



YOUTH SPORT LEADERSHIP TRAINING ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION

The Youth Leadership Training course is aimed at training young people within their community and country with the expected outcome of increasing their knowledge and understanding about the fundamental principles and values of the Olympic movement, develop teamwork and leadership skills using sport as the key learning tool.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING:-

- To promote practical Olympism and Olympic Values Education Programme (OVEP) amongst the Zimbabwean youths.
- To put young people at the centre of their growth by developing competent youth coaches, officials and administrators.
- To empower and enable young people to take responsibility for their learning actions.
- To develop youth sport leaders by enhancing their leadership skills.
- To celebrate diversity.

3. ABOUT THE TRAINING

- 3.1 A total of thirty (30) youths both young boys and girls under the age of 25 years underwent the training in this pioneer project.
- 3.2 They went through a three day intensive training course conducted by a trained Local trainer with the support of two volunteer support facilitators. The three day training session ran from Wednesday 24th to Friday the 26th. Some background work was done for the youths in preparation of the event Olympic Festival on Saturday.
- 3.3 On the last and fourth day, the trained youths executed a Summer Sport Festival with an excess of 559 people involved in the Youth Leaders Training Olympic Festival held at the centre on Saturday 27 September.

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3.4 This number was broken down as follows:-

- ✓ 474 school children,
- ✓ 30 youth sport leaders,
- ✓ 36 accompanying teachers
- ✓ 14+ club leaders and parents, as well as
- ✓ 5 officials

3.5 The NOC Head office assisted the youths as well by providing a practicing apt platform to invite a guest, seek sponsorship and donations.

3.6 The Centre worked with the assistance of Nomsa for the delivery of the OVEP as well as Evan who facilitated on cultural diversity and the universality of the Olympics. Both of them gave support for the practical planning of the event.

Day 1

3.7 Saw the newly recruited Youth Sport Leaders shy, reserved and not so sure of what was expected of them in this new programme.

3.8 The local trainer had to break the ice by setting the most appropriate scene through establishing the ‘Learning Journey’ together with the Youths and using comfortable ice breakers and energisers to bring out the best in them.

3.9 An introduction to the origins of the Olympic Movement, principles and values; the development of global, cultural awareness through the Olympic movement; the development and application of teamwork skills with a link to the Olympic Festival on day four as well as development and application of sport leadership skills were covered. By the end of the day, the Youths were all SMILES and relaxed.

Day 2

3.10 Was loaded, with practicals and group tasks. The Youths formulated their own Human Rights Charter for the Olympic Festival on Day four.

3.11 The Human Rights Charters were quite fascinating as it was then pointed out to them that they had to offer their participants for the festival those rights!

3.12 The day also saw all the groups experiencing the four planning phases for planning the festival namely event management, activities, media and public relations as well as culture and arts entertainment. The teams got the chance to rotate planning each of the four session while at the same time recognising their area of strength.

3.13 The last part of the day, the Youths went for elections, electing the Festival Manager and the four section leaders. Exiting, exiting elections as well as outcomes!

Day 3

3.14 Having been ‘weaned off’, day three started with the Team Manager leading his group from the front. The Youths assembled under the Festival Manager who outlined their festival management plan for day four.

- 3.15 Under team leaders, the group began preparations for their Olympic Festival. They invited the Secretary General to be their Guest of Honour, presented a budget request to Finance and were allocated some money for the day.
- 3.16 They marked the grounds and made purchases. Background work done for them included invitations of schools to the festival and seeking buns donation from Proton Bakeries by the Secretary General.

4. OLYMPIC FESTIVAL DAY

- 4.1 Finally, the day of the Festival arrived! The Youths were ready for it, with each and every one of them clear of their roles and responsibilities for the day.
- 4.2 Having realised that Netball festival was going to limit attendance to girls only, boys were also included in the programme as the plan was for a festival.
- 4.3 On offer on the day included:-
- ❖ netball,
 - ❖ mini soccer,
 - ❖ three tins game,
 - ❖ three hoops game,
 - ❖ group skipping game,
 - ❖ shomba game,
 - ❖ Khabhadhi and the
 - ❖ Sack race game.
- 4.4 Ultimately, participants of the festival experienced safety, maximum participation, involvement, learning skills, new games etc., enjoyment and success – SMILES!
- 4.5 The Youths received their certificates during the closing ceremony of the festival.

After the festival

- 4.6 We had an evaluation of the event starting with the Youths themselves led by the festival manager to state what went well and why? Even better if....?
- 4.7 The trainer came as well with feedback on the way the festival had been executed. Congratulations were in order as the youthful group had done an excellent job, beyond the trainers' expectations.
- 4.8 The group was directed towards forming their own Olympic Club.
- 4.9 To date, they have met several times at the centre. They are going to start off this year by riding on existing programme as they gain more experience while putting their own club on course.
- 4.10 As the year draws to an end, they are a lot of church family gathering within their respective communities. They have agreed to join forces and assist with these festivals starting with the Dzivaresekwa Churches Sports Festival scheduled for Saturday 11 October.
- 4.11 They have also created a social chat group where they update each other on events in their communities.

5. CONCLUSION

As a trainer, I am proud of the outcomes of this training. Now going forward, the centre has a pool of trained reliable volunteers for all its programmes. Two have since been referred to and accepted by two primary schools for coaching. A holistic approach is taken in the training of the youths to provide a high quality learning experience, develop the qualities and skills required to work as a Youth Sport Leader in their community, association and country. The training provided a platform for these young people to explore together issues relating to fair play, equity, mutuality, cultural diversity in-country and in the global context, inclusion, religion, ethics and many other desirable values and principles. This is a practical programme with practical outcomes!

Greatest appreciation to Olympafrica Foundation supported by ANOCA, Olympic Solidarity in partnership with UK Sport for awarding Zimbabwe this opportunity to implement this practical initiative. The project has benefited the Centre's community and Zimbabwean sport at large.

