



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5422



Introduced by Representative Jernie Jett V. Nisay

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The proposed Philippine National Games (PNG) Act seeks to institutionalize a national grassroots sports program that strengthens the development of Filipino athletes from the local to the international level. Recognizing the constitutional mandate under Article XIV, Section 19(1) to promote physical education, amateur sports, and training for international competitions, this bill establishes the PNG as the country's premier national sports competition. It serves as a structured platform for talent identification, athlete development, and preparation for elite sports, including participation in international competitions such as the Southeast Asian Games, Asian Games, and Olympics.

The bill outlines a comprehensive framework for the governance, management, and operationalization of the PNG, including the creation of the PNG Board and its Secretariat. The Board is responsible for formulating policies, coordinating with Local Sports Councils (LSCs), National Sports Associations (NSAs), government agencies, and local government units (LGUs), as well as ensuring alignment between local, national, and international sports standards.¹ The Palarong Pambansa and other local competitions serve as feeder systems to the PNG, thereby promoting an integrated pipeline from grassroots to elite levels.

To ensure inclusivity and broad participation, the Act enumerates the official sports events in the PNG, ranging from traditional and Olympic sports to emerging disciplines such as esports. The law also clarifies the roles and responsibilities of involved agencies, including the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), DepEd, CHED, LGUs, and the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC), as well as the mechanisms for athlete selection, eligibility, and representation. Local government units are required to organize LSCs, promote local competitions, and support athlete development at the community level.²

The enactment of the Philippine National Games Act ensures a sustainable, integrated, and inclusive national sports program that strengthens grassroots

¹ Philippine Sports Commission. (2013). Palarong Pambansa Act of 2013 (RA 10588). <https://www.psc.gov.ph>
² Department of the Interior and Local Government. (2020). Guidelines for LGU Participation in National Sports Programs. <https://www.dilg.gov.ph>
³ World Bank. (2018). Sports for development: Policies and programs in the Philippines. World Bank Group. <https://www.worldbank.org>

1 development while enhancing the country's competitiveness in international sports. By
2 providing funding, structured governance, and clear operational guidelines, the
3 proposed bill promotes excellence, discipline, and teamwork among Filipino athletes,
4 contributing to nation-building and the holistic development of a healthy, skilled, and
5 competitive citizenry.³

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Pusong Pinoy Partylist



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AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL GAMES AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Philippine National Games Act”.

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – – Article XIV, Section 19 (1) of the Constitution provides that the State shall promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry. Pursuant thereto, it is incumbent upon the State to institutionalize a genuine comprehensive national grassroots sports program.

SEC. 3. The Philippine National Games. – There is hereby created a national grassroots sports program, hereinafter referred to as the Philippine National Games, which shall serve as the country’s premier national sports competition and platform for the nationwide talent search in identifying and developing outstanding athletes who have the potential to excel in various sports, and place the country at the forefront of international sports competitions.

1 **SEC. 4. Objectives.** – The objectives of the Philippine National Games (PNG)
2 are as follows:

- 3 (a) To provide a framework and structure for a truly integrated and
4 comprehensive national sports program linking grassroots sports
5 promotion to elite sports development;
- 6 (b) To serve as the government’s premier national sports competition to be
7 held once every two years;
- 8 (c) To encourage all local government units (LGUs) to promote the
9 development of sports in the countryside covering all provinces, cities,
10 municipalities, and barangays;
- 11 (d) To serve as a venue for the National Sports Associations (NSAs) in
12 promoting their respective sports programs at the grassroots level
13 providing the necessary linkages with LGUs;
- 14 (e) To serve as a feeder program for the pool of student-athletes who shall
15 be given priority in the grant of full scholarship on secondary education
16 program at the National Academy of Sports; and
- 17 (f) To widen the base for talent identification, selection, and recruitment of
18 athletes who shall constitute the national pool to be trained for
19 international sports competitions.

20
21 **SEC. 5. Preparatory Sports Program.** – The Palarong Pambansa provided for
22 under Republic Act No.10588, otherwise known as the “Palarong Pambansa Act of
23 2013”, and other local sports competitions organized by the LGUs or the private sector
24 shall serve as the feeder system for the recruitment of athletes in various sports and
25 the preparatory sports program for the PNG.

26
27 **SEC. 6. Establishment of the PNG Board.** – A PNG Board, hereinafter referred
28 to as the “Board”, is hereby created as the lead policy-making and coordinating body
29 for the preparation and conduct of the PNG.

30
31 The members of the Board shall be entitled to reimbursement of actual traveling
32 and other expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members
33 thereof, subject to pertinent laws, rules and regulations.

1 **SEC. 7. Membership of the Board.** – The Board shall have seven (7) members
2 composed of the following:
3

4 **SEC. 8. Functions and Duties of the Board.** – The Board shall perform the
5 following functions and duties:

- 6 (a) To formulate policies and guidelines that shall govern the conduct of the
7 PNG, and the relationships among the organizations involved;
- 8 (b) To form an Executive Committee which shall be headed by a
9 Secretary General in-charge for the day-to-day operations of the PNG;
- 10 (c) To recognize the Local Sports Councils (LSCs) that shall be given
11 authority to select the athletes and teams qualified to join in the PNG;
- 12 (d) To assign the venue and set the schedule of the PNG;
- 13 (e) To determine the sports to be included in the PNG, in addition to the list
14 of mandatory sports enumerated under Section 10 of this Act;
- 15 (f) To establish an advisory council composed of public and private
16 individuals, organizations or entities necessary for the success of the
17 PNG;
- 18 (g) To create the National Screening and Accreditation Committee;
- 19 (h) To identify the regional or cluster qualifying competitions, including the
20 qualifying standards, consistent with the rules of the respective NSAs;
- 21 (i) To develop and recommend programs and policies that shall promote the
22 PNG and ensure the support of the LGUs in the conduct of the PNG as
23 the country's premier sports event;
- 24 (j) To establish a mediation body, including its rules and procedures, to
25 resolve disputes related to the conduct of the PNG;
- 26 (k) To provide incentives and rewards to host LGU and winning LSCs;
- 27 (l) To enter into contracts or obligations essential for the accomplishment of
28 its purposes and objectives;
- 29 (m) To assess the conduct of the PNG and submit an annual report to
30 Congress; and
- 31 (n) To exercise such other functions as may be necessary for the effective
32 implementation of this Act.

1 **SEC. 9. Secretary General.** – The Chairperson of the PSC shall serve as the
2 Secretary General of the PNG.

3
4 The Secretary General shall recommend to the Board the composition of the
5 PNG Secretariat and all the activities undertaken by the latter, including the utilization
6 of funds for the preparation, organization and conduct of the PNG. The Secretariat,
7 which shall come from the existing personnel of the PSC, the DILG, the DepEd, and
8 the POC shall directly manage the conduct of the PNG.

9
10 **SEC. 10. Sports Events.** – The official sports in the PNG shall include the
11 following:

- 12 (1) Aquatics
- 13 (2) Archery
- 14 (3) Arnis
- 15 (4) Athletics
- 16 (5) Badminton
- 17 (6) Baseball
- 18 (7) Basketball
- 19 (8) Billiard and Snookers
- 20 (9) Bowling
- 21 (10) Boxing
- 22 (11) Canoe-Kayak
- 23 (12) Chess
- 24 (13) Cycling
- 25 (14) Dancesport
- 26 (15) Esports
- 27 (16) Fencing
- 28 (17) Floorball
- 29 (18) Football
- 30 (19) Futsal
- 31 (20) Golf
- 32 (21) Gymnastics
- 33 (22) Handball
- 34 (23) Hockey

1	(24)	Jiu-Jitsu
2	(25)	Judo
3	(26)	Karate
4	(27)	Lawn Tennis
5	(28)	Modern Pentathlon
6	(29)	Muay Thai
7	(30)	Pencak Silat
8	(31)	Petanque
9	(32)	Rowing
10	(33)	Rugby
11	(34)	Sailing
12	(35)	Sambo
13	(36)	Sepak Takraw
14	(37)	Shooting
15	(38)	Skateboarding
16	(39)	Softball
17	(40)	Soft Tennis
18	(41)	Squash
19	(42)	Surfing
20	(43)	Swimming
21	(44)	Table Tennis
22	(45)	Taekwondo
23	(46)	Tennis
24	(47)	Triathlon
25	(48)	Volleyball
26	(49)	Weightlifting
27	(50)	Wrestling
28	(51)	Wushu

29

30 *Provided*, That the sports to be played in the PNG shall be aligned with the sports
31 participated in by the Philippines in the Southeast Asian Games, Asian Games,
32 Olympics and other mandatory international sports competitions, including para games:
33 *Provided*, further, That mandatory sports events in the Olympic and Paralympic Games
34 shall, as far as practicable, be included in the PNG, subject to the availability of sports

1 facilities and venues of the host LGU: Provided, finally, That the host LGU may
2 recommend local sports to promote and showcase its socioeconomic and cultural
3 uniqueness through the PNG.

4
5 **SEC. 11. Roles of Concerned Agencies.** – The following government agencies,
6 instrumentalities and entities shall be tasked to perform the following roles and
7 responsibilities:

8
9 (1) PSC- It shall:

- 10 (a) Carry out the overall management, coordination and implementation of
11 the PNG;
12 (b) Provide manpower, technical resources and sports facilities; and
13 (c) Perform other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the
14 Board.

15
16 (2) DILG- It shall:

- 17 (a) Mandate all LGUs to coordinate, cooperate and support the plans,
18 programs and activities of the PNG through the issuance of corresponding
19 orders, circulars, and guidelines within its jurisdiction to help carry out the
20 objectives of the PNG;
21 (b) Direct the Philippine National Police to prepare and implement a
22 comprehensive security plan for the LGU venues where the PNG shall be
23 held; and
24 (c) Perform such other duties and responsibilities as may be delegated by
25 the Board.

26
27 (3) Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP)- It shall:

- 28 (a) Oversee and ensure the implementation of plans on the safe conduct of
29 the PNG in their respective localities;
30 (b) Assist in disseminating information on the PNG within their respective
31 jurisdiction to encourage the active participation of their constituents;
32 (c) Recommend to the Board the priority sports in their respective localities;
33 and

1 (d) Perform such other duties and responsibilities as may be delegated by
2 the Board.

3
4 (4) DepEd- It shall:

5 (a) Align the *Palarong Pambansa* calendar of activities, programs and
6 policies to the conduct of the PNG;

7 (b) Allow the use of school buildings and classrooms as billeting centers;

8 (c) Allow DepEd teachers, who are licensed or accredited technical officials
9 of the NSAs to officiate in the games;

10 (d) Issue appropriate orders, circulars, and guidelines within its jurisdiction to
11 implement the objectives of the PNG; and

12 (e) Perform other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the
13 Board.

14
15 (5) CHED- It shall:

16 (a) Promote the program and activities of the PNG to all higher education
17 institutions;

18 (b) Enjoin the state universities and colleges the use of their school buildings
19 and classrooms as billeting centers;

20 (c) Issue memorandum orders on the alignment of tertiary sports events and
21 the calendar of activities to the PNG; and

22 (d) Perform other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the
23 Board.

24
25 (6) DND- It shall:

26 (a) Oversee and ensure the participation of military athletes in the PNG;

27 (b) Serve as the LSC which shall have the authority to accredit and allow
28 qualified military athletes to participate in the PNG;

29 (c) Issue appropriate orders, circulars, and guidelines within its jurisdiction to
30 implement the objectives of the PNG; and

31 (d) Perform such other duties and responsibilities as may be delegated by
32 the Board.

33

34

1 (7) LGUs- They shall:

- 2 (a) Organize within their jurisdiction a multi-sectoral group to serve as their
3 LSC which shall have the authority to accredit and allow athletes to
4 participate in the PNG;
5 (b) Assist the LSCs in the identification, recruitment, and training of gifted and
6 talented athletes within their respective localities;
7 (c) Organize local competitions within their respective jurisdictions to ensure
8 a wide base for the selection of national athletes who will compete in the
9 PNG; and
10 (d) Perform such other duties and responsibilities as may be delegated by
11 the Board.

12
13 (8) POC- It shall

- 14 (a) Supervise all participating NSAs involved in the PNG; and
15 (b) Perform such other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the
16 Board.

17
18 (9) NSAs- They shall:

- 19 (a) Set the qualifications for athletes participating in different events based
20 on their international federations' rules and regulations;
21 (b) Provide technical assistance in the conduct of their respective sports
22 competitions in the PNG, including the appointment of qualified officiating
23 officials;
24 (c) Conduct regional or cluster qualifying competitions, as may be required
25 by any sports association, in coordination with the PSC and the host LSC;
26 and
27 (d) Allow the participation of all athletes, including national athletes, entered
28 by the LSCs regardless of their membership status with their respective
29 NSAs: *Provided, That:*
30
31 (i) The athlete conforms and agrees to abide by the competition rules
32 and regulations of their respective NSAs and PNG; and

1 (ii) The athlete is not under any disciplinary sanction, or is
2 otherwise suspended by the concerned NSA or International Federation,
3 consistent with the rules of their respective sports.
4

5 **SEC. 12. *The LSCs.*** – The LSCs organized by their respective LGUs shall be
6 headed by the provincial governor, the city or municipal mayor, or the barangay
7 chairperson. For purposes of this Act, the LSC shall have the following duties and
8 responsibilities:
9

- 10 (a) To encourage, promote and organize local sports competitions within their
11 respective jurisdictions;
12 (b) To recruit, train, and select athletes who shall participate in the PNG and its
13 corresponding regional and cluster qualifying competitions;
14 (c) To develop and maintain a pool of local athletes and provide them with the
15 necessary assistance;
16 (d) To be responsible for the entire delegation entered in the PNG, and ensure the
17 compliance of their athletes with the eligibility rules of the PNG;
18 (e) To select an athlete in any sports event subject to PNG rules, provided said
19 athlete is not under any sanction by the concerned NSA or International
20 Federation; and
21 (f) To give athletes the authority to represent their respective LSC in the PNG and
22 corresponding regional and cluster qualifying competitions.
23

24 **SEC. 13. *Participation Rules.*** – To participate in the PNG, all athletes shall be
25 governed and must comply with the following rules:

26 (a) Eligibility

- 27 (1) All Filipinos by birth, including those residing outside of the
28 Philippines but are of Filipino ancestry, shall be eligible to
29 participate in the PNG;
30 (2) The qualifying age for different sports events shall be determined
31 by the NSAs based on their international federations' rules and
32 regulations; and
33 (3) Compliance with other eligibility rules and regulations that may be
34 prescribed by the PNG, LSC and concerned NSA.

1 (b) Representation

2 (1) Athletes shall, at all times, represent or carry only the LSC that
3 entered their name in the PNG or in any regional or cluster
4 qualifying competitions; and

5 (2) No athlete shall likewise be allowed to carry, represent or promote
6 any public or private organization, enterprise or sponsor in the
7 PNG.
8

9 **SEC. 14. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary for the initial implementation
10 of this Act shall be charged against the current year’s appropriation of the PSC.
11 Thereafter, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations
12 Act.
13

14 The LGUs shall set aside from any available local revenue an amount deemed
15 appropriate for the preparation, training and participation of the athletes in the PNG.
16

17 **SEC. 15. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The PSC shall, in
18 coordination with the DILG, DepEd, CHED, ULAP, POC, and NSAs, promulgate the
19 rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days after
20 its effectivity
21

22 **SEC.16. Separability Clause.** – If any part or provision of this Act is held invalid
23 or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force
24 and effect.
25

26 **SEC. 17. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, executive orders, issuances, decrees,
27 rules and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are
28 deemed amended, modified or repealed accordingly.
29

30 **SEC. 18. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
31 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
32

33 Approved,