
Sports Results System

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Since the beginning of the practice of sports, many competitive events have taken place. With the passing of time, it has become essential to organize, keep and obtain all the data related to the results of sports events, in order to program training for competitions and forecast specific results, considering the historical development of events, similar in rank and size, as well as the general information to be used by experts and directors.

Sport results is mainly a technical application designed with the aim of storing and recovering (from different information sources and in different ways) the results of national, international and multi-disciplinary competitions through the history of sport.

Main Features:

- It stores the date, country, place, medal, athlete's name and score of every result included, as well as the name of each team member, in case of team competitions.
- It is installed on a server and can be used simultaneously from any workstation connected to the net.
- Competitions are organized under a hierarchic shape level system.
- It stores results in individual and team sports.
- It makes it possible to indicate if a result is a record of any kind.
- It has a security system at user level.
- It allows the creation of automated forms to be used in a competition away from the work place and then, brings the information introduced into the main database.
- It is an important consultation base, which also includes general tables of sports, events, athletes and countries.

RESULTADOS DEPORTIVOS

General	Entrada de datos	Salidas
Deportes	Delegaciones...	Resultados/Medallistas
Eventos	Equipos...	Medallistas por país
Fases	Resultados	Actuación individual
Niveles de competencias	Plantillas	Cuadros de Medallas
Tipos de competencias	Crear	Medallas por Deporte/Sexo
Competencias...	Importar datos	
Países	Usuarios	
Provincias	Usuarios	Salir
Clubes		
Deportistas		

Medallistas por países



XIII Juegos Panamericanos, Winnipeg, 1999

















<i>Lugar</i>	<i>Nombre</i>	<i>Sexo</i>	<i>Deporte</i>	<i>Evento</i>	<i>Resultado</i>
1	Daimí Pernía Figueroa	F	Atletismo	400 m con vallas	53.44
1	Magaly García Leliebre	F	Atletismo	Heptatlón	6290
1	Osleidys Menéndez Saéz	F	Atletismo	Lanzamiento de la Jab	65.85
1	Idalmis Bonne Rousseaux Zulia Inés Calatayud Torres Julia Esther Duporty Torres Daimí Pernía Figueroa	F	Atletismo	Relevo 4x400 m plano	3:26.70
1	Yamilé Aldama Pozo	F	Atletismo	Salto Triple	14.77
1	Aliuska Yanira López Pedroso	F	Atletismo	100 m con vallas	12.76
1	Emeterio González Silva	M	Atletismo	Lanzamiento de la Jab	77.46
1	Iván Lázaro Pedroso Scler	M	Atletismo	Salto de Longitud	8.52
1	Anier Octavio García Ortiz	M	Atletismo	110 m con vallas	13.17
1	Yoelbi Luis Quesada Fernández	M	Atletismo	Salto Triple	17.19
1	CUB	F	Baloncesto	-	-
1	CUB	M	Balonmano	-	-
1	CUB	M	Béisbol	-	-
1	Jorge Gutierrez Espinosa	M	Boxeo	División 71 kg	-

Typical system outputs

- Results/medal-holders – Finalists or medal holders of one or more events.
- Medal-holders for countries. Country results in a competition or through sport history.
- Individual performance - athlete career.
- Medal charts - calculation of general medal chart for each country in one or more competitions (gold, silver, bronze medals and total per country).
- Medal by sports/Sex - Calculation of medal chart by sport and sex (gold, silver, bronze and total per country).

I Juegos Panamericanos - 1951

Cuadro de Medallas

		Oro	Plata	Bronce	Total
ARG	 Argentina	70	46	39	155
USA	 Estados Unidos de América	46	33	20	99
CUB	 Cuba	9	9	10	28
CHI	 Chile	8	20	11	39
BRA	 Brasil	5	15	12	32
MEX	 México	3	9	27	39
PER	 Perú	2	5	7	14
TRI	 Trinidad Tobago	1	3	0	4
ECU	 Ecuador	1	0	1	2
COL	 Colombia	1	0	0	1
VEN	 Venezuela	0	1	1	2
CRC	 Costa Rica	0	1	0	1
JAM	 Jamaica	0	0	3	3
PAN	 Panamá	0	0	3	3
GU	 Guatemala	0	0	2	2
HAI	 Haití	0	0	1	1
Total		146	142	137	425

- WWW Interface – Web site where the results included in the database are shown.



Collecting Data on Youth Sports Organizations for Sports Information Purposes

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Youth sports play a very prominent role in a community. Many factors are involved in the successful youth sports experience, and its impacts are far reaching. It is estimated that 30-35 million youths participate in organized youth sports programs in America annually. When parents and relatives, head coaches, assistant coaches, officials, organization administrators and other support personnel are added into the total count, the numbers of involved people are quite significant. Supplies, equipment and materials needed in the pre-season, in-season and post-season are also significant. Sport facilities and play areas also figure into the total experience. The amount of money generated and expended is very substantial. Youth sports can be a major economic asset to a community. Other factors that contribute to the total youth sports experience are the issues of league and team organization, coaching education/preparation, liability and risk management, team philosophy, training and conditioning, goals and objectives, scheduling of contests, injury prevention and management, insurance, sponsorships, media relations, record keeping and athlete eligibility.

These issues encompass essential information which should be communicated to the constituency and to the general public. Unfortunately, this kind of information does not reach the various publics. In over ten years of working with youth sports organizations in Hawaii, and providing coaching education to over 8,000 coaches in that span of time, the researchers feel that these organizations need to develop a plan to better communicate the many positive things that they do. They do very little in sports information. One of the reasons, lies in the inability of the organization to collect and collate information about itself. In this study, an attempt was made to survey and identify all of the major youth sports organizations in Hawaii and their major characteristics (approximately 100,000 children, in Hawaii, a state of approximately 1.2 million people, participate annually in organized youth sports programs). A survey instrument was developed, data was collected and a resource guide was created. The purpose of this study is to report the results of a survey that was conducted in Hawaii on 58 youth sports organizations. This study will offer suggestions for the collection and compilation of data in preparation for dissemination.

Information Study and Service for the National Games in China during the Information and Network Times

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1. Purpose

The National Games of China held every four years is the biggest comprehensive competition in the country which is almost as competitive as the Olympic Games. During the information times today, the network technology is developing rapidly. Relatively speaking, the information analysis and service for the National Games is still at a lower level. The purpose of this paper is to study how to promote the information analysis and service for the National Games up to a new stage by establishing an information network service system based on the integration of storage, network and publication of information, and utilizing the latest network technology to provide users with efficient, high quality and all-round information service.

2. Methods

- Document analysis: experience of information study and service that have been used during past national and international games were introduced. A scientific and practical model of conducting information study and service through networks for the National Games was put forward.
- Network technology: the software DREAMWEAVER, was utilized for the web-page making; the JAVA, JAVASCRIPT and VBSCRIPT were utilized for the network programming; the VISUALFOXPRO and ODBC were utilized for the data storage designing; the FIREWORK and PHOTOSHOP were utilized for the picture processing.
- Practical experiment: the model is applied and examined in the information analysis and service for the 9th National Games to be held in late 2001.

3. Discussion

3.1. Principles

The principles of information analysis and service for the National Games during the information and network times is “better service, timeliness and accuracy”. The information provided to policy makers and sport teams should be objective, comprehensive, timely and should give users guidance and prediction. The key point of service is to provide leaders or policy makers with the information which is what they really need before policies or decisions are made.

The tasks of information analysis and service are:

- timely service of information to decision-makers on every year's top level national competitions by monographic survey;
- timely service of information to sport teams and regarding departments on the preparation of the organization of National Games, the current situation of nationwide sport development, medals analysis and forecast, the development tendency of latest skills and strategies in major sports, the conditions of the major opponents, the results of the latest national and international competitions, and knowledge renewal for coaches.

3.3. Contents and methods

3.3.1. A good project and research plan

The Provincial Sports Bureau applied for approval of the project in order to make sure that the information analysis and service for the National Games would be successfully conducted. The leaders of the Sports Bureau were invited as advisers of the project. A research group was set up that was composed of scientific researchers and coaches and coordinated by sports information people. Meanwhile, the research plan was thoughtfully made and analysis and service were emphasized to make sure that the organization, tasks, personnel, time and measures were workable.

3.3.2. Exploration of more information sources

Information sources are the guarantee of fast, comprehensive and accurate information analysis and service. Information sources were explored in every way as follows:

- the internet;
- the information network for senior coaches;
- the information network for state referees;
- the information network for sports scientific researchers;
- the national sports network;
- the sports publications.

3.3.3. Setting up network for higher efficiency of work

During the information and network times, information service with high quality will be embodied and the need for the latest development will be met when the information network service system based on the integration of storage, network and publication of information is set up. That is true for the National Games, too. The network web for the 9th National Games has been set up through which the intranet of Sports Bureau can be accessed and the Network can be easily searched by policy makers and sports teams at any time.

3.3.4. Monographic information research with high quality

Monographic research is a very important means of providing information service. The topic selection and quality of the research greatly influence the effect of the service. Current situations were usually studied based on an analysis of a vast amount of information, data and competition results to make sure the conclusions of the research are objective, timely and workable. Monographic studies are chiefly divided into two parts: planned projects and unplanned projects temporally assigned by policy makers.

3.3.5. Wide and timely distribution of information with thoughtful service

Distribution of information is essential for the effects of information service. A *Bulletin for the National Games* for decision makers and sports teams in the province was irregularly published to make sure the information was distributed timely. All information published in the Bulletin was specially chosen and analyzed. Editor's notes were made on some articles so that the sports people concerned could quickly find the information they required.

During the information and network times, information study and service for the National Games in China has the characteristic of wide involvement. Senior research experts from different specialties, sports and fields of work are therefore expected to be organized to tackle key problems together. It is essential to establish and perfect an information management system to organize the information study and service, bringing the function of modern information and network technology fully into play.

Accessing Sports Information: Empowering Students

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Over the past two years an Information Skills Programme has been developed at University College Worcester, by library staff, for all subject areas. This presentation will outline sessions on offer to Sports Studies students. The overall programme has been recognised as innovative by SCONUL (Standing Conference of National and University Libraries).

Contents of the poster will include :

- Profile of Library Team supporting the Physical Education and Sports Studies Department at University College Worcester.
- Profile of user base : academic staff.
- Profile of user base : students.
- Description of the Information Skills Programme.
- Outline of sample Information Skills session.
- User guides to support programme.

Olympism, Globalization and Dialogue among Civilizations

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The Olympic Games are the most ancient social movement of humankind. The Greeks had many goddesses. They attended their lords in religious ceremonies with poetry, dance and athletic events.

The ancient Olympic Games began in 776 B.C. After the invasion of Greece by the Romans, they were discontinued by the Roman emperor Teodosius in 394 B.C. Finally, after a few years, Baron Pierre de Coubertin revived the Olympic Games, and the modern Olympic Games, started again in A.d. 1896.

The Olympic Games are the symbol of union and solidarity of Nations, and we can see this fact in all its components – such as its flag, rings, and its flame.

During the Games no one talks about nationality. All the participants have a unique idea: peace, friendship and solidarity. Coubertin considered sport to be the expression of democratic attitudes (Ferry, 1997), since in competition everybody starts under the same conditions, with the same possibilities and the best stand out. For Coubertin sport could constitute an example of democratic principles and development in citizens.

In Coubertin's view, the Olympic Games were not simply an athletic event, but the focal point of a broadly-based social movement, which, through the activity of sport and play, would enhance human development and international understanding.

In 1998, Saied Mohammad Khatamy, the president of The Islamic Republic of Iran, suggested that the year of 2001 be called the year of **Dialogue among Civilizations**. This peaceful suggestion was accepted by United Nations, and the members of the UN told the Iranians President: "Yes"!

Undoubtedly, the Olympics are a unique tool for solidarity, peace and friendship (Lalaoui,1996). All of this is revealed practically during the Olympic Games. The opening and closing ceremonies are mirrors through which athletes and countries can show their image and transmit their message to the world. International understanding is about emphasizing and celebrating our differences (Kivel, 1996).

During the Olympic Games, friendship and humanity, not medals, bring the people together. No matter what your language or race is, the important thing is to be human. Obviously, sport without moral principles is worthless. Besides, different types of sport activities are based on the cultural roots of different countries (Fishwick, 1989).

The Olympics are a medium for international understanding, solidarity and cooperation. Sport can be a secure bridge between past and present, and between now and what we have to do in future. It can also play a role in dialogue among civilizations: the people of the world are looking for understanding between each other, finding the best way to interact, and connections between civilization.

The Olympic Movement has been firm in its stance to promote world peace through sport, and in bringing together the peoples of the world. Dialogue among civilizations is looking for peace, friendship and understanding between nations. According to Mr. Samaranch, President of the International Olympic Committee, *"the difference between sport and the Olympic Games is that the Olympic Games are the sum of sport and culture"* (Hoffman, 1992).

Nixon (1996) has written of several simultaneous trends that have had an impact on the world order of sport. One is the globalization trend that has exposed people in a number of countries to sport they have not seen before in their country. For example, basketball, volleyball, and motor sports have increasingly become global sports found all around the world. In recent years, we also have seen American football played in Great Britain and Russia. Another aspect of this globalization trend has been the increasing tendency for athletes from one country to compete in leagues and teams based in other countries. Athletes from Eastern Europe, Africa, the Soviet Union, and Latin America routinely can be found on America's amateur and professional track, baseball, basketball and football teams (Corbet, 1998).

A second international sports trend is increasing participation by the smallest nations in major international sports such as the Olympics. A third trend is the increasing size of the television audience around the world for sports events of various kinds. This expanding television coverage has enabled many people to become familiar with a variety of sports with which they were previously unfamiliar. A fourth trend is the growing awareness of the political importance of sport in international relations and national development.

As we can see sport is spreading its realm throughout the world. That is why we can claim that, sport has the potential to open Dialogue among civilizations and about their goals.

Can the Olympic Games be known, and should they be a way of preventing crisis and promoting friendship, peace, understanding and a "Dialogue among Civilizations"? The answer to that questions is: "Yes!"

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The Development of Web-based Sport Information: Future Needs, Evolution and Co-operation

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Sport information seekers and researchers have a wide variety of information needs that range from pursuing information on the results of the latest soccer match, to researching a topic for a book, thesis, periodical article or term paper. The former inquirer is well served by the plethora of website developed by news services, professional sports organizations and Internet portal services. In the latter case, there are some web sites that have made good inroads in developing a more comprehensive information source for the researcher. Examples of the latter include the list of university departments of kinesiology and sports sciences, associations for the academic study of sport, fulltext research and information on Olympic Studies.

A number of research organizations are beginning to undertake fulltext access to important sport-related documents and periodical backruns, sports sciences fulltext sources. A few sport documentation centers have comprehensive web sites with many other sports information organizations and government bodies only recently establishing or planning to establish web sites.

The goals and objectives of this poster is to suggest how the electronic world of sport information can be covered without unnecessary duplication, sharing the work load among a large number of sport information personnel and ensuring that all aspects of sports sciences, sport-specific, educational and national information are covered. It is hope this document will provide the basis for a continuing dialogue, discussion and decision-making for members of IASI.

Part 1 outlines objectives and suggested content for a national sport documentation center's web site development for their parent organization and the documentation center. Part 2 contains suggestions as to which present web sites should maintain a certain topic on behalf of world sport information. Part 3 lists topical areas that are still problematic. General sports website development is not part of this presentation.

1. National Sport Documentation Centers (NSDC), web site development, suggested informational goals

The Parent Organization:

- fulltext or links to fulltext of legal documents empowering the center and its parent body;
- overview of parent body functions, programs and educational programs for all attached agencies, institutes and information services;
- explanation of national sport structure in home language and in French or English translation;
- listing of publications, including fulltext press releases, policy documents, guidelines, goals and objectives, news, sports calendar, meetings, conferences, a What's New page, career/job information;
- lists and links to national, state, regional and local sport organizations with contact information (including web site URLs and email addresses);
- lists or links to the nation's sport libraries, sport museums, facilities, researchers, athlete and coach profiles with contact information.

The NSDC:

- overview and informational pages on products and services, including document delivery, SDI services (selected dissemination of information), publications, key personnel with contact information;
- overview and web access information on in-house databases and OPACs;
- listings of key partners and/or the country's sport information consortia or network partners, links to important sport information sources.

2. Web sites with comprehensive sections

Suggest that the following web sites maintain specific topics on behalf of world sport information.

- Associations, Academic – Scholarly Sport Sites (SSS).
- Associations, Sport Specific – Each NSDC with Sportquest keeping the North American directory.
- College and University Faculties/Schools of Sport Sciences, World – Sportquest.
- Conferences – Sportquest.
- Olympic Games – Olympic Studies Center, IOC.
- Other International Games and Regional Competitions, Current and Historical – International Games Archive.
- National Sport Structures – Each NSDC plus SSS for the countries without federally funded sport documentation centers, e.g. United States.
- Statistics, General Sports – Sportquest.
- Statistics, Participation/National – NSDC.
- Statistics, Academic research – Scholarly Sport Sites.

3. Topical areas where comprehensiveness is still problematic

- Events and Competitions – each NSDC (or Sportcal? – an info company).
- International Federations – with the cessation of the Worldsport web site this topical area is partly serviced by the IOC where only approved IF's are listed. Sportquest has a fairly comprehensive listed of all existing IF's as does SSS.
- Sport Museums and Halls of Fame – the International Association of Sport Museums and Halls of Fame web site has all its members listed, however, there are many other non-member Museums and HoFs. Suggest that this responsibility be taken on by a regional representative, e.g. Europe, Asia, Oceania and for Namer.SSS or Sportquest.
- Other ?

Web site Bibliography

International Association of Sports Museums and Halls of Fame, <http://www.sportsballs.com/>

International Games Archive, (Daniel Bell, AAFLA), <http://www.internationalgames.net/>

International Olympic Committee (IOC), <http://www.olympic.org/>

Olympic Studies Center, Autonomous University of Barcelona (and IOC),
<http://www.blues.uab.es/olympic.studies/>

Scholarly Sport Sites, produced by G. Ghent, Canada, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/library/ssportsite/>

Sportquest, produced by SIRC in Ottawa Canada, <http://www.sportquest.com/>

Scholarship Holders at the Sydney Olympics

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This poster illustrates the use of cartography in the analysis of sports phenomena. Visual by nature, cartography makes it possible to summarise and present data, thereby making it much easier to read and interpret spatial phenomena. Used in the domain of sports information, cartography can be a useful decision-making tool for directors. Its attractive presentation is also an alternative to the more classic data representations (such as results tables), and it is of interest to the whole sporting population.

When applied to the theme of grant holders from Olympic Solidarity, the use of cartography makes it possible to evaluate the performances of these athletes financed by the IOC, in the aim of improving follow-up, for example. We therefore analysed primarily the whole population of grant holders, followed by a measure of the participation and success rate of those who qualified for the Sydney Olympics.

1. Scholarship holders before the Olympic Games

The first map illustrates the distribution of the scholarship holders financed by Olympic Solidarity in the National Olympic Committees (NOC) under development in 2000.

Almost all NOCs of South America and Africa have scholarship holders, whilst the coverage is somewhat less complete on those of Asia and Oceania. It underlines above all the large number of athletes coming from NOCs in the former USSR and in Eastern Europe. The selection of athletes based on their level of performance by International Federations explains the high number of grants awarded in these countries, where the tradition of sport is still deeply ingrained, despite the economic difficulties.

A second map shows the training locations of the grant athletes in 1998. It clearly shows the lack of infrastructure and training structures for athletes in Africa and Oceania. The training location of expatriate athletes shows the important role of geographic proximity (e.g. athletes from Oceania move to Australia), and of culture: the gap between French-speaking and English-speaking Africa is also to be found in the distribution between training sites. Athletics is the main discipline covered here.

2. Scholarship holders' participation in the Olympic Games

The success rate of the grant holders (75% qualified to participate in the Olympic Games) is a good measure of the quality of the athletes selected.

A first graph illustrates the number of scholarship holders by sport and by continent. Only individual sports disciplines are supported by this programme. The so-called "universal sports", athletics and swimming, together represent almost a third of the grant holders. Combat sports (boxing, judo and wrestling) are the three next most represented sports (30%). The different continental associations represent a wide variety of sports (16 for Asia/Pacific, 15 for Oceania and Europe, and 10 for Africa). However, it can be noted that some are more specialised, such as the Association of National Olympic

Committees of Africa (ANOCA), where more than half the grant holders are in athletics, and the Pan-American Sports Organisation (PASO), with more than half in either athletics or swimming.

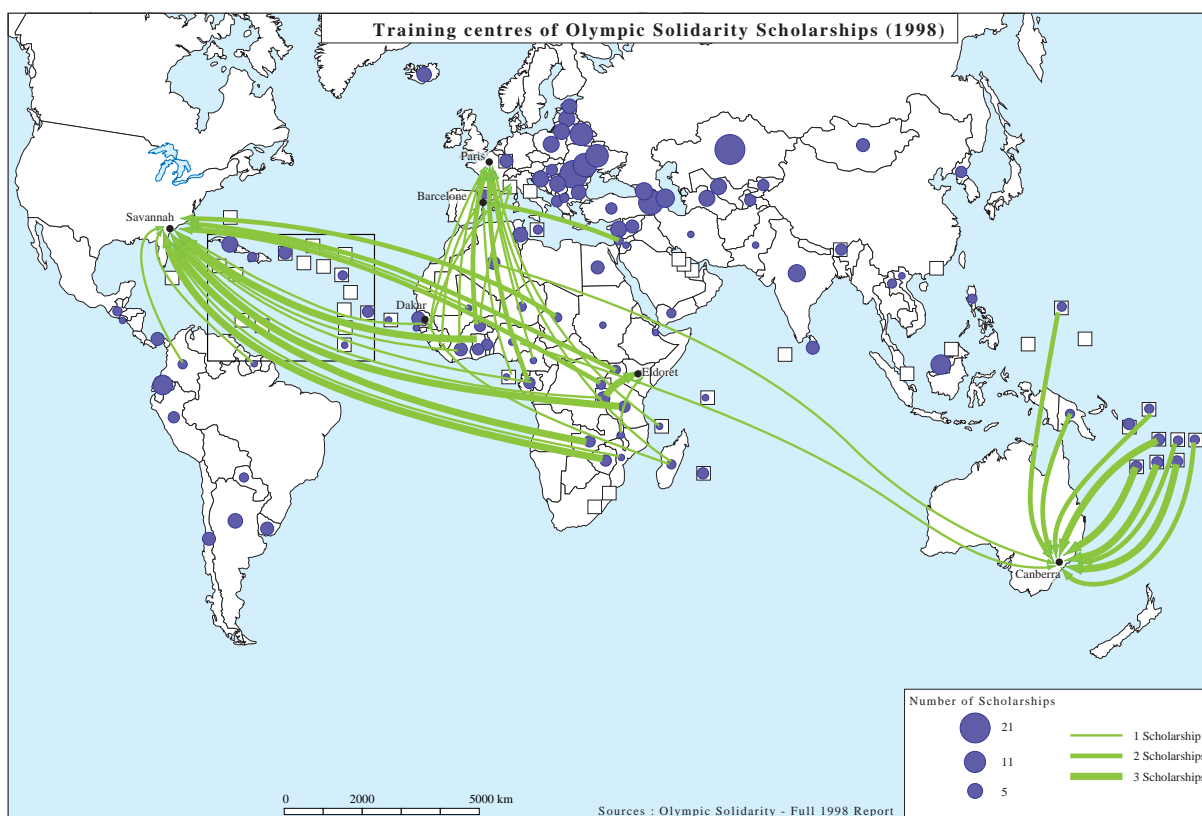
Women represent 32% of the qualified athletes. The map illustrating the distribution of the athletes by sex shows an over-representation of women in the PASO - 18 NOCs have a higher than average number of female athletes, compared with 5 NOCs having a higher than average number of males. An under-representation can be noted in the ANOCA with 23 NOCs having more males, compared with 16 having more female athletes. In the European Olympic Committees (EOC) and the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), the proportions are more or less equal. However, we can notice a clear discrepancy between the NOCs coming from former USSR countries, and those in Eastern European countries - the under representation is marked in the former (specialisation in disciplines such as boxing or wrestling, where women are not present).

3. Results of the grant holders at the Games

One map underlines the results of the grant holders (place in final, and medals). This map shows the excellent performances of the sponsored athletes from Eastern Europe and former USSR. Grant holders from other continental associations presented less consistent results.

A further graph illustrates the distribution of these results by sport and by continent. Some sports have higher performance ratios, e.g. nearly 50% of weight lifters or sailing teams reached the final. The two universal sports have lower ratios (15% of grant holding athletes reached the final).

Figure 1
Results by sport and by continent



Development and Structure of a Dictionary on Sport, Physical Education and Sport Science

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This dictionary was developed on the basis of a thesaurus, which again was based on terms used in the field. About 2,000 terms are included with definitions in the English language. An index of the terms in German, French, and Spanish (with the equivalent term in English included) makes the dictionary easier accessible for persons not familiar with the terminology in English. In the same way a booklet is in the process of being developed with an index for the following languages: Arabic, Chinese, Greek, Japanese, Russian, and Turkish.

The dictionary is presently being prepared for publication in printed form, CD-ROM and a version for the Internet.

It is intended to facilitate with the publication of this dictionary the world-wide communication in regard to sport, physical education and sport science. This seems to be a must in the age of globalization and internationalization.

Sports Information Centre as a Focal Point of Computerisation of Sports in the Republic of Slovenia

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Sports Information Center (called SPiC) is a means of realization of project entitled Computerization of sports and sports structures in Republic of Slovenia established by four partners: Ministry of Education and Sports of Slovenia, Olympic Committee of Slovenia, Slovenian Sports Foundation and Slovenian Sports Office. It is organized as a special department in a structure of Slovenian Sports Office.

SPiC will primary act as a source of knowledge, support and technology and as a secure storage space for all data involved in project. In first year of the project SPiC will establish a live and working connection between four partners of the project and several national and regional sports federations who are the first contributors and benefactors of this informational system in year 2000.

SPiC's services, which are offered to national and regional sports federations free of charge, are:

- development of software applications intended for federations and their needs (including communication with SPiC and electronic business);
- technical support and consulting regarding establishment of informational systems, development of web presence, integrating of IT technology, etc;
- central data warehouse of all data about sports in Slovenia;
- SPiC academy - education of experts in sports (office type applications and specially developed applications);
- SPiC marketing - furthering of input in information technology within sports federations and structures.

SPiC will also cover any special needs, which will arise in Slovenian sports oriented community during the development of informational system.

The Central Olympic Academy as a Co-ordination and Information Centre for Promotion and Development of the Olympic Movement

Ideas and Values in the Regional Olympic Academies of Russia

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Article 31 of the Olympic Charter states: *“National Olympic Committees (...) concern themselves with the establishment and activities of National Olympic Academies”*.

With the assistance of the USSR Olympic Committee, the National Olympic Academy of the former Soviet Union was founded on February 18, 1987, approximately four years before its disintegration. But it was very difficult to organize different activities to promote the Olympic Idea through the vast territory of the biggest country in the world. On the other hand, the foundation of the All-Russian Olympic Academy could result in the creation of another bureaucratic structure over the great scientific and teaching potential of the republic. Therefore on June 8, 1989, it was decided to establish Regional Olympic Academies in the higher educational institutions of physical education.

Twelve Regional Olympic Academies exist now in Russia under the leadership of the Russian Olympic Committee and Central Olympic Academy. This unique system works effectively over the past 11 years and it is stronger because instead of one Academy 12 Academies fulfill the functions stated in their Statutes, namely:

- the explanation and promotion of values, aims, tasks and principles of Olympism;
- promotion of Olympic Education in the regions;
- coordination of researches into the Olympic Movement.

It is possible to see the location of the Regional Olympic Academies of Russia on this map:

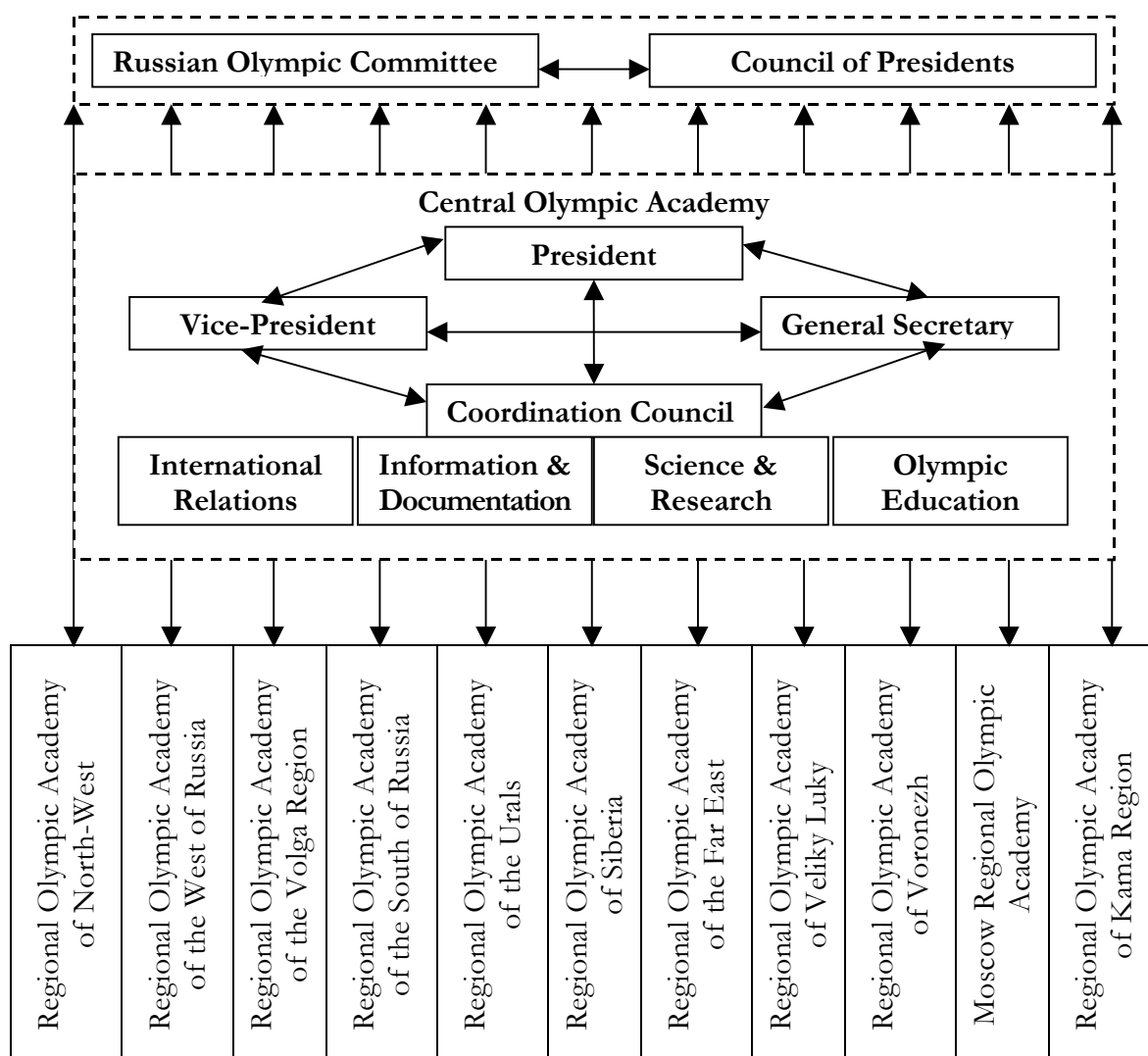
- Central Olympic Academy is located in Moscow;
- Regional Olympic Academy of North-West of Russia in St. Petersburg;
- Regional Olympic Academy of the West of Russia in Smolensk;
- Regional Olympic Academy of the Volga Region in Volgograd;
- Regional Olympic Academy of the South of Russia in Krasnodar;
- Regional Olympic Academy of the Urals in Chelyabinsk;
- Regional Olympic Academy of Siberia in Omsk;
- Regional Olympic Academy of the Far East in Khabarovsk;
- Regional Olympic Academy of Veliky Luky in Veliky Luky;
- Regional Olympic Academy of Voronezh in Voronezh;
- Moscow Regional Olympic Academy in the suburbs of Moscow, in the small town of Malachovka;
- Regional Olympic Academy of Kama Region in the city of Chaykovsky.

Rectors of sports higher educational institutions on the basis of which the Regional Olympic Academies were founded were elected Presidents of almost all Academies. Each Academy is a collective member of the Russian Olympic Committee.

However, as there was no united national academy it was very important to organize the coordination of activities of the Regional Academies. That is why a Council of Presidents of Regional Olympic Academies was established and attached to the Russian Olympic Committee and Professor Dr. Valery Kuzin was elected its Chairman.

The Department of Olympic Education of the Russian Olympic Committee also coordinates the activities of the Academies, which act in accordance with their own plans. There is also a joint Coordination Plan including the main events held by the Regional Olympic Academies in cooperation with the Russian Olympic Committee, and its Executive Committee approves this annual plan. Nevertheless, the most important role in coordination of all activities of the Regional Olympic Academies belongs to the Central Olympic Academy. All regional Academies organize their activities and contacts with the supervision structures through the Central Olympic Academy (figure 1).

Figure 1
Structure of the System of Regional Olympic Academies of Russia



The Central Olympic Academy is the integral part and functions mostly on the basis of the largest higher educational institution on physical education and sports in our country (and maybe in the world) which is called the Russian State Academy of Physical Education. Three experts in the sphere of the Olympic Movement — Professor Dr. Valery Kuzin (President), Dr. Natalia Melnikova (Vice-President), and Vitaly Stolbov (General Secretary), head the Central Academy. Collaborators of the State Academy and young researchers complete the staff as volunteers.

The main trends of coordination, the main activities of the Regional Olympic Academies and higher physical education institutions on the basis of which they are created are the following:

1) **To execute the functions of the organizational and methodical center of spreading the Olympic Idea.**

Since 1998 in accordance with decision of the Council of Presidents of Regional Olympic Academies, the Central Olympic Academy has become a joint information and methodological center for the Regional Olympic Academies of Russia. The Academy closely cooperates with the Department of Olympic Education of the Russian Olympic Committee in this field. In order to organize coordination of all activities in a better way, it was decided to establish in 2000 the joint coordination council with four main departments: International Relations, Information & Documentation, Science & Research, and Olympic Education. It was proposed that young historians and researchers of the Olympic Movement should head those departments.

2) **To organize and implement the state program of Olympic Education in accordance with regional programs, development and inclusion of special studies on Olympism into the curricula of the sports higher educational institutions.**

In 1996 the Ministry of Education included the theoretical part *Basis of the Olympic Knowledge* into the program of physical education of schoolchildren of the 8th forms. The experts of the Russian Olympic Committee, Central Olympic Academy and Regional Olympic Academy of the Urals and Ministry of Education worked out this theoretical part. Three representatives of the Central Olympic Committee and the Russian State Academy of Physical Education are among the authors of the first textbook on Olympic Education for schoolchildren *Your Olympic Textbook*, which is the main teaching aid for all Russian schoolchildren. Beginning from 1997, upon the request of the Central Olympic Academy experts, half of the examination question-papers at the exams on physical education in the 9th and 11th forms contain questions on Olympic knowledge basis. Also the special course on studying Olympism for higher educational institutions was elaborated and suggested to the Regions. It consists of 22-36 academic hours and intended to give students special knowledge on the Olympic Movement.

3) **Organization of scientific conferences on Olympic Movement and Olympism, to publish teaching aids and scientific books.**

The Central Olympic Academy organizes two main scientific conferences. The first of them, namely *Olympism, the Olympic Movement, and the Olympic Games: history and modern trends*, is organized annually for students, postgraduates, young researchers and teachers under 35 years. It is carried out traditionally in the first week of February, in Moscow, on the base of the Russian State Academy of Physical Education. Every year dozens of young people make their presentations and trying themselves in discussions. The best of them are awarded the participation in the sessions of the International Olympic Academy as a prize. The second conference, namely *The Olympic Movement and social processes*, is traditional too and is carried out

for scientists and experts in the sphere of the Olympic Movement usually in autumn in different cities, where the headquarters of Regional Olympic Academies are situated. In order to support the teaching of students of the State Academy, Regional Olympic Academies and physical education higher institutions the training aids on the history of the Olympic Movement are published annually. It is widely used by students both during the studies and teaching practice.

4) **To hold seminars and advanced training courses for the deputy directors of schools and schoolteachers together with the local administration bodies of physical education, sports and education.**

The Central Olympic Academy is responsible in organizing different courses for specialists and teachers in order to upgrade their professional qualification. Annually the special seminars for deputy directors of schools and schoolteachers together with the local administration bodies of physical education, sports and education are organized in Moscow. Also the tradition is to organize the round tables and open seminars for presidents and staff of the Regional Olympic Academies.

5) **Organization of the All-Russian contests *Olympic Education in Russia* and *Sport Elite of the year*.**

The Central Olympic Academy with the assistance of the Russian Olympic Committee has developed and realized a number of measures aimed at the stimulation and promotion of Olympic Education. The main of them is the All-Russian contest *Olympic Education in Russia*, which serves as one of the catalysts of the Olympic Education development in Russia. Two contests of this kind were held for the last four years. In order to show the scale of the contests I would like to mention that thousands of schools and dozens of thousands of schoolchildren - real experts on the Olympic Movement, Olympism, and Olympic Games - take part in the first (local) round of the contest. The best of them were awarded a trip to Olympia as a prize. The second annual contest aims the election of the best from sportsmen (among men and women), sport teams, coaches, sport physicians, scientists and young scientist - researchers of the Olympic Movement, sport journalists, etc.

6) **Coordination and organization of the system of regional sports competitions.**

Various sport competitions corresponding to the Olympic Charter and principles of Fair Play are carried out under the patronage of the Central Olympic Academy in Moscow and other regions. The most remarkable of them are:

- SpArt tournaments (almost in all regions);
- the Games of the Northern Caucasus Peoples (South);
- the sports festivals *Young Olympionik* and *Olympionik* (Voronezh);
- original contest *Harmony* (Far East);
- multisports competitions as International Sibiriyada for Children;
- Parasibiriyada;
- Spartakiades of the Peoples of Siberia;
- women's sports and art festivals *Siberiana* and *Rossiana*;
- festivals of the national sports *Northern Lights* and *Center of Asia* (Siberia).

7) **Other activities concern to the Olympic Movement.**

The creation of the five serial films *From the history of the Olympic Games* plays an important role in the activities of the Central Olympic Academy. The films *Hellenic Games* and *Renaissance* were highly appreciated by the experts of the Russian Olympic Committee, Regional Olympic Academies and the International Olympic Academy. The third film *Olympic Russia* is going to be released soon. The joint actions of the Central Olympic Academy and Historical and Sports Museum of the Russian State Academy with regional sports museums contribute heavily into the development of Olympic Education. Thousands of exhibits are displayed, and many of them are unique.

In conclusion, it is necessary to note that the experience of the Central Olympic Academy in creation and coordination activities of the Regional Olympic Academies turned out to be the most effective because it is more closely connected to 89 territories-members of the Russian Federation. And that experience can be useful to many multinational countries and federal states.

The Establishment of a National Olympic Sports Analysis Database and its Effect

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The Olympic Games are a global event, with an increasing number of participating nations in recent years. Most of the National Olympic Committees formulate their own Olympic strategies in order to achieve their respective Olympic medals target. Evaluating of the national Olympic sports strength and predicting medals and rankings at the Olympic Games are critical to the successful formulation and implementation of Olympic strategies, programmes and targets. After years of work, a National Olympic Sports Analysis Database has been established, and a medal prediction method has been worked out precisely for the above purpose.

This paper explores a more accurate method of predicting the gold medals of the major nations as well as their overall rankings at the Olympic Games based on this database. The world championships or world cups for some sports have as high a standard as the Olympic Games during the non-Olympic years, and they are used in the database for conducting statistics (as a rule, at the Olympic Games, the 1st to 8th are scored respectively 9, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1). If in a particular year there are no world championships or world cups for some sports, annual world rankings or some other top level international competitions, the results of that sport in the previous year may be used in the database instead, which accounts for about 10% only.

Based on this database, we analysed and predicted the gold medals and overall strength for all the nations in recent years (table 1). It has been proved that:

- 1) The result (gold medals and overall ranking) of the Olympic Games is very close to the analysis and prediction for the Atlanta Olympic Games. USA is in the first group, placed 1st in both gold medal and overall scores with 44 golds and 1,064 points; Russia and Germany are ranked 2nd and 3rd respectively. For the second group, Italy, China, Cuba, Australia and France are in the top 8, only slightly different in placing. For the nations predicted to be ranked among the top 9 nations, only Hungary has dropped to 12th place.
- 2) The overall strength of the Olympic sports of a nation relates to its potential gold medals. According to the statistics of the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, it has been found that, for the top 13 nations, the biggest difference in placing between being ranked by gold medal and by overall score is 2; among these nations, the placings by gold medal or by overall score are exactly the same for the three of them, and the difference is only 1 for eight of them, and 2 for two of them.

It is obvious that gold medals and overall strength relate to each other closely, and the latter is of great importance for winning gold medals. The difference can be explained by the comprehensive assessment by experts, including the developing tendency of a particular Olympic cycle and the new situation before the competition.

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- 3) This database is of significance to the formulation and implementation of Olympic strategies, programmes and targets, for example, in which position China will be placed in the top nations for its overall strength, who are its major rivals, what are their own advantages and disadvantages, what measures should be taken, etc.

Table 1

A comparison of the rankings by gold medal and overall score at the '96 Games

	Gold	Overall	Difference
1. USA	1	1	0
2. Russia	2	3	1
3. Germany	3	2	1
4. China	4	4	0
5. France	5	5	0
6. Italy	6	7	1
7. Australia	7	6	1
8. Cuba	8	10	2
9. Ukraine	9	8	1
10. Korea	10	9	1
11. Poland	11	13	2
12. Hungary	12	11	1
13. Spain	13	14	1

In conclusion, this Database and the analysis based on it provide very useful references for the decision-making departments for the Olympics. It has been used to predict the gold medals, medals and overall rankings of the major countries (the top 12 nations) in the previous Olympic cycle, and has proved much more accurate.

The China Joint Sport Catalogue Study on the Construction of a Database

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Introduction

Network information resources mainly consists of databases, software and electronic publications. During the years between 1975 and 1995, the quantity of databases around the world increased by 157 times. However, the construction of databases in China lagged far behind compared with other advanced countries. Therefore, the construction of databases has become a primary task for developing network information resources in China.

To promote the construction of information resources, the Committee of Information and Documentation of Physical Education Colleges of China made an investigation at the end of 1998. A preliminary project of constructing the database of the China Joint Sport Catalogue (CJSC) was presented based on the results of this investigation. Under the guidance of the Science & Education Department of the State Sport General Administration of China, and co-ordinated by the Committee of Information and Documentation of Physical Education Colleges, a plan for a CJSC database was started in May, 1999. Sixteen physical education colleges, the National Sport Information Institute and 29 Research Institutes of provinces and municipalities participated in the work. The purposes of the project were to lay the foundation for co-operative computerized cataloguing and retrieving, interlibrary loans, and finally the sharing of a common information resource.

1. Target, model and principles

1.1. Target

With co-operative construction and resource sharing as its purpose, the CJSC was to reflect the academic level and development of research on sport and physical education in China, and offer completed services for users in retrieving, searching, etc.

2. Model

A working group mainly consisting of staff members of the Library of Beijing University of Physical Education was established, and a model of “unified norms, dispersal processing and centralized construction” was adopted.

1.3. Principles

Standard norm

Standard form, unified norms and a common information exchange agreement were adopted. Data can be shared and kept for ever, being effective for ever even using new systems.

Co-ordination

By joint cataloguing, repeated construction of catalogues can be reduced, and based on the database and through co-operative purchasing, the category of purchased books can be increased on an existing financial basis.

A bibliography record

To avoid over-dispersal of data records of the same documentation and rapid expansion of the database, and to facilitate data maintenance, a bibliography record was adopted.

Sharing a common resource

The target of database construction is to share a common information resource by network retrieving and interlibrary loan.

Specificity

The documentation resource of CJSC was limited to Chinese books about sport and physical education stored in the sport system of China.

2. Construction of Database

2.1. Planning phase (from October 1998 to April 1999)

Sixteen questionnaires were sent to physical education colleges to investigate book storage, modernization construction, profile of staff members and cataloguing. The same investigation was made at 29 research institutes. The number of books about sport and physical education published in China from 1949 to 1988 was investigated. By visiting the CALIS Centre of Beijing University, the Committee of Libraries of Higher Education Institutions of Beijing and other units, the construction profile of databases in China were investigated.

Based on the results of these investigations, the documentation resource and scale of CJSC were established. The communication format of computerized cataloguing of Chinese CN-MARC and communication data of ISO-2709 format were adopted.

2.2. Starting phase (May 1999)

A working meeting of libraries of physical education colleges was held in May 1999. The master plan management, management group and involved units were determined.

The project management group, which mainly consisted of staff members of the Library of Beijing University of Physical Education and head librarians and cataloguers of other units, was established to control the construction of the database. A training clinic was held in Beijing University of Physical Education. Fifty four cataloguers from involved units were trained by experts and lectures about the computerized catalogue communication format (CN-MARC), subject indexing, ISBD, online cataloguing and network were given.

Regulations including "Detailed working regulations of CJSC", "Quality control of the CJSC" and "List of involved units of the CJSC" were developed.

2.2. Conducting phase (from June 1999 to January 2000)

Starting from 1988, the Library of Beijing University of Physical Education had established its own catalogue database, which has 8,400 data records and meets the national standards requirements. For that reason, the database of Beijing University of Physical Education was chosen as the centre for the CJSC.

In October 1999, data were presented to the centre by all involved units. Staff members of the Library of Beijing University of Physical Education checked the recurrence of these records and compared them to its own database. 7,000 data records presented by all involved units were processed.

In November 1999, the management group started inputting the data and made a quality control, including the data transformation process, and check the presented data.

Construction of the database initially ended in January 2000. Database maintenance, quality control, data checking and renewal, network operation, user management and statistics were conducted by specific staff members.

3. Conclusion

CJSC has been established in China through common efforts, which covers 14,876 catalogue records of Chinese books about sports and physical education published from 1903 to 1999. Its completion has filled the gaps of Chinese sport databases at home and abroad. In our experience, condition guarantees, sound organization and co-ordination and quality control are important elements in database construction. To bring the function of the CJSC fully into play, it is suggested that the Centre of National Sport Literature Database in China be created.

Professional Tennis on the Internet Present and Future

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Definition: By professional tennis we understand the system of events offering prize money and computer ranking points for men's and women's professional rankings. This system comprises players, their coaches and agents, individual events, professional circuits, the game's international governing and coordinating bodies (the International Tennis Federation (ITF), Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP), Women's Tennis Association (Sanex WTA Tour), the European Tennis Association (ETA), etc) and the relevant sectors of National Tennis Associations.

We are witnessing a boom in the development of professional tennis presence on the internet. Professional tennis is available on the net in manifold ways. There are different groups of sites:

1) Official sites of the governing tennis bodies:

- www.itftennis.com
- www.atptennis.com
- www.sanexwtatour.com
- www.etatennis.com

2) Sites of the professional tournaments:

- www.ausopen.org
- www.rolandgarros.org
- www.wimbledon.org
- www.usopen.org
- www.daviscup.com
- www.tennis-masters.com

3) Tennis statistics and results sites:

- www.stevegtennis.com

4) Players fan sites.

In addition to that there is a group of internal web communities with restricted access (e.g. for the ATP players and staff, ITF Intranet for the executives of the National Tennis Associations).

Target groups differ. Some of the sites (owned by individual tournaments) are aimed mostly at the general public. They are often bilingual (English for international exposure, local language for home audience). Such sites are normally active for several weeks a year. Sites of the professional tours are active all year round. Sophisticated logistical procedures are required for managing a global sport. These sites provide information resources for players, organisers, press and coaches, as well as for the general public.

Several major functions of tennis sites can be pointed out:

- information (results, draws, interviews, calendars);
- communicative (transmitting the desired image of the tournament/organisation/sport/country through images, selection of information);
- commercial (advertising the sponsors and business partners).

Current trends include:

- Providing information in the real time mode.
- Specialisation (linguistic, etc).
- Selectivity/restricted access (ITF Intranet, ETA, ATP PlayerZone). Providing players with services on the net (such as the possibility to enter/withdraw from tournaments on line, viewing the acceptance lists, tournament information) requires the mechanism of secure access to sensitive and confidential information (authentication of users' identities on line).
- Pooling of commercial rights, joint portals. The first step is the creation of a joint portal for the top nine men's events known as the Masters Series events.
- Internet-only tournaments – new media. A proposed event will have coverage exclusively on the net.
- Interactivity (providing entertainment for site visitors, enabling subscriptions to news bulletins).

The presence of professional tennis on the internet in future is going to be even more specialised and target-oriented. In the foreseeable future online communication will continue to coexist parallel to traditional means of communication.

New Generation of Information Systems for Sports Inventory and Development of Comparative Sport Studies

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During the 20th century the sports industry has become one of the important branches of the world economy and an integral part of mass culture and global civilization.

By the beginning of the new millennium sports science has accumulated great volumes of factual and statistical information, which need qualitative theoretical generalizations and systematization for the optimization of sports activities, in general, and in particular for the development of different kinds of sports.

Between 1970 and 1990 IASI accomplished the important role of coordinator in the organization of monolingual centers of sports information: German (Köln), English (Ottawa), French (Paris), Spanish (Malaga), Chinese (Beijing), Russian (Moscow), etc representing the first step towards a future international network of sport documentation.

Thanks to recent information technology, new possibilities have appeared for the exploitation of Internet space in the interests of the entire population, sports practice and science, for the marketing and PR of the principles of the Olympic Movement and Sport for all.

The phenomenal increase in the number of Internet consumers of sports information makes it necessary to create global information systems which would satisfy different requests not only by sportsmen, scientists and sports managers, sponsors, and the mass media, but also by the general public. The structure of these systems and their databases must make each kind of sport transparent (its ratings of economic availability, traumatism, health risks, physiological, psychological and social impacts on the person, etc).

The special mission of the sports Internet resources in the first decade of the 21st century is to become a universal encyclopedia on all sports activities and an essential means of attracting people to the practice of sport.

There are two global problems, which must be resolved in the framework of sports Internet:

- 1) telecommunications and economic accessibility of sports databases;
- 2) speed and ease of search for and selection of necessary information.

The program of creation and development of a new generation of research networks (Internet-2), which began in the USA (1995-2005) and is based on vBNS (very high speed Backbone Network Services) already has the special active connection STAR TAP (Science, Technology and Research Transit Access Point) with the participation of about 20 European and Asian countries. Now is the time for developing the concepts of a new generation of sports information systems (for Sports science and research) with the prospect of a future connection to Internet-2.

The first global objective for sports experts in information, from our point of view, must be the unification and standardization of the design of the architecture, structure and formats of the contents of sports websites and databases, which could activate the development of comparative sports studies and statistics for the main target consumers.

Currently, the key role in the systematization of basic Internet sports information belongs to the International Sport Federations (IFs) and the National Olympic Committees (NOCs). However, a study of 30 IFs websites and 15 NOC websites reveals a methodological chaos that renders useless most information for intersports comparisons, systems analysis, modeling and forecasting.

There are currently some essential problems holding back the birth of a new generation of sports information systems:

- 1) Absence of standardization of sports information in conformity with the system of International Standards Organization (ISO). Quality Standards ISO-9000 should be used in sports information for the uniformity of the structure of the databases and websites and also of the formats and matrixes of the presentation of the contents.
- 2) The increasing pollution of sports Internet space could be neutralized by ecological standardization in sports documentation with the development of the Environment Quality Standards ISO-14000. These standards have voluntary status and are recommended for application by the Technical Committees (TC) of ISO. Standards are developed by working groups (WG) and adopted by a Sub-Committee (SC). The TC responsible for the standardization of information is the TC46, for which the functions of Secretariat are carried out by the German Institute of Standards.
- 3) The Sport sub-classes in the Universal Decimal Classification (796/799 UDC) and in the Electronic Dewey Classification needs major revisions, extensions and corrections. The development of new website and database standards might logically lead to the synthesis of both universal classifications.
- 4) Digital sports information systems require modeling and elaboration of intersports and cross-disciplinary user Interface and Multilingual electronic glossaries.
- 5) The Okinawa *Charter on Global Information Society* formulates the central problem: *“Bridging the digital divide in and among countries has assumed a critical importance on our respective national agendas. Everyone should be able to enjoy access to information and communications networks. We reaffirm our commitment to the efforts underway to formulate and implement a coherent strategy to address this issue. We also welcome the increasing recognition on the part of industry and civil society of the need to bridge the divide.”*

IASI has the opportunity to give moral and practical support to the Charter in taking the initiative for the creation of some pilot programs, for example the World Sport Information System (WSIS' organigram is the subject of a poster presentation) with the participation of all the sport communities represented in the Cyberspace and with the financial assistance of international, national and regional organizations. IASI could also launch activities with the International Center for Standardization and Quality Certification in sports information. The international multilateral cooperation in this sphere could be two dimensional:

- 1) Under the aegis of the International Olympic Committee – with the community of members of the General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF), General Assembly of National Olympic Committees (GA NOC), the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE), “Association Internationale des Ecoles Supérieures d'Education Physique” (AIESEP), etc.

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- 2) Under the aegis of the United Nation Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) – with specialized organizations of the United Nations such as the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), and its associated members such as the International Council of Scientific Unions, International Standards Organization, International Federation of Information Processing (IFIP), International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), etc.

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The Development of the Oceania Sport Information Centre (OSIC)

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Background

1989 - First proposal put forward by the National Sport Information Centre of Australia at the Oceania National Olympic Committees (ONOC) meeting in Melbourne, Australia.

Purpose of the Centre

The main purpose of the Centre is to establish a sports information centre for the region to collect and distribute information in the field of sport and physical education.

Location of the Centre

The Centre is located within the Library of the University of the South Pacific, which is in the city of Suva in the Fiji Islands.

Administration of the Centre

Since the Centre is a regional information centre it is a joint project of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), Oceania National Olympic Committee (ONOC), the Australian Sports Commission, UNESCO, and the University of the South Pacific.

Key Clients to be served by the Centre

ONOC Members: Guam, Papua New Guinea, Nauru, American Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands.

USP Member Countries: Niue, Tokelau, Marshalls, Kiribati, Tuvalu.

Construction and Application of a Database of Physical Education and Sport Dissertations

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1. Introduction

With the rapid development of networks, databases as the basic information source have played an important role between information service agencies and information users and have become an important channel for users to obtain information. Dissertations, written by postgraduates of higher education institutions and research institutes for obtaining a higher academic degree, are a form of special documentation, which are usually new in content, of higher academic value and include a large quantity of information. Therefore, the construction of dissertations database has been an important task for libraries and information centres. However, so far, database of dissertations in physical education and sport has not been established in China. Our efforts are aimed at establishing such a database, which, we believe, is helpful for postgraduates to select their research topics and for raising the whole academic level of research in sport and physical education.

2. Subjects and methods

Subjects

Topics, abstracts and full texts of dissertations written by postgraduates of physical education colleges and departments after 1981 were collected.

Methods

Literature research, interviews and consultation with experts were adopted in this study.

3. Results

Scope of collection

A total of 2,000 dissertations from 34 universities, colleges and research institutes was collected. Of these, 83% were from physical education universities and colleges, 16% from physical education departments of common higher education institutions, 1% from national sport institutes and other units. Among all units, Beijing University of Physical Education offered the highest number of dissertations (820).

Since 1981, with the increase of postgraduates, the number of dissertations has gradually increased. However, it began to decrease in the early 1990s. But after the reform of enrollment system in 1993, the quantity of dissertations rapidly increased.

Distribution

All the dissertations can be classified into five academic subjects. Of these, 364 dissertations are about humanity and sociology, 37 about applied psychology, 459 about human movement science, 1,044 about pedagogy and training, and 70 about ethnic sport and traditional sport.

Software system

The *Dancheng* Library Data Management System was adopted in this database, which has powerful retrieval function.

Norm and quality control

According to the requirements of the CN-MARC communication format, entry of each dissertation includes title, author, adviser, research direction, time, unit, classification number, abstract and key words. To keep the data standardized, CN-MARC, the Chinese Book Classification, the Chinese Thesaurus in Category and the Chinese Thesaurus of Sport were used for cataloguing and classifying. Considering the high specificity of these dissertations, some free key words were used and abstracts are of 200 to 2,000 words.

Principles of quality control were adopted and all data were checked and corrected.

4. Conclusion

The database, with sound retrieving function, is helpful for making full use of dissertations in the field of sport and physical education. Quantity, distribution, academic scope and units of the dissertations collected into the database reflect a sound development of higher physical education and academic researches in China.

The collection of dissertations is a long-term task and also the foundation for further development of the database. With the increase of units which are qualified to enroll postgraduates in physical education and sport, it is necessary to establish a fixed system for collecting dissertations.

To share a common information resource, it is suggested that the database be placed on the internet and a network retrieval service offered. A plan to cover the full texts of these dissertations is under consideration.

Sports Information in Finland: Co-operation between Sports Libraries and Information Centres

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The main organisations responsible for sports information in Finland are:

- Finnish Society for Research in Sport and Physical Education
- Finnish Sports Archives
- Finnish Sports Library and Information Service
- Jyväskylä University Library
- LIKES Information Service for Sport and Health Sciences
- UKK Institute's Library

The functioning and the field of specialisation of each organisation are briefly presented and the ongoing activities of the cooperative network described.

The Computer Based Programme of Registering and Estimating Tactics Actions in the Game of Handball

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The computer based programme worked out would make possible an effective analysis of tactics actions in attack and defence in the game of handball.

The system of registering and analysing tactics actions in attack and defence was worked out. Tactics actions in attack and defence are classified according to the types of attacks, the end of the attack, the systems of positional attack and defence, the actions in the 6-9 metre zone, the efficiency of attacks and defence, the duration of attacks and the efficiency of attacks (when playing in minority and majority).

Computer based programmes have been worked out according to the BASIC-type programme. With the help of computer based programmes the actions registered are put in the long-time memory of the computer. The data preserved in the computer take a very small space (some 2 KB) so it makes preserving a huge data basis possible. 700 matches can be registered in a disc with a diameter of 3.5 inches. In case an error is made by the expert when putting in the information the error can be easily corrected after every input as a check-up is made.

After each half-time a systematized analysis of tactics actions can be printed in the digital or graphic form. The system worked out for registering and analysing tactics actions in the game of handball enables one to present the statistical data of arithmetical means of indices, the data of mean square deviations as well as the data of variation factor.

Using the "Notebook" portable computer and the "Hewlett Packard" printer the research is undertaken on the competition site.

Triathlon's Inclusion in the 2000 Olympic Games Was the Price Too High?

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Triathlon became an Olympic sport for the first time in 2000, an impressive feat for a sport whose origins reach only back to 1974 with informal but spirited competition among friends on the beaches of San Diego, California. A popular spectator and participatory sport in Australia, the women's triathlon led off the 2000 Olympic Games, and, aided by creative promotions and media attention and a competitive race with a close sprint finish, the race played well both to a live and world-wide television audience. Similar remarks can be made for the men's triathlon held the following day. On the surface, therefore, it would appear that the inclusion of the sport in the 2000 Olympic Games should be considered a stunning success for triathlon and its governing body, the International Triathlon Union (ITU).

However, inclusion in the Olympic Games came at a considerable cost to the sport of triathlon, including critical rule changes made to make triathlon more spectator-friendly and reduce potential margins of victory. Stronghanded leadership that angered many professional triathletes, a controversial Olympic selection process, and the alienation of thousands of age-group/amateur athletes (many of whom were disappointed by the ITU's betrayal of triathlon's original spirit of individualism) are all examples of potential risks to triathlon's growth resulting from Olympic inclusion.

This paper examines the Olympics from an American perspective, where triathlon is primarily a participatory sport. This paper argues that the 2000 Olympic triathlon, although popular and captivating to a world-wide audience, did not help to advance the sport of triathlon in the United States. Specifically, this paper argues that such Olympic inclusion and the media attention resulting from it neither attracted new American fans to the sport nor did it further invigorate current American amateur triathletes, many of whom were upset by the direction taken by the sport of triathlon resulting from Olympic inclusion.

Teaching and Learning with Media in Sport

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Media production and education at the Federal Office for Sport

The producers of teaching and learning materials for tuition and training in sport at the Federal Office for Sport are presently working on the following three themes and questions:

- 1) How can the new graphic and technological opportunities be applied effectively ?
- 2) How can the combination of digital filming techniques and processing opportunities bring about greater information and education values for athletes and their coaches with the help of the computer ?
- 3) What are the requirements that tutors in sport must fulfil today in order to be able to effectively employ the new technologies?

One main area of focus relates to the combination of digital video technology and computers for the analysis of movement sequences. A specific example of this area is outlined below.

Employment of digital technology for high-performance sport using swimming as an example

With the emergence of digital video cameras, the didactic and technical application possibilities have also become widespread in the learning and teaching of sport.

Due to the higher density of information (picture quality) these digital cameras have improved in the following areas, as compared to analogue technologies:

- degree of detail/precision;
- still picture quality (still picture store);
- direct copying without loss of quality;
- slow motion forward and backward.



Those responsible for the Swiss national swimming team decided to take advantage of the varied opportunities in audio-visual media provided by the Federal Office for Sport in Magglingen, for movement analysis. In co-operation with the departmental managers for swimming, the officer in charge drew up a framework concept. In intervals of three to four months, leading swimmers could benefit from the use of a personal technical analyst. The following objectives were established:

- qualitative advanced recording of personal swimming, starting and turning techniques (frontal and side-on);
- direct analytical discussion on site with participants (immediate picture evaluation);
- didactic processing of the image material (direction of attention towards graphics, joint editing of sequences relevant to learning);
- emphasis on qualitative advanced print material (key positions);
- building up a personal image databank (video or CD);
- taking minutes of the evaluation discussion (personal analysis form).

The following infrastructure preparation measures were taken by the Federal Office for Sport:

- installation of two additional underwater windows for attaching video cameras;
- installation of a switchover opportunity on the camera required at any given time;
- creation of a special underwater case for the use of digital cameras;
- installation of mobile technology (monitor, DV recorder and printer);
- drawing up protocol forms for recording key positions relevant to movement (video evaluation discussion with participants);
- installation of additional lighting.

The technical courses offer participants and their coaches the following opportunities:

- underwater video recording with frontal and side-on views in digital quality; start and turning techniques and swimming technique;
- personal evaluation discussion with a technical specialist and personal coach (“Is-Should be-Analysis”);
- drawing up a written observation sheet (arm stroke, leg kick, co-ordination);
- expansion of the verbal protocol with picture materials (key positions).

Evaluation between expert, coach and athlete



Participants could take away a summary technical analysis sheet at any time after the course. According to personal needs, the video material was specially processed by the swimming department manager on 100 media editing points after the course (joint editing, expansion by means of graphs) and sent to the participants.

Not surprisingly, the feedback from participants on these digital quality recordings was extremely positive and encouraging. Due to the outstanding picture quality, excellent opportunities arise for education and further training of swimming coaches and sports students. For example, picture material may be further processed to technical sequences or to “Is-Should” value comparisons (print medium); or it may form the basis for future audio-visual or multimedia teaching means.
