

SHORT REPORT

Structural Characteristics of Sport Organizations in Kosovo

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Abstract

Sport in the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo is defined as a special category of social interest and is funded from the budget of the Republic of Kosovo. Subject of this study will be 35 Sports Federations, 867 sports clubs, 67,583 male athletes and 13,458 females. Based on the data of Kosovo Statistical Agency, current condition for sports organizations, clubs, associations, Sports federations as well as sport activities and we will present through the tables underway that will give us a real data for the current condition of the total number of Sports federations, participants in sport activities. For this reason, it is imperative to start with planning and systematic investments in establishing legal infrastructure and structure of sport organizations would be one of the main priorities of the development sports in Kosovo, as another purpose of this paper will be the autonomy of sports and its political neutrality according to international standards, constitutes another priority of the structural organization of organizations or Sports Federations in Kosovo.

Key words: *structure, clubs, sports organizations, Kosovo*

Introduction

Sport in the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo is defined as a category of special social interest and is funded from the budget of the Republic of Kosovo. The Government of Kosovo and its highest bodies should determine goals, criteria and priorities for increasing the share of budgetary resources for sport. Republic of Kosovo consists of about 1,820,631 resident citizens (apart from immigrants living abroad), of whom 50.3% are males and 49.6% females. Kosovo is a multiethnic country, consisted of 92.9% Albanian and other minor communities: 1.6% Bosnian, 1.5% Serbian, 1.1% Turkish and 2.3% Roma, Ashkali, Egiptian and Gorani. Population of Kosovo is very young, with an average of 30.2 years, according to the 2011 data of the Kosovo Statistics Agency.

Based on the current state of Kosovo Sport infrastructure is not in the level of which require international criteria, and this reduces the possibility of athletes, youth and children for the development of professional sport. At the same time it

does not allow citizens to be active in the recreational training programs and sports for all. Without sufficient facilities for game and training, there is no proper development of sports, whereas sports facilities also represent an opportunity for future generations to get involved with sport. For this reason, it is imperative to start with systematic planning and investment in the construction of sports infrastructure, legal and promotion of sport organizations will be one of the main priorities of the development of sports in Kosovo. As another purpose of this work would be the organizational structure of sports organizations, since after the was until now, most of them operate as NGO (non-governmental organisation), Clubs, Sport Federations, various Associations etc. (Gomez, Opazo, & Marti, 2007), autonomy of sport and its political neutrality according to international standards, constitutes another priority of the structural organizations of sports organizations, sports clubs, sports Federations, the Olympic Committee of Kosovo, various sports associations, scientific researches in sports.



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Methods

The subject of this study is the organizational structure of sport in Kosovo, registered are 35 sport Federations, 867 sport clubs, 67,583 male athletes and 13,458 females. Based on data from the Kosovo Statistics Agency, the current situation for sport organizations, clubs, associations, sports Federations and sports activities will be presented through the processing results which gives us a realistic picture of the current state of the overall number of sports Federations, participants in sports activities, sports infrastructure. Based on these data we need to develop a strategy that will fulfill closely the structuring of all sports organizations for getting involved in sports activities in our country with the required standards by the relevant international institutions. The above mentioned methodology will contribute to obtain concrete information from stakeholders in the field of sport, as required in order to answer the questions of the study which we have compiled, in particular to have good overview of what are the concrete needs in the

sports sector in Kosovo. Results will be processed with statistical package SPSS 20.00.

Results

In Table 1 are presented the results of sports organizations in Kosovo, number of Federations are calculated only 31 sports Federations because 4 from them are registered but are not active with athletes, number of clubs, number of matches for one year, number of males participating in the Federations and number of females in the Federations. Based on the results presented in the table for both sexes from 31 Federations we have minimum and maximum 5-374 clubs, whereas the average 28.25 ± 65.41 , for 31 federations we have minimum and maximum 3-2,393 clubs, whereas the average 254.80 ± 465.12 , males active participants minimum and maximum 33-26,208 in each sports Federation, whereas the average $2,180.09 \pm 5,397.18$, whereas female active participants minimum and maximum 0-8,386 in each sports Federation, whereas the average $434.12 \pm 1,502.10$ per Federation.

Table 1. Sports Federations

| Subjects | Federations | Minimum | Maximum | Mean±SD | Sum |
|----------|-------------|---------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| Clubs | 31 | 5.00 | 374.00 | 28.25±65.41 | 876.00 |
| Matches | 31 | 3.00 | 2,393.00 | 254.80±465.12 | 7,899.00 |
| Male | 31 | 13.00 | 26,208.00 | 2,180.09±5,397.18 | 67,583.00 |
| Female | 31 | 0 | 8,386.00 | 434.12±1,502.10 | 13,458.00 |

In this graphical presentation (Figure 1) is reflected in a graphical way the real situation of 31 sports Federations in total where number of clubs is 867, number of matches played in all Federations is 7,899 number of male athletes 67,583 or 83.39% from the total number and number of female athletes is 13,458 or 16.60%.

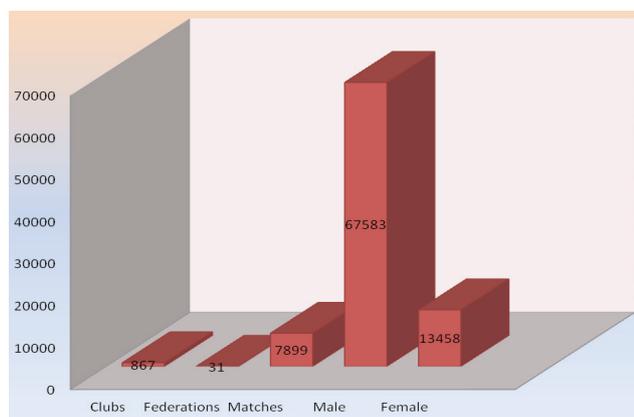


Figure 1. Graphical Presentation of Data in Total

Discussion

Through this work we have managed to identify all the deficiencies and advantages of sports organizations in our country and as well as organizational structure (Skoric & Bartoluci, 2011) of functioning within a sports organization, Club, Federation or Association. After the acceptance of the Kosovo Olympic Committee in International Olympic Committee and Sports Federations in relevant International Institutions we think that the situation must change while adapting to all relevant institutions under which they operate, in which case they must adopt their statutes and regulations in conformity with International Organizations. Especially clubs that maybe from

their statutes of NGO should act in various forms in compliance with laws and statutes of International Organizations, in order to function as semi-professional organizations or fully professional and to generate financial means to function in a better way.

The report of percentage between males and females is very high 83.39% to 16.60% and especially the worrying part is the active participation of the population which in general report is only 4.45 % which deals with active sport even though are missing data of those that are dealing with recreational sport. The new system of sports in Kosovo should be oriented towards the athletes and citizens that are dealing with physical activity. The period for the implementation of the strategy (Alaj, 2016) for sport will include a wide range of changes in legislative and financial system of sport in the Republic of Kosovo. This will be the period when the priorities will be education of personnel in the field of sport and the opportunity to utilize potential financing, familiarizing with EU standards in the field of politics and sport (Kiriemadis & Theakou, 2007), putting of biographic data (records) and categorization of sports, athletes, sport experts, sports facilities, physical education teachers. The period of setting of a new system within the structuring of sports organizations (Gomez, et al. 2007) must comply with the needs and requirements of Kosovo society and in compliance with EU criteria and higher sports institutions, such as: FIFA, UEFA, FIBA, IAAF, EHF FIVB, etc.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare there are no conflict of interest.

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