127 - TIMELINE FOR BRAZILIAN PERFORMANCE PARASPORTS

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Introduction

Performance parasports, just like performance sports, encompasses Performance Parasports and High Performance Parasports (TUBINO and his collaborators, 2007). High Performance Parasports involves a professional approach that includes High Competition. Performance Parasports is also aimed at performance, but at lower levels. The results and world records conquered by para-athletes in different modalities suggest that the frontiers of para-athletes' performance can be permanently overcome, particularly in the field of physical (motor and coordinating) skills and, to a great extent, in the field of techniques. The principle of overcoming explains this irrefutable trend in Performance Parasports, in its high performance manifestation on terms takes as high level.

Parasports is very important for Brazil, as it goes from biological to social sciences. It goes beyond integrating everyday life, and is also a relevant factor in the definition of Brazilians' way of life. It is so intense that much can be understood about Brazil and Brazilians just by observing reactions in a competition involving disabled people. Undoubtedly, parasports is a first-class inclusion resource for the treatment, recovery and reinsertion of people who, after having undergone rehabilitation processes and having been included in parasports practice, now experience a motivation to overcome their human condition to cope with adversities imposed by society.

The attempt to establish a historical timeline in Brazilian parasports has been a great demand for a long time. Thus, the contribution of this field of knowledge and the human action involved in it can be really effective to enhance the creation of new para-athletes and to guide professional orientation of people who want to engage parasports professionally.

This study aims at establishing a timeline in Brazilian performance parasports, following its historical background from the day it was created to current days, making a comparison of its structure with the corresponding international structure. It attempts to establish a new parameter in its evolutions, relating it to the political and ideological context that the Para-Olympic Games have always evidenced. The confirmation of this evolution along these periods, defined by the observations made since its early movements to this date will allow us to make an interpretation of this relevant cultural manifestation of Brazilian parasports, creating a new understanding, a new approach, different from the one we know nowadays. Parasports practice, an essential issue to the human development, allows us to understand *one* (I) never emerges unless it is intends to meet the *other*.

The study attempted to find society's questions posed before the challenges of post-modern era. These questions are formulated at the moment when parasports practices are seen as directed to a privileged group, and when it outstands that a historical timeline on Performance parasports is not really available either at national or international levels.

The social contribution of this study is a new approach to the theme. Although it cannot say everything there is to be said about this topic, it aims at fulfilling the gap regarding the dissemination of historical information about Parasports as well as creating a historical timeline that can help researchers, athletes and professionals in the area.

This study encompasses the collection of data among specialists in groups. The data were collected through the application of questionnaires about the evolution of Brazilian Parasports compared to International Parasports. The intention of participants in the selected group is its range limit.

The current structure between entities that constitute Brazilian parasports and the virtual inexistence of professionals who can characterize historical facts chronologically and coherently has inspired us to carry out this study. Thus, we make an attempt to build a historical timeline that enables us to develop the notion of periods useful to those who need logical-historical support. The literature about the theme is still reduced and its consultation availability in Brazil is about several adapted sports.

We believe it is really important to understand Parasports as a field of investigation that can be included in Human Motricity science, more specifically in historical and socio-cultural terms, which claim for meanings. Following this trend, the study has demonstrated the need to build the answer to the following questions: is there a timeline at national and international level that takes into consideration the real situation of parasports? What are the reference and limiting landmarks of the historical periods of Brazilian parasports performance?

Methodology applied to period division in Brazilian performance parasports

This study is descriptive. According to (2004), a descriptive study is aimed only at estimating parameters of a population, namely proportions, averages etc. The building of hypotheses is not necessary because it is only a “photograph” of the situation. Such studies are fundamentally important because they are the first steps in the investigation. Hypotheses developed from them can be studied in more sophisticated researches.

Sampieri and collaborators (1994, p. 61) highlight the measuring power of the descriptive study. Triviños (1987, p. 110) states that “this power is focused on the desire to get to know the community, its features, its people, their problems, schools, teachers, education, their preparation for work, their values.” The researchers must have a lot of information about their object of research, since they intend to describe 'accurately' the facts and phenomena related to a certain reality. Whenever there are relations between variables the study is named descriptive and co- relational. Other descriptive studies are denominated case studies and are aimed at going deeper into the description of a certain reality.

Man must be able to describe the proposed phenomena so that he can advance in the resolution of problems. For that purpose, the research objective consists in getting to know the situations, habits and attitudes that prevail among people and facts, going beyond the mere recognition of data.

The goal of the investigation encompassed the examination of the characteristics of the chosen problem. In this case, the early research of a timeline referring to Parasports, and then the delineation of a Period Division of Brazilian Parasports Performance, so that the possibility of hypotheses can be defined, the assumptions can be determined and the different procedures can be chosen.

The study can also be understood as historical, since Flegner & Dias (1995, p.49) have stipulated that the "historical study aims as gathering information and retell the continuous line of past events". According to this line of thoughts, by referring to the ex-*pos-facto* researches, Gil (1991) asserts that the logical procedures of its delineation are similar to the experiments properly speaking, that is, the can be spontaneous. He also states that in studies that somehow include social involvements, such delineation is irreplaceable; it is the only procedures that encompasses historical moments and thus can open to the understanding of social structures of a group defined as the target of a research. Thus, the kind of study to be adopted is *ex-pos-facto* descriptive, as quoted by Flegner & Dias (1995, p.58) as the study that "starts with groups that are different and attempts to differentiate the background of the differences". Therefore, the scholars have closed their position about this issue by concluding the researcher will be able to establish the comparison between two or more groups, one of which must contain the pre-requisite which hold the mentioned background in opposition to another group that does not hold them, that is, establish the characteristics that distinguish one group from the other.

Period Division depicts the major facts and characters in the history of Brazilian adapted sports, now named Brazilian parasports, since its early moments in the 18the century, in about 1854, until now.

The historical knowledge and its traits are not restricted to landmarks already known; instead, it goes as far as the whole knowledge about the way it has developed. Besides, the subjective character of the historical knowledge must be emphasized since man and historians do not register everything, but rather make "selections", cutting of parasports reality, according to society's experience and project it builds.

Thus, this is the beginning of the elaboration of the first generic notions about the establishment of a historical Period Division. It is an important moment in the construction of Parasports identity starting from a temporal viewpoint, its characteristics, outstanding facts, most pleasant or difficult experiences, in sum, its operational mode.

In the activities related to the building of this Period Division, the work moves simultaneously to the notions of time and space, associating where and when the facts have taken place. The events must be located in periods defined in time by denominating authenticity patterns and notions to distinguish them through anteriority, posteriority and simultaneity criteria as well as to make us of historical sources in researches already elaborated, so that the authenticity and correlation with other similar titles available can be confirmed.

As a consequence of the integration of national and international chronograms for Brazilian Parasports, the author managed to establish the suggestion of a Historical Period Division for Brazilian Performance Parasports that would later be validated by twenty specialists involved directly or indirectly with Parasports. Those specialists have been acting in this area for over ten years (athletes, managers, coaches, functional classifiers, professionals in the medical, psychological and nutritional areas). The periods identified for Brazilian Sports also regarded the international context

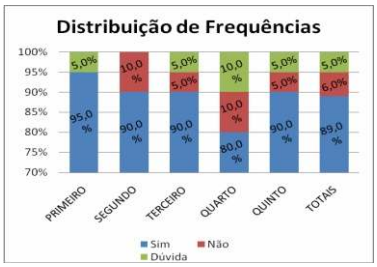
In order to do so, five periods for Performance Parasports were identified. They are: 1st- Unawareness about Brazilian Parasports at the beginning of early Parasports activities (1854 to 1937); 2nd- Discovery and Value of Brazilian Parasports (1938 to 1957); 3rd Specific Establishment of Brazilian Parasports (1959 to 1990); 4th Divulgation of Performance Parasports through the Media (1991 to 1995); 5th Affirmation and Consolidations of Performance and High Performance Parasports (as off 1996).

Analysis of results

Results achieved regarding the validating elements in the sample related to the contents are expressed in the following table and chart:

Items Marked according to Proposed Alternatives

CENTURIES	PERIODS	NUMBER REGISTERED			
19TH TO 21ST	1st to 5st	YES	NO	DOUBT	TOTAL
19TH TO 21ST	FIRST	19	0	1	20
20TH	SECOND	18	2	0	20
20TH	THIRD	18	1	1	20
20TH	FOURTH	16	2	2	20
20TH TO 21ST	FIFTH	18	1	1	20
	TOTAL	89	6	5	100



The conclusion about the items marked in the first period took place among nineteen of the interviewees (95%), who chose "yes" and one of them marked the alternative related to doubt. Such result confirms what was learned in the theoretical reference. No historical record was found that could demonstrate the possible evolution concerning Parasports during that period, which was considered to be the Unawareness of Brazilian parasports at the beginning of early Parasports activities (1854 to 1937).

In the second period, eighteen (90%) interviewees marked "yes" because they understood that this really depicts the Discovery and Value of Brazilian Parasports (1938 to 1958). None of the interviewees expressed doubts (0%), but two of them (10%) chose "no" as an alternative. However, it can be stated that among those 90% who marked "yes" one of them affirms that that period was considered the real initiative for the development of Parasports through international interchange which entailed the opening of a promotional field provided with favorable characteristics to the real development of Brazilian Parasports.

In the third period eighteen among the interviewees (90%) chose "yes". One of the interviewees, that is, 5% of them, chose the "doubt" option. One of them (5%) chose the "no" option. Among the eighteen who marked "yes", one of them states that this was a fundamental period for its specific solidification, so it was denominated Specific Establishment of Brazilian Parasports (1959 to 1990).

Regarding the fourth period, it was confirmed that sixteen among the interviewees (80%) chose "yes". Two of them (10%) marked "no" and other two (10 %) chose "doubt". One of the latter stated that on that occasion, that is, during the popularization stage, there emerged an interpretation regarding the need that the Parasports should deserved recognition and support from the authorities. Those attitudes would be essential to its development. This is the Divulgation of Performance Parasports through the Media (1991 to 1995).

In the fifth period, there is a real Affirmation and Consolidations of Performance Parasports: Performance and High Performance. As illustrated in the aforesaid table and chart, eighteen among the interviewees (90%) agreed that there was an effective acceleration already expected by those who loved Parasports. One of the interviewees (5%) did not agree on this division and marked "doubt". This is obviously the period in which the Performance Parasports consolidates in Brazilian High Performance Parasports. It is the period division when there is Affirmation and Consolidation of Performance Parasports: Performance and High Performance (1996 a 2008). Therefore, the evaluation concentrates on the obtained percentages (89%), that is, in the hundred answered items, the interviewees agreed on the statements proposed in the five Historical Period Division of Brazilian

Performance Parasports, as confirmed in the chart we have exhibited below:

Conclusions and recommendations

The basic condition in the search for methods and protocols for the identification and development of sports talent is, according to Weineck (1999, p.126), the elaboration of a catalogue with specific characteristics for a certain sports modality and a later comparison and follow up.

Historical hypotheses are *post-factum.* They attempt to explain facts that have taken place and the relationship between the facts and the observed phenomena. In our interpretation about Brazilian parasports, we can say that the second half of the 20th century was the phase when the solidification and expansion of parasports took place as it is presented on the Building a Timeline for Performance Parasports.

Historiography of parasports will always allow readers to have diverse interpretation, which, according to Barros (2005), should be plausible and coherent. We understand that there is a differentiated evolution between Brazilian most prestigious sports and parasports, which carries the historical marks of differences, or, as described by Goffman (1988), the discredit of its potentialities.

We can say that this discredit was overcome by the obstinate dedication and hard work of scholars in this field of study, directly or indirectly responsible for the creation of associations and governmental entities or policies that have supported its evolution. Media and technology have also become allies in this promotion and sustainability. With an identity of its own, it has developed specific modalities adapted to those who practice it, reflecting the values of the culture in which it is inserted. The specialized management of these practices developed levels and categories for the competitions, thus reinforcing its identity.

The awareness and efficient potential recognition among disabled people are the factors that can make them develop fully and reintegrate them to the social environment, rescuing their citizenship with dignity (GELOSKI, 2004).

The relevance of deeper, fully scientific studies on the theme becomes obvious not only for the need of a more theoretical reference about Adapted Physical Education and related areas, but also for the projection that this activity can have through the latest international results conquered in the Peking Para-Olympic Games, in which Brazil obtained the highest number of international medals (forty seven) sixteen of which were gold, fourteen were silver and seventeen were bronze. In that event, Brazilian para-athletes also beat several world and Para-Olympic records.

Through the accomplishments in the field of Sports Science, specifically in what it concerns other activities related to Performance Parasports, this study also aims at bringing lights to the media. This is the case of the Winter and Summer Para-Olympics as well as the competition-oriented activities with Para-Olympic relations, such as, for example, the ones that involve the hearing impaired, the Down Syndrome individuals, and as of 2000, the mentally disabled people. The latter are expected to have their return in the London Games in 2012.

If few researches on this theme are developed, there will certainly be wide possibilities that Parasports will evolve to the level of excellence. The object of study can be widened, designed to check, from other viewpoints, aspects of sports training, feeding and nutritional regimes or characteristics related to athletes' motivation. In order to enrich the discussion, there should also be the determination of the profiles associated with other parasports, with correlating or non-correlating characteristics.

Above all, we expect this article can be a reference for the guidance of professionals related to performance parasports. The data explored here should be used as fundaments for new scientific studies in this investigation field. This is a study directed to those who believe in the human overcoming and are ready to favor parasports adherence to those whose (d)efficient bodies do not prevent them to engage in those activities, but make them more difficult.

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TIMELINE FOR BRAZILIAN PERFORMANCE PARASPORTS

Abstract:

This study aimed at large, establish a timeline of the Brazilian Paraesport of income, examining its historical evolution from its inception until the present day, compared considering its structure in relation to the international structure. We used data from the Brazilian Paralympics Committee - CPB as main sources of information, the literature now exists on the national and international paraesport and questionnaires with people involved directly or indirectly with the paraesport (athletes, managers, technicians, functional classifiers, professionals in medical, psychological and nutritional areas) acting for over ten years in the Paralympic area. It was found that in Brazil, the sport practiced by people with disabilities - PCDs, the paraesport, had its beginning

from 1958 and is administered today with autonomy of the CPB. From the beginning of the twenty-first century, a process of significant achievements was installed, resulting in the increase in the number of Paralympics medals. The process of validating the content of the historical timeline of Brazilian paraesport appointed five periods of income distributed since the nineteenth century to the twenty-first century: 1º. Unawareness about Brazilian Parasports; 2º. Discovery and Value of Brazilian Parasports; 3º. Specific Establishment of Brazilian Parasports; 4º. Divulgation of Performance Parasports through the Media; 5º Affirmation and Consolidations of Performance Parasports: Income and High Yield. With its own identity paraesport developed the specific arrangements tailored to the needs of its practitioners reflecting the values of culture to which he belongs. The management of such practices developed specialized levels and categories for competitions, reinforcing their identity. However, the registration process of the Paralympics activities still lacks a process of maturation and vocational training of professionals in this specific type of Paralympics activity.

Keywords: Paraesporte, Paraesporte performance, Historical development, Historical timeline.

PÉRIODICITÉ HISTORIQUE DU PARA-SPORT DE RENDEMENT BRÉSILIEN

Résumé:

Cette étude a le but général d'établir un genre de Périodicité du Para-Sport Brésilien de Rendement, en faisant l'analyse de son évolution historique depuis sa création jusqu'à l'actualité, en remarquant de manière comparative sa structure en rélation à l'international. On s'est servi des données du Comité Para-Olympique Brésilien (CPB) comme source principale d'information de la bibliographie connue jusqu'à présent à propos du Para-Sport national et international, et de questionnaires faits avec des gens, directe ou indirectement concernées au para-sport, et qui participent, il y a plus de dix ans au secteur para-olympique (athlètes, dirigeants, techniciens, classificateurs fonctionnels, professionnels de médecine, psicologiques, nutritionnels). On a vérifié qu'au Brésil le sport pratiqué par des Handicapés le para-sport a eu son commencement depuis 1958, et est administré aujourd'hui avec autonomie, par le CBP. Depuis le commencement du XXIe siècle,un procédé significatif deréalisations s'est instalé ayant comme résultatr l'augmentation de la quantité de médailles para-olympiques. Le procédé de validation du contenu de la périodicité historique du para-sport brésilien de rendement a indiqué cinq périodes distribuées depuis le XIX ^{e} siècle jusqu'au XXIe : 1e Méconnaissance du Para-Sport Brésilien ; 2e Découverte et Valorisation du Para-Sport de Rendement ; 3e. Solidification spécifique du Para-Sport de Rendement ; 4e. Diffusion du Para-Sport de Rendement à travers les Médias ; 5e. Affirmation et Consolidation du Para-Sport de Performance : Rendement et Haut-Rendement. Avec identité propre, le Para-Sport a développé des modalités spécifiques adaptées aux besoins de leurs pratiquants reflétant les valeurs de la culture où il est inséré. La gestion spécialisée de ces pratiques a développé des niveaux et des catégories pour les compétitions, et a renforcé leur identité. Mais, le processus d'enregistrement des activités para-olympiques souffre encore d'un procédé de maturation professionnelle et de la formation de professionnels spécifiques dans ce genre d'activité para-sportive.

Mots-Clés: Para-sport; Para-sport de rendement; Périodicité historique brésilienne

PERIODIZACIÓN HISTÓRICA DEL PARA-DEPORTE DE RENDIMIENTO BRASILEÑO

Resumen:

El presente estudio tiene la finalidad general de establecer una periodicidad del Para-Deporte Brasileño de Rendimiento, haciendo un análisis de su evolución histórica, a partir de su creación hacia la actualidad, se considerando comparativamente su estructura en relación a la internacional. Se utilizaron datos del Comité Para-olímpico Brasileño (CPB) como fuente de información, de la bibliografía existente respecto al para-deporte nacional e internacional y cuestionarios hechos con personas vinculadas directa o indirectamente con el para-deporte, que actúan desde más de diez años en área para-olímpica (atletas, dirigentes técnicos, clasificadores funcionales, profesionales de áreas médicas, psicológicas, de nutrición). Se ha verificado que en Brasil el deporte practicado por Minusválidos (PCDs), el para-deporte, empezó a partir de 1958, hoy administrado con autonomía por el CPB. A partir del comienzo del siglo XXI se instaló un procedimiento significativo de realizaciones, y se tradujo en el aumento del número de medallas para-olímpicas. El procedimiento de validación del contenido de la periodicidad histórica del para-deporte brasileño de rendimiento indicó cinco periodos desde el siglo XIX hasta el siglo XXI: 1^{0}. Desconocimiento del Para-Deporte Brasileño; 2 ^{0}. Descubrimiento y valorización del Para-Deporte de Rendimiento; 3 ^{0}. Solidificación Específica del Para-Deporte de Rendimiento; 4^{0}. Difusión del Para-Deporte de Rendimiento a través de la Media 5 ^{0}. Afirmación y Consolidación del Para-Deporte de Desempeño: Rendimiento y Alto Rendimiento. Con su identidad propia el Para-Deporte desarrolló modalidades específicas adaptables a las necesidades de los practicantes, reflejando los valores de la cultura donde está insertado. La gestión especializada de esas prácticas ha desarrollado niveles y categorías para competiciones reforzando su identidad. Sin embargo, el procedimiento de registro de las actividades para-olímpicas carece todavía de un proceso de saturación profesional y de la formación de profesionales específicos en este género de actividad para-deportiva.

Palabras-Clave: Para-deporte; Para-deporte de rendimiento; Periodicidad histórica brasileña

PERIODIZAÇÃO HISTÓRICA PARA O PARAESPORTE DE RENDIMENTO BRASILEIRO

Resumo:

O presente estudo tem como objetivo geral, estabelecer uma periodização do Paraesporte Brasileiro de Rendimento, analisando sua evolução histórica desde sua criação até os dias atuais, considerando comparativamente sua estrutura em relação à internacional. Foram utilizados dados do Comitê Paraolímpico Brasileiro - CPB como principal fonte de informação, da bibliografia ora existente sobre o paraesporte nacional e internacional e questionários com pessoas envolvidas direta ou indiretamente com o paraesporte, atuantes há mais de dez anos na área paraolímpica (atletas, dirigentes, técnicos, classificadores funcionais, profissionais das áreas médicas, psicológicas, nutricionais). Verificou-se que no Brasil o esporte praticado por Pessoas Com Deficiência - PCDs, o paraesporte, teve seu início a partir de 1958, sendo administrado hoje, com autonomia, pelo CPB. A partir do início do século XXI, um processo significativo de realizações se instalou, traduzindo-se no aumento do número de medalhas paraolímpicas. O procedimento de validação do conteúdo da periodização histórica do paraesporte brasileiro de rendimento apontou cinco períodos distribuídos desde o século XIX até o século XXI: 1º. Desconhecimento do Paraesporte Brasileiro; 2º. Descoberta e Valorização do Paraesporte de Rendimento; 3º. Solidificação Especifica do Paraesporte de Rendimento; 4º. Divulgação do Paraesporte de Rendimento pela Mídia; 5º. Afirmação e Consolidação do Paraesporte de Desempenho: Rendimento e Alto Rendimento. Com identidade própria o Paraesporte desenvolveu modalidades específicas adaptadas às necessidades de seus praticantes, refletindo os valores da cultura em que está inserido. A gestão especializada dessas práticas desenvolveu níveis e categorias para competições, reforçando sua identidade. No entanto, o processo de registro das atividades paraolímpicas, ainda carece de um processo de amadurecimento profissional e da formação de profissionais específicos neste tipo de atividade paraesportiva.

Palavras-chave: Paraesporte; Paraesporte de rendimento; Periodização histórica brasileira