

Abstract

Title: Comparison of management of national youth centres in table tennis in the Czech Republic

Objectives: The main objective of this thesis is based on the information obtained and using professional methods to develop proposals for the implementation and improvement of the management of youth table tennis centres in the Czech Republic in Prague and Havířov.

Methods: In order to achieve the stated objective, a qualitative method was used in the form of semi-structured interviews with the management, players and coaches of both RCMs. This method was supported by my several years of personal observation of the training process in RCM Prague. In addition, the methods of comparison and SWOT analysis were used to enable a detailed comparison and identification of key strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of both centres.

Results: This thesis has shown that both centres have specific strengths and challenges. RCM Prague benefits from a convenient location in the capital city with good transport links and proximity to the headquarters of the Czech Table Tennis Association but suffers from a lack of coaching capacity and modern facilities. On the other hand, the RCM Havířov has the largest and most modern hall in the Czech Republic, comprehensive infrastructure and the possibility to host international tournaments, but faces problems with geographical and social isolation. Both centres have opportunities for further development, especially in the area of infrastructure modernisation and training methods, and face threats such as financial instability and talent drain.

Keywords: table tennis, managerial activities, strategy, qualitative research, comparison