

## Apuntes para el siglo XXI

# Towards Recognized Excellence

*Being publications of editorial and scientific quality isn't enough for scientific magazines; they also need to be recognized by the most visible and renown international data bases.*

A year ago we announced through the editorial of 94th publication that Apuntes. Physical Education and Sports (ISSN 1577-4015) and Apuntes. Physical Education and Sports (ISSN 0214-8757) initiated a change in cycle with the double goal of achieving the highest level of quality scientific publication and being recognized as a magazine with a big impact by the most visible and diffused international data bases.

Close to our 25th anniversary, which we'll celebrate with our 100th publication, we have edited 2,500 printed copies in two languages: Spanish and Catalan (with a 30% of regular subscribers and a 37% of institutional change, the rest is sold in specialized book stores). During this period we've published around 1,100 articles which are available online (<http://www.revista-apuntes.com>) with open access in optional double download: the article and its summary along with the key words, except the four last edited numbers whose articles are blocked to download (although their summaries and key words are available) as deference to the magazine's subscribers. Our web page is available in three languages: Spanish, Catalan, and English. There you will find the magazine's essential data, such as contacts, norms for publication of original copies, subscriptions, editorial council, and news; we've articulated the online library with a powerful search engine with several criteria of selection which enable the user to consult and investigate by thematic fields, publication number, text, author, or key words. To gain views and diffusion we offer a level of download and consulting in English of titles, key words, and abstracts, but not the complete article, which can obviously be read in Spanish or Catalan.

Since we put to start the downloading service of online articles from early this year until late October, date of creation of this editorial, we have counted 3,600 average visitors per month with an increasing tendency in the visits, number of consulted pages, and diversity of the visit's origin. We possess a raking of article consults on our web and the first few months some of them exceeded 500 downloads, while the best ranked exceeded 700, which come from around a hundred different countries around the globe. This service will, without a doubt, increase the number of author and article quoting at national level, but most importantly, at international level. In our news section we publish a TOP-20 with the most consulted articles in a determined month.

We are considered as a magazine of high scientific level by the ISOC and CSIC. As scientific magazine we are in Latinex and we comply practically with all the requisites of scientific excellence which are considered. We are evaluated by IN-RECS (Impact Index of Spanish Magazines of Social Sciences) and in the accumulated impact from 1994 to 2008 we're ranked within the first quartile of the educational environment (145 publications) with a ratio of 392 quotes (352 national quotes and 40 international quotes)/572 articles: 0.7 quotes/article. In this Index, our publication stands out as third in the total ranking in the parameter of "Number of national quotes" received. We are also present in the following data bases: Dialnet, Dice, Resh, Heracles, Sportdiscus, Qualis (B). Apuntes. Physical Education and Sports is considered the leading scientific Spanish publication in the field of Sciences of Physical Activity and Sports in the Latin-American area, and our current index of article acceptance is at 42%. The articles accepted by our magazine through our double-blind revision system come majorly by the nature and demand of our publication of original scientific investigations. 77% of the publishing authors are external and not pertaining to the INEFC, one third of the editorial committee is composed of members from outside the institution and the presence of people from foreign countries is still a minority (although we are in process of enlargement and restructuring).

Faithful to our initial objectives in which we formalized our compromise of achieving a high level of quality, Apuntes. Physical Education and Sports is being subjected to a process of evaluation, as a scientific magazine in the field of Sciences of Physical Activity and Sports, and along with over one hundred other Spanish scientific magazines of different academic and intellectual fields, in the project of Support for the Spanish Scientific Magazines (ARCE) with the objective of being recognized with editorial and scientific quality by the Spanish Federation of Science and Technology (FECYT). The criteria which they evaluate us against revolve around four principal areas: a) criteria on the magazine's informative quality as a media of scientific communication; b) criteria on the quality of editorial process; c) criteria on scientific quality; d) criteria on the quality of visibility and diffusion.

Parallel to this process, and taking advantage of the corresponding synergy, we immediately approached another formidable challenge for the magazine: the acceptance in the index of the most renown and visible International Data Bases (BBdd), in particular the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) of ISI-Thomson Scientific.

We believe this is a feasible challenge thanks to our background of uninterrupted publication during these years, our intellectual production, the constant leadership of our gazette as scientific magazine along this period of time in the field of Sciences of Physical Activity and Sport in the Latin-American area, the fact that we are the publication in which the articles of a great deal of the educational body of the 23 institutions and centers of Sciences of Physical Activity and Sport which exist in Spain, a big part of the Latin-American intellectuals of our intellectual area, and a good number of European authors, have been published, for the trust and consideration that authors and academic institutions have towards the magazine, and, especially, for being permanently backed up by the Institut Nacional d'Educació Física de Catalunya who's institutional and intellectual support from its teaching body, with one hundred of the highest level specialist professors, have been decisive for its subsistence and consolidation as scientific magazine.

Apuntes. Physical Education and Sports wants to be recognized as a magazine of editorial quality and scientific excellence in our intellectual field, gain visibility and diffusion, give back an added value to its authors and advisors, and to scientifically make our academic and professional field legitimate.

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