

## TREND OF BC3 ATHLETES PARTICIPANTS IN THE BRAZILIAN BOCCIA CHAMPIONSHIP

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The boccia BC3 class is the only one which athletes with Cerebral Palsy (CP) compete with athletes with other pathologies, since they present a high motor impairment and need an auxiliary ramp in order to throw balls. Goal: To define a tendency in pathology and gender of athletes of BC3 class participating in the Brazilian Paralympic Boccia Championship (BPBP) between years 2015 and 2019. Methods: A quantitative approach time series study in order to develop a descriptive analysis of the ten best classified athletes of BC3 class participating in BPBC between years 2015 and 2019, observing gender and pathology. The Final Bulletin of Championships was used, available in the National Association of Sports for Disabled - ANDE. The data was analyzed using descriptive statistics and linear regression. Results: Based on data collected, it was observed a value of graph

equation (y) of r-square (R<sup>2</sup>). As for the gender: Male ( $y = -0,8x + 1619,4$ ;  $R^2 = 0,9412$ ) e Female ( $y = 0,8x - 1609,4$ ;  $R^2 = 0,9412$ ); as for pathology: Spinal Cord Injury ( $y = -1,2x + 2423,6$ ;  $R^2 = 0,766$ ), Cerebral Palsy ( $y = 0,6x - 1207,2$ ;  $R^2 = 0,1636$ ), Spinal Amyotrophy ( $y = 0,4x - 805$ ;  $R^2 = 0,2353$ ), Muscular Dystrophy ( $y = 0,2x - 402,4$ ;  $R^2 = 0,2$ ) e Arthrogyrosis ( $y = 1$ ;  $R^2 = 0$ ). Thus, it is observed a tendency of raise in women participation between the ten best classifieds, and also a high tendency of reduction in presence of athletes with Spinal Cord Injury. Conclusion: Over the years women have gained more space inside BC3 class rankings, and athletes with Spinal Amyotrophy and Muscular Dystrophy have taken the place of athletes with Spinal Cord Injury in final classifications.

**Keywords:** *Boccia, paralympic sports, disability.*