

SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE BETWEEN STATE AND NATIONAL LEVEL MALE VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

GUL MOHAMMAD¹, ARIF MOHAMMAD²

¹Department of Physical Education, Singhania University, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, INDIA.

Email: gul.mohd10@gmail.com

²Department of Teachers Training and Non Formal Education, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, INDIA.

Email: amohammad3@jmi.ac.in

How to cite this article: Mohammad, G., & Mohammad, A. (September, 2015). Social intelligence between state and national level male volleyball players: A comparative study. Journal of Physical Education Research, Volume 2, Issue III, 79-83.

Received: May 22, 2015

Accepted: September 28, 2015

ABSTRACT

This study was design to assess whether any difference exists between state and national level male volleyball players on social intelligence. A total of 200 (100 State and 100 National level) male volleyball players were selected as subjects of the study. The data on social intelligence was collected by using Social Intelligence Scale (SIS) developed by Chanda and Ganesan (2007). Independent t-test was used to compare state and national level volleyball players on the selected psychological variables. The results of the study showed no significant difference found between state and national level volleyball players on social intelligence.

Keywords: Social intelligence, state, national, volleyball.

1. INTRODUCTION

The acquisition of new knowledge in relation to psychological, motor, and physiology qualities for betterment of sports performance is the main focus of research in present day's sports. In the process sports scientist explore the field of psychology and enlist psychological parameters which do influences sports performance (Litherland, Lyman, & Eyer, 1997). By nature human beings are competitive and ambitious for the excellence in all sports performances. Not only every man but every nation wants to show their supremacy by challenging the other nation. Thus these challenges stimulates, inspires and motivates all the

Correspondence: Gul Mohammad, Research Scholar, Department of Physical Education, Singhania University, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, INDIA, Tel: +91-9536676868, Email: gul.mohd10@gmail.com

nations to sweat and strive to run faster, jump higher, throw further in present competitive sports world. This can only be possible through scientific, systematic and planned sports training programme given to the players as well as teams (Mohammad, Khan, & Singh, 2015).

A player is psychologically fit for the game if he possesses the required perception, emotional ability, motivation, intelligence and educability to accomplish the task. Psychological factors affect the performance of an individual and of the whole team. Alderman (1974) while emphasizing the psychological factors comments, “one essential point which must be stressed is that regardless of how much ability, skill and fitness level an athlete possesses for a particular sport task, the success or the quality of his performance will, in the final analysis probably depend on his particular psychological make-up”. In recent years sport psychologists have emphasized the significance of personality characteristics, anxiety, intelligence, attitudes, hardiness, aggression and achievement motivation and host of other psychological factors that influence performance of the athletes. Among the above mentioned psychological variables social intelligence is found one of the most influential psychological parameter (Dogan, & Cetin, 2008; Hooda, Sharma, & Yadava, 2009; Khan, Haider, & Ahmed, 2011; Pant, Sharma, & Rajbeer, 2012; Patial, 2015). Social intelligence according to the original definition of Thorndike, (1920) is “the ability to understand and manage men and women, boys and girls, to act wisely in human relations”. More recently, Cantor and Kihlstrom (1987) redefined social intelligence to refer to the individual’s fund of knowledge about the social world.

A critical evaluation of research studies conducted in India give clear evidence that very few researches have attempted to study the influence of social intelligence on performance of volleyball players. Thus it is pertinent to define the above mentioned psychological factors and examine their relevance to sports performance.

2. METHODS AND MATERIALS

2.1 Participants

The subjects for the study were 200 male volleyball players who participated in 17th Youth National Volleyball Championship, Rampur, UP; and Senior State Championship, Raebareli, UP. The mean age of the selected subjects was 21.28 years. These subjects were categorized into two groups namely state (n=100) and national (n=100) level volleyball players. In this study state level players were those who played for their District and national level players were those who played for their state in the respective tournaments.

2.2 Tool Used in the Study

A standard Social Intelligence Scale (SIS) developed by Chanda and Ganesan (2007) was used to collect the data on social intelligence.

2.3 Procedure of Data Collection

Prior to data collection informed consent from the team manager, tournament director, and players was obtained by the investigator. Then the data on social intelligent was collected by administering the social intelligent scale on 200 male volleyball players.

2.4 Statistical Analysis

Collected raw data on social intelligent was subjected to statistical analysis by using SPSS (v.19) software. Independent *t*-test was performed to compare state and national level male volleyball players. The significance was tested at 0.05 levels.

3. RESULTS

Table 1: Mean comparison of social intelligence between state and national level male volleyball players

Level	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>t</i> -value	<i>P</i>
State	91.16	4.90	1.08	>0.05
National	90.35	5.63		
Significant at 5% probability level			$t_{.05}(198) = 1.97$	

Readings of the above Table 1 shows that the calculated *t*-value (1.08) is less than the tabulated *t*-value ($t_{.05}=1.97$). It indicates that no significant difference exist between state and national level male volleyball players ($t_{.05}=1.08$, $p > .05$) on social intelligence.

4. DISCUSSION

This study was conducted with the purpose to compare the social intelligence between state and national level male volleyball players. The results of the study revealed that no statistical significant difference was found between both levels. It indicate that at both level whether it is state or national level volleyball players are having same level of social intelligent as far as this set of population is concerned.

The result of the study conducted by Singh, (2015) is in support of our finding. Malipatil and Hadapada, (2015) documented that sports have positively influence on social intelligence. The regular physical activities programme should be the part of the college and university programme for the harmonious development of the body and mind and cultivates the social and psychological values among the sportsperson. Ahmadi, Firouzi, Divkan, Khalili, Ziaee, and Khaksari, (2014) found that significant relations between the social intelligence and the enablement of the athletes. All the various aspects of social intelligence were found to be effective in empowering the players studied. Also they documented that social skills had the greatest effect in the enablement of the athletes, and after that the aspects of social awareness and information processing had the most tangible effects, respectively.

Bar-on (2003) found that there was a moderate yet significant relationship between emotional and social intelligence and psychological health. The aspects of emotional and social intelligent competencies that we found to impact on psychological health are (a) the ability to manage emotion and cope with stress, (b) the drive to accomplish personal goals in order to actualize one's inner potential and lead a more meaningful life and (c) the ability to verify feelings and thinking. Kaukiainen, Bjorkqvist, Lagerspetz, Osterman, Salmivalli, Rothberg, and Ahlbom (1999) studied intelligence and empathy as antecedents of different types of aggression. It was found that there was a statistically significant correlation between indirect aggression and social intelligence. In the case of empathy, the correlations were negative, but they did not reach the level of significance.

5. CONCLUSIONS

On the basis of results obtained and limitations of the study it is concluded that no significant difference was found between state and national level male volleyball players on social intelligence. Thus we can say that state and national level volleyball players are having same level of social intelligent.

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