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THE HISTORY OF VOLLEYBALL DEVELOPMENT IN UKRAINE

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Abstract

The relevance of the investigation is determined by the need of studying the regularities of volleyball development in Ukraine. *Methods of research:* analysis and synthesis of scientific literature and archival data, analysis and synthesis, induction and deduction, historical and logical methods. *Results of the Work.* Volleyball was organized in Kharkiv in 1925. Only three years after the introduction of the game, Ukrainian volleyball players reached the highest levels of the pedestal of the All-Union Spartakiad in 1928. Volodymyr Blyakh played a leading role in the rapid development of volleyball. He is a doctor of medical sciences, a professor. The real triumph was the performance of the national teams of Ukraine in 1956 at the 1st Spartakiad of the USSR: gold medals were won by men. The development of volleyball allowed residents of Kharkiv Yuri Vengerovsky, and Yuriy Poyarkov, a resident of Odesa Eduard Sybiryakov as part of the Soviet team to win gold medals at the Olympic Games in 1964. Four years later, seven Ukrainian volleyball players (Vasylius Matushevas, Yuriy Poyarkov, Volodymyr Belyaev, Yevhen Lapynsky, Victor Mykhalchuk, Volodymyr Ivanov, Borys Tereshchuk) reached the highest step of the pedestal. In total, Ukraine has 14 Olympic champions, 11 world champions, 27 winners of European forums. *Conclusions.* Volleyball began its expansion in Ukraine in the early twentieth century. Sport teams, sport clubs, and competitions were organized. A large number of Ukrainian athletes have become famous all over the world, being part of teams at the Olympic Games, world championships and European championships.

Key words: volleyball, history of the development, Ukraine, Spartakiad, Olympic Games.

Анна Галицька. Історія розвитку волейболу в Україні. *Актуальність* дослідження зумовлена потребою вивчення закономірностей розвитку волейболу в Україні. *Методи дослідження* – аналіз й узагальнення наукової літератури та архівних даних, аналіз і синтез, індукція та дедукція, історичний і логічний методи. *Результати роботи.* Свій старт волейбол зробив у 1925 р. в Харкові. Лише через три роки після появи гри українські волейболісти піднялися на найвищі щаблі п'єдесталу Всесоюзної спартакіади 1928 р. Провідну роль у швидкому розвитку волейболу відіграв Володимир Блях – доктор медичних наук, професор. Справжнім тріумфом був виступ збірних команд України в 1956 р. на I Спартакіаді народів СРСР – золоті медалі вибороли чоловіки. Розвиток волейболу дав змогу вже на Олімпійських іграх 1964 р. харків'янам Юрію Венгеровському, Юрію Пояркову, одеситу Едуарду Сибірякову в складі радянської команди здобути золоті медалі. Через чотири роки семеро українських волейболістів (Василиус Матушеवास, Юрій Поярков, Володимир Беляєв, Євген Лапинський, Віктор Михальчук, Володимир Іванов, Борис Терещук) зійшли на найвищу сходинку п'єдесталу. Усього ж Україна має 14 олімпійських чемпіонів, 11 чемпіонів світу, 27 переможців європейських форумів. *Висновки.* Волейбол розпочав своє поширення в Україні на початку ХХ ст. Створено спортивні команди, спортивні клуби, організовувалися змагання. Багато українських спортсменів стало всесвітньо відомими, вони виступали в складі збірних команд на Олімпійських іграх, були чемпіонами світу і Європи.

Ключові слова: волейбол, історія розвитку, Україна, спартакіада, Олімпійські ігри.

Анна Галицкая. История развития волейбола в Украине. *Актуальность* исследования обусловлена потребностью изучения закономерностей развития волейбола в Украине. *Методы исследования* – анализ и обобщение научной литературы и архивных данных, анализ и синтез, индукция и дедукция, исторический и логический методы. *Результаты работы.* Свой старт волейбол сделал в 1925 г. в Харькове. И только через три года после появления игры украинские волейболисты поднялись на высшие ступени пьедестала Всесоюзной спартакиады 1928 г. Ведущую роль в быстром развитии волейбола сыграл Владимир Блях – доктор медицинских наук, профессор. Настоящим триумфом был выступ команд сборной Украины в 1956 г. на I Спартакиаде народов СРСР – золотые медалы выбороли мужчины. Развитие волейбола дало возможность уже на Олимпийских играх 1964 г. харьковчанам Юрию Венгеровскому, Юрию Пояркову, одесситу Эдуарду Сибирякову в составе советской команды получить золотые медалы. Через четыре года семеро украинских волейболистов (Василиус Матушеवास, Юрий Поярков, Владимир Беляев, Евгений Лапинский, Виктор Михальчук, Владимир Иванов, Борис Терещук) поднялись на высшую ступень пьедестала. Всего Украина имеет 14 олимпийских чемпионов, 11 чемпионов мира, 27 победителей европейских форумов. *Выводы.* Волейбол начал свое распространение в Украине в начале ХХ в. Были созданы спортивные команды, клубы, организовывались соревнования. Много наших спортсменов стали всемирно известными, выступая в составе сборных команд на Олимпийских играх, чемпионатах мира и Европы.

Ключевые слова: волейбол, история развития, Украина, спартакиада, олимпийские игры.

Introduction. Tendencies of the development of physical culture and sports have been the subject of research for many scholars [1; 3; 5; 7; 8]. In modern scientific works the most widespread physical exercises

and active games are identified, described and analyzed in definite historical periods, it is emphasized on the necessity of their use in educational institutions [2; 6; 9; 10; 12; 13]. A comparative historical analysis of published scientific works shows certain differences in the substantiation of factual data, which is obviously due to the comprehension of various aspects of the problem. Therefore, the study of tendencies of volleyball development in Ukraine is an important scientific task.

The purpose of the research is to generalize the tendencies of volleyball development in Ukraine as an important means of physical education and sports.

Materials and methods of research: analysis and synthesis of scientific literature and archival data, analysis and synthesis, induction and deduction, historical and logical methods.

Research Results. Discussion. Volleyball (the English word «volleyball» is derived from the volley – «hit the ball» (this term is also translated as «flying», «airy») and «ball») is a kind of sport, a team game in which two teams compete on a special sports ground, divided by a net, aiming to send the ball to the opponent's side so that it lands on the opponent's site, or the defending team player has made a mistake.

Volleyball was recognized as an Olympic sport by the decision of the 53rd Session of the International Olympic Committee, held in Sofia in 1957. However, volleyball was not included into the programme of the Olympic Games in Rome in 1960. For the first time volleyball appeared in the programme of the Olympic Games in Tokyo in 1964. On September 24, 1993, at the 101st Session of the IOC, beach volleyball was recognized as the Olympic sport too. It debuted in the competition program of the Summer Olympiad in Atlanta in 1996 [4; 11].

The USSR and the USA national teams are the most titled (three major awards each) in the classical volleyball among the men. The Soviet team became a silver medalist of the Olympic Games twice and once it became a bronze one. The women's Olympic team of the USSR alone led the ranking of the most titled teams in its category (four gold medals).

Ukrainian athletes played a significant role in the achievements of the Soviet Olympians. The pride of not only Ukrainian but also of the world volleyball is a resident of Kharkiv Yuriy Poyarkov, who has won two gold and one bronze awards at the Olympic Games. The volleyball world championship has been held every 4 years since 1949 under the aegis of the International Volleyball Federation (IVF) and is the most prestigious tournament for men's national teams after the Olympic Games [11].

The decision to organize European championships was made at the IVF Congress in 1947. Competitions have been held for men's teams since 1948 and for women ones since 1949. Since 1963, the continental championships have been held by the European Volleyball Confederation. The system of these competitions has been changed many times.

The start of volleyball in Ukraine was made in Kharkiv in 1925, and just this city is fairly considered to be the home of the «flying ball» in Ukraine. In just three years after the emergence of volleyball in Ukraine, it was able to rise at the highest levels of the volleyball pedestal at the All-Union Spartakiad in 1928. Volodymyr Blyakh, who started volleyball in Ukraine, was a doctor of medical sciences, a professor, and he had a great experience in organizational and administrative work. With his organizational skills, he was able to unite talented initiative youth around him, who spread volleyball all over Ukraine together with him and after his premature death.

One of the followers of Professor V. Blyakh was a resident of Kharkiv Georgiy Sheleketin, who combined the talents of a player, having become one of the first Honoured Masters of Sports of the USSR, was awarded the title of Honored Coach of the USSR and Ukraine and got an honorable nickname «Coach of all coaches». He worked as an associated professor at the sports games department and was the author of the first methodical and scientific publications on volleyball topics. In general, all Ukraine's pre-war volleyball history is closely connected with this surname [11].

From year to year the popularity of volleyball grew, and the enthusiasm of a new game spread among other cities of Ukraine: Kyiv, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Poltava, Mykolaiv, and Kherson. The first championship of Ukraine among men was organized in 1927 with the participation of teams from different parts of the republic. And in 1929 144 volleyball teams participated in the championship of Kharkiv! Friendly meetings with the teams of Moscow, Leningrad, Baku, the cities of Belarus, and volleyball matches between teams of Ukrainian cities facilitated the rapid spread of the game. This exchange of contacts contributed not only into the strengthening of relations, but also into the exchange of new findings of the techniques and tactics of the game, and, consequently, the growth of skills of Ukrainian volleyball players.

It inspired further victories. The victories of the Ukrainian teams at the All-Union Spartakiad in 1928, holding the All-Ukrainian Volleyball Spartakiad in 1930, at a decent level, increased the authority of

Ukrainian volleyball. Undoubted recognition of the success of our countrymen in the development of volleyball was the granting of the right to hold the first All-Union holiday of volleyball, which went down in history as the first independent volleyball championship of the USSR. In April 1933, 2,000 tickets for those competitions in Dnipropetrovsk were sold out well before the start of the tournament. The combined team of Kharkiv and Dnipropetrovsk performed very well, both in the male and in the female categories! In both cases, our teams were in the second and third tournament places [4, 11].

The development of volleyball in Ukraine is associated with Mykhailo Pimenov, a many-sided athlete, born volleyball tactician, master of superb technique and a sense of position, analyst and scientist. He realised all these talents in practice: he was the first of Ukrainian volleyball players to become a member of the national team of the USSR, the first Ukrainian national athlete, world champion, captain of the team of the USSR. For many years he was the Head of the Volleyball Federation of the USSR, the author of 14 books and many articles on the theory and practice of volleyball.

In the postwar years, sport slowly began to come out of isolation. Convincing victories of volleyball teams at the World and European Championships in 1948-1952 gained a loud resonance. Teams and club teams from China, Hungary, Romania, Poland, and Bulgaria came to Ukraine in the 50s of the twentieth century. Volleyball players from Kyiv and Kharkiv visited China and India. Although at most of those matches there was obvious advantage of Ukrainians, they benefited both sides as they gave our players the experience of international competitions.

A significant event in the sporting life of the country was the I Spartakiad of the Peoples of the USSR in 1956, which differed from the previous events by its size, content, and participation of a great number of athletes. The performance of Ukrainian volleyball teams was triumphal: gold medals of men's and silver ones of women's teams. This achievement men repeated three times – in 1967, 1986 and 1991, and women were champions in 1975 and four times they won bronze awards.

All this contributed to the wider popularization and growth of the prestige of volleyball in Ukraine, to the involvement of population, especially children and youth.

The number of Ukrainian players in the main team of the state reached its peak four years later when the USSR team won a gold medal at the Mexican Olympiad, nine out of twelve players were Ukrainian volleyball players, and the second coach who worked in it was a resident of Odesa Mark Barsky. In the 60s, Ukrainian female volleyball players became a part of the USSR national team and participated in the tournaments of the highest level, three of them (V. Myshak, N. Abramova and L. Gureyeva) in 1964 became owners of silver medals at the Tokyo Olympiad [11]. In general, no other sport can boast of a such number of Olympic medalists from Ukraine. Many names of Ukrainian volleyball players went down in history of the European and world championships.

Since the 1950s Ukrainian clubs have demonstrated great results at the national and international levels. The women's team «Burevisnyk» (Odesa) won gold medals at the USSR Championship in 1961. Prize-winners of the Soviet championships in various years became the men's teams «Spartak» (Kyiv), «Nauka» (Odesa), «Burevisnyk» (Odesa), «Lokomotyv» (Kyiv), «Zirka» (Voroshylivgrad), «Shakhtar» (Donetsk), «Lokomotyv» (Kharkiv) and female teams «Burevisnyk» (Odesa), «Iskra» (Voroshylivgrad), «Sokil» (Kyiv), «Medin» (Odesa), and «Orbita» (Zaporizhzhya). The holders of the USSR Cup among the men's clubs were Lokomotyv (Kyiv) – three times, Chernomorhidrobud (Odesa), among women – Medin (Odesa) – three times, Orbita (Zaporizhzhia) – twice, Iskra (Voroshylivgrad) [4].

The owners of the European cups became the following clubs: in 1973 «Zirka» (Voroshylivgrad) – the Cup Winners' Cup of European countries, it came into the history as the first winner of that tournament. In 1977 the women's team «Iskra» (Voroshylivgrad) got the Cup Winners Cup of European countries. In 1983, the women's team «Medin» (Odesa) got the Cup Winners Cup of European countries. The Ukrainian referees who successfully worked not only at international competitions, but also at the most important volleyball tournaments of the world added prestige to our volleyball. The names of Yuriy Bahon, Oleksiy Yesypenko, Oleksiy Savchenko, Leonid Francishek and names of other representatives of the Ukrainian Referee School will remain in the history of Ukrainian and world volleyball forever.

Among the best Ukrainian volleyball players, winners and prizewinners of the Olympic Games, world champions and European champions one should mention: men – V. Belyaev, Yu. Vengerovskiy, P. Voronkov, O. Gordienko, A. Dillenburg, A. Zakrzhevskiy, O. Zaporozhets, V. Ivanov, Yu. Korovyansky, V. Kryvov, A. Kuznetsov, Ye. Lapynsky, F. Lashchonov, S. Liuhailo, V. Matushevas, V. Michalchuk, O. Moliboga, G. Mondzolevskiy, Y. Panchenko, M. Pimenov, Yu. Poyarkov, E. Sybiryakov, O. Smugiliyov, O. Sorokalet, B. Tereshchuk, E. Ungurs, S. Fedyayev, D. Fomin, O. Shadchyn; women – N. Gorbenko, I. Gorbatyuk

(Malinochka), L. Guryeeva, L. Ivanova (Gubka), Kozakova O., V. Myshak (Voloshchuk), Ye. Nazarenko (Kuzina), L. Osadcha, G. Rostova, N. Romanov (Zadorozhnyia), L. Rudovska (Tymofeyeva), O. Sokolovska (Akhaminova), T. Cherkasova, O. Shkurnova (Pozdnyakova). In general, Ukrainian volleyball has given the world 45 Olympic champions and prizewinners, 45 champions and prizewinners of the World and Europe. In Ukraine, 25 honored masters of sports and 86 international class masters of sports, 68 honored coaches, and 28 international and honorary judges were brought up.

Conclusions and Perspectives for Further Research. The conducted research shows that volleyball is an important social phenomenon in the public life of Ukraine. The high level of its development is affirmed by the repeated success of the country at the All-Union Spartakiads, gold medals of the men's team and silver medals of the women's team at the I Spartakiad of the peoples of the USSR, gold medals at the Mexican Olympiad, where nine men of the twelve were Ukrainian volleyball players in the USSR men's team, and Mark Barsky, a resident of Odesa, worked as the second coach. In 1964, three Ukrainian volleyball players (V. Myshak, N. Abramova and L. Guryeyeva) became owners of silver medals at the Tokyo Olympiad. The history of Ukrainian volleyball is rich in outstanding events, and even more in non-ordinary personalities. Due to the sports victories of coaches and players, the greatness of Ukrainian volleyball spirit was forming, the authority of national volleyball in the USSR, Europe and the world was winning.

In the future it is necessary to study the development of volleyball in educational institutions of Ukraine.

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