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# The role of sports volunteering in the life of university students

**Abstract. Purpose:** identify the role sports volunteering in the life of university students. **Material and Methods:** 256 students of the Kharkov state academy of physical culture took part in research. The analysis of literary sources and documents was utilized; questioning (questionnaire), methods of the mathematical processing of data. **Conclusions:** sports volunteering are inalienable part of life of modern students and the 35% polled already were in a position to prove as helpers of organizers of sporting competitions of different level. In opinion of students, volunteering enables them to purchase experience of public activity, so the 25% polled consider, to find new friends – 20,8%, realized themselves – 18,3%. 34,5% respondents consider it-volunteering perspective direction the volunteers activity, the here 32,4% polled would like to prove as counsels of all of sporting volunteers work assignments.

**Keywords:** volunteer, sports volunteering, volunteers sporting activities.

**Introduction.** Sport in modern conditions of the development of our state can become one of the national ideas which are capable to unite the society and to promote the strengthening of authority of the country on the international scene. Today, as we know, the powerful contribution to the development of the sports movement is made by volunteers, the majority from which is students of higher educational institutions [6]. Sports competitions and especially international competitions for volunteers is an experience on a unique action, an acquaintance from sports elite of the world, a chance to get acquainted with coevals from other countries and to find adherents, to practice in a foreign language and to receive new skills. It is good possibility of the definition of own social position in the society.

The analysis of the last researches and publications testifies that a powerful contribution to the formation of the theory of the volunteer movement, the development of its theoretical and methodological principles are made by a number of modern domestic researchers. So, in the works of I. Zvereva (2001), G. Laktionova (1999) the main attention was paid to a role of a volunteer as a compound social-pedagogical work with youth, principles of a volunteer work are defined in the works of O. Lyubarskaya (2012), I. Griga (2000). Technologies of attraction and preparation of youth for the volunteer activity is opened in the researches of O. Bezpalko (2005), R. Vainola (2008). Single questions of the involvement of volunteers to the sphere of physical culture and sport are reflected in the works of A. Bondar (2010, 2015), M. Dutchak (2007), K. Levkiv (2013), A. Michuda (2004).

The analysis of a long-term experience of a volunteer is submitted also in works of foreign authors, in particular R. Lynch (2008), S. McCarley (2008) and others.

Having analyzed the results of scientific researches of modern scientists concerning the volunteer movement, it is established that so far there are unsolved questions concerning the participation of student's youth in the sports volunteer movement of Ukraine, as caused a subject choice.

The objective of the research: the identification of a role of the sports volunteer in life of students of higher educational institutions.

Research tasks:

- 1. To open the relation of student's youth to the sports volunteer activity.
- 2. To define the main directions of participation of students in the sports volunteer activity.

**Material and methods of the research:** analysis of references and documents; poll (questioning) which was conducted on the basis of Kharkov state academy of physical culture among students of 1-4 courses, 256 respondents took part in the poll.

**Results of the research and their discussion.** There is the process of a revival of universal values, and with it and the humanization of society, one of which ways is distribution of the modern volunteer movement in our country today. This movement, as we know, plays an important role in the implementation of various social projects, including physical-sports events.

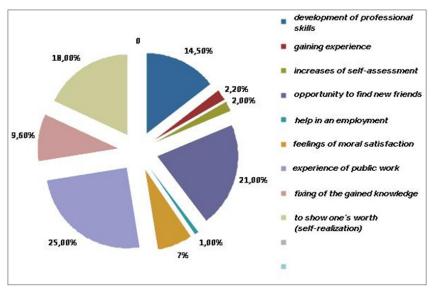
According to the Law of Ukraine "About the volunteer activity" in physical-sports branch it is possible to carry out the volunteer activity concerning carrying out the actions of a national and international value which are connected with the organization of mass sporting, cultural and other spectacular and public events [4].

The attraction to the organization and carrying out such actions of sport volunteers is one of conditions of the effective realization of the noted direction which preparation has to be carried out according to evidence-based algorithms of a vocational training of experts in the physical-sports branch [3].

The poll among students of 1-4 courses of Kharkov state academy of physical culture was conducted to find out the interest of students in the sports volunteer and to define the main directions of their sports volunteer activity. Results of the poll showed that 55% of students are interested to become participants of the volunteer movement and to learn about features of the activity of sport volunteers as much as possible.

On the question "What social value, from your point of view, does the participation have in the sports volunteer?" 25% of the interrogated answered that this acquisition of the experience of the public work, and 21% – consider that it is opportunity to find new friends, that is to expand a circle of contacts, to find adherents and to get support in friendly interaction (pic. 1).

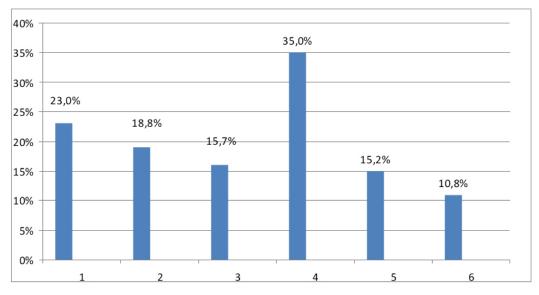
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Pic. 1. Value of the sports volunteer movement for students

Apparently in pic. 1, 18 of % of students consider that the volunteer activity will give them opportunity to show one's worth (to self-realize) and 7% are engaged in such activity for moral satisfaction. 14,5% of the interrogated consider that the volunteer activity assists the development of professional skills which are necessary in the follow-up professional activity, and 9,6% – the fixing of the knowledge gained during a study in practice. The voluntary public work gives to young people the chance of the increase of self-assessment, so consider – 2% of respondents, helps with gaining experience—2,2% and with the subsequent employment of only 1% of students.

It should be noted, that students of the academy take part in the organization of physical-sports events and sports competitions as volunteers constantly, therefore on the question "What work have you done as a sport volunteer?" most of respondents that made 35% of the interrogated answered that they have helped with the organization and competitions (pic. 2).

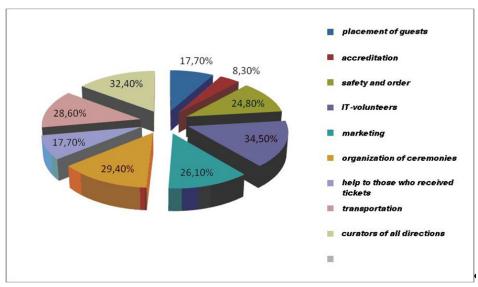


Pic 2. Directions of the volunteer activity of students of the academy

From pic. 2 it is visible also that 23% of respondents accompanied sportsmen and guests to a place of competitions and dwellings, 18,8% – helped organizers with a delivery of equipment, stock, food by preparation and during competitions, 15,7% of students were engaged in preparation and distribution of information, work, with the audience in quality of stewards – 15,2%, 10,8% of the interrogated participated in an awards ceremony.

During the poll it became clear that students consider the most interesting directions in the future activity as sport volunteers is an opportunity to be responsible for software communication during competitions, that is to be the IT-volunteer, 34,5% of the interrogated so answered. It is interesting also that 32,4% of students would like to coordinate the work of volunteers in all directions – to be their curator, another 29,4% – to help at the organization of ceremonies (to help directors, decorators, to meet guests) (pic. 3).

In pic. 3 it is visible that 26,1% of the interrogated see for themselves the possible activity from marketing, 24,8% would like to watch safety and order during competitions, 17,7% – to help with a placement of sportsmen and guests and as much – to accompany guests on tribunes and to conduct the explanatory work for those who got tickets.



Pic. 3. Activities of sport volunteers which interest students

The smallest interest in the interrogated – only 8,3%, caused the direction "accreditation of guests", in our opinion, it is connected with that the students who are not informed on work behind this direction up to the end, and it emphasizes the need of providing the information to students and the special qualified preparation for the volunteer activity.

## **Conclusions:**

- 1. The sports volunteer is the integral component of life of modern students and 35% of the interrogated already owed the opportunity to prove as assistants to organizers of sports competitions of the different level. According to students, the volunteer gives them the chance to gain experience of public work, so consider 25% of the interrogated to find new friends – 21%, to self-realize – 18%.
- 2. 35% of students consider IT-volunteer as a perspective direction of the future volunteer activity, thus 32% of the interrogated would like to prove as curators of all directions of the sports volunteer work, another 29,4% - to help at the organization of ceremonies (to help directors, decorators, to meet guests).

Prospects of the subsequent researches in this direction consist in studying of the structure of the international sports volunteer movement.

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