



SIGA INDEPENDENT RATING AND VERIFICATION SYSTEM (SIRVS) ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION BODIES

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

SECTION 1: About SIGA

1. What is SIGA?

The Sport Integrity Global Alliance (**SIGA**) is the world's leading independent, neutral and multi-stakeholder coalition dedicated to advancing integrity, transparency, and good governance in sport.

SIGA develops and promotes universal standards and frameworks designed to strengthen trust and accountability across the global sports ecosystem.

Funded by our Members, SIGA is incorporated as a not-for-profit association under Swiss civil law, led by the sports industry and supported by key stakeholders, with continental subsidiaries in America (Washington DC), Europe, (Lisbon), Latin America (Sao Paulo) and Asia (Dubai).

2. What is SIGA's Mission?

SIGA is setting the new standard for Sport Integrity and is delivering its mission of delivering accountability to the sports industry through the SIGA Independent Rating and Verification System (**SIRVS**).

SIGA's mission is for **Every Sport in Every Country to be SIGA Certified** ushering in a new era of governance, transparency and accountability and helping the sports industry address and mitigate against the risks of reputational damage arising from high profile governance failures, integrity breaches, corruption scandals and other threats.

3. How do you become a SIGA Member?

SIGA is a multi-stakeholder not-for-profit organisation. If you are a sport, government, global business, international organisation or represent civil society, you can contact SIGA at info@sigasport.com. Click [here](#) for membership fees and benefits.

Section 2: About the SIGA Universal Standards on Sport Integrity

4. What are the SIGA Universal Standards on Sport Integrity?

The SIGA Universal Standards on Sport Integrity are the best-in-class set of international standards developed by SIGA to enhance governance, integrity, transparency, and accountability within sports organisations to support their ongoing governance journeys and achieve excellence. To date SIGA has developed Universal Standards on four core topics:

- Good Governance in Sport;
- Financial Integrity in Sport;
- Sports Betting Integrity; and
- Youth Development and Protection in Sport.

Two additional SIGA Universal Standards are currently under development including:

- Sustainability & Social Impact; and
- Artificial Intelligence & Sports Integrity.

5. What languages are the SIGA Universal Standards on Sport Integrity?

Currently the SIGA Universal Standards on Good Governance in Sport are translated into three languages: English, Italian & Portuguese. The SIGA Universal Standards on Sports Betting Integrity are currently translated into two languages, English and Portuguese. Eventually the standards will be translated into multiple languages as we scale the SIRVS certification worldwide via the new accreditation model. All translations are available on SIGA's website [here](#).

SECTION 3: About SIRVS

6. What is SIRVS?

SIRVS stands for the SIGA Independent Rating and Verification System. An initiative by the Sport Integrity Global Alliance (SIGA), it's the only independent rating and certification system in the sports industry to assess sports organisations' internal processes and practices in accordance with an international set of Universal Standards on Sports Integrity developed by SIGA.

7. What sports organisations can apply for SIRVS?

Sports organisations are defined in SIGA's Universal Standards as “any international, national and/or local sports federation, competition organiser, club and other relevant sports bodies, including leagues, clubs and players unions. NOTE Sports Organisations can embody different legal forms (e.g. limited company, unincorporated association, charity, mutual societies, and public/state run organisations).

8. How does SIRVS assess an organisation's level of compliance with SIGA's Universal Standards?

The SIRVS audit is conducted by SIGA Accredited Certification Bodies that have experience in delivering rating and certification in accordance with international standards and are trained in the criteria of the SIGA Universal Standards on Sport Integrity and the SIRVS methodology.

The SIRVS audit is broken down into two audits over a period of four (4) months and is designed to assess compliance with the criteria and measure the effectiveness of the sports organisations' implementation of the criteria. For those sports organisations that don't yet meet certain criteria, the auditors require a corrective action plan that is reviewed at a later date to support the organisations' governance journey. The final audit report is reviewed by a second member of the ACB audit team by way of a quality check and presented to the sports organisation. The ACB then issues the final SIGA certificate.

9. What are the SIRVS certification levels?

SIRVS offers three levels of certification: Bronze, Silver, equivalent to Good, Better and Best, respectively. Each level represents a progressively higher standard of adherence to the SIGA Universal Standards on Sport Integrity.

Each level is cumulative, meaning that achieving the Silver certification requires meeting all Bronze criteria and additional Silver criteria. Similarly, the Gold certification requires compliance with all criteria set out for Bronze and Silver, along with its own set of rigorous benchmarks.

10. What Sports organisations' have gone through SIRVS certification?

To date, SIGA has issued SIRVS Certificates in relation to its Universal Standards on Good Governance in Sport to the European Rugby League Federation, Portuguese Football League and European Aquatics. SIGA has and is working with several sports organisations behind the scenes with its SIRVS independent audit team providing independent gap status review assessments audits (as explained below) that are designed to provide an x-ray on a confidential basis to the sports organisation of where they are in terms of compliance with the SIGA Governance Standards as a precursor to SIRVS. This option is increasingly popular as an initial audit tool as it means that sports organisations understand where they are in relation to the standards and can plug any necessary gaps prior to going through SIRVS.

11. How long is the SIRVS certification valid?

The SIRVS certification remains valid for three years with top up annual audits in years two and three to ensure ongoing adherence. Sports organisations' certification may go up or down during the three years cycle.

12. Why is SIRVS essential for sports organisations?

With stakeholders increasingly demanding sport integrity, SIRVS serves as the sole independent tool that validates an organisation's best practices in accordance with a set of internationally recognised standards specifically tailored for the sports industry. The SIRVS kitemark is a symbol of compliance to mitigate reputational risks from those that invest financially and by turn, their reputations in sport, including the sponsors, broadcasters, and fans.

13. How do sports organisations benefit from SIRVS certification?

SIRVS is a proactive way that sports organisations can demonstrate outwardly that they are committed to the values of Sport Integrity. Against a backdrop of increasing scandals in the industry, SIRVS is the action to show that your sports organisation is walking the talk when it comes to good governance in sport. Achieving SIRVS certification signals to stakeholders an organisation's steadfast commitment to sport integrity as defined by the SIGA Universal Standards. This not only strengthens their credibility but also positions them as leaders in fostering the future of a trustworthy sport, according to fans', sponsors' and broadcasters trust and mitigates the risk of reputational damage.

14. What is the SIRVS independent gap analysis assessment audit and how does it contribute to an organisation's journey towards certification?

The confidential gap analysis assessment audit is a tool developed by SIGA as a precursor to an organisation going through SIRVS to assess whether they meet the criteria. It involves a one day virtual or in person audit to identify areas within an organisation that may or may not yet meet the requirements of the SIGA Universal Standards on Sport Integrity and design a corrective action plan for sports organisations to implement in a 12-month period to get them match fit for the SIRVS audit. This assessment pinpoints specific gaps, enabling organisations to understand their current position relative to the Standards and informing them about necessary improvements to achieve certification.

15. Does SIGA offer training on SIRVS implementation?

Yes. Training plays a pivotal role and can be delivered at any stage of the SIRVS journey, including at the outset, after the gap analysis audit or post SIRVS. The training is designed to support the sports organisations' understanding of specific criteria as often the standards are a new language for employees, and it is a chance to develop a deep level understanding of what the criteria means and how you can demonstrate compliance and implementation. SIGA's new commercial arm, SIGA SOLUTIONS, was established specifically to provide training to both sports organisations and ACBs on SIRVS to support their governance journeys.

16. How can sports organisations apply for training, the independent gap assessment audit or the SIRVS certification?

Sports Organizations eager to be assessed against the SIGA Universal Standards through SIRVS should connect with SIGA who will during this transition phase find an appropriate SIGA ACB to support with SIRVS. Please email sirvs@sigasport.com.

SECTION 4: About SIGA's Accreditation Model

17. Why has SIGA migrated from a certification to an accreditation model?

SIGA has migrated from a certification to an accreditation model to scale delivery of SIRVS globally to meet SIGA's mission: **Every Sport in Every Country to be SIGA Certified.**

18. How does the SIRVS Accreditation Model Work?

SIGA Accredited Certification Bodies (**ACBs**) are granted SIRVS accreditation status based on the following requirements:

- ACBs must meet the eligibility criteria set out in this invitation;
- Submit an online application; and
- Pay an annual licence fee.

19. How long does accreditation last for ACBs?

A period of two (2) years.

20. On what basis is an ABC granted a licence?

ACBs are granted non-exclusive licences within different geographic, sectorial and standards-based scope.

21. What SIRVS related services can ACBs perform?

ACBs can deliver independent gap analysis assessment audits, full SIRVS audits and training and education and capacity building services to sporting organisations provided conflict of interest rules apply.

22. How much does it cost for a SIRVS Accredited Certification Body (ACB) to receive accreditation?

From June 2026 – 1 October 2026, SIGA is offering the first five (5) ACBs Founding ACB Status.

From 1 January 2027, the Licence Fee for ACBs will be based on annual turnover at the following levels:

- Up to £5M Annual Turnover, an annual Licence Fee of £10,000.00

- £5 - £50M Annual Turnover an annual Licence Fee of £25,000.00
- £50M- £250M Annual Turnover an annual Licence Fee of £50,000.00
- Above £250M Annual Turnover an annual Licence Fee of £75,000.00

In exchange of the annual Licence Fee, ACBs will be granted a non-exclusive licence to operate SIRVS in accordance with the agreed scope.

23. What are the other costs?

Each ACB will need to pay for:

- Licence Fee (see above);
 - Annual Training on SIRVS;
 - Percentage to SIGA on an annual basis per certificate issued:
- If the total audit fee is less than £1,500 a Certification price is £200
 - If the total audit fee is between £1,500 - £2,500 a Certification price is £250
 - If the total audit fee is between £2,500 - £5,000 a Certification price is £350
 - If the total audit fee is £5,000 or more, 20% of the Certificate price

24. How does the pricing model for ACBs work?

SIGA is not prescriptive on fees ACBs can charge for SIRVS although there is guidance established within the SIRVS Audit Scheme Manual based on size of organisation and recommended number of audit days which is made available to ACBs upon application.

25. What are the benefits?

✓ Each ACB will receive the following benefits:

- Listed on the SIGA website as a SIGA ACB;
- Media Release;
- X1 Interview with SIGA and/or SIGA Global Media Partners; and
- X1 free delegate pass to the annual SIRVS Technical Conference.

✓ Founding ACBs will receive the following additional benefits:

- Fixed Licence Fee in the sum of £10,000.00 per annum for initial two (2) years term;
- Founding ACB Status on SIGA Website;
- SIRVS Technical Teams Full Support for Pilot;
- X1 Speaking role at a SIGA Thought Leadership Event;
- Complimentary Training for first year;
- Support in marketing;
- Interview in Sport Integrity Journal

Note – we are granting five (5) organisations Founding ACB Status.

26. Who is responsible for marketing SIRVS?

SIGA ACBs are responsible for marketing SIRVS in accordance with SIGA's SIRVS Marketing Guidelines. To complement the effort, SIGA's global platform will continue to promote through its various thought leadership events and initiatives the need for SIRVS.

27. How can you apply to be a Founding ACB?

Apply by completing the online form and emailing sirvs@sigasport.com confirming that you have submitted your application form by 1 October 2026 to benefit from the fixed Licence Fee in the sum of £10,000.00 per annum for the initial two (2) years term.