

Chapter 3

**SPORTS/YOUTH
ADMINISTRATION
IN OTHER COUNTRIES**

Part 1 Sports Administration in Other Countries

Also in foreign countries, the promotion of sports is considered important, and the governments of those countries are implementing aggressive measures to improve school physical education, achieve a lifelong sports society, and train top-level athletes who can compete on a world stage. The following sections will describe school physical education, lifelong sports and competitive sports, and promotion regimes for sports administration implemented in foreign countries.

1 United States of America (US)

(1) School Physical Education

In the United States, state governments basically have jurisdiction over school education, and the school education system differs by state. Accordingly, school physical education also differs by state. In 47 states out of 50, however, the provision of school physical education is somehow legally mandated. The following shows an example of school physical education provided in the state of Connecticut.

Physical education classes are provided at all the growth stages of children, from kindergarten to senior high school (to 18 years old), and all students should attend these classes. Class hours are set at 60 to 100 minutes for kindergartners and elementary school pupils in the low and middle grades, 80 to 120 minutes for elementary school pupils in higher grades, three hours a week for junior high school students, and one credit for graduation (at least 120 hours a year) for senior high school students.

Physical education classes are provided to a smaller number of students compared with those in Japan, and in many cases, practical skills are taught according to the level of each student. At many junior and senior high schools, students can choose what they want to do from among a lot of athletic events. Although details differ by school district and by school in the case of elementary schools, teachers specialized in physical education teach students at large-scale elementary schools and junior and senior high schools.

Also, “health and safety education” classes are provided apart from “physical education” classes, in which students learn about their health, including the prevention of injuries and diseases, growth and development, and smoking, alcohol, and drug abuse prevention.

(2) Lifelong Sports and Competitive Sports

According to a survey conducted by the Department of Health and Human Services in 2001, 61.4% of US citizens do some form of exercise or sports. Also, the survey shows that 51.9% of US citizens do light exercise for at least 10 minutes once a week and 24.7% five or more times a week. (All data are for US citizens aged 18 or older.)

The US Olympic Committee (USOC) is implementing programs to support top-level competitors in order to (1) prolong the period in which they are on the active list; (2) improve their performance; and (3) help them prepare for life after retirement. The USOC formulates a special four-year budget instead of a single-year budget, which coincides with the organization of the Olympic Games.

(3) Promotion Regime for Sports Administration

In the federal government, the Department of Health and Human Services is in charge of sports-related matters. Sports promotion measures, however, are basically implemented by each state government.

2 United Kingdom

(1) School Physical Education

The United Kingdom has different school education systems for England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. School education systems, however, are rather similar in England and Wales, where approximately 90% of the country’s population reside.

Physical education classes are provided at all school grades throughout the compulsory education period (from age 5 to 16), and all children have to attend these classes.

According to a common physical education curriculum set for all schools, children attend traditional team game classes and competitive sports classes. The government recommends schools to set their physical education class hours at two hours a week for all grades, including hours spent in extracurricular club activities. For physical education, eight key stages are set, and the children must meet certain criteria at each of the stages. The law stipulates that at key stage 3 (for children aged 11 to 13), the achievements of children are to be evaluated at three levels and the results notified to their parents and guardians.



▲ Physical education class provided in the UK

In addition to mandatory physical education classes, many schools provide children at key stage 4 (aged 14 to 15), who are in the last grade of compulsory education, with physical education or dance classes as optional classes. Children can choose these as examination subjects when they sit for an examination at the final stage of compulsory education.

Apart from physical education, there are health classes, in which children learn about personalities, social responsibilities, and health issues. The government positions these classes as a national curriculum to teach children cross-subject matters.

(2) Lifelong Sports and Competitive Sports

According to a national household survey conducted by the UK Office for National Statistics in 2002, 43% of UK citizens do some form of exercise or sports (excluding walking) at least once every four weeks (for those aged 16 or older). The number of sports clubs in England is 106,000, and in other regions it is 10,000. The total number of sports club members in England is 8 million, which means that each sports club has approximately 80 members on average.

As a means to improve national athletic competitiveness, the government supports and trains top-level competitors under a program called the “World-Class Performance Program.” Specifically, subsidies are given to top-level competitors and competitive sports organizations from the sales of lotteries and from the national treasury in order to let these competitors devote themselves to training. In 2003, approximately 600 top-level competitors and competitive sports organizations received subsidies. The amount of subsidies granted differs by the performance level of the competitors.

In 2002, the English Institute of Sport (EIS) was founded to strengthen the abilities of top-level competitors. This institute supports these competitors in the areas of sports medicine and science.

(3) Promotion Regime for Sports Administration

In the United Kingdom, the Department of Culture, Media and Sports (DCMS) and the Sports Council are mainly in charge of sports issues within the government. The DCMS coordinates sports policies and the Sports Council implements various projects to promote sports, improve the percentage of people participating in sports, enhance athletic competitiveness of the nation, and upgrade sports facilities.

3 France

(1) School Physical Education

The basic law on sports, established in July 1984, mandates elementary and junior high schools to provide physical education and sports opportunities to students in all grades. According to the law, all schoolchildren have to attend physical education and sports classes.

At elementary schools, physical education class hours (including those for art) are set at 6 hours for pupils in the basic learning stage and 5.5 hours for pupils in the deep learning stage. Class hours are set at three or four hours, depending on the grade, for students in the first half of their secondary education course and two hours a week for those in the second half of their course. In addition, for students who will specialize in sports courses at senior high school, an additional three-hour physical education class is provided as an optional subject. These students choose two subjects from among multiple subjects provided for learning skills and knowledge about the entire sports culture. Also, physical education and sports subjects are included in the mandatory subjects of examination for the Baccalaureate, which schoolchildren sit for when they complete their secondary education course.

Health education is not provided as an independent subject. It is regarded as education on cross-subject matters and as education on healthy behavior to be promoted among all students.

(2) Lifelong Sports and Competitive Sports

According to a survey conducted by the Ministry for Youth, Sports and Voluntary Associations in 2000, 60% of French citizens do some form of exercise or sports at least once a week. Also, 83% of them do some form of exercise or sports at least once a year. (All data are for French citizens aged 15 to 75.) The number of sports clubs is estimated to be as many as 170,000 and the number of their members to be 10 million (as of 2002).

France has always ranked high in the number of medals won at the Olympic Games. The country was ranked fifth (with 37 medals) at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, sixth (with 38 medals) at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games, and seventh (with 33 medals) at the 2004 Athens Olympic Games. In this country, approximately 6,000 athletes are registered as “high-level athletes” from among those who had excellent results at international competitions. Those registered as “high-level athletes” are given support regarding their school work and jobs during training or international competition periods so that they can devote themselves to their athletic activities.

(3) Promotion Regime for Sports Administration

The MJSVA is the major governmental organization engaged in sports, and the ministry leads other governmental organizations in the formulation and implementation of sports-related policies. In addition, the Ministry for Education has jurisdiction over school physical education.

4 Germany

(1) School Physical Education

Physical education classes (mandatory “sports” classes) are provided to children in all grades at primary and secondary educational institutions.

Class hours are set at three hours a week for grades 1 to 4 in the primary education course, two to four hours a week for grades 5 to 10 in secondary education stage I, and three hours a week for grades 11 to 13 in secondary education stage II. In addition to the three-hour mandatory class in secondary education stage II, schools approved by school boards can provide another three-hour class as an examination subject for entering universities. Furthermore, these schools can open optional physical education classes up to five hours a week.

The targets and details of physical education are set by grade, and schools are required to provide their students with opportunities to engage in sports in the broad sense of the term and ensure that they can develop themselves by engaging in a wide range of sports. Targets are determined based on the following six educational viewpoints: improvement in intellectual abilities and affluent sports experiences; physical expression and exercise; adventure; achievement; collaboration; and health.

Health education is not provided as an independent subject. It is taught as a part of physical education.

(2) Lifelong Sports and Competitive Sports

There are as many as 26.91 million registered members in Deutscher Sportbund (DSB), which is a private sports organization representing Germany. In other words, 32.6% of German citizens have joined the organization. The number of registered members of Landes Sportbund (LSB) is 23.52 million, and they are engaged in sports at approximately 90,000 sports clubs. Including those belonging to more than one sports club, approximately 29% of German citizens participate in sports at sports clubs (as of 2003).

Germany has no national training center. Instead, regional sports clubs network together to form a sys-



▲ Sports club in Munich, Germany

tem to support competitive sports organizations in strengthening their activities. The network has had great results.

Taking the opportunity of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games, Olympic support centers were established to support top-level competitors. At present, there are 20 such centers throughout the country, where approximately 3,800 athletes are being trained. These athletes are divided into Class A international level athletes, Class B domestic top-level athletes, and Class C junior representative athletes.

(3) Promotion Regime for Sports Administration

Within the federal government, the Ministry of the Interior is in charge of sports. The Ministry plays a central role in giving support to top-level competitive sports representing the country, including support to improve international competitiveness and host international competition. State governments have jurisdiction over school physical education and regional sports promotion.

5 Republic of Korea (South Korea)

(1) School Physical Education

Physical education classes are provided to children in grades 1 to 12 in primary and secondary education. For children in the first and second grades, physical education is provided as a part of a subject for “joyful living.” For children in the 3rd to 10th grades, physical education is provided as a mandatory subject. For children in the 11th and 12th grades, physical education is an optional subject and provided under the subjects of “physical education and health,” “physical education practical skills,” or “physical education theory.”

Class hours are set at three hours a week for children in the third to eighth grades, for whom the classes are mandatory, and two hours a week for children in the 9th and 10th grades.

The targets and details of physical education differ by subject. The nature, goals, content, teaching methods, and evaluation criteria are set in detail for each of the subjects. For mandatory classes, the details of activities are set as a part of the curriculum, and all schoolchildren throughout the country need to engage themselves in these core activities as a minimum requirement. The details of the optional classes can be flexible in view of the characteristics of local communities and schools and according to requests from teachers and pupils.

Health issues are taught not as an independent subject but as a part of physical education.

(2) Lifelong Sports and Competitive Sports

According to a survey conducted in 2003 on the participation of citizens in leisure activities, 33% of citizens (aged 15 or older) do some form of exercise or sports at least twice or thrice a week. According to the National Lifelong Sports Council (described later), the number of sports clubs is approximately 70,000, which are divided into 109 types.

In South Korea, athletes who had excellent results at the Olympic Games, Asian Games, Universiade, and other single-event international competition are granted pensions as rewards. “Points” are set for each competition and ranking, and the athletes, depending on the points they have won, are qualified for a pension.

In South Korea, the South Korea Sports Association supervises competitive sports organizations and the National Lifelong Sports Council supervises lifelong sports organizations. Both of these organizations have a branch in each of the basic local public entities as well as in each of the wide-area local public entities composed of several basic local public entities all throughout the nation.

(3) Promotion Regime for Sports Administration

The Sports Bureau of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism takes charge of sports-related issues and provides various services in relation to competitive and lifelong sports activities. The Ministry of Education and Human Resources has jurisdiction over school physical education.



▲ Front entrance of the Taenung National Center

Part 2 School Lunch Programs in Other Countries

In each country and region, various school lunch programs have been implemented, depending on the local educational system and culture.

In the following, examples of school lunch programs implemented in foreign countries will be introduced for reference when examining Japan's food education. The data were collected with the support Japanese embassies in foreign countries.

1 United States of America (US)

In the US, the National School Lunch Act of 1946 was established to provide schoolchildren, notably those from low-income families, with the opportunity to intake sufficient nutrients and promote the domestic consumption of agricultural products to achieve equal opportunity in education.

The Food and Nutrition Service of the Federal Department of Agriculture supervises school lunches on a national level, and state departments of education supervise school lunches on a state level. Each school district decides whether to implement a school lunch program as well as what menus to offer according to the National School Lunch Act. Some school districts provide menus for the day and others let pupils choose the days on which they will have school lunch. At schools that do not implement school lunch programs or have days on which no school lunches are provided, children eat out or bring lunch from home.

Some schools that implement school lunch programs have staff trained in nutrition and food safety.

2 United Kingdom

In the UK, almost all elementary and junior high schools seem to provide school lunch. Schools that have pupils who are qualified to eat school lunch free of charge or pupils whose parents want the provision of school lunch have to provide school lunch, following the guideline.

Companies commissioned by schools plan menus with nutritionists. Some schools have their own nutritionists.

3 France

In France, municipalities determine whether to provide school lunches at kindergartens and elementary schools. For secondary education (lycees, etc.), it is the decision of each school. The national government sets the national criteria for school lunch prices and issues related to nutrition and hygiene.

Many schools have cafeterias, and children can eat their lunch in these cafeterias if they want to. Approximately half of them frequently utilize the cafeterias. Elementary and junior high school students who do not eat lunch at school cafeterias go home to eat lunch. Senior high school students bring their own lunch or eat lunch at nearby cafes or restaurants.

4 Germany

One of the characteristics of the German educational system is the importance it places on "parents" and "households." It is therefore usual in that country for schoolchildren to go home to eat lunch with their families. There are therefore no laws concerning school lunches, and schools do not implement school lunch programs in general.

At present, the federal government is fostering the introduction of full-time schools. Accordingly, some states have established full-time schools, which give classes until late in the afternoon. The establishers of these schools can open school cafes at their own disposal, and students can eat at these cafes at their own cost or at the cost of the school.

5 Republic of Korea (South Korea)

In South Korea, a law concerning school lunches was established in 1981. As of the end of 2003, 99.8% of the country's elementary schools, 95.9% of its junior high schools, and 98.4% of its senior high schools have school lunch programs.

As for menus, the law stipulates that the meals are to comprise rice, three dishes (soup, main dish, and side dish), and dessert such as fruit. Each school (or company commissioned by the school) has nutritionists who plan well-balanced meals according to the school lunch nutrition criteria.

Part 3 Youth Administration in Other Countries

Foreign countries also attribute importance to the promotion of youth education and the sound growth of young people. Accordingly, multifarious measures are implemented for the youth, including those to promote their social participation, occupational education to prevent the unemployment of the youth, and measures to prevent delinquency.

The following shows promotion regimes for youth development measures and other youth-related measures implemented in foreign countries.

1 United States of America (US)

(1) Promotion Regime for Youth Development Measures

There is no single organization that supervises youth administration. Instead, related departments share the role of promoting youth development measures: the Department of Education takes charge of youth education, the Department of Labor implements measures to support the youth in employment and unemployment, and the Department of Health and Human Services gives support to low-income households.

(2) Example of Youth Development Measures: AmeriCorps

US citizens generally conduct volunteer activities as part of their daily lives, and the federal government gives support to young people in conducting volunteer activities.

AmeriCorps is a program established by the USA Freedom Corps, which was founded as a secondary organ of the President's Office in 2002. The USA Freedom Corps supports volunteer activities and local community activities. AmeriCorps provides social activities programs to young people, including caring for the elderly, local community activities, and supporting school classes, and gives young people opportunities to deal with various problems such as the education and literacy problem in poor areas at state organizations.

2 United Kingdom

(1) Promotion Regime for Youth Development Measures

The Department for Education and Skills, established following the restructuring of governmental organizations in 2001, supervises school education, occupational education, and lifelong education, while the Department for Work and Pensions gives employment support, implements unemployment programs, and financially supports low-income groups. In addition, in order to help young people smooth their transition to adulthood and working life, the Department for Education and Skills has an organization called "Connections," which implements measures targeting children aged 13 to 19 in cooperation with the national government and other related organizations.

(2) Example of Youth Development Measures: Youth Service

In the UK, youth workers who have special qualifications for supporting the growth of young people offer consulting services to the youth at such facilities as youth centers and introduce local community activities and job training opportunities to them. These activities are provided as "Youth Service" and they are managed by local governments, private companies, and volunteer organizations. Both the public and private sectors are competing in developing and providing various "Youth Service" programs. At present, most young people utilize "Youth Service" programs.

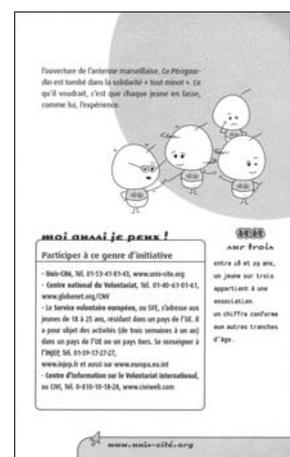
3 France

(1) Promotion Regime for Youth Development Measures

The Ministry for Youth, Sports and Volunteer Associations supervises the extracurricular activities of young people, encourages them to participate in sports and leisure activities on holidays and during vacations, and provides leisure-related information.

(2) Example of Youth Development Measures: Social Participation Guides

The French government attributes importance to young people's participation in social activities. Accordingly, the government started distributing social participation guides in 2003. The guides introduce academic, social, sports, and cultural activities conducted by "associations"¹⁷ (meaning non-profit corporations in French) in order to provide young people with social participation opportunities.



▲ A page from "Envie d'agir" (social participation guide) published by the French government

4 Germany

(1) Promotion Regime for Youth Development Measures

The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth has a unit in charge of youth issues that plans and coordinates comprehensive measures, including the formulation of federal youth plans.

(2) Example of Youth Development Measures: Preventive Education

In Germany, a program called "preventive education" was implemented at extracurricular facilities¹⁸ to provide young people with opportunities to learn how to respect individuals and self-actualize, thereby preventing the youth from dropping out of society.

Specifically, the program educates participants through experience, provides counseling on drugs, facilitates an understanding of other ethnic groups, and promotes international understanding through role-playing.

5 Republic of Korea (South Korea)

(1) Promotion Regime for Youth Development Measures

The Youth Bureau, which is under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, is composed of the Youth Policy Division, Youth Participation Division, and Youth Culture Division. These Divisions implement youth development measures.

(2) Example of Youth Development Measures: Youth Instructors, Youth Counselors

In South Korea, "youth instructors" and "youth counselors" engage in youth development as nationally qualified specialists. "Youth instructors" give instruction to young people as specialists with expertise and skills in cultural and sports fields, including theatrical performance, folklore, screen images, and horse riding. "Youth counselors" are trained to give special counseling on youth issues.

In the country, youth facilities and organizations are mandated to have either "youth instructors" or "youth counselors."

*1 Associations

In France, non-profit corporations called "associations" are actively engaged in a wide range of activities regarding education, sports, leisure, and social issues and contribute to improving the extracurricular activities of young people.

*2 Extracurricular facilities

In Germany, schools traditionally teach social knowledge, while extracurricular facilities, as social education facilities, support individuals in developing themselves. Thus, schools and extracurricular facilities play clearly different roles.