

DotSport Launch Policy

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1. Summary

This Launch Policy sets forth the terms and conditions, which govern .SPORT domain name registrations during its Launch Period.

2. Acceptance of this Launch Policy

This Launch Policy sets forth the terms and conditions which govern .SPORT domain name registrations during its launch period.

a. Application:

By applying to register a .SPORT domain name during the launch period, You agree to be legally bound by:

- This Launch Policy, as well as the .SPORT general Registration Policy available at <https://nic.sport/policies> and hereby incorporated by reference;
- The Registration Agreement provided by the sponsoring Accredited Registrar through which You applied for Your .SPORT domain name; and
- Any other policies mandated by ICANN from time to time.

b. Representation:

You hereby represent and warrant to Us that the statements that You made in Your Registration Agreement with the Accredited Registrar sponsoring Your .SPORT domain name are complete and accurate.

c. Registrant Responsibility:

It is Your sole responsibility to determine whether Your .SPORT domain name registration and use complies with this Launch Policy.

3. Definitions

In this Launch Policy, the following capitalized terms will have the following meaning:

- a. “Accredited Registrar” means an ICANN accredited registrar that has entered into an agreement (“the Registry-Registrar Agreement”) with the Registry Operator and is, therefore, authorized to register names in the .SPORT TLD.
- b. “General Availability” means the general registration period commencing after the launch phases during which available domain names ending with .SPORT will be generally made available to all registrants that are qualified to register domain names under the process described in the .SPORT general Registration Policy.
- c. “General Registration Policy” and/or “Registration Policy” means the last published version of the policy available at the Registry Operator’s website at <https://nic.sport/policies> which governs the registration of all .SPORT domain names.
- d. “ICANN” means the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers.

- e. “Launch Period” means a period of time prior to General Availability, which will start on 4 September 2018 17:00 UTC and will end on 6 November 2018 17:00 UTC.
- f. “Registrant”, “You” and “Your” refers to the individual or entity, which applies or wishes to register a .SPORT domain name with an Accredited Registrar.
- g. “Registry Operator”, “We”, “Us” and “Our” refers to the Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF), as entity responsible for operating the .SPORT TLD.
- h. “TLD” means Top-Level Domain.

4. Eligibility Requirements

To register a .SPORT domain name during the Launch Period, the application must comply with:

- a. The general eligibility requirements and terms of use set forth in the .SPORT Registration Policy.
- b. The specific eligibility requirements set forth in this Launch Policy for each Launch Period category. Specifically, to register and renew a .SPORT domain name, the applicant must be an individual or legal entity, which at the time of registration and thereafter, is able to demonstrate the requirements specified for the priority phase under which the application is being submitted.
- c. This is subject to the further requirement that the Registrant’s actions in the .SPORT community, as well as the registrant’s use of the registered domain name, must be:
 - generally accepted as legitimate; and
 - beneficial to the cause and the values of the .SPORT community; and
 - commensurate with the role and importance of the registered domain name; and in good faith at the time of registration and thereafter.

5. Dates and allocation procedure

- a. Dates:

The Launch Period for .SPORT will start on 4 September 2018 17:00 UTC and will end on 6 November 2018 17:00 UTC: During this Launch Period Applications for all 6 categories will be accepted simultaneously.
- b. Allocation:

Applications during the Launch Period will be allocated at the end of this Launch Period window according to the hierarchy of priority status of each category. Thus, each category will be completely allocated (i.e. accepted, rejected or sent to contention resolution) before any name on the next category is allocated.
- c. Validation:

Each claim of priority will be individually and thoroughly validated by the Registry Operator. Self-declaration will not be sufficient. Specifically, Registrants are required to



state their intended use of the registered domain name. A false statement of intended use is an indication of bad faith and can be the basis for the suspension of the domain name.

Upon registration and during the entire duration of the .SPORT domain name registration the Registrant must be able to demonstrate that the registration meets the eligibility requirements.

Nexus with the .SPORT community is subject to pre or post-validation by way of an extensive compliance program based on the same criteria that form the basis of the TLD. The strength of the validation will be kept in line with the importance of the underlying domain name base on the assumption that an average user would reasonably make in the context of that domain name.

The .SPORT General Registration Policy will apply to all aspects of Your registration not specifically contemplated in this Launch Policy.

6. Overview of Categories

During the Launch Period, the following the following categories are permitted, and will be processed according to the priority ranking status listed below categories are allowed, according to priority status (from top-priority to lesser priority):

Category	Length	Summary
1. Sunrise	From 2018-09-04 17:00 UTC to	End-date Sunrise for trademarks in the Trademark Clearinghouse (“TMCH”) and which are used or commit to be used for sport-related activities. Eligibility under this category is subject to the Terms and Conditions set forth in Section 7 of this Launch Policy.
2. GAISF-recognized Sport Disciplines	2018-11-06 17:00 UTC	Limited Registration Period during which eligible applicants will be allowed to apply from an enumerated (i.e. closed) list of names corresponding to sport disciplines and subdisciplines in English and/or other languages, for example: gymnastics.sport (English), turnen.sport (German), Г И М Н А С Т И К А .sport (Russian), 体操.sport (Japanese), decathlon.sport, motocross.sport
3. Governing Bodies and Public Authorities		Limited Registration Period during which: (i) Federations and other sport Governing Bodies will be allowed to apply for their names, including any clear variations and abbreviations thereof (e.g. acronyms) and other terms in common use to describe them, and (ii) Public Authorities may apply for names which are used or to be used by them for sport-related activities.
4. Clubs and Other Disciplines		Limited Registration Period during which (i) eligible applicants will be allowed to apply for names corresponding to non-GAISF recognized sport disciplines and subdisciplines; and (ii) Sport Clubs affiliated to Sports Federations will be allowed to apply for their names, including any clear variations and abbreviations thereof (e.g. acronyms) and other terms in common use to describe them.
5. Athletes		Limited Registration Period during which licensed athletes will be allowed to apply for their names, including any clear variations and abbreviations thereof (e.g. acronyms) and other terms in common use to refer to them
6. Other Brands, Events, and Corporate Partners		Limited Registration Period during which recognized Sport Events Organizers, sponsors, Right-holders, sports-related media, and other sports-related Corporate Partners will be allowed to apply for (i) their names, including any clear variations and abbreviations thereof (e.g. acronyms); (ii) their brands and events.
General Availability	2019-01-08 17:00 UTC	General registration period commencing after the launch phases during which available domain names ending with .SPORT can be registered on a first-come, first-served basis, under the process described in the .SPORT General Registration Policy.
Trademark Claims Notice Service	From 2019-01-08 17:00 UTC to 2019-04-08 17:00 UTC	Period during which the Accredited Registrar is required to provide notice to all potential domain name registrants who attempt to register a domain name that matches a Trademark Record verified by the Trademark Clearinghouse (“Claims Notice”) and the Trademark Clearinghouse will provide Notice of Registered Names to (“NORNs”) the trademark holders.

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In exceptional cases, the Registry Operator may allocate domain names which do not meet the particular conditions of allocation when the interest of this allocation for the Sport community so justifies.

7. Priority 1 Category: Sunrise

7.1. Sunrise eligibility and Name Selection Requirements

This category is for registered owners, licensees or assignees of trademarks verified by the Trademark Clearinghouse (TMCH).

7.2. Validation

The Registry Operator will only register the domain name applied for insofar and to the extent that:

- 7.2.1. The domain name meets the general eligibility criteria set out in the .SPORT Registration Policy;
- 7.2.2. The domain name corresponds exactly with a trademark validated, upon request of the applicant, by the Trademark Clearinghouse for Sunrise Services;
- 7.2.3. a valid SMD file is submitted at the time of application;
- 7.2.4. the application matches a label contained within the SMD file;
- 7.2.5. the domain name is available.

No other requirements (e.g. trademark jurisdiction, trademark class or local presence) will apply.

7.3. Priority

Applications eligible solely under this Sunrise category will be allocated with priority over any Limited Registration Period. Names falling under this category will be allocated shortly after the end of the Launch Period.

7.4. Contention Resolution within this category

If there is more than one eligible application for the same name, the following criteria will apply:

- 7.4.1. Agreement between contenders (withdrawal and refund of application and possible provision of alternatives);
- 7.4.2. Contention resolution which may lead to a decision:
 - To allocate the name in favor of the winning applicant; or
 - To start an auction process among the contenders, as mechanism of last resort among the contenders, when the Registry Operator cannot decide on a winner; or
 - To not allocate the name at all, when the Registry Operator, at its sole discretion, deems it appropriate to safeguard the public interest behind the .SPORT TLD.

7.5. Duration

This Sunrise Period will last sixty-three (63) calendar days, starting on 2018-09-04 17:00 UTC and ending on 2018-11-06 17:00 UTC.

7.6. Sunrise Dispute Resolution Policy

Allocations and rejections of domain names under this Sunrise Period category will be able to be challenged through the Sunrise Dispute Resolution Policy (“SDRP”) available on the Registry Operator’s website <http://nic.sport/policies>

8. Priority 2 Category: GAISF-recognized Sport Disciplines

8.1. Eligibility and Name Selection Requirements

This category is for eligible applicants to apply for a closed list of names corresponding to GAISF-recognized sport disciplines and subdisciplines in English and/or other languages, for example: gymnastics.sport (English), turnen.sport (German), Г И М Н А С Т И К А .sport (Russian), 体操.sport (Japanese), decathlon.sport, motocross.sport . To be eligible, applicants must have nexus to the discipline or subdiscipline applied for.

The Registry Operator will only register the domain name applied for insofar and to the extent that the domain name:

- 8.1.1.** meets the general eligibility criteria set out in the .SPORT Registration Policy,
- 8.1.2.** complies with the specific eligibility and name selection requirements set forth in this Clause; and
- 8.1.3.** it is available.

8.2. Validation

The .SPORT Registry Operator will validate all applications as only those in the enumerated list of names corresponding to GAISF-recognized sport disciplines and subdisciplines may be allocated under this category.

8.3. Priority

Applications eligible under this category 2 will be allocated with priority over eligible Priority 3, 4, 5, and 6 applications.

If there is more than one eligible application for the same name within this Priority 2 Category, the following criteria will apply:

- 8.3.1.** GAISF members will have priority to the acquisition of the portfolio related to their discipline;
- 8.3.2.** If GAISF members do not take “their” portfolio, they will have priority to acquire individual names related to their disciplines.
- 8.3.3.** Other governing bodies may apply for individual domain names but in case of contention, GAISF members will have priority.

Names not allocated during this phase may be available in next phase (Priority 3 Category: Governing Bodies and Public Authorities), for other governing bodies and authorities.

8.4. Contention Resolution within this category

If there is more than one eligible application for the same name, the resolution of the contention will be decided via a Contention Resolution Process as detailed in Section 7.c of the .SPORT general Registration Policy available on the Registry Operator's website at <http://nic.sport/policies>.

8.5. Duration

The period to submit applications under this category will last sixty-three (63) calendar days, starting on 2018-09-04 17:00 UTC and ending on 2018-11-06 17:00 UTC.

9. Priority 3 Category: Governing Bodies and Public Authorities

9.1. Eligibility and Name Selection Requirements

Limited Registration Period during which:

- 9.1.1.** Federations and other sport Governing Bodies will be allowed to apply for their names, including any clear variations and abbreviations thereof (e.g. acronyms) and other terms in common use to describe them, and
- 9.1.2.** Public Authorities may apply for names which are used or will be used by them for sport-related activities.

9.2. Validation

Either the Registry Operator or its specialized agents will individually and thoroughly validate applications under this category. Registry Operator may request additional information to the applicant to validate requests such as, among others, proof of identity, proof of involvement with sport activities, or commitment to get involved in such activities, when applicable.

9.3. Priority

Applications eligible under this category 3 will be allocated with priority over eligible Priority 4, 5, and 6 applications.

9.4. Contention Resolution within this category

If there is more than one application for the same name within this Priority 3 Category, the following order of allocation will be applied:

- 9.4.1.** Names pertaining to International, Continental, Regional, National, Local Federations;
- 9.4.2.** Names pertaining to other International Sports-related Governing Bodies;
- 9.4.3.** Names pertaining to Public Authorities for their geographic names in relation to sports event.

If there is more than one eligible application for the same name within sub-categories 9.4.1, 9.4.2 or 9.4.3, the following criteria will apply:

- a) Agreement between contenders (withdrawal and refund of application and possible provision of alternatives);
- b) Mediation and arbitration (if all contenders agree); or
- c) If contender parties do not agree on any of the above contention-resolution mechanism, or such method provides no resolution of the contention, the name will remain non-allocated or reserved by the Registry Operator, at its sole discretion. Registry Operator may offer contenders possibilities for joint usage if deemed appropriate.

9.5. Duration

The period to submit applications under this category will last sixty-three (63) calendar days, starting on 2018-09-04 17:00 UTC and ending on 2018-11-06 17:00 UTC.

10. Priority 4 Category: Clubs and Other Disciplines

10.1. Eligibility and Name Selection Requirements

Limited Registration Period during which:

- 10.1.1.** Eligible applicants will be allowed to apply for names corresponding to non-GAISF recognized sport disciplines and subdisciplines; and
- 10.1.2.** Sport clubs affiliated to Sport Federations will be allowed to apply for their names, including any clear variations and abbreviations thereof (e.g. acronyms) and other terms in common use to describe them.

10.2. Validation

Either the Registry Operator or its specialized agents will individually and thoroughly validate applications under this category. Registry Operator may request additional information to the applicant to validate requests such as, among others, proof of identity or proof of involvement with sport activities or events, when applicable.

10.3. Priority

Applications eligible under this Priority 4 Category will be allocated with priority over eligible Priority 5 and 6 applications. Names falling under this category will be allocated shortly after the end of the Launch Period but will be kept in serverHold status until the first week of 2019.

10.4. Contention Resolution within this category

If there is more than one application for the same name within this Priority 4 Category, the following order will be applied:

- 10.4.1.** Names of non-GAISF recognized sport disciplines and subdisciplines;
- 10.4.2.** Names pertaining to sport clubs taking part in international-level championships;
- 10.4.3.** Names pertaining to other sport clubs.

If there is more than one eligible application for the same name within sub-categories 10.4.1, 10.4.2 or 10.4.3, the following criteria will apply:

- a) Agreement between contenders (withdrawal and refund of application and possible provision of alternatives); or
- b) Auction, as mechanism of last resort.

Without prejudice to the above, when the Registry Operator deems it appropriate to safeguard the public interest behind the .SPORT TLD, the name will remain non-allocated or reserved by the Registry Operator, at its sole discretion. Registry Operator may offer contenders possibilities for joint usage if deemed appropriate.

10.5. Duration

The period to submit applications under this category will last sixty-three (63) calendar days, starting on 2018-09-04 17:00 UTC and ending on 2018-11-06 17:00 UTC.

11. Priority 5 Category: Athletes

11.1. Eligibility and Name Selection Requirements

Limited Registration Period during which licensed athletes will be allowed to apply for their names, including any clear variations and abbreviations thereof (e.g. acronyms) and other terms in common use to refer to them.

11.2. Validation

Either the Registry Operator or its specialized agents will individually and thoroughly validate applications under this category. Registry Operator may request additional information to the applicant to validate requests such as, among others, proof of identity of the athlete, sport license status, etc.

11.3. Priority

Applications eligible under this Priority 5 Category will be allocated with priority over eligible Priority 6 applications. Names falling under this category will be allocated shortly after the end of the Launch Period but will be kept in serverHold status until the first week of 2019.

11.4. Contention Resolution within this category

If there is more than one eligible application for the same name, following contention resolution criteria will apply:

- a) Agreement between contenders (withdrawal and refund of application and possible provision of alternatives); or
- b) Auction, as mechanism of last resort.

Without prejudice to the above, when the Registry Operator deems it appropriate to safeguard the public interest behind the .SPORT TLD, the name will remain non-allocated or reserved by the Registry Operator, at its sole discretion. Registry Operator may offer contenders possibilities for joint usage if deemed appropriate.

11.5. Duration

The period to submit applications under this category will last sixty-three (63) calendar days, starting on 2018-09-04 17:00 UTC and ending on 2018-11-06 17:00 UTC.

12. Priority 6 Category: Other Brands, Events, and Corporate Partners

12.1. Eligibility and Name Selection Requirements

Limited Registration Period during which recognized Sport Events Organizers, sponsors, Right-holders, sports-related media, and other sports-related Corporate Partners will be allowed to apply for:

- 12.1.1.** Their names, including any clear variations and abbreviations thereof (e.g. acronyms);
- 12.1.2.** Their brands; and
- 12.1.3.** Names related to sport events.

12.2. Validation

Either the Registry Operator or its specialized agents will individually and thoroughly validate applications under this category. Registry Operator may request additional information to the applicant to validate requests such as, among others, proof of identity, proof of a valid trademark, relationship to the sport event, etc.

12.3. Priority

Applications eligible under this Priority 6 Category will be allocated with priority over eligible names that may be received in the General Availability period. Names falling under this category will be allocated shortly after the end of the Launch Period but will be kept in serverHold status until the first week of 2019.

12.4. Contention Resolution within this category

If there is more than one application for the same name within category, the following order will be applied:

- 12.4.1.** Names related to sport events
- 12.4.2.** Names pertaining to recognized sport events organizers
- 12.4.3.** Names pertaining to sponsors
- 12.4.4.** Names pertaining to rights-holders, sports-related media, and other sports-related Corporate Partners

If there is more than one eligible application for the same name within sub-categories 12.4.1, 12.4.2 or 12.4.3, 12.4.4 the following contention resolution criteria will apply:

- a) Agreement between contenders (withdrawal and refund of application and possible provision of alternatives); or
- b) Auction, as mechanism of last resort.

Without prejudice to the above, when the Registry Operator deems it appropriate to safeguard the public interest behind the .SPORT TLD, the name will remain non-allocated or reserved by the Registry Operator, at its sole discretion. Registry Operator may offer contenders possibilities for joint usage if deemed appropriate.

12.5. Duration

The period to submit applications under this category will last sixty-three (63) calendar days, starting on 2018-06-04 17:00 UTC and ending on 2018-11-06 17:00 UTC.

13. Compliance with eligibility and name selection requirements

The Registry Operator may reject, revoke or delete at any time any application or resulting registration of a domain name if it appears that the applicant did not fulfil any of the eligibility and/or name selection requirements required for each of the above categories. In such cases the applicant or Registrant will not be entitled to any reimbursement or compensation as a result of such rejection, revocation or deletion.