

Editorial

THE BIRTH OF AGON, INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SPORT SCIENCES

EL NACIMIENTO DE AGON, REVISTA INTERNACIONAL DE CIENCIAS DEL DEPORTE

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An event does not merely happen. It is preceded by other ones which announce and explain them. So it happens with the new scientific journal which reaches your hands, dear reader.

Sports Sciences have developed rapidly over the last two decades worldwide, achieving a deserved scientific prestige. In Spain this is partly due to the successful process of inclusion of the faculties of sport into the University system. The emergence of international institutions, documentation centres and specific databases have helped to this expansion.

Periodicals are widespread in the field of sport as a means of scientific dissemination of higher quality and impact. Therefore new means of spreading information are needed by Sports Sciences in order to universalize the scientific knowledge that emanates from researchers, as well as to facilitate contact between research groups and serve as a meeting point allowing the emergence of new challenges and approaches.

On the other hand, researchers at the Spanish University are under pressure because they are demanded to get accreditation and consolidation. It increases, even more, the importance of having access to internationally recognized scientific journals so that studies add value to the scientific community and get the necessary visibility.

Undoubtedly, journals in electronic format are getting more and more important compared with the rest of conventional media. Assuming that the future development of academic publications is clearly influenced by the growth of the Internet, every publishing project requires the use of electronic media.

Thus the *International Journal of sports science*. *AGON* has arisen. It is created to serve the common purpose of scientific communication in the field of science and sports on the basis of

autonomy that allows no affiliation to any institution. It will be the publication of the newly constituted *AGON. International Association of Sport Science*, a non-profit association created by three researchers in the field of sport, the teachers Cristina González Millán, Juan José Salinero Martín and Alejandro Viuda-Serrano. They work in different areas of research ranging from recreational physical activity to peak performance training and from research methodology to historical and social aspects of sport, to set up an extensive body of interests that will shape the key goals of this adventure.

I would sum up such purposes as the intention of helping the development of scientific knowledge in the field of Sports Science and promoting dissemination of research in this area, as well as the organization of all kind of cultural, sporting and scientific activities with researchers, journals and associations from around the world.

Topics mentioned above and all those interdisciplinary ones whose focal point is sport and its various theoretical or empirical aspects on the basis of a scientific approach can also find space here. Therefore, works founded on mere hypotheses or controversial statements not backed by scientific evidence have no place. The journal will meet all the scientific criteria required to be part of the chosen number of research publications in Sports Sciences.

We encourage from these pages not only recognized researchers but also young scholars who start their careers to send their contributions. We believe that initiatives such as *AGON* will lead to the day when we stop trying to publish in foreign journals because the quality of Spanish ones is taken for granted.

We wish a long and fruitful life to *AGON*, with that mixture of love and severity parents have for their children, not exempt from that pride

one feels toward what one creates with his or her effort.

Alejandro Viuda-Serrano

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