Abstract

The subject of this work is the beginning of women's ice hockey in Kladno, Czech Republic. This study deals with the continuity of the team in its early years from 1986 to 1992. The author uses Clifford Geertz interpretative approach to culture and oral history as a method. The rise of Kladno women's hockey club is shown in the context of women's hockey history in the World and Czechoslovakia. The story of the club is based on analysis and interpretation of interviews which were led with seven hockey players from the first generation. The work shows everyday life of hockey players in Kladno and also shows the dynamic of the team life in late eighties. The whole story is situated in social and sport life in Kladno, where ice hockey was very popular game and entertainment. As a crucial factors, which helped the preservation of the club after it was abandoned by its founders, were identified firstly the transition of the team from "friendship first" club to the team where it is mostly important "what happened on the ice" secondly the ability of the first hockey players to accept new joiners. The paper explains founding of the tradition of one sport club in former Czechoslovakia.