

level of athletic competency through training norms and helps to predict the athletes lifeline.

*There is no recreational sport. There are only different levels of competency in sport.,
But all sport is recreational.*

Sports delivery to the community is achieved most effectively by highly specialized and competent sports clubs. Therefore, we need sports clubs, especially multi-sports clubs.

These clubs can be housed in a multi-sports complex. They must have total autonomy, community support and governmental understanding in order to function properly. Each sport is different and requires isolation from any external interference. So, the complex must be designed to provide this feature primarily, and duplication of auxiliary facilities must be expected in order to achieve isolation such as toilets, equipment rooms, storage space, first aid and conference rooms, specialized physiotherapy and training (weight room) area, trophy display space and the clubs identifying paraphernalia area.

Also, several other aspects make the complex highly efficient such as:

- Proper isolation from everyday living activity of surrounding public, commercial organizations such as assortment of stores, restaurants, public institutes and service organizations, police, hospitals, schools, churches, cultural institutions and facilities, etc..
- Security areas around and inside the complex must be designed with sophistication and appear inoffensive to the athlete and visitor (visiting teams, athletes, general public)
- Provisions must be made for a general service and event area to provide room for spectators and their needs such as a cafeteria (with health food kitchen) and rest and communications area (including public toilets, washrooms, general first aid station, etc.)

- External large space must be an open area surrounded by a security zone, preferably lawn that is free from automobiles commercial vehicles and not include an open air pool or any other distractive permanent feature that allows free access to general public and inactive athletes. This area will act as relief space for spill over from internal activities.

The above write-up is not a personal vision but describes very briefly a practical functional sports delivery system. The more complete and comprehensive this system is the more effectively it will provide the local community with quality sport delivery. Also, provision must be made to allow for future growth, because without a futuristic outlook the recreational aspect of the personal endeavour in sports is pointless.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

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Club Sport and the Shortcomings of the Alternatives to Club Sport.

(Preliminary draft)

School Sport

- The main difficulty here is the problem that academic life in most people is temporary and tends to end with graduation begging the question what happens to the athlete inside the graduate.
- A conflict of interest exists with schools that for many financial considerations (TV rights, enrollment, subsidies and publicity) need their sport programs to succeed immediately and cannot use a long-term logic when their athletes are graduating in 5 years or less.
- More importantly school sport excludes anyone who for one reason or another cannot, do not and will not attend school. Notable omissions include, immigrants, economically disadvantaged people and workers.

Special Interest / Corporate

- Tends to favor the sporting interests of the opulent and allow relatively little access to the poor.
- Success of this organization resides overwhelmingly in how the financial situation is doing. Either the facility or the program must provide financially to support the special interest or the profit margin.
- Success and improvement is taken away from the realm of excellence, health and social life and it is gaged with money.

Ethnic Sport

- Obvious ethnic distinction which excludes the "others" and segregates those who are member of the ethnic group.
- Divides unnecessarily scarce resources over distinctions which are clearly frivolous.

Elder or Senior citizen groups

- If a group is a senior group it can only be that. This has an effect to take our seniors segregate and separate them into one group.
- Sports clubs need seniors and senior programming in the long-term to provide activities for their athletes later in life. In the short-term senior programming is an excellent way of keeping a facility occupied and useful during the day.

- The Latent function of a senior group in a sport club is the fact that seniors provide political, financial and cultural support to any club able to serve this group.

Disabled group

- Should, if possible be integrated into regular programming so as to allow for interaction with other people.
- Can and should be developed by sports clubs if we consider that the Special Olympics are a possibility.
- Obviously, disability means physiotherapy and here we have an opportunity for a sport club to share in the needs of the disabled.

Low income, or public groups

- Segregate the economically less fortunate into a category of typically low cost, low commitment, low funding and low quality programming which in turn yields poor results in terms of health and sport opportunities.
- Experts are generally excluded from being able to teach and live in this setting because organizations dealing in this realm don't have the resources or the support to attract such people.
- Less affluent people must live, play and compete alongside as well as against children of different socio-economic backgrounds.

Municipal Sport

- Out of touch with the day-to-day operations of a sports center.
- Too large and cumbersome of a bureaucracy to deal with the flexibility essential in providing Sport.
- Are not qualified to evaluate programming reliably based on concerns of quality, potential and safety.

Cultural groups

- Cultural groups, artists and artisans, need support from its' community to provide however if a group has only artistic pursuits it is isolated from possible support or contacts provided by the community.
- Promote competition rather than cooperation with sport groups and other forms of recreation.

Club Sport and the Shortcomings

of the alternatives to Club Sport (Preliminary Draft)

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Single Sport

- Fosters counter-productive competition between sports instead of allowing for a natural cooperation between sports that would develop more athletes instead of dividing only the few who currently do sport.
- Promotes confusion about sport. Athletes tend to be streamlined into specific mainstream sport instead of basing this decision on talent, psychological and physiological by expert minds.
- Also non-athletes are courted by single sport organizations leading to a lack of general fitness and emphasis on: "How many games a week do we play?"
- One sport cannot account for all the ways in which people of all backgrounds move, have fun and stay in shape.

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