

RUSSIAN SUCCESS STORY

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Sports produce more losers. It doesn't mean that losing a medal in so called Olympics which decides the fastest man on earth or the best athlete on earth by just a micro second or a minute error, confirms your athletes inability but It's just to say that very few on this earth are capable of giving Elite sports performance which are unmatched and unbelievable. Any competition will give away only three medals whereas the competitors are Enormous, hence it can be said that quantity participation will luck to a quality product supported by hard work of many personalities, sparing their precious time. Hence winning medal in sports is not a bread bite, it's so tough as time and eternity, but at the same time involving oneself in sports or physical activity is like earning few years of health and prosperity.

Introduction:

Before 1917 Russia was known to be "Giant with feet of clay", but then it occupied an area of 22 squares million kilometers and had a population of high on 170 million. The nation could boast no more than a thousand sports clubs with approximately 45,000 members, coming in the main form the privileged classes. Russian industrial output was eight times less than that of U.S.A., some 3.5 times less than that of Germany, three times less than that of Great Britain and 1.5 times less than that of France. Present day (i.e. in 1987) state plan to involve almost 100 million people, over a third of the population, in sporting activities.

Health is the Principal Record:

In investing substantial sums of money in sports and recreation, the state certainly does not remain out of pocket. Regular exercise and training help to fortify the health of grownups and children alike, make their leisure time more interesting and fruitful, their work more productive and give them an active and creative life.

Billions for the Millions:

Quite a number of foreign journalists have commented that soviet sports are the privilege of the millions and they are perfectly correct.

More than 87 million people are regularly engaged in sports in the Soviet Union, they are aided by some 350,000 full-time experts- coaches, instructors and specialists of one sort or another. At the services of all sports Enthusiasts are up-to-date amenities whose overall value is virtually seven billion rubles. Who finances soviet sport? What are the sources of its material security?

Literally billions of rubles are needed to involve millions of people in regular active sport. We have to bear in mind that every sports buff pays 30 kopecks a year in membership fees to sports clubs and receives in exchange services worth between 300 and 450 rubles.

State budget expenditure on health and physical culture in 1986 amounted to some 20 billion rubles. Yet this figure alone does not reflect the aggregate state contribution to promoting physical culture and sports. After all it does not cover PT in schools, colleges and universities, which is financed out of the education section of the state budget.

Social security payments- which is just another budget item- for maintaining children's and young people's sports schools also amount to many millions of rubles. Furthermore, most industrial undertaking, collective and state farms use their own funds to pay sports facilities, recreation officers and some 50,000 specialists responsible for keep-fit exercises and other physical health work.

Public organizations also make a sizeable contribution to sports development. The trade unions, for example, allocated almost a billion rubles in 1986 to promoting sport and recreation. These funds were put at the disposal of the various voluntary sports society councils. Moreover, the voluntary sports societies dispose of their own funds obtained from membership dues, entrance fees to various sports events and partly out of the profits made by their own production facilities.

Since 1970 the state lotteries "Sportloto" and "Sprints" have been running regularly, and the profits thus earned are used for construction of sports facilities, for reconstruction and general upkeep of sports buildings, and expanding sporting amenities generally. Dozens of sports complexes, stadiums and sporting grounds have been built in soviet towns and villages with money brought in by the lotteries. And hundreds of thousands of people attend the sports clubs 7 physical fitness groups that have opened in those sports centers.

Moscovites for example, are well acquainted with palace of sport belonging to the Lenin Komsomolsk Moscow car works, its artificial ice skating rink is used by athletes and the general public of all ages, from tiny tots to old age pensioners. But as a matter of fact, the " Sportloto" and " Sprint" sports lotteries contributed 600,000 rubles to building the palace of sports- i.e. a third of its total cost. The cash received from sports enthusiasts' for hiring sporting equipment and renting facilities also constitutes some small addition to the total budget for bettering sports facilities.

There are other ways of financing sports and recreation and they are on the increase. In the vocational schools for skilled worker, for example, part of the money earned by the students during their practical work goes to improve mass sports and outdoor recreation. Actually this sum is now in excess of 20 million rubles.

Children's Health is society Health:

The Physical health of children is a vital aspect of soviet state policy.

The total school year envisages seventy hours of PT in each from although the overall amount of PT and games depends on age. The primary school (7-10) devotes 45 minutes period to basic

gymnastics, team games, swimming and skiing. Athletics is introduced at the ages of 11 and 12. As children grow older lessons become more intricate and the requirements likewise. Far more stringent demand are made on pupils of the senior classes, from 13 to 17, after all, many such students take part in both individual and team contests at various levels of proficiency.

Besides attending PT lessons, each pupil must participate in competitions at least once every two months. During the summer holidays compulsory training continues in the young pioneer camps (for 9-15 year olds) which particularly cultivate open-air exercises and hiking.

In addition to the PT lessons, many school children- roughly nine out of ten in the 12-17 age range- attend various. Sports clubs. There is an extensive network of places and houses of young pioneers, clubs, hiking lodges, stadiums for children in town and country. All such Sports amenities are equipped with appropriate sports facilities and are staffed by specialist coaches to arrange sports competitions, matches and festivals.

All types of soviet schools have sports groups under the supervision of teachers or professional coaches, and each group consists of children of the same age and roughly equivalent physical ability. They meet no less than twice a week.

For young people between 13 and 18 there are over 8,000 sports schools where enthusiasts may train in any Olympic sports. In addition they can attend sports schools specializing in gymnastics, swimming figure skating or tennis. These take children from the age of eight. While some schools specialize in a single sport, other provides training in two or three.

Children register for the sports schools at the start of the school year. In about half such schools youngsters are accepted if they show promise and inclination in particular sports, as measured by tests. The rest of the schools accept casual sports enthusiasts irrespective of ability. Each school on average takes between 50 and 200 school children, and training course lasts five years.

Much of Soviet sport is run by the voluntary sport societies which have their own stadiums, swimming pools and skating- rinks. Of late, however, district sports clubs have grown in popularity. In the last few years alone some 9,000 sports and physical fitness clubs have sprung up for young people at places of residence and more than 10,000 football pitches and ice-hockey rinks, 60,000 basic playing grounds have been built and over 30,000 backyard teams and sports clubs have come into existence.

The competitions run by the Komsomol central committee have quickly won enormous popularity among youngsters. More than 30 million boys-girls take part annually in such contests. The time is expected when many of them will take an active part in the sporting affairs of the country at an even higher level.

“Run” For your Life:

“Some two thousand years ago the Roman Poet Hoarse, Uttered the following words of wisdom, “if you don’t run you’re fit, you’ll run when you’re sick”. And in Ancient Hellas a wall inscription tells us, “If you wish to be strong run, if you wish to be handsome, run, if you wish to be wise, run”

SPORTS AROUND THE REPUBLICS

The Soviet Union is justly referred to as a country where no backward provincial areas can be found with respect to sport. In fact, a physical fitness program for the Entire adult population developed for many years ahead has turned the country into a mammoth sports- ground of twenty-two million four hundred thousand square kilometers where almost 90 million people take part in physical fitness and sports activities. Figuratively, all fifteen republics that constituted the Soviet Union presented their “Certificates” of good health. Hope that the information presented below will give some idea of the state and development of the physical fitness and sports movements in the republics, many of which were once backward outlying areas of Tsarist Russia.

THE RUSSIAN SOVIET FEDERATIVE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(RUSSIAN FEDERATION)

Founded on October 25 (November 7), 1917, it is the biggest Union Republic in area, population and economic potential. Area: Over 17 million sq.km; population: over 130 million capital: Moscow.

Forty- two million, 400 thousand people regularly engage in physical fitness and sports programs in the Russian Federation. They are organized into physical fitness collective (groups, teams and clubs at places of work or residence) of which there are over 130 thousand. Annually, some 15 million people receive GTO (Ready for labor and defense) badges, the basic physical fitness level certificates; over 14 million attain mass sports ranking; including 167 thousand with first ranking; about 20 thousand qualify for candidate master of sports and over four thousand for master of sports titles.

About 170 thousand people work in the realm of sports. Four-fifths of them have specialized higher or secondary educations. Their task is to help the population at large organize physical fitness and sports activities. In addition, four million 306 thousand PT instructor, trainers, and Coaches work on a voluntary basis.

Those who go in for physical fitness and sport in the Russian Federation have at their disposal some 2,000 stadiums, 40,710 gyms, almost 1,400 swimming pools, 4,000 skiing centers, 16,000 shooting ranges and galleries, 55,000 basketball and 109,000 volleyball courts, and 517,000 Football pitches.

Regional, territorial, and republic competitions in national sports- lifting of weights, various national styles of wrestling, dog-sledge and reindeer-sledge races etc- are regularly staged in the federation.

Almost 8.5 million children take part in track and field events connected with the starts of the hopeful campaign, some two million compete for the prize of the leather ball club, more than 1.5 million are members of the gold puck club, and half a million, the white rook club.

THE UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(THE UKRAINE)

Founded on December 25, 1917; joined the USSR on December 30, 1922. Area: over 600 thousand sq.km; Population: more than 50 million. Capital: Kiev

More than 17 million people engage in sport or physical fitness activities in the Ukraine, 11 million of who belong to sports clubs. Every year, almost seven million people receive their GTO badges, the basic physical fitness level certificates; more than six million attain mass sports rankings, including 70 thousand who win first rankings and some two thousand who qualify for the master of sports title.

More than 60 thousand people are employed full time in making physical fitness and sport part of people's everyday lives. There are also over two million volunteer PT instructors, trainers and coaches. One million 725 thousand people work as volunteer referees and umpires.

Over 900 stadiums, 14,000 gyms, 300 indoor swimming pools, and tens of thousands of sports and playing fields are placed at the disposal of sports minded population of the Ukraine.

Some six million children and teenagers participate in mass sporting events. Competitions under the motto "Every member of the family on his mark!" are regularly held in almost 300 cities and towns, and 500 rural districts of the Republic, drawing over 260 thousand participants.

THE BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(BYELORUSSIA)

FOUNDED ON January 1, 1919; joined the USSR on December 30, 1922. Area: Over 207,000 Sq.km. populations: about 10 million. Capital: Minsk.

Three million 200 thousand individuals take part in sports and physical fitness activities here. Every year over a million of them attain mass sports rankings, and more than 400 qualify for the master of sport title.

Twenty-eight physical fitness centers, 259 physical fitness centers, 259 physical fitness and sports clubs, and 238 jogging clubs function at places of residence.

Some 14,000 full-time employees work in the area of sport. Byelorussia's colleges and specialized secondary schools graduate over 1,000 specialists annually. Eight hundred thousand voluntary PT instructors devote their free time to physical fitness and sport. There are 144 stadiums in the Republic, 94 swimming pools, 3,250 gyms, nine indoor track and field arenas, and 50 thousand playing- fields. Such large sport facilities as an indoor track and field arena with stands for 2,500 spectators in Gomel or the sports complex of the swimming pool, and five gyms have been built recently.

THE UZBEK SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (UZBEKISTAN)

Founded on October 27,1924,it is the fourth largest Union Republic in population. Area: about 450,000 sq.km; population: over 14 million. Capital: Tashkent.

About six million people regularly engage in physical fitness programs and sport in Uzbekistan. Every year almost two million receive GTO badges, the basic physical fitness level certificates. About one million 820 thousand athletes attain mass sports ranking, including almost 19 thousand who become holders of the first ranking; about 5,000 qualify for the title of candidate master of sport and more than 300 for master of sport.

There are 175 stadiums in the Republic, 3,000 gyms,50 swimming pools, 2,400 shooting ranges and galleries, and about 40,000 football pitches and sports grounds.

National sports, especially kurash wrestling and equestrian games are particularly popular here.

Over 20,000 sports specialists, mostly with specialized educations, and 642 thousand volunteer PT instructors work with almost 12,000 physical fitness and sports collectives. Daily exercises at places of work have become a regular feature at more than 4,000 enterprises, educational establishments, and institutions.

THE KAZAKH SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (KAZAKHASTAN)

Founded on August 26, 1920, initially as an Autonomous Republic of the Russian Federation, it was raised to the status of a Union Republic of the USSR on December 5, 1936.Second largest in area and third in population. Area: over two million 717 thousand sq.km; population: more than 15 million. Capital: Alma-Ata.

More than 5.5 million people have made physical fitness and sports activities a regular pastime. Every year, some two million people from people from seven to sixty receive their basic fitness level certificates GTO bages, and over a million and a half athletes attain mass sports ranking, including 28 thousand for the first ranking. About four thousand quality for the candidate master of sport title and some 400 become full-fledged masters.

Almost 23,000 full time trainers, coaches and other sports personnel and over 550 thousand volunteer PT instructors help the population take its first steps in physical fitness and sport.

Mass competitions for children and teenagers are organized in the Republic every year that draw about 4.5 million participants. One million 800 thousand school children take part in the starts of the Hopefuls campaign, more than 320 thousand boys vie for the prize of the leather ball club tournaments of the White Rook Club, and 300 thousand take part in tournaments of the Wonder Draughts Club.

The athletes of Kazakhstan have at their disposal more than 130 stadiums, 4,870 gyms, 100 swimming pools, 8,140 sports grounds, and 1,940 shooting ranges and galleries.

The calendar of sports events in the Republic included competitions in national sports such as wrestling, equestrian games, archery, falconry and hunting with golden eagles.

THE GEORGIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (GEORGIA)

FOUNDED ON February 25, 1921, it joined the USSR along with other republic of the Transcaucasia Federation on December 30, 1922, and on December 5, 1936, it became a Union Republic of the USSR. Area: over 69,000 Sq.km; Population: about five million. Capital: Tbilisi.

Physical fitness and sport have become part of everyday life for one million 795 thousand people or more than a third of Georgia's population. These people are organized into more than 7,100 physical fitness collectives. Every year 580 thousand earn GTO badges; half a million attain mass sports rankings, including 7,500 holders of the first ranking; 1,600 qualify for the title of candidate master of sports, and over 300 are rated as masters of sport.

In recent years, new sports facilities have been commissioned, including the reconstructed Dynamo stadium and aquatic sports complex in Tbilisi, indoor tennis-courts and training camps at Alakhadzy and Eshera. At present there are over 80 stadiums in the republic, 1,400 gyms, 70 swimming pools, 2,500 basketball courts, 3,700 volleyball courts and 870 handball courts, 1,600 football pitches and 270 shooting ranges and galleries.

Georgians villagers are ardent lovers of national sports such as wrestling, a unique ball game, and equestrian games including throwing a spear at a target at a gallop archery at a gallop, mounted polo, and trick riding.

More than 1,900 trainers and coaches and 22,000 volunteer PT instructors help people meet their physical fitness and sporting needs.

THE AZERBAIJAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

(AZERBAIJAN) founded on April 28, 1920, it joined the USSR along with republics of the Transcaucasia Federation on December 30, 1922, and on December 5, 1936, it became a Union Republic of the USSR. Area: 86,000 sq.km; population: about six million. Capital: Baku.

Two million 220 thousand people engage in physical fitness programs and sport with more than 7,500 collectives. Every year 670 thousand receive GTO badges, about 450 thousand attain mass

sports rankings, including more than 4,700 who are given the first ranking; annually, over 900 athletes qualify for the title of candidate master of sport and about 100 for master of sport.

More than 11,000 people work fulltime in physical fitness and sport, almost 10,000 of whom have a higher or specialized education. In addition, there are about 170 thousand volunteer trainer and PT instructors.

The population of the Republic has at its disposal more than 60 stadiums, about 8,000 outdoor sports facilities, 199 shooting ranges and galleries, 26 swimming pools, 1,150 gyms, and 837 multi-purpose sports grounds at schools and places of residence. In addition, there are various clubs attached to places of residence 67 physical fitness and sports clubs for adults, over 90 such clubs for children and teenagers, and 120 jogging clubs. Polo. Archery, fencing with cornel sticks to the accompaniment of folk instruments, and gulesh wrestling in particularly have been very popular in Azerbaijan since olden times.

Sixty two sports and recreation camps for children are organized in summer. Every year 125 thousand boys take part in tournaments vying for prizes instituted by the Leather Ball Club, 380 thousand school children compete in the Young-Pioneer friendship quadrathlon, and over 812 thousand in starts of the Hopefuls. Kiddie's games draw about 40 thousand children of preschool age.

THE LITHUANIAM SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (LITHUANIA)

Founded on July 21, 1904, it became a Union Republic of the USSR on August 3, 1940. Area: Over 65,000 Sq.km. populations: exceeds three million. Capital: Vilnius.

One million 379 thousand people regularly engage in physical fitness programs and sport in the Republic. Every year about 590 thousand of this number meet sports standards for the GTO program and more than 550 thousand attain mass sports rankings. Some 8,800 achieve first rankings and candidate. Master of sport and some 230 are honored with the title of master of sport.

There are 4,700 full-time physical fitness and sports staffers in the Republic, most of whom have a specialized education, as well as 205 thousand volunteer PT instructors.

Sporting facilities include 36 stadiums, eight indoor track and field arenas, nine rowing centers, 35 swimming pools, 456 shooting ranges and galleries, 885 gyms, and 4,123 playing fields. Not long ago, a sports palace in Vilnius, an indoor swimming pool in Altus, and a sports center of the physical education Institute in Kaunas were commissioned.

THE MOLDAVIN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (MOLDAVIA)

Founded on October 12, 1924 as an Autonomous Republic of the Ukraine, it became a Union Republic on August 2, 1940. Area: Over 33,000 Sq.km. populations: about four million. Capital: Kishinev.

Over one million 380 thousand people regularly engage in physical fitness and sport here in almost 4,000 sports groups and clubs. Every year more than 460,000 master the GTO program standards and 390,000 receive mass sports rankings. Annually, 4,500 join the ranks of first ranked sportsmen and candidate masters of sport, and more than 20 qualify for master of sport.

The Republic's population has at its disposal 67 stadiums, 28 swimming pools, 1,164 gyms, 784 shooting ranges galleries, over 1,000 football pitches and more than 7,000 playgrounds.

Over 5,000 sports personnel, three-quarters of whom have a specialized education, pass their experience on to fitness enthusiasts.

About one million 190 thousand people belonging to 2,760 sports groups, teams and clubs regularly engage in physical fitness activities and sports, play national games, of go in for hiking, camping, hunting and fishing in the Republic. Every year some 365 thousand people meet GTO standards, more than 280 thousand receive mass sport ranking, including 3,000 first rankings. The title of candidate master of sport is awarded to 400 athletes, and Master of sport to 80.

Among the Republic's sport facilities are 24 stadiums, 26 swimming pools, 267 shooting ranges and galleries, 808 gyms, 3,558 volleyball and 2,375 basketball courts, 905 football pitches, and 24 sports clubs.

Horse-racing, wrestling on horseback, wrestling with a sash, and shooting at targets while galloping are the most popular national sports in the Republic.

Competitions in various sports events draw an increasing number of children and young people every year. About 340 thousand young athletes take part in the starts of the Hopefuls campaign and 68 thousand children vie for prizes instituted by such clubs as the Leather Ball, Little Ear of Wheat, Youth, and Hope.

THE TAJIK SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (TAJIKISTAN)

Founded on October 14, 1924 as an Autonomous Republic within Uzbekistan; it was reorganized into a Union Republic of the USSR on October 16, 1929. Area over 143,000 sq.km; Population: about 4, 000, 000. Capital: Dushanbe.

One million 415 thousand people who belong to 3,768 sports groups and clubs regularly take part in physical fitness and sporting activities in the Republic. Every year, over 600 people qualify for the titles of candidate master of sport and about 100 for master of sport.

5,680 full-time sports personnel, the overwhelming majority of whom have specialized secondary or higher education, assist the populace with physical fitness and sports programs.

Over 150 PT instructors have been honored with the title of Merited Coach of the Republic. In addition there are over 90,000 Thousands of young people and adults take up the national form of wrestling that is very popular in Moldavia.

Particular attention is paid to the physical education of the younger generation. More than 600,000 school-children engage in physical fitness programs, in starts, and compete for prizes instituted by the Leather Ball Club, the White Rook Club, and Merry Dolphin Club.

THE LATVIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (LATIVA)

Founded on July 21, 1940, it joined the USSR on August 5, 1940. Area: over 63,000 sq.km; Population: more than 2,500,000. Capital: Riga

Over 920 thousand people who regularly engage in physical fitness and sports are organized into more than 2,840 sports groups and clubs. Every year more than 360 thousand people earn GTO badges and 370 thousand become rated sportsman; over 4,200 athletes receive first rankings, more than 370 qualify for candidate Master of Sports and 180 for Master of Sport. Almost 4,000 full-time sport staffers, 2,567 of whom have a higher education in physical training, help people get involved in the physical fitness and sports movement. In addition to this number, there are 86,000 volunteer PT instructors and 80,000 referees.

The republic's sports facilities include 36 stadiums, 1,166 volleyball, 678 basketball and 213 handball courts, 320 football pitches, 50 track and field arenas, 89 ice hockey rinks, and 28 swimming pools. In addition, there are 63 physical culture and sports clubs at places of residence with a membership of 61,000.

53,000 children study at 90 specialized sports schools where 40 different sports are taught, while over 27,000 children and youngsters attend 1,457 beginners groups.

THE KIRGHIZ SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (KIRGHIZIA)

Founded on October 14, 1924, as an autonomous region of the Russian federation, it was reorganized into a Union Republic of the USSR on December 5, 1936. Area: About 200,000 Sq.km. Populations: over 3,000,000. Capital: volunteer PT instructors and trainers working actively in physical fitness and sport.

The Republic sports facilities include 33 stadiums, 2,000 Basketball and 3,345 Volleyball courts, 936 Football pitches, 673 gyms, 165 shooting ranges and galleries, and 33 Swimming pools. Over the past few years, large sports complexes have been built: an Olympic rowing centre in Dushanbe, an Alpine skiing complex with lifts and a hotel.

National Wrestling chavgobozi- an ancient game akin to field Hockey- tight-rope walking, and running competitions are quite popular.

Tajikistan is a major Soviet mountaineering centre; for it is here that the country's highest peaks are found, including about one hundred peaks higher than, 6,000 meters. So naturally, there are many mountaineering camps in the area.

THE ARMENIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (ARMENIA)

Founded on November 29, 1920, it joined the USSR along with other republics of the Transcaucasia Federation on December 30, 1922. Its status changed on December 5, 1936, when it became a Union Republic. Area: About 30,000 Sq.km. populations: over 2.5 million. Capital: Yerevan.

Here, 994 thousand people regularly engage in physical fitness programs and sport. They belong to 3,490 sports groups, clubs and physical fitness teams. Every year a quarter of a million people measure up to mass sports standards(GTO), about 3.5 thousand receive first rankings, and over 500 qualify for candidate Master of sports, and more than 100 for master of sport.

There are 27 stadiums in the Republic, 1,277 gyms, 71 Swimming pools, 713 Basketball, 824 Volleyball and 208 Handball courts, 230 Football pitches, 25 Tennis-courts, 111 Shooting ranges and galleries, and 116 Multi-purpose sports grounds.

National Wrestling, ball games (on foot or horseback), and equestrian games are very popular among the Armenians.

Children have the opportunity to enter one of 159 specialized sports schools. About half a million children and young people take part in various sports competitions annually.

THE TURKMEN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (TURKMENIA)

Found as Turkmen Region of the Turkestan Autonomous Republic on August 7, 1921, it became a Union Republic of the USSR on October 27, 1924. Area: about 500.000sq.km; population: over 2.5 million. Capital: Ashkhabad.

More than one million people regularly engage in physical fitness programs and sports in the Republic. More than 3000,000 badge GTO badge wearers and over 170,000 rated athletes are trained in the 2,918 physical fitness collectives every year. Over 2,000 athletes achieve first ranking, about 500 qualify for the candidate master of sport title, and over 75 become masters of sport. 4.5 thousand Are employed as full-time coaches, of whom 3.3 thousand have a specialized higher or secondary education; they help draw people into physical fitness and sport.

The Republic's sports facilities include 22 stadiums, 604 gyms, 14 Swimming pools, 174 Shooting ranges and galleries, 1,885 Volleyball, 743 Basketball and 315 Handball courts and 509 Football pitches.

Much attention is paid to the development of physical fitness and sport among children and teenagers. About 36 thousand young athletes take up sport at more than 100 children's and young people's sports schools and at three schools of advanced training.

THE ESTONIA SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (ESTONIA)

FOUNDED ON July 21, 1940, it joined the USSR on August 6 of the same year. Area: over 45,000sq. km; population: more than a million and a half. Capital; Tallinn.

About 600,000 people in Estonia belonging to more than 1,600 physical fitness groups regularly engage in physical fitness and sports activities. Every year, 215,000 physical fitness fans meet GTO standards and 255,000 achieve mass sport rankings, including over 6,000 athletes who become holders of the first ranking. Over 800 qualify for the title of candidate master of sports and about 150 for master of sport.

THE VICTOR'S PODIUM

Victors Chukarin	(1921-1984)	-	Gymnastics
Vladimir Kuts	(1927-1975)	-	Track and Field
Johannes Kotkas	(b.1915)	-	wrestling.
Mikhail Botvinnik	(b.1911)	-	Chess
Igor Novikov	(b.1929)	-	Modern pentathlon
Antonina Seredina	(b.1929)	-	Kayaking
Evgeny Grishin	(b.1931)	-	Speed Skating
Anatoly Bogdanov	(b.1931)	-	Shooting
Inese Jaunzeme	(b.1932)	-	Track and Field
Yury Vlasov	(b.1935)	-	Weight Lifting
Valentin Mankin	(b.1938)	-	Yachting
Lidiya Skoblikova	(b.1939)	-	Speed Skating
Yelena Petushkova	(b.1940)	-	Equestrian
Vyacheslav Vedenin	(b.1941)	-	Skiing
Victor Igumenov	(b.1943)	-	Wrestling
Nadezhda Chizhova	(b.1947)	-	spring board diving

Aavo pikkuus	(b.1954)	-	Cycling
Olga Korbut	(b. 1955)	-	Gymnastics
Many more soviet athletes admitted to the Olympic order.			
Medved, Alexander		-	Wrestling
Mukhina, Yelena		-	Gymnastics
Turishcheva, Lyudmila		-	Gymnastics
Skoblikova, Lydiya		-	Skating
Saneyv, Lydiya		-	Athletics
Kulakova, Galina		-	Skiing
Shalibashvili, Sergei		-	Diving
Smirnov, Vladimir		-	Fencing
Rodnina, Irina		-	Figure Skating
Yashin, Lev		-	Football

NOTE: This information is updated in 1987, then Russia was still united.

(Courtesy- Soviet Sport – The success story – contributors – V. Shteinbakh, V. Gerlitsyn, A.Gorkin, O.Gruchikov, B.Khavin, V.Kukushkin, R.Orlov, V.Shteinbakh – 7 to 11, 13, 39 to 49, 55 to 64, 86 to 182)

About 2,700 full-time staffers, over 66,000 volunteer PT and more than seven thousand referees and umpires work in the area of physical culture and sport.

There are 19 stadiums in the Republic, 462 gyms, 218 playing- fields, 40 Swimming pools, and 139 shooting ranges and galleries. In addition, over 70 physical fitness clubs and centers with a membership of about 16,000 function at places of residence.

Children's sport is developing actively in Estonia. Every year, more than 155,000 children and teenagers participate in the starts of the Hopefuls campaign, and about 18,000 compete for prizes of the leather ball and gold puck clubs.

Yachting is a very popular sport in the Republic. In 1980, Tallinn was the venue of the regatta within the framework of the XXII Olympic Games.