

Sport & Disability Management

Sport & Gestione della Disabilità

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Sport can represent a tool able to effectively pursue the inclusive purposes of disability management. The adoption of the principles of business management is important to fully exploit the potentialities of sport as a means of inclusion for the disabled.

In fact, the analysis by Cottingham et al. (2014) showed that sport represents an opportunity for development for disadvantaged communities, like that of the disabled, and that it should be organized and managed precisely in relation to such an opportunity.

In addition, the organized sport is also an efficient strategy to achieve social outcomes for disabled young people. In fact, sports athletes with disabilities in the U.S and in school age have developed a higher level of self-esteem and autonomy than those who do not practice sports (Beyer, Flores & Vargas-Tonsing, 2009). In perfect agreement are the results of the study on sport activities for people with disabilities in Australia, which reaffirmed the level of autonomy reached by athletes for the same disabling condition, sex, age and education level. Moreover, Sotiriadou & Wicker (2014) add the need to propose policies to encourage sport practice in relation to the different forms of disabilities.

Again, Legg & Steadward (2011) show that an event such as the Paralympic Games has created a strong sense of awareness that emerges both from the subjects with disabilities, and in their respect, about the condition and the possibility of achieving success in life through an "Olympic" sporting event. Thus it transcends the concept of disability understood as a limit and it gives the chance to the disabled to be active and productive sports, and consequently, a social and economic resource.

In fact, motor activity managed optimally has always been an element able to improve learning and relational skills of young students.

Confirming the strong relationship among sports, disability and management, the literature has often led to evidence the need for performing management policies, so that they could generate and amplify the benefits that sport can give to the disabled, and consequently to the whole community, both socially and economically (Cottingham et al., 2014; Sotiriadou & Wicker, 2014).

The study of the relationship between sport and disability and all related methodological, didactics and education approaches aimed to developing inclusion, represents the main thematic research of this issue.