



# Talent Identification and Development in Sport: International Perspectives

*Joseph (Joe) Baker*

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Identifying talent in athletes and developing that ability to its fullest potential is a central concern of sport scientists, sports coaches and sports policy makers. This book offers a comprehensive synthesis of current knowledge in talent identification and development in sport, from the biological basis of ability to the systems and processes within sport through which that ability is nurtured.

Written by a team of leading international experts, the book explores key factors and issues in contemporary sport, including:

- genetics
- secondary factors such as birth date, cultural context and population size
- perceptual motor skill acquisition and expertise
- sports development policy
- in-depth case studies, including European soccer, East African running and US pro sports.

With an emphasis throughout on practical implications and processes for all those working in sport, the book offers an authoritative evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of contemporary systems for identifying and developing talent in sport. This is important reading for any student, researcher or practitioner with an interest in skill acquisition, youth sport, elite sport, sports coaching or sports development.

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