

2014 Schema.Org Sports Proposal - Agents Sub-Proposal

Version: 1.0

Overview

The purpose of this proposal is to introduce an expanded vocabulary for describing sports **teams** and **athletes** using schema.org. This proposal is a derivative of the [2014 Schema.org Sports Vocab proposal](#) which included additional support for describing sports events and statistics. Due to the complexities around describing these two other sports concepts, the vocabulary for sports agents has been isolated in this separate, derivative proposal.

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Principals

The approach taken for the 2014 Sports Vocab proposal included the following principles:

- Extend the existing vocabulary within Schema.Org, adding and updating only where needed
- Leverage the existing work done by BBC, SportsML, and ESPN in the area of sports vocabularies
- Focus on supporting the 'head' of sports vocabularies while keeping in mind the 'body' and 'tail'
- Think globally

Background

Members of the collaboration team have researched a head set of popular sports and shared the results of their research in the form of recommendations for classes and properties required to support their associated description. These recommendations were reviewed by the other

collaborators and further revised and updated as needed.

As a result of this research and review, the group identified the need to broadly established the concepts of sports **organizations**, **people**, **events** and **statistics**. Once these primary concepts were identified, the group then developed the associated set of classes and properties required to define them, leveraging the prior sports research to make sure primary description scenarios would be supported.

This latest version of the proposal takes advantage of the recently introduced [Role vocabulary](#) as a means for addressing the temporal aspects of many sporting relationships. For example, in Major League Baseball, a given athlete may be a member of multiple teams, playing multiple positions, with each combination being finite and varied in length. Roles enable us to support describing this type of relationship.

Proposal

1. Sports Organizations

A new superclass of 'SportsTeam' is being introduced to describe organizations in the domain of sports that aren't necessarily teams. New properties for describing the athletes and coaches on a sports team are also being added.

2.1. Sports Organization

`property: memberOf`

`comment: In order to support mapping sports teams to the conferences, leagues, and divisions they are members of, we are extending the domain of the 'memberOf' property to 'Organization'.`

`domain: Person, Organization`

`range: Organization`

`class: SportsOrganization`

`comment: A new intermediate class that represents the collection of all sports organizations, including sports teams, governing bodies, and sports associations.`

`property: sport`

`subClassOf: Organization`

`property: sport`

`comment: The specific sport an organization is involved in.`

`domain: SportsOrganization`

`range: Text`

`// example:`

```
{
  "@context": "http://schema.org",
  "@type": "SportsOrganization",
  "name": "National Football Conference",
  "memberOf": "National Football League",
  "sport": "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American\_football"
}
```

2.2. Sports Team

```
class: SportsTeam
  comment: This extends the existing 'SportsTeam' class to include
  new properties and restructures it as a subclass of the newly
  proposed 'SportsOrganization' class.
  subclassOf: SportsOrganization
  property: coach [Person]
  property: athlete [Person]
```

```
property: coach
  comment: A person that acts in a coaching role for a sports
  team.
  domain: SportsTeam
  range: Person
```

```
property: athlete
  comment: A person that acts as performing member of a sports
  team; a player as opposed to a coach.
  domain: SportsTeam
  range: Person
```

```
// example:
{
  "@context": "http://schema.org",
  "@type": "SportsTeam",
  "name": "Seattle Seahawks",
  "memberOf": "National Football League",
  "memberOf": "National Football Conference",
  "sport": "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American\_football",
  "coach": {
    "@type": "Person",
    "name": "Steve Carroll"
  },
  "athlete": [
    {
      "@type": "Person",
      "name": "Russell Wilson"
    }, {
      "@type": "Person",
      "name": "Marshawn Lynch"
    }
  ]
}
```

Change Log

1.0.0 - 2014/09/15

- First draft of derivative version; for prior work around describing sports agents, see [forked version of 2014 Sports Vocab proposal](#)