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978-1-107-00733-8 - Sport, Democracy and War in Classical Athens

David M. Pritchard

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SPORT, DEMOCRACY AND WAR IN CLASSICAL ATHENS

Athenian democracy may have opened up politics to every citizen, but it had no impact on participation in sport. The city's sportsmen continued to be drawn from the elite, and so it comes as a surprise that sport was very popular with non-elite citizens of the classical period, who rewarded victorious sportsmen lavishly and created an unrivalled programme of local sporting festivals, on which they spent staggering sums of money. They also shielded sportsmen from the public criticism which was otherwise normally directed towards the elite and its conspicuous activities. This book is a bold and novel exploration of this apparent contradiction, which examines three of the fundamental aspects of Athens in the classical period – democratic politics, public commitment to sport, and constant warfare – and is essential reading for all of those who are interested in Greek sport, Athenian democracy and its waging of war.

DAVID M. PRITCHARD is Senior Lecturer in the School of History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics at the University of Queensland, and a member of the University's Cultural History Project. He has held research fellowships at Macquarie University, the University of Copenhagen and the University of Sydney. He has edited *War, Democracy and Culture in Classical Athens* (Cambridge, 2010), co-edited *Sport and Festival in the Ancient Greek World* (2003), and is currently finishing a co-authored book on public finance in ancient Athens.

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Preface

This book accounts for the anomalously high standing of elite sport in democratic Athens. In writing it I have been supported by many institutions and individuals. I completed the first draft of this book on consecutive postdoctoral research fellowships at Macquarie University and the University of Sydney. I revised this draft for publication while a senior lecturer at the University of Queensland. I completed most of this revision away from my university. In the first half of 2011 I was a research fellow at the University of Copenhagen. I am indebted to Vincent Gabrielsen, who, along with his colleagues in the SAXO Institute, supported my application, regularly discussed the book with me, and integrated me fully into their seminars and classes. This long stay was made possible by the generosity of the Danish Central Bank, which gave me one of the apartments which it maintains for overseas scholars in the city's historic quarter of Nyhavn ('New Harbour'). Before I took up this fellowship and, again, in early 2012 I was a visiting scholar at the University of Sydney's Centre for Classical and Near Eastern Studies of Australia. Sincere thanks go, for both visits, to Eric Csapo and Peter Wilson, who supported my application and invited me to deliver one of the book's chapters as a seminar to the members of their ARC-funded theatre project, and to John Keane, who, while away in Berlin, generously lent me his house. When I returned from Copenhagen, in the second half of 2011, I took up a faculty fellowship in the University of Queensland's Centre for Critical and Cultural Studies. I thank Graeme Turner, this centre's director, for this fellowship, which provided, as I was trying to finish this book, invaluable teaching relief and a supportive and stimulating environment in which to work.

I also owe thanks to many others. I am immensely grateful to Mark Golden, Donald G. Kyle and Thomas Heine Nielsen, who read, and commented on, the book in its entirety. I owe a lot to those individuals who made helpful suggestions when I spoke about the book's findings at universities in Aarhus, Adelaide, Arlington, Athens, Austin, Brisbane,

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Preface

Cambridge, Cardiff, Christchurch, Copenhagen, Delhi, Dunedin, London, Melbourne, Nagoya, Odense, Providence and Sydney. Special mention should be made of the Nicholas Anthony Aroney Trust, which, for a third time, gave me a research grant to complete a book. I thank the editors who have given me permission to publish in this book material which first appeared elsewhere. An early version of the book's argument was published as Pritchard 2009. Chapter 2 is a substantially revised version of Pritchard 2003. A shorter version of Chapter 4 was published as Pritchard 2012b. Chapter 6 draws heavily on Pritchard 2010. I would also like to thank Michael Sharp of Cambridge University Press for his longstanding support of this book and to acknowledge the good research assistance of Atticus Cox, Murray Kane and Sarah Plant. Final thanks go to my closest relatives for humouring me during this book's realisation. I cannot pay back my family for its years of encouragement. But I can dedicate this book to my parents, Gabrielle M. Crompton and Douglas Pritchard, my stepfather, Alan B. Crompton, my sister, Hannah Spoto, and my wife, Jumana Bayeh.

Unless it is otherwise indicated, all of the book's translations are my own.

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The abbreviations of the names of ancient writers and their works in this volume follow those of S. Hornblower and A. Spawforth (eds.), *The Oxford Classical Dictionary*, third edition, New York and Oxford (1996). The abbreviations of journal titles are those of *L'année philologique*.

Collard, Cropp and Lee	C. Collard, M. Cropp, and K. H. Lee (eds.), <i>Euripides: Selected Fragmentary Plays</i> , vol. 1. Warminster, 1995.
Diels and Kranz	H. Diels and W. Kranz (eds.), <i>Die Fragmente der Vorsokratiker</i> , sixth edition. Berlin, 1951–2.
Giannantoni	G. Giannantoni (ed.), <i>Socratis et Socraticorum Reliquiae</i> , 4 vols. Naples, 1990.
<i>IG</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Graecae</i> . Berlin, 1873–.
<i>IVO</i>	W. Dittenberger and K. Purgold (eds.), <i>Inschriften von Olympia</i> . Berlin, 1896.
Jensen	C. C. Jensen (ed.), <i>Hyperides: Orationes Sex cum Ceterarum Fragmentis</i> . Stuttgart, 1917.
Kassel and Austin	R. Kassel and C. Austin (eds.), <i>Poetae Comici Graeci</i> . Berlin, 1983–2001.
Leone	P. A. M. Leone (ed.), <i>Ioannis Tzetzae Historiae</i> . Naples, 1968.
Lloyd-Jones	H. Lloyd-Jones (ed. and trans.), <i>Sophocles</i> . 3 vols. Cambridge, MA, 1994–6.
Race	W. H. Race (ed. and trans.), <i>Pindar</i> . 2 vols. Cambridge, MA, and London, 1997.

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Rose

V. Rose (ed.), *Aristotelis Qui Ferebantur Librorum Fragmenta*. Leipzig, 1886.

Snell, Kannicht and Radt

B. Snell, R. Kannicht and S. Radt (eds.), *Tragicorum Graecorum Fragmenta*. 5 vols. Göttingen, 1971–2004.

Thalheim

T. Thalheim (ed.), *Antiphon: Orationes et Fragmenta*. Leipzig, 1914.

West

M. L. West (ed.), *Iambi et Elegi Graeci*. 2 vols. Oxford, 1989, 1992.