MINISTRY OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT, SPORTS AND RECREATION

TEAM MAURITIUS - INSPIRING MAURITIANS IN THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE ON THE WORLD STAGE

Guidelines for Assistance to National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations

1. **Introduction**

Team Mauritius is an entity which has been set up in line with the creation of an amateur to an elite sports environment, as recommended under one of the major transformational themes of the National Sport and Physical Activity Policy.

For the time being, the complex nature of the existing elite sport landscape results in no clear single point of accountability. Team Mauritius will thus be that one Unit that will drive the talent and elite sport landscape to inspire Mauritians in the pursuit of excellence on the world stage. Team Mauritius will adopt an athlete-centric and performance-based strategy, supported by a pathway of talent identification, confirmation and development across Mauritius and Rodrigues.

This document shall serve as guidelines regarding assistance to National Sports Federations and Sports Organisations.

**Objectives of the Guidelines**

The objectives of the guidelines are to:

i. delineate the areas of responsibility of Team Mauritius and National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations in the promotion and development of sports in Mauritius;
ii. set priorities and define procedures to be followed by the National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations in order to benefit from any financial assistance;
iii. define conditions for eligibility for any assistance;
iv. encourage National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations to follow proper, democratic and best management practices;
v. ensure greater accountability and transparency at all levels;
vi. promote, develop and democratise sports and establish a good partnership with all stakeholders; and
vii. safeguard sporting interest, fight against doping and promote equity among athletes and coaches.

2. **Responsibilities of Team Mauritius and Sports Federations**

(a) Team Mauritius:

Team Mauritius is a Unit operating under the Ministry and entrusted with the following key responsibilities:
i. strategic planning of high-performance sport;
ii. merge the existing grassroots and elite sports sub-directorates while developing the elite sport environment and the athlete development pathway, where human and financial resources would be optimised;
iii. allocate elite sport funding and support to National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations;
iv. oversee preparation for elite competitions and training camps;
v. develop partnerships and investments with the private sector into the high-performance sport; and
vi. maintain a database on the performance of elite athletes.

(b) National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations shall:

i. be fully committed and accountable for the development of their sports disciplines;
ii. collaborate with Team Mauritius and other bodies for the promotion and development of their sports disciplines at all levels for implementation of the elite strategy of the Ministry;
iii. be fully committed and accountable for the overall management, promotion and development of their sports disciplines;
iv. submit a four-year rolling elite strategic plan including the President’s statement, vision and mission, trends and challenges, objectives, key actions, planned activities, key performance indicators and financial requirements;
v. submit a yearly sports development plan in line with the four-year strategic plan indicating the level of financing by the Federation and of sponsorship, where available. Team Mauritius will then consider the extent to which financial assistance can be granted; and
vi. ensure that parental authorisation is obtained prior to participation of athletes who are under the age of 18.

Categorisation of National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations will serve as guideline for any financial assistance.

3. The Guiding Principles

(a) Abiding to the Sports Act

National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations shall ensure that their internal rules are in line with the provisions of the Sports Act 2016.

(b) Conditions for eligibility for assistance

The conditions for eligibility of assistance for National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations are set out in Section 10 of the Sports Act 2016.

- The insurance policy certificate covering all licensees shall be submitted by the end of January of each year.
- In case National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations have financial constraints to insure their athletes, they may do so by using funds from the annual financial grant earmarked by Team Mauritius;

- The yearly sports development plan for the forthcoming financial year should be submitted by latest the 15 April of the current year.

(c) requests for assistance shall be addressed to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry and which shall be submitted one month in advance and include inter alia a detailed breakdown of expenses/costs and all assistances required on the OFFICIAL REQUEST FORM (Annex 2).

(d) Annex 1 of the guidelines list down items that may be financed by the Ministry for any project.

(e) **International events organised locally**

Team Mauritius recognises the importance of hosting international competitions locally and which can impact positively the socio-economic development of the country.

Written authorisation should be sought from the Ministry before bidding and taking any commitment for hosting any international competition vis-à-vis any International Federation. The request for authorisation, including a breakdown of expenses (where applicable) should be addressed to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry and submitted well in advance (at least one year).

Before granting any approval, the Ministry will be guided by the following:

i. level of local athletes in the discipline.
ii. profile of the sport locally.
iii. magnitude of the competition and its social and economic impact.
iv. budget of the competition and availability of funds (Ministry, international federation, sponsors and others).
v. infrastructural requirements and
vi. reliable organising committee to ensure that the competition is well managed and organised to brand Mauritius as a sports hub.

National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations should provide relevant information to Team Mauritius to facilitate any clearance required and approval for the organisation of the competition.
Participation in regional/international activities organized abroad

All requests addressed to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry and should be submitted 4 weeks in advance and include *inter-alia* the followings items:

- objectives, breakdown of costs, number of participating countries (where applicable);
- competition/training venues;
- duration of event;
- official invitation letter (conditions for participation);
- criteria for selection and details of previous performances of selected athletes;
- provisional bookings with quotation (most economical route) and
- travelling insurance policy coverage*;
- visa facilities for transit and hosting countries#;
- request for release facilities (name/address of employer) excluding those remunerated/invited on a personal basis by the International Federation;
- vaccination certificates; and
- list of pre-selected athletes (to specify clearly in case athletes/coaches come from Rodrigues).

* Note: in case National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations have financial constraints to insure their athletes when travelling abroad, they may do so by using funds from the annual grant. However, the responsibility to initiate appropriate procedures for obtaining travelling insurance policy coverage for athletes and officials rests with the National Sports Federation itself. Appropriate travel insurance receipts should be forwarded to Team Mauritius for refund in case the National Sports Federation wishes to cover these expenses from the annual grant.

# Note: The responsibility to initiate appropriate procedures for obtaining a visa for athletes and officials shall rest with the National Sports Federation itself. Team Mauritius may only assist National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations by issuing a recommendation letter to appropriate authorities whenever applicable.

Participation Requirements (International Events)

Financing assistance for participation in international events will be based on sports categorisation.

A forecast should be made in consultation with the national coach regarding the expected results of the athlete or team. Moreover, National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations are required to ensure that athletes and officials delegated to represent Mauritius in any international event are medically fit.
Composition of delegation

A delegation proceeding to participate in an international event abroad should be composed of technical cadres and athletes.

The ratio of cadres accompanying athletes is one to seven except for National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations catering for specific disabilities and combat sports which shall be considered on a case to case basis.

Whenever only one cadre of a National Sports Federation is accompanying a delegation proceeding abroad, priority should be given to the appropriate coach and not an office bearer or administrator of the National Sports Federation.

A National Sports Federation wishing to send office bearers may do so at its own expense.

The personal coaches of athletes who wish to form part of a delegation may do so at their own expense or by the concerned National Sports Federation. The Team Mauritius may finance expenses related to personal coaches of world level athletes only (based on the categorisation of athletes under the Athlete Assistance Scheme) and such request will be treated on a case to case basis.

Requests to meet expenses pertaining to referees invited to officiate in international competitions where Mauritius is participating will be met only in Games and in cases where it is mandatory for inclusion of referee/s. In such cases, National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations shall submit supporting documents justifying presence of referee/s in the delegation.

Duty of accompanying officials

Officials accompanying athletes should travel with the delegation from departure till back. Officials should at no time leave the delegation for private matters abroad.

(g) PURCHASE OF AIR TICKETS, SPORTS EQUIPMENT AND OTHER ITEMS

When funds are released directly for purchase of Air tickets, sports equipment and other items, National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations should ensure the following:

i. proper financial procedures are adopted for purchases including air tickets with emphasis on transparency and value for money;

ii. there should not be any conflict of interest;

iii. the most economical route/tariff shall be chosen when proceeding with purchase of air-tickets. National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations are advised to reach the country of destination in reasonable time prior to start of competition and return at latest one day after competition;
iv. equipment purchased is according to international norms and standards; and
v. at least one quotation has been sought for services required.

(h) **Transport Facilities**

A budgetary line may be allocated to certain National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations to cover transport expenses.

In other cases, requests for transport facilities will be treated on a case to case basis and priority will be given to the training of elite athletes, organization of national and international events only. National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations may hire its own transport facilities in case it is more cost effective. However, if transport facilities are provided by the Ministry, the cost of overtime for drivers shall be deducted at source.

(i) **Use of Sports Facilities**

Request shall be submitted to the Infrastructure Department of the Ministry for processing. For facilities managed by the Mauritius Sports Council, requests shall be made directly to the Managing Secretary of that institution.

(ii) **Police Assistance and Other Support**

Request for police assistance or any other support shall be made directly to the Commissioner of Police or the appropriate authority by the concerned National Sports Federation. Team Mauritius may issue supporting letters to facilitate request made.

(k) **Request for Medical Treatment, Assistance and Purchase of Medical Items**

National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations shall ensure that their licensees are medically fit to participate in training and competitions.

All athletes shall have the required medical fitness certificate from a duly recognized medical practitioner or from the Sports Medical Unit of the Ministry. Sports Federations should to the extent practical ensure that basic medical checkup for all athletes is carried out on the same day of the event.

The Sports Medical Unit provides for the services of Doctors, Physiotherapists, Sports Nursing Officers and other paramedical services to licensees of National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations for treatment, rehabilitation, counseling and fitness assessment tests free of charge. The licensee shall present his or her duly valid license to the Sports Medical Unit for treatment and follow up.

Activities that may be covered by the Sports Medical Unit, subject to availability of medical/Paramedical staff, are as follows:
- national and international competitions; (for national competitions, priority shall be given to sports where the risk of injury is higher and shall include combat sports such as Judo, Boxing, Kickboxing, Boxe Française, Wrestling, Karate, Taekwondo and other contact sports).

- intensive Training/Training Camps of National Teams preparing for important competitions; and

- follow up of elite athletes and those participating in major events.

**Rates for services of Sports Medical Unit staff**

The services for staff of the SMU shall be charged to National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations as follows:

- Medical practitioner on sessional basis: All-inclusive fee of Rs. 1920/- for every session of 3 hours during weekdays and Rs. 2310/- for every session of 3 hours on Sundays and public holidays.

- Physiotherapist on sessional basis: Rs 975/- per session of 3 hours.

- Psychologist on part-time basis: All-inclusive fee of Rs 975/- per session of 3 hours

- Request for medical assistance shall be made at least 1 month prior to the event to Team Mauritius for approval and for proper arrangement by the staff of the Sports Medical Unit.

- National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations are advised to seek the services of private doctors as well as Red Cross, First Aiders of the St John Ambulance, members of their own Federations having acquired training in First Aid to cover activities not mentioned above, especially combat sports. Team Mauritius may refund such expenses including transport costs which shall be included in request.

**Medical items and vitamins**

Any request for medical items and vitamins to Team Mauritius shall obtain the prior clearance of the Sports Medical Unit. No disbursement of funds for purchase of medical items and vitamins shall be made without appropriate clearance from the Sports Medical Unit.

In case where the Sports Medical Unit is issuing medical items directly to National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations, necessary actions shall be taken by the latters to confirm receipt of items by athletes.

All items delivered to athletes shall be properly recorded in a record book and these shall be kept at the Sports Medical Unit for monitoring purposes.
All requests for medical / first aid kits shall have the approval from the Team Mauritius before issue.

(l) **NATIONAL ANTIDOPING ORGANISATION (NADO)**

National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations will be required to submit formal requests for conducting in-and-out of competition doping control tests to the Team Mauritius. They will have to cater from their own funds and budget for the following expenses:

- **DCO fees**: 35 USD per test + 15 USD per additional test
- **Chaperone fees**: 25 USD per test + 10 USD per additional test
- **Doping Kit fees**: Rs 1,500 per kit
- **Postage charge fees**: will depend on weight of kit and number of tests
- **Laboratory fees**: $150 – $200 depending of nature of tests

NADO shall set up appropriate doping control programme including out-of-competition tests and intelligent tests prior to participation and during major sporting events.

NADO shall also carry out updated anti-doping education programmes. These shall be held subject to prior approval of the Team Mauritius and provisions shall be made to pay the resource persons at the rate of Rs. 1000/- per hour.

(m) **PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES**

The Ministry shall **not** meet any costs related to the participation of officers of National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations to conferences, general assemblies, seminars, workshops and training courses abroad.

(n) **DELEGATES/OFFICIALS FROM INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS/SPORTS ORGANISATIONS**

Expenses related to airfare/board/lodging and any other fees for any representative of an International Sports Federation will be treated on a case to case basis.

(o) **NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations are required to organize National Championships every year for all their licensees and clubs in appropriate events to designate national champions. Each National Sports Federation should take necessary steps to ensure participation of all affiliated clubs in the national level championships.

A copy of the rules and regulations of the championships should be submitted along with the request form for assistance.
National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations are encouraged to look for sponsorship for these national events. Publicity panels of sponsors may be placed on sports sites owned by the Ministry or managed by the Mauritius Sports Council according to established standards. However, these panels should be removed when the event is over. The Officers in Charge of sports sites should be consulted for placement of panels and any fee charged by Local Authorities/MSC shall be borne by the Federation.

(p) ACTIVITIES OF MULTISPORT ORGANISATIONS

Section 11 (2) (f) under the Sports Act 2016 makes the following provision for multisport organisations: “after consultation with the appropriate National Sports Federation, establish a programme of activities for each year and organise competitions or games at regional, national and international level”.

Multisport organisations are strongly advised to consult National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations concerned whenever they are scheduling their activities in particular with regard to competitions. In no circumstances activities of multisport organisations shall disturb national trainings.

(q) PARTICIPATION OF ATHLETES/OFFICIALS FROM RODRIGUES

The relevant authorities in Rodrigues should be consulted before submitting any request to Team Mauritius. Same applies before proceeding to Rodrigues.

(r) STATISTICS

The following information should be submitted to Team Mauritius not later than four weeks after completion of the calendar year:

- a complete report on the achievements of the National Sports Federation at national and international levels;
- a copy of the approved rules and regulations as registered with the Registry of Associations;
- the exact number of licensees and the annual subscription payable by each licensee;
- list of existing regional sports committees and their composition;
- list of registered sports clubs forming each regional sports committee; and
- ranking list of licensees at national level in different categories and by gender.

(s) REPORTS

For any activity (National/International) where disbursement of funds has been effected by Team Mauritius, a technical/financial report should be submitted to
Team Mauritius within 1 week after its completion. The financial report should include appropriate official receipts/claims, refund etc.

Failure to abide to the above provision will result in withholding of funding.

(t) **COMMUNICATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

Presidents, members of Managing Committees, officers, coaches, athletes and officials of Sports Organisations should at all times exercise utmost diligence while making any statement to the press and avoid making any unfounded or unbecoming criticism against the Minister, the Ministry, Team Mauritius, any officer of the Ministry and other stakeholders.

In the event of non-adherence to this provision, the Ministry may take any action deemed appropriate.

(u) **PRESENCE OF MINISTER AT FUNCTIONS**

Any invitation for the Minister to attend functions as well as opening ceremonies shall be accompanied by a proper brief and submitted at least 1 week in advance for preparation of Minister’s speech.

(v) **Role and Responsibilities of the Administrative Secretary of National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations**

With a view to ensuring a better and more efficient service delivery and enabling the Team Mauritius to support National Sports Federations/Sports Organisations more effectively, Administrative Secretaries shall:

i. ensure that any information required by Team Mauritius is provided on time;
ii. submit receipts and any document required by Team Mauritius;
iii. collaborate with sports cadres of Team Mauritius;
iv. keep records and data pertaining to the National Sports Federation they are working for;
v. communicate actively with Team Mauritius; and
vi. follow up on requests made to Team Mauritius.

A copy of the contract and duties of the Administrative Secretary shall be made available to Team Mauritius upon request.

(w) **Suspension of Financial Assistance**

Where the Ministry is satisfied that a federation does not adhere to the provisions of the Sports Act 2016, the guidelines and regulations it may suspend the financial assistance allocated to that National Sports Federation.
Commencement date

These guidelines shall be operational as from 1\textsuperscript{st} March 2021.

Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Recreation
Port Louis

February 2021
Annex 1

ITEMS THAT MAY BE SUPPORTED

1.1. Training of Athletes (Locally)

i. Use of Sports infrastructure/facilities owned by the Government and under the Mauritius Sports Council’s management

ii. Rental/overtime fees for use of sports infrastructure/facilities

iii. Technical equipment

iv. Coaching fees

v. Catering and refreshments
   - Water (0.5 lt – pack of 8): Rs. 80/- to Rs. 130/-
   - Water (1 lt – pack of 6): Rs. 75/- to Rs. 120/-
   - “Pains Fourrés”: Rs. 40 to Rs. 45/- per unit
   - Juice (200 ml): Rs. 20/- to Rs. 25/- per unit
   - Pack lunch box: Rs. 155 to Rs. 180/- per head

vi. Transport

vii. Air ticket/Boarding/lodging/transport for coaches/athletes from Rodrigues attending training in Mauritius

viii. Air ticket/Boarding/lodging for coaches/athletes attending training in Rodrigues

ix. Services of cadres of the Ministry

x. Support for release of officials and coaches working in private organisations
   - Officers employed in the Public Service shall abide by approved circulars for release facilities.

xi. Nutritional supplements and vitamins

1.2. Training Camps (Locally or Abroad)

i. Use of Sports infrastructure/facilities owned by the Government and under the Mauritius Sports Council’s management

ii. Rental/overtime fees for use of sports infrastructure/facilities

iii. Technical equipment including IT (Rental or purchase)

iv. Coaching fees

v. Transport/internal transport in foreign country, as appropriate

vi. Travel insurance, as appropriate

vii. Medical assistance, as appropriate

viii. Air tickets for athletes and coaches, as appropriate

ix. Transit fee for athletes and coaches in foreign country
x. Transit fee for athletes and coaches from Rodrigues (air tickets/boarding/lodging)

xi. Boarding/lodging for athletes and coaches, as appropriate

xii. Air ticket/Boarding/lodging for coaches/athletes from Rodrigues attending training camps in Mauritius

xiii. Air ticket/Boarding/lodging/internal transport for coaches/athletes attending training in Rodrigues

xiv. Catering/refreshments

Water (0.5 lt – pack of 8): Rs. 80/- to Rs. 130/-
Water (1 lt – pack of 6): Rs. 75/- to Rs. 120/-
Juice (200 ml): Rs. 20/- to Rs. 25/- per unit
“Pains Fourrés”: Rs. 40 to Rs. 45/- per unit
Pack lunch box: Rs. 155 to Rs. 180/- per head
Residential training camp: Rs. 550/- per head

xv. Service of cadres of the Ministry

xvi. Support for release of officials and coaches working in private organisations

Officers employed in the Public Service shall abide by approved circulars for release facilities.

xvii. Medical assistance from the Sports Medical Unit and other organizations according to approved fees

1.3. **National Competitions**

i. Use of Sports infrastructure/facilities owned by the Government and under the Mauritius Sports Council’s management

ii. Rental/overtime fees for use of sports infrastructure/facilities

iii. Technical equipment

iv. Medal/prizes

Medals 40mm: Rs. 18/- to Rs. 25/-
Medals 60mm: Rs. 90/- to Rs. 150/-
Trophies (38 cm – 45 cm): Rs. 255/- to Rs. 260/-
Trophies (28 cm – 35 cm): Rs. 185/- to Rs. 200/-
Trophies (18 cm – 25 cm): Rs. 125 – Rs. 130/-
Shields (33 cm): Rs. 175 - Rs. 200 /
Shields (29 cm): Rs. 155 - Rs. 165 /
Shields (25 cm): Rs. 140 - Rs. 150 /
Cups (43 cm): Rs. 310 - Rs. 350/
Cups (38 cm): Rs. 275 - Rs. 300/-
Cups (29 cm): Rs. 210 - Rs.250/

Cash prizes for National Championships only: Category Senior – 1st place: Rs. 3 000/-, 2nd place: Rs. 2 000/ and 3rd place: Rs. 1 000/-Junior – Gift vouchers 1st place: Rs. 2 000/-, 2nd place: Rs. 1 500/- and 3rd place: Rs. 1 000/-

v. Banner (Rs. 1400/- to Rs.1500/- per unit)
vi. Stationaries (Rs. 2500/- to Rs. 5000/-)

vii. Fees for judges/referees

viii. Catering/refreshments for national championships only

Water (0.5 lt – pack of 8): Rs. 80/- to Rs.130/-

Water (1lt – pack of 6): Rs. 75/- to Rs. Rs. 120/-

Juice (200 ml): Rs. 20/- to Rs. 25/- per unit

“Pains Fourrés”: Rs. 40 to Rs. 45/- per unit

Pack lunch box: Rs. 155 to Rs. 180/- per head

ix. Transport

t. Boarding/lodging for coaches/athletes from Rodrigues attending competitions in Mauritius

xi. Air ticket/Boarding/lodging/internal transport for coaches/athletes attending competitions in Rodrigues

xii. Service of technical cadres of the Ministry.

xiii. Support for release of officials and coaches working in private organisations

Officers employed in the Public Service shall abide by approved circulars for release facilities.

xiv. Recommendation for police assistance

xv. Medical assistance from the Sports Medical Unit and other organizations according to approved fees

xvi. Public Address System on sports sites where available and technicians for operational purpose.

A maximum of Rs. 10 000/- per day will be granted for the rental of public address system.

1.4. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS ORGANIZED LOCALLY

i. Use of Sports infrastructure/facilities owned by the Government and under the Mauritius Sports Council’s management

ii. Rental/overtime fees for use of sports infrastructure/facilities

iii. Technical equipment

iv. Medal/prize

v. Banner

vi. Air ticket/Boarding/lodging for coaches/athletes from Rodrigues attending competitions in Mauritius
vii. Air ticket for coaches/athletes attending competitions in Rodrigues
viii. Boarding/lodging for coaches/athletes attending competitions in Rodrigues
ix. Service of technical cadres
x. Support for release of officials and coaches working in private organisations
   Officers employed in the Public Service shall abide by approved circulars for release facilities.
xii. Medical assistance from the Sports Medical Unit and other organizations according to approved fees
xii. Recommendation for visas facilities for foreign experts and others
xiv. Public Address System on sports where available
xv. Postage and laboratory fees for doping tests
xvi. Catering/refreshment
xvii. Transport from earmarked budget

1.5. PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS ORGANIZED ABROAD
   i. Technical equipment and uniforms for athletes
   ii. Air tickets/Boarding and lodging/Food and refreshment cost/Transit fee/Travel insurance for athletes and coaches
   iii. Pocket money (Applicable 1 day before start of competitions and 1 day after the end of competitions as per approved rates).
   iv. Service of cadres of the Ministry
   v. Recommendation for visas and passport facilities
   vi. Support for release of officials and coaches working in private organisations
   Officers employed in the Public Service shall abide by approved circulars for release facilities.
   vii. Medical kit
   viii. Vaccination fees

1.6. ADMINISTRATION
   i. International Affiliation Fees (maximum of Rs. 30 000/-)
   ii. Audit fees (maximum of Rs. 12 000/-)
   iii. Insurance cover
   iv. Contribution for payment of salary of an Administrative Secretary (Full-time: Rs. 10 200/- per month + bonus / Part-time: Rs. 5 100/- per month + bonus)
With regard to the above item, National Sports Federations are required to forward an updated copy of the contract of the Administrative Secretary as well as details of attendance while making an application for funds.

v. Office expenses

vi. Office equipment

Note: Expenses not covered in paragraphs 1.1 to 1.7 shall be treated on a case to case basis by the Steering Committee.