

Sport Psychology in Japan : Development and Prospect

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Abstract

The psychological research on sport after the World War II in Japan has developed within the area of the psychology of physical education under the umbrella of the Japanese Society of Physical Education (JSPE) established in 1950. Following the time a major stimulus to the development of sport psychology occurred in 1960 when the Sport Sciences Research Committee was formed in Japan Amateur Sports Association(JASA) in advance of the Olympic Games in Tokyo in 1964, and a subcommittee representing sport psychology was formed within it to initiate research on elite competitive sport settings. As sport has blossomed since 1960 and wide spread interest in sport psychology was evident in Japan, the establishment of the International Society of Sport Psychology (ISSP) in Rome in 1965 gave a major impetus to the formation of the Japanese Society of Sport Psychology(JSSP) in 1973 to oversee the direction and promotion of research on Sport Psychology in Japan, as an independent society of the JSPE. The JSSP has been active in promoting sport psychology nationally and internationally in cooperation with the ISSP, and yet, it has two major problems of qualifying sport counselor and promoting social-psychological research in sport, which are in prospect to be solved in near future.

Key words : psychology of physical education, Japanese Society of Sport Psychology, sport counselor