



KidSport BC Powered by Sport BC Week Fact Sheet

The Need

- Cost keeps 1 in 2 Canadian kids out of organized sports¹
- Only 39% of children and youth meet recommended physical activity guidelines in Canada²
- Sport participation helps new Canadian children adapt to their new country³
- Sport participation improves mental health outcomes as an early mental health intervention⁴
- Sport skills are life skills: involvement in sport can foster important skills such as communication, negotiation, teamwork, and goal setting, among others.⁵
- Youth from lower income households are participating in sport at lower rates and for shorter durations each year, highlighting a key barrier to access that needs to be addressed.⁶

About KidSport

- The KidSport program aims to remove financial barriers to sport participation by providing grants to help cover the costs of sport registration fees for kids 18 and under.
- KidSport is a Registered Canadian Amateur Athletic Association (RCAAA) with operations in 11 provinces/territories and over 160 community chapters across Canada.
- The program is largely supported by volunteers who operate local chapters in communities across the province. Chapter volunteers raise funds, accept applications, and distribute grants for kids in their community.
- Communities not supported by a chapter are funded through the BC Provincial Fund, which is administered by the BC Provincial Office, which means no matter where you live, you can apply for KidSport funding.
- KidSport relies on donations from the public (individuals, companies, community events) to sustain our granting programs. Donations can be online at kidsportbc.org/donate and directed to your local community. Personal contributions of \$20 or more are eligible to receive a tax receipt.

¹ Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities' State of Sport report 2024

² Participation Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Youth 2022

³ Playing Together Report – Institute for Canadian Citizenship, 2024

⁴ Connected Care and Canadian Mental Health Association

⁵ Holt et al; 2017

⁶ Sport participation of children and youth: Summary report



Our Impact

- Sport powers kids: getting in the game ignites a sense of belonging, shapes character, fuels better health, builds confidence, and unleashes potential.
- Last year (2024) more than \$3.6 million was distributed to fund a season of sport for 10,695 kids in 233 communities across the province.
 - 41% of all grants in 2024 supported populations that are often under-represented in sport, including Indigenous children, athletes with a disability, and new Canadians.
 - The 2024 total is \$1 million higher than the prior year (2023) and is more than double the distribution in 2022.
- Since 1993, more than \$25 million has been distributed to fund a season of sport for 100,000 kids across BC. Nearly one third of that total has been distributed in just the last three years.
- Over 1200 amateur sport clubs across 53 different sport had KidSport-funded participants in their programs in 2024. The top sports funded across BC in 2024 were:



SOCCER
3680 KIDS
\$1,146,469



GYMNASTICS
1332 KIDS
\$462,898



HOCKEY
1318 KIDS
\$531,992



FIGURE SKATING
575 KIDS
\$192,883



BASEBALL
406 KIDS
\$92,980

About KidSport BC

The KidSport program aims to remove financial barriers to sport participation by providing grants to help cover the costs of registration fees. This program is intended to help increase participation numbers for Sport BC members and their local clubs by helping under-resourced children and youth access a season of sport. KidSport is a Registered Canadian Amateur Athletic Association ("RCAAA") with charitable status and can issue tax receipts to donors. Learn more at kidsportcanada.ca/british-columbia or follow us @KidSportBC.

About Sport BC

Sport BC believes in the power of sport and is committed to building stronger communities through positive sport experiences. Our goal is to enhance and support sport participation in British Columbia ensuring everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Sport BC supports nearly 80 member organizations through our signature programs KidSport BC, BC Amateur Sport Fund, and BC Women & Sport, and through our services Sport BC Insurance, and Payroll and Group Benefits. Learn more at sportbc.com or follow us @SportBC.