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“He” used in this text refers to both genders

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Dr. Hermann Brandt

CRITICAL SCIENTIFIC REVIEW OF TEAM SPORTS

Hermann Brandt was born October 6th, 1897 in Switzerland. He became a sport physician in 1924 and quickly developed interest in physical education. During his consultation with injured athletes, he realized that most of the injuries were due to unadapted physiological execution of movements, or due to aggressions during the practice of sports. Dr. Hermann Brandt was the initiator and promoter of volleyball, and basketball in Switzerland. He also created the first Sport Medicine Center in the country. In 1967, he wrote and published his book “De l'éducation physique au sport, par la biologie”. In 1965, concerned by all the injuries seen during his medical practice, he wanted to create a sport that respects the anatomy for the individuals, as well as a mean of developing social aspects and

educative values of sport. For him “the objective of human physical activities is not to make champions, but rather to help construct a harmonious society” August 16th, 1970, in Lisbon, Portugal, he presented the results of his study to the congress of the Fédération International d'Education Physique (FIEP), and presented a new sport called “Tchoukball.” With his book “Etude critique scientifique des sports d'équipe”. He won the Thulin Award which recognized the best discoveries and theories on physical education, which including topics such as physiology, psycho-pedagogy and sociology. In 1972, in Geneva, Dr. Hermann Brandt passed away without having seen the first international Tchoukball game, with players from France and Switzerland.



CRITICAL SCIENTIFIC REVIEW OF TEAM SPORTS

Thulin award of FIEP (1970)

Dr. Hermann Brandt

Tchoukball
The Sport of Tomorrow

Translated from the French
by Anne Witt-Greenberg
&
Translation-Cloud U.S.A.



I would like to address a particularly friendly and dedicated tribute to the FIEP and its leaders,

Leal d'Oliveira, president of honor
Pierre Seurin, president

and to the Portuguese Government for the US\$ 2,000 allocated to the Thulin Prize by the Directorate-General of Physical Education and Sports of the Ministry of National Education.

Hermann Brandt

PREFACE

by Pierre SEURIN, President of FIEP

This work by our friend, Dr. Hermann Brandt, led him to be the recipient of the Thulin Prize, awarded by the International Federation of Physical Education (FIEP) and intended to reward (every 4 years) the best original work on the Theory of Physical Education from biological, pedagogical and technical points of view.

This award was solemnly handed to him during the General Assembly of the FIEP in Lisbon in August 1970.

It is certainly well deserved.

This book is, indeed, a broad reflection on the general questions related to sport (from the combined experience of an intensive sport practitioner, a leader and a specialist in sports medicine) and a methodical experimentation of a new game, invented by Dr. Brandt himself, the Tchoukball.

The general meaning of this work is very clear:

1. First, there is the concern of the physician, the educator and the athlete, with regards to the educational value of modern sports.

Three quotations are, in this regard, very telling:

“The purpose of human physical activities is not to make champions, but rather to help construct a worthwhile society” (p. 5, al. 2)

“We feel extremely doubtful that the mass production of exceptional champions can be useful to the cause of mankind” (p. 5, al. 3)

“ We must allow physical activities to play their social educational role in reaching, in the broadest and best possible way, all the layers of society ” (p. 6, al. 1)

It is certainly not about disparaging sport, even the sport of champions, but about making sure that this sport involving champions (which is perfectly justifiable in many aspects) will not fool or hide the real social challenge, that is to turn sport into an educational tool for the largest number of individuals.

2. In this struggle for an educational sport, fully integrated into Education through Physical Activities (or Physical Education), it is desirable to bring a practical, methodically analyzed example of a sport specifically designed for this purpose.

Driven by this fundamental concern, and because of his extended knowledge of biology, psychology, and sociology in addition to his enthusiasm and his dedication to sport, Dr. Brandt conceived and then, gradually developed a new game, organized in such a way that it can effectively resolve the issues brought forth by sport activities in a manner that is both formative and educational.

As Dr. Brandt says: “It is all about transforming a game into a true play of psychosomatic factors in a standardized social environment”.

We believe that the objective is met. Tchoukball is a very interesting addition to educational games and recreational sports. It can be played almost anywhere. It requires no fixed or costly facilities. It is within reach for the child, the old man, the experienced athlete or the untrained adult. Its educational qualities from biological, psychological and sociological perspectives are obvious. Tchoukball began to be practiced in Switzerland by Dr. Brandt and his friends. We hope that this “family” game, which can also be a very athletic game, will enjoy a rapid expansion.

Beyond this very important practical contribution, the work of Dr. Brandt is a source of scientific data, and of philosophical and pedagogical reflections that will be of interest to scientists in the field of Physical Education and Sports, as well as to educators.

Once again, our friend is bringing to the great cause of education, through physical exercise, real opportunities for progress.

P. SEURIN.

INTRODUCTION

FIEP has always been very keen to give Science the place it deserves in the evolution of Physical Education or, better named, Psychomotor Education, thus, in short, Education, with an emphasis on physical activities, harmonious development and the preservation of the body.

That is why, at the announcement of the First International Literary Contest on the Theory of Physical Education for which the Portuguese Government contributed the sum of US\$ 2,000 — because the Thulin Prize was to be awarded in Lisbon in August 1970 — the former president of the FIEP Joseph G. Thulin contributed an art medal of bronze. We had formally expressed our desire that the competitors work on proposing a synthesis of the scientific, educational and technical values involved in “Physical” Educational Activities.

FIEP finally awarded the “Thulin Prize” to Dr. Hermann Brandt, a man of science, a teacher and a practitioner of physical exercises, for a work where theoretical concepts are the basis of a sport/game that represents their practical application, and that the author named Tchoukball.

The First International Literary Contest on the Theory of Physical Education and the Tchoukball game may mark a turning point in contemporary Physical Education.

Antonio Leal d’OLIVEIRA.
Honorary President of FIEP.

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