Arctic Winter Games
between Sport and Culture

Sportification of Culture ??
Arctic Winter Games

- General presentation of AWG
- Inuit and Dene Games

Discussion:

Mainstreaming Culture?
Win / Win situation??
The Arctic Winter Games is the world’s largest northern multi-sport and culture event.

Features sports that enjoy worldwide popularity and the ones more closely associated with winter climates. The arctic sports are activities which evolved among the people of the circumpolar region.
Arctic Winter Games

- Every second year
- App. 2000 athletes (13-18 years in most sports)
- Alaska
- Yukon, North Alberta, NWT, Nunavut
- Greenland
- Guest units:
  - Nunavik (North Quebec), Sapmi, Yamal (Russia)
International Sports

- Volley, futsal, basket, table-tennis
- X-country, downhill, biathlon, badminton
- Hockey, speed-skating, figure skating
AWG Sports

- Arctic Sport (Inuit Games),
- Dene Games,
- Northern Sports
Northern Sports

- Dog sled
- Snow shoe run
- Snow shoe biathlon
Inuit Games

- One foot - two foot - Alaska high kick
- One-hand reach
- Kneel - sledge - triple jump
- Air-plane, arm pull, knuckle hop
Inuit Games

- Arm Pull
Inuit Games

- Air Plane
Inuit Games

- Head Pull
Inuit Games

- Knuckle Hop
Inuit Games

One-hand reach, Alaskan high kick, and more.
Inuit Games

- Tripple/sledge jump
Dene Games

- Finger pull
- Stick pull
- Pole push
- Snow snake
- Hand games
Inuit/ Dene Culture

- Respect for elders
- Oral / verbal culture "storytelling"
- Avoiding conflicts and loss of honour
- Showing friendship to competitors
- More play than competition
- Patience, teamwork, comraderie
Conflicting…?

- Follow the rules or respect tradition?
- Long discussions until everybody agrees
- Important elders
- Maintaining time-schedules?
- No rush
- Patience
- Gold-silver-bronze? Records?
- Focus on winners
Discussion

- "sport culture" mainstreaming?
- Integration?
- Establishing equality?
- Generating interest in first nation Culture?
- Building self-assurance and pride?