

## Olympic Sports and Athletes

### Croatian transcript:

Hrvatska je poznata po svojim sportašima, koji su dakle tijekom niza godina osvajali raznorazne nagrade, sudjelovali na olimpijadama, i tako. Evo, spomenula bih, dakle, recimo hrvatske ekipne reprezentacije, tipa vaterpolo reprezentacija, rukometna, nogometna, košarkaška, u zadnje vrijeme i hokejaška, koja se nekako pokušava svim silama probit, tako da se u Hrvatskoj recimo dosta potiče taj ekipni sport.

Kod individualnih sportova je malo teža situacija. Primjerice, atletika, gdje, znači<sup>1</sup>, imamo jako malo međunarodno uspješnih sportaša, točnije evo u zadnje vrijeme samo jednu, to je Blanka Vlašić, koja je iznimno uspješna, znači najbolja, jedna od najboljih atletičarki generalno u svijetu, a najbolja trenutno visašica. Znači, Blanka skače u vis i evo, u zadnje vrijeme je sve bliže tom jednom starom rekordu skoka u vis, koji je 2 [metra], 10 [centimetara], a naša Blanka ima 2,08 preskočenih metara.

Zanimljivo je da imamo, recimo, razvijene te ljetne sportove, tipa plivanje, veslanje, jedrenje, a jaki su i zimski sportovi: primjerice, skijanje. Evo, odnedavno također imamo i vlastiti, vlastito znači to skijaško natjecanje ovdje, znači, u Zagrebu na Sljemeni. To je „Sniježna Kraljica“. Ove godine, 2009. je sudjelovalo na tom našem natjecanju najviše sportašica iz, koje se trenutno bore u skijaškom prvenstvu. Naša najpoznatija skijašica je Janica Kostelić, koja evo par godina ne skija, ostavila se znači skijanja. Bila je najpoznatija slalomašica, četiri olimpijske medalje, i, znači, niz uspjeha je ostvarila u tom sportu. A trenutno njezin brat Ivica Kostelić je aktualni skijaš i također ima zavidne rezultate.

### English translation:

Croatia is renowned for its athletes, who have won numerous trophies, participated in the Olympic Games, etc. Here I'd like to mention Croatian national teams in team sports, such as water polo, handball, soccer and basketball national teams. Lately [one should mention] our hockey national team, which is desperately trying to make a breakthrough. One could say that in Croatia, team sports are being more encouraged [than individual sports].

The situation is a bit more complex when it comes to individual sports. For example, track and field, in which we have a small number of internationally successful athletes, or currently only one. Her name is Blanka Vlašić; she is exceptionally successful, meaning

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<sup>1</sup> *Znači*: (lit. trans. “meaning”) A filler more common in South Serbia and northern Montenegro than in Croatia. In this transcript, it was translated as “I mean” to clearly mark it as a filler in English as well. Please note that this word has other meanings, and that it sometimes might be difficult to discern whether it is a filler or a regular part of speech.

the best, or one of the best athletes in the world generally speaking, and definitely the best high jumper. So, Blanka competes in high jump and at present she is getting closer to this old record in high jump, which stands at 210 [centimeters]. Blanka currently jumps at 208 [centimeters].

It's also interesting to note that summer sports are popular as well, such as swimming, rowing, sailing, but winter sports have a strong following too; for instance, skiing. One recent development is the organization of our own skiing competition here in Zagreb, at *Sljeme*<sup>2</sup>. It's called "Snow Queen Trophy."<sup>3</sup> This year, 2009, saw the largest number of women skiers currently competing in the World Championship. Our most famous skier is Janica Kostelić, who hasn't been skiing for a few years now; she's given up on skiing. She was our most successful slalom skier, winning four Olympic medals; I mean, she was quite successful in this sport. Currently, her brother Ivica Kostelić is a competitive skier who is also quite successful.

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<sup>2</sup> *Sljeme*: Popular name for Medvjednica's highest peak (Medvjednica is a mountain in central Croatia, north of Zagreb).

<sup>3</sup> Snow Queen Trophy: Although the name might be slightly misleading, the Snow Queen Trophy is both a women's and men's event. The race was originally called "Golden Bear," but the name was changed later in order to honor Janica Kostelić, whose success in the sport helped the city of Zagreb to gain rights for an official FIS (International Ski Federation) Alpine Ski World Cup race.