



# THE SWEDISH SPORTS MOVEMENT

**Whether you're young, sports offers a chance to get active, give yourself a challenge and enjoy yourself alongside other people. A sports club provides a sense of community and can be a place to meet new friend.**

**Below, we explain how sports works in Sweden and how you can be member of a sports club**

**All sports clubs are essentially not-for-profit organisations.** That mean there is no owner, and they are not required to make a profit. Member in the sports club decide how the club will run activities and help share responsibility for various tasks. For example, running coaching sessions on evenings or weekends, selling refreshments in a cafe or being an offal at events the club organise. Sports club are different from private companies where the employees are paid salary.

Sports club derive their income from membership fees and grant from municipalities and the government. But this isn't usually enough to cover the costs of coaching sessions, hire of premises or travelling to competitions, so its important that all members, both adults and young people, help on a voluntary basis.

**Not-for-profit clubs are democratic organisations.** So, as a member, you are entitled to say how the club operates. Once a year, the club will have a annual meeting at which everyone who has paid a membership fee comes together to discuss and decide what the club will do in the coming years and how it will use its money. At this meeting every member has an individual vote to help decide who should be on the clubs committee. The committee is a group of people responsible för ensuring that the club adheres to any common rules and that it does what the meeting has decide.