

The Difference Between the Military sport and Sport in ht Army

Sen. Col. Depei Liu (Chian)

The motto of the International Military Sports Council is "Friendship through Sport". Sport provides the basis and prerequisite for the existence of CISM. In the distribution of the events of CSIM, the military sports events occupy the great majority, which primarily differ form that of OIC. The qualifications of participant, of course, is another difference between them, that is to say, military athletes can participate in the Olympic Games, and yet non-military athletes are not present at the Military Sport Games.

What is the meaning of military sport?

Military sport, I think, has at least two characteristics as follows: Firstly, the techniques of all military sports events are linked obviously and directly with the combat skills soldiers mastered. Secondly, except for soldiers, few people often practice these sports. Accordingly, the concept of military sport may be defined as: Military sport is a kind of special sport from taking a series of physical training closely associated with the combat skills as major contents, aiming at the achieving the security of national Defence and the preparation of war, improving completely the fighting capacity of the main combat body. However, the other disciplines of CISM such a track and field, football, basketball, volleyball, cycling etc don't belong to the field of military sports, because they have not the characteristics of military sport. These disciplines, not identical with directly functional military sports disciplines such as shooting, parachuting, military

pentathlon etc, play an indirect role on the improvement of soldiers' fighting capacity.

In reality, the disciplines practiced in the army are also divided into two parts, one military sports, the other sports. That is the case in China. But the meaning of the latter, sports developed in the army, is not completely equal to that of sports popular in the society. The difference between them is that the behaviors of soldiers taking part in sports are not individually random, but organized. Therefore, based on the above difference, we defined sports developed in the army as non-military sport.

In the theoretical research, for one thing, we should make out the concept of military sport, and for another, we should encourage people to use another concept sport in the army or army sport. The reason is that army sport makes us distinguish between sports practiced by soldiers and sports practiced by other people of society.