DOSB I SPORT INTERCULTURAL
A Qualifying Measure for Integrative Work in Sport

within the framework of the programme “Integration through Sport”
of the German Olympic Sports Confederation (DOSB) and its member organizations
It is an important task of all of us to ensure that persons with and without a history of immigration participate in sport and, thus, in social life on the basis of equal rights.

The integration work of sports clubs aims at establishing multifarious physical activity and sports programmes which orientate themselves to the interests, motives and needs of their target group. Many sports clubs have started to also win male and female exercise instructors and volunteers for diverse tasks and functions in the club.

Cultural variety enriches the club culture on the whole and offers all persons involved new chances and possibilities to find a place to stay. At the same time, it is an important step in the process of intercultural opening and interaction in organized sport.

The qualification “Sport Intercultural” provides helpful suggestions and impulses for integration work and enlarges the competences to act in view of intercultural coexistence and interaction in the sports club. Male and female participants learn to handle the topic “integration” in a more sensitive way and to recognize that there are many different ways of acting when associating with persons of a different origin and culture. Looking from new angles opens new perspectives and, therefore, represents a benefit in all spheres of life.
“Sport Intercultural” – Broaden Intercultural Competencies!

The qualifying measure “Sport Intercultural” addresses all volunteers. It is meant for male and female exercise instructors, coaches and officials as well as interested persons who work with children, young people and adults of differing cultural imprint in the sports club on grounds of training, playing games, going on excursions and celebrating events.

The qualification may be acknowledged as an advanced training for the DOSB licence. For further information please turn to your responsible contact person within the programme “Integration through Sport”.

In particular, the experience-oriented seminar deals with the following themes:

- Sensitizing for questions of cultural diversity
- Experiencing and contemplating different concepts of life and ways of living
- Manifold and practice-oriented qualification for intercultural key competencies
- Suggestions for working with interethnic/cross-cultural sports groups in the club
- Suggestions for dialogue and exchange with and among people of various intercultural differences
- Assistance with finding solutions in situations of conflict
Tailor-Made Contents for All Participants

“Sport Intercultural” orientates itself on the participants, thus considering the motivations, backgrounds and interests of the individual persons as well as the different modes of access to the theme. The starting point of the qualification is the experience of the participants who present their experiences, situations, conflicts and questions as an input to the seminar. Hence, a unique learning situation is generated, which takes the didactic framework and the central learning contents as a guidance. However, each seminar develops in an individual way.

Five so-called “playing fields” of intercultural learning in sport provide the conceptual structure of the seminar:

(1) foreignness, emotions, irritation
(2) origin, (cultural) resources
(3) perception and communication
(4) rules and values, conflicts
(5) cultural diversity in sport

In each seminar, the participants determine their main topics themselves and discuss the questions which they are most interested in.
Opinions of male and female participants

‘Sport Intercultural’ is as diverse and flexible as the male and female participants themselves. In this way, each and everybody can take something home for his or her personal enrichment and the work in his/her sports club.

The seminar helped me to learn a lot about myself, my origin and my life; I now look at many situations from a completely different angle. This has generated a new understanding for one another.

This was a really great seminar altogether. Once again you have learned such a lot, and suddenly you see many things in a different light. When I walk through my school or along the city streets, it makes me smile when I come across other cultures. Time and again I remember the seminar. And each time I tell myself: “Don’t be so predisposed! Give the people a chance, you would not be able to give up your culture, just like that, or master another language perfectly in a few months, either.”

The seminar was really very helpful to me, and I warmly recommend it to all teachers, volunteers who work in the social sector during a gap year, and sports exercise instructors.

It is good to learn that other people think and feel the same. I got to know many like-minded persons with whom I could exchange views on my work as a sports exercise instructor. For many of my concerns I was able to take on board great ideas and most valuable information by other participants.

In any case, I would advise everybody to take part in this seminar because you not only learn to put yourself in the position of people with a migratory background, but first of all you learn to better understand yourself, to question your feelings as against others and to abandon your prejudices to a certain extent. To be short: I cannot yet grasp how much we really learned, and lots of thoughts are still crossing my mind. However, I realize that this is a topic of high importance for the coexistence and interaction with ‘other’ people.
The Programme “Integration through Sport” – We Like to Support You!

Many sports clubs accept the challenges and are not left alone with the many tasks related to integration work in organized sport. Consequently, the German Olympic Sports Confederation (DOSB) attends the sports organizations in view of implementing the nation-wide programme “Integration through Sport”.

In the different Federal States, the programme is associated to the respective Regional Sports Confederations (LSB) or the Regional Sports Youths (LSJ). The staff members of the Regional Coordination Offices implement the programme along the lines of the specific conditions of each Federal State, on their own responsibility.

They advise and assist sports clubs and federations, network partners and volunteers concerning the local conceptual, planning and organizational activities of integration work of the same.

They disclose possibilities of promotion and support the process of intercultural opening by offering the qualification seminars of “Sport Intercultural”. Sports clubs and federations which look for support concerning their integration commitment, are invited to contact the staff members of the programme “Integration through Sport” in their respective Federal State. Contact data and further information on the programme are available under www.integration-durch-sport.de.