Pursuant to the aforesaid mandates, it is incumbent upon the
State to lay down specific policy directives to promote the interest of
our indigenous peoples, and strengthen our cultural heritage and
historical roots. The State shall take the necessary steps to preserve
the indigenous peoples’ games which serve as the best avenue for
their self-expression, and for promoting peace, harmony, goodwill
and camaraderie among them.

SEC. 3. Indigenous Games. — The term “indigenous games”
refer to the traditional sports and games or activities inherent to
the different indigenous cultural communities that reflect the rich
cultural heritage, traditions or customs handed down from
generation to generation such as tribal archery, blowpipe, sibat,
dug-out canoe race, rock balancing, sumpit, sungka, kadang-kadang
and other games distinct to the indigenous communities.

SEC. 4. Annual Regional and National Indigenous Games. —
The Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), in coordination with the
Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) and the local government
units (LGUs), shall conduct annual regional and national
indigenous sports competitions.

The host LGU, in consultation with the concerned indigenous
cultural communities, shall have the prerogative to choose which
sports shall be included in the regional and national indigenous
sports competitions.

SEC. 5. Other Means of Preserving the Indigenous Games. —
The National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), the
National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), the National
Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF), in coordination with the
Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on Higher
Education (CHED), and the Philippine Information Agency (PIA),
shall initiate measures to preserve indigenous games in the country,
such as the inclusion of games as part of the curriculum in the basic and higher education system of schools, the production of documentary or other useful means, and the conduct of regular demonstration of such games in the Palarong Pambansa and in other national sports events, and in appropriate school activities.

The NCCA shall likewise conduct research on the various sports traditionally played by different indigenous groups to ensure their preservation and development.

SEC. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — The PSC and the POC as the lead agencies, in coordination with the NCCA, NCIP, DepEd, CHED, PIA, and LGUs, shall promulgate the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days after its effectivity.

SEC. 7. Separability Clause. — If any part or provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 8. Repealing Clause. — All laws, executive orders, issuances, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are deemed amended, modified or repealed accordingly.

SEC. 9. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,