Physical activities and sport in France

EPS at School

• PE & Sport
  • Obligatory for all pupils
• AS
  • Voluntary registration

Sports outside school

• Unions and clubs

Some connections

Links between PE and AS

• The same person insure PE teaching ('teacher') and sport coaching in AS ('animator'); no external coach for sport
• PE teachers have the obligation to insure 3 hours included in their service
• PE teacher is owner of a Master degree diploma + often sport coach diploma in one speciality
• Sport practice is the major support in PE teaching but sport coaching, in competition, is only in AS
• AS = logic of continuity (development) or opening (discovery)

Concept of coaching in sport field

• Coaching process represented by Coaching Models (Côté, Salmela, Trude, Baris, & Russel, 1995; Gilbert, Trude 2000; Lyle, 2002; Abraham, Collins, & Marindale, 2006)

• Coaches' activity that occurs during the competition (Jones, 2006), specifically in team sports 'in-match coaching' or 'in-contest management' (Mouchet, Harvey, & Light, 2013)

• Particular meaning in the French rugby system: management of player substitutions (Villepreux, Jeandroz, & Brochard, 2007)
Plan National de Développement du Sport Scolaire 2016-2020

Union Nationale du Sport Scolaire (UNSS)

- Created in 1977 under an associative status
- Mission of public service according to the codes of education and sport
- Strong contribution of the French government and the regions for the organization of sport in school
- In 2016, UNSS is the 4th sports Union in number of license holders (beyond the million of participants)
- More than 100 sports and artistic activities and 250 000 events per year

Objectives of UNSS

- This association has a double objective:
  - To organize and develop the practice of sports and artistic activities for all pupils
  - To favour the learning of associative life by the pupils, with a central role of the meetings and competitions between the schools

National Plan of Development of the School Sport (PNDS) 2016-2020

- Investigation on 2016, between January and March, with the school deans, the PE teachers, the parents and the pupils
- More than 30 000 respondents and results were used for a strategic reflection
- 3 axes of development: Accessibility, Innovation, and Responsibility (AIR)

Element of culture

- As continuation of the PE teaching, school sport is as much a discovery of sports than a confirmed practice.
- A way of learning, preparation and improvement in sports and artistic activities for the largest number of pupils, at the highest level of potentiality.
- It favours the passage of sport and artistic practice from school towards the clubs outside school
- Contributes to the acquisition of common base of knowledge and competencies at school
- School sport must keep away from the problems concerning sometimes the sport (doping, violence...)
Plan de l’exposé

1. Introduction
2. National organisation of sport at school

3. Research on sport coaching at school

4. Conclusion

Very few studies on school sport (AS)

From 2012 to 2017

- 2 PHD (1 in educational sciences, 1 in medicine)
- 2 to 4 articles in 3 scientific French journals interested by intervention: eRIEPS, STAPS, Movement and Sport Sciences
- Zero publication about sport coaching in school
- Nearly none communication in congress interested by intervention: ARIS

Why?

- Sociosstructural reasons: evolutive relations between PE and sport in France: links, separation, confusion...
- Conceptions are strong: sport coaching is assimilated mainly to unions and clubs, where high level practice is done
- Nevertheless, many PE teachers are also coaches in clubs
- Institutional obstacles at school? Not more than studies about PE
- Less funding for sport coaching research at school Probably

Perspectives for research

- A very specific model in France with PE + AS in respect of which we can speak about ‘sport coaching’
- Conceptions of ‘interveners’ about their own sport coaching at school versus in club. Differences and similarities regarding values and objectives in each context?
- In-competition coaching could be studied as well at school (AS) with the same topics: communications with players, player substitution, observation of the game, half-time speech...

Thank you for your attention!

mouchet@iu-pec.fr