



## PFI/ASM5 – Award in Sports Ministry

EQF/MQF Level: 6

ECTS Value: 8 ECTS

Contact Hours: 44

Supervised Placement &  
Practice Hours: 24

Self-Study Hours: 92  
Duration: 9 Months

Assessment Hours: 40  
Mode of Attendance: Part-Time

Accreditation Category: Higher Education Programme

### Programme Description

This course is a foundation for Sports Ministry. Sports ministry, broadly defined, is any approach that uses sports to bring people closer to God, learning how to live their beliefs in the world of sports. Through sports and games, the Sports Minister evangelises and helps others to live a good Christian life.

Thus this course provides a basis for persons who are already involved in 1) Sports, or 2) Christian Ministry or 3) An Educational Institution (or a combination of the three; and is interested in taking up the role of Sports Minister. It broadens the perspective of their present role and guides them to use it as a means of evangelisation.

### Entry Requirements

There are no qualifications required for this course. The only requisites are:

**Language competences:** Applicants are required to have an end of primary school level of understanding of Maltese and English.

**Digital competences:** Applicants are required to be digitally literate, including knowing how to access the internet and use a word processor.

### Overall Objectives



## **Knowledge obtained at the end of the programme**

### **Knowledge. The student will:**

- Understand the concept of Sports Ministry and how to apply it to his/ her present role;
- Recognise how sports can help in the holistic development of the person;
- Comprehend literature on history of the relationship of sports and religion and Catholic Church documents on the value of sports;
- Be able to administer basic safety measures in sports;
- Evaluate ways of adopting Inclusive programmes for special needs;
- Understand and employ basic pedagogy techniques in sports and play;
- Identify and adequately address mental health issues in sports.

### **Competence: The student will:**

- Acquire formation in discipleship in sports;
- Deliver a session on Christian values through sports or physical activity;
- Evaluate the appropriate sports programmes to apply to different generations and levels of competence in sports/ physical activity.

## **Skills obtained at the end of the programme**

The learner will be able to acquire and develop knowledge and skills to deepen their existing competence and potential for Evangelisation through Sports (Sports Ministry) for the holistic development of the institution or community they serve.

### **Skills. The student will:**

- Apply his/her knowledge to a practical session of sports/game; Identify and apply methods of inclusion;
- Serve the community in its various ministries (children, youth, etc.) through the tools and experience acquired;
- Apply approaches used in Sports Chaplaincy.

## **General Pedagogical Guidelines and Procedures for this course**



This course aims to give participants knowledge and practical skills needed to take up the role of Sports Ministers within the entities they are already involved or serve in.

These skills include: analytical, critical and synthetic skills, leadership skills, collaborative skills, interpersonal skills, listening skills, planning and implementation skills.

The pedagogy required to achieve the intended outcomes shall include:

- Lectures
- Workshops
- Group discussions
- Class debates
- Presentations
- Role-plays
- Seminars
- Peer- to-peer discussions and demonstrations

Practical / hands-on experience.

## Programme Structure and Mode of Delivery

This programme adopts a face-to-face approach to teaching and learning. It is composed of the one module and it be delivered over seven 2-hour sessions.

<b>Module Title</b>	<b>ECTS</b>	<b>EQF/MQF</b>	<b>Mode of Teaching</b>	<b>Mode of Assessment</b>
Introduction to Sports Ministry	2	5	Lectures/ Seminar	Assignment
Sports as a means for holistic development	2	5	Lectures/ Placement/ Workshop	Activity & Written Activity Report
Values in Sports Ministry	2	5	Lectures/ Placement	Assignment



Sport and Community Building	2	5	Lectures/ Placement	Activity & Written Activity Report
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## Certification

Upon successful completion of this course, participants will be conferred an accredited certification.





## Introduction to Sports Ministry

Contact Hours: 14

Supervised Placement &  
Practice Hours: 0

Self-Study Hours: 26

Assessment Hours: 10

Mode of Delivery: Face-to-Face Learning

Mode of Attendance: Part-time

### Module Description

This module will serve as an introduction, presenting an overall description of what Sports Ministry is and its role in the Church and world today. For this reason this module will present and explore the Global Movement, delve into the history of the interaction between religion and sport, especially in Christianity, and present Biblical and Church documents' references to sports. This module will also present the basic values of Sports Ministry which will be further explored throughout the course.

### Learning Outcomes

#### **Competences:**

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have acquired the responsibility and autonomy to:

- a. Identify the core values in Sports Ministry;
- b. Understand how religion and sport are interacting today;
- c. Lookout for developments in the Global Movement and in Catholic Church documents.

#### **Knowledge:**

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have been exposed to the following:

- a. Understanding what Sports Ministry and its core values are;
- b. Knowing the history of religion and sports, in particular, that in Christianity. The Maltese scenario will be analysed in detail;
- c. Gain an insight into the Biblical and Church documents' references to sport.



### **Skills:**

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have acquired the following skills:

- a. Understand learner's role and abilities within the Global Movement;
- b. Find and apply textual references (Biblical, books and documents) in response to their relevant sports local context.

### **Module-Specific Learner Skills:**

At the end of the module/unit the learner will be able to

- a. Become more aware of how sport values can connect to different life situations;
- b. better connect the values present in sports and religion.

### **Module-Specific Digital Skills & Competences:**

At the end of the module/unit, the learner will be able to express learner's thoughts and understandings in writing.

## **Reading List**

1. Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life. "Giving the Best of Yourself: A document about the Christian perspective on sport and the human person." *vatican.va*. June 6, 2018.  
<http://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2018/06/01/180601b.html>.
2. Lixey, Kevin, Hubenthal, Christoph, Mieth, Dietmar, & Muller, Norbert (eds.). *Sport and Christianity: A Sign of the Times in the Light of Faith*. Washington: Catholic University of America Press, 2012.
3. Fellowship of Christian Athletes. *The Athlete's Bible*. Tennessee: Holman Bible Publishers, 2014.

### **Supplementary Reading List**

1. Harvey, Lincoln. *A Brief Theology of Sport*. Eugene, Oregon: Cascade Books, 2014.

2. Kelly SJ, Patrick. *Catholic perspectives on sports. From Medieval to modern times*. New York: Paulist Press, 2012.
3. Stelitano, Antonella, Dieguez, Alejandro Mario, and Bortolato, Quirino. *I Papi e lo Sport: Oltre un secolo di incontri e interventi da San Pio X a Papa Francesco*. Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2015.



## Sports as a Means for Holistic Development

Contact Hours: 10

Supervised Placement &  
Practice Hours: 7

Self-Study Hours: 23

Assessment Hours: 10

Mode of Delivery: Face-to-Face Learning

Mode of Attendance: Part-time

### Module Description

This module aims to reveal the natural values that are inherent in play/sports and how these values serve one's personal development. The aim is to help Christians learn how to integrate their lives (especially in relation to sports) in a way that their core Christian values are lived out authentically and to the full.

### Learning Outcomes

#### Competences:

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have acquired the responsibility and autonomy to:

- a. Explain the origins of sports and play and the relationship between the two
- b. Convey the power of sports as a human phenomenon across the ages, nations, communities of faith, economies and society in general through value-based perspective
- c. Understand the concept of sports ministries and their contribution to the personal and holistic development through their various dimensions (such as sport chaplaincies, festivals and so on)

#### Knowledge:

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have been exposed to the following:

- a. History of Sports – benefits/ shadows
- b. The values in sports
- c. The relationship of Sports/ play and Christianity
- d. Examples of different ways of how Sports Ministry was experienced in the past and present times, both locally and worldwide
- e. The inclusive Value of sports – Ability.





### **Skills:**

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have acquired the following skills:

- a. to get a general idea of what sports is all about and how Christians have interacted with sports across the centuries including references to Biblical/Church document
- b. to use value based sports programmes as an evangelistic tool in their communities/parishes
- c. to understand how value-based coaching would ensure that coaches can live their life in sync as they integrate their Christian living to their coaching even in a secular environment.

### **Module-Specific Digital Skills & Competences:**

At the end of the module/unit, the learner will be able to enquiry based research.

### **Assignment**

Activity Observation – 40%

Activity Report – 60%

To engage with a Christian based organisation and devise either a plan of how a specific sports based programme could be set up in their respective organisation or focus on one specific event/activity that can be held within the remit of the organisation. Eg. Lenten sessions using sports etc.

### **Reading List**

1. How Did Sports Begin?: A Look at the Origins of Man at Play  
By R. Brasch
2. Values in Sport: Elitism, Nationalism, Gender Equality and the Scientific Manufacturing of Winners, Claudio Tamburrini (ed) - Torbjörn Tännsjö (ed)
3. Positive Impact! Spirit, Soul and Body: Benefits of a Sports Ministry in the Local Church. By Joseph C Spears Jr

### **Supplementary Reading List**

1. Games, Sports, and Play: Philosophical Essay. Edited by Thomas Hurka
2. Sport, Play, and Ethical Reflection



3. A philosophical analysis of the nature, attraction, and limits of sport
4. Positive Impact! Spirit, Soul and Body: Benefits of a Sports Ministry in the Local Church. By Joseph C Spears Jr



## Values in Sports Ministry

Contact Hours: 14

Supervised Placement &  
Practice Hours: 0

Self-Study Hours: 26

Assessment Hours: 10

Mode of Delivery: Face-to-Face Learning

Mode of Attendance: Part-time

### Module Description

The aim of this module is for participants to learn about the true values of sports and the inter-relationship with Christian/Biblical values.

Learn how to experientially transmit the true values of sports through the different myriad of sports/play activities. This will be applied in a way to address the specific age groups that form our parishes, communities and educational institutions, through the integration of Christian/Biblical teachings.

To understand that the value-based programmes can also be extended to mainstream coaching and to influence secular spheres within our communities

### Learning Outcomes

#### **Competences:**

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have acquired the responsibility and autonomy to:

- a. Understand, identify and apply the core values that are inbuilt in sports and integral to Christianity
- b. Recognise how age- specific values can address the different needs across age groups and different communities
- c. Lead in a way that exemplifies servant leadership
- d. Live in a way that one's Christian/sports values are an example of discipleship
- e. Identify issues that may indicate abuse and refer responsibly to the relevant authorities.



### **Knowledge:**

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have been exposed to the following:

- a. To know what we mean when we refer to values, core values, Christian/biblical values, secular values, sports values etc. and how to differentiate between them
- b. Knowledge of the Bible and Christian teachings especially in relationship to value based sports, servant leadership and discipleship
- c. Knowledge of how the integration of sports values and Christian living can challenge Christians to actively and effectively influence practices that are lacking in sports values.
- d. Knowledge of how sports can be a means of instilling human/Christian values such as social justice, healthy competition, clean sports, social engagement without compromising the Biblical and Christian teachings
- e. What it means to be a disciple and servant leader.

### **Skills:**

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have acquired the following skills:

- a. Lead sports ministries in communities/ Parishes
- b. to devise bible-based sports programme that serve the needs of the participants
- c. to understand the immediate and long-term benefits in value based coaching
- d. Engage different ability sports persons and transmit to them the Christian values as they practice their sport
- e. Organise or support festivals and/or big sports events in a way that promotes social justice
- f. put in place safeguarding procedures when dealing with different categories.

### **Module-Specific Learner Skills:**

At the end of the module/unit the learner will be able to

- a. Devise team/person-based value integrated programmes
- b. Adapt sessions to be able to seek and take those unplanned opportunities that can become defining/anchoring moments to cherish for life
- c. Liaise with people endorsing differing belief systems without compromising their Christian faith.

### **Module-Specific Digital Skills & Competences:**



At the end of the module/unit, the learner will be able to:

- a. To use Visual resources that can support the technical - tactical learning
- b. Develop knowledge and expertise in the use of sports specific personalised data collection.

## Reading List

1. Sports and Play in Christian Theology. Edited by John Tucker, Contributions by Robert Ellis
2. Putman, Jim. *Church is a Team Sport: A Championship Strategy for Doing Ministry Together*. Michigan: Baker Books, 2008.
3. Playing on an Uneven Field : Essays on Exclusion and Inclusion in Sports. Edited by Yuya Kiuchi

## Supplementary Reading List

1. The Saving of Sports Ministry : The Soteriology of Sports Outreach By Linville Greg



## Sport and Community Building

Contact Hours: 10

Supervised Placement &  
Practice Hours: 10

Self-Study Hours: 20

Assessment Hours: 10

Mode of Delivery: Face-to-Face Learning

Mode of Attendance: Part-time

### Module Description

The local community is central to God's work. This module will explore and identify ways in which different groups in the local community can make stronger and healthier communities across generations. It illustrates the various ways in which sports has been serving in building God's Kingdom. Learners will be able to learn sport related skills and language to teach the values and apply learnt knowledge to their particular setting. Learners will also be able to organise and create sport camps and festivals according to their specific context, looking also at the practical aspect of such organisation.

### Learning Outcomes

#### Competences:

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have acquired the responsibility and autonomy to:

- a. attribute sport values to different age groups
- b. relate sports values and ministry to community building
- c. organise sports events.

#### Knowledge:

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have been exposed to the following:

- a. Understanding values through games
- b. Identifying basic rules of safety
- c. Understanding coaching basics
- d. Recognising sport injuries
- e. Learning about camps and festivals.



### **Skills:**

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have acquired the following skills:

- a. Apply Christian values through sport and games
- b. Categorise and adapt to different age groups and ability
- c. Organise camps and festivals
- d. Apply learnt knowledge of safety through practical experience

### **Module-Specific Learner Skills:**

At the end of the module/unit the learner will be able to

- a. Use sport related language to evangelise
- b. Design, conduct and evaluate sport programs and activities that are applied in different contexts.

## Reading List

1. Understanding Young People, ReadySetGo, Max7.org.  
<https://www.max7.org/en/resource/understandingyoungpeopleguide> (accessed on 15th June 2021)
2. Mentoring Young People, ReadySetGo, Max7.org  
<https://www.max7.org/en/resource/unlockinglocalassetsmentoringapprentices> (accessed on 15th June 2021)
3. Community Festivals, ReadySetGod, Max7.org  
<https://www.max7.org/en/resource/CommunityFestivalGuide>
4. Sports Camp Manual, ReadySetGo, Max7.org  
<https://www.max7.org/en/resource/sportscampsguide> (accessed on 15th June 2021)
5. Play Camp Manuals, ReadySetGo, Max7.org  
<https://www.max7.org/en/resource/playcampsguide> (accessed on 15th June 2021)
6. Francis. *Christus vivit*, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, 2019. vatican.va

### **Supplementary Reading List**

1. Sports Camps, ReadySetGo, Max7.org  
<https://www.max7.org/en/resource/sportscampsguide> (accessed on 15th June 2021)



2. Active Discipling in Families, ReadySetGo, Max7.org

<https://www.max7.org/en/resource/activedisciplingthefamilytoolkit> (accessed on 15th June 2021)

3. Mentoring, ReadySetGo, Max7.org

<https://www.max7.org/en/resource/mentoringguide> (accessed on 15th June 2021)

## For further information and assistance

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