
CHAPTER 385**SPORTS****ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

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CHAPTER 385

SPORTS

An Act to make better provision for development and encouragement of sporting activities in The Bahamas.

77 *cf* 1963
8 *cf* 1970
E L A O , 1974

[Assent 20th December, 1963]
[Commencement 7th January, 1964]

1. This Act may be cited as the Sports Act.

Short title.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —
“Minister” means the Minister responsible for Sports and Recreation.

Interpretation.
8 *cf* 1970

3. (1) For the purpose of acquiring land and any other property in pursuance of this Act, the Minister for the time being shall be a corporation sole by the name of the Minister for Sport, or such other style and title as the Governor-General may from time to time assign to him, and all property transferred to him by this Act or which otherwise becomes vested in him shall be held by him in trust for Her Majesty in right of Her Government of The Bahamas for the purposes of this Act.

Minister
corporation sole.
E L A O , 1974

(2) Upon and by virtue of the appointment of any person to be the Minister having the responsibility for the administration of this Act, the benefit of all deeds, contracts, bonds, securities and things in action vested in his predecessor at the time of his predecessor ceasing to hold office shall be transferred to and vested in and enure for the benefit of the person so appointed in the same manner as if he had been contracted with instead of his predecessor and as if his name had been inserted in all such deeds, contracts, bonds or securities instead of the name of his predecessor.

4. (1) The Bahamas Sports Commission as established by law shall be dissolved by the Governor-General by notice in the *Gazette* with effect from such date as may be specified in such notice, not being more than one month after the coming into operation of this Act.

Dissolution of
the Bahamas
Sports
Commission.

(2) Upon the dissolution of the said Commission all its property of whatever kind shall thereupon be transferred to and vested in the Minister.

Duties and
powers of the
Minister

5. The Minister shall have the duty of developing the property vested in him for sporting purposes and of encouraging, managing and controlling such sports as can be pursued thereon and to that end shall have power to erect buildings and structures, landscape grounds and generally do all such things as may be necessary or desirable for the creation and the carrying on of sports grounds, stadiums and other similar undertakings or buildings in furtherance of sports for the benefit of the general public.

Finance

6. The Minister shall be responsible for disbursing such sums as may be appropriated from time to time by Parliament for the purposes of this Act and, in addition, may receive donations, raise funds by such lawful means as he sees fit to adopt and charge admission fees for entry upon sports grounds, stadiums and the like and fix and collect other charges for the use of any facilities afforded by him or any property vested in him.

Recognition of
sports
associations
8 cf 1970, s 4

7. (1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, the Minister may by instrument in writing recognise any association as being the association officially representative of the interests of persons practising any particular sport in The Bahamas.

(2) Before recognising any association under subsection (1) of this section, the Minister shall satisfy himself that the association —

- (a) by virtue of its membership may properly be considered to be representative of the majority of clubs engaging in the particular sport; and
- (b) by its constitution —
 - (i) has as its primary object the encouragement and fostering of the sport;
 - (ii) has as its members only clubs, represented by their nominees, practising the sport, and requires no other qualification for membership; and

(iii) is controlled by a governing body the members of which are elected in the prescribed manner, at such intervals as the Minister may approve, from among the members of the association.

(3) The Minister may at any time cancel any instrument made under subsection (1) of this section by virtue of which any association is granted recognition if it appears to him that that association no longer satisfies any requirement of paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection (2) of this section.

(4) The Minister shall, as he thinks fit, consult with the associations recognised by him under this section in the exercise of his functions from time to time under this Act.

(5) Before making any rules under paragraph (d) of section 10 relating to any particular sport the Minister shall consult with the recognised association, if any, for that sport.

8. The Minister shall have power to name different parts of any immovable property vested in him as developed from time to time in honour of persons who have made donations or who have made special contribution by time and effort to such development either generally or in some particular respect or who are outstanding Bahamian sportsmen or sportswomen.

Power to commemorate persons

9. The Minister shall lay upon the Table of each House of Parliament before the end of March, or as soon as practicable thereafter, in every year a report dealing with the discharge of his responsibilities and duties under this Act, a description of immovable property vested in him and its condition and a statement of audited accounts for the previous year.

Report

ELAO, 1974

10. The Minister may make rules —

Rules

(a) prescribing anything required to be prescribed under this Act;

8 cf 1970, s 5

(b) providing for the renting to sports associations (whether at nominal or commercial rents) of land or other property vested in the Minister for sporting purposes, and regulating the terms and conditions on which any such land or property may be so rented.

8 cf 1970, s 5

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- (c) to provide for the fixing of and collection of charges for admission or for the use of facilities or both either generally or in respect of any particular matter;
 - (d) to provide for the administrative control or regulation of any particular sport or recreation and entries therein or in respect of any particular development or stadium or building or ground;
 - (e) generally for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act.