

## **The Problems of Transferring Athletes in Sports Multi-events**

**Muhammad Bagus BINATHARA<sup>1</sup>, Muhammad Hamid ANWAR<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Yogyakarta State University, Indonesia

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8322-9999>

<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0416-6510>

Email: [bagusmbb11@gmail.com](mailto:bagusmbb11@gmail.com), [m\\_hamid@uny.ac.id](mailto:m_hamid@uny.ac.id)

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### **Abstract**

Multi-sport events are one of the attractions in the world of sports. One of the problems that occur in multi-sport events in the Special Region of Yogyakarta (DIY) is the phenomenon of athlete transfer. The transfer of athletes from one area to another is something that can cause pros and cons. The need to know data/information related to the transfer of athletes is very important. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the problem of transferring athletes in multi-sport events in the DIY Province. In this regard, this research uses descriptive qualitative research methods. Data collection techniques were carried out using document studies and interviews. Participants are experts in the field of sports, sports lecturers, athletes, coaches and administrators of sports organizations. Based on the research some opinions if the transfer of athletes can interfere with the process of coaching athletes in the regional area. While according to some parties if the transfer of athletes can be managed properly will be able to help improve the quality of athletes. So that this research can be used as an evaluation material to be able to minimize the negative impact caused by the transfer of athletes.

**Keywords:** Multi-Event Sports, Sports Coaching, Athlete Transfer.

## INTRODUCTION

The world of sports is entering a new era where the sports industry has become the main goal. As we have known so far as a professional sport. Because achievement is no longer a benchmark for holding sports competitions. Professional sports are carried out commercially to get an income in the form of materials such as money and so on for the sports abilities that have been mastered (Russell Hoye, Aaron C.T.Smith, 2015). Referring to the achievement of sports achievements in Indonesia, it can be done through multi-sports events. The Indonesia's National Sports Week (PON) can be a bridge for athletes to achieve their dreams of becoming professional athletes. At the regional level, multi-events are also held to qualify for PON. The Special Region of Yogyakarta (DIY) holds a Regional Sports Week (PORDA) every 2 years. The fact is that not only local athletes can participate in PORDA DIY. The movement of athletes from one area to another or an area that brings athletes from outside the DIY area often occurs. Prestige bets between regions in obtaining medals at PORDA also encourage the transfer of athletes to occur. The impact of the frequent transfer of athletes that occurs in DIY can unconsciously inhibit the potential of existing athletes. There are athletes from DIY who decided to quit the world of athletes who are often called early retirement because they feel that their abilities are not appreciated by policy makers because they prefer mature athletes from outside the region to compete. This means that there are still many needs of athletes who can't be met, causing some problems (D. E. Prasetyo et al., 2018). The occurrence of piracy of athletes also often has a negative impact on the implementation of the multi-event itself. This can be influenced by several factors such as the amount of bonus that the athlete will receive, the distrust of the coach to the athlete so that the athlete decides to move or the limitations of training facilities (Prasetyo & Sakti, 2015). The transfer process for athletes comes from the athletes themselves or the organizations that oversee them. This can be influenced by the loyalty of the athlete concerned to his or her area of origin. The loyalty factor is based on the welfare that will be received by the athlete concerned from the athlete's destination (Ita, 2012). Professional sports are indeed close to the athlete transfer phenomenon, even now the athlete transfer phenomenon has become one of the consequences of the growing sports industry. Football leagues across Europe have shown what the real picture of professional sport is (Manoli, 2020). The evolution of the international transfer market continues to show its passion and appeal (Acheampong & Malek, 2019) especially in popular sports such as football. European football is undergoing rapid changes driven by massive investment from around the world (Sims, 2018). European football, which is clear evidence from the sports industry, has implemented Financial Fair Play to restore efficient managerial incentives in the football business (Dimitropoulos & Scafarto, 2019) because Financial Fair Play is designed to bring financial stability and improve competitive balance in the game (Plumley et al., 2019). Because the transfer of athletes aims to make the quality of the team stronger so that the team will have a greater chance of winning. In Indonesia, the phenomenon of transferring athletes in multi-events is not a ban in the world of sports. It's just that the disorderly perception of professional and amateur sports can change the paradigm about the goals of PORDA or PON itself. So there are always parties who take advantage of loopholes to trick the rule. The latest PORDA held in Yogya City revealed that there were many cases of athletes without mutations being able to compete in the 2019 DIY Porda (Tribun Jogja, 2019). Another phenomenon stated by the coach regarding the reasons for transferring athletes is the limitations of athletes who are in their team due to the lack of optimal regeneration of athletes. This case is

stated to always occur every time there is a multi-sport event. They admit that every PORDA or PON always transfers athletes to complete the available quota of players, it's just that the players who will be transferred are always changing and depending on their availability. Therefore, there are often pros and cons to the phenomenon of athlete transfer so that it can cause a problem.

## **METHODS**

This article uses a qualitative descriptive research method. The research stage begins with the study of documents obtained through the general match rule book and the athlete transfer rule book at the National Sports Week (PON) championships, Regional Sports Week (PORDA) in DIY. The research was continued at the interview stage with several sources from various points of view. Participants were determined by the researcher according to the capacity needed in this study. The resource persons include experts in the field of sports, sports lecturers, athletes, coaches and administrators of sports organizations. Interviews were conducted using a semi-structured method so that the interview process can be carried out naturally without any pressure from the interviewer on the resource person. The total interviewees in this study amounted to 10 people with an average duration of 45 minutes for each interview conducted. Data analysis was carried out by means of qualitative data analysis, in this case the findings obtained were studied more deeply with the research process to be combined with supporting theories so that further conclusions could be drawn.

## **RESULTS**

The results of this study began with a response to the phenomenon of athlete transfer that occurred. Some people agree with the transfer of athletes in PORDA DIY. They feel that the transfer of athletes is not something that violates the regulations of PORDA itself. Because from the transfer of athletes there are many things that can be benefited. On average, they benefit from the achievement of medals in the PORDA event. This means that there is progress or improvement from the person concerned in the implementation of the PORDA. Another thing shows that the transfer of athletes needs to be done to equip the team to be stronger and more reliable to win medals. In addition, the transfer of athletes is used as a coach to encourage the motivation of existing athletes so that there is healthy competition within the team to achieve the level expected from the coach. This is also considered as something positive if the imported athletes can provide knowledge transfer to athletes in the region. The rest of the transfer of athletes can push the budget because it can provide more targets for medals to be obtained. so that the regions can spend the appropriate funds or the regions have prepared funds to be able to achieve more achievements. On the other hand, regions that do not have financial strength will feel disadvantaged. Because it will be difficult to compete with superior regions. It doesn't stop there, for regions that do not have finances, they are more threatened with losing their flagship athletes because they are tempted by bonuses from other regions that are likely to become competitors. Some parties also mentioned that the transfer of athletes could hamper the potential of athletes in the area because they removed athletes from their positions. This will have a bad impact in the future because it is considered to threaten the future of the excluded athletes. In fact, the transfer process of athletes is also due to the athlete's own decision. Athletes tend to look for places to improve their abilities or more opportunities to come to areas that are considered to be

able to encourage their careers. So that it will be an advantage for the targeted area and a loss for the abandoned area. This is considered natural by sports experts because that is how an athlete should be. It's just that the transfer process must be passed officially so that it will not harm himself. DIY Province indeed has a lot of transfers of athletes, especially universities located in DIY Province, so that many students are interested in moving residents and playing in PORDA DIY. Because it is considered that the competition is not so tight because there are only five regions. It's just that this cannot be felt by all regions, only certain areas can attract students to join the team. It is undeniable that the government's demands for the medal target given sometimes get a bad response so that some sports management look for athletes and transfer athletes to meet the medal targets given. This is also sometimes regretted by some sports experts because this PORDA was issued using APBD funds but those who felt it were not people from the region itself. So that the transfer process of these athletes is often debated, causing several problems. Even in PORDA DIY in 2019 there were 9 athletes who were disqualified because they did not meet the requirements related to administration in the case of athlete transfer. If that happens, the athlete will be the most disadvantaged individual because it is almost certain that he will not get anything in terms of bonuses or the opportunity to enter a higher level

## **DISCUSSIONS**

The purpose of transferring athletes by bringing in better athletes is of course to achieve the expected medal achievements. This can affect aspects of coaching athletes themselves. If it can be managed better, the transfer of athletes can have a positive impact because it is expected to be able to encourage the ability of athletes from the area to be able to motivate other athletes. One way to increase ability significantly can be done by creating competition within the internal team (Maelani, 2017). So that the system of degradation can be done against athletes who can't show their best ability (Jamalong, 2014). The process of achieving professional athletes cannot be done instantly. Many stages must be passed such as the number of competitions that must be followed, participating in tiered competitions from the lowest level, participating in competitions in age groups to provide a match experience (Moffat, 2019) and most importantly in the process athletes must be able to undergo a systematic and well-organized training program (Bompa & Carrera, 2015). The provision of interscribed training must also be considered especially for a coach in order to improve the ability of athletes (Yudanto & Alfian, 2020). In addition, the availability of coaching funds and complete facilities can also support the success of an athlete or a sports team in giving birth to potential athletes. Because external support can support the spirit and motivation of athletes to be the best version. Support from the government is also important in the process of coaching athletes in the regions (Rasyono, 2016). If the achievement coaching is carried out with commitment, totality and good synergy from the government, sports management, athletes and coaches and is shown by maximum coaching management, it will produce an optimal coaching result (Alim, 2020). On the other hand, if the transfer of these athletes is not managed properly, it can potentially lead to social jealousy within the internal team. The results showed that many athletes were victims and hampered the potential of athletes in the region. This is due to the lack of coaching athletes from a young age by utilizing the athlete transfer process. This means that there is no transfer of knowledge that occurs, so that the competition to be the best also cannot run. The effect is that sports become difficult to regenerate athletes (Andrew & Suryawan, 2015). The future impact will be more detrimental because, firstly,

sports will always look for athletes to be recruited. As a result, the federation has to pay more to facilitate the imported athletes. The potential for piracy of athletes from rival regions will also have an effect. Then the athlete will also be harmed if later other regions find out and report it, the athlete may be declared disqualified if the athlete's transfer requirements cannot be met. Basically, multi-sport events are used as a forum to evaluate the existing coaching process in their respective areas in bringing out potential athletes. So it is very unfortunate if the phenomenon of transfer of athletes can harm the athletes themselves. Some athletes have also sacrificed themselves to become professional athletes where athletes deserve to get proper welfare as an athlete (Alim, 2020). Facilities such as money can be an important asset to support athletes to become representatives of their region. Because by providing a facility, the athletes can feel more comfortable because their rights are fulfilled. The delay in giving pocket money can also affect the economy of the athletes themselves. This means that being an athlete requires extra energy and time. Professional athletes spend almost all their time in the training ground to improve their abilities in the mission of achieving maximum performance (Taftazani & Fauziah, 2019). If it is understood more deeply the phenomenon of transfer of athletes should be able to provide many positive impacts for each actor. Recruitment of successful athletes can be used as an opportunity to get more budget to improve quality. Because athlete transfer policy is influenced by management or individuals who are in it (Tan et al., 2019). Determining the athletes to be recruited must also be based on the ability and *track record* of the athlete so far. Measuring an athlete's individual abilities and being able to translate the athlete's ability to increase productivity in that area is also important. Because it can guarantee achievement and have a positive impact on the team. So that the athlete transfer process will run optimally and achieve the expected results (Garcia-del-Barrio & Pujol, 2020). In addition, multi-events at the PORDA level can be used as a forum to develop the sports industry. Because it can encourage the public's perspective on PORDA as a professional sport. Seeing PORDA has potential in the design, implementation and evaluation of sports programs (Green, 2007). So the stakeholders should not turn a blind eye to learning from other regions or countries, especially countries that are successful in sports coaching (Zheng et al., 2019). The existence of athlete transfer can be a bridge for the world of sports to enter an industry. The availability of contract values for athletes in PORDA level events can increase the degree and welfare of an athlete. It's just that the rules must be adopted from the level of approach that places the athlete at the center of the regulatory framework and should not be biased towards one party (Yilmaz et al., 2018). Unfortunately, there is no clear legal protection for athletes in the athlete transfer contract agreement. So there is a need for regulations that do not harm various parties, especially for the development of sports in organizing multi-events, especially in PORDA. The level of legal regulation of the athlete transfer process must also be more specific so that it can be used as a strong foundation (Swastika & Turingsih, 2019).

## CONCLUSION

PORDA as the most prestigious multi-event in DIY is a battle for prestige and pride in each region to show who is the best. The hunt for medals as a measure of success encourages regions to justify all means to get many medals. This study describes how the problems that occur in the implementation of PORDA DIY are related to the transfer of athletes. Therefore, the transfer of athletes is seen as a negative thing for some people in organizing PORDA events in DIY. It is

hoped that this research can be used as an evaluation material for each region that wants to transfer athletes. In order to minimize the negative impact that can be caused. Because the results of this study indicate that the transfer of athletes will affect several aspects in the field of sports including coaching sports achievements, athlete welfare and the sports industry.

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