



<http://dx.doi.org/10.16926/sit.2022.02.02>

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Factors in the development of athletics and the achievements of Olympic sports in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast of the USSR

How to cite [jak cytować]: Baldzhy I., Dolbisheva N., Salenko G., *Factors in the development of athletics and the achievements of Olympic sports in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast of the USSR*, "Sport i Turystyka. Środkowoeuropejskie Czasopismo Naukowe" 2022, vol. 5, no. 2, pp. 29–43.

Czynniki rozwoju lekkoatletyki i osiągnięcia sportów olimpijskich w obwodzie dnipropietrowskim ZSRR

Streszczenie

Sport olimpijski jest ważną częścią kultury fizycznej i ruchu sportowego na poziomie międzynarodowym, krajowym i regionalnym. Osiągnięcia sportowców na igrzyskach olimpijskich są znakiem

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rozpoznawczym kraju i mają ogromne znaczenie dla kształtowania jego wizerunku na arenie międzynarodowej. Głównym celem pracy jest identyfikacja głównych czynników wpływających na rozwój lekkoatletyki w obwodzie dniepropietrowskim.

W obwodzie dniepropietrowskim lekkoatletyka jako sport olimpijski jest liderem zarówno pod względem liczby sportowców uczestniczących w igrzyskach olimpijskich, jak i pod względem liczby medali olimpijskich zdobytych podczas igrzysk olimpijskich w latach 1952–1988. Artykuł analizuje historyczne aspekty rozwoju tego sportu, wskazując główne czynniki decydujące o efektywności treningu wysoko wykwalifikowanych sportowców. Zakres chronologiczny niniejszego opracowania obejmuje jednak szerszy niż wskazany wyżej okres i omawia lata 1922–1991, kiedy Ukraina była częścią ZSRR, a sporty olimpijskie rozwijały się w warunkach ostrej rywalizacji sportowców z 15 republik związkowych.

W tym okresie na arenie międzynarodowej Związek Radziecki miał przewagę w rozwoju sportów olimpijskich. W osiągnięciu tej pozycji szczególne znaczenie miało doświadczenie w szkoleniu sportowców z Ukrainy i innych republik związkowych. Chodziło głównie o jakość kadr trenerskich, racjonalne szkolenie młodzieży oraz odpowiednią infrastrukturę sportową (dostępność obiektów do całorocznego treningu).

Słowa kluczowe: lekkoatletyka, igrzyska olimpijskie, czynniki rozwoju.

Abstract

Olympic Sport is an important part of physical culture and sports movement at the international, national and regional levels. The achievements of athletes at the Olympic Games are the hallmark of the country and are of great importance for the formation of its image in the international arena.

Track-and-field athletics is a leader in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast in the number of athletes participating in the Olympic Games and in the number of Olympic medals won during the Olympic games from 1952 to 1988. The article studies the historical aspects of the development of this sport, which is of significant interest not only for the historiography of the physical culture and sports movement in Ukraine and the region, but also allows us to highlight the main factors that determine the effectiveness of training highly qualified athletes. The chronological scope of this study covers the period from 1922 to 1991, when Ukraine was the part of the USSR and the Olympic sports developed in the conditions of the tough competition among athletes from 15 union republics.

During this period, the Russian Federation had an advantage in the development of Olympic sports, training experience of athletes from Ukraine and other Union Republics was of particular importance. According to this, preparation of Ukrainian and other Union Republic athletes is of great interest.

Keywords: athletics, Olympic Games, development factors.

Introduction

The Dnipropetrovsk Oblast is one of the largest regions of Ukraine, which in the period from 1922 to 1992 developed as part of the USSR. The region has a high level of scientific, technical, economic and cultural potential and is one of the leaders in the development of Olympic sports in Ukraine. The athletes of the region took part in all the Olympic Games since 1952. During this time, they won 26 Olympic medals, including 8 gold, 8 silver and 10 bronze medals in 9 sports.

The most successful sport is track-and-field athletics, in which 11 athletes won 3 Olympic medals during their participation in the Olympic Games.¹

During the period of participation in the Olympic Games, a great historical experience was accumulated in the preparation of highly qualified athletes in track-and-field athletics. In a tough, competitive struggle in the world sports arena such experience can be used both at the regional, national and international levels.

Research methods and problems

One of the problems in Olympic Sports development in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast is the problem of training highly qualified athletes – candidates for the Soviet athletic team. To solve the problems of this study, we used literary sources, which can be divided into three groups.

The first group consists of encyclopedic materials and reference books devoted to the historical aspects of the development of physical culture and sports in Ukraine.

The second group includes archival materials of a legal nature – decisions and resolutions of the Regional Committee for Physical Culture and Sports, regulating the activities of sports and public organizations for the development of athletics in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast. There were also used statistical materials, revealing the dynamics of the development of athletics.

The third group consists of scientific and methodological literature, which characterizes the peculiarities of organizing the training of highly qualified athletes, as well as periodical and local history literature on the history of physical culture and sports, including athletics in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.

Results and discussion

After the October Revolution of 1917, a new state was formed, i.e. the USSR, where Ukraine (Ukrainian SSR) and the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast became its integral part in 1922. During this period, the formation of the Soviet system of physical education and sports begins. For the development of track and field athletics during this period, the fact that this sport was one of the main sports included in the military physical training program and in the physical education programs of all educational institutions was of great importance. At this stage, athletics is developing as one of the most popular sports in the region.

One of the important factors that influenced the development of athletics was that this sport was one of the first in which a training system began to be created. To do this, at the beginning of the 1930s, the athletics specialists of the

¹ *Legkaya atletika: spravochnik*, ed. R.V. Orlov, Fizkultura i sport, Moskva 1983.

Dnepropetrovsk College of Physical Education developed a curriculum for sports instructors. The program included 150 hours of theoretical and practical training for instructors (coaches) in athletics. In addition, athletics instructors B.M. Khlebnikov and A.A. Bereznitsky were sent to the Kharkov Institute of Physical Culture.

An important condition for the development of athletics as a sport was the creation of a regional section for the sport, which was headed by one of the experienced instructors, Serdyukov. The section included the most experienced instructors in track and field athletics, who carried out work on the organizational and methodological support of the educational and training process, conducted seminars on the training of judges, and took part in the organization and conduct of competitions.

During this period, a lot of work was carried out in the Dnepropetrovsk region to create a material and technical base for the development of athletics. In the pre-war years, in addition to sports grounds with athletics tracks, the stadiums Stal, Dynamo, Lokomotiv were built.

All these factors contributed to the fact that athletics in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast was one of the most successful sports in which athletes showed high sports results in all-Ukrainian competitions. Table 1 shows us the best achievements of Dnipropetrovsk athletes, champions of Ukraine from 1924 to 1939.

Table 1. Track and field athletes of Yekaterinoslav Oblast (Dnipropetrovsk Oblast) – champions of Ukraine in the pre-war years

Year of performance	Last name	Discipline	Result
1924	Kalashnikov L.	shot put	9.39 m
1924	Miloslavsky N.	5000 m run	no data
1924	Shumskaya S.	long jump	4.47 m (record of Ukraine)
1927	Busygina N.	long jump	4.87 m
1937	Bozhko G.	800 m run	no data
1937	Murenko I.	1500 m run; 3000 m hurdles	4.00,2 9.47,6
1937	Romantsov A.	3000 m hurdles	10.27,4
1937	Osok G.	high jump	1.75 m
1938	Murenko I.	3000 m hurdles	9.41,8 (record of Ukraine)
1939	Gudzeva V.	long jump	5.01 m

Source: I.V. Baldzhy, *Istorychni ta orhanizatsiino-metodychni osnovy rozvytku olimpiiskoho rukhu na Dnipropetrovshchyni vprodovzh XIX–XXI st.*, thesis for a candidate of science degree in physical education and sports, Dnipro 2019; L.L. Hinchuk, G.I. Mihaylova, *Legkaya atletika v SSSR (sorevnovaniya, dostizheniya, rekordy 1888–1950 gg.)*, Fizkultura i sport, Moskva 1951.

Track-and-field athletes from the Yekaterinoslav-Dnipropetrovsk Oblast took part in all All-Ukrainian Spartakiades, held since 1923, in which track-and-field athletics was a compulsory sport. In the II All-Ukrainian Spartakiade, held in August 1924 in Kharkov, the first places were won by N. Miloslavsky (5000 m run), L. Kalashnikov (shot put) and S. Shumskaya, who became the first athlete in the history of Yekaterinoslav, who set the Ukrainian record in long jump with a result of 4 m 47 cm. According to the results of the competition, S. Shumskaya was included to participate in the Ukrainian national team in the largest competition of the pre-war period - the All-Union Spartakiade in 1928.²

The champions and record holders in the Soviet Union in the pre-war years were: Blinnikov S. – shot put (14.36 m) – 1936; Murenko I.A – 3000 m hurdles (9.41.8 Ukrainian record) – 1938; middle distance run 1500 m (4.00,2) – 1939.³ During this period of time, two Masters of Sports in track-and-field athletics were trained in the region: Murenko Ivan Antonovich (the year of assignment is 1939); Volgina Ekaterina Andreevna (the year of assignment is 1941).

After the Second World War, a new stage in the development of physical culture and sports began and it is associated with the participation of athletes in the Olympic Games. Track-and-field athletics, as an Olympic Sport in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast began its development in 1952 when 4 athletes of the region first took part in the XV Olympic Games in Helsinki as the part of the USSR national track-and-field athletics team. During this period of time, track-and-field athletics was among the 5 priority sports approved by the Sports Committee for the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.

Since the early 1950s, the main attention in the development of track-and-field athletics was devoted to its diffusion to various groups of people. In total, during the period of time 1950-1960, the number of track-and-field athletes increased 4 times and amounted to more than 80,000 people.⁴

One of the most important factors that contributed to the development of track-and-field athletics since the early 1950s was the question of training and retraining of the coaches. An important role in personnel training was played by the Dnipropetrovsk Technical School of Physical Culture, whose subject commission with the participation of the leading coaches and teachers (N. Babets and I. Murenko) developed guidelines for the training process. Seminars on training of the coaches and instructors were held. The regional section in track-and-field

² N.A. Oleynik, Yu.I. Grot, *Istoriya fizicheskoy kultury i sporta na Harkovschine (Lyudi. Godyi. Faktyi. 1874–1950 gg., vol. 1, HDAFK, Harkov 2002. 376 s.*

³ L.L. Hinchuk, G.I. Mihaylova, *Legkaya atletika v SSSR (sorevnovaniya, dostizheniya, rekordyi 1888–1950 gg.), Fizkultura i sport, Moskva 1951.*

⁴ Komitet po fizicheskoy kulture i sportu pri ispolkome oblastnogo soveta deputatov trudyaschihsya. Planyi raboty oblastnogo i rayonnogo komitetov po fizicheskoy kulture i sportu za 1969 g. F. 4789. Op. 1. D. 71. L. 45-60.; Komitet po fizicheskoy kulture i sportu pri ispolkome oblastnogo soveta deputatov trudyaschihsya. Dokladyi i spravki o hode vyipolneniya plana razvitiya fizkulturyi i sporta po sostoyaniyu na 1952 g. F. 4789. Op. 1. D. 19. L. 12, 26, 48.

athletics and the sports and technical commission of the scientific and methodological council of the regional sports committee have played an active role in the improving the skills of coaches since 1952. The topics of the seminars for advanced training of the coaches included the questions related to modern methods of organizing and planning the training process, as well as the introduction of an annual system of training track-and-field athletes.

As a result of work done on training in the first half of the 1950s, a group of qualified coaches was formed in the region, who trained athletes, among whom were such specialists as N. Baturin, P. Galetsky, I. Murenko, A. Shibaev (Dnipropetrovsk); P. Korshun (Dniprodzerzhinsk); I. Sych (Krivoy Rog).⁵

An important factor in the effective training of highly qualified athletes was the logistics of the training process. In the 1950s and 1960s more than 40 stadiums equipped with track-and-field athletics sectors were built in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, in addition, there were 162 football fields with running tracks and 507 specially equipped running tracks in the region. The most modern sports facility for track-and-field athletics during this period of time was the stadium "Meteor", which had been operating since September 1966, and whose equipment corresponded to the Olympic standards.⁶

One of the important factors that contributed to the training of highly qualified athletes was the systematic work on the preparation of a reserve for the national teams of the region in track-and-field athletics in the system of Children's Sports Schools (CSS) and youth sports schools (YSS). 53 track-and-field athletics groups were opened at CSS in Dnipropetrovsk, Dniprodzerzhinsk, Kryvyi Rig, and Novomoskovsk in the first half of the 1950s. A total of 1241 athletes were involved in CSS of the region. One of the best schools in track-and-field athletics not only in the region, but also in Ukraine was CSS founded in 1948 at the Dniprodzerzhinsk metallurgical plant. One of the organizers of the work of this CSS was a well-known specialist P.P. Korshun, who was one of the first coaches in Ukraine, and who introduced an annual system of training athletes at CSS in track-and-field athletics.⁷

The number of children's sports schools (CSS) was constantly increasing in the 1950-60s. In total, 21 branches and 225 groups with a total of 2,970 athletes worked in the CSS system during this period. Track-and-field athletics was the first sport in which specialized children's and youth sports schools began to op-

⁵ Otchet podvedomstvennykh otdeleniy o fizkulturno-sportivnoy rabote (1955 g.). F. 4781. Op. 1. D. 4. L. 71.

⁶ N.H. Dolbysheva, I.V. Baldzhy, H.A. Salenko, *Istorychni peredumovy rozvytku materialno-tekhnichnoho zabezpechennia fizkulturno-sportyvnoho rukhu Dnipropetrovshchyny (1950-ti-1960-ti rr.)*, "Sportyvnyi visnyk Prydniprovia" 2018, №1, pp. 31–37.

⁷ Komitet po fizicheskoy kulturne i sportu pri ispolkome oblastnogo soveta deputatov trudyaschihsya. F. 4789. Op. 1. D. 22. L. 18.

erate in the region. The national team of the region in track-and-field athletics successfully performed at the Spartakiade of schoolchildren. Thus, in 1967, CSS athletes took the 3rd team place in the Spartakiade of schoolchildren. The winner of the USSR championship among schoolchildren in 1968 was L. Soroka.⁸

The analysis of the development of track-and-field athletics as an Olympic sport in the 1950s – 1960s showed that the formation of an effective system for organizing the training of athletes has contributed to the growth of sports results in many types of athletics. During the study period, the results of the participation of track-and-field athletes improved in competitions of different levels. In 1950, Dnipropetrovsk was among the twenty best cities of the country (the 18th place) in the number of the best sports results of the season in the championships of the USSR and took the 3rd place in Ukraine after Kyiv and Kharkiv.⁹

In the 1950s and 1960s, athletes from the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast became USSR champions 10 times, setting 13 records (Table 2).

Table 2. Athletes of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast – record holders of the USSR (1950–1960s)

No	Last name	Organization	Discharge	Result	Discipline	Date of installation
1.	Basalaev G.	“Dynamo”	USSR Master of Sports	1.02.23,0	20 km run	1955
				19 km 252 m	1-hour run	1955
2.	Belyaev I.	“Avantgarde”	USSR International Master of Sports	8.29,6	3000 m hurdles	10.08.1965
3.	Denisenko P.	“Locomotiv”	Honored Master of Sports of the USSR	4,37	pole jump	5.09.1951
				4,42		11.07.1952
				4,44		21.07.1953
				4,46		13.09.1954
4.	Lysenko L.	“Avantgarde”	Honored Master of Sports of the USSR	2.04,3	800 m run	3.07.1960
				2.04,3		7.09.1960
				6.32,6	3 × 800 m run	17.07.1955
				6.27,6		11.09.1955
				6.27,4		9.10.1958
				6.25,8		2.10.1963

Source: I.V. Baldzhy, op. cit.

⁸ Dnepropetrovskiy oblastnoy sovet soyuza sportivnykh obschestv i organizatsiy USSR. Spravki o hode vyipolneniya byuro oblastnogo komiteta KP Ukrainyi ot 11 aprelya 1968 g. *O sostoyanii i merah po dalneyshemu razvitiyu sportivnoy bazyi v oblasti za 1968 g.* F. 4451. Op. 1. D. 451. L. 1–8.

⁹ R.V. Orlov, op. cit.

Such famous athletes as Basalaev G., Belyaev I., Denisenko P., Lysenko L. performed brilliantly at competitions, set records and won medals. They repeatedly climbed the pedestal and brought our country the coveted gold medals.

The famous sportsman of the region P. Denisenko set 3 records in Europe in pole vault. M. Belokurov (relay race 4 × 800 m) and L. Lysenko-Gurevich (800 m race, relay race 3 × 800 m, 5 records) became world record holders (Table 3).

Table 3. World records set by athletes of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast (in 1950–60s)

Last name	Discipline	Result	Place	Date of installation
M. Bilokurov	4 × 800 m	7.27,4	Moscow	12.07.1951.
L. Lisenko-Gurevich	3 × 800 m	6.32,6	Moscow	17.07.1955.
		6.27,6	Moscow	11.09.1955.
		6.27,4	Kiev	9.11.1958.
	800 m	2.04,3	Moscow	3.07.1960.
		2.04,3	Rome	7.09.1960.

Source: L.L. Hinchuk, G.I. Mihaylova, op. cit.

The experience gained by athletes from the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast in major international competitions influenced the preparation of athletes for participation in the Olympic Games. Track and field athletics became the first and the only sport in 1950–60 in which Dnipropetrovsk athletes participated in the Olympic Games (Table 4).

Table 4. Athletes of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast – participants in the Olympic Games (1950–1960s)

№	Olympic Games (year and place)	Last name	Discipline	Result	Taken place
11.	XV Olympic Games, Helsinki, 1952.	Denisenko P.	pole jump	4,40 m	IV
		Marulin F.	3000m hurdles	9.08,4	V
		Redkin P.	hammer throwing	56.55 m	V
		Belokurov N.	1500 m	3.54,2	XI
22.	XVI Olympic Games, Melbourne, 1956.	Grachev K.	400 m	49,4	IV
33.	XVI Olympic Games, Melbourne, 1956.	Lysenko L.	800 m	2.04,3	I (Olympic Games record)
		Matsulevich A.	400 m hurdles	52,9	III
		Grachev K.	400 m	47,6	VI in the ¼ final

Table 4. Athletes of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast... (cont.)

№	Olympic Games (year and place)	Last name	Discipline	Result	Taken place
44.	XVIII Olympic Games, Tokyo, 1964.	Belyaev I.	3000 m hurdles	8.33,8	III
55.	XIX Olympic Games, Mexico City, 1968.	Skomorokhov V.	400 m hurdles	49,1	V
		Volkov Y.	marathon	—	—

Source: I.V. Baldzhy, op. cit.; L.L. Hinchuk, G.I. Mihaylova, op. cit.

The first Olympic Games, in which the USSR national team took part, were held in Helsinki in 1952. An analysis of the participation of track and field athletes from Dnipropetrovsk Oblast in these Olympic Games showed that the USSR national team included 7 strongest athletes from Ukraine, 4 of them were athletes from the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast. Dnipropetrovsk athletes Nikolay Belokurov (1500 m run), Fedor Marulin (3000 m hurdles run), Petr Denisenko (pole vault), Nikolay Redkin (hammer throw) took part in the XV Olympic Games for the first time. The best result was obtained by P. Denisenko, who took the fourth place (pole vault – 4.40 m).

At the next Olympic Games in 1960, in Rome, for the first time in the history of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, L. Lysenko won the Olympic gold medal (800 m run – 2.04.3 m – Olympic Games record) (figure 1).¹⁰

During the period from 1952 to 1968, 11 track and field athletes of the region took part in all the Olympic Games. During this time, they won 1 gold, 2 bronze medals, took two 4th and three 5th places, which influenced the overall team results of the Soviet national team.

In the 1970s and 1980s, a new stage in the development of Olympic sports began, associated with the formation of a centralized system for training highly qualified athletes. In 1970, to organize the training of the strongest athletes of the region, as well as young promising athletes, a school of higher sportsmanship (SHVSM) was opened. In 1972, the school opened 3 groups for athletes in which 67 athletes were engaged, including 1 master of sports of international class, 6 masters of sport, 11 candidates for master of sports and 49 athletes of the 1st category.¹¹

In preparation for the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich, in the region at the Metallurg and Meteor stadiums, specialized training centers for highly qualified

¹⁰ M.O. Bielykh, P.F. Bahachyk, Z.P. Synytskyi, *Lehkoatlety Ukrainy, Zdorovia*, Kyiv 1971; V.H. Savchenko, N.M. Kuzhukin, V.P. Horbenko, V.P. Novykov, V.P. Ruzanov, *Ukrainski lehkoatlety na orbity Olimpiiskoho sportu*, Dnipropetrovsk 2003.

¹¹ Komitet po fizicheskoy kulture i sportu pri ispolkome oblastnogo soveta deputatov trudyaschihsya. F. 4789. Op. 1. D. 267. L. 94.

athletes in athletics were created, as well as good conditions for training sessions. Subsequently, in preparation for the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal, Olympic training support points (OPOP) were formed at these bases, where members of the regional national athletics team trained.¹²



Figure 1. L. Lysenko is the first champion of the XVII Olympic Games in Rome, in 1960, in the history of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast (in the center)

Source: M.O. Bielykh, P.F. Bahachyk, Z.P. Synytskyi, *Lehkoatlety Ukrainy, Zdorovia*, Kyiv 1971; V.H. Savchenko, N.M. Kuzhukin, V.P. Horbenko, V.P. Novykov, V.P. Ruzanov, *Ukrainski lehkoatlety na orbity Olimpiiskoho sportu*, Dnipropetrovsk 2003.

Despite a lot of work on the creation of new centers for training athletes, since the beginning of the 1970s, the results of the participation of track-and-field athletes in the championships of Ukraine and the USSR began to decline. The main factor affecting the effectiveness of track-and-field athletes training was a lack of athletic arenas for the winter training process.

A change in the generation of coaches who had experience in training highly qualified athletes had a negative impact on the development of athletics as an Olympic sport. In the early 1970s, the leading coach in the Youth Sports School, P.I. Korshun, and Honored Coach of Ukraine, I.A. Murenko, who prepared the

¹² Komitet po fizicheskoy kulture i sportu pri ispolkome oblastnogo soveta deputatov trudyaschihsya. F. 4789.Op. 1. D. 188. L. 12.; Komitet po fizicheskoy kulture i sportu pri ispolkome oblastnogo soveta deputatov trudyaschihsya. F. 4789.Op. 1. D. 294. L. 46.

champion of the 1960 Olympic Games, L. Lysenko, and the bronze medalist of the 1964 Olympic Games, I. Belyaev, finished their coaching activity. The influence of the above factors led to the fact that until 1988, athletes from the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast did not take part in the Olympic Games.

In the first half of the 1970s, the sports leadership of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast began to pay great attention to the development of athletics and the training of highly qualified athletes. During this period, the material and technical base was significantly strengthened. In 1973, an athletics arena was built in Dnipropetrovsk (figure 3), in 1975, a specialized athletics hall was commissioned in the city of Kamenskoye. In Nikopol, a stadium was built with rubber-bitumen tracks and modern athletics sectors, an indoor running track in the Children's and Youth Sports School No. 3 (Dnipropetrovsk). In the early 1980s, the Metallurg stadium was re-equipped in Dnipropetrovsk in accordance with the modern requirements for training highly qualified athletes.¹³

In the 1980s, the education of coaches improved significantly. From 1980 to 1990, the number of coaches increased from 78 to 223, respectively. During this period, the training of qualified athletes was carried out by honored coaches of Ukraine G.V. Zhiltsov, M.V. Belokurov, A.I. Ornandzhi, V.F. Svarichevskaya, V. A. Sorochan, L. I. Lysenko.¹⁴

An important role in the development of athletics as an Olympic sport in the 1980s was played by the improvement of the system of children and youth sports in the preparation of the reserve of the combined teams of the region. Within 10 years, from 1980 to 1990, the number of athletics departments increased from 115 to 225 and the number of athletes engaged from 2000 to 7199 athletes. During this period, 2 specialized children's and youth sports schools of the Olympic reserve were opened in the region, employing the leading coaches of the region, honored coaches of Ukraine A.I. Ornandzhi, V.F. Svarichevskaya, V.A. Sorochan. Pupils of the school, N. Musienko, R. Makhova, S. Laevsky in different years were candidates for the USSR national athletics teams.¹⁵ The work carried out to create centers for Olympic training, strengthen the material and technical base, improve the training of coaches, and improve the system of children and youth sports in the 1980s contributed to a significant improvement in sports results. During this period, excellent sports results in the all-Union and international arena were obtained by: R. Makhova – five-time USSR champion

¹³ O. Liapin, *Slavoiu uvinchanyi. Dniprodzerzhynskomu koledzhu fizychnoho vykhovannia – 80!* Dokumentalne vydannia, IMA – pres, Dnipropetrovsk 2010; Komitet po fizicheskoy kulture i sportu pri ispolkome oblastnogo soveta deputatov trudyaschihsya. F. 4789. Op. 1. D. 188. L. 54–56.

¹⁴ Komitet po fizicheskoy kulture i sportu pri ispolkome oblastnogo soveta deputatov trudyaschihsya. F. 4789. Op. 1. D. 657. L. 2–4.

¹⁵ I.V. Baldzhy, op. cit.

in 100 m and 200 m, World record holder in 4 × 200 m relay race, a candidate for the Olympic track and field team to participate in the 1980 Olympic Games, N. Musienko – three-time European champion, European and Ukrainian record holder in the long jump, USSR champion 1982, S. Laevsky – three-time European champion, five-time USSR champion in long jump, O. Tverhokhleb – champion of Europe and the USSR, participant of the 1992 Olympic Games in 400 m hurdles.¹⁶

Conclusions

Track and field athletics as an Olympic sport in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast of the Ukrainian SSR was an important part of the cultural and sports movement. This sport most successfully developed in 1950-1960, when 11 track and field athletes in the region took part in all the Olympic Games of this period and won 1 gold and 2 bronze medals. The main factors contributing to the preparation of highly qualified athletes and of candidates for the USSR national athletics teams were: development of track and field athletics as a sport for all. In 1970–80, there was a decrease in the sports results of athletes in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, during this period the athletes of the region were not included in the national teams of the USSR and did not take part in the Olympic Games. In our opinion, the main reasons that had a negative impact on the effectiveness of training athletes for the national teams of the USSR were, first of all, the lack of necessary conditions for organizing the training process in the winter period, as well as the change in generations of coaches experienced in training highly qualified athletes.

Creation of material and technical conditions corresponding to the requirements for the training of highly qualified athletes should be combined with the presence of coaches with experience in training high-class athletes. In the context of ever-growing competition in the world sports arena, a comprehensive consideration of all factors affecting the effectiveness of training highly qualified athletes is of particular importance.

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¹⁶ V.M. Platonov, *Entsyklopediia olimpiiskoho sportu Ukrainy*, Olimpiiska literatura, Kyiv 2005.

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DEKLARACJA BRAKU KONFLIKTU INTERESÓW

Autorki deklarują brak potencjalnych konfliktów interesów w odniesieniu do badań, autorstwa i/lub publikacji artykułu *Factors in the development of athletics and the achievements of Olympic sports in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast of the USSR*.

FINANSOWANIE

Autorki nie otrzymały żadnego wsparcia finansowego w zakresie badań, autorstwa i/lub publikacji artykułu *Factors in the development of athletics and the achievements of Olympic sports in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast of the USSR*.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS

The authors declared no potential conflicts of interests with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of the article *Factors in the development of athletics and the achievements of Olympic sports in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast of the USSR*.

FUNDING

The authors received no financial support for the research, authorship, and/or publication of the article *Factors in the development of athletics and the achievements of Olympic sports in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast of the USSR*.
