

ABSTRACT

The aim of this thesis is to cover Czechoslovak sport during the period of Communism and to point out the biggest cases of political intervention. In the first part it concentrates on the official sport structure in Czechoslovakia and describes sport as a political phenomenon, hence the political interventions in some of the sporting events and lives of some of the athletes. The thesis will describe some of the individual stories of athletes being persecuted or used in the communist propaganda. In the final part I explain how the athletes adapted to these conditions or how some of them even tried to stand up the regime.

KEYWORDS

Czechoslovak athletes

Communist era

Czechoslovak Union of PE and Sport

persecution in sport

state propaganda

Czechoslovak Olympic Committee