



International
Quadball
Association

COMMUNITY-WIDE SURVEY 2024

ANALYSIS BY STRATEGIC
PLANNING COMMITTEE





INTRODUCTION

This document classifies and summarizes data from the analysis of the 2024 IQA Community-wide Survey on Strategic Planning, which leads both to an initial draft for the strategic plan and content for communications and social media.

Timeline

On 9 March 2024, during a meeting of the Board of Trustees, concerns were expressed about the inactivity of the Strategic Planning Committee. On 13 April 2024, an initial Strategic Planning Proposal by Marc Alcalà-i-Rams and Lore Badts was discussed in another meeting of the Board of Trustees. At this point, the committee included the following members: Marc Alcalà-i-Rams (Chair), Jamie Turbet, Lore Badts, Negra Flores. On 4 May 2024, in the following meeting, the Board of Trustees and Directors expressed general approval of the revised proposal. According to it, a Strategic Planning Core Committee including three trustees and two directors was created, while all trustees and directors were added to a Strategic Planning Extended Committee. The new Strategic Planning Committee was tasked with elaborating the initial draft of the IQA Strategic Plan, aiming to approve it in the next Annual General Meeting of the Assembly of Members.

In September, the 2024 IQA Community-Wide Survey on Strategic Planning was released and shared with the community in multiple ways in order to collect data. The survey was open to anyone, included both close-ended and open-text questions, and could be filled in anonymously. The form was closed on 29 September 2024, and the results were discussed and analyzed to create the draft for the IQA Strategic Plan.

Context

The survey included questions on the IQA's mission and values, and some suggested strategic areas. At the time of the survey, these were:

- *Mission: to lead and promote the sport of quadball by holding international sporting events, supporting other quadball groups, and by sharing quadball and our values of gender equity and inclusivity with a broader audience.*
- *Quadball values: Inclusivity, Accessibility, Integrity,*
- *Organizational values: Openness, Empowering.*
- *Suggested strategic areas:*
 - *Enhanced identity and communications* (this could include branding, stronger connections with stakeholders, improved collaboration and information exchange).
 - *Extended gameplay* (this could include variations of the sport such as youth quadball, major league, simplified versions of the sport, additional resources).
 - *Geographical development and expansion* (this could include guides and resources for members, direct development efforts, and organize concrete geographical regions)
 - *Recruitment and Inclusion* (this could include making the sport more accessible, and improving volunteer recruitment and satisfaction).

Committee members

Marc Alcalà-i-Rams (committee chair); Negra Flores (trustee), Vitória Alves (trustee), Jamie Turbet (director), Bobby Click (director).

Publication date

15 March 2025



Photo by Ajantha Abey

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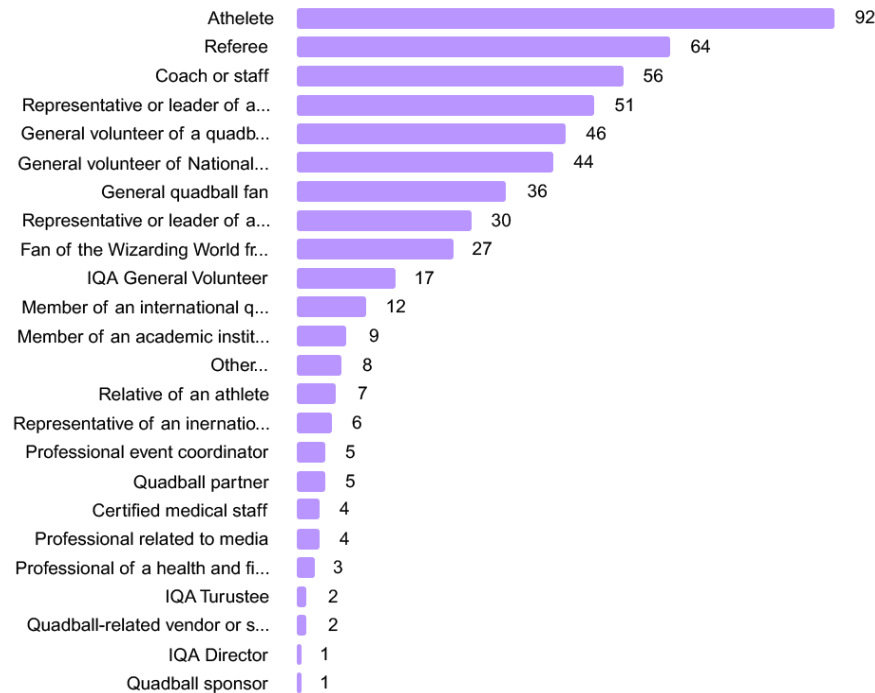
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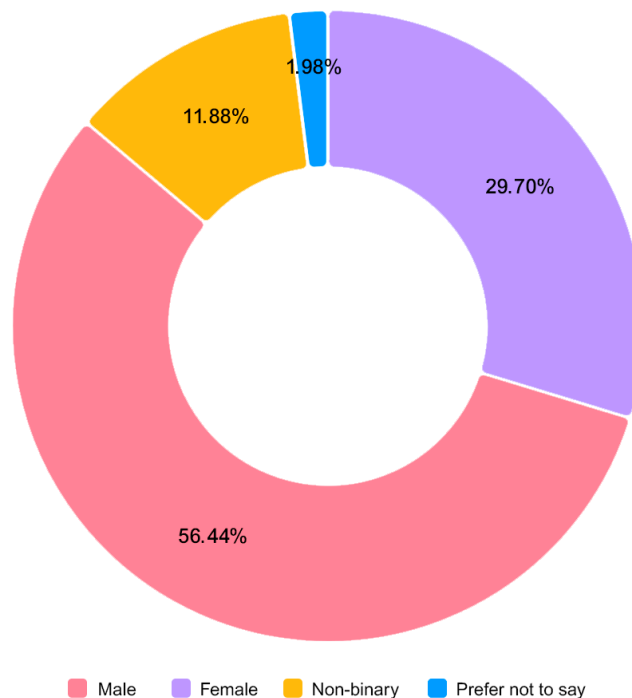
1. Demographics

1.1. What are or have been your roles* in or in relation to the quadball community?

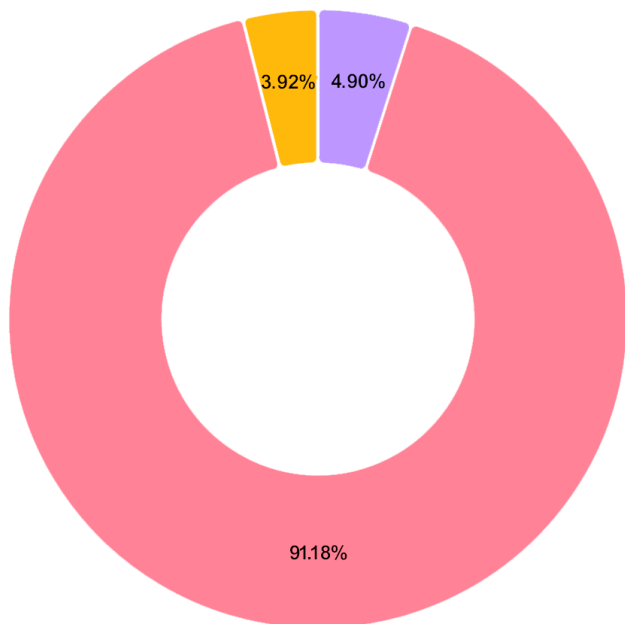


*Original preset list: IQA Trustee / IQA Director / IQA General Volunteer / Representative or leader of a National Governing Body / General volunteer of National Governing Body / Athlete / Coach or staff / Referee / Representative of an international quadball organization / Member of an international quadball event's committee / Representative or leader of a quadball club / General volunteer of a quadball club / Relative of an athlete / Professional event coordinator / Professional facility manager / Professional travel or accommodation provider / Quadball-related vendor or supplier / Professional of an insurance company / Professional of a health and fitness organization / Certified medical staff / General quadball fan / Fan of the Wizarding World franchise (including Harry Potter) / Member of an academic institution / Professional related to media / Quadball sponsor / Quadball partner

1.2. What is your gender?

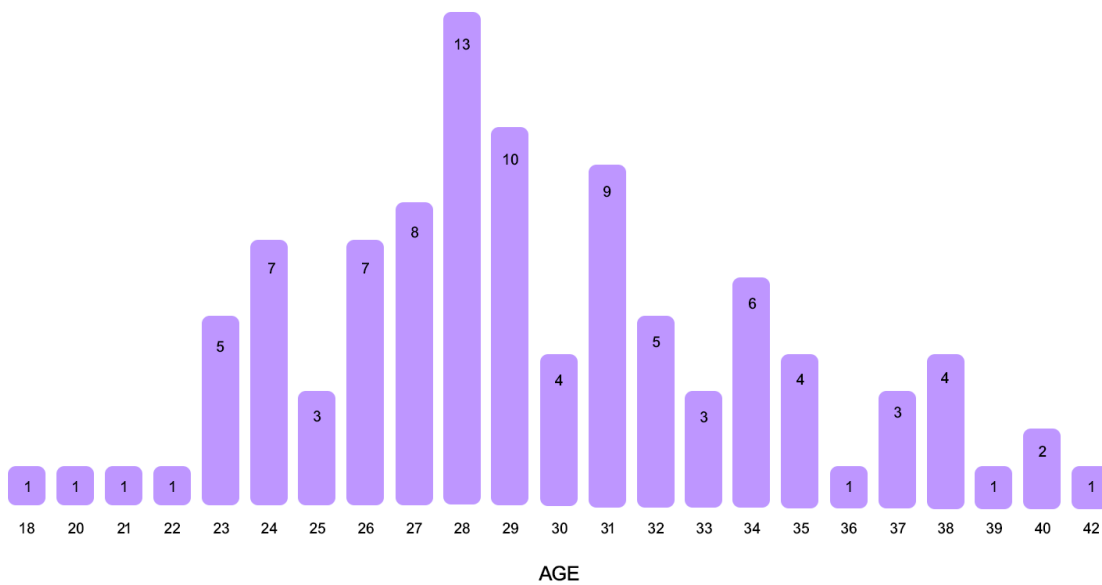


1.3. Do you identify as transgender or have a transgender history?

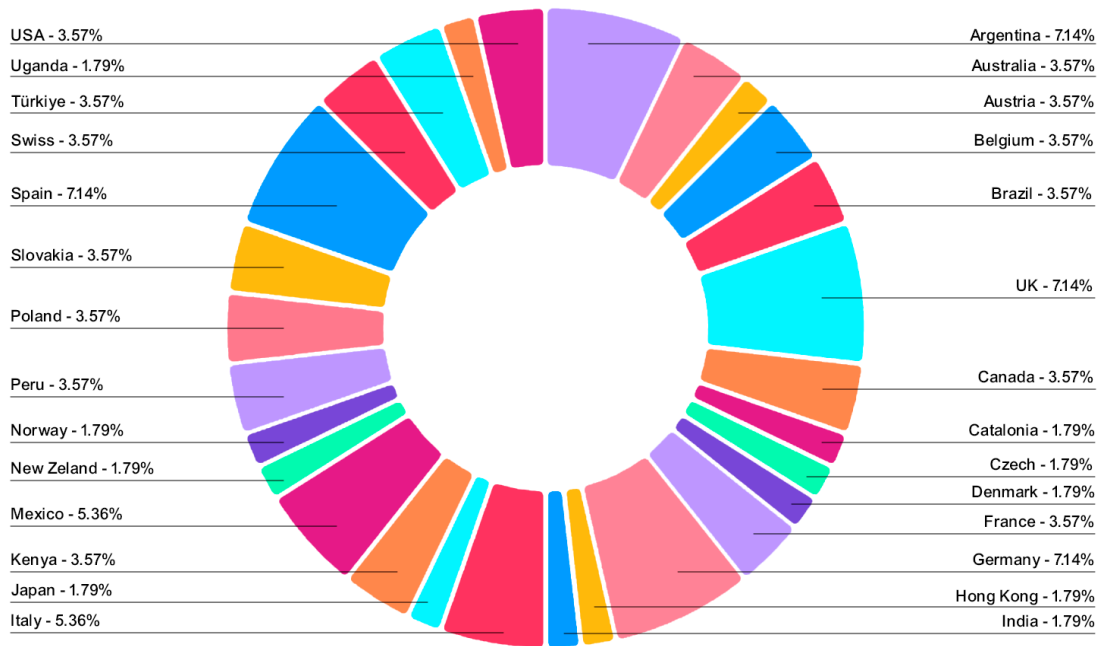


■ Yes
 ■ No
 ■ Prefer not to say

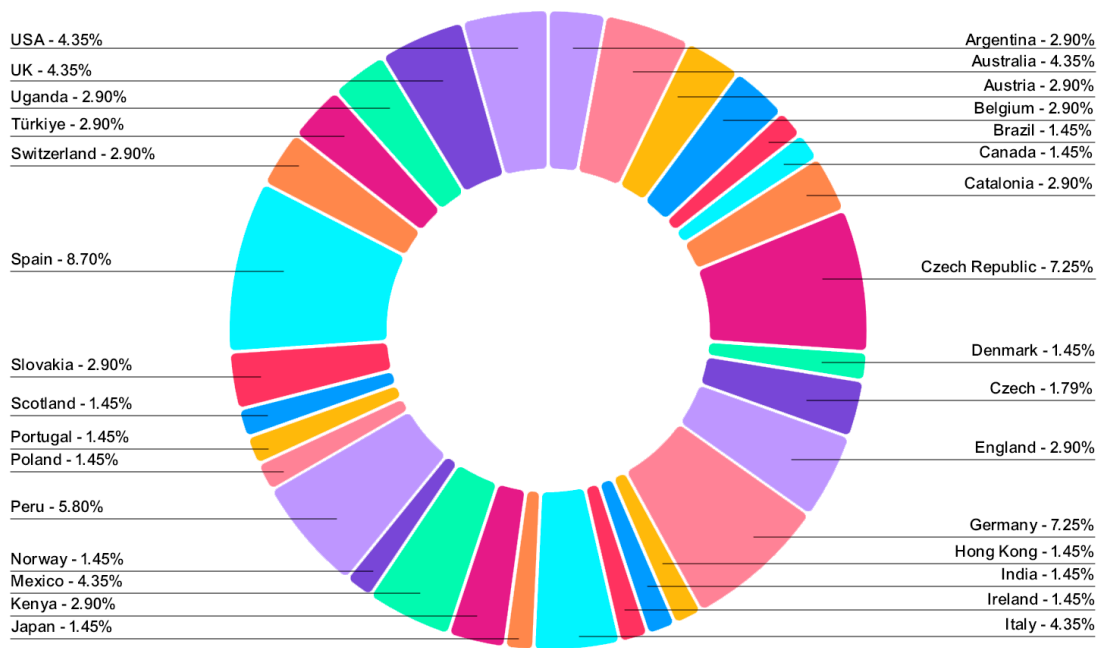
1.4. What is your age?



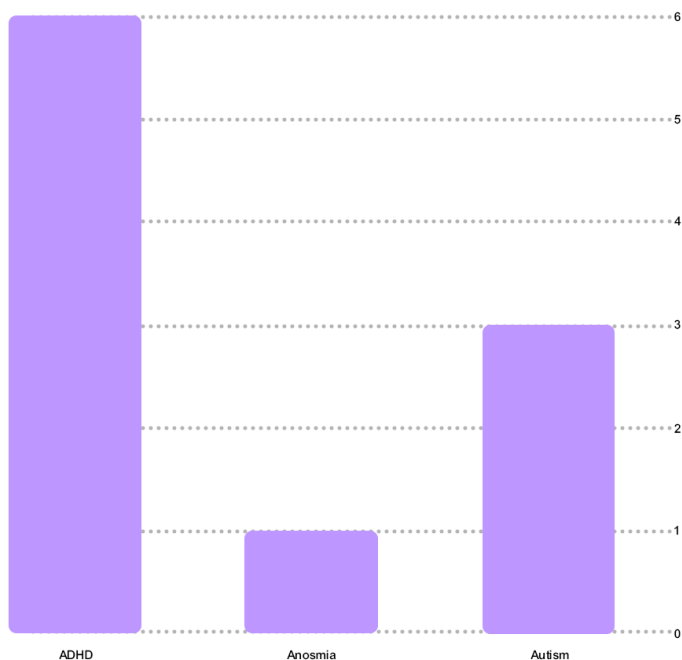
1.5. What is your nationality?



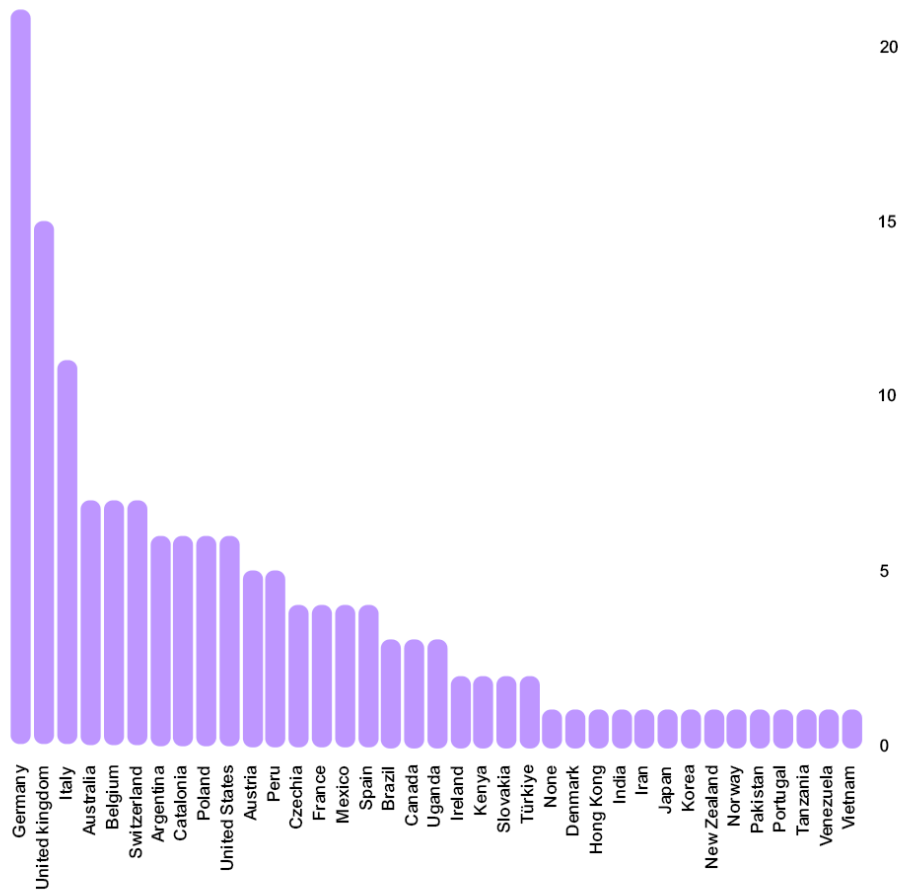
1.6. What is your usual country of residence?



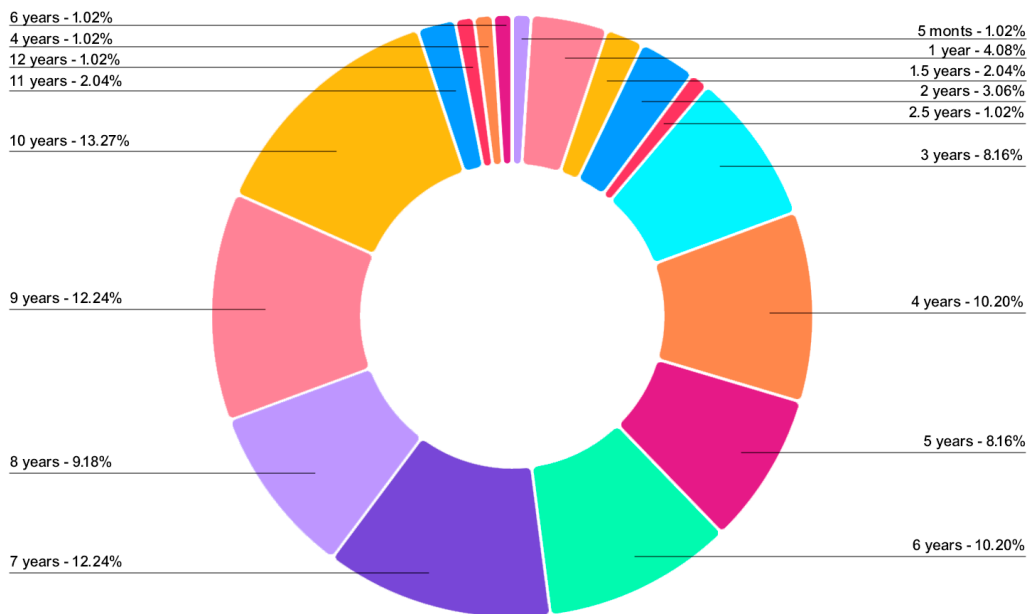
1.7. In case you have a disability, what is your disability?



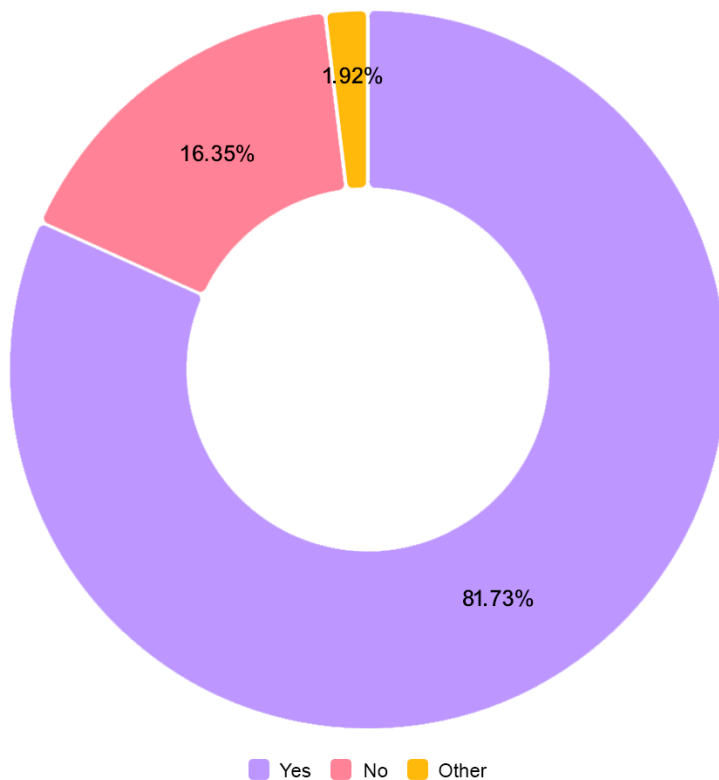
1.8. Which National Governing Body (NGB) or Area of Interest do you or have you primarily played, volunteered, or acted in?



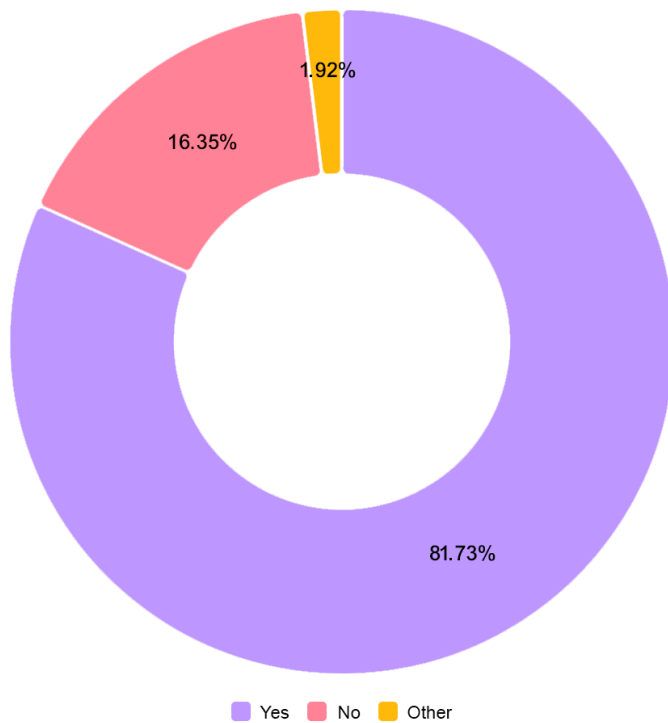
1.9. How many years have you been part of the quadball community in any role overall?



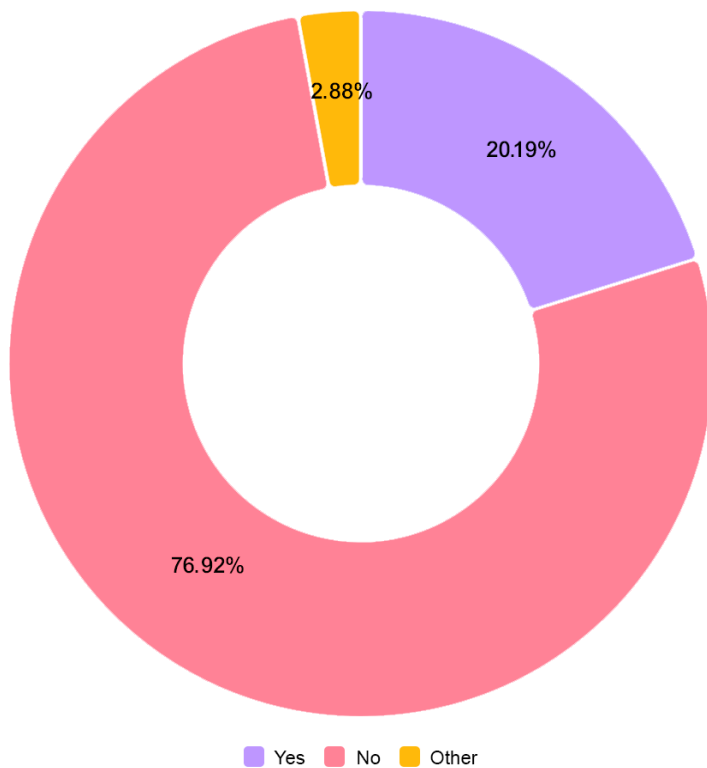
1.10. Currently, do you play quadball?



1.11. Currently, do you volunteer at any level?



1.12. Currently, are you related to the community in any other way?



2. Quadball as a sport

2.1. What is one thing the sport is doing well at?

Many of the responses highlight the strong sense of community as a core strength of the sport. Words like “welcoming, inclusive, and bringing people together” are frequently mentioned, emphasizing that the sport fosters a supportive and friendly atmosphere.

Inclusivity in terms of gender, LGBTQ+ representation, and the acceptance of diverse backgrounds appears consistently. Participants appreciate that the sport provides a safe space for marginalized groups and challenges traditional gender norms.

Several responses commend the sport for progressing in areas like event organization, tournament professionalism, and rulebook adaptation to improve gameplay and safety.

Some participants mention the sport’s ability to attract individuals who traditionally avoid sports, offering a blend of competitiveness, fun, and a welcoming entry point into team activities.

2.2. What is one thing the sport is doing poorly at?

The sport is struggling with many key issues, including recruiting new players, retaining participants, and growing at the grassroots level. There is also a challenge with said inclusivity, with some players finding gender policies difficult to navigate, particularly in small teams.

Many respondents noted a lack of publicity, making the sport feel inaccessible to potential newcomers. The rules are often seen as overly complicated and inconsistent, leading to confusion, particularly for new players and referees.

Additionally, at the same time, there is also a need for better organization and event planning, as tournaments and resources are frequently not announced in enough advance, making it difficult for teams to prepare.

Finally, there is a general concern about the sport's image, with some still associating it with Harry Potter and others feeling that it has become too focused on competitiveness rather than community-building.

2.3. Where do you want to see quadball in the next five years?

In the next five years, people hope to see quadball as a widely recognized and professional sport with a strong presence globally. There is a desire for significant growth, particularly in Europe, Australia, and Africa, with more teams, clubs, and youth involvement, as well as greater media coverage, including TV broadcasts and livestreams.

Many envision quadball becoming an established part of international sporting events, such as the World Games or even the Olympics. The sport is expected to be more inclusive, with greater opportunities for women, transgender and nonbinary players, and underrepresented communities, while maintaining its fun, accessible, and mixed-gender nature.

Participants also hope for improved infrastructure, including a stable event calendar, more professional competition, and better recruitment efforts, particularly in schools and universities.

Additionally, there is an emphasis on refining the sport's rules for safety and inclusivity, as well as ensuring a consistent and engaging experience for players of all levels.

2.4. Where do you actually see quadball in the next five years?

These responses reveal a mixture of pessimism, cautious hope, and acknowledgment of challenges. A significant proportion of respondents express concerns about the sport's decline, with fears of disappearing NGBs, reduced player bases, and the aging of current communities. Many envision a stagnation or contraction, particularly for smaller NGBs or regions without robust support systems. There is notable anxiety about the sport becoming confined to only a few well-supported countries like the U.S., Germany, and Australia, with diminishing presence elsewhere.

Others foresee potential growth in specific areas, such as international events, the professionalization of structures, or outreach to younger generations. However, these positive scenarios often hinge on strategic changes, like improving recruitment, focusing on grassroots development, or simplifying rules. A recurring theme is the tension between growing the sport's inclusivity and accessibility versus professionalizing and appealing to broader markets.

Approximately 10% of the responses explicitly worry about quadball disappearing or becoming “mostly dead,” while many more suggest stagnation or regression to earlier, less developed states. The division between optimism for localized successes and pessimism about global growth reflects the uncertainty surrounding the sport's future.

2.5. What first made you interested in the sport?

The initial interest in quadball typically stems from a combination of factors, most notably its origins in the Harry Potter fandom and the appeal of a unique, inclusive, and dynamic sport. Many participants were drawn by its mixed-gender nature, tactical complexity, and welcoming community, which stands in contrast to traditional sports. Friends, curiosity, and the opportunity to try something new also played significant roles, with some discovering quadball through university teams, conventions, or social connections. For others, the sport's inclusive environment and the chance to play competitively or socially without prior experience made it particularly attractive.

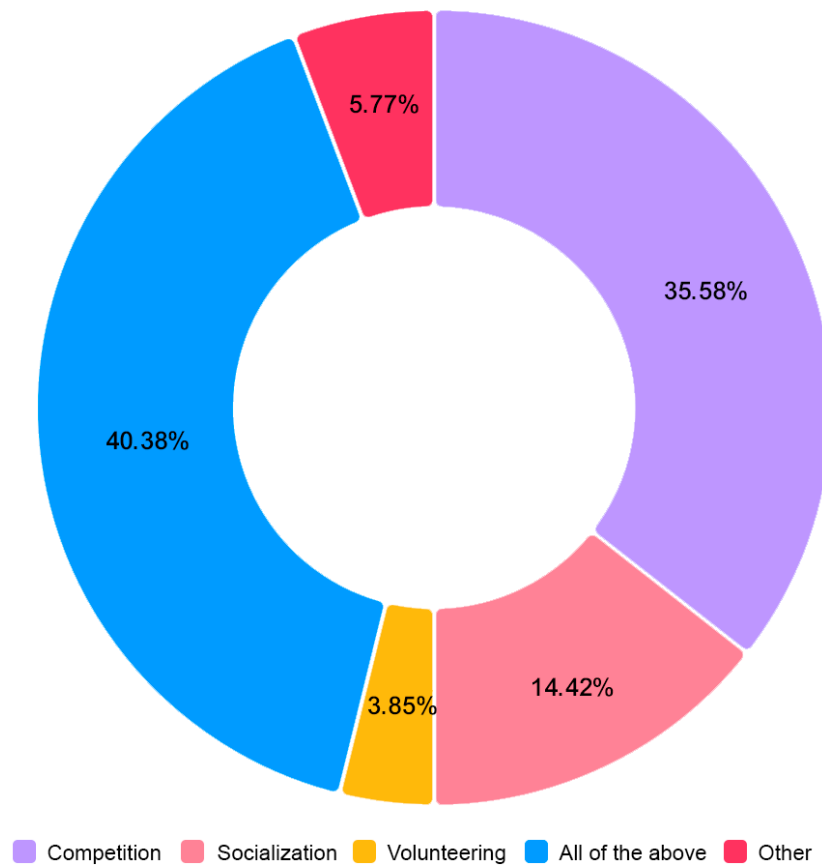
2.6. What motivated or motivates you to stay involved in the community?

The primary motivation for individuals to stay involved in the quadball community revolves around the people and the inclusive, welcoming environment it fosters. Many respondents highlight the friendships they've formed, the sense of belonging, and the community's supportive nature, often likened to a family. Additionally, the unique aspects of the sport—such as its mixed-gender inclusivity, tactical depth, and opportunities for personal growth—play a significant role. The competitive yet non-toxic nature of quadball, combined with its international opportunities, also keeps participants engaged. For some, the chance to contribute to the sport's development or to enjoy its distinctive gameplay ensures their continued involvement.

2.7. What would push or pushed you to leave the community?

Many participants cited challenges related to community dynamics, including toxic behavior, lack of inclusivity, and poor leadership, as factors that could drive them away from quadball. Other prominent reasons included burnout due to volunteering without recognition, insufficient player numbers, declining opportunities for local play, and frustrations with excessive or impractical rules. Additionally, personal circumstances like life changes, injuries, and time constraints were significant concerns. Some expressed dissatisfaction with stagnation in the sport’s growth, unaddressed issues like harassment or gender discrimination, and a lack of structural support from governing bodies. Nonetheless, a few respondents emphasized their commitment to remain engaged despite these challenges.

2.8. Which aspect of the sport interests you most?



2.9. Currently, what are things the IQA is doing well at?

The IQA is recognized for its strengths in organizing international tournaments, such as the World Cup and European Games, and fostering inclusivity and openness in the quadball community. Participants also commend its efforts to maintain a transparent rulebook, translated into multiple languages, and its commitment to enhancing the sport's safety and fairness through regular updates. Additionally, the IQA has been praised for supporting new and existing NGBs, promoting global growth, and ensuring that the sport remains accessible. These actions demonstrate a focus on both community-building and the strategic development of quadball.

2.10. Currently, what are things the IQA is doing poorly at?

The IQA faces significant criticism in several areas, primarily centered around poor communication, lack of transparency, and inadequate support for NGBs. Participants highlighted delays in announcing event locations and dates, insufficient updates about organizational goals, and limited engagement with smaller NGBs or regions outside Europe and North America. Many expressed concerns over the IQA's perceived focus on large leagues at the expense of inclusivity and development in less-established regions. The lack of marketing and promotion to new audiences, inadequate accessibility to resources like coaching materials, and challenges with volunteering systems were also cited. Lastly, financial transparency, inconsistent rulebook updates, and insufficient efforts to modernize and expand the sport's reach remain pressing issues that impact the IQA's effectiveness and trustworthiness.

2.11. What have been some of the greatest successes for the IQA?

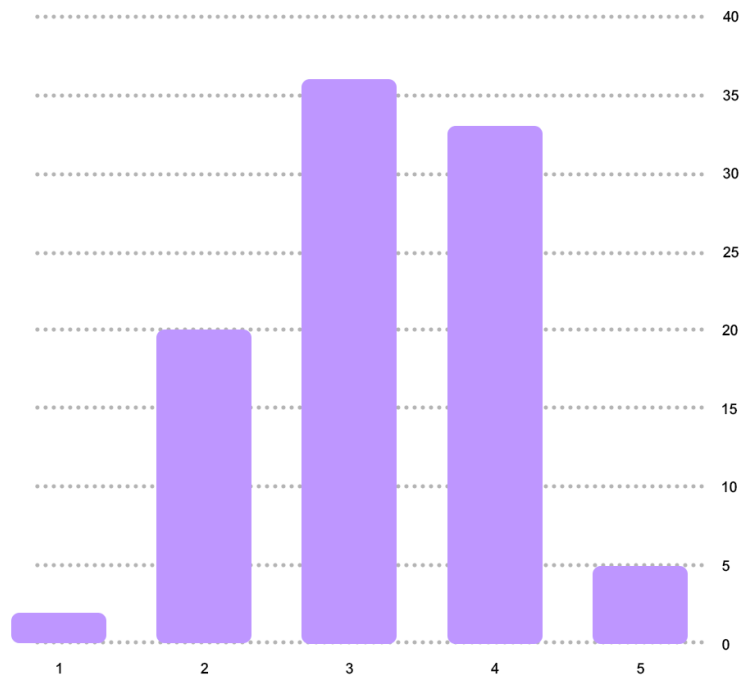
Some of the greatest successes mentioned for the IQA include organizing well-regarded international events such as World Cups, and European Games, which foster a strong sense of global community. The establishment of a unified rulebook and efforts to update rules to improve safety and inclusivity have been widely appreciated. The rebranding to quadball and the associated name change represent a significant milestone, symbolizing the sport's independence and progressive identity. Additionally, the IQA has successfully expanded to over 40 countries, survived challenges like the global pandemic, and continuously worked to enhance gender equity, improve volunteer engagement, and strengthen its organizational structures.

2.12. What have been some of the greatest failures for the IQA?

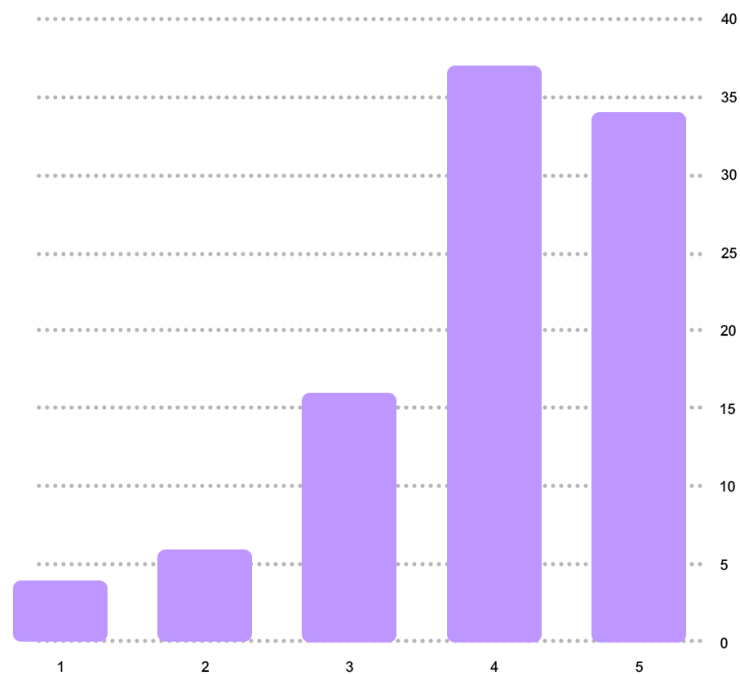
Some of the greatest failures for the IQA include challenges related to the World Cup, such as the 2023 event in the USA, which suffered from low attendance and poor organization, and faced significant criticism from players. Issues surrounding the Uganda fundraiser from years ago and its delayed support have also been problematic, alongside complaints about a lack of transparency, especially regarding decisions that favor more developed NGBs. The rushed name change to “quadball” and a perceived lack of involvement from global stakeholders in that process left many feeling that it was driven by a narrow focus. Furthermore, there have been concerns about the delay in implementing the 3-max rule and the lack of support for smaller, emerging NGBs, along with criticisms regarding the quality of media interaction and the overall direction of the organization. Additionally, inconsistent event planning and communication, as well as difficulties faced by teams in accessing resources, have hindered progress.

3. IQA's mission and values

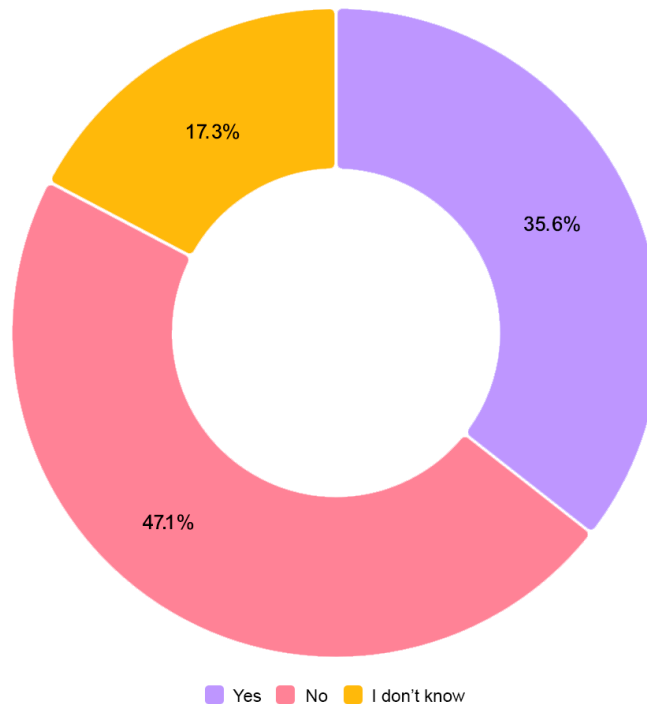
3.1. On a scale from 1 to 5, how much do you think the IQA is fulfilling its mission?



3.2. On a scale from 1 to 5, how much do you think this is a fitting mission for the IQA?



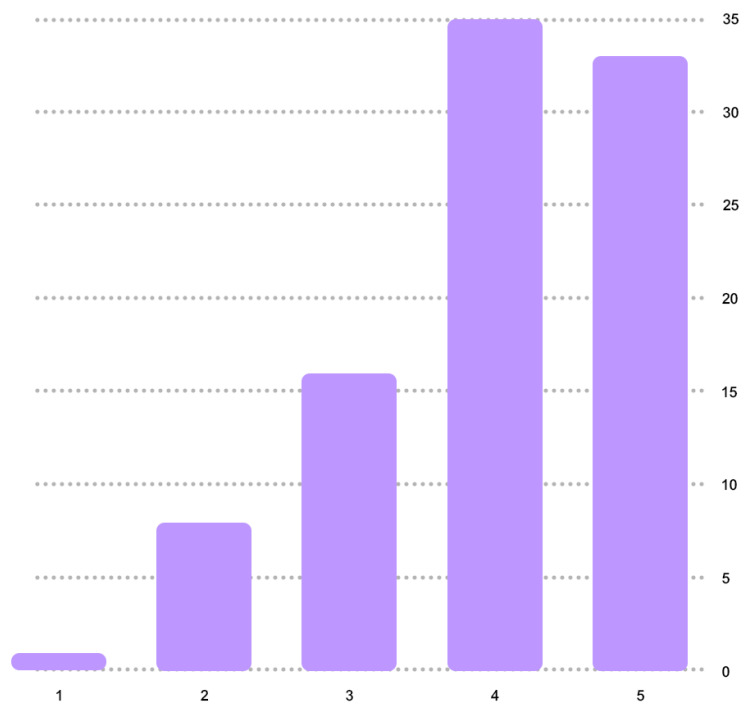
3.3. Would you change the IQA's current mission?



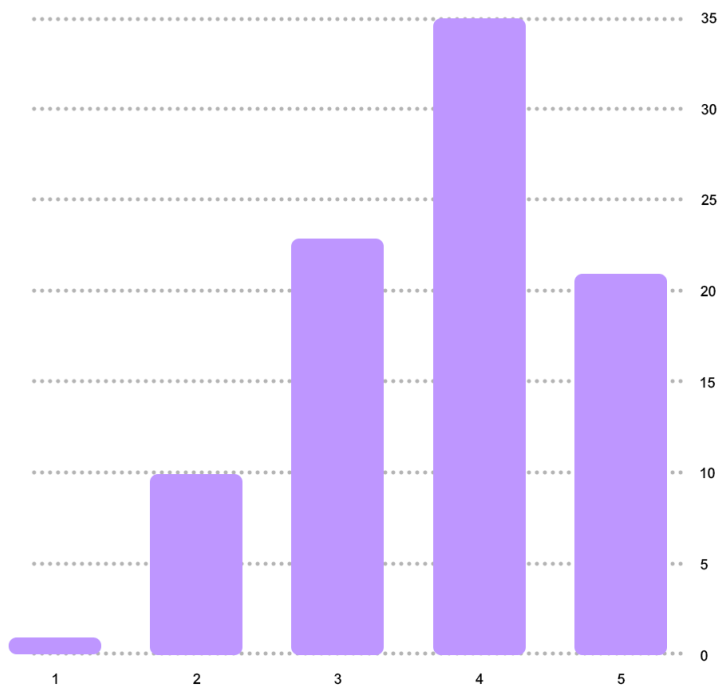
3.4. If so, how would you change it?

The responses to how participants would change the IQA's current mission reflect a strong desire for a more sport-centered approach, rather than one focused primarily on social or community aspects. Several respondents emphasized the need to prioritize the growth and development of the sport itself, with suggestions to define the mission more specifically around promoting the sport and creating pathways for its professionalization. Many believe that by focusing more on the game and less on signalling values, the sport's success would inherently promote inclusivity and other values. Others felt that the current mission was too vague, especially in areas like "supporting other quadball groups," and suggested a more concrete strategy for the IQA to support NGBs. Some responses even mentioned a need to engage younger audiences and explore different ways of playing quadball, to ensure the sport's long-term sustainability.

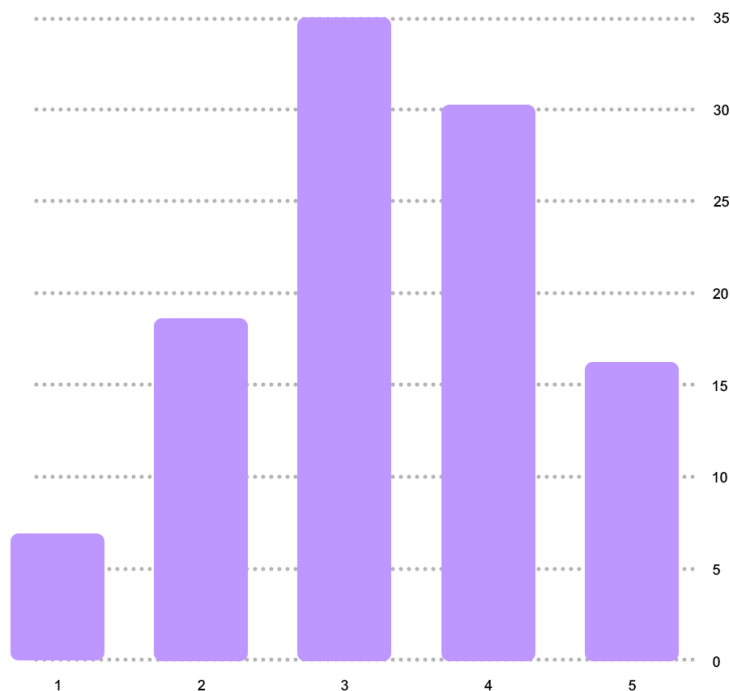
3.5. On a scale from 1 to 5, how much do you think the IQA currently represents the value of inclusivity?



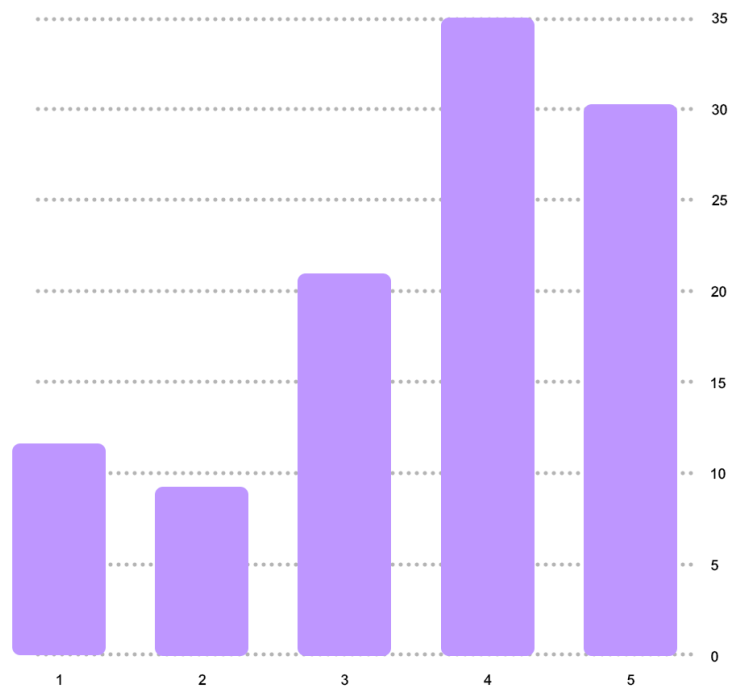
3.6. On a scale from 1 to 5, how much do you think the IQA currently represents the value of integrity?



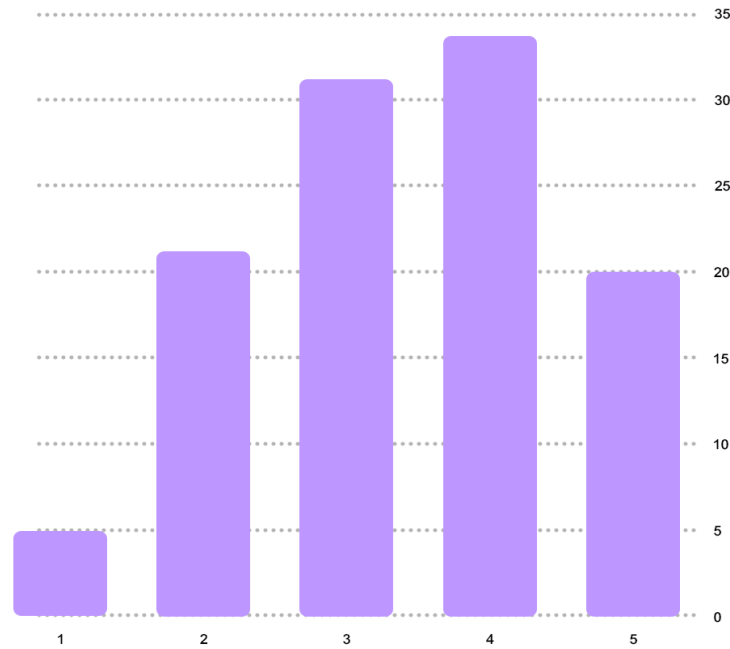
3.7. On a scale from 1 to 5, how much do you think the IQA currently represents the value of accessibility?



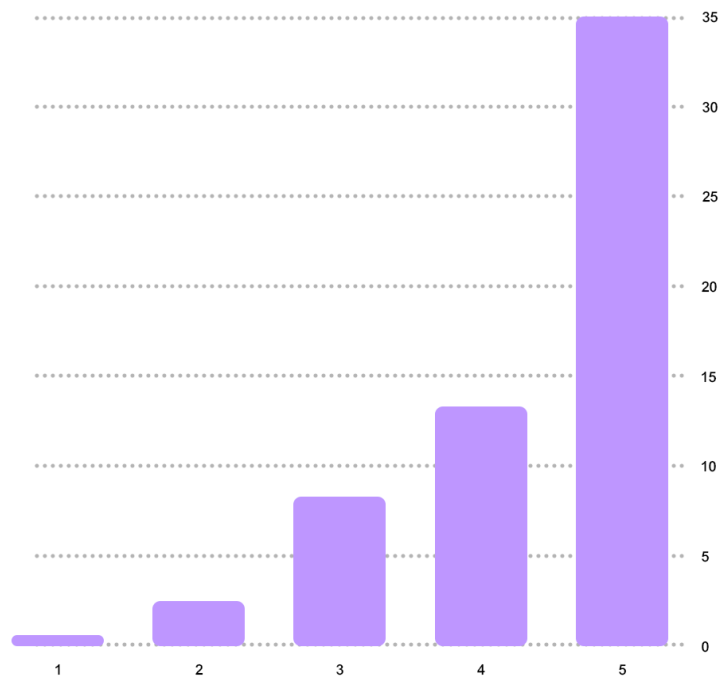
3.8. On a scale from 1 to 5, how much do you think the IQA currently represents the value of openness?



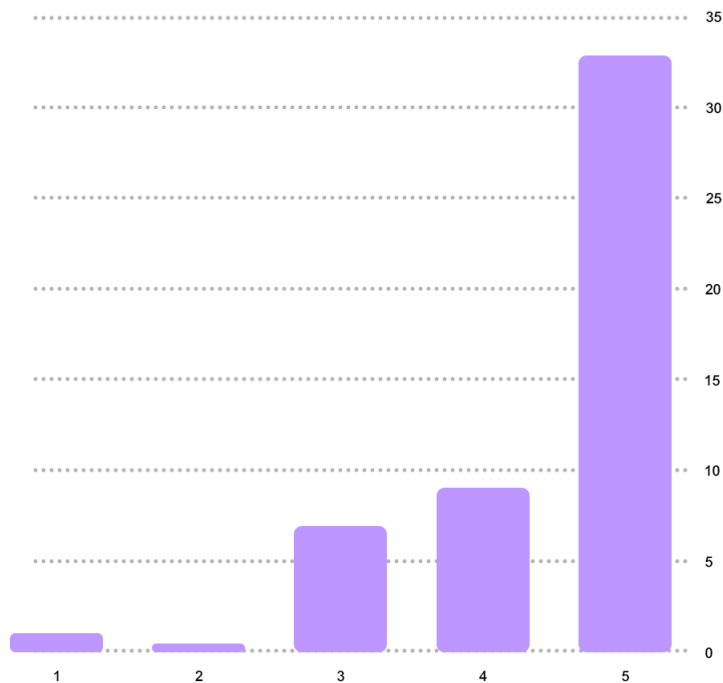
3.9. On a scale from 1 to 5, how much do you think the IQA currently represents the value of empowering?



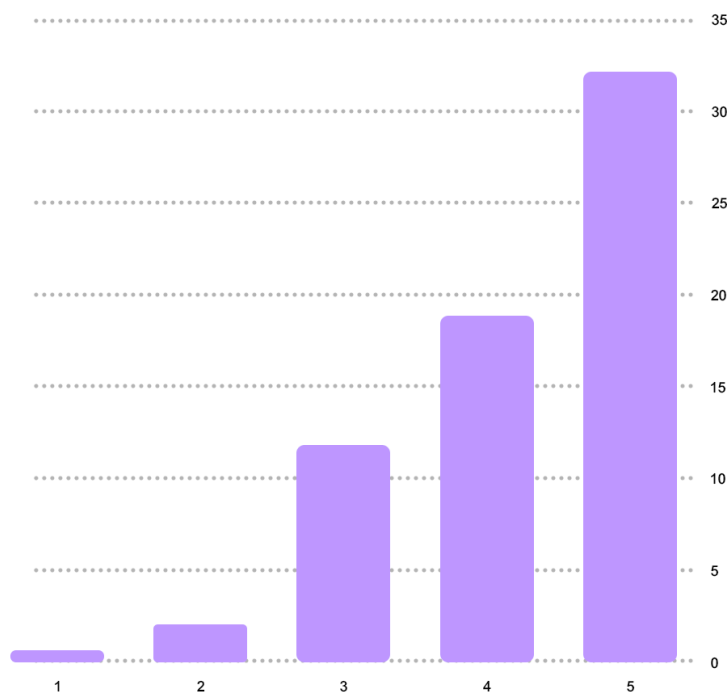
3.10. On a scale from 1 to 5, how important do you think the value of inclusivity is or should be for the IQA?



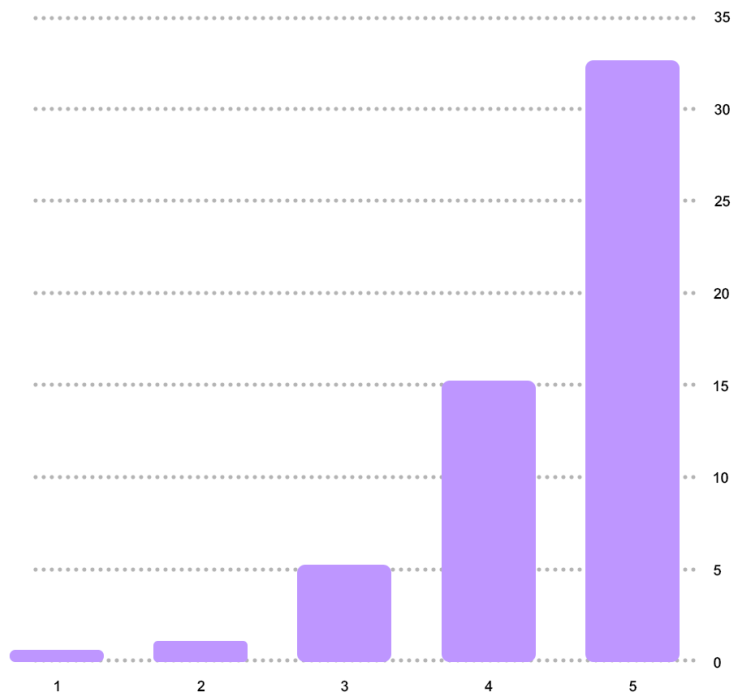
3.11. On a scale from 1 to 5, how important do you think the value of integrity is or should be for the IQA?



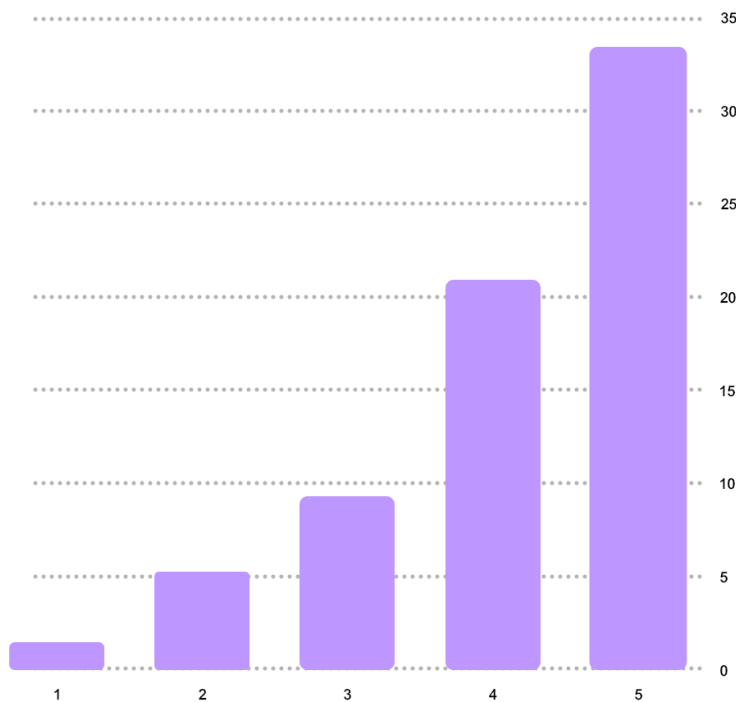
3.12. On a scale from 1 to 5, how important do you think the value of accessibility is or should be for the IQA?



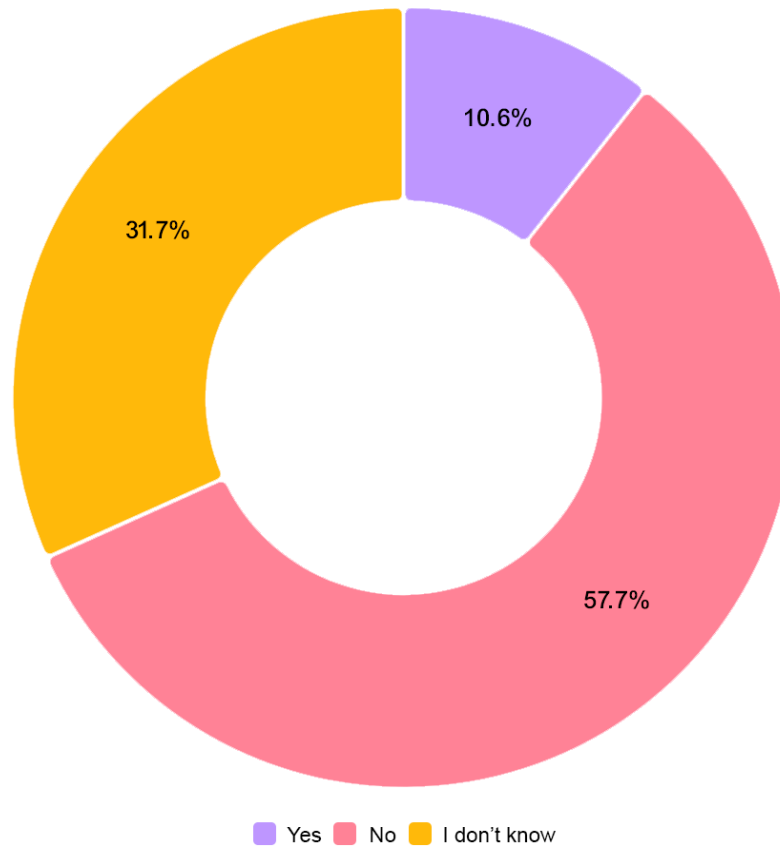
3.13. On a scale from 1 to 5, how important do you think the value of openness is or should be for the IQA?



3.14. On a scale from 1 to 5, how important do you think the value of empowering is or should be for the IQA?



3.15. Would you change the IQA's current values?



3.16. If so, how would you change them?

When it comes to the IQA's values, there is a noticeable call for more clarity and focus. A recurring comment is confusion around the term "empowering," with many respondents unsure of what it actually means within the context of the IQA's goals. Additionally, there were calls for a stronger emphasis on athleticism, competition, and sportsmanship, suggesting that the focus should be on fostering competitiveness in the sport. Several respondents also argued that the IQA should focus more on practical actions to grow the sport, rather than spending so much time emphasizing values. The values of inclusivity and integrity were acknowledged as important, but some respondents felt that the organization's primary objective should be to expand the sport, with values like "expansion" and "competitiveness" being added to better align with this goal. There were also suggestions to remove the value of "empowering," as it was seen as vague and unnecessary.

3.17. Please name some strategic priorities for the IOA.

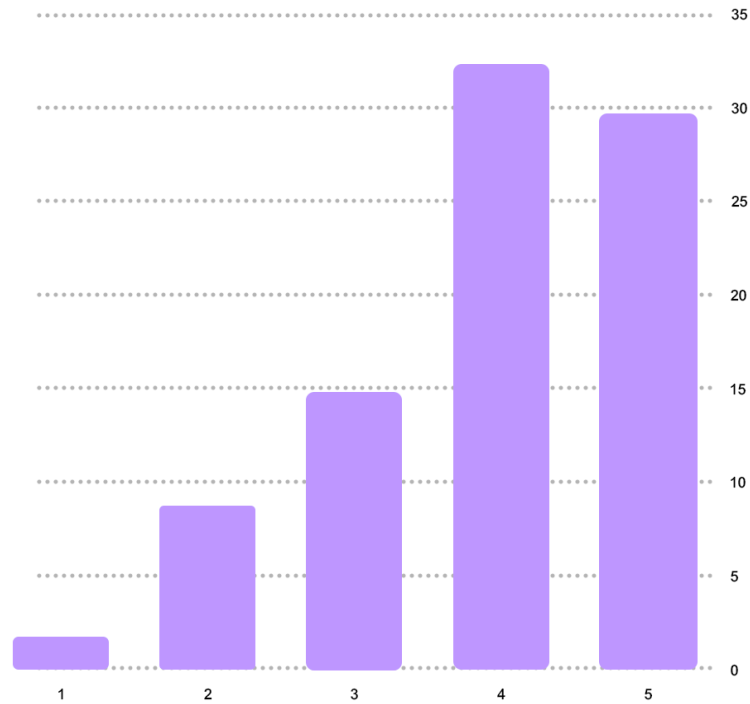
Survey responses suggest the future of quadball heavily depends on addressing the logistical challenges associated with its growth. A key area of focus should be supporting National Governing Bodies (NGBs) by offering guidance on sustainable growth, developing youth programs, and providing resources to facilitate recruitment and retention. It was recommended organizing high-quality events and tournaments, with ample notice for NGBs to plan and secure funding. Further strategies included simplifying the rulebook and creating certification programs for referees and coaches can also foster accessibility and ensure that the sport's quality is maintained across regions. The sport needs to prioritize global expansion, with a clear strategy for developing quadball in regions that are currently underserved.

Promoting quadball and increasing visibility was a strong recurring theme throughout the responses, as well as positioning quadball as a legitimate sport. Strategies proposed to help achieve this included strategic partnerships with social media influencers and a comprehensive marketing plan, including sponsored posts and content that engages local communities. In addition to focusing on media presence, respondents highlighted expanding opportunities for youth involvement and healthy environments for volunteering is crucial. Support for NGBs facing challenges such as volunteer burnout or financial constraints should also be a priority to prevent a further decrease in numbers. It was encouraged that efforts should be directed toward making the sport more accessible financially and logistically, including affordable equipment and transportation to events, as well as supporting initiatives that help struggling teams recruit and retain players.

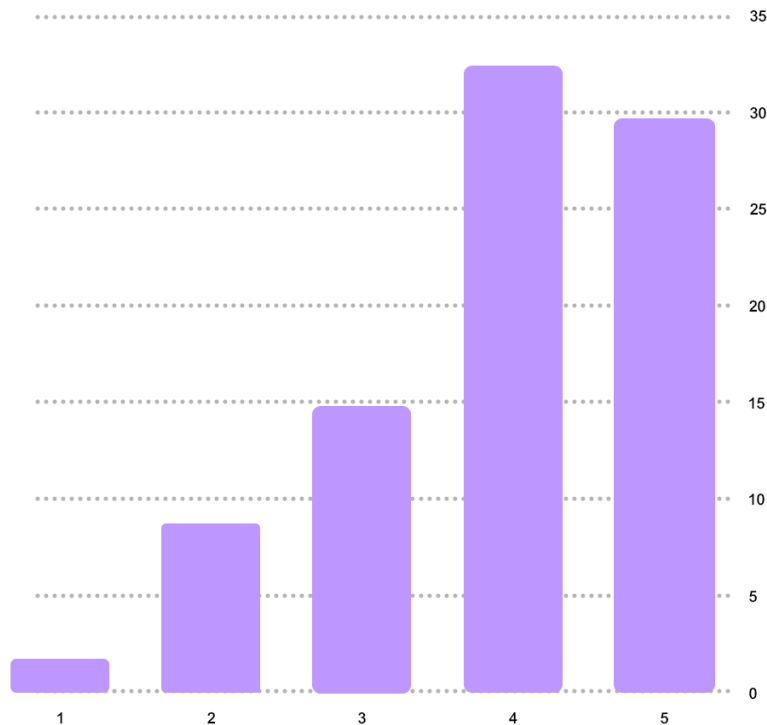
Furthermore, an emphasis on inclusivity and equality, particularly in gender rules and regulations, to ensure the sport remains open to diverse groups was highlighted as essential. This includes gathering data on the impact of gender rule changes, assessing how they affect player participation, and making informed decisions based on these findings. It was clear the development of a youth-focused network is considered essential for future growth, ensuring that the next generation of players and volunteers is engaged and supported. By focusing on these areas, quadball can grow as a globally recognized sport, attracting more players, volunteers, sponsors, and media attention, while also making a lasting impact in both competitive and recreational settings.

4. IQA's strategic priorities

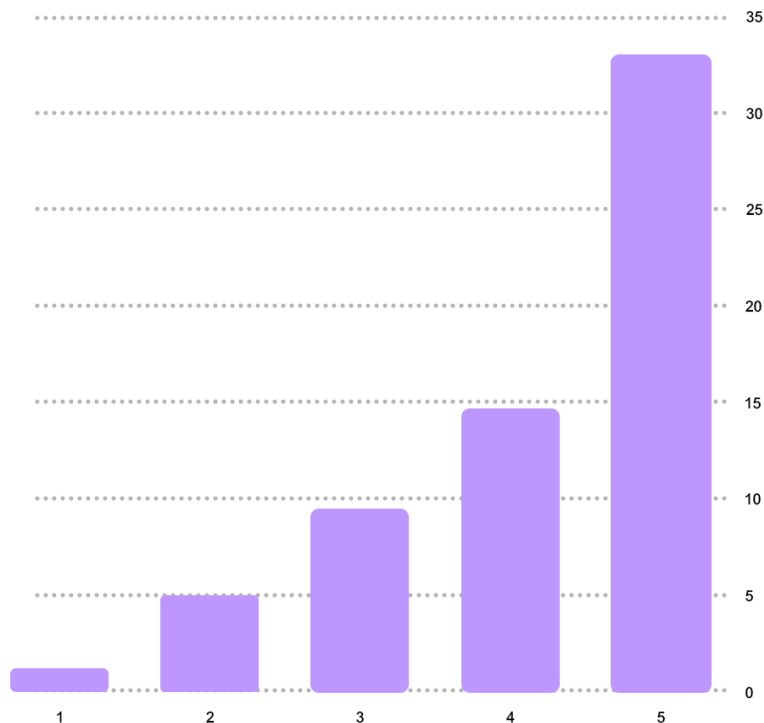
4.1. On a scale from 1 to 5, how strategically important do you think “enhanced identity and communications” is?



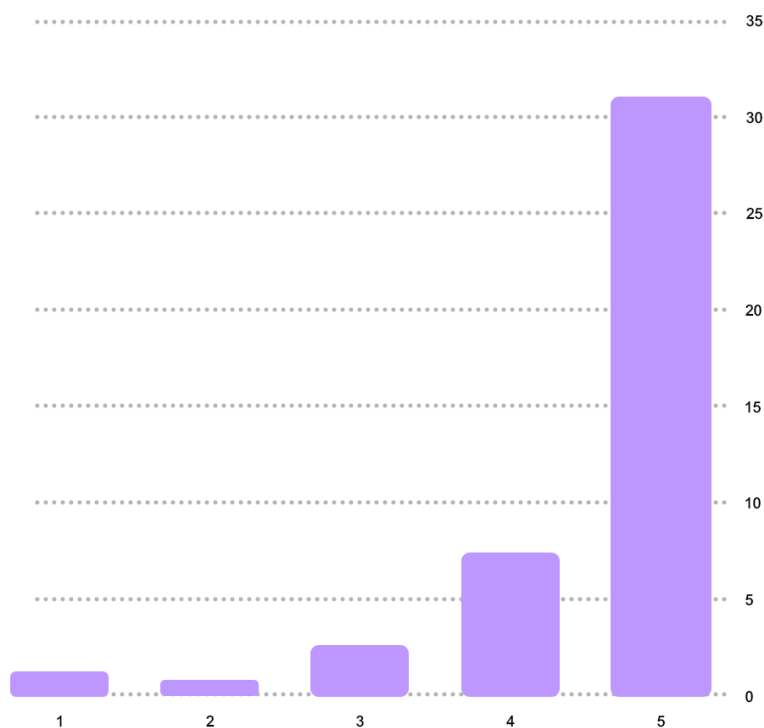
4.2. On a scale from 1 to 5, how strategically important do you think “extended gameplay” is?



4.3. On a scale from 1 to 5, how strategically important do you think “geographical development and expansion” is?



4.4. On a scale from 1 to 5, how strategically important do you think “recruitment and inclusion” is?



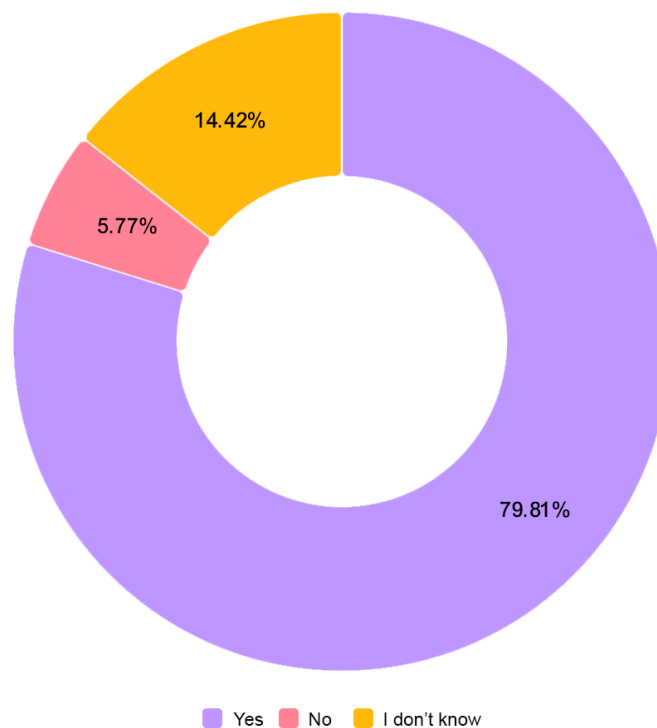
4.5. What makes these strategic areas more or less important for the IQA, according to your criteria?

The majority of the community supports the proposed strategic priorities for the sport. The most highly prioritized areas include recruitment and inclusion, with 88% viewing this as a crucial focus, followed by geographical development and expansion at 75%. Extended gameplay also holds significant importance for 64%, while enhancing identity and communications is seen as important by 71% of respondents. Only a small percentage (6-18%) remain neutral or unsure about these priorities.

Geographical development and expansion, along with recruitment and inclusion, stand out as top priorities, with the overwhelming majority emphasizing the need for more inclusive and widespread growth. The focus on geographical expansion reflects a desire to grow the sport across diverse regions, while recruitment and inclusion highlight the importance of ensuring accessibility and diversity within the community. This suggests that the community values both broadening the sport's reach and fostering a welcoming, inclusive environment.

While the majority supports these areas of focus, there is a smaller segment of the community (around 14%) who are unsure about the proposed strategic priorities, indicating room for further clarification or discussion.

4.6. Do you agree with these suggested strategic areas?



4.7. How would you reshape these strategic areas?

The responses highlight a strong focus on stabilizing and consolidating existing areas of the sport before expanding. Many participants believe that resources should be directed towards maintaining and growing current teams. This includes efforts to retain and support teams in functioning areas, while also addressing recruitment and volunteer needs. There is concern that over-expanding geographically or into new areas like youth leagues could stretch resources too thin, especially considering the current lack of sufficient volunteers and staff.

Recruitment and inclusion were clear themes that are seen as crucial elements but should be treated separately to ensure their effectiveness. There is a call for clear strategies for both areas, with recruitment requiring special attention to counteract the declining number of teams across the world. The need for more dedicated staff and simplified processes when working with the IQA is also highlighted. Additionally, while the development of “extended gameplay” or simplified versions of the sport has its appeal, there is skepticism about the focus on it when the primary sport itself requires further development and consistency across regions. Simplifying rules and maintaining a unified version of the game is seen as essential.

Branding and communication efforts are met with mixed reactions, with some questioning the prioritization of “enhanced identity” when the sport's survival and growth depend more on tangible recruitment efforts. The importance of increasing the visibility of the sport outside its current community is noted, but without clear metrics for success, it remains unclear how effective branding can be. There is a call for a more inclusive approach, with some suggesting that “openness” might be a more appropriate focus than “identity.” Lastly, there is a desire to focus on making the sport enjoyable in the present, rather than solely focusing on future expansions or idealistic goals like reaching the Olympics.

4.8. Which goals and tasks would you assign to each of these strategic areas?

To promote the growth and sustainability of quadball, several key strategies were suggested across logistical, recruitment, and development areas. A clear organizational framework within the IQA was highlighted as necessary, with well-established policies for managing finances, elections, and governance. In contradiction to earlier comments, respondents recommended expanding quadball's reach geographically should be a priority, especially in regions with limited or no existing teams. Strategies put forward included organizing tournaments in emerging areas such as Africa and Asia, as well as improving the recruitment and retention strategies of NGBs through effective social media use, outreach, and marketing campaigns aimed at diverse, untapped audiences.

Responses indicated a crucial aspect of this expansion involves enhancing the sport's identity, ensuring it is distinguishable from other sports like quidditch. Suggestions to achieve this included focusing on creating and promoting unique content for social media, such as game footage and player highlights, while building credibility to attract sponsorships and partnerships. Additionally, revising the gameplay rules to lower barriers for new players, such as potentially removing or simplifying the broomstick component, would make the sport more accessible. In line with this, responses advocated for supporting NGBs in building a robust youth system and fostering long-term player development, encouraging youth quadball programs and collaborations with schools.

To ensure quadball's growth, especially in underdeveloped regions, many suggested a coordinated effort to provide resources and guidance for NGBs is necessary. Suggestions included facilitating the exchange of best practices between NGBs, particularly in terms of youth development and recruitment. A few responses indicated supporting the establishment of an international rulebook, along with coaching and refereeing materials, would provide consistency across the sport and make it easier for new teams to get involved. Additionally, prioritizing the broadcast of international tournaments, organizing youth cups, and increasing the number of active teams globally was recommended to significantly enhance the visibility and credibility of quadball.

4.9. Are there particular issues or barriers that need to be addressed in the next 5 years?

The survey highlighted a range of challenges that hinder the sports growth, including an aging player base and a decreasing number of sports clubs. The sport is struggling to attract new players, especially younger and youth players, and the existing rules are seen as overly complex and restrictive. Additionally, survey results also highlighted there is a need to address gender-related issues, particularly how gender rules are applied. While the goal of inclusivity is important, the current implementation is perceived as problematic, with some teams exploiting the system to prioritize certain players. A more flexible and inclusive approach to gender participation, without compromising the integrity of the sport, is needed.

A recurring topic in the survey was recruitment and retention of players remain major obstacles for quadball, especially as teams rely on a small pool of dedicated individuals who take their knowledge and experience with them when they leave the sport. Some highlighted the absence of a clear and unified promotional strategy is contributing to the stagnation of the sport in many regions. There is also a concern about the growing divide between veteran players and newcomers, with the former often finding it difficult to mentor or collaborate with younger players. To combat this, a structured mentorship program and improved recruitment efforts are essential. Additionally, making quadball more accessible and attractive to diverse demographics, including female and non-binary players, should be a priority, along with addressing financial barriers like travel costs for players.

It was consistently highlighted that developing a more robust infrastructure for training referees was needed, as well as ensuring teams are supported both financially and logistically to help mitigate the volunteer fatigue and resource shortages faced by many NGBs. Finally, responses suggested quadball needs stronger support systems and a clearer organizational structure to survive and thrive. Suggestions for this included investing in improving communication and increasing trust with its members, particularly through regular updates and transparent strategies. The implementation of a clearer strategic plan, including specific measurable goals, would enable better tracking of progress and accountability.

4.10. What can we do to improve or expand, and what opportunities do you think could be explored?

Survey responses proposed recruitment, community engagement, and marketing is crucial for the longevity of quadball. It was repeatedly noted that the sport needs to return to its grassroots roots by organizing more street-level recruitment events and creating an atmosphere that reflects its original festive and inclusive community vibe. Strategies included using social media and viral marketing to attract new players, with targeted campaigns aimed at younger generations. A renewed focus on simplicity in gameplay was again recommended. Some respondents suggested reviewing the use of brooms in the sport and other strategies that would lower barriers to entry and make the sport more accessible. Others recommended offering guides to help new clubs get started, and working with universities to nurture local teams, to help establish a strong foundation for growth.

Another focus in the survey was the development of quadball as a serious, competitive sport is also essential for long-term sustainability. Strategies suggested included creating flagship tournaments, such as a high-level, annual competition similar to the NBA playoffs or the Rugby Six Nations, that can capture the public's attention and attract sponsors. Regular streaming of top-tier games, especially from the World Cup or similar events, were also recommended to help boost visibility. Furthermore, respondents advocated for moving away from the image of a niche hobby or fan club and work to position itself firmly as a professional sport, open to a broad range of participants.

Another priority highlighted was international expansion and regional development. It was noted that countries with smaller player bases or economic challenges should be supported through more flexible tournament formats, such as 5-player teams, allowing them to participate in international competitions more easily. Partnerships with global sports events and organizations, including the Olympics and events like the World Games, to increase its exposure were also suggested. Additionally, expanding the sport's inclusivity by offering variants such as quadball for people with disabilities were suggested to further broaden its appeal. Internally, responses advised the IQA needs to improve communication, simplify its volunteer structure, and explore ways to compensate volunteers and professionals who contribute to the sport's growth, for a more efficient and motivated environment.

5. Closing remarks

5.1. Other comments, opinions, or feedback

Further comments showed that the future growth of quadball relies on strong governance, greater community involvement, and clear structural improvements. The sport needs more volunteers, competent leadership, and better-defined roles within the community. Additionally, respondents advocated for a return to the sport's earlier "geeky" and fun-loving spirit. While quadball must evolve, it should retain that carefree essence to attract those who may not traditionally be into sports but are seeking a fun, inclusive environment.

Several people raised concerns about the gender rule, highlighting how it has been misused or turned into a point of contention within the community. Some see it as failing to achieve its intended inclusivity, with female and non-binary players often sidelined or treated as resources to meet the rule rather than as equals. There's a call for reflection on how the gender rule can be reformed to better serve the players it is meant to protect, without becoming an obstacle. The discussion also extends to the structure of the sport, with suggestions to simplify and modernize aspects to make it more appealing to a broader audience. Some even propose bold changes like removing the broom entirely and rethinking how the game is played to avoid being overly focused on physicality, ensuring that players of all sizes and abilities can excel.

The expansion of quadball to new regions and the development of new competition formats were seen as vital for the sport's future. Responses focused on affordability and accessibility—particularly for players from less wealthy backgrounds—with calls for tournaments to be more inclusive. Creating a more organized structure for emerging regions, such as Africa, and facilitating the establishment of National Governing Bodies (NGBs) to significantly help quadball gain a larger global footprint was also suggested. Many believe that the sport needs to innovate boldly, with ideas like introducing smaller team formats (Q5, Q3) to accommodate emerging leagues, and more active promotion of the sport through media and sponsorships. Responses highlighted quadball must strike a balance between maintaining its community-driven roots and evolving into a mainstream, competitive sport.

5.2. Questions, comments, or feedback on the strategic planning itself

Participants emphasized the importance of listening to the real, on-the-ground challenges faced by the sport, particularly from the perspective of National Governing Bodies (NGBs). There is a recognition that any strategic plan's success will depend on how much involvement is achieved from both NGBs and the broader community.

A significant theme that emerged was the need for realistic and practical strategies that consider both the intrinsic and extrinsic motivations of the community. Participants cautioned against making decisions that are idealistic but detached from the day-to-day realities of quadball clubs and players. The involvement of volunteers, especially in carrying out the strategic plan, was also highlighted as a critical factor.



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