

for any sport that is included on the program of the Paralympic Games;" for "Games;"

Subsec. (c)(5). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(f)(2)(D), substituted "Games, the Paralympic Games, the Pan-American Games, world championship competition," for "Games,"

§ 220506. Exclusive right to name, seals, emblems, and badges

(a) EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF CORPORATION.—Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the corporation has the exclusive right to use—

(1) the name "United States Olympic Committee";

(2) the symbol of the International Olympic Committee, consisting of 5 interlocking rings, the symbol of the International Paralympic Committee, consisting of 3 TaiGeuks, or the symbol of the Pan-American Sports Organization, consisting of a torch surrounded by concentric rings;

(3) the emblem of the corporation, consisting of an escutcheon having a blue chief and vertically extending red and white bars on the base with 5 interlocking rings displayed on the chief; and

(4) the words "Olympic", "Olympiad", "Citius Altius Fortius", "Paralympic", "Paralympiad", "Pan-American", "America Espirito Sport Fraternite", or any combination of those words.

(b) CONTRIBUTORS AND SUPPLIERS.—The corporation may authorize contributors and suppliers of goods or services to use the trade name of the corporation or any trademark, symbol, insignia, or emblem of the International Olympic Committee, International Paralympic Committee, the Pan-American Sports Organization, or of the corporation to advertise that the contributions, goods, or services were donated or supplied to, or approved, selected, or used by, the corporation, the United States Olympic team, the Paralympic team, the Pan-American team, or team members.

(c) CIVIL ACTION FOR UNAUTHORIZED USE.—Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the corporation may file a civil action against a person for the remedies provided in the Act of July 5, 1946 (15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.) (popularly known as the Trademark Act of 1946) if the person, without the consent of the corporation, uses for the purpose of trade, to induce the sale of any goods or services, or to promote any theatrical exhibition, athletic performance, or competition—

(1) the symbol described in subsection (a)(2) of this section;

(2) the emblem described in subsection (a)(3) of this section;

(3) the words described in subsection (a)(4) of this section, or any combination or simulation of those words tending to cause confusion or mistake, to deceive, or to falsely suggest a connection with the corporation or any Olympic, Paralympic, or Pan-American Games activity; or

(4) any trademark, trade name, sign, symbol, or insignia falsely representing association with, or authorization by, the International Olympic Committee, the International Para-

lympic Committee, the Pan-American Sports Organization, or the corporation.

(d) PRE-EXISTING AND GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCE RIGHTS.—(1) A person who actually used the emblem described in subsection (a)(3) of this section, or the words or any combination of the words described in subsection (a)(4) of this section, for any lawful purpose before September 21, 1950, is not prohibited by this section from continuing the lawful use for the same purpose and for the same goods or services.

(2) A person who actually used, or whose assignor actually used, the words or any combination of the words described in subsection (a)(4) of this section, or a trademark, trade name, sign, symbol, or insignia described in subsection (c)(4) of this section, for any lawful purpose before September 21, 1950, is not prohibited by this section from continuing the lawful use for the same purpose and for the same goods or services.

(3) Use of the word "Olympic" to identify a business or goods or services is permitted by this section where—

(A) such use is not combined with any of the intellectual properties referenced in subsection (a) or (c) of this section;

(B) it is evident from the circumstances that such use of the word "Olympic" refers to the naturally occurring mountains or geographical region of the same name that were named prior to February 6, 1998, and not to the corporation or any Olympic activity; and

(C) such business, goods, or services are operated, sold, and marketed in the State of Washington west of the Cascade Mountain range and operations, sales, and marketing outside of this area are not substantial.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1469; Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title I, §142(g), 112 Stat. 2681-604; Pub. L. 109-284, §5(16), Sept. 27, 2006, 120 Stat. 1212.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220506(a)	36:380(c).	Sept. 21, 1950, ch. 975, title I, §110, as added Nov. 8, 1978, Pub. L. 95-606, §1(b), 92 Stat. 3048.
220506(b)	36:380(b).	
220506(c)	36:380(a) (1st sentence).	
220506(d)	36:380(a) (2d, last sentences).	

Subsection (a)(2) and (3) is substituted for "the symbol described in subsection (a)(1) of this section; the emblem described in subsection (a)(2) of this section" because of the reorganization of the section.

In subsection (b), the words "or any trademark" are substituted for "as well as any trademark" to eliminate unnecessary words. The words "furnished . . . or for the use of" are omitted as unnecessary.

In subsection (c), the words "the corporation may file a civil action against a person" are substituted for "any person . . . shall be subject to suit in a civil action by the Corporation" for clarity.

In subsection (d)(2), the words "the words or any combination of the words described in subsection (a)(4) of this section, or a trademark, trade name, sign, symbol, or insignia described in subsection (c)(4) of this section" are substituted for "any other trademark, trade name, sign, symbol, or insignia described in subsections (a)(3) and (4) of this section" for clarity.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Trademark Act of 1946, referred to in subsec. (c), is act July 5, 1946, ch. 540, 60 Stat. 427, as amended, also popularly known as the Lanham Act, which is classified generally to chapter 22 (§1051 et seq.) of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1051 of Title 15 and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (d)(3)(A). Pub. L. 109-284 substituted “subsection” for “subsections”.

1998—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(g)(1), substituted “rings, the symbol of the International Paralympic Committee, consisting of 3 TaiGeuks, or the symbol of the Pan-American Sports Organization, consisting of a torch surrounded by concentric rings;” for “rings;”.

Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(g)(2), inserted “‘Paralympic’, ‘Paralympiad’, ‘Pan-American’, ‘America Espirito Sport Fraternalite’,” before “or any combination”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(g)(3), (4), inserted “, International Paralympic Committee, the Pan-American Sports Organization,” after “International Olympic Committee” and “the Paralympic team,” before “the Pan-American team”.

Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(g)(5), inserted “, Paralympic, or Pan-American Games” after “any Olympic”.

Subsec. (c)(4). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(g)(6), inserted “, the International Paralympic Committee, the Pan-American Sport Organization,” after “International Olympic Committee”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(g)(7), inserted “AND GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCE” after “PRE-EXISTING” in heading.

Subsec. (d)(3). Pub. L. 105-277, §142(g)(8), added par. (3).

§ 220507. Restrictions

(a) PROFIT AND STOCK.—The corporation may not engage in business for profit or issue stock.

(b) POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.—The corporation shall be nonpolitical and may not promote the candidacy of an individual seeking public office.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1470.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220507(a)	36:378.	Sept. 21, 1950, ch. 975, title I, §§107, 108, as added Nov. 8, 1978, Pub. L. 95-606, §1(b), 92 Stat. 3048.
220507(b)	36:377.	

In subsection (a), the words “may not” are substituted for “shall have no power to” for consistency in the revised title. The words “capital”, “pecuniary”, and “or gain” are omitted as unnecessary.

In subsection (b), the words “as an organization” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 220508. Headquarters, principal office, and meetings

The corporation shall maintain its principal office and national headquarters in a place in the United States decided by the corporation. The corporation may hold its annual and special meetings in the places decided by the corporation.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1470.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220508	36:371 (last sentence).	Sept. 21, 1950, ch. 975, title I, §101 (last sentence), formerly §1 (last sentence), 64 Stat. 899; Nov. 8, 1978, Pub. L. 95-606, §1(a)(3), 92 Stat. 3045.

The word “decided” is substituted for “as is determined” and for “shall determine” for consistency in the revised title.

§ 220509. Resolution of disputes

(a) GENERAL.—The corporation shall establish and maintain provisions in its constitution and bylaws for the swift and equitable resolution of disputes involving any of its members and relating to the opportunity of an amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator, or official to participate in the Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, the Pan-American Games, world championship competition, or other protected competition as defined in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation. In any lawsuit relating to the resolution of a dispute involving the opportunity of an amateur athlete to participate in the Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, or the Pan-American Games, a court shall not grant injunctive relief against the corporation within 21 days before the beginning of such games if the corporation, after consultation with the chair of the Athletes’ Advisory Council, has provided a sworn statement in writing executed by an officer of the corporation to such court that its constitution and bylaws cannot provide for the resolution of such dispute prior to the beginning of such games.

(b) OMBUDSMAN.—

(1) The corporation shall hire and provide salary, benefits, and administrative expenses for an ombudsman for athletes, who shall—

(A) provide independent advice to athletes at no cost about the applicable provisions of this chapter and the constitution and bylaws of the corporation, national governing bodies, paralympic sports organizations, international sports federations, the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, and the Pan-American Sports Organization, and with respect to the resolution of any dispute involving the opportunity of an amateur athlete to participate in the Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, the Pan-American Games, world championship competition or other protected competition as defined in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation;

(B) assist in mediating any such disputes; and

(C) report to the Athletes’ Advisory Council on a regular basis.

(2)(A) The procedure for hiring the ombudsman for athletes shall be as follows:

(i) The Athletes’ Advisory Council shall provide the corporation’s executive director with the name of one qualified person to serve as ombudsman for athletes.

(ii) The corporation’s executive director shall immediately transmit the name of