

Name of the Initiative: Sports for Climate Action

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Date, month and year of the document created: 21 May 2026

I. Net zero commitment criteria for its signatory entities aligned with the 1.5 oC pathway under the Paris Agreement, verified by an independent third party

10. This document must, as a minimum, include the following information regarding the net zero commitment criteria applied by the Initiative to its signatory entities:

a. Alignment of the criteria with the long-term goal of the Paris Agreement, and the resolve to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C, clearly outlining approaches to interim targets:

Signatories commit to establish near term targets covering 50 percent absolute Scope 1, Scope 2 and, where material, Scope 3 emissions, as defined by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Standard by 2030.

By 2030, signatories shall achieve substantial absolute GHG emissions reductions aligned with a 1.5°C pathway, using a baseline year no earlier than 2019. Signatories shall also commit to achieving net zero GHG emissions across their value chain no later than 2040, prioritising deep emissions reductions and addressing residual emissions in line with recognised best practice.

b. Follow-up approaches taken by the Initiative to its signatories regarding their net zero commitments;

A fundamental requirement for all signatories will be public commitment and public transparency and report of their plans and progress on an annual basis, based on practices set by the UN Climate Change.

The UN Climate Change secretariat will facilitate the work by: (b) Maintaining a list of signatories and their participation in shared activities;

c. Compliance mechanism applied by the Initiative to its signatories, including the removal of non-compliant signatories;

In order to ensure the quality and credibility of the work of the signatories of the Sports for Climate Action Initiative, the UN Climate Change secretariat, may exclude an organization from the list of signatories if its sincerity in participation or ability to participate is a cause for concern.

d. Any other approaches to exclusion for any entity not meeting the criteria of the Initiative;

Organising an annual in-person meeting with all signatories to take stock of progress; share lessons learned, and discuss and agree on work to be done in the next year. Leads of shared activities will be invited to host the meeting on a rotational basis and attendees will bear their own costs of attendance;

e. Established standards, and/or methodologies required to be applied by its signatories for their net zero commitments, GHG accounting and/or climate action disclosure;

Principle 1:

A net-zero plan refers to a comprehensive strategy designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero. The plan should reduce impacts across operations and the value chain. Organisations must commit at their highest executive level to set measurable, time bound greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets consistent with the prevailing scientific consensus. Signatories commit to establish near term targets covering 50 percent absolute Scope 1, Scope 2 and, where material, Scope 3 emissions, as defined by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Standard by 2030.

Targets should be developed and, where applicable, validated in accordance with leading standard setting initiatives. Organisations need to measure, address and report their GHG emissions within their own operational control and value chain. For GHG accounting purposes, this includes “Scope 1” emissions created directly by the organization, “Scope 2” emissions created by the use of 3rd party energy sources like grid electricity and Scope 3 value chain emissions that are embedded within its upstream and downstream activities, including goods and services, staff and business travel, and waste disposal. For professional sports organisations, this should include the impacts of wider membership, of athlete and fan travel as well as the impacts of specific events. Similarly for grassroots organisations they should include travel of participants and fans.

f. Frequency of disclosure of relevant data, including GHG inventories, required by the Initiative to its signatories;

Objectives:

A fundamental requirement for all signatories will be public commitment and public transparency and report of their plans and progress on an annual basis, based on practices set by the UN Climate Change.

g. Source and origin of GHG emissions from the entity required to be covered in the net zero commitment;

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emissions created by the use of 3rd party energy sources like grid electricity and Scope 3 value chain emissions that are embedded within its upstream and downstream activities, including goods and services, staff and business travel, and waste disposal. For professional sports organisations, this should include the impacts of wider membership, of athlete and fan travel as well as the impacts of specific events. Similarly for grassroots organisations they should include travel of participants and fans.

h. Types of GHG required to be covered in the net zero commitment;

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Added for reference only, those defined by Kyoto Protocol and used by GHG Protocol:

“The targets shall cover all relevant emissions of the seven GHGs as required by the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard. The seven GHGs are carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃).”

i. Timeframe of the net zero commitment;

No later than 2040

j. Interim targets required to be established along with the net zero commitment;

Principle 1: Signatories commit to establish near term targets covering 50 percent absolute Scope 1, Scope 2 and, where material, Scope 3 emissions, as defined by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Standard by 2030.

By 2030, signatories shall achieve substantial absolute GHG emissions reductions aligned with a 1.5°C pathway, using a baseline year no earlier than 2019. Signatories shall also commit to achieving net zero GHG emissions across their value chain no later than 2040, prioritising deep emissions reductions and addressing residual emissions in line with recognised best practice

k. Use of carbon market approaches in achieving interim and long-term targets; and

The Framework supports addressing residual emissions as part of net-zero strategies, but it does not explicitly reference or define the use of carbon market approaches such as offsets or credits.

l. Treatment of residual emissions;

Principle 1: Signatories shall also commit to achieving net zero GHG emissions across their value chain no later than 2040, prioritising deep emissions reductions and addressing residual emissions in line with recognised best practice