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## Organization Determinants of Physical Culture Evolution in Koszalin Region in 1950–1975

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### Uwarunkowania organizacyjne w rozwoju kultury fizycznej w województwie koszalińskim w latach 1950–1975

#### Streszczenie

W XIX i pierwszej połowie XX wieku tereny Pomorza Środkowego zamieszkałe były przede wszystkim przez Niemców. Po zakończeniu drugiej wojny światowej na terenach ziemi koszalińskiej miała miejsce wielomilionowa migracja związana z zasiedleniem tzw. Ziemi Odzyskanych. Szybkie zagospodarowanie i osiedlenie na omawianym terenie jak największej liczby Polaków stało się jednym z najważniejszych zadań po zakończeniu działań wojennych, w wyniku których omawiane tereny zostały znacząco zniszczone, w związku z tym brakowało bazy lokalowej dla przybyłych migrantów. Był to również znaczący problem w organizacji i tworzeniu struktur administracyjnych, w tym także w zakresie zarządzania kulturą fizyczną. W wyniku utworzenia w 1950 r. województwa koszalińskiego i powołania administracyjnych władz wojewódzkich do zarządza-

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nia i kierowania kulturą fizyczną utworzony został Wojewódzki Komitet Kultury Fizycznej. Struktury organizacyjne kultury fizycznej i sportu na ziemi koszalińskiej były tworzone zgodnie z ówczesną z polityką państwa. W pierwszej połowie lat pięćdziesiątych kultura fizyczna w województwie koszalińskim przeżywała regres. Dopiero od 1967 r. nastąpiło ożywienie działań w zakresie rozwoju szeroko pojętej kultury fizycznej. Powiatowy i Miejski Komitet Kultury Fizycznej i Turystyki w Koszalinie uaktywnił współpracę z organizacjami społecznymi, np. z Towarzystwem Krzewienia Kultury Fizycznej i okręgowymi związkami sportowymi.

**Słowa kluczowe:** kultura fizyczna, sport, województwo koszalińskie, okres powojenny.

## Abstract

In the nineteenth century and in the first half of twentieth century, the area of Central Pomerania was inhabited primarily by Germans. In the first post-war years, there was a multi-million migration related to the settlement of the so-called Recovered Territories. Rapid development and settlement of the largest number of Poles in the area became one of the most important tasks after the end of hostilities, as a result of which these areas were significantly damaged, therefore there was no housing base for arriving migrants. It was also a significant problem in the organization and creating administrative structures in the field of physical culture management. When the Koszalin Voivodship was founded in 1950 and the administrative provincial authorities of physical culture management were appointed, the Provincial Committee of Physical Culture was created. Organizational structures of physical culture and sport in Koszalin region were formed in accordance with the state policy. In the first half of the 1950s, physical culture in the Koszalin Province experienced a regression. It was not until 1967 that the activities revived in the field of broadly understood physical culture. The County and Municipal Committee of Physical Culture and Tourism activated cooperation with social organizations, e.g. the Society for the Promotion of Physical Culture and district sports associations.

**Keywords:** physical culture, sport, Koszalin Province, post-war period.

## Introduction

The research topic on the determinants of physical culture evolution in Koszalin region in 1945–1950 has been partly presented, among others in the publications of Jerzy Gaj, Marian Górecki, Tomasz Jurek, Władysław Kujawa, Jerzy Krzysztofowicz, Marek Szczerbiński, Bernard Woltmann – *Physical Culture in the Koszalin region 1945–1989 and Physical Culture in the Koszalin region 1945–1990*<sup>1</sup>, in the dissertation of Jerzy Krzysztofowicz – *Outline of History physical culture in the Koszalin Province in 1945–1975*<sup>2</sup>. Whereas the jubilee work, *35 years of academic sport in Koszalin 1968–2003*<sup>3</sup> – jubilee edition – presents the history and organization of the academic sport in Koszalin.

<sup>1</sup> B. Woltmann (ed.), *Kultura fizyczna na ziemi koszalińskiej 1945–1990* [*Physical culture in Koszalin region in 1945–1990*], Feniks, Koszalin 1993.

<sup>2</sup> J. Krzysztofowicz, *Zarys historii kultury fizycznej w województwie koszalińskim w latach 1945–1975* [*An outline of the history of physical culture in the Koszalin Province in 1945–1975*], PhD thesis, AWF Poznań 1981.

<sup>3</sup> L. Kukielka, L. Wojciechowski (red.), *35 lat sportu akademickiego w Koszalinie 1968–2003* [*35 years of academic sport in Koszalin in 1968–2003*], Magraf, Koszalin 2003.

It should be noted, however, that the listed items illustrate the process of shaping physical culture in Koszalin region from 1950 to 1975 as one of many areas studied. Therefore, the article analyzes the role of organizational conditions in the development of physical culture in Koszalin region in 1950–1975.

Archival data, published and unpublished works were used to accurately and comprehensively present the organizational processes occurring in physical culture in 1950–1975 in the discussed area.

## Objective of the work, research methods and problems

The aim of the study was to present a comprehensive overview of the organizational conditions that influenced the development of physical culture in the Koszalin Voivodship in 1950–1975.

In accordance with the principles of historical research methodology, the author analyzed historical sources and available literature and query library resources, then thoroughly evaluated them in terms of suitability for further research, used synthesis, induction, deduction and a comparative method.

As a result of the research, a significant role of organizational determinants was observed in the development of physical culture in Koszalin region in the years 1950–1975.

## Results and discussion

### 1. Historical outline of Koszalin region

In the nineteenth century, the area of Central Pomerania was inhabited primarily by Germans. The Polish population on the northeastern border of the German Reich numbered about 21 000 people. The Złotów district was the main center of Polishness in the Poznań-West-Prussian Border Marchionate. Small groups of the Polish population were located in the Piła region<sup>4</sup> and in the Bytów province.

In the first years after the Second World War, there was a multi-million migration in these areas<sup>5</sup>, associated with the settlement of the so-called Recovered

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<sup>4</sup> B. Woltmann, *Podstawy rozwoju kultury fizycznej na ziemi koszalińskiej* [*Basics of physical culture development in the Koszalin region*], [in:] idem (ed.), *Kultura fizyczna na ziemi koszalińskiej 1945–1990* [*Physical culture in the Koszalin region 1945–1990*], Feniks, Koszalin 1993, p. 9.

<sup>5</sup> After the end of hostilities, the newly formed Polish socialist state lost its territory for the so-called Curzon Line. The country was in a difficult political and economic situation. In reviving Poland, leftist groups have begun to implement change despite problems in communication between the allies of the Grand Coalition. The Polish Workers' Party, supported by the Moscow regime, took over a leading role in the country. The coming to power of the representatives of

Territories, awarded to Poland during the conference in Yalta on February 4–11, 1945. Special role for the settlement and development of these lands was played by the Ministry of Recovered Territories established in 1945 and the state, social and military institutions cooperating with it<sup>6</sup>. A special commission was also created to develop the principles of organizing local administration, the so-called Recovered Territories and the commencement of completing operational groups of railway men, postal workers and employees of the State Repatriation Office<sup>7</sup>. Western Pomerania together with the Lubusz Land formed the III Administrative District of the so-called Recovered Territories, to which the following districts belonged: Szczecin, Koszalin, Bytów, Słupsk, Sławno, Człuchów, Miastko and Złotów provinces<sup>8</sup>.



**Photo 1.** Kołobrzeg in 1945

Source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kołobrzeg1945.JPG>.

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this political force changed the nature of government governance. J. Gaj, *Przemiany i uwarunkowania kultury fizycznej w Polsce* [*Changes and determinants of physical culture in Poland*], [in:] B. Woltmann (ed.), *Kultura fizyczna na ziemi koszalińskiej 1945–1989* [*Physical culture in the Koszalin region 1945–1989*], Feniks, Koszalin 1991, p. 20.

<sup>6</sup> M. Górecki, *Początki powojennej kultury fizycznej w województwie szczecińskim w latach 1945–1950* [*The beginnings of post-war physical culture in the Szczecin voivodship in 1945–1950*], [in:] B. Woltmann (ed.), *Kultura fizyczna na ziemi koszalińskiej 1945–1989*, p. 64.

<sup>7</sup> K. Sz wajca, *Ziemia koszalińska* [*Koszalin land*], Wydawnictwo Artystyczno-Graficzne, Kraków 1975, p. 10.

<sup>8</sup> A. Czarnik, *Koszalińskie – rozwój województwa w Polsce Ludowej* [*Koszalin land – Development of the voivodship in People's Poland*], PWN, Warszawa 1970, p. 10.

As a result of hostilities, the areas in question were significantly damaged, but not all towns to the same extent, Kołobrzeg in almost 90%, Koszalin in 80%, while in Białogard just one building burned down (as a result of information provided to the Soviet soldiers that Germans were hiding there), thanks to which the city had a good housing base, which was allocated to arriving migrants<sup>9</sup>.

## 2. Structures of state authorities of physical culture in Koszalin region in the years 1945–1950

After the devastation of war, every area of life was reviving, the army primarily controlled and managed the emerging organizations and institutions. Military organizations had great impact on children and youth and aimed for patriotic and paramilitary education. This was mainly related to the sense of threat resulting from the geopolitical location of Poland, between Soviet Union and Germany divided and recovering after the lost war.

In May 1945, the Office of the Government Plenipotentiary for the Koszalin Province was established in Koszalin, which was the result of an agreement with the military commander. In the spring of 1946, the previous district was converted into a county, and the office of government representative was replaced by the county starosty. The first Polish administrative and industrial institutions in Koszalin were organized by post and railway employees from Bydgoszcz. In May 1945, the Municipal Board in Koszalin was created by migrants from Gniezno<sup>10</sup>.

The Plenipotentiary and Government Office was located in Koszalin thanks to favorable decision from May 23, 1945. This way, Koszalin became the capital

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<sup>9</sup> Account of A. Krzemiński, resident of Koszalin, from 31.07.2019. Adam Krzemiński – born on 30.10.1933 in Lviv. The Krzemiński family lived in the town of Buczaczy – Tarnopol Voivodship, mother was a master's degree in law, father a lawyer, in February 1940 the family was taken to Siberia to the Semipalatinsk region. In June 1946 they returned to Poland and settled in Białogard. Adam Krzemiński became an employee of PUWFIPW in Koszalin, then in 1951–1989 a basketball referee, including at the central level from 1955 to 1986. In 1986–2004 he was the commissioner of PZKosz, Honorary Referee of PZKosz. In the years 1956–1995 he was an active member of the OZKosz in Koszalin, secretary of the board at the College of Judges. The organizer of Tournaments for the Cup of the Baltic and Nadodrzan Lands in the men category. He was one of the most distinguished sports activists of the Koszalin Province. Decorated with: the Knight's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta, the Gold Cross of Merit for the development of basketball, the Gold Honorary Badge of the PZKosz, as a Distinguished Activist of Physical Culture – gold, the Medal for Merit for the Development of Basketball PZKosz, the Medal of the 50th Anniversary of the PZKosz, Honorary Badge “Meritorious for the city of Koszalin”. M. Dunst (ed.), *60 lat koszykówki zachodniopomorskiej [60 years of West Pomeranian basketball]*, Zapol, Szczecin 2006, p. 251.

<sup>10</sup> Account of A. Krzemiński, resident of Koszalin. M. Szczerbiński, *Działalność organów państwowych i społecznych kultury fizycznej na ziemi koszalińskiej [Activities of state and social organs of physical culture in Koszalin region]*, [in:] B. Woltmann (ed.), *Kultura fizyczna na ziemi koszalińskiej 1945–1989*, p. 32.

of the Western Pomerania District<sup>11</sup>. As a result, the formation of authorities, concentration of socio-economic and political activities temporarily caused a large influx of repatriates and specialist groups delegated here by the central voivodships. This contributed to the grouping of a significant number of the Polish army and internal services, which favored lively sporting activities<sup>12</sup>.



**Photo 2.** 5 September 1945 – soldiers of 4. Artillery Park 1. WDK in front of provincial office on Victory Square (Victory and Red Army streets crossing in the background). From left: cannoneer Paweł Rybzyński, cannoneer Adam Prymas, lieutenant N.N., lieutenant N.N., artillery sergeant Czesław Skowyrski.

Source: B. Polak (ed.), *Dzieje Koszalina [The history of Koszalin]*, Vol. 2: *Po 1945 roku [After 1945]*, Koszalin 2016, p. 150.

### 3. Structures of state and social authorities of physical culture in Koszalin region in the years 1950–1975

Sport developed and was managed on a national scale (physical culture departments, Polish sports associations, central sport associations and departments, nationwide championships), within regions (voivodship faculties of physical culture, district sports associations, regional championships and competitions) as well as on a scale of individual cities (offices for physical culture, clubs and sport sections, local competitions)<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>11</sup> K. Szwajca, *Ziemie koszalińskie*, p. 10.

<sup>12</sup> M. Górecki, *Koszalińska kultura fizyczna w województwie szczecińskim 1945–1950 [Physical culture in Szczecin region in 1945–1950]*, [in:] B. Woltmann (ed.), *Kultura fizyczna na ziemi koszalińskiej 1945–1990*, p. 42.

<sup>13</sup> A. Połaniecka, *Sport na Ziemi Słupskiej (1975–1998) [Sport in the Słupsk region (1975–1998)]*, Polskie Towarzystwo Naukowe Kultury Fizycznej, Sekcja Historii, Gdańsk 2017, p. 8.



**Photo 3.** Football team KKS Bałtyk Koszalin, 1946

Source: A. Rutkowska, *Rozwój kultury fizycznej w powiecie kołobrzeskim w latach 1945–1956* [*Development of physical culture in Kołobrzeg county in 1945–1956*], Graduation work, Teacher's Study, Kołobrzeg 1971, p. 20.



**Photo 4.** Football team of military unit in Koszalin, 1948

Source: A. Rutkowska, *Rozwój kultury fizycznej...*, p. 20.



**Photo 5.** The first KS Gwardia team – 1966

Source: A. Goluch, *Rozwój kultury fizycznej w mieście i powiecie koszalińskim w latach 1957–1969* [*Development of physical culture in Koszalin city and county in 1957–1969*], Graduation work, Teacher's Study, Kołobrzeg 1970, p. 21.

As a result of the Koszalin Province establishment in 1950 and the appointment of administrative provincial authorities to manage physical culture, WKKF was created. The organizational structure of WKKF in Koszalin was determined by the frame regulations of the Main Committee of Physical Culture (hereinafter: GKKF) in August 1950. It defined the scope of duties and rights of persons employed in WKKF, its executive bodies and work organization<sup>14</sup>. In the first years of WKKF's activity in Koszalin, there was a shortage of qualified staff, due to the unattractive housing conditions of this unit. The provincial authorities in Szczecin did not support the activity of the Koszalin WKKF, e.g. by delegating some of their employees to work in another province. It should be noted that until 1950 Koszalin belonged to the Szczecin Province and, as the capital city of the newly created Province, help and support from the authorities of Szczecin were expected.

In July 1950, the Education Department of the Provincial National Council Presidium was established (hereinafter: PWRN). The Faculty of Physical Education and Military Preparation was created in this department, but in the education

<sup>14</sup> M. Szczerbiński, *Działalność organów państwowych i społecznych kultury fizycznej na ziemi koszalińskiej* [*Activities of state and social organs of physical culture in Koszalin*], [in:] B. Woltmann (ed.), *Kultura fizyczna na ziemi koszalińskiej 1945–1989*, p. 32.

departments of the presidencies of county national councils – section of physical education<sup>15</sup>, which carried out the tasks related to physical education and sport.

As a result of the analysis of physical education and sport condition in the newly created voivodship in 1951 during the first plenum of the WKKF in Koszalin, a regression in this area of social life was found.

It should be noted that simultaneously with the structures of state administration of physical culture, a social structure was created to manage competitive sport. In September 1950, the District Football Association was established in Koszalin. District associations could not be appointed in different disciplines, as sport was reorganized in Poland. Polish sports associations were liquidated, but sport sections in individual sport disciplines at GKKF were created. At voivodship levels, such sections were also established at WKKF<sup>16</sup>.

In the years 1950–1956 in the Koszalin Voivodship, physical culture was disseminated by the district councils of sports associations through sports circles, the Sports Association of Vocational Education Zryw, school sports associations, the Association of Folk's Sports Teams and the ZMP<sup>17</sup>.

However, the reorganization did not bring about positive changes, after an analysis of competitive sports results in 1952, an insufficient level of dissemination of physical culture in the voivodship was established. It was assumed that the reason for this was the lack of activity in promoting sport of local trade union councils and the Regional Trade Union Council. In addition, there was little interest in sport and related activities of the responsible organs of the Polish United Workers' Party and the Union of Polish Youth, while the Peasant Self-Help Union did not conduct proper activity in LZS<sup>18</sup>.

It was not until the turn of 1955–1956 that sport activities and physical education classes were conducted more dynamically in the voivodship. The number of participants in mass sports events increased, many simple sports devices were constructed in a social act, the number of LZS members and circles increased.

The organizational structure of competitive sport in Poland was subjected to criticism and verification at the end of 1956. According to the most important arrangements adopted at that time in the field of sport organization, legal personality was to be restored to sport clubs and sports circles of physical culture, as well as transformation of the social sections of sports committees of physical cul-

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<sup>15</sup> J. Krzysztofowicz, *Kultura fizyczna województwa koszalińskiego w latach 1950–1975* [*Physical culture in Koszalin region in 1950–1975*], [in:] B. Woltmann (ed.), *Kultura fizyczna na ziemi koszalińskiej 1945–1990* [*Physical culture in Koszalin region in 1945–1990*], p. 57.

<sup>16</sup> J. Gaj, *Uwarunkowania kultury fizycznej w Polsce Ludowej* [*Determinants of physical culture in People's Poland*], [in:] B. Woltmann (ed.), *Physical culture in the Koszalin region in 1945–1990*, p. 16.

<sup>17</sup> M. Szczerbiński, *Działalność organów państwowych i społecznych kultury fizycznej na ziemi koszalińskiej* [*Activities of state and social organs of physical culture in Koszalin*], [in:] B. Woltmann (ed.), *Kultura fizyczna na ziemi koszalińskiej 1945–1990*, p. 25.

<sup>18</sup> Account of A. Krzemiński, resident of Koszalin.

ture into sports associations of individual disciplines, reduction of the GKKF apparatus and field physical culture committees, and resignation of favoring any military clubs<sup>19</sup>.

Changes also took place in the Koszalin Province. Earlier, county meetings of activists preparing the reorganization of the sports movement were held. According to the ordinance of the Prime Minister from July 10 and the resolution of WRN Presidium from October 25, 1956, the Social Committee of Physical Culture was established. It was made up of representatives of political, social, sport and education organizations. WKKF mainly dealt with the development of social sports sections, compulsory physical education, activities of sports clubs, medical guidance as well as the work of physical education centers and the development of TKKF<sup>20</sup>.

Apart from the changes in the Koszalin Voivodship mentioned above, they can be reduced to three main directions:

- in place of the previous sports clubs, sports clubs with legal personality were established, operating on the basis of the statute approved by the WKKF and the Social and Administrative Department of WRN;
- social sections at physical culture committees were liquidated and district sports associations were appointed. Many industry associations were closed down and statutory federations were created in their place;
- a new organization was founded, the Society for the Promotion of Physical Culture, whose task was the mass promotion of physical education and recreation.

Reactivating sports clubs and giving them legal independence created new conditions for the development of competitive sport<sup>21</sup>. From 1973, clubs and district associations were subordinated to the Provincial Sports Federation in Koszalin.

In organizational and material terms, the trade unions, the Provincial Council Association of Folk Sports Teams, the Board of the School District of the Sports Union, the Sports Association Start, the Sports Federation Gwardia and the Ministry of National Defense took care of the existing clubs in the voivodship, and since 1968, AZS Main Board.

From the first half of 1957, further organizations were created to promote physical culture. Physical education centers were established in the counties, which aimed at providing recreation to the greatest number of people. The Board of the School District of the Sports Association of Vocational Education Zryw was founded in Koszalin, whose main task was the development of qualified youth sport and sporting school youth. The TKKF was established in the voivod-

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<sup>19</sup> A. Pasko, *Sport wyczynowy w polityce państwa 1944–1989* [*Professional sport in state policy 1944–1989*], Avalon, Kraków 2012, p. 195.

<sup>20</sup> M. Szczerbiński, *Działalność organów państwowych...*, p. 25.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 25–26.

ship, the first branches were Masovia in Koszalin, Wczasy in Mielno and Zdrowie in Słupsk.

The basic activity of the Koszalin TKKF branches were company and inter-company Spartakiadas, table tennis and tennis tournaments, badminton as well as swimming lessons.

After 1950, district councils of sports associations began to form in the voivodship: Budowlani, Kolejarz, Włókniarz, Spójnia, Unia, Ognisko and Związkowiec. They took over sport circles located in the new Koszalin Province from the associations of the Szczecin Province. Their activity consisted mainly in the organization of mass events and obtaining fitness standards for the SOP and BSPO badge. Obtaining these badges was an important element of the competition between associations in 1950–1956.

The activity of the trade union movement increased after the reorganization of sport in Poland in 1956. The function of organizer and coordinator of mass and qualified sport in trade unions, in place of liquidated sports associations, was taken over by the Provincial Council of Physical Culture of the Provincial Trade Union Commission. Its main task was to organize mass sports events<sup>22</sup>.

From 1964, the Provincial Council of the General Federation of Sport, Physical Education and Tourism took over a leading role in physical culture.

In 1960, subsequent structural changes in the administration of physical culture were made in Poland. A central body of state administration was established in matters of physical culture and tourism operating at the Council of Ministers – the Main Committee of Physical Culture and Tourism (hereinafter: GKkFiT). Physical culture and tourism committees of provincial national councils became the local organs of state administration in matters of physical culture and tourism<sup>23</sup>, as a result of which the Provincial Committee of Physical Culture and Tourism (hereinafter: WKkFiT) was appointed by the Presidium of WRN in Koszalin.

In 1960, the Municipal Committee of Physical Culture and Tourism (hereinafter: MKkFiT) was established in Koszalin, which did not show any activity. Therefore, in 1962, from the merger of MKkFiT and the County Committee of Physical Culture and Tourism (hereinafter: PKkFiT), a joint PiMKkFiT was created, which covered the entire Koszalin county. Five problem commissions were formed: for training, investments, mass events, tourism and promoting swimming. An important novelty was the creation of the tourist movement commission, but it did not work properly and all the matters of tourism were still dealt with by the PTTK Branch Board. An additional physical education and sport committee also did not show any activity. The provincial sports authorities critically assessed the activity of PiMKkFiT in the massive campaign in the country

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<sup>22</sup> Ibidem, p. 27.

<sup>23</sup> Act from 17 February, 1960 on the organization of physical culture and tourism. Dz.U. nr 10, pos. 65.

to obtain the Youth Physical Fitness Badge (POSFiz), because the Committee didn't even set up a proper problem commission<sup>24</sup>. The revival of PiMKKFiT's activity gradually took place in 1967. The meetings of the Committee were planned, cooperation with social organizations was carried out properly, e.g. with TKKF and district sports associations. The exception was the Board of the PTTK Branch, which still didn't recognize the supreme role of the Committee in matters of tourism.

Due to the increased number of tasks in the field of dissemination and development of physical culture in 1969, PiMKKFiT was not able to implement them, especially in the county. Therefore, it was again split into PKKFiT and MKKFiT<sup>25</sup>.

According to the GKKFiT regulation from November 1961, the Koszalin Voivodship began to establish county sports, tourism and recreation centers from 1963, subject to the field committees of physical culture and tourism. The centers dealt with training, made available sports facilities and equipment to sports sections, organized recreational activities for residents. On January 1, 1964, the Koszalin Sports, Tourism and Recreation Center was established on the basis of the resolution of the City Scientific Council from December 3, 1963<sup>26</sup>.

In 1956, WKKF in Koszalin appointed a methodological commission, whose main task was to provide methodical assistance to sport units, especially by training instructors and issuing training materials. The function of the methodological commission with an extended scope of activity was taken over by the Provincial Methodological and Training Team (WZMS) in Koszalin created in April 1966 by the Presidium of WKKFiT. This team provided methodical and training care over specialist field groups, coordinated the training of instructors and trainers. The activity of WZMS didn't last long, at the beginning of January 1968, the Provincial Methodological and Training Center (WOMS) was established at WKKFiT, whose task was to train and improve personnel for the needs of physical culture, conducting specialist field groups, and giving instructions to county physical education centers<sup>27</sup>. Considering the activities of the mentioned methodological and training units in 1966–1975, it should be noted that they performed their functions as assumed. They organized training conferences, consultations of the training staff, courses of the Polish Olympic Committee of I and II degree with the participation of outstanding Polish trainers and employees of physical education universities, have contributed to the dissemination of valuable information<sup>28</sup>.

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<sup>24</sup> Account of A. Krzemiński, resident of Koszalin; M. Szczerbiński, *Działalność organów państwowych...*, p. 28.

<sup>25</sup> Account of A. Krzemiński, resident of Koszalin.

<sup>26</sup> A. Goluch, *Rozwój kultury fizycznej w mieście i powiecie koszalińskim w latach 1957–1969* [*The development of physical culture in the city and Koszalin county in the years 1957–1969*], Graduation work, Teacher's Study, Kołobrzeg 1970, p. 13.

<sup>27</sup> M. Szczerbiński, *Działalność organów państwowych...*, p. 28.

<sup>28</sup> Account of A. Krzemiński, resident of Koszalin.

In order to achieve success in qualified sport, specialists field groups in the Koszalin Voivodship (TGS) were created in 1966. They gathered young people from several clubs into one group with whom the best trainers conducted classes and gave instruction. However, poor results in competitive sports didn't confirm the validity of TGS. In 1973, the Polish Sports Federation (PFS) was created to support financially sport competition. Voivodship Sport Federations (WFS) were established at the voivodship level. WFS had been active in the Koszalin Province since September 1973, 16 clubs and district sports associations became its members. The Society for the Promotion of Physical Culture was active, large voivodship and national events were organized.

In April 1974, reorganization took place in the management of physical culture at the voivodship level. In place of the previous WKFiT, the Department of Physical Culture and Tourism of the Provincial Office was established, while in the years 1974–1976 in Koszalin the matters of physical culture were managed by the Department of Physical Culture and Tourism of the City Office. Another solution was entrusting matters of physical culture and tourism in the city of Koszalin to the Sports and Recreation Center. This reorganization was introduced by an ordinance of President of Koszalin in December 1975. The director of the Center, who had the same powers as the heads of departments of the Municipal Office, was responsible for all matters related to physical culture and tourism management<sup>29</sup>.

## Conclusion

Although sport is a discovery of the nineteenth century, it has accompanied human in various forms for many centuries, and reached the height of its development in the twentieth century<sup>30</sup>. It was a pleasant way of spending free time, and was a substitute for normality in a difficult post-war period, allowed to break away from memories and played an integrating role.

Therefore, in Koszalin Province, apart from organizing sports events that were a common celebration, attempts were made to create the first organizational structures – sports clubs. Sport has always attracted numerous supporters, triggered emotions, relaxed, it was a form of spending free time for many people trying to escape from everyday life, a social integration, and a way of establishing bonds and relationships. According to A. Pawlak, sporting activities can be considered as testing throughout life and the sports movement as an “academy of social life”<sup>31</sup>.

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<sup>29</sup> M. Szczerbiński, *Działalność organów państwowych...*, p. 35.

<sup>30</sup> A. Połaniecka, *Sport na Ziemi Słupskiej...*, p. 7.

<sup>31</sup> A. Pawlak, *Status polskich olimpijczyków po zakończeniu kariery sportowej [Status of Polish Olympians after the end of their sports careers]*, AWF, Warszawa 1983, p. 193.

Organizational structures of physical culture and sport in Koszalin region developed and were transformed as a result of changes in the administrative division and management system of physical culture<sup>32</sup>, were dictated by the policy of the state, were consistent with changes in the organization and management of physical culture at the country level. It should be noted that the development of physical culture in the area discussed was conditioned by several factors, including establishment and location of the Government Plenipotentiary Office in Koszalin on May 23, 1945, as a result of which Koszalin became the capital of the Western Pomerania District<sup>33</sup>, which in turn contributed to the grouping a significant number of Polish troops and internal services that actively participated in the creation of the sports movement in this area. Another factor influencing the development of physical culture there was the involvement of professional groups, including railway men, policemen and craftsmen who came to Koszalin region to organize sporting life. It is worth emphasizing that sport and sporting events favored the formation of social bonds, which in turn developed mutual acceptance and tolerance for the diversity of environments arrived to the recovered lands. Joint actions for the development of sport formed the foundation of a new social life and influenced the creation of new communities.

It should be noted that the creation of state administration structures, their low activity and the related lack of sporting successes in the Koszalin Province resulted, as previously mentioned, among others from a difficult housing situation after war damages. The WKKF headquarters were located in an unheated barrack at Tadeusz Kościuszko Street in Koszalin, therefore the working conditions did not encourage to take up activity in this administrative unit of physical culture. In effect, specialized staff of physical culture took up work in larger urban centers<sup>34</sup>. Another element that contributed to the presented situation was also the lack of the material sport base, which was seriously damaged as a result of hostilities as part of the military operation to capture the Pomeranian Wall<sup>35</sup>. As a result, it contributed to an unfavorable analysis result of the state of physical culture in the newly created Koszalin Province.

To summarize, physical culture in the Koszalin Province experienced regression in the first half of the 1950s. This was due to the following reasons: unsatisfactory work of voivodship and county physical culture committees, inactivity of company sports clubs, malpractice of physical culture in the rural environment, lack of trainers, instructors, referees, and sport organizers<sup>36</sup>. In addition, the work

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<sup>32</sup> A. Połaniecka, T. Jurek, *Społeczny zasięg kultury fizycznej w województwie słupskim w latach 1975–1998* [Social range of physical culture in the Słupsk Voivodship in the years 1975–1998], Słupsk 2016, p. 36.

<sup>33</sup> K. Szwajca, *Ziemia koszalińska*, p. 10.

<sup>34</sup> Account of A. Krzemiński, resident of Koszalin.

<sup>35</sup> T. Jurek, W. Kujawa, *Baza materialna kultury fizycznej* [Material base of physical culture], [in:] B. Woltmann (ed.), *Kultura fizyczna na ziemi koszalińskiej 1945–1990*, p. 30.

<sup>36</sup> M. Szczerbiński, *Działalność organów państwowych...*, p. 25.

of the district trade union associations established in 1950 did not have a major impact on the dissemination of physical culture in the Koszalin Province. It was not until 1967 that the activity of PiMKKFiT revived, cooperation with social organizations was carried out properly, e.g. with TKKF and district sports associations.

translated by Małgorzata Palonek  
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