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ABSTRACT

The first South East Asian Peninsula (SEAP) Games was held in Bangkok in 1959 when six countries, Burma, Laos, Malaya (later known as Malaysia), Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam took part in the inaugural multisport event. Eight SEAP Games were held from 1959 to 1975 in the midst of three Indo-China wars and confrontation between Indonesia and Malaysia and Singapore. Referring to the International Olympic Committee’s (IOC) museum, archives and library, the authors attempt to research and justify the need of a SEAP Games (1959 – 1975) museum, archives and library as part of the regional heritage of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). By checking through the library holdings of major libraries in Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand, the authors try to identify the types of information and artifacts that are needed for the proposed SEAP Games Archives, Library and Museum (LAM). At the same time the authors also refer to case studies of the International Olympic Committee’s (IOC) Le Musee Olympique (LMO) as well as other sport museums and pick out ideas that may be relevant to the study. The findings refer to the main sources of information and artifacts that are initially needed for the proposed conceptual model of the museum and issues and challenges involved in the collection development process. The author hope that this study will encourage further detail research to conserve, preserve and display the sporting heritage of mainland and peninsular Southeast Asia.

Introduction

The study of sources of information sources in sport and leisure is a relatively new area that has not been fully explore as there are hardly any published reports about sport archives, libraries and museums in Southeast Asia. The Olympic Museum has existed in various forms and in various buildings. In its present building, completed in 1993, it has a museum of over 118,000 square feet on five floors and 36,000 square feet of exhibition on three of those floors. The bottom of the Museum houses one of the largest collections of Olympic research materials in the world in the four departments of Olympic Studies Centres: archives of photographs, of audiovisual and multimedia items, of original documents, correspondence, and files and a library (Maxwell, 1998, p. 38).

According to three directories of museums in Southeast Asia, there are no sport museums in the region (Kelly, 2001; Lenzi, 2004, National Museum of Singapore, 1988). In fact the Singapore Sports Council (SSC) did set up a sports museum to preserve and showcase Singapore’s sporting heritage at the demolished Kallang National Stadium in November 1983 after receiving a donation of $10,000 from the International Olympic Committee (Singapore Sports Council, 1983, p. 40). Officially opened in December 1990, it served as a repository for sports related artifact that “bear historical, aesthetic, educational and scientific importance (Singapore Sports Council, 1991, p. 37). In 1997 the Museum became a member of the

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The Museum features both Olympic and non-Olympic sports, as well as traditional games (Singapore Sports Council, 1992, p. 39). Therefore other than the SSC’s Sport Museum, now known as the Sport Hub Museum, sport’s role in museums received relatively very little attention in Southeast Asia, although there were 75 Olympic Museums around the world (Adair, 2012, p. 122). The authors felt that it is timely to champion and promote the need for a South East Asian Peninsula (SEAP) Games (1959 – 1975) museum, including archival and library facilities, that are able collect, build and showcase the region’s unique cultural and sporting heritage.

The inaugural bi-annual SEAP Games was held in Bangkok in 1959, six countries, Thailand, Burma, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam and Laos and a total of 480 men and 38 women athletes participated in 12 events (Organizing Committee, 1960, p. 60). Cambodia withdrew weeks before the event began, fearing its athletes would be in danger because of possible anti-Cambodian protests linked to a border dispute with Thailand. Thailand topped the final table by winning 76 medals, including 35 gold medals. Burma came second, with 11 gold medals among its haul of 40 medals (Grossman, 2009, p. 107). When Burma and Malaysia hosted the Games in 1961 and 1965 respectively, Cambodia was the seventh nation to join the Games (Organizing Committee, 1962, p. 118; Mansor Rahman, 1965, p. 16). In 1967 the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was founded in Bangkok by the foreign ministers of Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and the deputy prime minister of Malaysia. The initial objective was to place regional conciliation (in the wake of Indonesia’s confrontation of Malaysia) within an institutionalized structure of relations (Leifer, 1995, p. 50). The eight SEAP Games that were organized from the years 1959 to 1975 were restricted to the seven main land and peninsula Southeast Asian nations as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Ranking of participating SEAP Games countries medal tally from 1959 to 1975

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>1st (H)</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>1st (H)</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>1st (H)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burma</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>1st (H)</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>1st (H)</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>2nd (H)</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>2nd (H)</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>2nd (H)</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laos</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>7th</td>
<td>7th</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>7th</td>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia/Khmer</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The ranking is based on the most gold medals each country obtained. H means host country.


From SEAP Games (1959-1975) to the South East Asian (SEA) Games (1977 – present)

In 1977 the SEAP Games evolved into the South East Asian (SEA) Games when Indonesia and the Philippines participated in the multi-sport event for the first time. Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos who withdrew from the games in 1975 due to the Second Indochina war did not participate as they were still politically unstable (Asiaweek, 1977, p. 31). Brunei Darussalam joined ASEAN in 1984. Vietnam became a member on 28 July 1995. Laos and Myanmar (previously known was Burma) were admitted in July 1997 (Institute of Southeast
Asian Studies, 2007, p. 5). By 1999 all 10 ASEAN participated in the 20th SEA Games which was hosted by Brunei Darussalam for the first time (Special Committee on Hospitality and Decoration, 1999, p. 36). The 28th SEA Games will be held in Singapore as member countries take turns to host the bi-annual event (Straits Times, 2011, p. 6). The authors feel that it is timely to research about conceptual model of the SEAP Games Archives, Library and Museum (ALM) and the types of information that are needed to set up and develop the institution at the SEAP/SEA Games Secretariat in Bangkok, Thailand. The SEAP Games (ALM) (1959 – 1975) can also be extended to the SEA Games (1977 – 2015).

Methodology

The research methodology look at the holdings of major libraries, research publications and monographs in Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand to try identify the sources of information that are needed to start a conceptual model of the SEAP Games ALM. The authors also refer at case studies of existing sport museums like the International Olympic Committee’s (IOC) Le Musee Olympique (LMO) (Adair, 2012), Olympic Hall of Fame and Museum, Calgary (Ramshaw, 2010), National Baseball of Fame and Museum Library, New York (Higgins, 2008), England Rugby Union Team, Twickenham, Tennis Museum at Wimbledon All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) Museum at Lord’s Cricket Ground, London, Museum at Stamford Bridge Stadium, Chelsea Football Club (Vamplew, 2012). Following the LMO, the proposed SEAP Games ALM museum should include an archive library and museum division.

The SEAP Games’ archives

The LMO’s Olympic Studies Centre’s Historical Archives primarily houses documents relating to each of the modern Olympics, as well as IOC correspondence in the form of reports of official Olympic meetings, conference, proceedings, newsletters and so on (Adair, 2012, p. 109). There are five reasons leading to the establishment of the proposed SEAP/SEA Games archives based on Verhoeven’s (1967) criteria:

1. The recognition that the SEA Games secretariat obligation to care for ASEAN records, which belong to member countries.
2. The practical need of improving the Secretariat efficiency and economy.
3. The recognition that SEAP Games records define the relations among member countries.
4. Even the earliest records are needed as these reflect the origins and growth of the Games and are the main source of information which the Games structure is built in the course of time.
5. Records provide a focal point of regional unity and prestige of the ongoing SEAP to South East Asian (SEA) Games after 1975.

He added two more reasons from a general point of view. Firstly, when archives are made available to the general public, researchers and to historical scholars, the inner workings and motives of member countries can be brought to light. Archives are needed for composing an objective history of the Games and constitute the richest history of the period of the Games. Secondly, it is the moral obligation of the Secretariat to provide access to archives of historical value to ASEAN and member countries.

Records of official documents relating to the SEAP Games (1959 – 1975)

The term official documents refers to the records of states, governments, corporations and formally constituted organizations such as sporting federations and clubs. Their records include legislation and bylaws, internal memoranda, correspondence sent to other organizations and individuals, statements of policy, reports and minutes of meetings. Evidence from official
documents is common in sport history (Booth, 2005, p. 464). The SEAP Games, now known as SEA Games Secretariat in Bangkok would have a valuable and extensive collection of official documents for sport historian to study many aspects of the history of the SEAP Games.

Habibah Zon Yahya (1981) described archival materials to be in the form of written manuscripts or printed materials such as files, publications, cartographic records, maps, plans and posters. They can be in the form of audio visual materials, photographs, films, microfilms, microfiches, tape recordings and newspapers (p. 21).

Archives of photographs and newspaper cuttings

Many established newspaper corporations and agencies do have photograph and newspaper libraries of their own. It is possible to source for photographs of the SEAP Games from a list of newspaper companies in Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand. The newspaper companies will charge reproduction and copyright fees depending on the size of each picture and whether it is to be used for display or publication purposes.

Table 2: Sources for newspaper clippings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>Period available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Straits Times (1845 – present)</td>
<td>1959 - 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Sunday Times (1845 – present)</td>
<td>1959 - 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malay</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Berita Harian (1957 – present)</td>
<td>1959 - 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malay</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Berita Harian (1957 – present)</td>
<td>1959 - 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malay</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Mingguan Malaysia (1964 – present)</td>
<td>1965 - 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malay</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Utusan Malaysia (1967 – present)</td>
<td>1967 - 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Bangkok Post (1946 – present)</td>
<td>1959 - 1975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Black and white television footage of the SEAP Games

One of the most captivating section of the LMO’s Olympic Studies Centre is the Images and Sound Department, which contains some 20,000 hours film footage of the Olympic Games from 1896 to today (Adair, 2012, p. 109). It is not possible to obtain press pictures and film footages of the SEAP Games from the press and broadcasting agencies in Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam because these countries were at war lacking basic infrastructure and experienced widespread media censorship (Morgan and Loo, 2000, pp. 300-302, Clarke, 2000, pp. 245-250, Panol and Do, 2000, pp. 467-471). Therefore the likely sources of acquiring film footage of the SEAP Games would come from Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand.

Broadcasting in Singapore began in 1935 when the first station was set up and operated by the British Malaya Broadcasting Corporation. After World War Two the broadcasting service was organized as Radio Malaya, Singapore and the Federation of Malaya, with its headquarters in Singapore. In 1959 it was split into two organizations, Radio Singapore and Radio Malaya (Philips, 1991b, p. 48). When Singapore joined Malaysia in 1963, television was introduced in Singapore and Radio Singapore functioned as the Singapore station of Radio Malaysia. When Singapore left Malaysia to be an independent sovereign state in 1965, the broadcasting station came under the Ministry of Culture’s Department of Broadcasting. With the passing of the Singapore Broadcasting Corporation (SBC) Act in December 1979, SBC took over the functions, asset and staff of the Department of Broadcasting (Philips, 1991a, p. 98).
The Radio and Television Malaysia (RTM) started its own film archives in 1963 when television was first introduced in Malaysia (Hassan Mohammad & Samsiah Muhammad, 1985, p. 30). The collection comprises of 16 mm films and 35 mm films, covering a wide variety of fields like politics, drama and sports. In 1982 the National Archives of Malaysia (NAM) began to assume its role as the custodian of the film archives. In 1988 NAM launched a programme called “Images of the past,” for the public to view films of historical, educational, cultural and social relevance weekly (Rahani Jamil, 1990). Malaysia hosted the SEAP Games in 1965 and 1971 and Singapore in 1973. It is likely that NAM and SBC, now known as Mediacorp, would have film footage of the SEAP Games in 1965, 1971 and 1973 as well as sports reporting of the Games in 1967, 1969 and 1975 which were likely to be included in their daily news coverage.

After the end of absolute monarchy in Thailand in 1932, the Propaganda Department (later known as the Public Relations Department [PRD]) was established the following year. Radio Thailand, the official government broadcasting station established in 1941, came under the operation and control of the PRD. Legislation created the Thai Television Co. Ltd, a joint public and private-sector ventures, that went into operation on 24 June 1955 as Channel 4 in Bangkok. The Royal Thai Army started the second commercial station, Channel 7, in January 1958. Colour transmission began in 1967. Television in Thailand was a state monopoly and main propaganda tool for the government. Broadcasting in the early days covered the Bangkok area offering newscasts and entertainment. (Ekachai, 2000, pp. 435 – 436). Channel 4 broadcasting imported football coverage ultimately led to a massive rise of the sport’s popularity (Grossman, 2009, p. 81). It was likely that the SEAP Games events were included in the broadcasting events. Hence the likely sources of film archives of the Games would come from Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand are shown in Table 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Broadcasting station</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Radio Television Malaysia (RTM)</td>
<td>National Archives of Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Department of Broadcasting, Ministry of Culture</td>
<td>Mediacorp, Singapore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Public Relations Department (PRD)</td>
<td>Information not available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The SEAP Games Library

The LMO contains an Olympic Studies Centre that boasts the world’s most comprehensive collection of books, documents, and images relating to the Olympics. (Adair, 2012, p. 109). It is a special library with a collection of 16,000 books and 200 periodicals. Unique to this library are reference collections of final reports published by cities that have held the Olympics. Public users of the library include scholars working on theses and dissertations, students of all ages, teachers, librarians, journalists, Swiss residents, professionals such as doctors, architects, artists, sports fans and occasional users from Europe (Maxwell, 1998, p. 39).

The proposed SEAP Games Library should try to emulate the LMO Library as a general guideline, by having a collection development policy the tries to collect the most comprehensive collection of books and information relating to the Games, sporting institutions and the sports history of each member country. The information to be collected can be in the English, Malay, Thai, Vietnamese, Cambodian and Chinese languages. The broad guidelines of the collection development policy are as follows:

1. The Library must have all the Official SEAP Games reports.
2. ASEAN countries have collaborated in the preservation, promotion and enhancement of its regional cultural heritage. It should therefore signed an MOU with the National Libraries and possibly selected academic libraries of each member country to obtain the many listed publication listed above.

3. Collect published research and publications relating to the diffusion and transmission of Western sports in each country. Very little research and publications are available in this subject.

4. Collect published research and information about the traditional sports and games of each country. One example is the different forms of sepak takraw played in the various member countries.

5. The Library should have the annual reports of all Olympic Councils or Committees of each member country, including publications of National Sports Associations and Who’s Who in sports in each country. For example, Thomas R.P. Dawson has edited Who’s Who in Sports in Malaysia and Singapore published in 1975.

6. The Library should have biographical publications about famous ASEAN sports officials, sports teams and sports personalities. For example, Malaysia’s fastest sprinter for the SEAP Games, Dr. Mani Jegathesan, has written his biography entitled A decade on cinders published in 1984.

7. The Library should be the legal depository for all sports related publications published in member countries.

**Multi-sport Museum**

Sports museums depict the public place of sports history. “These can be the best places to replicate performance, drama, romance, passion and emotion and they have done much to educate through entertainment” (Vamplew, 2013). They also represent the sporting history of each SEAP Games participating country and mainland and Peninsular Southeast Asia. There are three natural phases in the maintenance of heritage: collection, conservation and display. The value of heritage lies in its use, in display (Davis, 1984, p. 65).

The authors envisaged the SEAP games museum can conceptually be divided into three sections with the types of promotional materials and artifacts to be collected, conserved and displayed. The first section introduces the history of the Olympics, Asian Games and SEAP Games host countries. The second are allocated for the SEAP Games Hall of Fame for individual and team events. The third section team is solely devoted to the team events as shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Three sections of the museum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overview of the Games</th>
<th>Individual and team events</th>
<th>Team events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
An overview of each Games

The LMO features a great variety of displays, artifacts, souvenirs and resources. At centre stage are permanent exhibitions dedicated to the summer and winter Olympics. These include torch carriers into the opening ceremony of the Games, Olympic medals, sporting apparel of Olympic Greats. It also feature displays of Olympic coins and stamps (Adair, 2012, p. 109).

The first section of the SEAP Games museum should introduce the history of the Olympic, Asian and SEAP Games. It should feature the opening ceremony of each of the eight Games. This would include the torch carriers, medals, promotional materials (posters and SEAP Games stamps) and locations where the various events were held. It also should show the overall medal tally of each Games, total number of athletes and officials by gender, man and women athlete winning the most medals in each Games and the official sportswear of each contingent.

SEAP Games Hall of Fame: Individual and team events display

The SEAP Games Hall of Fame should feature 16 sports namely, athletics, badminton, basketball, boxing, cycling, football, judo, sailing, sepak takraw, shooting, swimming, table tennis, tennis, volleyball, water polo and weightlifting, in detail considering they were included in most of the SEAP Games events. Bowling (1975), gymnastics (1969) and rugby (1967) was included in the Games one time and hockey (1971, 1973 and 1975), three times. These sports can further be categorized into those with strictly individual event like boxing, judo and weightlifting. Sports with individual and team events are athletics, badminton, cycling, sailing, shooting, swimming, table-tennis and tennis. Strictly team sports are basketball, football, sepak takraw, volleyball and waterpolo.

Table 5: Allocation of space for individual and team sports and team sports only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual and team sports</th>
<th>Team sports only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual sport only</td>
<td>Individual and team sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boxing, judo and weightlifting</td>
<td>Athletics, badminton, cycling, sailing, shooting, swimming, table-tennis and tennis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overview of each sport and highlights of outstanding athletes

The individual and team sports display section should be arrange alphabetically like athletics, badminton, boxing, cycling and so on. Snyder (1991) notes that ‘sports halls of fame and museum are secular temples dedicated to the sports muses – gods and goddess and the spiritual world of sport. There are also archives of sport material from an earlier time’ (p. 237). All the results of individual and teams events are to be compiled and analyzed. For example, Anat Ratanapol of Thailand can be considered the most outstanding 100 metres sprinter of the SEAP Games for having won the gold medal three times consecutively from 1971 and 1975. He also clocked the fastest time of 10.4 seconds in 1975. The second outstanding sprinter was Sudhi Manyagas winning two consecutive gold medals from 1959 to 1961 clocking 10.4 seconds on both occasions. This kind of analysis can be applied for the individual events in athletics, swimming, boxing, shooting and so on. Table 6 shows the total medal tally for the SEAP Games men’s 100 metres sprint event.
Table 6: Total medal tally for men’s 100 metres sprint event (1959 – 1975)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
<th>Bronze</th>
<th>Total medals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burma</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The country with the most winning teams for teams events like athletics, football, volleyball and basketball, can be considered the best country for a particular team event. Thailand can be consider to have the best men’s 4 X 100 metres sprint relay teams when they won a total of 4 gold medals out of 7 from the years 1961 to 1975 as shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Men’s 4 X 100 metres relay (1961 – 1975)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>Burma</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>Malaya</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Collection of sportswear

In collection of sportswear can provided three facets of interpretation for the sports historians and viewers. Firstly, they can focus on the colours, forms and quality of textile of clothes. Secondly, they can consider them as products at the interface between producers and consumers. Thirdly, they can put the focus on their meaning, analyzing their symbolic and social functions as well as their use of language. In doing so, historians are able to investigate how sportswear intervenes at three different interconnected levels of sporting, economic and cultural history (Terret, 2012, p. 52).

The collection of artifacts like various types of sportswear, sports equipment, balls, shoes and so on, will show the evolution of design and the cultural production of sports. The collection of artifacts can be done through appeal to athletes to donate their valuable possessions to the SEAP Games museum knowing that they can be preserved and displayed for visitors to see and learn the history of the Games. Sponsors and manufacturers of sportswear and equipment can also be an important source to collect the artifacts. The SEAP ALM can collaborate with archivists, specialist sport librarians, museum curators and sports scholars to promote effective organization and display of the information and materials, supported by further primary and secondary research.

Conclusion

In the study of the proposed conceptual model of the SEAP Games ALM, the authors have identified the various types of information needed and how to obtain the materials. This is no
exhaustive as there are so much more information and artifact yet to be identified. ASEAN countries can collaborate in the preservation of its sporting heritage. Every member country can contribute towards building the Games archival, library, museum and collection (Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2007, p. 35). The SEAP Games ALM can be a beginning and later, extended to be the SEA Games ALM. It has the potential to be a regional sporting, cultural and educational institution as well as a new sport tourist venue to grow intra-ASEAN and international tourism travel.

Heritage is finite: once lost it cannot be reconstructed. It is a delicate treasure that needs constant attention and interpretation to make it meaningful. It is too important to be the responsibility of one body or institution; it must be everyone’s concern. Yet we recognize the need for government involvement, both on a policy level and on a support level (Davis, 1984, p. 67).

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