

STATEMENT

Regarding dissertation of **Georgi Ivanov Petrov**

Subject: „**MANAGEMENT OF THE TRAINING PROCESS DURING THE PREPARATORY PERIOD OF ELITE MALE VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS**”

For the assessment of educational and scientific degree “**PhD**”

Department: Basketball, Volleyball, Handball

National Sports Academy “Vasil Levski”

PHD PROGRAMME: THEORY AND METHODOLOGY OF SPORTS SCIENCE

PROFESSIONAL FIELD: 7.6. SPORT

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR: Associate Professor Vera Antonova, PhD

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Relevance and significance of the study.

The ongoing problem of increased efficiency during practices is definitely current and thesizable among top ranked athletes. It is an undisputable fact, that building up and applying contemporary methods and means of volleyball preparation is crucial for their successful performance at both national and world class level.

The sport-pedagogical experiment in this scientific research is based on rich and complex work backed up by many years of empirical and international experience.

Through performance management in the early preparatory period of the elite volleyball players a new competitive activity efficiency approach has been used. The research targets its main attention to developing proper locomotive motions of volleyball world class players through physical and technical-tactical activities.

This study deserves special attention due to its theoretical and practical significance, while its results enhance on and modernize the current methodology of volleyball preparation when coaching world class athletes.

Results’ evaluation and contribution of the thesis work.

This scientific works consists of two hundred and twenty-three pages, including several appendixes. There are total of six standard structure chapters.

The first chapter, being broken down onto six additional subchapters contains the theoretical part of the dissertation: Functional preparation – endurance and recovery; description of the coaching duties; speed and strength training; technical-tactical preparation; guidance and training at the early age period; operational hypothesis.

With all due respect, without belittling the work of the author and his academic supervisor, I’d like to attract your attention on the second subchapter “Description of the coaching duties” which in my opinion should be set as first subchapter in the literature review.

A great number of literature and electronic sources have been studied – one hundred and thirty-three in Cyrillic language and thirteen in English language. The theoretical analysis

is very successfully built and also based on high number of notorious authors, while the quotations greatly correspond to the chosen field of study.

The second chapter "Aim, objectives, methodology and organization of the study" has also been correctly developed. The seven objectives of the research have been very well pointed out. The subject, the object and the contingent of the scientific work have been clearly outlined.

There are total of twenty-four variable indicators providing quantitative data, grouped out as follow: for physical growth, for overall physical capability and for technical-tactical skills. There are several key points that come together when achieving this dissertation's aim, namely - methodology of the research, conducting the pedagogical experiment, stages of work and data processing.

The enclosed mathematical and statistical toolkit has been carefully selected for the purposes of the diverse quantitative data analysis.

The exposition of the problems, the results and their analysis are carried out meaningfully using appropriate modern scientific terminology.

The discussion of the obtained results is accompanied by tabular and graphical illustrations for easier text comprehension.

Towards the end of his research, the doctoral student presents the conclusions and recommendations that are correctly formulated and logically drawn from the results of the experimentally-applied training program.

The following constructive points can be taken out after the overall analysis of Mr.Georgi Petrov's dissertational research:

1. A new and effective guideline has been developed for better athletic management of professional volleyball players.
2. A new keystone standard for developing sport training for elite volleyball players in their early ages has been proposed.
3. Important conclusions regarding the coaching job of world class volleyball players have been made based on deep thorough analysis.

The attached to the set of documents, abstract, fully reflects the main points of the author's thesis.

Three scientific reports have been presented while one of them has been published abroad.

There is no whatsoever plagiarism found on that topic nor I have any other critical remarks to make on this dissertational research.

Conclusion

Based on the overall analysis of the presented scientific research and the relevance of the study, I confirm my positive assessment for his thesis work. I find it reasonable to nominate Georgi Ivanov Petrov before the scientific jury for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the professional field 7.6. Sport, doctorate field "Theory and Methodology of the Athletic Science".

28.04.2022

Issuer of the statement:

Associate Professor Milena Lazarova-Peeva, PhD