80 - A LOOK AT WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL OF RIO DE JANEIRO IN THE 1930s

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doi:10.16887/87.a1.80

Abstract

In the early twentieth century, volleyball came to Brazil and, before the 1930s, it was also practiced by the women from Rio. This study aimed to analyze the trajectory of women's volleyball in the social scene of the 1930s, with a configuration that began to differentiate, and that might have contributed effectively to the achievement of a differentiated space for women in society, especially in the following decades in Rio de Janeiro in the early steps of their relationship with Brazilian society. In this way, we have chosen the city of Rio de Janeiro, in the 1930s, as we consider it has great representation in the inclusion of Rio women in women's volleyball, although the volleyball had not achieved its institutionalized form. In order to deepen this study, we took descriptors for research in journals, scientific journals, books, newspapers, among others.

KEYWORDS: Women's Volleyball. Woman. Rio de Janeiro.

INTRODUCTION

In the late nineteenth century, the city of Rio de Janeiro became the first Brazilian metropolis, dictating to the whole country fashions, behaviors and ways of living. Economic growth stimulated the sport as a social practice and, as the customs were modified, came a new female role in Rio society. The possibility of participation, the sport would eventually influence women to seek other areas of activity beyond the domestic space (MELO, 2001).

The women's volleyball was included in Brazil through the clubs and practiced by the elites as a hobby (MOREIRA, 2009). Valporto (2007) explains to the reader that it was common for players to practice various sports in parallel and especially first-generation players, when few girls playing sports regularly and when they had talent, stood out in more than one sport.

In the 30s, the context of increasing women's participation in physical and sports activities had stood out. The woman of the twentieth century was undergoing new changes. Some young players began to organize in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo the first state championships in swimming, volleyball and basketball, and establish women's departments in several clubs (MOURÃO, 2000).

Since the arrival of volleyball in Brazil, in the 1910s, the first tournaments conducted by clubs in the 1920s and the creation of the Premier League, in the 1930s, we believe the latter, the great representation as the inclusion of Rio women in women's volleyball, although the sport had not reached its institutionalized form.

So, to look at the women's volleyball on the social scene with a setup that was beginning to differentiate, in the 1930s, and that might have contributed effectively to the important role of women, mainly in the following decades, in Rio de Janeiro, when the first steps in their relationship with Brazilian society were being taken, has become the challenge of this study.

Women's Volleyball in Brasil

In the period of the First Republic (1889-1930), during Brazil's modernization process, as reported by Gilberto Freire (1998), the young Brazilian elite immediately identified with two sports 'newly created' by the Americans: Volleyball and basketball. This is because it is important to closer ties with the US customs and Europeans in search of the desired Brazilian progress.

This explains the easy success that we get from US schools, founded by protestant missionaries in the early twentieth century and disseminate among the youth games like volley-ball and basket-ball. Of them it is expected miracles: strong, healthy, athletic boys, well prepared in mathematics and English, able to become engineers, technicians, industry captains (FREIRE, 1998, p. 683).

Freire (1998) seems to refer to schools and religious institutions which, according to Cancella (2010), stood out in the dissemination of sport habits and have educational concerns, such as the YMCA (ACM), whose North American headquarters (YMCA) basketball and volleyball had their origins. The first YMCA in Latin America was estabilished in Brazil in 1893 in the city of Rio de Janeiro, the American missionary Myron Clark, with the name of the Young Men's Christian Association (ACM). Cancella (2010) notes that the initial contributions of Rio's ACM in the dissemination of sports seem to have occurred only from the first decade of 1900. Still, the author highlights the importance of the influences and the close relationship of Rio ACM and North ACM –American to the process of introduction, spread and consolidation of some sports in the city of Rio de Janeiro, in the early twentieth century, such as basketball and volleyball.

The city of Recife was one of the most modern cities in Brazil in the early twentieth century. Its process of modernization and expansion brought to the city companies which had English immigrants as workers, who needed a place to find a group of similar interests. In this perspective, as points OLIVEIRA (2009), in 1907 it was founded the YMCA of Recife-PE. In 1910, we have already found evidence in the 'Jornal do Recife' that volleyball was introduced to Brazil by the YMCA of Recife-PE, by members of the ACM, pioneers of demonstrating the game (GAZETILHA ..., 1910). But the first documented record of a volleyball competition in Brazil is from 1911 (Valporto, 2007).

In the newspaper 'Correio da Noite' on July 14, 1913, volleyball appears included in the 'program of athletic games', organized by ACM and held at Quinta da Boa Vista, in Rio de Janeiro (A LIBERDADE ...1913). The YMCA of São Paulo, founded in 1902, the first game of volleyball dates from the year 1917 (ACM / YMCA, 2016). However, the volleyball was not disseminated when it came to our country and, according Daiuto ([197-], p. 8), "the practice was almost restricted to internal activities of some institutions".

In Aracaju, as reported Dantas Junior (2010), the inclusion of women in sports circuit was nurtured by the initiative of Admiral Amintas Jorge, an enthusiast and practitioner of sports who, as created the Sports League Sergipe, encouraged the creation of the 'Women's Sports Club'. Created in 1919, it promoted rowing practices, volleyball and basketball, representing a movement in which women went to occupy the public scene in practices that before was seen as masculine. This increasing women participation in sports activities, according to the author (2010, p. 260), "imposed a break with the body of the woman

constraints, the clothes that limited and conform to the amplitude of the female movements and gestures".

Venture to say that the restriction and 'delay' in volleyball diffusion may be related to physical activities and sports in general, which in the observation of Goellner (2009), almost did not exist in educational institutions, and only began to popularize from 1920 and 1930, with the release by the hygienists of the importance of body education.

During this period, Rodrigues (2006) refers to the volleyball, as one of the sports activities deemed appropriate and practiced in the Normal School in Belo Horizonte, and became part of the urban culture of the city.According to Tubino, Cherem and Oliveira (2008), the participation of women in sports and physical activities:

[...] it starts at the clubs in the 20s through the young people, usually children of European immigrants who already appreciate the value of exercise and gave him incentive for their inclusion in sport. For the socio-cultural scenario that Brazil had at the time it was still unfavorable to women (TUBINO; CHEREM; OLIVEIRA, 2008, p. 122).

As for volleyball played at the time, the description of Valporto (2007, p. 17) as a "new sport without physical contact and considered as practice with less effort " seems to justify its information on the start of practice "also for girls", the cities of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Belo Horizonte and Porto Alegre.

Encouraging women's participation in physical and sports activities, in the 1930s, according Goellner (2009, p. 276), "was part of a national project of organic strengthening of the bodies, the improvement of moral values, the construction of a race strong and, consequently, a strong nation." Therefore, according the author (p. 277), this "new woman" became protagonist in the sports space, as that it gave new experiences possible, far beyond what was considered his "nature", and that allowed him to exercise sociability.

The practice of volleyball began to spread among women. We stress the observation of Cordeiro Filho e Albergaria (2005, p. 274) on the volleyball, when reporting the suspension Volleyball Championship, 1931: "This year, too, in spite of the setback, the sport was revealed for women as a widespread recreational activity".

Goellner (2009) notes that, even in the 1930s, different changing spaces are created for the woman condition related to the sport in Brazilian society, with the expansion of its public appearance, from sports competitions, such as the Women's Games the State of São Paulo (1935). At the end of that decade, the Rio de Janeiro was the event stage that contributed to the promotion of volleyball, especially in the women's volleyball.

Women's Volleyball in Rio de Janeiro

The bourgeois ideology imported from Europe contributed to the Rio receptivity of sports at the turn of the century, except for the lower classes that could not afford high material costs and saw the codes of conduct with strangeness, as observed Jesus (1999). This receptivity led to the introduction and multiplication of new sports, becoming in Sevcenko (2008, p. 568) called "[...] sports fever that struck the 20th century since its inception, with its big jump, both qualitative and quantitative, soon after World War I and during the 20s and 30s".

In this way, the first open tournament Clubs of Metropolitan League of Land Sports in 1923, according Valporto (2007, p. 17) is configured as the starting point expansion of volleyball, with Fluminense Football Club as responsible for its dissemination "with the participation of at least ten teams".

Although initially the women's volleyball was not included in these events, experiences through volleyball expanded and, in July 5, 1931, the newspaper 'Correio da Manhã', published on page 11 the curious note to convene a meeting between men's volleyball team and the women's volleyball team in Botafogo (VOLLEYBALL ..., 1931). This fact helps to identify the sports environment represented a new area of possible new experiences for women, encouraging their increasing participation in the social scene.

However, in this decade, the Rio volleyball and Brazil was in trouble, according to the Brazilian football professionalism, from 1932, which made the clubs invest in football, for profit and thus the amateur sports were harmed. For Cordeiro Filho e Albergaria (2005), the idea of taking the volleyball to the beaches of Rio de Janeiro contributed to the sport not disappearing from the Brazilian sports scene.

In 1938, several entities have also contributed in the promotion of volleyball in Rio de Janeiro. In delicate moment for women's volleyball, the magazine 'Sports Illustrated' held an Open Tournament Women, the dispute 'Cup Sport Illustrated', widely reported by sports newspapers. The Journal of Sports (O NOSSO ... 1938, p. 5) drew attention to the women's volleyball situation, by stating that such an event "came to revive our volleyball women's, which has not found inexplicably persistent work of dissemination and propaganda". But the number of teams involved in making the tournament seems to have excited so to be considered by the 'Jornal dos Sports' (PELOS ..., 1938, p. 6) "the biggest tournament of this kind until now held in Brazil."

The team Icaraí Beach Club won the Cup and also the challenge of 'scratch' volleyball formed with the most prominent players score. So, the 'Cup Sport Illustrated' may have been a valuable contribution to the rise of sportsman figure, whom the 'Jornal dos Sports' have meant by the term 'sportswomen' (ORGANIZADA ..., 1938).

The YMCA of Rio de Janeiro supported this women's event, including presenting the direction of the tournament with a copy of the new rules of volleyball. In august this year, the Tijuca Tennis Club promoted a mixed tournament volleyball, allowing the participation of athletes who vied for the 'Cup Sport Illustrated' (GRAÇA..., 1938).

In the same year, the Open Tournament in men's volleyball, organized by ACM, set the F.C. Botafogo as the first champion (O I.P.C. ..., 1938) of the League, which would form seventeen clubs, on September 14 of that year, with the name of League of Volley-ball of Rio de Janeiro. In the feminine modality, the YMCA hosted a tournament 'Lightning' that was won again the Icaraí Beach Club team (14 TÍTULOS ..., 1939).

In 1939, it was held the 1st official Championship League Volley-ball Rio de Janeiro, with the participation of sixteen male teams. In September, the 'Jornal dos Sports' announced the tournament start of women's volleyball, as organized by the League (HOJE ..., 1939). The Tijuca Tennis Club's women's team was crowned champion and the Vasco da Gama, runner-up. The tournament also featured the participation of the Botafogo team, Santa Heloise and Grajaú (O TIJUCA..., 1939).

Therefore, in Rio de Janeiro, women's volleyball was born in a context of possible new experiences for sports women, as a new exercise, whether in the informal way of dressing, whether in conquest of space in newspapers or even the conviviality away from home. Although social expectations were part of women's reality, influencing their attitudes and weighing their choices, these subtle changes in the condition of women were conducive to them not all to act as expected.

Final considerations

Based on the analysis and notes made during the study, we concluded that the volleyball as a sport imported from the United States by the city of Rio de Janeiro, already in the 1930s, became to appear as a modality configured from the articulation of multiple dimensions of social life of the time, including the role of the press and its interference. So, the trajectory of Rio's volleyball in the 1930s, in the women's game, may have contributed to the exercise of freedom, sociability and conquest of public

space by women, that only would increase in later decades.

Such facts presented inaugurated a decade of great representation as to the understanding of the integration of cariocas women in volleyball, although the volleyball had not achieved its institutionalized form.

We hope that the knowledge derived from this study will benefit the academy and society. For what seems to be just past facts of our culture may help to face some current and perhaps future issues, by addressing some ignored questions about the role of women in Brazilian society and Rio, about the sportswoman and possible developments, which is still ambiguously both in academic discussions, and in the social sphere. In addition, it offers space for reflection on the role of media and its positive interference and the ones which culminate in crystallizations of distorted images in the sporting environment.

KEYWORDS: Women's Volleyball. Woman. Rio de Janeiro.

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A LOOK AT WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL OF RIO DE JANEIRO IN THE 1930s

Abstract

In the early twentieth century, volleyball came to Brazil and, before the 1930s, it was also practiced by the women from Rio. This study aimed to analyze the trajectory of women's volleyball in the social scene of the 1930s, with a configuration that began to differentiate, and that might have contributed effectively to the achievement of a differentiated space for women in society, especially in the following decades in Rio de Janeiro in the early steps of their relationship with Brazilian society. In this way, we have chosen the city of Rio de Janeiro, in the 1930s, as we consider it has great representation in the inclusion of Rio women in women's volleyball, although the volleyball had not achieved its institutionalized form. In order to deepen this study, we took descriptors for research in journals, scientific journals, books, newspapers, among others.

KEYWORDS: Women's Volleyball. Woman. Rio de Janeiro.

UN REGARDE SUR LE VOLLEYBALL FÉMININ DU RIO DE JANEIRO À LA DÉCENNIE DE 1930

Résumé

Au début du XXe siècle, le volley-ball est venu au Brésil et, avant les années 1930, il a également été pratiqué par les femmes cariocas. Cette étude a pour objectif l'analyse de la trajectoire de volley-ball féminin dans la scène sociale des années 1930, avec une configuration qui a commencé à se différencier, et que peut avoir contribué efficacement à la conquête d'un espace particulier pour les femmes dans la société, en particulier dans les décennies suivantes à Rio de Janeiro, lorsque les premiers pas dans leur relation avec la société brésilienne étaient données. De cette façon, nous avons choisi la ville de Rio de Janeiro, dans les années 1930, vue que nous la considérons d'une grande représentation par raport à l'inclusion des femmes de Rio en volley-ball féminin, bien que la méthode n'a pas atteint sa forme institutionnalisée. Pour approfondir cette études on utilise les descripteurs pour la recherche dans des revues, des journaux scientifiques, livres, journaux, entre autres.

MOTS CLÉS: Volley-ball féminin. Femme. Rio de Janeiro.

UNA MIRADA HACIA EL VOLIBOL FEMENINO DE RIO DE JANEIRO EN LA DÉCADA DE 1930

Resumen

En el inicio del siglo XX, el volibol llegaba a Brasil y, antes de la década de 1930, ya era practicado también por las mujeres cariocas. El presente estudio tuvo como objetivo analizar la trayectoria del volibol femenino en el escenario social de la década de 1930, con una configuración que empezaba a diferenciarse, y que puede haber contribuido de modo efectivo para la conquista de un espacio diferenciado por la mujer en la sociedad, principalmente en las décadas siguientes, en Rio de Janeiro, cuando eran dados los primeros pasos en su relación con la sociedad brasileña. En ese propósito, elegimos la ciudad de Rio de Janeiro, en la década de 1930, por considerar de gran representatividad cuanto la inserción de las mujeres cariocas en el volibol femenino, aunque la modalidad no tuviese logrado su forma institucionalizada. Para profundizar el estudio utilizamos descriptores para investigaciones en periódicos, revistas científicas, libros, diarios, entre otros.

PALABRAS CLAVE: Volibol Femenino. Mujer. Rio de Janeiro.

UM OLHAR PARA O VOLEIBOL FEMININO DO RIO DE JANEIRO NA DÉCADA DE 1930

Resumo

No início do século XX, o voleibol chegava ao Brasil e, antes da década de 1930, já era praticado também pelas mulheres cariocas. O presente estudo teve como objetivo analisar a trajetória do voleibol feminino no cenário social da década de 1930, com uma configuração que começava a se diferenciar, e que pode ter contribuído de modo efetivo para a conquista de um espaço diferenciado pela mulher na sociedade, principalmente nas décadas seguintes, no Rio de Janeiro, quando eram dados passos iniciais em sua relação com a sociedade brasileira. Nesse propósito, elegemos a cidade do Rio de Janeiro, na década de 1930, por considerarmos de grande representatividade quanto a inserção das mulheres cariocas no voleibol feminino, ainda que a modalidade não tivesse alcançado a sua forma institucionalizada. Para aprofundamento do estudo utilizamos descritores para pesquisas em periódicos, revistas científicas, livros, jornais, entre outros.

PALAVRAS-CHAVES: Voleibol Feminino. Mulher. Rio de Janeiro.