

**ХОРЕОГРАФИЯЛЫҚ ӨНЕР
CHOREOGRAPHY ARTS
ХОРЕОГРАФИЧЕСКОЕ ИСКУССТВО**

IRSTI 18.49.01

UDC 793

DOI:10.56032/2523-4684.2024.1.9.5

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**STAGES OF EMERGENCE AND FORMATION OF NEW
TRENDS IN BALLROOM DANCING («FORMATION»)**

Annotation

The article examines the history of the development of the sports ballroom dance style "Formation" and proposes a specific concept for training dancers in this direction. The research was conducted using methods of observation and analysis, literature review, interviews, and experiments. The relevance and novelty of the study lie in the attempt to systematize the process of formation and development of sports ballroom dances based on Kazakhstani material. Presenting its own vision of the stages of dance development (1968–1978 as the initial period, 1978–1988 as the time of active implementation of the club system, the turn of the century as an era of interest in European and Latin American programs), the article evaluates the positive experience of forming a team by the "Bomond Empire" club in 2011 and notes the weak development of "Formation" in Kazakhstan. After analyzing the problematic issues hindering the promotion of this type of sports ballroom dance (lack of adult dancers, mismatch of skill levels to standards, and low motivation among coaches), the author presents a personally-tested concept of the "Formation" program adapted for the "Juvenile" category (ages 9–11). The main principles of the concept, according to the author, are teamwork aimed at developing solidarity, confidence, and artistry, as well as a systematic approach to training.

Key words: *sports ballroom dancing, «formation», dance sport club, «juveniles», team.*

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**ЭТАПЫ СТАНОВЛЕНИЯ И ФОРМИРОВАНИЯ НОВЫХ
НАПРАВЛЕНИЙ В СПОРТИВНЫХ БАЛЬНЫХ
ТАНЦАХ («ФОРМЕЙШН»)**

Аннотация

В статье рассматриваются история развития спортивного бального танца «Formation», предлагается конкретная концепция подготовки танцоров данного направления. Исследование проводилось методами наблюдения и анализа, изучения литературы, интервью и экспериментов. Актуальность и новизна исследования заключается в попытке систематизировать процесс становления и развития спортивных бальных танцев на казахстанском материале. Предлагив собственное видение этапов развития танцев (1968-1978 годы – начальный период, 1978-1988 годы – время активной реализации клубной системы, рубеж веков - интерес к европейской и латиноамериканской программе), оценив позитивный опыт создания команды клубом "Bomond Empire" в 2011 году, автор статьи наблюдает слабое развитие «Formation» в Казахстане. Проанализировав проблемные моменты, препятствующие продвижению этого вида спортивного бального танца (нехватка взрослых танцоров, несоответствие уровня мастерства стандартам и низкая мотивация среди тренеров), автор излагает индивидуально-апробированную концепцию программы "Formation", адаптированную на категории "Juvenile" (9-11 лет). Основными принципами концепции автор называет командную работу, направленную на развитие солидарности, уверенности и артистизма, и системный подход к тренировкам.

Ключевые слова: спортивные бальные танцы, «формейшн», танцевально-спортивный клуб, «ювеналы», команда.

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СПОРТТЫҚ БАЛ БИІНДЕГІ ЖАҢА БАҒЫТТАРДЫҢ ҚАЛЫПТАСУ ЖӘНЕ ҚАЛЫПТАСУ КЕЗЕНДЕРІ («ФОРМЕЙШН»)

Аннотация

Мақалада спорттық бал биінің «Формейшн» бағытының даму тарихы қарастырылып, осы бағыттағы бишілерді дайындаудың нақты концепциясы ұсынылады. Зерттеу бақылау мен талдау, әдебиеттерді зерттеу, сұхбаттар және тәжірибелер әдістерімен жүргізілді. Зерттеудің өзектілігі мен жаңашылдығы – Қазақстан материалдары негізінде спорттық бал билерінің қалыптасуы мен даму процесін жүйелеуге тырысуында. Автор би дамуының кезеңдерін (1968–1978 жылдары – бастапқы кезең, 1978–1988 жылдары – клубтық жүйенің белсенді жүзеге асырылу кезеңі, ғасырлар тоғысы – еуропалық және латын америкалық бағдарламаларға қызығушылық кезеңі) ұсына отырып, 2011 жылы "Bomond Empire" клубы командасының құрылуындағы оң тәжірибені бағалап, Қазақстанда «Формейшн» бағытының

әлсіз дамуын байқады. Осы спорттық бал биінің дамуына кедергі келтіретін мәселелерді (ересек бишілердің жетіспеушілігі, шеберлік деңгейінің стандарттарға сәйкес келмеуі және бапкерлер арасындағы мотивацияның төмендігі) талдап, автор 9–11 жас аралығындағы "Ювеналдар" санатына бейімделген "Формейшн" бағдарламасының жеке тексерілген концепциясын ұсынады. Автордың пікірінше, концепцияның негізгі қағидалары – ынтымақтастықты, сенімділікті және артистизмді дамытуға бағытталған командалық жұмыс және жүйелі көзқараспен жаттығуларды ұйымдастыру.

Түйінді сөздер: спорттық бал биі, «формейшн», би және спорт клубы, «ювеналы», команда.

Introduction. The improvement of sports ballroom dancing does not stop, it also moves forward with time. At the moment, leading experts in the field of ballroom art are using an analytical method to discover new forms of dance art, defining modern trends in the development of dance. Based on this, we came to the conclusion that it is necessary to introduce the «Formation» direction in Kazakhstan. But first we need to study it in detail. In this article we will look at the stages of the formation and establishment of a new direction «Formation» in dance sports, and also determine the correct system for training dancers.

«Formation» translated from English is a style of ballroom dance. The performance is based on a specific dance or medley of dances. Formation can be performed both at demonstrations and at competitions between teams.

Materials and methods of research. Today we can observe trends in the development of sports ballroom dance in Kazakhstan, the path of development of which corresponds to international standards. In the process of research, we analyzed and determined the stages of formation and development of these directions.

When writing this article, the following research methods were used:

- observation;
- study of literature;
- interviews with judge and coach of federations of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Feopemptov A.A.);
- conducting an experiment in the «formation» category.

A review of the literature on the topic. The development of sports ballroom dance in Kazakhstan can be divided into two stages: the first – from 1968 to 1978, the period of the birth of ballroom dance. The prerequisites for its inception were the creation of a circle

at the Palace of Culture of the Almaty House-Building Plant («ADK»). The official opening date of the school of European and Latin American dances is October 13, 1968, the directors of which were Leonid and Inessa Vekshin. After graduating from the Riga Aviation Institute, the Vekshins held their first ballroom dancing competition on April 27, 1969 in the assembly hall of the Faculty of Physics and Mathematics of the Pedagogical Institute. The winners of the competition were Vladimir Kuznetsov and Vera Shcherbakova (Sports training program 2017).

The second stage of development covers the next decade (1978-88). The process of formation that we know today continues. It is based on a club system: group, individual classes; seminars and master classes. The Republican Association of Ballroom Dance is created in Kazakhstan, which is later called the Federation of Sports Dance of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The first president was Antsyshkin Valery Valentinovich. He stood at the head of this federation for twenty years. The most attractive dances were selected for the competitive process, in which the emotional and rhythmic content of the music predominates. Dances in which it was possible to create a very deep and fascinating public image. «Ballroom dancing» refers to the phrases «sports dances» (SBT, «sport ballroom dancing») and «dance sport» (Shulgina 2012, 284-285).

Throughout the dance world, sports ballroom dancing competitions are divided into two programs: European (Standard, Modern or Ballroom), Latin American (Latina) or they are called the ten dances (Vassallo et al. 2018).

In order to determine the stage of development of the «formation» direction, we will give a designation to the name and consider this category in more detail.

Formation is a type of sports ballroom dancing in which several pairs of dancers (correctly, 6 or 8 adult pairs) simultaneously and synchronously perform the same given composition.

«Formation» is popular in many countries around the world; competitions in this type of ballroom dancing arouse great interest and attract many spectators, and its popularity is only growing. It appeared in 1932 at the Astoria Ballroom in London, where Olive Ripman introduced it under the name «pattern dancing». Here the first composition of the team was presented (Formation dance). And then team competitions began to spread to other countries.

The International Dance Sports Federation includes 87 countries around the world. The leading countries are countries such as England, Russia, Italy, Lithuania. And recently, China has been gaining tremendous

momentum. This area is quite well developed in the world, and especially in Europe. However, the undisputed world leader in the field of ensemble dance (formation) is Germany. There, sports dancing is the third most popular sport after football and tennis (Ansambl-iz-ufy 2015). Repeated winners of world championships are the ensembles of Bremerhaven, Luxembourg, Aachen, Dusseldorf, who live and train in small German towns of the same name. But in recent years, German ensembles have been greatly displaced by people from the post-Soviet space, who joined the ensemble movement much later. For several years now, the world champions in the standard program are the team from Moldova «Kodryanka», and in the Latin American dance program the Lithuanian «Zhuvendra» (Chertkov 2024). The cultural and social significance of ballroom dancing extends beyond competition, with research highlighting its impact on inclusivity, as seen in its role in supporting individuals with disabilities (Piacentine, Yan, and Ng 2024; Lo and Tang 2016; Coronadance).

The results of the study. As for the development of «formation» in Kazakhstan. In 2011, in the city of Astana, Vladislav Vladimirovich Lee and Oksana Viktorovna Lee, the leaders of the Bomond Empire dance club and the Bomond ensemble, tried to organize their own dance team, which consisted of 12-year-old teenagers. There were about 10 couples in their ensemble.

Athletes worked out about 4-5 times a week, training lasted from 2 to 4 hours. They honed their «Bomond» dance performances at city events and state concerts. Various kinds of performances taught them to observe the correct formation on the stage, to practice synchronization and coherence in the ensemble. They participated in various tournaments, went to international competitions and festivals. But, unfortunately, the team broke up in 2018. Many of the dancers wanted to continue their professional career in solo performance and, after that, no one returned to the «formation».

«Formation» is practically not developed in Kazakhstan, but many coaches are looking at its development. We decided to interview the judge of international competitions of the 1st category and coach Feopemptov A.A. from Aktobe, who conducted an experiment with his soloists. In his interview, he said that due to the main problem of ballroom dancing today, the lack of partners, creating a «formation» is the best solution. They decided to learn the same patterns and sequences, practice synchronization and technique, sew identical costumes and perform a new performance. Also, the impetus was video materials, which are now

very popular «on the vastness» of the Internet. Smooth and clear lines made the situation easier, making it easier to stage.

Discussion of Results. Further, considering the little-known nature of this trend in pair dancing, we find the following series of problems:

The first problem is the number of adult dancers. As mentioned above, «formation» is the composition of a team of participants in the «Adults» category who have a high level of skill. Not a single club in our country has the required number of dancers, namely 6-8 couples that meet world dance standards. As an example, we can give only one team - this is the final of the Kazakhstan Championship in sports ballroom dancing in the «Adults» category, which consists of 6-7 pairs. But, there are cases when athletes with the same number of points, according to the decision of the chief judge of the competition, go to the final and then it is made up of 8 pairs representing different dance clubs and cities of Kazakhstan. But this is not a solution to this problem, since one team will not be able to develop this direction.

The second problem is the level of skill of the dancers. The performance of many athletes does not meet international standards, and the team members must be dancers, at least starting from «B» class. The reason for this problem is the system of training athletes.

And the third problem we identified is the desire of coaches and judges to develop «formation» in Kazakhstan. Few people are eager to create teams and engage in their development.

Therefore, having a desire to develop something new in the dance world, we considered it necessary to continue to introduce «formation».

We decided to take athletes from the leading dance studio «SDance» in the «Juvenile» category (9-11 years old). Everyone knows that in each club there are enough couples to create a team, based on this, we will be able to carry out the competitive process in the «Formation» category. Why not start developing this area from a younger age, from the elementary categories?

This age category corresponds to «N», «E» and «D» classes, which include a certain number of dances. «H» class (beginners) – four dances (slow waltz, quickstep – European program, samba, cha-cha – Latin American), «E» class – six dances (with the addition of Viennese waltz and jive) and «D» class – eight dancing (with the addition of tango and rumba).

The duration of the «formation» according to standards is at least 4 minutes 30 seconds with the performance of five dances of European or Latin American programs. Our production will consist of 3

dances of the Latin American program (samba, cha-cha, jive) lasting 2 minutes 30 seconds or 3 minutes.

We also conducted research looking at the level of physical fitness, speed and coordination of children, concluding that «Juveniles» are very resilient and agile. A course of lectures by S.A. helped us with this. Esakova «Age Anatomy and Physiology» and identified features in the process of training athletes. During the study, we determined the speed, level of coordination of movements and physical abilities of athletes. This age is the most successful solution for creating a «formation».

In the «Juveniles» category, the basics are mainly practiced, so we decided that the performance would consist mostly of basic movements.

When compiling the «formation» we identified several stages:

1. Basic constructions are drawings and diagrams on the site. Training dancers in correct formations on the floor.

2. Staging. At the second stage, a production is formed with the introduction of light constructions. Here we can include the composition of choreography and movements, the selection of musical material.

3. Synchronization. Includes working on synchronizing movements and positions between dancers within formations to complement a professional and winning appearance.

4. Novelty. Constructions are improved by adding non-standard and original ideas. This will help show the uniqueness of the dance numbers.

5. Adjustment to the style of music. It is necessary to match the style of music and the overall context of the performance. It is important to use movements and elements that can better express the emotions and ideas embedded in the music or plot.

6. Modernization. Constant rehearsals and training help dancers improve their performance and synchronization. This stage of development is very important and requires enormous physical effort.

It is important to remember that every child is unique and the approach to learning may vary depending on their individual needs and abilities. Patience, enthusiasm and a positive atmosphere will help create a successful and enjoyable learning environment for all children.

Based on the stages of formation we have identified, we will be able to reproduce a unique production. And we believe that they will be assistants for other coaches in creating new compositions.

Conclusion. The main goal of creating a «formation» in the Republic of Kazakhstan is to promote sports

ballroom dancing and introduce new categories into the competitive process. We believe that new trends will motivate existing athletes and attract children to practice this sport. After all, ballroom dancing is about aesthetics and beauty, art and imagination. Teamwork will build camaraderie, help overcome fears and develop a sense of solidarity.

The development of sports ballroom dancing in Kazakhstan should not stand still. We have a lot of capable and talented children who can confidently represent our country on the international stage.

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