



Higher National Unit specification

General information

Unit title: Sports Development and Research (SCQF level 8)

Unit code: H810 35

Superclass: MA

Publication date: October 2014

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

Unit purpose

This Unit is about developing the candidate's ability to access, analyse and evaluate information on a current Sports Development topic, from a wide range of sources and to deliver a presentation on the findings.

Outcomes

On successful completion of the Unit the learner will be able to:

- 1 Identify a Sports Development topic that has previously been researched and formulate a related Sports Development proposal.
- 2 Source and evaluate secondary research related to the selected topic.
- 3 Deliver a presentation on the selected Sports Development proposal and related research.

Credit points and level

1 Higher National Unit credit at SCQF level 8: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8)

Recommended entry to the Unit

Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. It would be beneficial if the candidate had competence in *Communication*, and *Information and Communication Technology (ICT)*, as well as an extensive overview of sports related issues.

Higher National Unit specification: General information (cont)

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Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes for this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit.

Context for delivery

If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes. This Unit is included in the framework for HND Coaching and Developing Sport.

Equality and inclusion

This Unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Learners should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Identify a Sports Development topic that has previously been researched in order to formulate a related proposal.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Contribution of research studies to the sports industry
- ◆ Types of sports research
- ◆ Local and national investigative initiatives on sports development related areas
- ◆ Ethical and legal considerations affecting research into sports development issues
- ◆ Research aim and objectives

Outcome 2

Source and evaluate secondary research related to the selected topic.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Library classification and cataloguing systems
- ◆ Electronic information access and retrieval
- ◆ Research techniques utilised within the secondary sources of information
- ◆ Qualitative and quantitative data
- ◆ Analytical and evaluative skills
- ◆ Record of systematic approach to acquiring secondary sources

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards

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Outcome 3

Deliver a presentation of the selected Sports Development proposal and related research.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Analytical and evaluative skills
- ◆ Selection of relevant and accurate information
- ◆ Effective organisation of information and ideas
- ◆ Effective use of vocabulary and style
- ◆ Oral communication skills
- ◆ Effective use of non-verbal communication
- ◆ Production of supporting visual/non-visual materials
- ◆ Use of technical equipment
- ◆ Techniques for adapting and responding to the needs of an audience

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

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Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills across all Outcomes by showing that they can:

Outcome 1

The candidate should present written and/or oral evidence where they identify the following:

- ◆ An aim and objectives for the sports development proposal.
- ◆ A rationale for the purpose of the sports development proposal.
- ◆ Potential benefits of the proposal.

Candidates should examine a range of topics and approaches related to the sports development field. Group discussion of aspects of underpinning knowledge, including case studies and current events, and personal interview with assessors may provide assessment opportunities. The assessment is likely to be in the region of 750 words.

Outcome 2

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can produce a written/oral report, which:

- ◆ Identifies and summarises sources of research collated to support the sports development proposal outlined in Outcome 1.
- ◆ Analyses and evaluates the research techniques utilised within the secondary sources of information.
- ◆ Presents evidence of relevant information that links to the aims and objectives of the proposal.

The assessment focus of Outcome 2 is on the critical analysis of secondary research related to the Sports Development proposal. Assessment evidence could include a portfolio or other record of the materials and information, which will also underpin and support the presentation for Outcome 3. The Outcome could be integrated effectively with assessment for other Units requiring the production of a complex written research report. The assessment is likely to be in the form of a literature review and be in the region of 1,000 words. All secondary sources should be acknowledged using an appropriate referencing system.

Outcome 3

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Summarise the outline and justification for the proposed Sports development project.
- ◆ Present a critical analysis of relevant secondary research related to the Sports development proposal.
- ◆ Summarise their findings.

The presentation should last a minimum of 12 minutes and be followed by questions from the audience. A detailed observation checklist on the presentation and/or video recording, and support materials should be retained as evidence of performance for each candidate.



Higher National Unit Support Notes

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Unit Support Notes are offered as guidance and are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

Sports Development is an area which is continually evolving and changing as aims and targets from national, local and governing body strategies are fulfilled. Whilst primarily dealing with the development continuum the remit of those within sports development has altered with the acknowledgement that sport has a key role to play in contributing to the wider agenda of health, community learning and regeneration. The expansion of the remit has also increased the need to work in partnership with several internal and external agencies, to enable the provision of fundamental resources, such as volunteers and funding, etc. It is therefore, an essential requirement of personnel responsible for delivering sports development to be able to assess the status and impact any proposed or current sport development projects may have. Whether performing a needs analysis of a demographic area, or targeting the improvement of health within a domain due to a sports programme, or to evaluate the pathway from one level to the next, it is important that the personnel responsible are capable of utilising a variety of research approaches to collate data, which can then be analysed and presented to the relevant authorities.

Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

This Unit will be delivered in the Second Year of a HND Coaching and Developing Sport programme, although it may be delivered as a stand-alone Unit for candidates who have knowledge and/or experience of sport related industries and who wish to develop skills in researching and oral presentation. There will be a high level of commitment and personal initiative expected of the candidate.

There will be some whole class-based delivery of Knowledge and Skills, but a less structured approach may be more appropriate as the Unit develops, and one-to-one tutorials may provide a useful opportunity to discuss and authenticate work undertaken.

Outcome 1

This Outcome involves planning a proposal for a Sports development project. At this stage the candidate should formulate an aim and objectives for the proposal and detail a clear rationale for the project. The rationale for the proposed project may lie within any aspect of a sport or fitness related field, eg enhancing participation in a particular activity which may relate to health benefits. An understanding of the value of analytical research and scientific reporting in sport may be linked with, or extend, other course Unit work, and an integrated approach may be helpful.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

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The assessment for the planning section of the Graded Unit may overtake achievement of this Outcome, as similar considerations will be needed, although the Outcome may stand alone, with discussion of examples, and develop an understanding of the need to set an aim and objectives in negotiating a research proposal.

This Outcome involves the process of identifying and analysing a wide range of secondary information sources which are relevant to the original Sports development proposal. Sources of information are likely to include: secondary information, such as textbooks, magazines, research journals, and information accessed electronically.

Candidates should consider questionnaire design and sampling procedures. Production of graphic materials to summarise results may be helpful and also be used to enhance the presentation in Outcome 3. Candidates should discuss and evaluate the research of others and how their findings relate to the underpinning rationale for the proposed project formulated in Outcome 1.

Note taking and summarising skills are essential, and will be useful in the production of materials to support Outcome 3. The need to develop efficient systems of recording, coding and storing information for ease of reference, such as log books, diaries, folders or computerised records, is important, and will contribute to product evidence.

Although candidates must operate with a high level of independence, assessor involvement with all stages of the research process, including checking draft materials should provide an opportunity to meet deadlines, discuss the validity of conclusions reached as a result of research studies, and evidence of authenticity.

Outcome 3

The focus of the Outcome is on oral reporting, an essential skill in the field of Sports coaching. Candidates would be expected to have technical competence, and should have access to appropriate audio-visual equipment to support their presentation. Where candidates may not have access to sophisticated computer aided technology, they should not be penalized for using basic equipment, however, a professional standard of performance should be expected.

Guidance on approaches to assessment of this Unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only. There may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre-devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

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Outcome 1

Candidate should examine a range of topics and approaches to sports development related research relevant to course or industry issues. Group discussion of aspects of underpinning knowledge, including case studies and current events, and personal interview with assessors may provide assessment opportunities. The assessment is likely to be in the region of 1,000 words.

Outcome 2

The assessment focus of Outcome 2 is on the research process and techniques. Assessment evidence could be a portfolio or other record of the materials and information, which will also underpin and support the presentation for Outcome 3. The Outcome could be integrated effectively with assessment for other Units requiring the production of a complex written research report. The assessment is likely to be in the region of 1,000 words.

Outcome 3

The presentation should last a minimum of 15 minutes and be followed by questions from the audience. A detailed observation checklist on the presentation and/or video recording, and support materials should be retained as evidence of performance for each candidate.

Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

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Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills

Candidates will have opportunities to develop skills in *Working with Others* and also in *Information and Communication Technology (ICT)* if the internet is used as a means of research.

Skills in *Communication* may be acquired during the reporting process together with some *Numeracy* skills.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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General information for learners

Unit title: Sports Development and Research (SCQF level 8)

This section will help you decide whether this is the Unit for you by explaining what the Unit is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the Unit and opportunities for further learning and employment.

This Unit is about developing the Skills to access, analyse and evaluate information from a variety of sources and to use this ability in the planning, conducting and oral reporting of a research investigation.

You will look at how to gain and use information from a variety of print and electronic sources, such as libraries and the Internet. You will then carry out and report on the results of all your research in an oral presentation.

Assessment will be based on the research report, and you will have ample opportunity to:

- ◆ discuss your plan with your assessor
- ◆ decide on a research topic relevant to a sports development topic
- ◆ access and analyse a range of complex written and electronic materials
- ◆ carry out all the research needed
- ◆ analyse the significance of the results
- ◆ discuss your conclusions with your assessor
- ◆ prepare audio visual and other support materials
- ◆ practice oral presentations

Assessment Evidence

You will be required to plan and carry out a research investigation on a sports development related topic. You will organise and evaluate the information and present your conclusions in an oral report to a group of others, who will ask you questions about your research.

On completion of the Unit you should be able to:

- 1 Analyse a Sports Development related topic that has previously been researched.
- 2 Discuss the research techniques applied to the selected topic.
- 3 Deliver a presentation on the findings of the selected Sports Development topic.