

The ecology of successful talent development in ice hockey. An ongoing study on Swedish sport clubs

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Abstract keywords

Talent, Talent environment, Swedish sport, Ice hockey

Aim of abstract/paper - research question

The study focuses on the significance of the club environment in the talent development process

Theoretical background or literature review*

The discussion concerning talent and talent development shows many different views and perspectives. Some emphasize the innate potential as something vital and significant, while others instead emphasize that it is a matter of ambition and the time and effort the individual puts into serious and systematic training. They seem to agree that it is a long process and that the early victories not necessarily indicate success in adulthood. However they often disregard the environmental factors. The clubs were studied using the *Environment Success Factors working model* and the *Athletic Talent Development Environment model* Henriksen 2010). The models describes how *Preconditions*, *Process* and *Organizational Culture and Development* will impact both individual and team development and on the development of a successful club culture.

Methodology, research design and data analysis

The organizations were studied through document analysis and interviews with board members, coaches, players and parents. The interviews were taped and transcribed. And the data was analyzed using the ESF and the ATDE models.

Results, discussion and implications/conclusions

The results indicate among other things that there is an extensive cooperation and exchange of ideas and experiences between the coaches, the clubs found support from the family very important and they included elements of other sports in the training and encouraged active participation in other sports a later specialization. The final analysis of the collected data in this ongoing project are fulfilled in mid April and the results will be presented in early June. The EASM presentation will also include a discussion regarding the implications of the results.

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