

How to sign up

To discuss signing up to the Scottish LGBT Sports Charter you can contact the Equality Network using the details on the back page of this leaflet. We welcome signatories from all areas of sports delivery and promotion.

By signing up to the charter you or your organisation is making a commitment to better include LGBT people in sport, while any actions are not mandatory, becoming a signatory to the charter will send a powerful signal of your or your organisations support for the charters principles of inclusion for LGBT people.

We recognise that the full inclusion of LGBT people will take progressive changes over time and that actions will be proportionate.

We can support you




The Equality Network can provide training, information and advice on all the key issues relating to LGBTI inclusion in sport. To discuss your needs please contact us.



Equality Network is Scotland's national lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) equality and human rights charity.

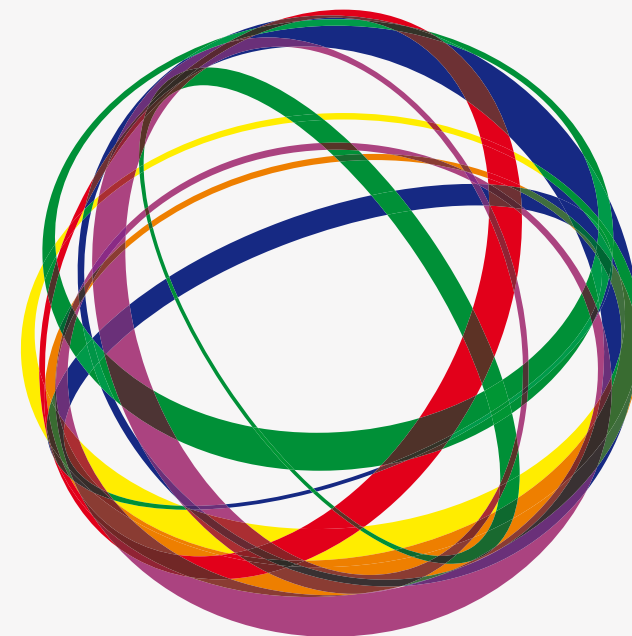
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Scottish LGBT Sports Charter



Creating change together
LGBTI equality in Scotland

The Scottish LGBT Sports Charter is a visible commitment by those involved in the delivery of sport to take steps to address the issues and barriers LGBT people face, and to improve the involvement of LGBT people in Scottish sport.

The charter was created in response to the Equality Network's **Out for Sport** report and was developed in consultation with LGBT people, sports governing bodies (SGBs) and stakeholder organisations.

Principle 1 Take steps to actively involve LGBT people in sport and visibly support LGBT inclusion and equality.

57% of LGBT people say they would be more likely to participate in sport if it were more LGBT friendly (Out for Sport, 2012). Providing opportunities for LGBT people to reengage, or engage in sport for the first time is an important step towards better inclusion. For some a simple message of welcome can be an empowering action.

Scotland will be a country where everyone can take part, enjoy and succeed in sport at all levels whatever their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Principle 2 Challenge homophobic and transphobic behaviour and ensure a positive and welcoming sporting environment for LGBT participants.

For some LGBT people the fear of, or past experience of LGBT prejudice or discrimination is a barrier to their participation. Having robust procedures and policies in place ensuring any incidents are dealt with quickly and fairly are an important reassurance to LGBT people.

Principle 3 Develop policies and practices that are inclusive, informed by a better understanding of the issues and barriers for LGBT people and by taking advantage of training.

LGBT inclusive policies and practice are an important element to the inclusion of LGBT people in sport. Policies can be a useful tool to drive change and inclusive practices. LGBT inclusion is a fast evolving policy area as more LGBT people take up and get more involved in sport.

Principle 4 Work to further include trans people in sport by understanding the differing needs for trans participants and begin to reduce the barriers which prevent trans people from taking part in sport in their acquired gender.

As understanding of trans equality issues improves, so too do policies and practices, especially in relation to inclusion of trans people in gender segregated competitive sport. We continue to work with SGBs and other stakeholders to support them to increase access for trans people across all levels of sport.

Principle 5 Strive to make continuous improvements to greater include LGBT people in Scottish sport.

During the development of the charter one principle that was put forward by sports stakeholders was that of continuous improvement. This was to highlight that the full inclusion of LGBT people would not happen overnight and that there were small steps SGBs, sports delivery bodies and others could take, a step at a time.