Sweden’s national strategy is guided by values: (1) joy and community, (2) democracy and participation in governance, (3) everyone’s right to participate, and (4) fair play. The clubs are predominately run by volunteers and are designed to serve children, young people, adults, and the elderly with sport and physical activity opportunities. Swedish sport has adopted the motto “as many as possible, for as long as possible.” The belief is more Olympic success will occur if sport is an inherent part of Swedish values and life goals.
Sport Governance in Sweden

**GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURES**

- Ministry of Sport
  Housed within Ministry of Health & Social Affairs

**INTERMEDIARY STRUCTURES**

- Swedish Sports Confederation (RF)
- Regional Sports Federations
  21 federations providing admin support to all sports
- District Sports Federations
  1000+ federations with regional authority over one specific sport

**NON-GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURES**

- Swedish Olympic Committee
- Swedish Paralympic Federation and Swedish Paralympic Committee
- National Sport Federations
  70 federations with authority over one specific sport
- SISU Sport Education
  Non-profit support for training coaches/leaders & organizational development/project management

**SPORT CLUBS**

Most grades in Youth Sport Participation and Government Support categories are drawn from a 2022 report prepared by the Active Healthy Kids Global Alliance, a not-for-profit comprised of researchers, health professionals and stakeholders who work together to advance physical activity in children and adolescents around the world. Report cards for the 57 countries evaluated are based on a harmonized framework and standardized grading rubric, as reflected in the Global Matrix 4.0. A grade of C, for instance, means a country is “succeeding with about half (47-53%) of children.” The Government Support grade is given by experts in that country based on “evidence of leadership and commitment” by government “in providing physical activity opportunities or participation of children and adolescents through policy, legislation or regulation.” No grades were offered in the Global Matrix report for Government Support for Norway, Germany, the United Kingdom and the U.S., so the Aspen Institute consulted experts in each of those country to offer one, using the same criteria. In the U.S., the “D” grade was the weighted grade offered by 90 experts engaged with Project Play, including youth sport industry leaders at the NextUp Conference hosted by LeagueApps.

The Elite Sport Rank and Elite Sport Rank Per Capita categories are drawn from Greatest Sporting Nation, a website that analyzes elite international competition results in Olympic and other sports, not including those that involve animals or cars. The first category is a measure of the total number of athletes and teams in 2022 who performed well in competition, while the latter calculates results relative to a nation’s total population.