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| **STICK**  **Characteristics**   * This represents the most implemented type of competitive Sports Model around the vast majority of European countries * At Young ages (around 10-11 years old) the competitive sport is considered and promotioned as extracurricular –after school activity. * The main responsibility for the organitazion of that competitive sports model relies onto type of bodies such Regional Federations (private bodies helped by public funds), and sports clubes (private competitive bodies capturing family’s willingness to develop top athletes since young ages * Competitions are based and organized in different categories depending on dates of birth * Competitions criteria is based on best are moving up to a ‘better’ competition and worst are descending to a ‘lower’ level of competition * The model is a continous from youngest ages until elite categories. * The competition itself is always a necessary step to moving up inside the ‘stick’. To go somewhere else. It never has value for itself * The Sport Clubs chose their players in a totally open ‘market’, either picking them up from schools, or bringing them from another clubs. * The Sport clubs select their coaches with the same open criteria * In this ‘stick’ model the academic criteria is not a barrier or a motivation to fit in * The professional clubs, such ACB franchises are also running this type of ‘stick’ model, with youth teams inside their organization, full of basketball talented prospects, selected froms so many different schools or other clubs of the area of influence   **Strenghts**   * Most of the basketball talent is concentrated in a few places with organizations fully focused to get the best out of it * The top professional clubs with more economic resources have much more control over the best Young prospects * All National teams representing the country in international competitions get the benefits of this type of basketball players development * The biggest talents have a whole training system at their disposal since they start raising.   **Weaknesses**   * The competitions are fully predictable. The champs are always the same teams, year after year * There’s a strong sense of being thrown out of the system by so many young players who don’t have enough ‘room’ and places in that stick model to develop at their own speed * The academic environment of the players (teachers, peers in school) don’t feel any engagement to participate in the process of creating basketball magnificos. * Being so that the top talents grow up to becoming great players in a very close and isolated environment, not linked at all with academic needs of development. * The logical consequences of the 2 points before is the unmanagable equilibrium between basketball and studies for top prospects at young ages | **PYRAMID**  **Characteristics**   * As far as we know is the kind of model implemented in the youth sports in the United States. * The competitive sport start later than in the ‘stick’ model presented before. (Junior High 13-14 años) and it is fully considered a school type of sport * The responsibility mainly relies then on schools and not in professional sports organizations. * The schools are fully responsible for their schedules of competitions, without the existance of any other type of organization such Reginal or National Federations * The competitive criteria doesn’t promote moving up to other competitions when anyone wins or descending when anyone ends last. * The Regional or National Federations don’t exist in this model. * The different steps in this model are well defined with a certain beginning and an ending for everyone of them. Es un **modelo discontinuo** desde la base hasta la elite,   + **Junior High School y Senior High School (12-17 años)**   + **Junior College y University (18-22)** * The step from high school basketball to college is defined by basketball criteria and also by academic criteria. * The academic criteria can be a barrier for moving up to the next level of basketball competitive environment. * The different actors select their talent base don basketball and academic criteria always mixed * The professional organizations have their own environment and are not accepted around this model   **Strenghts**   * Schools are in the middle of the stage for this competitive and academic model. * The sense of belonging for the player and the sense of responsibility for what his or her performance means to the school is really a factor. * The youth players market does not exist. The student/athletes have top lay for their schools. * And so the talent is splitted in so many teams provoking the step forward of many more players than in the stick model. * The founding of the Student-Athlete concept, which the other model does not provoke at all, with all the great benefits for the community (school, families, and so forth…) * The Student-Athlete can’t be projected outside of his developing zone, which will always be related to its school and communityt * Being so that the Student-Athlete must be succesful enough in his school performance in order to take the next step forward into the college level.   **Weaknesses**   * Sport talent is harder to recruit, because it is so spread out around schools, and different areas of influence… * The most talented players do not have the ‘system’ at their complete disposal, which difficults more the way to be discovered and promoted. |