



Deutscher Bundestag

The Sports Committee

Sportausschuss
Informationen in englischer Sprache



New
2023
version
20th electoral term



“A good framework for high-performance sport is a prerequisite for success. The German Bundestag makes funding available for sport, including to ensure the right structures are in place, to enable athletes to train and compete, and to fund staff in high-performance sport. It therefore engages in a regular dialogue with all stakeholders in sport, especially sports federations and clubs, and the Federal Government. However, it is also important to hear athletes' voices and consider their views in discussions on sports policy, as they are at the heart of the sports funding system.”



Frank Ullrich, SPD
Chairman of the Sports Committee

The German Bundestag's decisions are prepared by its committees, which are established at the start of each electoral term. Four of them are stipulated by the Basic Law, the German constitution: the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Defence Committee, the Committee on European Union Affairs and the Petitions Committee.

The Budget Committee and the Committee for the Scrutiny of Elections, Immunity and the Rules of Procedure are also required by law. The spheres of responsibility of the committees essentially reflect the Federal Government's distribution of ministerial portfolios. This enables Parliament to scrutinise the government's work effectively.

The committees of the German Bundestag

The German Bundestag sets political priorities of its own by establishing additional committees for specific subjects, such as sport, cultural affairs, human rights or tourism. In addition, special bodies such as parliamentary advisory councils, committees of inquiry or study commissions can also be established. The committees are composed of members of all the parliamentary groups, reflecting the balance of these groups in the German Bundestag. The distribution of the chairs and deputy chairs among the parliamentary groups also reflects their relative strengths in the plenary. In the current electoral term, the committees have between 19 and 49 members.

The committees discuss and deliberate on items referred to them by the plenary. They also have the right to take up issues on their own initiative, allowing them to set priorities in the parliamentary debate. When necessary, they draw on external expertise – usually by holding public hearings. At the end of a committee's deliberations – especially on bills and motions for which it is the lead committee – it adopts a recommendation for a decision and a report, which serve as the basis for the plenary's decision.

For more than 50 years, the Sports Committee has been examining sports-policy issues, especially all aspects of high-performance sport. After first being established in 1969 as a “Special Committee on Sport and the Olympic Games”, it soon became a permanent committee with the core aim of promoting high-performance sport in Germany. Many areas of Germany’s sports system benefit from the sports funding made

The Sports Committee

available by the German Bundestag. This is very important for athletes, the sports federations and the structures of high-performance sport. However, sport also has wider implications for society as a whole that go far beyond elite sporting achievements. Away from large arenas and rankings, sport and exercise are an important part of a healthy lifestyle. Every exceptional performance in a major national or international sporting event can ultimately be traced back to one of the

countless sports clubs across Germany and the instruction provided by their dedicated volunteers. Like all Bundestag committees, the Sports Committee also helps to ensure parliamentary scrutiny of the Federal Government. Sports policy is primarily the responsibility of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community, which can rely on a constructive partner in the Sports Committee.

6		SPD
5		CDU/CSU
3		Alliance 90/The Greens
2		FDP
2		AfD
1		The Left Party

Number of members: 19

Chairman: Frank Ullrich, SPD

Deputy Chairman: Philip Krämer, Alliance 90/The Greens

The Federal Government's sports policy and the interests of sports federations are subjected to constructive and, when necessary, critical scrutiny by the Committee – but in the best interests of sport. Through its Sports Committee, the Bundestag sends a signal in support of sport in Germany, and ensures that sports policy is firmly rooted in the parliamentary consciousness. While sport is a policy field in its own right, it also touches on issues such as health, edu-

cation, the environment, youth and family affairs, economic and social issues, and even foreign policy, and so it influences many areas of society. There are numerous documents for the Committee members to read, experts to consult and recommendations to draw up. Sports policy also has a growing international dimension. Discussions about the award criteria for major sporting events or the

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**Ausschussvorsitz 5 237
Sekretariateleitung 5 240**



subject of “sport and human rights” take centre stage at the latest when high-profile international sporting events are awarded to host countries which have a lot of ground to make up in these fundamental areas. It is therefore important to engage in dialogue with international sports federations and stakeholders. Not all topics are in the public spotlight to the same extent as the usually glittering world of high-performance sport. At its meetings, the Sports Committee covers the whole spectrum of sports-policy issues in

Germany: from the work carried out by volunteers in local clubs, to the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and from sport for children and young people, to sport for people with disabilities, to exercise programmes for the older generation.

And so the 19 members of the Sports Committee, chaired by Frank Ullrich (SPD), see it as their task to look at sport in all its variety and significance.



Sport in Germany

Sport is important to society in many different ways. Sport and exercise are among the most popular leisure activities in Germany: across the country, there are more than 90,000 sports clubs with around 27 million members. The values that sport embodies, such as performance, fairness, team spirit and tolerance, are incredibly important and contribute to the common good.

Promoting high-performance sport and engaging in dialogue with the stakeholders in Germany's sports system are among the Sports Committee's core tasks. Top athletes – those with and those without disabilities alike – need a framework which ena-

bles them to focus on their sporting career. Talent, motivation and commitment are in the hands of the individual. However, it is also important to create an optimal framework in which athletes can concentrate on their sporting performance, and the Sports Committee plays a part in this. To be successful, elite sportsmen and women in Germany need adequate sports and training facilities, Olympic and federal training centres, and qualified staff. Sports medicine support services and post-retirement career planning are also important factors. As well as this practical side, theory also has a key role to play: Germany has outstanding centres of research and development specialising in sports science. They must be linked and supported in order to secure a high standard in elite sport.

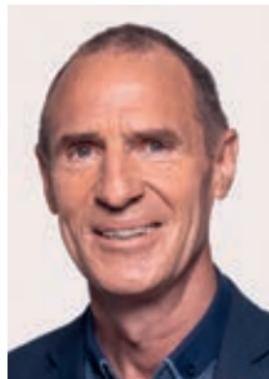


The foundations for top sporting achievements are laid many years earlier at local sports clubs, where people begin to exercise and learn the fundamentals of their sport, and where talent is discovered and nurtured. People also acquire social skills, learn to abide by the rules, and win respect and recognition in both victory and defeat. Promoting grassroots sport is a matter for the *Länder* (federal states) and municipalities, but of course the Sports Committee is keen to ensure a good working relationship across these boundaries. For example, by supporting volunteer work, the German Bundestag's legislation can bring about improvements for the many people who volunteer with clubs and associations – in sport and beyond – and who are the bedrock of the entire system.

An active lifestyle has positive impacts for individuals, and sports clubs contribute to social cohesion. In addition to the German Bundestag's financial assistance for sport in Germany, the members of the Sports Committee therefore also support sport in other ways and voice their immense appreciation for local sports clubs across the country.



Frank Ullrich,
SPD
Chairman
Sports teacher, trainer,
b. 24 Jan. 1958
in Trusetal.
Bundestag Member
since 2021



Philip Krämer,
Alliance 90/The Greens
Deputy Chairman,
Alliance 90/The Greens
group coordinator
Manager in the cultural
sector,
b. 29 Feb. 1992
in Frankfurt am Main.
Bundestag Member
since 2021



Committee members

The 19 members of the Sports Committee

Sabine Poschmann,
SPD
Parliamentary-group
coordinator
Business administrator,
regional manager,
b. 4 Oct. 1968
in Castrop-Rauxel.
Bundestag Member
since 2013



Fritz Güntzler,
CDU/CSU
Parliamentary-group
coordinator
Accountant, tax adviser,
b. 6 May 1966
in Cuxhaven.
Bundestag Member
since 2013



Philipp Hartewig,
FDP
Parliamentary-group
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Lawyer,
b. 5 Oct. 1994
in Chemnitz.
Bundestag Member
since 2021



Jörn König,
AfD
Parliamentary-group
coordinator
Engineer, business
administrator,
b. 29 Oct. 1967
in Berlin.
Bundestag Member
since 2017



Dr André Hahn,
The Left Party
Parliamentary-group
coordinator
Teacher,
b. 20 Apr. 1963
in Berlin.
Bundestag Member
since 2013



Jasmina Hostert,
SPD
Political scientist,
b. 3 Dec. 1982
in Sarajevo (Bosnia and
Herzegovina).
Bundestag Member
since 2021



Bettina Lugk,
SPD
Geoscientist, public
administration
specialist,
b. 3 Feb. 1982.
Bundestag Member
since 2021



Christian Schreider,
SPD
Lawyer,
b. 22 Dec. 1971
in Worms.
Bundestag Member
since 2021



Dr Herbert Wollmann,
SPD
Doctor,
b. 14 Jan. 1951
in Berlin.
Bundestag Member
since 2021



Jens Lehmann,
CDU/CSU
Childcare worker,
b. 19 Dec. 1967
in Stolberg (Harz).
Bundestag Member
since 2017



Stephan Mayer,
CDU/CSU
Lawyer,
b. 15 Dec. 1973
in Burghausen.
Bundestag Member
since 2002



Johannes Steiniger,
CDU/CSU
Academic secondary
school teacher,
b. 18 June 1987
in Bad Dürkheim.
Bundestag Member
since 2013



Dieter Stier,
CDU/CSU
Agricultural specialist,
b. 29 June 1964
in Weißenfels.
Bundestag Member
since 2009



Marcel Emmerich,
Alliance 90/The Greens
Research assistant,
b. 12 May 1991
in Reutlingen.
Bundestag Member
since 2021



Tina Winklmann,
Alliance 90/The Greens
Process mechanic,
b. 26 Feb. 1980 in
Weiden i. d. Oberpfalz.
Bundestag Member
since 2021



Bernd Reuther,
FDP
Senior employee, social
scientist,
b. 1 May 1971 in Wesel.
Bundestag Member
since 2017



Klaus Stöber,
AfD
Tax adviser,
b. 11 Sep. 1961
in Eisenach.
Bundestag Member
since 2021



Information online

The Sports Committee
www.bundestag.de/en/committees/a05



Website for downloading and ordering
the German Bundestag's information materials
www.btg-bestellservice.de



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The German Bundestag takes decisions on what are at times highly complex and controversial bills and parliamentary initiatives relating to the entire spectrum of policy fields. The committees play a central role in parliamentary deliberations. They are the forum where the Members thrash out compromises and draw on expert advice before submitting their reports and recommendations for decisions to be voted on by the Bundestag as a whole.

www.bundestag.de/en/committees



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