



# Faculty of physical culture of zabsu: development of sports in the trans-baikal territory

UDC 796.01



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Received by the editorial office on 25.09.2024

## Abstract

The article celebrates the 65th anniversary of the Faculty of Physical Culture and Sports at Zabaikalsky State University (ZabSU), which has a rich history deeply intertwined with the advancement of physical culture and sports in the Trans-Baikal region.

**Objective of the study** was to examine the significance of the Faculty of Physical Culture and Sports at ZabSU as a driving force in the advancement of sports culture in the Trans-Baikal region through a historical lens.

**Methods and structure of the study.** In the course of our research, we have compiled a comprehensive collection of all-Union and national legal documents related to physical culture and sports, as well as reporting materials from the archives of the Trans-Baikal Territory State Archive. These documents provide a detailed account of the activities of the Faculty of Physical Culture and Sports at the Trans-Baikal State University. We have then analyzed and compared the information extracted from these documents.

**Results and conclusions.** Throughout the history of the faculty, it has been a hub for the training of essential professionals, including physical education teachers, coaches, sports event organizers, and, of course, individuals who contribute to the success of sports. Furthermore, the article highlights that the Faculty of Physical Culture and Sports at ZabSU has consistently been a driving force behind the organization of sports events at the city, regional, national, and international levels, some of which have become established traditions. The article also emphasizes the importance of this department within the university in the context of evolving regulations that reflect the advancement of physical culture and sports in our country. The authors conclude that the Faculty of Physical Culture and Sports at the university continues to serve as a leading training ground for the field of physical culture and sports in the Trans-Baikal region and beyond.

**Keywords:** Faculty of Physical Education and Sports, Transbaikal State University, physical education, sports, Transbaikalia.

**Introduction.** Over the past ten years, considerable attention has been paid to the development of physical culture and sports in Russia. Russian President V.V. Putin, speaking at a meeting with members of the government in May 2024, emphasized the need to create conditions for as many people in the country as possible to engage in physical culture and sports for free, calling this task «absolute».<sup>1</sup> Earlier, the President of the Russian Federation gave a positive assessment to the proposal of Deputy Prime Minister D. Chernyshenko to form a separate comprehensive state program on sports with the aim of involving 70% of the country's citizens in systematic sports by 2030, that is,

«to make sports a norm of life for 93 million people». In this regard, the «Strategy for the Development of Physical Culture and Sports in the Russian Federation for the Period up to 2030» was approved by the order of the Government of the Russian Federation of November 24, 2020.<sup>2</sup> In accordance with the tasks set by the President of Russia, 2021-2025 in the Zabaikalsky Krai were declared the «Five Years of Sports» [4]. The regional ministry has prepared a comprehensive plan, outlined large-scale tasks and planned a large number of sports events. The main sports center and the main pedagogical, methodological foundation for fulfilling the tasks of developing physical education and sports

<sup>1</sup> Putin: Sports activities should be "as free as possible" for citizens [electronic resource]. Available at: <https://rg.ru/2024/06/04/putin-zaniatiia-sportom-dolzhen-byt-maksimalno-besplatnymi-dlia-grazhdan.html?ysclid=m1273tjb6o52046602> (date of access: 25.08.2024).

<sup>2</sup> Strategy for the Development of Physical Culture and Sports in the Russian Federation until 2030. Approved by Order of the Government of the Russian Federation of November 24, 2020 No. 3081-r [electronic resource]. Available at: <http://static.government.ru/media/files/Rr4JTrKQDQ5nANTR1Oj29BM7zJBHXM05d.pdf> (date of access: 25.08.2024).



in Zabaikalsky Krai is Zabaikalsky State Pedagogical Institute (formerly ChSPI). It was systematic physical education classes at the university, the formation in the late 1950s – early 1960s of the Department of Theory and Methodology of Physical Education, Gymnastics and Sports Games under the leadership of Yu.P. Sviridov, and then an independent faculty of physical education of ChSPI, the training of physical education teachers that became the starting point for fulfilling the main goal of society in those years - the education of a harmoniously developed personality. In addition, the relevance is determined by the anniversary date – the 65th anniversary of one of the most prominent faculties of the Transbaikal State University – the “sports department”, which has become the driver of the development of sports and recreational work in the region since its creation. The issues of the development of physical culture and sports in Transbaikalia and the activities of the Physical Culture and Sports Department of Zabaikalsky State University have repeatedly been reflected in the pages of scientific, popular science literature, as well as in the media at the regional and all-Russian levels<sup>1</sup> [1-3].

**Objective of the study** was to examine the significance of the Faculty of Physical Culture and Sports at ZabSU as a driving force in the advancement of sports culture in the Trans-Baikal region through a historical lens.

**Methods and structure of the study.** In the course of the scientific work, a set of all-Union and Russian regulatory documents in the field of physical culture and sports and reporting materials from the funds of the State Archive of the Trans-Baikal Territory, which reflect the activities of the Faculty of Physical Culture and Sports of the Trans-Baikal State University, was summarized; an analysis and correlation of information extracted from the above documents was carried out.

**Results of the study and discussion.** An important milestone in the development of physical culture and sports in the USSR was 1959. In accordance with the Resolution of the Central Committee of the CPSU, the Council of Ministers of the USSR No. 56 of January 9, 1959 «On the management of physical culture and sports in the country», the management of the physical culture movement was reorganized<sup>2</sup>. This year also became a land-

mark one for Transbaikalia: the Chita Pedagogical Institute opened a faculty of physical education, which operated for the first three years as a department of the natural history and geography faculty. This coincidence was not accidental. The above-mentioned document emphasized the need to pay close attention to the quality of work of specialized departments in organizing mass health work among students, as well as to improving the athletic skills of students in universities and colleges of the country. The implementation of all this work in the late 1950s – early 1960s was undertaken by a generation of teachers who came from the front – participants in the Great Patriotic War, headed by the rector of the institute, Hero of the Soviet Union I.V. Korolkov. Among them, one can note Transbaikal athletes and sports enthusiasts: A.M. Grabar (organizer and first dean of the faculty), teachers and specialists in physical education – N.V. Mishukov, P.I. Isaev, O.A. Feoktistova, G.N. Shikhanov, A.A. Bakhtina, heads of departments – V.I. Ivanov, S.A. Sedov, L.S. Koltakov, coaches and inspirers of victories – B.L. Liga, M.V. Goncharov, V.V. Matyushin, R.A. Koryukhin, N.I. Tamarovsky. Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the USSR No. 671 of August 11, 1966 «Issues of Development of Physical Culture and Sports» quite clearly defined the need to strengthen the material and technical base in the field of physical culture and sports, including setting the task of building sports facilities at university and interuniversity levels.<sup>3</sup> The enthusiasm and dedication of the teachers and students of ChGPI led to the fact that already in 1966 a faculty building with the necessary infrastructure (gyms, swimming pool, etc.) was put into operation,<sup>4</sup> and in the early 1970s, a gymnastics hall and the Arakhley sports and health camp. The dedicated work of teachers and coaches in the 1960s and 1970s, based on the created material base, immediately brought high results. This is evidenced by the standards of masters of sports of the USSR achieved by students of the «sports department» (V. Bukatic, G. Byankin, V. Zverev, V. Kuznetsov, Yu. Golubev, etc.). Graduates of the department - the first champions and prize winners of all-Russian and all-Union competitions not only brought glory to Transbaikal sports. They influenced the sharp increase in interest in physical education in the region as a whole.

<sup>1</sup> Small Encyclopedia of Transbaikalia: Chita Region: Physical Culture and Sports. R.F. Geniatulin [ed.]. Novosibirsk: Nauka publ., 2006. 284 p.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution of the Central Committee of the CPSU, the Council of Ministers of the USSR of 09.01.1959 No. 56 “On the management of physical culture and sports in the country” [electronic resource]. Available at: [https://e-ecolog.ru/docs/Ux58bG6V9AXNnqC71663d?utm\\_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fya.ru%2F](https://e-ecolog.ru/docs/Ux58bG6V9AXNnqC71663d?utm_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fya.ru%2F) (date of access: 25.08.2024)

<sup>3</sup> Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the USSR of 11.08.1966 N 671 “Issues of development of physical culture and sports” [electronic resource]. Available at: <https://e-ecolog.ru/docs/5GkvHxbQgh3sFioBjADG1?ysclid=m1dkeqkfti705221229> (date of access: 25.08.2024)

<sup>4</sup> SATT (State Archives of the Transbaikal Territory). F. R-177. Op. 2. D. 60.



A feature of the development of Transbaikal sports in the 1970s and 1980s is the active scientific work of the teaching staff of the pedagogical and medical institutes of Chita. The scientific laboratories of Professor V.V. Alfonsov, scientific and pedagogical schools of V.I. Kuznetsov, V.N. Prokofieva and V.Ya. Kiseleva, which have gained wide popularity far beyond our region, still attract students and schoolchildren to scientific research. The results of scientific research were actively used in the practical work of athletes and coaches, which led to an increase in the performance of Chita teams in team sports (football club «Lokomotiv», volleyball team «Zabaikalka», etc.). During the existence of the Faculty of Physical Education and Sports of ZabSU, many of its graduates have forever inscribed their names in the history of Russian and world sports.

Resolution of the Central Committee of the CPSU, the Council of Ministers of the USSR No. 890 of September 11, 1981 «On the further rise of the mass character of physical education and sports»<sup>1</sup> again set the corresponding tasks for the Faculty of Physical Education of the Chita Pedagogical Institute. Archival documents of this time repeatedly contain references to the said document and testify to the active participation of teachers and students of the faculty in the preparation of a number of mass sports and health events of various levels: the All-Union Physical Culture and Sports Complex GTO, the May Day relay race, the Spartakiad of Chita universities, winter all-around, ski relay race for the prize of the newspaper «Komsomolets Zabaikalya», etc.<sup>2</sup> Большая часть этих мероприятий продолжает существовать и сегодня.

The availability of a modern sports base, high-quality, highly qualified teaching staff, and guaranteed employment make the Faculty of Physical Education and Sports of ZabSU one of the most sought-after at the moment. The faculty is ready to solve complex but achievable tasks set before such higher educational institutions. During a meeting of the President of the Russian Federation with members of the government, the Minister of Sports M. Degtyarev reported that today 56% of citizens in Russia regularly engage in physical activity and sports. According to him, at the moment there are more than 752000 working citizens in the country who have GTO badges.<sup>3</sup> And in the speech

of the governor A.M. Osipova, head of the Transbaikal Territory, announced another figure in the summer of 2024: 50% of Transbaikal residents regularly engage in sports.<sup>4</sup> Thus, the faculty has something to strive for, especially since the rate of development of sports in the region is quite high.

**Conclusions.** Physical culture is undoubtedly one of the most significant components of the harmonious development of the individual, that is, the primary task that has faced society and the domestic education system for decades. Much attention was paid to its development, attracting interest in sports, especially among young people, at all stages of the existence of Transbaikalia. However, it is worth recognizing that systematic mass work to attract Transbaikal youth to the sports movement began with the appearance of the Faculty of Physical Education at the Chita State Pedagogical Institute in 1959. The development of mass physical culture in the region, the growth of interest in sports inevitably led to high-quality training of Transbaikal athletes, a constant increase in demands on sports results. A new scientific approach to the preparation of athletes, conducting physical education lessons, training, relaxation sharply increased the results of Transbaikal athletes. All this, both several decades ago and now, is closely connected with the development of the Faculty of Physical Education and Sports of ChGPI-ZabSU, which, in our opinion, is the driver of the development of physical education and sports in Transbaikalia.

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution of the Central Committee of the CPSU, the Council of Ministers of the USSR of September 11, 1981 N 890 «On the further increase in the mass character of physical culture and sports» [electronic resource]. Available at: [https://e-ecolog.ru/docs/Et73D\\_404tHRLrPQt5mBL?ysclid=m1dixvpcbk537335129](https://e-ecolog.ru/docs/Et73D_404tHRLrPQt5mBL?ysclid=m1dixvpcbk537335129) (date of access: 25.08.2024).

<sup>2</sup> SATT. F. R-177. Op. 2. D. 677. SATT. F. R-177. Op. 2. D. 1022.

<sup>3</sup> «56% of citizens in Russia regularly engage in sports» – Minister of Sports Degtyarev [electronic resource]. Available at: [https://matchtv.ru/\\_sport/](https://matchtv.ru/_sport/)

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<sup>4</sup> About 50% of the population in Transbaikalia is involved in sports [electronic resource]. Available at: <https://zabrab75.ru/news/sport/poryadka-50-naseleniya-zanimaetsya-sportom-v-zabajkale/?ysclid=m1dt6trmo6253406796> (date of access: 25.08.2024)