ANALYSIS OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT AT THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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ABSTRACT

Sports facilities are one of the primary and most important factors for the management and development of physical education and sports at the educational establishments (elementary, primary and secondary schools).

By applying the system approach, a theoretical model of management of sports facilities at educational institutions was designed. On this basis, a scientific applied expert research was implemented with the participation of physical education and sports teachers in 20 schools in Sofia and 20 schools in the country.

Purpose of the research: to provide up-to-date information of some key aspects of sports facilities management in schools.

Results: the study was conducted in schools in Sofia (44.1%) and other cities in Bulgaria (55.9%). The most practiced sports are team games - basketball, volleyball, soccer, handball (79.4%) and ect. In most of the schools, there are no sport clubs (79.4%).

Up-to-date information on basic structural and functional elements of facility management has been obtained: social characteristics of the experts (occupation, professional qualification, occupation, gender and age); the types of sport students practice and would like to practice; the necessity to improve the condition of sports facilities; assessment of the factors (assessed on a four-point scale) that affect the functioning of the sports facilities, proved necessity for construction of new, modern sports facilities with possibilities of higher social significance, incl. design, construction, reconstruction, modernization, maintenance and operation.

Conclusion - the results of this study indicates the necessity of future construction and modernization of the sports facilities and their management.

Key words: sports facilities, expert study, model, educational establishments, management

INTRODUCTION

Physical education and sport wins recognition within the modern Bulgarian educational system as one of the basic socially important factors for strengthening the physical and psychic health of the students, establishment of convictions, knowledge and habits for healthy way of life.

The management of the sports equipment at the schools is of permanent, primary importance for the execution of the physical education and sport programs (the classroom lessons and the out of school activities).

According to the National program for development of the physical education and sport 2018-2020 data - „during the 2017-2018 school year only 697 schools out of total 2591 ones in the country avail of a physical culture and sport hall of minimal area of 800 m²” (mpes.government.bg).

The Ministry of education and science (MON) points out that the bad condition of the indoor and outdoor sports equipment influences negatively the possibilities for effective execution of the physical education and sport lessons (mon.bg).

In the “Modernization of the material basis at the schools” national program (“Sport at schools” module), MON sets up tasks for: perfection of the sports infrastructure – modernization, maintenance, exploitation, observation of the international standards and requirements for the construction of new school sports equipment.

In the Physical education and sport Law, the national strategies and programs, the management of the sports equipment at the schools in the country is an object of policy, state and public authority’s activities (mpes.government.bg).

The management of the sports equipment at the schools occupies important place in UNESCO physical education and sport International chart (MH-FVS-UNESCO, 2004). Recommendations for optimizing the conditions of the sports equipment in correspondence with the school specificities are entered during these last years in basic European Union documents – charts, strategies, programs. They appear as a factor about the realization of the physical education and sport functions – educational, health, cultural and restoration. (EHS, 2004; EHSV, 2004).

The publications related to the projection of a model for the management of the sports equipment in the city of Sofia as a system (Tsvetanov, Bankov, 2009) appear as theoretical, scientific and applied aspect for the optimization of the sport equipment management at the schools. According to a national study data, the school sports equipment has the relative highest daily admission rate share – 59,19% in comparison with the sports equipment in the various city regions, enterprises and within the community system (Bankov, 2007; Bankov, 2017). That predetermines their possibilities to be of public importance. The communities' population to have access to these sports facilities, including for sports organization's activities in case a legal and normative arrangements are created. School sports facilities are object of theoretical, scientific, and applied researches and good practice (Zlatev, 2006; Iordanova, Spasov, 2006; Almeida, 1986; Bianchi et al., 1987).

The purpose of the study is to provide information about some basic aspects of the sports facilities management at the secondary schools in the country. Tasks:

1. Analysis of literature sources on the theme of the study.
2. Designing a theoretical model for the sports facilities management at the secondary schools.
3. Carrying out and analysis of an expert evaluation of the sports facilities management.

The following *methods* are made use of within the

process of designing and execution of the study: system approach, expert study with the participation of 40 experts-physical education and sport teachers from the city of Sofia – “Poduyane” region and Silistra province - the communities of Silistra, Tutrakan, Dulova, Alfatar, Sitovo, Glavnitsa, Kaynardzha.

“Theoretical model for the sports facilities management at the secondary schools as social and economic system” (Figure 1) is designed with the application of the system approach.

Physical education and sport, within the educational system, is one of the basic elements of the national system for management of sport in Bulgaria (Chausheva, 2013). It contains specific groups of elements having their specificity, structure, organization and management within time and space.

The model contains 6 groups of interrelated elements: 1) policy, strategy, programming; 2) institutions and organizations – subjects of the sports facilities management; 3) management; 4) sports facilities; 5) subsystems – with the physical education and sport at the secondary schools accent; (leadership, planning, organization); 6) provision (incl. human resources – physical education and sport teachers. The complexity of the sports facilities at the secondary schools specificity requires the management to be studied in interrelation with social, pedagogical, town planning, informational, nature-climate, medical, social-demographic, legal and economic aspects (Tsvetanov, Bankov, 2009).

Figure 1. Theoretical model of the sports facilities management at the secondary schools as social and economic system

The expert card, in consequence, covers 13 questions, the answers to which represent information about the condition of the sports facilities at the secondary schools (in social, economic and managerial aspect).

RESULTS

The data analysis for the structure of the educational qualification, pedagogical employment and the age of the *experts (physical education and sport teachers)* show their good social and professional status. That fact to a certain degree predetermines

the objectiveness and quality of the information received. From the physical education and sport teachers: 67,5% have graduated from Master's degree. 50% have professional pedagogical employment for more than 15 years (Figure 2: a, b). The average age of the teachers in "Poduyane region is 46.5 years (respectively 49 years for men and 44 years for women) (Figure 3.).

The ratio of the physical education teachers as of sex from Poduyane region and Silistra province is 60% men and 40% women

Figure 2: a, b. Educational and professional-pedagogical structure of the experts (number of answers in %)

Figure 3. Age structure of the experts – physical education and sport teachers (completed years, number in %)

The analysis of the experts' evaluation in relation to the needs of perfecting the sports facilities management at the secondary schools – total, show that the most important are for maintenance – 67,5% and reconstruction – 47,5% (Figure 4).

Interesting are the evaluations (on 4 mark scale) for the influence of the factors on the sports facilities management at the secondary schools (Figure 5).

The factor "increasing the role of the municipality in the sports facilities management" is evaluated by the experts as "of great importance" – 80,0%; the "maintenance of the sports facilities" – 75%; "attitude of the Director towards the sports facilities use" – 70,5%.

Figure 4. Evaluation of the needs for perfecting the sports facilities management at the secondary schools (number of answers in %)

The “application of public, private and social partnership” and “creation of a register (passport) of the sports facilities” are evaluated as “of no importance” – 37,5%. The “application of marketing approach and forms of sports facilities management” factor is evaluated by 32.5%. The evaluation of the “establishment and activity of students’ sports clubs” factor – 17,5% makes impression as they are one of the basic users of sports facilities (Sandanski, 2009). According to the experts of Poduyane region and Silistra province, only 7 students’ sports clubs are established and effect activities.

In conclusion, the results of the research show: necessity of further regular theoretical, scientific and applied studies of the sports facilities management at the secondary schools; studying and applying the good practices of Sofia Municipality for the creation of the “I want to do sport” Navigator; realization of projects for the construction of indoor sports halls (Ismail, 2018; Sofia2018.bg); establishment of students’ sports clubs; application of public, private and social partnership in the process of the establishment and development of the sports facilities at the secondary schools.

Figure 5. Evaluation of the factors influencing the sports facilities management at the secondary schools (number of answers in %)

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