The Production of ›Tuned Bodies‹. Theoretical-Empirical Considerations via the Example of Volleyball Training

On the basis of ethnographic observations we trace the systematic production of a volleyball specific ›tuned body‹ (Wittgenstein, Gebauer), in the course of which embodied dispositions are brought into the intelligible form of a ›setter body‹. Within the socio-material arrangements of training sessions, bodies are made observable, rearranged, and re-configured so that they can function as competent ›carrier media‹ of practical team play.

We conclude our talk by discussing the supplementation of the ›tuned body‹ with the concept of a ›tuned lived body‹, thus bringing into focus that bodies also must be brought into the form of a social game with regard to their abilities of feeling, perceiving, and assessing in order to be able to be involved as ›agile moments‹ (Peter Fuchs) in the game’s practical performances.