## 136 - THE HISTORY OF THE PARALYMPICS BOCCI IN BRAZIL AND ITS DEVELOPMENT AS A HIGH LEVEL SPORTS

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### INTRODUCTION

It's known that the, Paralympics bocci started in the Nordic countries in the 70's, taking from the traditional bocci the adaptations so the physical disabled and the severe motors had a recreational and therapeutic activity.

In Brazil the Paralympics bocci was introduced in the year of 1995. This adapted sports was presented by a team of Physical Educational teachers of a National Sport Association for Disabled – NSAD on the I Cerebral Palsy's Parasports Games made in Mar del Plata in Argentina. The athletics sportsmen who played on the Games were invited to make up the categories requisites that were offered in the modality.

According to Valente (2005), the Paralympics bocci is divided in four classes (BC1, BC2, BC3 and BC4) being the last one (BC4) was introduced in the Paralympics cycle in the year of 2000-2004. It was noticed that bocci is an important activity for these handicapped people and its development as a sport, in which we have searched to know it better as a Paralympics sport.

We noticed that the proposed theme was, till the moment unknowledgeable by most of the people and, fortunately, we noticed those who were interested in the proposed theme, being very receptive to the modality. In relation to the practice itself, we were tested and through the difficulties, everybody participated and filled motivated with the living. With the advent of the inclusion, the possibility of showing, publicizing and giving the living of an adapted sport to the people with any deficiency becomes a very important target, because this way we will favor a better and more natural approach among the people in our society. The learning makes the adaptation of the bocci modality in a different environment, because we can find in the modality several possibilities of work in several environments and with different ages. This is extremely important.

We noticed that the possibilities, for the disabled, become easier to interact and overcome in sports as bocci, which besides improving the coordination and attention, are ways, according to disabled peoples `reports who played it as sport and relaxation. Besides, with the possibility of participating effectively of valuable society sectors, like sports, they are seen with different eyes, regardless their limitations.

The major objective of this study was to develop the literary and scientific work so in the future there will be a historical reference about the adapted bocci sport and analyses of its evolution in the country.

The adapted bocci is the most democratic and challenging modality for people who show a severe motor disability, because besides admitting athletes with the highest level of motor commitment and/or several ones, it demands from the player precision and reasoning. Researches to feed forms and trainings are very restrictive, due mainly to source and variability of the boards shown, what demands programs of exercises with creative and individual adaptations. (SANTOS 2012 p. 1).

# CONCEPT OF STATE OF ART IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE THEORETICAL MARK OF BOCCI IN CONTEMPORARY BRAZIL

According to the National Sport Association for disabled NSAD site there are meanings about the origin for the bocci game. One of them comes from the ancient Romans. Others have its origin later in the XVI century, in the Italian Peninsula. There others who state its origin from France, to play bocci consists in throwing adapted balls made of sand and covered with pelica which are easier adapted to the brain damaged hands. The balls are made in white, blue and red colors.

It is also cited on the SNDE site, that the bocci can be played individually, in pairs or by teams. The biggest difference of other sports is that in all of them are permitted mixed tests.

The individual match, in pairs or teams is played according to the CP-ISRA Cerebral Palsy – International Sport and Recreation Association.

According to Jerônimo (2006, p.90) and conforming to the CP-ISRA functional classification system, it can just participate from these modalities people with severe Cerebral Palsy in the classes C1 and C2 from both genders, that have severe degenerative deficiency in the four members and people with handicap above or through vertebra C5. The athletes four partials or sets, and is the match is by teams it is played six. The teams are consisted of three players.

## **SPORT HISTORICAL**

The bocci game represents one of the most challenging sports and also one of the most meaningful growing worldwide, mainly, for being a modality targeted to people that show a severe board of motor function, providing a true inclusion condition and equality of participation with other students without deficiency. There are several versions about the classical game procedure. The best one is that it is an adaptation for indoor court from the Italian bowling game on grass (Champion 2003, p.09).

According to Champion (2002, p.3), it was also played in the Classical Greece, at the beginning jus as a hobby and that the Italian aristocracy in the Florence Court in the century XVI. According to the author, it was also found out some quotations which place some relation to a French game (Pentaque) that started being developed and played in 1910, in La Ciotat Beach closer to Marselha.

In 2006, Campeão tells that still in the 70's, this sport was rescued by the Nordic countries in order to be molded to people with deficiency. At the beginning it was just for Cerebral Palsy people, with a severe level in their motor movement (the four members dissimulated and the use of wheel chair. Nowadays there are people with other kind of deficiency similar to the cerebral palsy, or a tetraplegy board.

The competition makes the game more exciting and can be played individually, pairs or on teams. As any adapted sport, it has as an objective to allow handicapped people to practice it.

Its main target is similar to the conventional bocci, or, to approach the biggest number of balls to the aim ball. This game goes from the leisure and recreation to the highest competition level, and it is in this scenario, recognized by worldwide official entities as a Paralympics Game (Campeão, 2006,p.9).

According to Colli (1999), whenever we go backwards to History in the origin of the civilizations, we always get at any

kind of an organized physical activity, being cultural, ritual, or even recreational.

Some authors comment that among the events already happened on of the most cited in the literature and deserve some notes in the sportive environment are the Olympiads in Ancient Greece, for its organization and rules which have influenced several cultures.

#### B0CCI

According to Soares (1986,p.3) some historians tell that a game played with a spherical artifice (round stones) in the Ancient Egypt and in Ancient Greece as a way of hobby, is the recent bocci. The origin of bocci dates from three or four thousand years B.C. and after in Roman Emperor, in the 68/69's A.C., it comes up as a sport, called "boccie/bocci", played in festival organized by the nobles and governors from that epoch, so the professionalism was made up, although it was brought to Brazil by the Italians.

In Santa Catarina its importance can be seen at the PARAJASC Paradsportive Games in Santa Catarina, which is an event with national reference.

According to Campeão (2006, p2), its success is probably due to the fact it can be adapted for all ages and for different handicaps.

It can also be played in recreational way, as a competitive sport, or also as a physical educational activity in the school schedule.

Campeão (2006,p2) cites that despite seeming easy and simple, it is a game that requires planning, strategy in the attempt of putting the biggest number of balls closer to the aim ball, increasing and developing, among other functions, the acquired abilities like as the visual-motor coordination (the capacity of coordinating the vision with movements of the body), when playing this sport gives to the individual with a severe level of motor disability, interact, participate and develop to a better level of ability.

Through the study advance it was possible to adapt a way to reinforce the performance and allow that the players with disabilities can compete with ramps or hopper helmets with pointers.

According to Soares(1986,p9) during the match the players are tested due to the necessity of abilities and intelligence , essential fundaments for the game shots.

Many times while you are watching the match you are amazed by the alternation of advantages, the application of adequate techniques to each circumstance.

According to Campeão (2002 p.4), the adapted bocci players were just people with cerebral palsy, or still with some severe level on the four affected members and the necessity of wheel chair.

The Bocci game represents one of the most challenging games and with a meaningful growing worldwide, offered to people with cerebral palsy. Recently individuals who have any handicap can also compete, since they are inserted in a specific class and that have the same level of handicap demanded and certified. Example: Progressive Muscular Dystrophy, A.V.C., or Cerebral Palsy with progressive motor function.

The works and the theoretical reference are still a few in this area of this sport. On this sense, as a reference, Marcia Campeão, author that, the last years has written some works about the modality.

According to Jerônimo (2006 p.42) the adapted sport was shown by a team of Physical Educational teachers of the National Sport Association for Disabled NSAD at the I Parasportive Games of Cerebral Palsy made in Mar Del Plata in Argentina in 1995.

Two athletes with Cerebral Palsy – CP Brazilian Delegation of Athletics were invited to participate in the tournament searching the learning of bocci and the implantation of the modality in Brazil, and they got the first place in the two classes becoming a historical deed in the modality and in the sport (Campeão, 2002, p.44).

Enabling the beginning of the insertion of the bocci in Brazil, in this context the person with cerebral palsy is developing, being in physical and psychological condition, interacting in the tournaments.

During several years the sport lived with three classes, BC1, BC2 and BC3. The two first classes are only for PCs, IN what the athletes can compete with the helper's aid, who must be out of area of the athlete's game.

The BC2 doesn't have a helper in the game area, because this athlete is considered with more mobility. The BC3 is the athlete who has more physical limitations, because they don't show mobility in the superior and inferior members.

## ADAPTED BOCCI

The debut of the bocci happened in the official Paralympics program in 1984, in the United States, in New York City, with individual contest for both sexes. In Atlanta (1996), the inclusion of games in couples took place. The first Brazilian Paralympics medal came from Lawn Bowls, a kind of bocci on the grass. The athletes Luis Carlos and Robson Sampaio, won the silver in 1972 on the Heidelberg Games, Germany (Campeão, 2002, p.12).

So, the recent bocci has been improving in the adaptation so that the participants with cerebral palsy and other degenerative deficiencies could compete.

According to Soares (1986, p4) it can compete on the Paralympics bocci people with severe Cerebral Palsy who use wheel chair. The objective of the game is to throw colored balls the closest as possible from a white ball called Jack (known in Brazil as "bolim"). It's permitted the use of the hands, the feet or some helpers as hoppers, for athletes with a great limitation in the superior and inferior members. There are three ways of practicing the sport, couples or teams.

On the individual it is played one against one, so it is thrown six balls of each one, on couples it is played with three balls for each one, and by teams/trio play with two balls.

According to Soares (1986, p.4), in the beginning of the competition the referee with a coin ( head or tail) gets the right of choosing the red or blue leather balls. The side that chooses the red one starts the match, playing the first jack and a red ball. Following up, it is the blue ball turn. In the sequence the competitors play turns to see who gets to place the balls the closest as possible to the jack. The matches can take place indoor, flatted and marked out floors. The game boundary is 6m width by 12,5m length.

On the first years, there wasn't in Brazil official tools as balls, hoppers, the first balls used on a National tournament was of a soft drink brand which was changed by caps.

In Brazil, the Bocci game is managed by the National Sports Association for Disables (NSAD), its headquarters is in Rio de Janeiro. It is main promoter of National and International Bocci Championships, inside this context every year a course, for the coach clubs, is given.

Bocci has taken part in the International championships since 1982 at the World Championship in Denmark where it became a Paralympics modality, being the only Paralympics sport where all the tests are mixed; men compete against women in all the disputes. Bocci has been taking part in the Paralympics Games since 1992, in Spain in the city of Barcelona (WINNICK 2004, p.133).

On the completion rules it has been demanded that the team or country at least one sportswoman, on international competition was represented by three elements being at the London Paralympics, Brazil was with two sportswomen.

## A HIGH INCOME SPORTS

The physical activity, according to some authors, it has the idea of individualism, it can have a high income, spectacle or still a leisure activity, searching for victories, making the individuals machines, ready to be stronger and stronger, many times unconsciously, some physiological barriers are exceeded, resulting in physical weariness, (VAZ, 2001, p.11).

The high income sport é performed by professional athletes who need great discipline and commitment in their objectives, and having in mind the difficulties to be overcome.

Thus, in the Worldwide Games in 2001 in Portugal, the Bocci Brazilian Team got a vacancy for the Paralympics in all categories, getting the eighth place in world rank. The last Paralympics, Brazil had an evolution in the international tournaments. In Beijing it was three medals, one gold medal for a couple BC4 and two for the individuals, one gold medal and other bronze medal. It was noticed that there was a quantitative and qualitative improvement in London 2012, because on the last Paralympics, it was got four medals, three gold medals and one bronze medal, as a detach for the first gold medal of a Cerebral Palsy person in the category BC2. Brazil took a team consisted of one BC1, two BC2, one BC3 and two BC4 in London. The London Paralympics Games will improve the International Brazilian Team's score.

#### CONCLUSION

Through the adapted sports 'history in Brazil, the Paralympics Bocci - PB got an overcoming of athletes, where the Southeast region had a number equal or even bigger of competitors than the Brazilian National Championship of PB. In terms of high income, there are a lot to be done, while Public Politics of Sports and Leisure related to this modality. These data show how important it is to invest in it for the incentive of PB in these regions, implying in the National Parasports Management.

It has been observed that since 1960, in the city of Rome in Italy, the Paralympics Games had twenty three countries and four hundred parathletes in the long run there was a meaningful growing in the numbers of countries and parathletes that participated, in 1984 in New York, in the USA, had forty two countries and four thousand and eighty athletes, in the year of 2004, in Athens, Greece the number of countries that participated was a record, getting the mark of one hundred forty two and four thousand parathletes (TURINI, p.70).

Related to the four medals in the year 1972 Brazil did not get any medals, in the following games it ended up on the thirty first place with silver medals.

The best position got until 1992 was in the city of Barcelona, in Spain it was the fourteenth place with six gold medals, fourteen silver medals and two bronze medals, in the city of Athens, in Greece, Brazil maintained the fourteenth position with thirty three medals and the swimmer Clodoaldo Silva got six gold medals and one silver medal, in 2008 Games Brazil got a historical position, getting the ninth place, in front of many important countries as Spain, Germany and France. (GONZALEZ, 2008, p.88).

The same author cites that in the year of 1992 it had the inclusion of bocci, street cycling and field tennis as Paralympics Modalities.

Thus, according to the UOI Olympiad site (2012), in 2012 games the Paralympics bocci in London got its best campaign in the competition, with three gold medals and one bronze medal, in the classes BC2 and BC4. The best athlete for the Brazilian campaign was Dirceu who had two gold medals, the Brazilian who competes on the BC4 categories for players with other severe handicaps, but can't receive help. In the class BC2, Maciel Santos won for athletes with cerebral palsy and can't receive helpers' aid.

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## THE HISTORY OF THE PARALYMPICS BOCCI IN BRAZIL AND ITS DEVELOPMENT AS A HIGH LEVEL SPORTS ABSTRACT

In Brazil the Paralympics "Bocci" was introduced in the year of 1995. This modality was shown by a team of Physical Educational Teachers from the National Association for Handicapped Sportspeople - NAHS – on the I Cerebral Palsy Paradsports Games made in Mar del Plata in Argentina. The modality is divided in four classes (BC1, BC2, BC3, and BC4). Bocci is an important sports activity for people with disability, in which we searched more knowledge about them while Paralympics' sports, besides improving the coordination and attention, according to the students' reports who played it as a relaxation, it is the opportunity of assuming important function in the society like as the sports. They start being recognized by what they really are regardless their disability. This work main reason was to research and show to our society the history and the beginning of the Paralympics emphasizing the adapted Bocci. It was made a Literature Review as a Scientific Research Method and through the enunciated evidences and answers, we intend to help enlarging the Adapted Bocci Game knowledge, and about the classified athlete in all categories through the adapted Physical Education. In terms of a high level of improvement Brazil has shown clear evolution in the BP International View, although there is a lot to be done while Public and Leisure Sport Politics related to this modality. These data show the investment relevance for the modality BP incentive in these regions, implying in the National Paradsports Management.

KEYWORDS: Paralympics Bocci; Paradsports History, high level of improvement

#### RESUME

Au Brésil, la pétanque paralympique a été introduite en 1995, ce sport a été présenté par en groupe d'enseignants en éducation physique de l'association National du sport pour les handicapés (Associação Nacional de Desporte para Deficientes) au I Jeux Para-sportives pour les handicapés cérébraux, réalisé à Mar del Plata, en Árgentine. La modalité est divisée en quatre classes (BC1, BC2, BC3 et BC4). La pétanque est une activité sportive importante pour les handicapés ; on y cherche plus de connaissances sur eux en même temps que sur le sport paralympique, au-delà d'améliorer la coordination motrice et l'attention, selon le rapport des élèves qui l'ont joué, cette relaxation amusante est la possibilité de faire partie des secteurs bien évalués de la société. Avec le sport, ils sont évalués pour ce qu'ils sont vraiment, indépendamment de leurs limitations. La principale justificative de ce travail était de chercher et rendre connu auprès de la société l'histoire et l'apparition des jeux paralympiques, mettant l'accent sur la pétanque adaptée. Une révision de littérature a été réalisée comme méthode de recherche scientifique et, à partir des constatations et évidences énoncés, nous cherchons à élargir les connaissances sur la pétanque adaptée et les athlètes classés dans toutes les catégories du sport adapté. Du point de vue de résultats, le Brésil présente une forte progression au niveau international de la pétanque paralympique mais, il reste toujours beaucoup à faire au niveau de politiques publiques du sport et loisir qui concernent cette modalité. Ces données montrent la pertinence des investissements pour le développement de la PP dans certaines régions, ce qui implique dans la gestion du para-sport national.

MOTS-CLÉS: pétanque paralympique, histoire du paras-port, sport de haute performance

### **RESUMEN**

En Brasil, el bocha paraolímpico, fue introducido em el ano de 1995. Este deporto adaptado fue presentado por um grupo de profesores de Educación Física de la Asociación Nacional de Deporte para Deficientes -ANDE - en el I Juego Paradeportivos de Paralisados Cerebrales realizado en Mar Del Plata en Argentina. La modalidad es dividida en cuatro clases (BC1, BC2, BC3 e BC4). El bocha es uma actividad deportiva importante para las personas com deficiencia, en lo qual buscamos um mayor conocimiento de las mismas mientras deporte paraolímpico, además de mejorar la coordenación y la atención, segun los relatos de los alumnos que lo practicaron como ócio es la oportunidad que participen efectivamente de sectores bién valorizados de la sociedad, como los deportes, y estos pasan a ser valorizados por lo que realmente son Independiente de su limitación. La principal justificativa de este trabajo fue encuestar y llevar al conocimiento de nuestra sociedad la historia y el surgimiento de las paraolimpíadas énfasis a la bocha adaptada. Fue realizada revisión de literatura cómo método de búsqueda científica y a partir de las contestaciones y evidencias enunciadas, pretendemos auxiliar con la ampliación del conocimiento sobre el juego de bocha adaptado, y sobre el atleta clasificado en todas las categorias por la Educación Física adaptada. En termos de alto rendimiento Brasil presenta nítidas evoluciones en el internacional del BP, pero, todavia hay mucho a ser hecho mientras políticas publicas de deportes y ócio relativos a esta modalidad. Esos datos denotan la relevância de invertimientos para el incentivo de la modalidad BP em estas regiones, implicando em gestión del paradeporto nacional.

PALABRAS LLAVES: Bocha Paraolimpico, Historia del Paradeporto; Deporte de alto rendimiento

# A HISTÓRIA DO BOCHA PARALÍMPICO NO BRASIL E A SUA EVOLUÇÃO COMO ESPORTE DE ALTO RENDIMENTO

### **RESUMO**

No Brasil o bocha paraolímpico foi introduzido no ano de 1995 este desporto adaptado foi apresentado por um grupo de professores de Educação Física da Associação Nacional de Desporte para Deficientes - ANDE no I Jogos Paradesportivos de Paralisados Cerebrais realizado em Mar del Plata na Argentina. A modalidade é dividida em quatro classes (BC1, BC2, BC3 e BC4). O bocha é uma atividade esportiva importante para as pessoas com deficiência, no qual buscamos maior conhecimento das mesmas enquanto esporte paraolímpico, além de melhorar a coordenação e a atenção, segundo relatos dos alunos que praticaram de diversão relaxamento é a possibilidade de participarem efetivamente de setores bem valorizados da sociedade, como os esportes, estes passam a ser valorizados pelo que realmente são independentes da sua limitação. A principal justificativa deste trabalho foi pesquisar e levar ao conhecimento da nossa sociedade a historia e o surgimento das paralimpíadas dando ênfase a bocha adaptada. Foi realizada revisão de literatura como método de pesquisa cientifica e a partir das constatações e evidencias enunciada, pretendemos auxiliar com ampliação de conhecimento sobre o jogo do bocha adaptado, e sobre o atleta classificado em todas as categorias pela Educação Física adaptada. Em termos de alto rendimento o Brasil apresenta nítidas evoluções no panorama internacional do BP, porém ainda há muito a se fazer enquanto políticas públicas de esporte e lazer relativos a esta modalidade. Esses dados denotam a relevância de investimentos para o incentivo da modalidade BP nessas regiões, implicando na gestão do paradesporto nacional.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: Bocha Paraolímpico; História do Paradesporto; Esporte de Alto Rendimento.