

# **Sport Psychology in Europe**

## **FEPSAC - An Organisational Platform and a Scientific Meeting Point**

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Documenting the history of any organisation or event is a delicate and demanding task. The writing of history always contains a subjective element, due in part to the impossibility of encompassing all events, discussions and other factors, which have or may have had either a major or minor influence on the decisions and actions taken. We are very honoured to have been asked to document the history of FEPSAC and feel very humble towards the task. We have checked the facts and statements we present with the aim of providing a history which, to the very best of our knowledge, is accurate and reliable to the extent this can be attained.

The two editors of this book have been active within the Managing Council during all the years, Guido Schilling from 1969 to 1983 and Erwin Apitzsch from 1979 to 2003. The outline of the book's contents was approved by the Managing Council before our task of soliciting contributors and editing the book began. Appropriate persons were then invited to contribute with articles intended to deal with the most important facts and events in the history of FEPSAC. Some of those who were contacted accepted, others had to decline. The present book is the result, which we hope will give the reader an adequate and reliable picture of what has happened in the past and an understanding of the processes, which have resulted in the present situation.

The structure of the book and the ideas it embodies aim at providing the reader with a report on sport psychology in Europe. What is the aim of sport psychology? Different milestones in the history of FEPSAC as taken up by Erwin Apitzsch and Guido Schilling and the topics discussed at the European Congresses of sport psychology as reported by Roland Seiler are highlighted. A historical review of the history of sport psychology is also provided by Paul Kunath. The question of what people do in sport psychology both as a science (Seiler) and as a profession (Paul Wylleman and Jarmo Liukkonen) is also taken up. Special attention is directed as well at educational programmes in sport and exercise psychology (Yves Vanden Auweele). The last chapter of the book considers perspectives for the future (Reinhard Stelter). The present book also provides a personal platform for all FEPSAC Presidents and, as an outsider, Lennart Johansson, the President of the European Football Federation (UEFA), for examining sport psychology both as it has been in the past and as it can be expected to be in the future

Enclosed in the appendix are the seven Position Statements of FEPSAC thus far, the names of the members of the Managing Council and a general membership list as of 2003. A user's manual, listing important abbreviations is also included.

FEPSAC Fédération Européenne de Psychologie des Sports et des Activités Corporelles FEPSAC

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