Personal Development of Elite Athletes

Athlete Affairs Manager Hong Kong Sports Institute 13 May 2008



Presentation Outline

Key focus of the presentation:

- Knowing holistic approach to athlete development and performance
- Knowing types of support essential to athletic development
- Knowing contributing factors for
- personal development
- Knowing what is personal development
- Knowing what AAS programmes/services provided to support their personal development
- > Recent development

Profile:

Full-time athlete
HK's best cyclist
Winning goals in National games;
Asian Games: first Chinese World Champion

Asian Games; first Chinese World Champion Cyclist; best winner of HK Sports Stars Awards 2007;

Ten outstanding young person......



If you were Wong Kam Po, what you would like to get support after the end of your sporting life?

Or what kinds of support do you think is important to athletes during their career transitions?



High Performance & Athletes' Personal Development

A Holistic approach to elite athlete development and performance

Encompassing the whole spectrum of athletic career from talent research and development, pre-elite training, elite training and post-elite career and education development



High Performance & Athlete Development

NATURE

TalentIdentification

NUTURE

- Coaching/Training
- Scientific Support
- Personal & Social Development
- CEducation & Career Support



Coaching Team

Career Path

Professional Development

Continuing Education

Coaching

Pastoral Care

Mentoring

Coaching

Apprenticeship

Athlete

Career Path

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Education

Career Development

Skills Training

Civic Education

Health Monitoring

Injury
Prevention &
Rehabilitation

Scientific Assessment & Monitoring

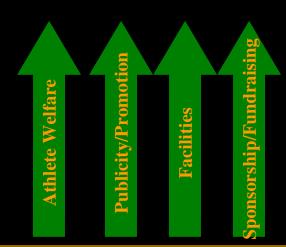
Research & Performance Analysis

Technical Team (Scientific)

Career Path

Professional Development

Continuing Education





Planning, Monitoring, Facilitations, Coordination







Professionalism

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Research Findings

- Values and Aspiration of the athletes
- Support required for Athletic
 Development

Project Support – Report on Qualitative Research Findings by AC Nelsen 2005

Goals & Ambitions of Athletes



Satisfaction, recognition and materialistic enjoyment are important life goals among the athletes. However, athletic development is only seen to be making partial contribution to the achievement of their goals.

Source: Research findings by AC Nielsen 2003

Life Values of Athletes

Personal Fulfillment

Money Satisfaction/ Friends/ soul mates

Work Academy

Athletic Development

Social life

Potential elite athletes believe that their athletic development gives 'them a weak link towards the success and satisfaction in life in the long term. Hence, they do not consider it as long term career. Besides, they could not fully focus their efforts on athletic development without attending to the academic and career path.

Source: Research findings by AC Nielsen 2003

Support Required for Athletic Development

Tangible Support

Professional support –
physical training,
physiological, psychological
support

Financial support on daily expenses, overseas training, competitions

Coaching/ training

Training facilities/ venues/ equipment

Intangible Support

Society recognition/ support

School/ work support Peers support

Family support

Factors that drive skills development and sustain interest in the sports

Factors that

breakthrough

outstanding performance

drive

and

Source: Research findings by AC Nielsen 2003

Athletic Development Overview

•Athletes usually start their path at young age when they have less pressure from schools, thus they could have more time for practice and develor their potential

- Usually at secondary school (F.5 to F.7), athletes would have to put more time and effort in academic
- This is also the stage when parents would encourage them to drop out from athletic development
- After getting in colleges/ universities, athletes have to put extra effort and time in maintaining balance between study and sports
- However, many athletes might not be able to afford the same amount of time and effort.
 Some may even consider to dropout from sports training

Stages of Athletic Development (Hong Kong Experience)

Contributing Factors of Athletes' Personal Development

Sport Level

Training and competition opportunities

Fechnical Suppor

Funding

Training facilities

Coaching

ATHLETES

Education Pathway

Social Recognition

Family & peer Support

Career Pathway

Personal Development

Personal and Social Level

Personal Development

- Also referred to as self-development or personal growth, development of yourself, selfimprovement – covering a broad set of areas to improve.
- Usually is about improving yourself mentally, emotionally, physically and spiritually.
- It is important to help athletes to prepare for life after sport, as well as life in sport.

Approaches to Personal Development

- Education or training
- Counseling and coaching transformation
- Personal development plan as an education and career plan
- As a professional career

Athlete Affairs Department

Vision

 To be a significant contributor to athletes' balanced/all-round development.

Athlete Affairs Department

Mission

AAS's primary function is in line with the HKSI's mission of striving for sporting excellence while enhancing athletes' balanced/ all-round personal development, through the provision of our comprehensive range of athlete-specific programmes and activities, particularly in the areas of educational and vocational development; in order to enable athletes to benefit most from the athletic life as well as transitional support for athletes that enhances their positive sense of community at HKSI.

Athlete Affairs Department

Goals

To provide and coordinate programmes/activites addressing athletes' educational & vocational needs and facilitating their personal development.

To provide care and support to help athletes cope with their concerns and difficulties, be they emotional, interpersonal, career, residential or financial.

To form strategic partnerships with parties within and outside the HKSI for opportunities, support and resources in line with HKSI's mission and goals.

Athlete Affairs

In summary, we provide

HKSI Scholarship holders with career, education and professional development services as well as transitional support for athletes.

Athlete Affairs



Education Guidance and Information



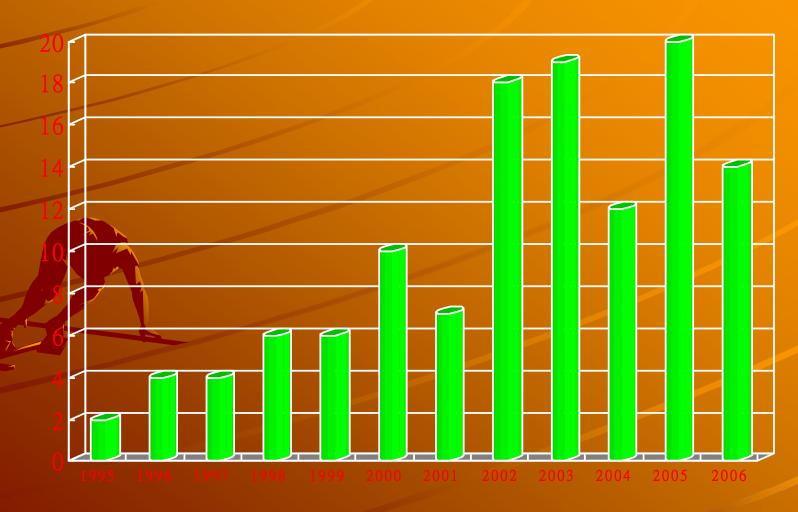
Academic Achievements



Athlete Admission Programme

- **❖Sports Scholarship Programme HKU**
- **❖Sports Scholarship Programme CUHK**
- **❖**Outstanding Sportsmen Recommendation Scheme − PolyU
- **❖Student Athlete Admission Scheme CityU**
- Guarantee Admission Scheme HKBU
- **❖Self Nomination Scheme (Sports) IVE**

Athlete Admission to Universities 1995 - 2006



Learning Resource Support : Multi-learning Centre



Financial Assistance and Incentive Support

- Hong Kong Athletes Fund
- Athletes Education Subsidy
- Special Incentive Fund
- Outstanding Junior Athlete Awards
- Athlete Incentive Awards
- Direct Financial Support....





Athlete Amenities Management and Athlete Activities



Athletes Development Programme – Personal Development training courses



Social & Community Involvement





New Development:

Role of HKSIL in

personal development of athletes:

Focusing on current HKSIL Scholarship athletes and their overall education and personal-social development needs

Background

Following the successful implementation of the enhanced direct financial support for athletes in April 2007 and development of career support by Sports Federation and Olympic Committee ("SF&OC"), 21% increase in full-time athletes in 2008/09 financial year

The newly revised programmes will provide

- Alternative pathways to the athletes' educational and vocational development
- ➤ To ensure alignment with HKSIL's mission a focus on full-time training

Considerations

Summary of key features of the programmes:

- ➤ Differentiated level of support to full-time and part-time athletes
- > Differentiated level of support to athletes with senior vs. junior level of achievements
- Consideration of basic support to attract young athletes to continue sports training
- Consideration of pre-retirement support to fulltime senior athletes with a longer period of service

Considerations

- Synergy of Coach Education Programme and Apprenticeship Programme to support the pursuit of a career in elite sports coaching
- ➤ HKSIL will collaborate with the SF&OC to facilitate the smooth transition of retiring athletes into the SF&OC network
- External advisors for continuous enhancement & development of the programmes

Enhanced Programme Summary

- **▶** Athletes Tutorial Support part-time vs. full-time
- ➤ Athletes Education Subsidy ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per an approved study programme
- **► Athletes Exchange Programme** Sports Exchange Activities with counterparts from Mainland China
- Coach Education Programme Support athletes to become accreditated coach
- Coaching Apprenticeship Programme on-the-job Training in elite sports coaching

