority for People**

Preface

How to use this JSP

1. JSP 660 is intended as a statement of policy on the conduct of sport in the UK Armed Forces. It is designed to be used by all personnel responsible for the conduct of sport at unit level and above. This JSP provides a single source document on the policy, governance and status of Service sport and at Part 2 gives guidance on the processes involved and best practice to conduct the sporting activity. This JSP will be reviewed at least annually.
2. The JSP is structured in two parts:
 - a. Part 1 - Directive, which provides the direction that must be followed in accordance with statute or policy mandated by Defence or on Defence by Central Government.
 - b. Part 2 - Guidance, which provides the guidance and best practice that will assist the user to comply with the Directive(s) detailed in Part 1.

Coherence with other Defence Authority Policy and Guidance

3. Where applicable, this document contains links to other relevant JSPs, some of which may be published by different Defence Authorities. Where particular dependencies exist, these other Defence Authorities have been consulted in the formulation of the policy and guidance detailed in this publication.

Related JSPs	Title
JSP 375	Management of Health & Safety in Defence
JSP 765	Armed Forces Compensation Scheme
DSA01.1(was JSP 815)	Defence Policy for Health, Safety and Environmental Protection

Further Advice and Feedback – Contacts

4. The owner of this JSP is ACDS (Pers Cap). For further information on any aspect of this guide, or questions not answered within the subsequent sections, or to provide feedback on the content, contact:

Job Title		Email	Phone
Sec UK AFSB	UKAF Sports	ukafsb@ascb.uk.com	01252 787061
SO1 Naval Sports	RN Sports	NAVYPERS- TEMERAIRESO1NSR@mod.uk	02392 573034
COS ASCB	Army Sports	cos@ascb.uk.com	01252 787302
DD RAF Sport	RAF Sports	HAL-RAFSport-DDRS@mod.uk	01296 657137

Contents

Foreword	i
Preface	ii
How to use this JSP	ii
Coherence with other Defence Authority Policy and Guidance	ii
Further Advice and Feedback – Contacts.....	ii
Contents	iii
Chapter 1 – Sport Policy	1-1
Chapter 2 – Conduct of Services Sport.....	2-1

1 Sport Policy

Rationale

1. Physical Development is a key component of UK Armed Forces (UKAF) operational capability and it comprises the three pillars of Sport, Physical Training/Education and Adventurous Training. Sport makes a significant contribution to operational effectiveness, fighting spirit and personal development. It is recognised as a feature of the Armed Forces Covenant, and plays an important part in Service life including recruiting and retention and in many instances provides excellent public visibility of the Services. Thus, it has a wide role, but specifically within the envelope of physical development, it contributes to fitness, teamwork, leadership, self-discipline, determination, co-ordination, courage, competitive spirit, individual and collective resilience, and consequently military ethos. Inextricably linked to operational efficiency, authorised sport¹ is a Condition of Service with duty status and is a core activity that cannot be considered discretionary. Sport supports the recovery and rehabilitation of the wounded, injured and sick (WIS). It also provides a balance in the lives of Service personnel from the pressures of military commitments and during periods of high tempo operations, an invaluable opportunity for decompression. It is to engender all these qualities that public funding and time is made available for Service sport. This Policy applies to regular and reserve Service personnel.

2. The principles underlying sport policy are to:

- a. create an environment which encourages Service personnel, both regular and reserve, to participate in a full range of sporting activity;
- b. provide all Service personnel with time for sport and access to a clearly defined standard of sports facilities and equipment, in order to achieve and maintain fitness, health and well-being;
- c. encourage sporting success at individual, unit and representational level and provide a framework for Service, Inter Service and Armed Forces sports competitions and representational sporting opportunities.

Governance

3. **Chief of Defence People (CDP)** is responsible for Armed Forces Physical Development Policy and is accountable to the Defence Board through VCDS.

4. **Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (Personnel Capability) (ACDS(Pers Cap))** is accountable to CDP for:

- a. Defence policy for sport.
- b. ensuring the continued recognition of the provision of Sport as a Condition of Service.

¹ That which is authorised by the AFSB, single Service Sports Boards, formation/regional commanders and unit COs. Chapter 2 para 6 refers.

5. **UK Armed Forces Sports Board (UK AFSB).** The terms of reference for the UK AFSB are at Annex A to this section. The UK AFSB is:

- a. the regulatory body for Service Sport.
- b. accountable to ACDS(Pers Cap) for promoting, developing and providing policy direction on the conduct of representative sport within and between the single Services and at UK Armed Forces representative level.
- c. responsible for standardising where appropriate sports' policy across the Services.
- d. maintaining a liaison with national sports' bodies.

6. **Service Sports Boards.** The Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force have each established structures within their Services responsible for the policy, governance, development and delivery of sport. Each has constituted Sports Boards chaired at 2 star level. The single Service Directors of Sport, Captain Personal, Family, Community Support & Physical Development, Director Army Sport Control Board and Director RAF Sport respectively, are responsible within their Services for delivery of representational sport. For the three Services, the delivery of unit sport is supported by the Sports Boards, the chain of command and Physical Training staff. Each director represents their Service on the UK AFSB as Board members.

7. **National Governing Bodies (NGBs).** The majority of sports have well established NGBs which have comprehensive rules for the conduct of their sporting activities. NGBs are registered with the Sports Councils (UK/GB or England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland). For a particular sport to exist within the UKAF, its NGB must be recognised by one of these Sports Councils; the register in Sport England is normally used for this purpose but to avoid confusion, the alignment of Service sports to NGBs is defined at Annex B.

8. **Service Sports Associations.** Sports Associations (the term includes Sports Unions and Clubs) are constituted under the authority of the Sports Boards. Managed by serving personnel, Sports Associations are the enablers for sport delivery supported by public and non-public Service funds. As such they are MOD bodies acting on behalf of their Service Sports Boards and are accountable to the Chairman of that Service Sports Board for the delivery of specific sports within their Service. UKAF Sports Associations are accountable to the UK AFSB. The sports associations are to administer their sport in accordance with the directives of their sport's NGBs and Defence, Joint Service and single Service publications and instructions. As sports associations have charitable status, they are to abide by Charity Commission rules and regulations.

9. **Commanding Officers (COs).** COs' responsibilities for sport are detailed in Queen's Regulations, Training Directives and as directed by objectives in Command Management Plans, all of which encourage participation in sport, along with the provision of time, facilities and sports travel. COs may exercise this responsibility through Unit Sports' Boards, other similar committees or through Physical Training staff. Whilst recognising the benefits that sport brings to operational effectiveness, physical fitness, team building and the well-being of Service personnel, COs should also be aware of the potential impact of sports-related injury on operational capability. MOD's policy is clear both to encourage sport and require COs to take sensible steps to reduce the risk of injury

by following the appropriate NGB and MOD regulation, monitoring injury trends, evaluating risks and providing the appropriate supervision when necessary.

10. **Adaptive Sports.** Adaptive Sport (AS) plays an important role in the recovery of Wounded, Injured and Sick (WIS) personnel.

a. Battleback – Sport (BB-S)², working to the UK AFSB and with the Defence Recovery Capability (DRC) and single Service Sports' Boards, is Defence's focus for AS. The Terms of Reference for BB-S are at Annex C to this Section. BB(S) is:

- (1) accountable to the UK AFSB for representative sport.
- (2) responsible for:
 - (a) the identification and development of appropriate AS programmes.
 - (b) the governance of AS and the promotion of AS across Defence.
 - (c) the facilitation and organisation of representative AS fixtures.
 - (d) effective liaison with the British Paralympic Association (BPA) and appropriate NGBs, National / International Paralympic Committee (N / IPC), National / International Disability Sports Organization (N / IDSO) or other appropriate bodies recognised by UK Sport/Sport England as being the national lead.

b. There are significant parallels between Able Bodied Sport (ABS) and AS. Although AS was introduced primarily to support the DRC to support the recovery and rehabilitation of WIS personnel and their return to an active lifestyle and whilst this remains its focus, the delivery of AS alongside ABS is important, in particular for WIS personnel who return to active duty. The medium / long-term aspiration is to embed AS within our approach to and delivery of ABS.

c. The core AS programme is promulgated by the Defence Adaptive Sport and Adventure Training Centre, Lilleshall (DASATC).

Categorisation

11. **Basis for Categorisation of Sports.** Sports are categorised by their eligibility for public funding, and to qualify for such funding a sport must:

- a. be affiliated to a National Governing Body (NGB) as approved by the Sports Council. The Service Sport Association concerned must have a constitution approved by the relevant Sport Board and acceptable accounting procedures and committee structure.
- b. have known and established grass roots support. It is to be open (and, if it can be determined, with popular appeal) to all ranks.
- c. have guaranteed financial support from non-public funds.

² Formerly known as the Combined Services' Adaptive Sport Association (CSASA).

- d. if a new sport, have low projected per-capita costs.
- e. if a new sport, be subject to a trial/monitoring/review period of 3 years before it can be considered for full recognition. At the end of this period, it is to be assessed by the UK AFSB against the MOD's capacity both to fund and support it. Automatic 'recognition' after 3 years should not be assumed.
- f. encourage or develop the following:
 - (1) Good health, personal fitness and physical development.
 - (2) Beneficial physical activity, especially for personnel in 'sedentary occupations'.
 - (3) Physical fitness for performing operational tasks under stress.
 - (4) Self-discipline.
 - (5) High morale and Esprit de Corps.
 - (6) Co-ordination, determination, confidence and motivation.
 - (7) Courage and character building.
 - (8) Leadership qualities.
 - (9) Competitiveness (i.e. the sport should not be primarily a social or recreational activity).
 - (10) Recruiting and retention.

12. **Categorisation.** Sports are to be categorised as follows:

- a. **Category 1 (Cat 1)**³. 'Cat 1 sports' are those which, by virtue of the large numbers of participants both in training units and in the Services at large, have facilities provided at public expense. Facilities are provided, as a maximum, to a 'scale' as laid down in JSP 315 Scale 48. Sports facilities at the specified scale may also be provided through PPP/ PFI. Public funding may also be used, within laid down criteria, for equipment, travel, grants for coaching courses and Cash In Lieu Of Rations (CILOR). Cat 1 sports are common to all 3 Services and currently are: Athletics, Football, Rugby Union and League, Hockey, Cricket, Tennis, Squash and Netball. Participation in Cat 1 sports must be formally authorised⁴.
- b. **Category 2 (Cat 2)**⁵. 'Cat 2 sports' are those sports which do not justify Cat 1 status but nevertheless fully meet the criteria for public funding and are recognised as doing so by the UK AFSB. Because of the differing operating environments of the 3 Services, Cat 2 sports need not necessarily be common to all. Nevertheless differences are to be minimised to avoid inconsistency of funding and duty status of

³ Formerly known as Synopsis Sports.

⁴ See Chapter 2 para 6. Authority ensures conformity with the provisions and guidance of JSP 765 (Armed Forces Compensation Scheme).

⁵ Formerly known as Recognised Sports.

personnel doing the same activity. Public funding may be used, within laid down criteria, for equipment, travel, grants for coaching courses and CILOR. Although dedicated facilities are not provided, those built for other primary purposes may be used by 'Cat 2 sports', e.g. basketball in a gymnasium. In exceptional circumstances and where budgets allow, single Services may, with the agreement of their D Res, authorise the use of public funds to pay for the hire and/or temporary construction of a facility when the requirement is to meet the safe and legitimate running of a winter sports event. Participation in Cat 2 sports must be formally authorised⁶.

c. **Category 3 (Cat 3)**⁷. 'Cat 3 sports' are those which do not meet, or have not yet met, fully the criteria for public funding but which are considered by single Service Sports' Boards with the endorsement of the UK AFSB, to merit support from non-public funds. Cat 3 sports are not eligible for any public funding. Authority for participation may only be granted for Single Service and Inter Service Championships where the provisions of JSP 765 can be applied. Activity outside these championships is conducted in a service person's own time and at their own risk.

d. **Category 4 (Cat 4)**⁸. 'Cat 4 sports' are those which do not fall into any of the above categories. The activity is conducted in a service person's own time and at their own risk without any eligibility for the provisions of JSP 765. Cat 4 sports may, on occasions, merit support from non-public funds.

13. **Current Status of Sports.** The current status of individual sports, including the sub disciplines of sports, is at Annex D to this section. This status is reviewed routinely by the UK AFSB. Certain sports have significant overlaps with Adventurous Training (AT) which is governed by JSP 419. To avoid confusion on what can be conducted as Service sporting activity, the table at Annex E provides:

- a. clarity on what can be considered as Service sporting activity within each sport or sub discipline of sport.
- b. where overlaps exist with AT, definition of the competitive activity that can be considered as Service sport.

14. **Change of Status.** To upgrade the status of a sport, the chairman of the single Service sport/activity must apply to the appropriate Service's Sports Board whose Director will make recommendations to the UK AFSB. The chairman of a UKAF sport/activity should apply directly to the UK AFSB. The UK AFSB is the sole authority for the recognition of sports. Ideally the status of sports should be the same across the three Services but exceptionally and where participation levels vary significantly, different status levels can be granted. Before downgrading the status of a sport, the UK AFSB will seek the views of the Sports Associations concerned.

⁶ See Chapter 2 para 6. Authority ensures conformity with the provisions and guidance of JSP 765 (Armed Forces Compensation Scheme).

⁷ Formerly known as Approved Sports.

⁸ Formerly known as Other Sports.

15. **Definition of Representation.** The following definitions are used to classify representation:

a. **Representative Sport.** The term 'representative sport' describes sporting activity conducted by individuals and teams representing single Services or UK Armed Forces; within the single Services, the following additional levels of representation are applicable:

(1) **RN.** Region and Corps (for Royal Marines).

(2) **Army.** Corps.

(3) **RAF.** Region and Branch.

b. **Unit Sport.** The term 'unit sport' describes sporting activity conducted by individuals or teams at ship, base, unit and station level or independent sub units below that level.

16. **Adaptive Sports.** The categorisation of adaptive sports is in principle the same as that of able bodied sports.

The Development Pathway

17. Service Chiefs recognise that Sport enhances the 'will to win' and contributes to the fighting spirit of Physical Development and therefore operational capability. Within the Armed Forces, each Service supports, resources and develops a broad range of sporting activity to increase participation further. The majority of sport should take place within units and bases where sporting opportunity is not only available for all but commanders strongly encourage full participation.

18. Although the main effort remains participation for all Service personnel, those with particular aptitude are strongly encouraged to develop their skills and fitness through to perform at higher levels. These levels will vary in each of the Services but they come together when competing in Inter Service competitions or at the very top of Service sport, when representing the UKAF.

19. The Development Pathway provides a structure for the development of players and officials from unit level sporting activity to national representation. The level of attainment will depend on the aptitude, inspiration and determination of the individuals. The Pathway is described at Annex F to this section.

Single Service Regulations

20. Each Service has its own regulations governing sport:

a. **RN** – [BRd51\(4\) - Sport in the Naval Service](#)

b. **Army** – [AGAI Volume 1 Chapter 5 - Sport](#)

c. **RAF** – [AP 3415 - Sport and Recreation in the Royal Air Force](#)

Single Service Sports Websites

21. Details of the single Service Sports Boards, their Sports Associations and sporting activity can be found at their websites as follows:

- a. **RN** – www.pdevportal.co.uk
- b. **Army** – www.armysportcontrolboard.org
- c. **RAF** – www.raf.mod.uk/rafsportsboard

UK ARMED FORCES SPORTS BOARD (UK AFSB)

General

1. The UK AFSB is formally constituted under the authority of the Defence Personnel & Training Board (DPTB) through the Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (Personnel Capability) (ACDS (Pers Cap)). The lead MOD branch through which UK AFSB reports is Training, Education, Skills, Recruiting and Retention (TESRR).

Purpose of the UK AFSB

2. The UK AFSB is responsible for promoting, developing and providing policy direction on the conduct of representative sport within and between the three Services and at UKAF level. It is also responsible for standardising where feasible and appropriate sports policy across the three Services and maintaining a liaison with national sports bodies.

Constitution

3. The members of the UK AFSB are the three Single Services' Directors of Sport. The office of Chairman rotates biennially between the three Services. The Secretary is part of the staff of Chief of Defence People in MOD Main Building but his work place is collocated with the Army Sports Control Board. The Secretary is the focal point for all UK AFSB matters.

Role of the UK AFSB

4. Policy.

- a. Develop policy on the conduct of sport within the UKAF (including Reserves).
- b. Maintain the currency of existing regulation, guidance and policy direction for sport within the UKAF, largely through DINs and JSPs.
- c. Advise the CDP through ACDS (Pers Cap) on matters of common interest affecting sport in the Services.
- d. Where feasible and appropriate, standardise sports policy across all three Services, including adaptive sports.

5. Governance.

- a. Act as the regulatory body for the UKAF Sports Associations and in particular to:
 - (1) advise and assist UKAF sports associations in the conduct of their sports.
 - (2) issue terms of reference to UKAF sports associations and where appropriate appoint chairmen.

- (3) examine and approve the constitution or articles of association (as appropriate) of all UKAF sports associations and approve, or in the case of articles endorse, amendments.
- (4) appoint the Chairman and approve the Trustees of UKAF sports associations registered as separate charities.
- (5) scrutinise the annual accounts of all UKAF sports associations and unions.
- (6) authorise all fixtures and committee meetings of UKAF sports associations and unions.
- (7) adjudicate on matters referred to it by any UKAF sports association.

b. Authorise the official recognition of a new sport across all three Services and conduct a continuous rolling review of all Cat 2 and Cat 3 sports to ensure they meet established criteria.

c. Maintain a liaison with appropriate national sports bodies.

d. Determine eligibility of players for Inter Service and UKAF sports fixtures.

e. Control through the appropriate UKAF sports association, the award and wearing of 'Colours'.

6. Administration.

a. Administer such non-public funds as are placed under its control and allocate non-public grants to UKAF sports associations as required.

b. Seek additional non-public funding through sponsorship of UKAF sports and advise priorities.

c. Conduct an annual UKAF Sports Awards ceremony.

d. Conduct quarterly board meetings with a record of decisions.

e. Direct the programme of work for the Sports Board Secretaries' meetings and supervise the management of Adaptive Sports through BattleBack-Sports.

f. Given the significance the charitable funding within Service sport, represent the interests of the single Service Sports Boards at The Confederation of Service Charities (COBSEO).

g. Coordinate responses to Parliamentary Questions, Ministerial Correspondence and Defence Internal Audit reports involving sport within the UK Armed Forces.

Engagement

7. Key departments in the MOD with whom UK AFSB interact are:

a. MOD – CDP, ACDS(Pers Cap), TESRR, SPS Welfare, DDC, Sec, DIPR.

- b. Navy Command – ACNS Pers & NavSec, CN Pers D Res, RN Infra.
- c. Army HQ – D Pers, Hd Trg, D Res, Hd Infra.
- d. Air Command – ACOS Pers, HQ 22 Trg Gp, D Res (FPP & CG).
- e. DIO – Strat Pol.
- f. Single Service Sports Boards – CPFCS&PD, ASCB, Directorate of RAF Sport.

NATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES FOR SERVICES SPORT

Sport/Activity	NGB
(a)	(b)
Angling (Competitive): a. Coarse b. Game c. Sea (Boat/Shore)	The Angling Trust
Athletics: a. Track and Field b. Cross-Country c. Tug of War d. Marathon/Road	UK Athletics UK Athletics Tug of War Association UK Athletics
Archery	Archery GB
Association Football	The Football Association
Badminton	Badminton England
Basketball	Basketball England
Boxing	England Amateur Boxing Association
Canoeing a. Sprint and Marathon b. Slalom c. Surf d. Wild Water Racing e. Polo f. Freestyle	British Canoe Union
Cricket	England and Wales Cricket Board
Cycling: a. Road/Time Trials/Track b. Mountain Biking Downhill & Cross Country c. Cyclo Cross	British Cycling
Equestrian: a. Show Jumping /Eventing b. (Horse) Racing c. Tentpegging	British Equestrian Federation British Horse Racing Authority
Fencing	British Fencing Association
Gliding	British Gliding Association
Golf	Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews
Hang Gliding and Paragliding	British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association
Hockey	England Hockey
Ice Hockey	English Ice Hockey Association
Judo	British Judo Association
Lacrosse	English Lacrosse Association
Lawn Tennis	Lawn Tennis Association
Kite Surfing (see note 2)	British Kitesurfing Association
Martial Arts a. Brazilian Jiu Jitsu	Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Federation (UK BJJ yet to register)

Sport/Activity	NGB
(a)	(b)
b. WTF and ITF Taekwondo	British Taekwondo and British Taekwondo Council
c. Karate	World Karate Federation
d. Weapons Kata	Not known
e. Kendo	British Kendo Association
Microflight Flying	British Microflight Aircraft Association
Modern Pentathlon	Pentathlon GB
Motor Sports:	
a. 2 Wheel Road	Auto-Cycle Union
b. 2 Wheel Trial	Auto-Cycle Union
c. 2 Wheel Enduro/Motocross	Auto-Cycle Union
d. 4 Wheel Car Racing (Sprint & Circuit)	Motorsports Association
e. 4 Wheel Navigation	Motorsports Association
f. Rally	Motorsports Association
g. Karting	Motorsports Association
Netball	England Netball
Orienteering (Competitive)	British Orienteering Federation
Polo	Hurlingham Polo Association
Power Lifting	British Drug Free Powerlifting Association
Rackets	Tennis and Rackets Association
Real Tennis	Tennis and Rackets Association
Rounders	Rounder England
Rowing	British Rowing
Rugby League	Rugby Football League
Rugby Union	Rugby Football Union
Sailing:	Royal Yachting Association
a. Offshore	
b. Dinghy	
c. Windsurfing	
Shooting:	
a. Target Rifle	National Rifle Association NRA
b. Small Bore	National Small-bore Rifle Association
c. Clay Target	Clay Pigeon Shooting Association
d. Target Pistol	National Small-bore Rifle Association
e. Service Weapon	Small Arms School Corps
Sport Climbing	British Mountaineering Council
Sport Parachuting	British Parachute Association
Squash Rackets:	England Squash and Racketball Association
a. Squash	
b. Racketball	
Surfing	Surfing Great Britain
Swimming	Amateur Swimming Association
a. Swimming	
b. Diving	
c. Water Polo	
d. Open Water	
Table Tennis	Table Tennis England
Ten Pin Bowling	British Tenpin Bowling Association

Sport/Activity	NGB
(a)	(b)
Triathlon	British Triathlon Federation
Volleyball	Volleyball England
Water Skiing/Wakeboarding	British Water Ski & Wakeboard
Winter Sports:	
a. Alpine Skiing	British Ski & Snowboard
b. Snowboarding	British Ski & Snowboard
c. Bobsleigh	British Bobsleigh Association
d. Skeleton Bobsleigh	British Skeleton
e. Luge	International Luge Federation
f. Tobogganing (Cresta)	St Moritz Tobogganing Club ⁹
g. Biathlon/Nordic	British Biathlon Union
h. Telemarking	British Ski and Snowboard

⁹ SMTC is not a NGB, it is a club with private rules.

BATTLEBACK SPORTS (BB-S)

1. BB-S is pivotal to the successful management of representative AS. At its heart is a small proactive team¹⁰ with close links with the The British Paralympic Association (BPA), appropriate National Governing Bodies (NGBs), the DRC, the DASATC and 3rd sector partners (in particular RBL and H4H) and the ability to identify and enable the delivery of appropriate, effective and proportionate AS programmes normally by a lead Service to ensure a resource effective approach and generate, where possible, economies of scale.
2. BB-S promotes AS by:
 - a. supporting work to raise awareness of AS and the benefits and opportunities it offers.
 - b. working to embed, where appropriate, AS within ABS:
 - (1) exploiting, wherever possible, existing military facilities, training expertise and resources.
 - (2) promoting the education and training of military staff involved in, and supporting, able-bodied sports Associations / Unions / Clubs / Teams so they can gradually integrate AS within existing programmes.
 - (3) facilitating / organising representative fixtures for AS teams and individuals.
 - (4) developing and maintaining relationships with BPA, NGBs or disability / Paralympic sports equivalents, National Disability Sports' Organisations (NDSOs) and Service Sports' Associations/Unions.
 - (5) identifying talented disabled personnel and facilitating access to elite level sporting opportunities using established pathways.
 - (6) developing and maintaining relationships with relevant Civilian and Service charities, disabled Service personnel and their families, covering all BB-S activities.
 - (7) advertising the role of BB-S to internal and external audiences.
 - c. act as a central body for AS within the UK Armed Forces to:
 - (1) deliver a common administrative infrastructure to support individual athletes and individual AS associations.
 - (2) coordinate all matters associated with AS.
 - (3) gain support and identify resources to facilitate AS.

¹⁰ President, Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

(4) provide assurance to ACDS (Pers Cap) as chair of the Defence Deconvolution Group that, where possible, AS activities complement physical, cognitive, social and psychological rehabilitation / recovery programmes.

(5) provide advice to the UK AFSB and the Defence Adaptive Sports and Adventurous Training Board on AS to support work to develop policy.

(6) work with the UK AFSB to ensure that SP Pol and single Service Personnel Policy Branches are kept informed of BB-S activities and direction and that the endorsed policy underpinning AS is in place.

d. advise the UK AFSB and single Service Sports' Boards on matters concerning all AS¹¹.

¹¹ In particular the BB-S will endorse all AS programmes.

STATUS OF SPORTS WITHIN THE SERVICES

Sport/Activity	RN	Army	RAF
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
Angling (Competitive):			
a. Coarse	See Note 1	See Note 1	See Note 1
b. Game	See Note 1	See Note 1	See Note 1
c. Sea (Boat/Shore)	See Note 1	See Note 1	See Note 1
Athletics:			
a. Track and Field	Cat 1	Cat 1	Cat 1
b. Cross-Country	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
c. Tug of War	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
d. Marathon/Road	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Archery	Cat 3	Cat 3	Cat 3
Association Football	Cat 1	Cat 1	Cat 1
Badminton	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Basketball	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Boxing	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Canoeing:			
a. Sprint and Marathon	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
b. Slalom	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
c. Surf	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
d. Wild Water Racing	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
e. Polo	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
f. Freestyle	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Cricket	Cat 1	Cat 1	Cat 1
Cycling:			
a. Road/Time Trials/Track	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
b. Mountain Biking Downhill & Cross Country	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
c. Cyclo Cross	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Equestrian:			
a. Show Jumping /Eventing	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
b. (Horse) Racing	Cat 3	Cat 3	Cat 3
c. Tentpegging	Cat 4	Cat 3	Cat 4
Fencing	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Gliding	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Golf	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Hang Gliding and Paragliding	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Hockey	Cat 1	Cat 1	Cat 1
Ice Hockey	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Judo	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Lacrosse	Cat 3	Cat 3	Cat 3
Lawn Tennis	Cat 1	Cat 1	Cat 1
Kite Surfing (see note 2)	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Martial Arts:			
a. Brazilian Jiu Jitsu	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2

Sport/Activity	RN	Army	RAF
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
b. WTF and ITF Taekwondo	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
c. Karate	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
d. Weapons Kata	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
e. Kendo	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Microflight Flying	Cat 4	Cat 4	Cat 2
Modern Pentathlon	Cat 4	Cat 2	Cat 4
Motor Sports:			
a. 2 Wheel Road	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
b. 2 Wheel Trial	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
c. 2 Wheel Enduro/Motocross	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
d. 4 Wheel Car Racing (Sprint & Circuit)	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
e. 4 Wheel Navigation	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
f. Rally	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
g. Karting	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Netball	Cat 1	Cat 1	Cat 1
Orienteering (Competitive)	Cat 2	Individual Military Training (See note 3)	Cat 2
Polo	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Power Lifting	Cat 3	Cat 2	Cat 2
Rackets	Cat 3	Cat 3	Other
Real Tennis	Cat 3	Cat 3	Cat 3
Rounders	Cat 4	Cat 4	Cat 4
Rowing	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Rugby (League and Union)	Cat 1	Cat 1	Cat 1
Sailing:			
a. Offshore	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
b. Dinghy	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
c. Windsurfing	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Shooting (see note 4)			
a. Target Rifle	Cat 2	Ind Mil Trg	Cat 2
b. Small Bore Target Rifle	Cat 2	Ind Mil Trg	Cat 2
c. Clay Target	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
d. Target Pistol	Cat 2	Ind Mil Trg	Cat 2
e. Service Weapon	Individual Military Training	Individual Military Training	Individual Military Training
Sport Climbing	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Sport Parachuting	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Squash Rackets			
a. Squash	Cat 1	Cat 1	Cat 1
b. Racketball	Cat 3	Cat 3	Cat 3
Surfing	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Swimming:			
a. Swimming	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
b. Diving	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
c. Water Polo	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
d. Open Water	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Table Tennis	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2

Sport/Activity	RN	Army	RAF
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
Ten Pin Bowling	Cat 4	Cat 4	Cat 3
Triathlon	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Volleyball	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
Water Skiing/Wake Boarding	Cat 4	Cat 2	Cat 2
Winter Sports			
a. Alpine Skiing (Note 5)	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
b. Snowboarding	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
c. Bobsleigh	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
d. Skeleton Bobsleigh	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
e. Luge	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2
f. Tobogganing (Cresta)	Cat 3	Cat 3	Cat 3
g. Biathlon/Nordic (Note 6)	Cat 2	Individual Military Training	Cat 2
h. Telemarking	Cat 2	Cat 2	Cat 2

Notes:

1. Travel at public expense to competitive angling fixtures is limited to 2 intra-Service fixtures, 4 single Service Representative fixtures and 4 AF fixtures per discipline per year approved by the appropriate UK AFSB or Single Services Sports Boards. Such fixtures are designated 'Cat 2 Sport'. All other competitive angling fixtures and angling events are designated 'Cat 3 sport' and travel to them is to be non-publicly funded.
2. For the RAF, Kitesurfing includes the wider range of activities embraced by Powerkiting.
3. For Overseas Visits, Inter Service events and UKAF sports teams, Army personnel conduct orienteering as a 'Cat 2' sport.
4. Individual Military Training status is only authorised for specific Army Rifle Association activities in accordance with AGAI Vol 1 Ch 5 – Sport. For competitive fixtures at Inter-Service level and above, Target Shooting will remain a Category 2 Sport.
5. Army participation in alpine competitions up to and including corps and divisional championships is designated 'individual military training' and is authorised by Hd Trg. Competing in the Army and Inter-Services Championships and for UKAF teams is classified as 'Cat 2 sport' under the auspices of the Army Sport Control Board.
6. Participation of the Royal Marines in Biathlon/Nordic activities can be designated as individual military training.
7. In addition, the RAF treats the following activities as 'Cat 3' sports:
 - a. Model Aircraft Flying.
 - b. Powered Flying.

DEFINITION OF SPORTS WITHIN CATEGORIES

CATEGORY 1 SPORTS

Sport/Activity	Recognised Activity	Not Recognised¹²
(a)	(b)	(c)
Athletics	Track and Field Cross-Country (Team & Relay) Tug of War Half & Full Marathon/Road	Ultra Marathon Mountain Running
Association Football	Full side (11) Small sided (5, 6 and 7 a side)	Beach Football Walking Football
Cricket	Limited Overs: One Two and Three Day declaration games	Indoor Cricket
Hockey	Indoor Hockey (6 a side) Outdoor Hockey (6 a side and 11 a side)	Unihoc Roller Hockey Street Hockey
Lawn Tennis	Singles Doubles	Mini Tennis Fast4 Tennis Cardio Tennis Tennis Xpress Beach Tennis
Netball	7 a side	High 5 Nets Fast Net
Rugby League	13 a side 9 a side	Touch Rugby
Rugby Union	15 a side 7 a side	Touch Rugby Beach Rugby
Squash Rackets	Squash Singles Squash Doubles	

¹² The list of activities in the Not Recognised column for all categories is not exhaustive but provides a guide.

CATEGORY 2 SPORTS

Sport/Activity	Recognised Activity	Not Recognised
(a)	(b)	(c)
Angling (Competitive)	Coarse (includes Carp) Game Sea (Boat/Shore)	Kayak Fishing
Badminton	Singles Doubles	
Basketball	Basketball (only one discipline)	
Boxing	AIBA Open Boxing	
Canoeing and Kayaking	The competitive elements of: Freestyle Marathon Polo Slalom Sprint Surf Wild Water Racing	All other forms of canoeing. Also not recognised as sport: Canoe/Kayak Sailing. Sea Kayaking. White Water Rafting. Kayak Fishing. White Water Canoe/Kayaking (river running). Stand-up paddle boarding.
Cycling	Road Racing Time Trials Track Racing (all disciplines) Mountain Bike X Country Mountain Bike Downhill Mountain Bike Enduro Cyclo Cross Cycle Speedway BMX	Sportives Audax Touring Commuting
Equestrian	Show Jumping Dressage Cross Country (incl hunter trials)	Hunting
Fencing	Foil Epee Sabre	
Gliding	Unpowered cross country racing	All other forms of Gliding.
Golf	Matchplay Strokeplay	

Sport/Activity	Recognised Activity	Not Recognised
(a)	(b)	(c)
Hang Gliding and Paragliding	Competitive cross country Hang Gliding and Paragliding	All other forms of hang gliding and paragliding. Also not recognised as sport: Parascending Powered Hang Gliding Paramotoring Human Powered Flight
Ice Hockey	Ice Hockey (Full side only)	Bandy Broomball Special Hockey Roller Hockey
Judo	Judo (only one discipline)	
Kite Surfing	Kite Surfing Powerkiting (only for RAF)	Snowkiting Kite Buggy Kite Boat Kite Landboard
Martial Arts	Brazilian Jiu Jitsu WTF and ITF Taekwondo Karate Weapons Kata Kendo	All other forms of Martial Arts
Microlight Flying	Cat 2 for RAF (Cat 4 for RN and Army)	
Modern Pentathlon	Army only (Cat 4 for RN and RAF)	
Motor Sports	2 Wheel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road • Trial • Enduro/Motocross 4 Wheel Car <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Racing (Sprint & Circuit) • Navigation • Rally • Karting 	All other Motorsport activity

Sport/Activity	Recognised Activity	Not Recognised
(a)	(b)	(c)
Orienteering (Competitive)	Foot Orienteering, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long (Classic) distance • Middle distance • Sprint/Ultra-sprint distance • Score • Relay (including Harris) 	Mountain Bike Orienteering Ski Orienteering Trail Orienteering Ultra long mountain
Polo	Polo (Horse only) Arena Polo	Snow Polo Beach Polo Camel Polo Elephant Polo
Power Lifting	Squat Bench Press Deadlift	All other forms of weightlifting
Racketball	Singles Doubles	
Rowing	Inland River Rowing (Sculling & Sweep, Fine Boats and training boats) Pilot Gig Racing Coastal Rowing Racing	Indoor Rowing/ Racing Ocean Rowing Skiff Racing Surf Rowing Touring Rowing
Sailing	Small boat racing Yacht Racing Windsurfing	Power Boat Racing Motor Boating RIBs & Sports Boats Personal Watercraft (Jet skis) Canal & River Cruising Canoe Kayak Sailing
Shooting	Target Rifle Small Bore Rifle (incl air) Clay Target Target Pistol (Air and .22 only) Service Weapon	Practical Shotgun Practical Pistol Practical Rifle Field Target Benchrest
Sports Climbing	Competitive indoor sports climbing including leading and bouldering. Outdoor competitive sports climbing including lead climbing on bolted routes.	All forms other forms of climbing and mountaineering.

Sport/Activity	Recognised Activity	Not Recognised
(a)	(b)	(c)
Sport Parachuting	Sport Accuracy Canopy Formation Canopy Piloting Formation Skydiving Freeflying – 2 or 4 way teams Freestyle - Individual Speed Skydiving Wingsuit Flying – Performance and Acrobatics	All other forms of Parachuting.
Surfing	Long Board Surfing Short Board Surfing	Paddle boarding Sea Kayaking Bodyboarding Kneeboarding SUP Surfing Surf Kayaking Bodysurfing
Swimming	Competitive Pool Swimming. Platform & Springboard Diving Water Polo Open Water	Synchro Swimming Free Diving
Table Tennis	Singles Doubles	
Triathlon (Swim/Cycle/Run)	Triathlon (Swim/Cycle/Run) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sprint (750m/20km/5km) • Olympic (1.5k,40k, 10k) • Long Course (1.9k/90k/21.1k) • Ironman (3.8k/180.2k/ 42.2k) Duathlon (run/cycle/run) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sprint (5k/20k/2.5k) • Standard/Olympic (10k/40k/5k) 	Any other form of triathlon including Cross Triathlon. Aquathon Aquabike
Volleyball	6 a side Volleyball	Beach Volleyball
Water Skiing & Wakeboarding	Water Skiing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slalom • Trick • Jump Wakeboarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cable • Boat 	Barefoot Kneeboard All Water skiing and Wakeboarding Cat 4 for RN

Sport/Activity	Recognised Activity	Not Recognised
(a)	(b)	(c)
Winter Sports	Alpine Skiing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slalom • GS and Super GS • Downhill Snowboarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parallel Giant Slalom • Bordercross • Slopestyle Bobsleigh - 2 man Skeleton Bobsleigh Olympic Luge Natural Luge for RAF only Nordic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross country racing • Biathlon racing Telemarking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classic • Sprint Classic • Giant Slalom • Parallel Sprint 	Freestyle Skiing Ski Biking Ski Jumping Ski Orienteering Ski Cross Ski Touring Skijoring Bobsleigh – 4 man Natural Luge for Army and RN

CATEGORY 3 SPORTS

Sport/Activity	Recognised Activity	Not Recognised
(a)	(b)	(c)
Archery	Target Archery Field Archery	Clout Archery Flight Archery Crossbow
Equestrian	Horse Racing Tentpegging - Army only (Cat 4 for RN and RAF)	Hunting
Lacrosse	Lacrosse	Pop Lacrosse
Powered flying (for RAF only)	Aerobatics (different levels) Rally flying: RAC and FAI Navigation Precision Flying Record Breaking	
Rackets	Doubles Singles	Cat 4 for RAF
Real Tennis	Doubles Singles	
Ten Pin Bowling	RAF only (Cat 4 for RN and Army)	
Winter Sports	Tobogganing (Cresta)	

THE DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY

1. **Aims and Objectives of the Development Pathway.** The pathway has been designed for individuals to develop their sporting potential through progressively higher levels of sport. Only the exceptionally talented and motivated will reach the top but every stage provides a measure of success and personal achievement for the majority, contributing to team ethos and esprit d'corps. The pathway provides opportunities to:

- a. gain skills in line with their level of aptitude and maturity.
- b. move easily from one stage of involvement to another.
- c. be motivated and have fun while developing their skills and interests, specifically at grass roots foundation level.
- d. be exposed to situations that have direct transferability to the workplace.
- e. inspire them to stay involved in service sport long term.

2. **Sporting Stages.** Although sports have different requirements, they should all have definite stages in taking individuals from their early involvement to being an experienced participant. Success at each level may inspire others to strive for similar attainment. Generally the progression should move through the following stages:

- a. Grass Roots/Foundation. Personnel are introduced to basic sports skills in a variety of activities/disciplines with competition and fun physical activity the focus.
- b. Ship/Establishment/Unit. Sports fixtures and Regional sports leagues encourage participation in sport to develop/maintain skills. Progression is achieved when a greater focus is placed on skill development, team ethos, competition and contribution, but fun and enjoyment are still important.
- c. Command, Corps & Regional Representative Competitions. Competitions specialise in specific sports and disciplines where individuals can become serious about sport refining their skills and involvement to compete to win or officiate at a higher level of representation.
- e. Single Service & Inter Service Representation. Competition provides a formal high level of activity and achievement, with training, coaching clinics, attendance on courses and the development of talent playing a large role in performance at this level. The goal is to compete or officiate at the highest levels.
- f. UKAF Representation. This level recognises individuals that have established themselves as high performers; training and coaching or achievement of enhanced qualifications become a significant part of their life with a serious focus. Participants are committed to achieving an elite level of performance in a focussed way.
- g. International/Full Time Elite Athletes and Officials. Single Services provide opportunities for elite athletes and officials to develop their physical, cognitive, social

and emotional skills performance at the highest levels in a specialised and often full time environment.

2 Conduct of Services Sport

General

1. Defence policy encourages Service personnel to participate in the full range of authorised sporting activities at all levels of ability as an individual or as a team member in Section, Unit, Command, Service, Inter-Service and UKAF competitions. Outside the framework of Service sport, Service personnel may compete as members of national, regional or other civilian teams but do so out of Service and in their own time.
2. The Whole Force Concept and Future Reserve 2020 sought greater integration of Regular and Reserve Forces. Sport is recognised as a significant component of operational effectiveness and in an integrated force is as applicable to reserve forces as it is for the regular element.

Eligibility

3. All Service personnel on a regular Service, Full-time Reserve Service (FTRS) or Additional Duties Commitment (ADC) engagement are eligible to participate in authorised Service sport.
4. Part-time Volunteer Reserve (PTVR)¹³ Forces personnel are also eligible to participate in authorised Service sport. As the Terms of Service for personnel in the Reserve Forces differ, reservist participation in representative sport requires additional eligibility criteria to prevent enlistment purely for sport. To be eligible, PTVR personnel:
 - a. **must** have been attested and are actively participating in Phase 1 and 2 training to meet the trade/capbadge Formal Training Standards iaw JSP 822 or have completed Phases 1 and 2.
 - b. **will** be liable for mobilisation.
 - c. **must** meet the annual training requirements in the preceding year (qualified for bounty /Certificate of Efficiency). This is not applicable for those in their first year of Service but para 4a applies.

5. The eligibility of Service personnel both regular and reserve to participate in representative sport is defined in the matrix at Annex A. This matrix draws distinction between the levels of Service sport from unit level to UKAF representation. Exceptionally and for the clear benefit of the Service, sport or championship, dispensation to include an ineligible participant at the Inter Service or UKAF level can be granted by the UK AFSB. At single Service level and below, the dispensation can be granted by single Service Sports Boards.

Authorisation

6. **Official Sporting Activity.** Participation in Service sporting activities requires authorisation by the appropriate body acting on behalf of the Defence Council. The appropriate body depends on the level of sporting activity.

¹³ Royal Naval Reserve, Royal Marine Reserve, Army Reserve and Royal Auxiliary Air Force.

- a. **Unit level.** Unit commanding officers (COs) authorise unit level sporting activity within their home theatre or theatre of operations. Such activity need not be confined to the sports categorised in Part 1 of this JSP provided the CO has the necessary resources to fund the activity, is operating within chain of command direction or guidance and has ensured the activity has a direct contribution to the personal development of Service personnel in the unit and thereby to operational capability.
- b. **Formation/Regional level.** Formation and Regional commanders authorise sporting activity and competitions within their respective commands.
- c. **Single Service Representational level.** Single Service Sports Boards authorise all representative sporting activity within their respective Services.
- d. **UKAF level.** The UK AFSB authorises the participation of teams representing the UKAF in sporting events.
- e. **Adaptive Sports.** The adaptive sports events are organised through the BattleBack programme and participation of individuals or unit activity will be authorised by unit commanders. The tri-Service representative level is authorised by Secretary UK AFSB. Sporting activity that is defined as part of an Individual's Recovery Plan (IRP) is authorised by the medical chain of command.

Duty Status of Participants

7. When participating in an authorised sport, Service personnel are representing their respective Service and the UKAF and therefore acting in the course of their duty and service.
8. For reservists, the conditions for duty status are covered in the [Reserve Forces Act 1996](#) (RFA96).
 - a. Obligatory training – Section 22.
 - b. Commitments to perform additional duties – Section 24 for FTRS and Section 25 for ADC.
 - c. Voluntary Training and Other Duty – Section 27 (covering paid and unpaid duty).
9. Ideally PTVRs should participate in representative sports as part of normal training under Category A (on duty, paid and eligible to claim travel costs for authorised events). Participation in representative sport could also be conducted in categories:
 - a. C1: RFA96 Section 27 – personnel are categorised as on duty, eligible for expenses but unpaid.
 - b. C2: RFA96 Section 27 – personnel are categorised as on duty, ineligible for expenses and unpaid.
 - c. H: RFA96 Section 27 – personnel are categorised as on duty, eligible to travel at public expense and are paid.

10. Categories C1 and C2 for PTVR personnel should only be used in exceptional circumstances where public funding is either unavailable or extremely limited.

11. The majority of Sport associations are led and managed by Service personnel acting in a voluntary capacity, undertaking duties that are ancillary to their main function. Those duties are directed and defined by an appropriate Service authority¹⁴. Any Service personnel engaged as part of their duties in Service activities, such as Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, in support of Service sports obligations, including those non-publicly funded, would be acting in the course of their employment within the MoD or the UKAF. As such the MoD would be vicariously¹⁵ liable for an individual's actions in the pursuance of their duty.

Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) – JSP 765

12. Authorised Service sport is covered by [JSP 765](#) - The Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS). Service personnel both regular and reserve participating in authorised sporting activity are covered by the Scheme which provides compensation for illness, injury or death where caused (wholly or partly) by an individual's service in the UKAF. A payment is made from the Scheme where the claimant shows that on the balance of probabilities, their injury is more likely than not to have been caused by service. Each case is decided on its individual merits taking account of all relevant evidence. Compensation is only paid for injuries which are sustained during sporting activity where the activity was authorised on behalf of the Defence Council and prior to it taking place by the UK AFSB, single Service Sports Boards or unit commanders. Activities include personnel participating in, officiating at or organising official sporting events.

13. To minimise the risk of injury, Service personnel have a personal responsibility to ensure they are medically fit to undertake sporting activity.

14. As compensation cases are open to interpretation and judgement by SPVA, all Service personnel are to be strongly encouraged by the chain of command and activity organisers to have their own personal and third party liability insurance when participating in any Service sport.

Safety in Sport

15. **Attitude to Risk.** Sport along with Adventurous Training, provides excellent opportunities to develop mental and physical robustness within Service personnel, create risks of the unknown, set conditions to inspire a will to win and overcome fear and adversity. Sporting activity will involve risk, some greater than others. In setting the conditions for the safe conduct, sports associations are to adopt an approach that is risk aware not risk averse so the benefits of challenging sporting activity can be exploited to the maximum.

16. **Duty of Care.** When sporting activity is authorised by the appropriate body, participants, both players and officials, are placed on duty and the MOD has a duty of care responsibility for that activity. The principles in both [DSA01.1](#) (formerly JSP 815), Defence

¹⁴ Appropriate Service authority can be an officer commanding a formation/station/base/unit or a Director of a Sports Board.

¹⁵ In the context of employment, 'vicarious liability' means that the employer is liable to pay compensation to anyone who may suffer injury or property damage as a result of the negligent actions of his employees which they may commit in the course of their normal employment.

Policy for Health, Safety and Environmental Protection, and [JSP 375](#), Management of Health & Safety in Defence, apply to authorised Defence activity and it is therefore incumbent on unit COs and the sports associations to demonstrate that the appropriate risk management structures are in place and that safety risk has been reduced to 'as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP)'. Sport differs from the majority of Defence activity because sports are regulated by National Governing Bodies (NGBs). The regulation of sporting activity in the NGBs is the primary source for the safe conduct of that particular sport. The responsibility for safety in a sporting activity is held by those who deliver the activity and for many sports, the safe conduct is controlled by a referee, umpire, technical delegate or equivalent. Where regulations in NGBs fail to mitigate risk to life adequately or to the standard required by MOD regulation, sports associations are to establish their own risk management and assurance systems.

ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY IN SERVICES SPORT

Category of Personnel	Single Service Events (Unit, Corps & Regional)	Represent Single Service (Non-Inter Service Events)	Represent Single Service (Inter Service Events)	UKAF
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
All personnel on a regular engagement ¹	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Personnel Seconded to another Service ²	Yes	Parent Service only	Parent Service only	Yes
Reserves ³				
a. FTRS and ADC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
b. RNR Lists1-5 and RMR List 1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
c. Army Reserve Gp A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
d. RAuxAF (serving on a RAux AF Sqn)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ex-Regular Reserves ⁴	No	No	No	No
Sponsored Reserves	No	No	No	No
DTUS Cadets - All 3 Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
University Cadets at URNU, UOTC and UAS	At discretion of the single Service	At discretion of the single Service	No	No
Foreign and Commonwealth Personnel appointed to UK Armed Forces units				
a. for less than 6 months.	Yes	Yes ⁵	No	No
b. for over 6 months	Yes	Yes ⁵	Yes ⁵	Yes
Defence Sixth Form College (teams)	As 'hors concours' participants.	No	No	No
Defence Sixth Form College (Individuals)	No	No	No	No
MOD Civilians	Clearance for RAF only	No	No	No
Other civilians including contractors	No	No	No	No

Notes:

1. Sporting commitment must have no detriment to Phase1 training and participation requires College Commander/Training Unit CO's approval.
2. Personnel are only permitted to compete as individuals in their parent single Service and joint/Armed Forces Championships.

3. **Reserves.**

a. PTVR trainees conducting Phases 1 and 2 training must be actively committed to the completion of their training in an appropriate timescale.

b. PTVRs in their second and succeeding training years must have met the training requirement in the preceding training year (ie be awarded the Certificate of Efficiency and Training Bounty).

c. The following are excluded: RNR List 6, 7 and 8; RMR List 2, Army Reserve Gp B and Gp C; RAF (Civilian Component); and RAF Volunteer Reserve (Training).

4. Ex-Regular Reserves are no longer serving but may have a liability to be recalled into permanent service if they meet the criteria and are required. Ex-Regular Reserves include:

a. **RN** - Regular Reserve comprising the Royal Fleet Reserve and Recall Reserve.

b. **Army** - Regular Reserve.

c. **RAF** - Reserve of Officers and Reserve of Airmen.

5. Equivalent Parent Service only, e.g. US Air Force Officer serving in RN Unit eligible to play for RAF not RN. Non-UK personnel serving in HQ ARRC are excluded as HQ ARRC is not a UK Armed Forces unit .