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PROGRESO PARA NUESTRO DEPORTE MEDIANTE CONOCIMIENTO

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF MATCHES OF RUSSIAN TEAMS IN FREESTYLE AND FEMALE WRESTLING⁵

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ABSTRACT

The results of the performances of the Russian National Teams in Freestyle and Women's wrestling at the European Championships, World Championships and Olympics Games for the period from 1993 to 2016. Freestyle Team performs stably and successfully at all competitions, and the percentage of medalists is within 60 - 77.34% of the number of participants, more than half of the medals - gold. The results of the performance of the Women's Team are comparable to the results of the Freestyle Team only at European Championships, and at the World Championships and Olympics Games, the women's performance is much weaker.

Kew words: Freestyle and Women's wrestling, competitions, Championships, Olympics Games.

INTRODUCTION

In the Soviet Union, and now in Russia, special attention was paid to the development of sports, especially the sport of higher achievements. Russian athletes always perform well at international competitions, and in certain sports, in particular in single combats, they are the main competitors in the fight for medals (Latyshev & Latyshev, 2007; Latyshev, Latyshev & Gavrilin, 2008; Korobeynikov, Korobeinikova & Latyshev, 2014) Russia, as a separate state, participated in the Games of the Olympics six times. This is a fairly long period in order to draw some conclusions about the effectiveness of the system of training athletes.

The Russian National Freestyle Wrestling Team is a favorite in all international competitions. Women's Wrestling is a relatively young Olympic sport (included in the program of the Olympics since 2004), and the Russian Team in this species already successfully competes in Europe and is trying to take a worthy position in the world ranking. At all Olympics Games, the Russian National Team in Freestyle Wrestling was represented by a full team, and for the Women's Wrestling competition, only in the Olympic Games in London 2012 and Rio de Janeiro 2016 in the starting lineups was not enough for one athlete (Tünnemann & Curby, 2016).

The analysis of the results of National Teams on the types of wrestling at official international competitions for a sufficiently long period allows us to determine the features and trends in the development of these sports in Russia and to predict further results (Latyshev, 2009; Latyshev, 2013; Korobeynikov, Latyshev, Latyshev, Goraschenko, & Korobeynikova, 2016). This is a necessary task in sport of higher achievements.

Purpose of study - a comparative analysis of the results of the performances of the Russian National Teams in Freestyle and Women's Wrestling at the official international competitions for the period from 1993 to 2016.

METHODS

The methods: analysis of scientific-methods literature, analysis of official protocols of competitions, methods of mathematical statistics were used in this work.

RESULTS

Sports competitions in the Olympic sports are the central element that determines the entire system of organization, methods and training of athletes for effective competitive activity (Platonov, 2013; Korobeynikov, Latyshev, Latyshev, Goraschenko, & Korobeynikova, 2016). The most important and prestigious competitions are the Olympics Games. All four-year training of top-class athletes is aimed at obtaining the right to participate in these competitions (obtaining a license) and winning medals in them. Therefore, it is logical to consider the performances of national teams within the boundaries of each four-year Olympic training cycle.

The annual official international competitions are European Championships, World Championships and World Cups. The results of performances at these competitions are the main result of the year, and the dynamics of the results characterizes the effectiveness of the entire training system. The right to participate in the World Cup depends on the performances of National Teams at the last World Championships. In this regard, the men's team did not participate in the World Cup in 1999, and the Women's Team in 2008 and 2013. In addition, the World Cups for Women's Wrestling began to be held only in 2001, and therefore a comparative analysis of the performance of the teams at these competitions is not informative and is not included.

The annual official international competitions are European Championships, World Championships and World Cups. The results of performances at these competitions are the main result of the year, and the dynamics of the results characterizes the effectiveness of the entire training system. The right to participate in the World Cup depends on the performances of National Teams at the last World Championships. In this regard, the Men's Team did not participate in the World Cup in 1999, and the Women's Team in 2008 and 2013. In addition, the World Cups for Women's Wrestling began to be held only in 2001, and therefore a comparative analysis of the performance of the teams at these competitions is not informative and is not further considered.

It should be noted that Women's Wrestling has been included as an Olympic sport only since 2002, and the first sets of medals were competed for at the Olympic Games in Athens 2004. In addition, now in both Freestyle Wrestling and in Women's Wrestling there are Olympic and non-Olympic weight classes, but we will only analyze the performances in the Olympic weight classes. The number of Olympic categories became the same for male and for female in 2014 with 6 categories (until 2014, men had more weight categories).

Therefore, for convenience of analysis from a single position, we introduce (the indicator) the notion of "team medal performance" - is the ratio of the number of medals won by the National Team to the number of weight categories (for competitions with weight categories, where in each category there can only be one athlete from the country) and "Gold medal of the performance of the National Team" is the ratio of the number of gold medals won by the national team to the number of members of the National Team.

Consistently consider the performances of national teams in official competitions. The time intervals of the analysis will correspond to the four-year Olympic training cycles.

European Championships. Note that in 2015, instead of the European Championship, the European Games were held. These competitions in terms of the level and number of participants are identical, so the results of the performance of teams at the European Games the same and will be reckoned as the results of the performance at the European Championships.

At the European championships, 188 medals (Gold through Bronze) were won (in the Olympic weight classes): men won 140 medals, women - 48 medals (table 1). Average medal tally for six Olympic cycles was 77.34% for men and 70.59% for women. The greatest medal tally for men is in the fourth Olympic cycle (85.71%), and for women in the fifth (87.5%). The lowest medal tally for men is in the first Olympic cycle (69.23%), and for women in the sixth (59.1%).

Table 1. Results of the Performance of Russian National Teams in Freestyle and Women's Wrestling at the European Championships

Period (the Olympic cycle)	Male				Female			
	Number of medals	Percent	Number of gold medals	Percent	Number of medals	Percent	Number of gold medals	Percent
1993-1996	27	69.23%	14	35.9%	-	-	-	-
1997-2000	24	75%	13	40.62%	-	-	-	-
2001-2004	23	79.31%	13	44.82%	8	66.7%	5	41.67%
2005-2008	24	85.71%	15	53.57%	13	81.25%	9	56.25%
2009-2012	22	78.57%	14	50%	14	87.5%	2	12.5%
2013-2016	20	80%	12	48%	13	59.1%	6	27.27%
Total (average)	140	77.34%	81	44.75%	48	70.59%	22	32.35%

The average gold medal tally for the six Olympic cycles for men was 44.75%, and for women only 32.35%. The greatest gold medal tally for men and women is observed in the fourth Olympic cycle and is 53.57% and 56.25%, respectively. These figures mean that in the fourth Olympic cycle (2005-2008) of all 37 medals won, more than half were gold, with every second athlete winning a gold medal. The lowest gold medal tally for men is in the first Olympic cycle (35.9%), and for women, in the fifth (12.5%). Thus, both men and women in the European Championships in general are very successful and the number of medals per participant (medal) is almost the same: ten participants have 7-8 medals. But gold medals for men are 1.38 times higher than for women.

World Championships. In the World Championships, 107 medals (of all merits) were won (in the Olympic weight categories): men won 88 medals, women only 17 (table 2). The average medal tally for six Olympic cycles was 64.24% for men, and for women, only 27.94%. The greatest medal tally for men is in the sixth Olympic cycle (84.21%), and for women, in the fifth and sixth by (37.5%). The lowest medal tally for men is in the second Olympic cycle (45.83%), and for women, in the first (25.0%).

Table 2. Results of the Performance of Russian National Teams in Freestyle and Women's Wrestling at the World Championships

Period (the Olympic cycle)	Male				Female			
	Number of medals	Percent	Number of gold medals	Percent	Number of medals	Percent	Number of gold medals	Percent
1993-1996	16	53.33%	4	13.33%	-	-	-	-
1997-2000	11	45.83%	5	20.83%	-	-	-	-
2001-2004	12	54.54%	9	40.90%	2	25.0%	0	0%
2005-2008	16	76.19%	12	57.14%	5	31.25%	0	0%
2009-2012	17	80.95%	10	47.61%	6	37.5%	0	0%
2013-2016	16	84.21%	7	36.84%	6	37.5%	1	6.25%
Totals	88	64.24%	47	34.31%	19	27.94%	1	1.47%

The average gold medal tally for six Olympic cycles for men was 34.31%, and for female only 1.47% (only one gold medal was won). The greatest gold medal tally for men is in the fourth Olympic cycle (57.14%), and for women - in the sixth (6.25%). The lowest gold medal tally for men – is in the first Olympic cycle (13.33%), and for women - in the third, fourth and fifth (0%).

Thus, men in the World Championships in general win 2.3 times more medals than women (per participant), and gold medals – an even higher 23 times more. Note that men in the World Championships on average, ten participants gain at least 6 medals, three of which are gold.

Olympic Games. At the Olympics Games from 1996 to 2016 34 total medals were won (Gold through Bronze): men won 27 medals, and women 7 (table 3). The average medal tally for six Olympic cycles was 60.0% for male and 38.89% for women. The greatest medal tally for men is observed in the fourth Olympic cycle (85.71%), and for women in the fifth and sixth - 50%. The lowest medal count for men is in the first Olympic cycle (40.0%), and in women the third and fourth (25.0%).

Table 3. Results of the Performance of the Russian National Teams in Freestyle and Women's Wrestling at the Olympics Games

Period (the Olympic cycle)	Male				Female			
	Number of medals	Percent	Number of gold medals	Percent	Number of medals	Percent	Number of gold medals	Percent
1993-1996	4	40%	3	30%	-	-	-	-
1997-2000	5	62.5%	4	50%	-	-	-	-
2001-2004	5	71.42%	3	42.85%	1	25%	0	0%
2005-2008	6	85.71%	3	42.85%	1	25%	0	0%
2009-2012	4	57.14%	1	14.28%	2	50%	1	25%
2013-2016	3	50.0%	2	33.33%	3	50%	0	0%
Total	27	60.0%	16	35.56%	7	38.89%	1	5.56%

The average gold medal tally for six Olympic cycles for men was 35.56%, while for women only 5.56% (only one gold medal was won). The greatest gold medal tally in men is in the third and fourth Olympic cycles (42.85%), and in women in the fifth (25%). The lowest gold medal tally in men is in the fifth Olympic cycle (14.28%), and in women in the third, fourth and sixth (0%).

In general, men win 1.54 times more medals at Olympics Games than women (per participant), and gold medals 6.4 times more. It should be noted that men in the Games of the Olympics have an average of 10 participants and at least 6 medals, three of which are gold medals, among women these figures are significantly lower.

CONCLUSIONS

1. A comparative analysis of the results of the performances of the Russian National Teams in Freestyle and Female Wrestling for the period from 1993 to 2016 was conducted. The Russian National Freestyle Wrestling Team (men) is always very successful and stable both at the European Championships, the World Championships and the Olympics Games. The average medal performances (the ratio of the number of medals won to the number of participants in the competition) for six Olympic cycles for European Championships is 77.34%, World Championships - 64.24% and Olympics Games - 60%. Let's note the fact that more than half of the medals won at each competition are gold medals. This indicates the strict focus of athletes and the team as a whole on the highest result - gold medals.

2. The Russian National Team for Women's Wrestling is on equal terms with the men's team only at the European Championships - they have almost the same average medal values: for men - 77.34%, for women - 70.59%. But women win gold medals at a rate 1.38 times less.

3. At the World Championships and Olympics Games, the women's team performs significantly weaker than the men. This is especially evident in the number of gold medals won. So, at the Games of the Olympics men win 6.4 times more gold medals than women, and at the World Championships, 23 times more. This is due to the fact that in the World Championships and Games of the Olympics, strong teams of Japan, the United States, Canada and China are added to the list of participants: athletes of these countries compete sharply and do not allow Russian athletes to win more medals.

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