The Discussion About Several Management Problems to Martial Arts Entering the Olympic Games

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Abstract. Though the methods of literature review, qualitative and quantitative analysis, problems discussion and countermeasures study, the paper discusses several management problems about martial arts entering the Olympic Games and summarizes the strategy choices for the management development of martial arts after analyses on the concepts, management features, and spread of martial arts in order to promote the successful entrance of martial arts to Olympic Games.

Research Purposes

Despite the rapid rise of martial arts in recent years, it is still excluded from the Olympics. As the host of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, martial arts had the best time to get into the Beijing Olympic Games but to miss out the opportunity. And as the project alternatives of the 2020 Olympic Games, martial arts were disqualified again. Hearing the results, most people not only expressed deep regrets, but also explored the management problems of martial arts development more objectively and rationally. And this subject how to make martial arts get into the Olympics has brought the concerns of each one of the martial art enthusiasts and even the 1.4 billion populations all over the China. No doubt, the Olympics development of martial arts must go outside the shackles of westernized style, renew the idea, probe into the pluralistic models of martial arts, and show the characteristics of national culture in order to adapt to the foundations of the Olympics competitive standard. And more people claim that Olympic Games will establish the platform for the martial arts popularization, which plays the promoted role.

Research Methods

First, by the research methods of literature review, the author consults, analyzes and concludes numerous papers and books in order to reserve correlation theories, elaborate specific proposals and obtain first-hand information of martial arts development.

Second, by means of qualitative and quantitative analysis, the thesis handles the statistics about the first-hand information, provides informative fact materials for qualitative analysis, and uses the perspectives of histories, realities and multidisciplinary approaches in order to synthetically treat and deeply analyze the present situation and management problems of martial arts development.

Third, with on the problems discussion and countermeasures study methods, this paper puts forward the target-oriented and feasible proposals aiming at those problems about martial arts into the Olympic Games and combining the real situation and the era.

The Results and Analysis

Foremost, the events of hitting the Olympics should be designed and managed effectively. As an official sport of the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympic Games, the Chinese martial arts competition featured 15 events, including 10 in Taolu (the routines) and five for Sanshou (fights). Among them, Taolu is not a strong antagonistic project, while it can reflect the Chinese culture but not be enough to
catch the attention of the advertisers; while Sanshou can be better received by the Europe and America and much easier to mark than Taolu, but female Sanshou develops rather later and is hard to spread to other countries rapidly and broadly. And thus, designing and managing scientific and mature events of martial arts is the prerequisite for hitting the Olympics.

For another, the competition rules should be quantized. At present, the difficulty level between Taolu and Sanshou differs bigger and cannot achieve the requirements of the Olympics performance evaluations. To avoid these different styles, a compromise is found by removing all of the esoteric movements and making up the standard routines. However, this would not have come up in the rich content of Chinese martial arts, and has deviated from the essence of martial arts more or less. So, quantizing competition rules of martial arts is the crux for hitting the Olympics.

Thirdly, the gaps of eastern and western cultures should be bridged. Western sports pay attention to the external and intuitive form and are convenient for objective scoring. However, martial arts are particular about the inner senses and romantic charm and difficult to quantify some contents. Currently, Wushu competition rules are growing wider the share of objective scoring. However, from a western point of view, there are still some thorny cultural barriers to martial arts. In the meantime, martial arts development is not yet well balanced on all continents. Martial arts foundation of Asia is the best with Europe. And martial arts development situation of America, Africa and Oceania still keeps some pace compared with Asia and Europe. Hence, bridging the eastern and western cultures gaps of treating martial arts is the guarantee for hitting the Olympics [5].

To cure the above management problems, martial arts intent on going into the Olympic Games must maintain the intrinsic cultural features of martial arts, and seek the best combination of points between martial arts and the Olympic Games. It is generally believed that Chinese martial art is extensive and profound. Its charm lies not only in its variety of techniques but the flavor of typical oriental culture. In other words, the development and reform of the competitive Wushu must hinge around the definition of martial arts, which embodies oriental culture charm so that the Olympic Family accepts the distinctive project. Dr Li-Yindong suggests that the broad concept of martial arts: Wushu - also known as kung fu, and the old name for Chinese marshall arts, the practical activities relevant to self-defense that pass on the fine tradition of Chinese nation, its attack as the major content, and its body movement as the basic means. And the narrow concept of martial arts: or Wushu movement is skillful actions as the main content, method and practice routines, fighting for the main forms of exercise, pay attention to the internal and external and the traditional ethnic sports.

We could see that Wushu, or Chinese martial arts, is an exhibition and a full-contact sport derived from traditional Chinese martial arts, and the integration with traditional Chinese martial arts is the prerequisite for the entrance of martial arts to the Olympics. The Chinese martial arts for people must grasp the best combination of points between martial arts and the Olympic Games as martial arts moves toward the Olympic Games, retain and carry forward the foundation, spirit and shape of martial arts, and at the same time meet clear and simple form of Olympic Games. The entrance of martial arts to Olympic Games need to adhere to demonstrate not only fierce fighting and dazzling technical moves, but also absorb the martial arts essence of Tao and Law, the courtesy and etiquette, and help viewers and practitioners find out the form of Taolu and Sanshou, but therein lay Chinese philosophies of martial arts. Next, the competitive Wushu should be simplified after grasping the best combination points. The simplicity includes not only the rules but also the cultural elements of boredom. Only then cannot martial arts make people feel “unfathomable”, and less difficult teaching and learning [3].

We can emphasize the dominant position of martial arts, but make clear the objective that we must put martial arts own overall success before the development of other projects in order to thrive together, and decide whether it can extend into the Olympic or not. And we must establish the core position of martial arts, make sure martial arts stays a step ahead and it is the sustainable development strategic choice. The competitive Wushu priority development strategy embodies the principle of “giving priority to efficiency” and accords with national conditions of China. Chinese traditional Wushu is the foundation and the source of martial arts development. If martial arts can enter the
Olympic Games, it is only a certain aspect of martial arts development and we must actively and steadily persist to promote the traditional Wushu abroad. We can only unify the thinking, establish the central role of the competitive Wushu in the leader of the competitive Wushu and in the foundation of the traditional Wushu to coordinate development of both and achieve their communal developments. Only in this way cannot martial arts decentralize force along the way of the entrance of martial arts to Olympic Games. The development priorities of the competitive Wushu should be the choice currently without looking back.

Here martial arts can learn from successful experiences of judo and taekwondo entering the Olympic Games. Korean taekwondo’s success is firstly applying strategies of common development with the similar projects. As taekwondo from the effects of Chinese martial arts and Japanese Karate, its attack enormously loses, and taekwondo becomes sort of a game, what is more, lacking of routines and system at the beginning of the taekwondo development. To inherit and encourage the traditional martial arts, taekwondo adequately absorbs and learns from strong points of the similar projects, establishes its own system and develops independently again [1,2]. In the next place, Korean adopts the Olympics and popularization development strategies as the top goal of entering the Olympic Games to speed up international promotion of taekwondo in the 1970s. With the guidance of unifying thoughts, taekwondo starts to run along the track of competition transformation and popularization, and succeeds in entering the Olympic Games ultimately [4].

**Conclusion and Suggestion**

In summary, the entrance of Chinese martial arts to Olympic Games must unify guiding ideology of management, strengthen identity of martial arts development in domestic, choose the way of the parallel development of the traditional Wushu and the competitive Wushu, and give priority to develop the competitive Wushu. Among the judgment of the competitive Wushu, whether we can put some more particular emphasis on the rhythm, skill, twining of routines training and the synthesis of essence, energy, spirit is the fundamental and quintessence of martial arts.

In the circumstances when the competitive Wushu and the traditional Wushu both exist at present, the Wushu teams of the provinces and cities basically participate in competitive wushu competitions, while the traditional Wushu organizes and sponsors by Martial Arts schools and other grassroots organizations. Since China’s reform and opening up, folk martial arts has a great opportunity of development that all sorts of martial arts schools and martial arts groups have mushroomed up shot and reached throughout most parts of China. Chinese Wushu reported in 2012, “There were more than nine-hundred martial arts schools and 100,000 martial artists only in Henan provinces and 1 million-plus martial arts schools and tens of millions of martial artists all over the country”.

Now, these martial arts schools, martial arts groups have been divided between different management bureaucracies. And some are managed by education sectors, some are managed by industrial and commercial authorities, some are managed by Wushu association and other community organizations. No matter what departments supervise, these departments are the duties and obligations to get conditions right for the development of the traditional Wushu, including over policies, circumstances, facilities, taxes, employment and so on providing excellent services, having more development room for various civil society organizations of martial arts, and enjoying faster development in order to support and develop the traditional Wushu of the Chinese nation. With a rapidly developing the folk Wushu organizations, we must promote the management standard of the martial arts education and raise unceasingly the quality of the traditional Wushu and cultural heritage. The traditional instruction law what mentor leads apprentice has a far more limited resolution and small sizes. The young trained people lacks of modern scientific culture knowledge, does not meet the needs of the rapid development of society and need reform.

Without a doubt, the entrance of martial arts to Olympic Games will facilitate the harmony of eastern and western culture and the pluralism all over the world, carry forward the Olympic Movement and develop the Olympic spirit.
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References


