11 - THE ORGANIZATION OF COMPETITIONS FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT: A STUDY ABOUT SPECIALIZED FEDERATION IN COLLECTIVE SPORTS IN STATE OF AMAZON.

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Introduction

The sporty activities are human creations, aiming individuals' socialization. Practically, all sporty, individual or collective modalities are activities that are characterized by the presence of the intervenient while organized symbolic construction.

The sport of competition is generally practiced by adults. The sporty competition infantile and juvenile should be planned, organized and directed so as to favor the abilities development that collaborate to enlarge the children and teenagers social pile and motor. However there are a lot of to question when the subject is sporty competition for children.

In the course of time, the quality of the sporty practice and children's participation in competitions became preoccupation important factors of the sporty and government authorities with regard to the level of the reached results. This way, cannot ignore the age of the participants and its implication in the formation and preparation for the high performance sport, as well as also cannot ignore its organization forms, their objective and its periodicity.

In Brazil, the sport is organized, in all categories, by the respective Confederations; In the States, by the Federations and in the municipal districts, by the Municipal Sporty Leagues. In world scope, the competitions belong to responsibility of international organizations that establish athletes' adult ages, teenagers and infantile. In some of the individual sports, it justifies a certain precocity for the search of high performance in need reason to future athlete specialization. Therefore, the ages for the future athletes start to take part in revenue competitions, of form to define a sporty trajectory, they vary according to the capacities demanded by a certain sporty modality (OLÍMPIO COELHO, 1985; ZAKHAROVA, 1992; DE ROSE JR., 2002).

In general, the literature recommends that children with less than eight years old do not take part in competitions organized by the sporty entities. The children only should take part in the competitions when they are ready and when they wish to compete and only should initiate the participation in competitions from the eleven or twelve years, or even later, depending on the sporty modality. Only to leave of these ages, they would be physical mixtures and psychologically for the competitions: Success or failure, abilities development, techniques acquisition, sport social aspects comprehension and another (GRECO and BENDA, 1998; WEINECK, 1999; BOMPA, 2000; COAKLEY APUD MARQUES and OLIVEIRA, 2002).

In recent study, the Commission of Sport Medicine and of United States Performance recommended that are not organized national championships for children with ages lower than ten years (MARQUES and Oliveira, 2002). The Commission it supports in evidences that suggest that the children until this age are not ready for the pressure of the performance competitions.

From the moment that the child starts to practice a sporty modality, it is inevitable its participation in competitions. Depending on the chosen or imposed modality, the child will be able to take part in a considerable number of regular competitions, organized in a formal manner, at the same year. The participation in competition means that the child should initiate the training period with certain time of antecedence. That indicates a relation narrow between training and the precocious competition. Any authors esteem a training period up to two years before the competition and to if reach the high level, come in eight and twelve years of preparation (ARENA, 1998; ARENA and BÖHME, 2000; TSUKAMOTO and NUNOMURA, 2005).

For Bayer (1986) and Greco and Benda (2001), the development level of the physical, technical and tactical capacities is in dependence direct relation with the constitutional factors - genotype and phenotype - that include the future athlete potential, as well as the adaptation capacities evolution to the effort and of the sporty abilities, linked to the individual learning capacity. The children should start to take part in competitions with simple rules, without the regulations complications and subtlenesses coded by official institutions.

Marques and Oliveira (2002) say that the traditional competitive systems, very similar to of the sport performance, are not the more nominees for the children. It is necessary to find new models of competitions, modify the competitive pictures and to turn children's more compatible competitions with her ages and capacities, to attract more and more young for the sporty practice and to decrease the sport abandonment rates.

Some authors (WEINECK, 1999; GRECO and BENDA, 2001) defend that the child only can start to compete regularly when he reach the maturation age. Regarding the motivation level (psychological aspects) and passed experiences (social aspect), the child should go being encouraged to take part in the competitions as a form structured of learning, once to if reach an act motor complete domain, is necessary the interaction of a series of physical capacities. So that the sporty abilities develop, it is necessary that the human organism cover through a long and continued development process, involving execution and control factors, experienced for basic motive experiences, agreements with other forms of more complex motive experiences, according to the possibility of each athlete. The formal and precocious competition can pledge that process, since the child yet is not properly prepared and also by the fact of the competitive activity to do not offer equal opportunity to all the participants.

Methodological procedures

In Amazons' State there are more than fifty sports federations come in individual and collective modalities. They analyzed the regulations of all the categories of children and teenagers competitions, accomplished in the year of 2006, of five sporty federations of collective modalities.

The regulations were asked to the presidents or technical directors of the federations for phone, when it was illustrious the intention of accomplishing the present study, letting clear which the goals of the same. They were received regulations of the following sporty modalities: Handball, soccer, five-a-side football, basketball, volleyball. They were analyzed the next variables: objective, adaptations (rules), dispute age and form of the competitions.

Regulations about competitions

With regard to the regulations about competitions, it verified that:

a) Three federations (volleyball, basketball and soccer) define in their regulations the goals that intend to reach with the accomplishment of the minors competitions. Among goals stood out: 1- that the competitions have popularize purpose

volleyball for all the social classes of the state of Amazon; 2- that the competition is accomplished to develop and to improve basketball level in Amazon' State; 3- that the competition is accomplished for the new athletes discovery for States' professional soccer valorizing youth's formation amazonians through soccer practice;

b) The others Federations regulations (handball and five-a-side football) do not define the goals of the competitions

Compete it means to seek a certain goal. Compete it means, necessarily, rival, fight and try to get a fact, in other words, all competition should have their objective clearly defined. It does not persecute the indefinite. It is fundamental to adapt the exigencies of the competition to the interests, to the possibilities and to the children and teenagers emotional answers level. It is inadmissible the competition of a sporty modality, that is regulated by a set of motor actions to do not have goals determined, because it is in their function that is going to if propose the age, the sex, the rules and the dispute form of the competition. Without defined goal does not manage to determine and to organize what it intends to reach with the competition. The children's competition and teenagers as part of a formation process should highlight and to objectify the process and not the product as child's prerogative and of the teenager in the sporty participation, turning the most compatible competition to the ages. The literature highlights the pedagogical and educational character of the game, besides stressing that it is possible to learn competing. Learn by the competition is healthy. Compete it is a constant learning that applies for all the life moments, be in the sport or in any other activity, however any learning process requires clear and necessary goals. The Federations that define the goals confirm what they praise Of Rose Júnior (2002), Marques and Oliveira (2002) and Of Rose Júnior and Korsakas (2006).

Regulations (rules) adapted

With regard to the regulations (rules) adapted, it verified that:

a) Except for time of game in the handball in the infantile categories and cadet, there are no adaptations for the others modalities.

b) In basketball, there is difference just that tells respect to time of game: Timed or run.

c) In volleyball, there is adjustment just regarding the height of the net in the masculine infantile and feminine categories and in the small categories and pre - masculine small and feminine.

d) The other Federations (soccer and five-a-side football) do not promote any adaptation in the rules of the minors' games, with exception to the ball size in five-a-side football.

The rules are conventions writings compilations, that present possibilities, propose authorizations and prohibitions, determine the way as if should practice the sport and normalize the relations among teams. They also indicate the field dimensions of game, the number of players, the departures duration and the sanctions to apply. Some authors suggest adaptations in the rules, in the facilities and in the implements of the collective games, as well as in the organization forms and of disputes, encouraging the initiation games, games pre-sporty, great games and recreation games, proposing alterations in the structures and in the contents so that the infantile sporty practice and infant-juvenile be joyful, not stressing, of form to try a permanent formation. It is not recommended the pure and simple repetition of the model of adult competition. The children have their physical, psychological or biological limitations. These limitations are felt in competitive games. What observed was that the competitions did not present differences in the rules of competitions among adult sporty modalities and the ones of the children and of the teenagers, thwarting what they propose Greek and Benda (1998), Marques and Oliveira (2002) and Of Rose Junior and Freire Silva (2006).

Regulations regarding the categories divisions and ages

With regard to the regulations on the divisions and the categories ages, it verified that there is variability in the initial age in competitions:

a) In five-a-side, the initial age belongs to less than nine years (category sub 9), only for the masculine; In basketball, the initial age belongs to twelve years (category mini) for both sexes; In soccer, the initial age belongs to fifteen years (masculine infantile category); in the handball, the initial age belongs to fourteen years for both sexes (infantile category) and in the volleyball, the initial age also belongs to eleven years for both sexes (in the category pre-small).

b) There is an age a large variability: In the modalities basketball and five-a-side, there are six categories; in volleyball, there are five, the others modalities present smaller variability, come in two or three categories, and the determinate ages for each category are next each other. The denominators for each category, practically are the same, except for five-a-side that owns an own denomination.

c) There is variability in the categories that precede the competitions of adult. Three modalities use the same terminology with equal ages. In volleyball, the category it denominates juvenile; in basketball, cadet; in five-a-side, sub-twenty and in soccer, junior (not professional) for athletes up to twenty years old. In the Handball, the category *cadet* (for athletes starting from sixteen years) precedes the adult category adult. Three modalities use the same terminology with equal ages. In volleyball, the category it denominates juvenile; in basketball, cadet; In five-a-side, sub-twenty and in soccer, junior (not professional) for athletes up to twenty years old. In the handball, the category *cadet* (for athletes starting from sixteen years) precedes the adult category.

They were not verified the recommendations of the different International Federations regarding the age for the beginning of the competitions, however, it is known that basketball Federations, volleyball and handball recommend to their affiliated to initiate the regular competitions only from the fourteen years old. At present study, it identified that:

a) Volleyball Federation initiates their official competitions, from both sexes, from the eleven years old;

b) Five-a-side's Federation initiates the competitions with children of the masculine sex with ages lower than twelve years (category sub-nine and sub--eleven).

c) Basketball Federation initiates their competitions from the twelve years old (category mini). However, in the categories mini (twelve years) and small (thirteen years), the competitions are not official and regular, they are sporty festivals, with teams guests.

The children's participation in competitions with ages lower than the twelve years means that the clubs or associations started to prepare these children, at least, one or two years before the competitive activity, in other words, with six or seven years old. The beginning of the competitive phase of the sporty life of an athlete makes part of a formation process, which will be able to do him reach high performance or to be eliminated of the sporty system, sometimes precociously.

The competition is important and necessary for the child, however she should contain the adaptations as athlete's condition bio-psycho-social. For thorough of the organization in the sporty process also should be inserted progressively, trying if you adjust to the promptness phase of each life stage. Some individual modalities can initiate earlier, however, it should carry always in consideration the specificity of each modality, the past motor, the chronological and biological age of each child.

Soccer Federations, Basketball and Handball initiate the regular competitions from the fourteen years old, following

the orientations of the respective International Federations and confirming the orientations found in the literature, while Volleyball Federations and five-a-side initiate the very early competitions, thwarting the orientations of the International Federation in Volleyball case and of the literature (MEINEL and SCHNABEL, 1984; TAVARES, 1995; BOMPA, 1999 and 2000; BÖHME, 2000; ARENA and BÖHME, 2004).

Regulations on the dispute forms

With regard to the dispute forms, it verified that:

a) The infantile competitions and infant-juvenile of all the Federations are reproductions of the adult competitions. They are accomplished in championships form, by the system of simple castor or in series, depending on the number of participants teams, always classifying four teams for the final, that are accomplished in the form of olympic crossing (in the case of two keys) or of the crossing from first against the room and of second against the third (in the case of only a key).

b) A Federation (basketball) does not determine the dispute form of the competition in the Regulation. She only is decided in the Technical Congress of Opening as the number of registered teams.

The form reproduction of the adults' competitions in of the children and of the teenagers reveals a system of formal competition. The rigidity of the competition is not adequate neither to the interests and nor children's formation and young. And also is not adequate for the sport. The reproduction of a dispute system of adult motivates to the reproduction of an adults training system for children and teenagers, just like always reaches the wished results, because not always it favors the revelation and athletes' maintenance who can come to be transform in athletes of high performance. The load and the training intensity, equal to the adults, constitute a barrier for many children and young reach the adult age competing. The Federations should promote a system of less traditional competition, less rigid, less stressing, and less specialized and less institutionalized, so that they can attract more children and young for the initial sporty practice, enabling, consequently, the development of an athletes' larger contingent for the revenue sport.

The disputes forms of the competitions for children and similar teenagers to of the adults do not find back-up in the literature (OF ROSE Júnior and VASCONCELLOS, 1997; OF ROSE Júnior, 2002; MALINA and BOUCHARD, 2002 and MARQUES And Oliveira, 2002).

CONCLUSIONS

With regard to the research goals, it verified that:

a) Just three federations (volleyball, basketball and soccer) define in their regulations the goals that intend to reach with the accomplishment of the minors' competitions.

b) There is a great variability in the competitors' initial age and in the categories. The denomination for each category, practically are the same, except for five-a-side that owns an own denomination.

c) There is certain variability in the categories that precede adults' competitions. Three modalities use the same terminology with equal ages.

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THE ORGANIZATION OF COMPETITIONS FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT: A STUDY ABOUT SPECIALIZED FEDERATION IN COLLECTIVE SPORTS IN STATE OF AMAZON.

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was the one of verify as the Sporty Federations of State of Amazon, specialized in collective sports (basketball, volleyball, five-a-side football, soccer and handball) determined the objectives of the competitions of the smaller categories, verify the rules adaptations of game regarding the adults and to identify the forms of used disputes. It concluded that: (i) Just three Federation (volleyball, basketball and soccer) defined in their regulations the goals that intended to reach with accomplishment of the minors competitions; (ii) there are no difference in time duration of the games, with exception in the of the handball, the others competitions are identical to the of the adults; (iii) there is variability in the age in which initiate the competitions of smaller and finally (iv) the disputes forms of the infantile and juvenile competitions, of all the searched modalities, are reproductions of the adults competitions and the children have ages below those precocious by literature.

KEYS WORDS: Sporty Federations; regulations; competition**.**

ORGANISATION DES COMPÉTITIONS POUR ENFANTS ET ADOLESCENTS: UNE ÉTUDE SUR LES FÉDÉRATIONS SPÉCIALISÉES AUX SPORTS COLLECTIFS DANS L'ÉTAT D'AMAZONAS.

RÉSUMÉ

L'Objectif de cette étude a été de vérifier comment les Fédérations Sportives de l'état d'Amazonas, spécialisées aux sports collectifs(basketball, volleyball, footsal, football et handball) determinent les objectifs des compétitions des catégories mineurs et comment ça se fait les adaptations des règles du jeu par rapport aux adultes et identifier les formes de disputes utilisées. On a concut que :

(i) seul trois Fédérations (volleyball, basketball et football) definissent dans ses règlements les objectifs qui prétendent atteindre avec la réalisation des compétitions de mineurs ; (ii) Il n'existe pas de différences en ce qui concerne la durée du temps du jeu, à l'exception du handball; les autres compétitions sont identiques à celles des adultes ; (iii) les tranches d'âge varient par rapport à l'initiation des compétitions chez les mineurs et, finalement, (iv) les formes de dispute des compétitions chez les enfants et les jeunes, de toutes les modalités recherchées, sont des reproductions des compétitions d'adultes et la tranche d'âge des enfants se trouve au dessous de celles conseillées par la littérature spécifique.

MOTS-CLÉS: fédérations sportives, règlements, compétitions.

LA ORGANIZACIÓN DE COMPETICIONES PARA NIÑOS Y ADOLESCENTES: UN ESTUDIO SOBRE FEDERACIONES ESPECIALIZADAS EN DEPORTES COLECTIVOS EN LA PROVINCIA DE AMAZONAS.

RESUMEN

Este estudio ha tenido como objetivo averiguar cómo las Federaciones Deportivas de la provincia de Amazonas, especializadas en deportes colectivos (baloncesto, voleibol, futsal, fútbol y balonmano) determinan los objetivos de las competiciones de las categorías menores, averiguar las adaptaciones de las reglas de juego en relación a los adultos e identificar las formas de disputas utilizadas. Conclúyase que: (i) apenas tres Federaciones (voleibol, baloncesto y fútbol) definen en sus reglamentos los objetivos que pretenden alcanzar con la realización de las competiciones de menores; (ii) no existen diferencias en la duración del tiempo de juego, con excepción del balonmano, las demás competiciones son idénticas a las de los adultos; (iii) existe variabilidad en la edad en las cuales se inician las competiciones de menores, y finalmente, (iv) las formas de disputas de las competiciones infantiles y juveniles, de todas las modalidades investigadas, son reproducciones de las competiciones de adultos y los niños tienen edades abajo de las preconizadas por la literatura.

PALABRAS-CLAVE: federaciones deportivas, reglamentos, competiciones.

A ORGANIZAÇÃO DE COMPETIÇÕES PARA CRIANÇAS E ADOLESCENTES: UM ESTUDO SOBRE FEDERAÇÕES ESPECIALIZADAS EM ESPORTES COLETIVOS NO ESTADO DO AMAZONAS.

RESUMO

O objetivo deste estudo foi o de verificar como as Federações Esportivas do estado do Amazonas, especializadas em esportes coletivos (basquetebol, voleibol, futsal, futebol e handebol) determinam os objetivos das competições das categorias menores, verificar as adaptações das regras de jogo em relação aos adultos e identificar as formas de disputas utilizadas. Concluiu-se que: (i) apenas três Federações (voleibol, basquetebol e futebol) definem em seus regulamentos os objetivos que pretendem alcançar com a realização das competições de menores; (ii) não existem diferenças na duração do tempo do jogo, com exceção no do handebol, as demais competições são idênticas às dos adultos; (iii) existe variabilidade na idade nas quais se iniciam as competições de menores e finalmente; (iv) as formas de disputas das competições infantis e juvenis, de todas as modalidades pesquisadas, são reproduções das competições de adultos e as crianças têm idades abaixo daquelas preconizadas pela literatura.

PALAVRAS CHAVE: federações esportivas, regulamentos, competição.