

REVIEW
OF THE WORKS OF GEORGI VLADIMIROV IGNATOV, PhD –
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS GAMES AND
MOUNTAINEERING SPORTS AT THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT OF SU "SV.
KLIMENT OHRIDSKI", PRESENTED FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE CONTEST
FOR "PROFESSOR" IN PROFESSIONAL FIELD 1.3. PEDAGOGY OF THE
TRAINING OF ... (PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT - FOOTBALL),
ANNOUNCED IN DV, ISSUE 21/13.03.2020 Г.

REVIEWER: PROF. TATIANA IANCHEVA, DSc,
NSA "V. LEVSKI" - SOFIA

The contest for taking the academic position "professor" in professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of the training of ... (Physical education and sport - football), for the needs of Sports Department of SU "Sv. Kliment Ohridski" was announced in DV, issue 21/ 13.03.2020 r., according to the requirements of the art. 4 and art. 29a from Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its implementation, art. 118, al. (1) I (3), as well as The Regulations for the conditions and the order for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions in Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and a decision of the Departmental Scientific Council of the Department of Sports, DIUU, TEC, protocol 17/27.03.2020 r.

There is one candidate in the contest – associate professor Georgi Ignatov, Ph.D.

Georgi Ignatov has a bachelor's degree with a first degree in Physical Education with a professional qualification "Physical Education Teacher" and a second degree in Sports - "Football Coach", and a Master's degree - "Sports at School and Leisure" at NSA "Vasil Levski". He has a professional qualification "Football Coach" - license "B". In 2012 he defended his dissertation on "Experimental justification of the methodology for training young football referees". From 2000 to 2008 he worked as a teacher of physical education and sports. Since 2008 he has been a lecturer at Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski". Throughout the period he coached the men's football team of the University, with which he won a number of prizes in domestic and international tournaments.

Georgi Ignatov has many years of teaching experience (12 years). With his activity and professionalism, he established himself as a respected and recognizable in academic circles modern teacher.

In order to apply in the contest for taking the academic position "professor", associate professor G. Ignatov has presented a total of 38 scientific works - 1 monography, 1 studio, 2 publications in scientific journals, which are referenced and indexed in world famous databases containing scientific information, and 34 publications and manuscripts in non-referenced issues, included in the list of NACID (243,6 points by indicator D). Of them 29 are in Bulgarian and 9 in English, 13 of them he was the only author, in 25 – in joint authorship, като в 13 от тях доц. G. Ignatov has presented information about a total of 21 citations in scientific journals, 3of them in scientific journals, which are referenced and indexed in world famous databases containing scientific information (145 points). There is also information about her participation in 5 scientific and educational projects (supported by the necessary documentation), and a guide to 3 successfully defended PhD students (195 points by indicator E). The presented materials for the participation in the contest entirely meet the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation, as well as The Regulations for the conditions and the order for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions in Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" (total of 733.6 points).

As regards their contents, G. Ignatov's works comply with the topic of the announced contest. They are oriented in several problem areas:

- Condition and specific problems of students studying in the specialty "Physical Education and Sports" at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski "(publications № 21, 25, 27, 35, 38);
- The role of universities as a factor in the organization of students' leisure time and the place of sports activities in this process (publications № 12, 18, 30);
- Specifics and optimization of training in "Sports - Football" in its various forms in higher education (publications № 3, 4, 5, 11, 13, 20, 23, 24, 28, 29, 34, 36, 37)
- State of University Sports, in particular student football, in Bulgaria (publications № 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 22, 32);
- Problems of football refereeing (publications 1, 2, 6);

G. Ignatov's rich and diverse professional experience (long-term football player, coach, physical education and sports teacher, university lecturer, football referee, referee observer), good academic preparation and activity in the desire to increase their professional qualification are a logical prerequisite for valuable scientific production.

As a whole, in my opinion, the monograph "Current accents in modern comprehensive training of referees" has the greatest contribution. It is a logical continuation of the PhD

dissertation. It synthesizes the rich practical, theoretical and empirical experience of the candidate and his lasting professional interest in seeking opportunities for improvement and development of football refereeing in Bulgaria. The author summarizes the modern concepts in the development of football refereeing in its main directions - historical, methodological, psychological, physical, functional, selection.

Historical research in the field of football refereeing is presented in the specialized literature, the essence and prerequisites for effective football refereeing, the place and role of technology in this process are analyzed. The main changes and additions to the Rules of the Game are traced in detail, the basic requirements for judges, referee observers are presented on this basis, sample texts on the application and interpretation of the rules, disciplinary control, physical training, the referee's personality are presented. Based on the literature review, G. Ignatov brings out the importance of improving the theory and methodology of the football game for the development of football refereeing.

The tendency for younger referees to enter the international rankings imposes the need to intensify their training in its various aspects - theoretical, physical, mental. The author emphasizes the need to optimize the means and methods of training, improvement, control and management of training and sports refereeing of football referees in order to optimize and increase the efficiency of football refereeing.

In the second chapter Assoc. Prof. Ignatov presents the essence of physical training, content, methodological and organizational requirements for covering the tests of physical condition of football referees. The author presents the results of a survey with international football referees, which reveal some deficiencies in their training. On this basis, specific proposals have been made to the Judicial Commission of the Bulgarian Football Union. Based on the results of the theoretical analysis, the obtained experimental data, as well as his own practical experience, G. Ignatov presents a tested model for specialized physical training of football referees, an example program for stabilizing the muscles of football referees, a warm-up model before a football match. A special place in the monograph is given to the psychological aspects and challenges for football referees before, during and after the match. The activity of football referees is characterized by very high mental tension and very often it is crucial for the effectiveness of football refereeing. The main psychological problems and challenges are outlined, the main tasks of mental training before, during and after a match are outlined, as well as the means of influence, the role and importance of mental training as an integral part of the overall training of football referees. The results of a study of decision-making styles of 116 elite football referees in Bulgaria are presented. The obtained results are

an important reference point in the training of football referees. The results of a study of the functional workload of football referees during a meeting and methodology for evaluation and ranking of football referees in Bulgaria are also presented. I especially want to note the great practical effect of the development.

Part of the research is aimed at studying the condition and specific problems of students majoring in "Physical Education and Sports" at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and search for opportunities to increase the efficiency and optimize the learning process in the specialty. The students' opinion about the vision of the modern university lecturer was studied, emphasizing the fact that teaching is a two-way process of active pedagogical interaction and the academic motivation of the students depends on its quality.

Assoc. Prof. Ignatov places special emphasis in his research on the place of sports activities in the leisure time of students and the role of the university as a factor for its organization. Cross-cultural research has been conducted, the opinion on the way of spending leisure time of future teachers from Bulgaria, Macedonia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina has been studied.

Another group of publications is related to the study of the specifics and optimization of the training in "Sports - Football" in its various forms in higher education. Some problems of the football training process at Sofia University and in general in the universities in Sofia have been studied, the problems and perspectives for the development of women's football, futsal and beach soccer, the attitude to the subject "Physical Education and Sports" are presented the state of the University sport, in particular of the student football in Bulgaria is analyzed.

There are a lot of contributions in Assoc. Prof. G. Ignatov's scientific works such as:

1. The condition is analyzed, the specific problems of the students studying in the specialty "Physical Education and Sports" at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", opportunities for increasing the efficiency and optimization of the educational process in the specialty have been revealed.
2. A study was conducted to establish ways to spend free time in a cross-cultural context (Bulgaria, Macedonia, Slovenia and Bosnia and Herzegovina). The role of universities as a factor for the organization of students' free time and the place of sports activities in this process has been studied. Recommendations were made to students and universities to enrich the ways and organization of their leisure time.
3. On the basis of empirical research the specifics and possibilities for optimizing the training in "Sports - Football" in its various forms in higher education are enriched,

its theoretical foundations are enriched, the problems and prospects for development in futsal, beach soccer and football for women.

4. The relationship between cognitive styles and decision-making styles in students has been studied.
5. Research has been conducted with students from representative football teams of higher schools in order to control the current situation and optimize the training and competition process. The tactical systems of the game and the pressing actions of the players in order to improve the tactical training are analyzed. Recommendations were made to the sports departments and divisions of the higher schools and the football coaches-teachers for increasing the quality of work and the level of the student football in Bulgaria. The changes in the physical indicators of the students as a result of applied station exercises are tracked.
6. Significant are the contributions of Assoc. Prof. G. Ignatov for the theory and practice of football refereeing:
 - The essence is analyzed, the theory is enriched, the problems of the football refereeing in Bulgaria are brought out.
 - An example plan-program for physical training of football referees has been created and tested.
 - An example program for stabilization of the muscles of football referees is proposed, a model for warming up before football matches.
 - The main psychological problems and challenges before the football referees before, during and after the match are outlined, the main accents in the mental preparation are outlined, the decision-making styles are studied.
 - The functional workload of football referees during official meetings has been studied.

Assoc. Prof. Georgi Ignatov is a long-term lecturer in "Sports - Football" with all specialties and faculties at Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski", in the specialty "Physical Education and Sports" at the Faculty of Science, Education and Arts (FNOI), "Methods of teaching football" at the Faculty of Primary and Preschool Pedagogy (FNPP), "Sports Improvement - "Football" at FNPP, "Methodology of teaching physical education to students from IX-XII class" in FNOI. Since 2016 he has been leading the course "Optimization of FES training" in the Master's program "Sports activities and tourism".

Under the guidance of Assoc. Prof. Ignatov, 3 doctoral students have successfully defended their doctoral dissertations.

For his participation in the contest the candidate submits documents for participation in 5 scientific and educational projects - 4 institutional and 1 national.

CONCLUSION:

Assoc. Prof. Georgi Ignatov, is an established and knowledgeable specialist in the field of Sport with an excellent theoretical and practical preparation. He is a respectable figure in the academic community and is sensitive to the most topical scientific issues. His scientific works have a definite contribution to the theory and practice of Football, Football refereeing and students sport.

The topic of his publications is in full compliance with the subject of the announced contest. The candidate's scientific and pedagogical activities meet entirely the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation, as well as The Regulations for the conditions and the order for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions in Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"

There are no signals for plagiarism and no signs of plagiarism have been found.

All these make me fully convinced in the scientific and pedagogical merits of associate professor Georgi Vladimirov Ignatov, Ph.D and on these grounds I would like to suggest that the Respectable members of the Scientific committee should grant him with the title "Professor" in professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of the training of ... (Physical education and sport - football)

Sofia,

24.08.2020 r.

Reviewer:



(Prof. Tatiana Iancheva,

DSc)