

The Development and Significance of Badminton in China and Malaysia

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Abstract

The badminton of China and Malaysia has a good mass base, and a large number of world-class outstanding athletes have emerged, and they have obtained good results in international badminton competitions, which also proves the success of the badminton talent training system of the two countries. By comparing the development history and achievements of badminton in the two countries, this project discusses the similarities and differences of badminton talent training in the two countries.

Keywords: China, Malaysia, Badminton, Development, Significance

Introduction

Badminton is a small indoor sport made of feathers and cork, played with a long handled mesh ball across the net. Badminton matches are held on a rectangular court with a net between the courts. Both sides use various techniques and tactics such as serving, hitting, and moving to and from the net, hitting the ball back and forth to prevent it from falling within their own effective area or causing the opponent to make a mistake in hitting the ball (Jiang & Ke, 2019).

There are many theories about the origin of badminton, and there is evidence that over 2000 years ago, people used shuttlecock and rackets to play an ancient game, which was the embryonic form of badminton. But the most recognized is Japan, which originated in the 14th to 15th centuries, when there were written records of badminton in Japan. The modern badminton sport originated in India. In the 19th century, the rules of this sport developed in England. Its name came from the badminton hall where Duke of Beaufort lives in Gloucestershire. In 1893, badminton clubs in the UK gradually developed and established the world's first badminton association, which stipulated the requirements of the venue and sports standards. In 1939, the International Badminton Federation passed the first "Badminton Rules" jointly observed by all member states. In 2006, the official name of the International Badminton Federation (IBF) was changed to the Badminton World Federation

(BWF), namely the World Badminton Federation (Yi, 2018), headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. As two badminton powers in the world, the Badminton Association of Malaysia (BAM) was founded in 1934, long before the establishment of Chinese Badminton Association in 1958.

Table 1

Year of Badminton Associations Establishment Malaysia and China

Year	Association
1934	The Badminton Association of Malaysia
1958	Chinese Badminton Association

As a ball game that competes across the net, badminton is highly popular and loved by the public. In the early stages of the development of badminton, it was mainly dominated internationally by European countries such as Denmark, the United Kingdom, and Germany. However, in the past few decades, with the global popularity of badminton, it has become increasingly dominated by Asian countries, especially after it was introduced as a show sport at the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games and as an official sport at the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games with four Olympic gold medals. China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Japan and South Korea have produced a large number of world-class players, leading the development of badminton in the world.

In particular, since the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games, China has achieved good results in a series of BWF competitions such as the Olympic Badminton competition, the BWF World Championships, the Thomas Cup of the World Men's Badminton Team Championship, the Uber Cup of the World Women's Badminton Team Championship and the Sudirman Cup of the World Badminton Mixed Team Championship. China has long dominated competitive badminton globally. As a traditional strong badminton team, Malaysia has also achieved good results in a series of competitions held by BWF, and there have been many world-class badminton players. As two world-class badminton teams, China and Malaysia have made great contributions to the development of world badminton.

The achievements of China and Malaysia in badminton are due to the training of their respective sport talents. The reserve talent resources of competitive sport with excellent quality and sufficient quantity are the basis for the long-term success of competitive sport in a country, and the same is true in badminton. Thanks to the comprehensive support of the national competitive sport system, China has made brilliant achievements in the cultivation of competitive sport reserve talents Ma (2022), which is reflected in the excellent achievements of Chinese athletes in the international sport arena, and the Malaysian government has been improving the quality of Malaysia's sport, sport development and the country's global competitiveness.

Background of the Study

Pierre de Coubertin, the father of the modern Olympics, pointed out that "Sports is a source of self-improvement that is not limited by profession and is possible for everyone. It is a privilege that everyone enjoys equally and cannot be replaced. From a racial perspective, there is no difference in sports. It is a privilege enjoyed by all races. Coubertin (2008) "The scale and level of sport development have become an important indicator of a country's and social development and progress, as well as an important means of diplomatic and cultural exchange between countries. Sport events have become an important platform for

communication, competition, and cooperation between countries and regions. Sport is an indispensable part of one's life as people gain health benefits from it, thereby improving their mastery of nature and the environment (WHO, 2010).

In competitive sports, professional athletes get excellent results through wonderful performances on the stage of competitive sports, and show their superb skills and sportsmanship. Sportsmanship is the spirit of athletes in sports practice. Taking sports practice as the carrier, it is the core of sports culture Zhang (2022), and also the best interpretation of the Olympic Motto: Faster, Higher, Stronger -Together (Huang, 2023).

In China, Xi Jinping, who is general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, pointed out, "Sport is an important way to improve the health level of the people, an important means to meet the people's aspirations for a better life, promote comprehensive human development, an important driving force for promoting economic and social development, and an important platform to showcase the country's cultural soft power. (Xi, 2020)" Chinese sports bear the mission of seeking happiness for the people and development for the country, and have achieved remarkable achievements that have attracted worldwide attention (Wang & Bao, 2023) . As a world power, since the establishment of the China in 1949, China has returned to the international sports family and achieved impressive results in various world sports competitions such as the Olympic Games, especially in table tennis, diving, badminton, weightlifting, gymnastics, women's volleyball, women's basketball and other sports. As an important component of the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics, sport has become a landmark cause to promote the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation (Zhao, 2023)

In Malaysia, sport is an integral part of Malaysian culture dating back to the 15th century. Sport is also an important part of Malaysia's national development, and since independence in 1957, the Malaysian government has put in a lot of efforts and measures in sport development. Fiah, et al., (2013) Malaysian sport relies on national funding and resource support to build new sports venues and centers, provide athlete training and development plans, and reward outstanding athletes. Currently, Malaysia is actively promoting the comprehensive development of athletes, cultivating more outstanding athletes and teams, and improving the national sports level. Malaysian athletes have also achieved numerous good results in sports such as football, badminton, rattan, and squash.

Related Information On The Cultivation Of Badminton Talents In China And Malaysia

Badminton is a strategic, open and technical High-performance sport. Entering the 21st century, with the continuous development of competitive badminton and the continuous improvement of international badminton rules, there is a higher demand for the comprehensive ability of athletes participating in badminton. As a sport, badminton is a highly popular and successful sport in both China and Malaysia. Both countries have produced numerous world-class badminton players and have a strong tradition of talent training programs. Understanding the similarities and differences in their talent training systems can provide valuable insights into effective approaches for nurturing badminton talent. However, there is a lack of comprehensive research comparing the talent training systems in China and Malaysia, warranting further investigation.

According to the 2021 China Badminton Market Analysis Report, the number of people participating in badminton in China has exceeded 250 million, making it one of the national sports. The consumption of badminton has also been increasing in recent years. In 2014, the

market size of China's badminton industry was only 25.7 billion yuan, but by 2019, the market size of the badminton industry had reached 34.8 billion yuan, with a compound growth rate of 6.25%. (Wang & Guo, 2021) Badminton, as a widely popular sport worldwide, is showcasing its unique charm and value in China and has become one of the main incremental consumption of sports in China. Wang & Guo (2021) Thanks to a good public foundation and the glorious achievements of the Chinese badminton team, badminton is deeply loved by the Chinese people. China's competitive sports personnel training mainly adopts the "national training mode" Kong & Ge (2014), which is also known as the nationwide system mode, that is, the competitive sports training system dominated by the nationwide system, including badminton. The national system model has created brilliance for Chinese sports. At the London Olympics, China's traditional advantageous events continued to maintain a leading momentum, winning a total of 38 gold medals in diving, badminton, weightlifting, table tennis, gymnastics, and other events. The advantageous events accounted for 80% of the medal table of the Chinese representative team, with badminton winning 5 gold medals. This shows that China's badminton talent training model is relatively successful.

In Malaysia, badminton is also known as the "national sport". The development of badminton talent in Malaysia is mainly focused on the National Badminton Development Plan. The programme was established in 1985 to identify, develop and promote badminton players to enhance Malaysia's competitiveness on the global badminton stage. In addition to hard strength training, the national badminton development also attaches importance to the cultivation of soft strength, including management, leadership, communication and teamwork skills, to ensure that the cultivated talents can be successful in badminton career and daily life. Malaysia badminton team has won many awards in international competitions, and the talent training model is also successful.

The Significance Of Badminton In China And Malaysia

Both China and Malaysia have achieved good results in the Olympic Badminton Competition, the BWF World Championships, the Thomas Cup Finals of the World Men's Badminton Team Championship, the Uber Cup of the World Women's Badminton Team Championship, and the Sudirman Cup of the World Badminton Mixed Team Championship. The emergence of the International Badminton Federation Hall of Fame members represented by Lin Dan and Lee Chong Wei. The match between Lin Dan and Lee Chong Wei once became the most expected match for badminton fans. Badminton is a stable gold medal event for China to participate in the Olympic Games, and it is also a key support item in the "Olympic Glory Plan" proposed by the National Sports Commission of China in 1995. Unlike China, which won gold, silver and bronze medals in many events at the Olympic Games, Malaysia has won 7 silver and 3 bronze medals from badminton since its participation in the Olympic Games, which shows the important position of badminton in Malaysia's national sports.

Table 2

Olympic Games Badminton Medal Table by China and Malaysia 1992--2020

Olympic Badminton Medal Table					
Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	25	14	16	55
2	Malaysia	0	7	3	10
Total		65			

Badminton at the Olympic Games is the world's highest level competition, held every four years, with the exception of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19, and every badminton player is proud of winning an Olympic medal. As can be seen from the table above, athletes from China and Malaysia have won Olympic badminton MEDALS in the past 8 Olympic Games since badminton was officially included in the Barcelona Olympic Games in 1992. Chinese badminton players have achieved remarkable results in the Olympic badminton Games. In particular, in the 2012 London Olympic Games, China won five badminton gold MEDALS, which shows that China has achieved success on the world badminton stage in the past 30 years, while Malaysia's performance is slightly inferior to China.

Table 3

Badminton Three Cup Championships Table by China and Malaysia 1949-2023

Badminton Three Cup Championships Table				
Rank	Nation	Thomas Cup	Uber Cup	Sudirman Cup
1	China	10	15	13
2	Malaysia	5	0	0

The three major badminton team competitions hosted by the International Badminton Federation are the highest stage to test the collective level of badminton talents in various countries. At present, the competitions are held every two years, with Thomas and Uber Cup in even years and Sudirman Cup in odd years. In the three major badminton team competitions, the number of championships won by the Chinese team is more than Malaysia.

The Thomas Cup has the longest history, having held its first tournament in 1949. Malaysia won the competition in 1949, 1952, 1955, 1967 and 1992 in the last century. The Chinese men's badminton team first participated in the 12th Thomas Cup held in London in 1982 and won the gold medal. In the history, the Chinese men's badminton team has won the Thomas Cup ten times in 1982, 1986, 1988, 1990, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2018 and so on.

The first Uber Cup was held in 1957, and as of now, there is no record of a Malaysian women's badminton team winning the championship. The Chinese women's badminton team has won the Uber Cup for the first time since 1984. In the history of Uber Cup, they have won 15 championships, including 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2012, 2014, 2016, and 2021, making them the team with the highest number of championships.

Sudirman Cup has been established since 1989 and has been held every two years since then. In the 17 Sudirman Cup competitions that have been held, as of now, the Malaysian team has not been able to win the championship. The Chinese team's performance in Sudirman Cup is very eye-catching, winning thirteen championships in 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2019, 2021, and 2023, demonstrating the strong team dominance of Chinese men and women badminton teams. Its performance in Sudirman Cup is impressive.

As can be seen from the results listed above, both China and Malaysia have made a lot of support for badminton talent training, including funds, policies and systems, and the medals won by athletes of the two countries are the best return for their respective national talent training modes. For China and Malaysia, badminton is not only a sport, but also a symbol of the sports culture of the two countries, which has great significance.

Key Points Of The Study

The purpose of this study is to find out the mode of badminton talent training in China and Malaysia, conduct research from the national system, talent training policy, national team operation mode, etc., compare the similarities and differences, advantages and disadvantages of the two countries' badminton talent training mode, explore the key factors of badminton talent training mode, and try to put forward suggestions for further research fields.

Problem Statement

The problem addressed in this study is the limited knowledge and understanding of the similarities, differences, and effectiveness of talent training programs for badminton in China and Malaysia. A comparative analysis of these systems is crucial for identifying best practices and areas of improvement to enhance talent development in both countries.

For modern competitive sports, the construction of reserve talent teams is the foundation for the sustainable development of competitive sports projects (Wang, et al., 2020). In the past twenty years, Asia has dominated the world in badminton. In addition to China and Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, South Korea, and Japan have also achieved impressive results. Asian countries are relatively similar in terms of race, diet, and lifestyle. Studying the badminton talent training models of China and Malaysia can also provide examples and reference for other Asian countries, promoting the prosperity and development of world badminton sports.

Conclusion

China and Malaysia are both traditional badminton powers, and their development and achievements in the field of badminton have long been among the best in the world. With the passage of time, Chinese badminton has shown an increasingly strong momentum. Chinese athletes have frequently won championships in various international competitions and achieved remarkable results. At the Olympics, the Chinese badminton team has reached the top multiple times and become one of the dominant players in this competition. Malaysia's badminton also has brilliant achievements. Malaysian players have won many championships in international competitions, and Malaysian badminton is also loved by the country's people, the sport has been strongly supported by the government, and has produced a large number of excellent badminton players. In general, the development level of badminton in China and Malaysia is very high, and players from both countries have achieved good results in various international competitions. China and Malaysia have also met frequently in international competitions, and the wonderful games and superb skills displayed on the field have demonstrated the profound heritage and strong strength of this sport in both countries.

The development of badminton in China and Malaysia is very important to the significance of badminton. First of all, the development of badminton in China and Malaysia has inspired more people to participate in the sport and attracted more young people to devote themselves to the field. Secondly, this development has also promoted the popularization and promotion of badminton in the world, forming a strong influence in the world. Finally, this development also provides more opportunities for badminton players from all over the world, so that more people have the opportunity to participate in world-class competitions and improve their strength and level.

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