

INVESTIGATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS AND PARTICIPATION MOTIVES IN SPORTS OF INTER-UNIVERSITY LEVEL PLAYERS

Dr. Ashish Kumar Nigam* & Sachin Kosta**

ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to assess and investigate the socio-economic status and participation motives in sports of Inter-university level players. For this purpose, one hundred and Sixty Six (141 male and 25 female) inter-university level players of different games and sports belong to colleges affiliated to R D. University, Jabalpur (M.P.) were selected as the subjects for the study. The participation motivation questionnaire prepared by Gill, Gross and Huddleston (1983) and Socio-economic Status Scale prepared and developed by L. N. Dubey and B. Nigam (2005). Was used for the purpose of data collection. To assess the preferences on eight factors of participation motivation of inter-university level male and female players of different games, mean, standard deviation, percentage and t-ratio were computed. This investigation indicated that inter-university level male and female players of different games and sports had different preferences for reason of participation in sports. Inter-university level male players preferred more of skill development followed by achievement /status, others, fitness, team work, energy release, friendship and fun from most important to least important rank order and inter-university level female players preferred more of skill development followed by achievement /status, fitness, others, energy release, team work, fun and friendship from most important to least important rank order. Inter-university level male and female players of different games and sports expressed statistically insignificant difference in their socio-economic status.

* Professor, Department of Physical Education, Rajeev Gandhi College of Physical Education, Bhopal (M.P.)

** Lecturer, Maharshi Mahesh Yogi Vedic Vishwavidalaya, Jabalpur (M. P.)

INTRODUCTION

Sports have always been one of the primary means of civilizing the human being and inculcating the character traits, which a society desires (Kokate, 1997). The trend of declining physical activity and sports participation is alarming considering the widespread acceptance that exercise can provide both physical and psychological benefits, including increased fitness, decreased heart rate and blood pressure, relief of stress and depression and enhanced satisfaction. Sports psychologists have in recent years, shown increased interest in assessing the motives of young people involved in sports. Infact, determining the reasons that motivate children to participate in sports has been recognized as one of the most critical areas of youth sport results (Stem et. al., 1990). In a philosophical discussion concerned with why men pursue sports, Weiss (1973) stated that accomplished excellence provides acceleration pleasure and challenge. One of the many ways that man can demonstrate excellence is through mastery of his body. Young men find it easier to master their bodies than to become excellent in other way, and this is why they occupy themselves in sports without the degree of excellence and mastery of body, he suggests that as a motivating factor.

Motivation in general refers to the intensity and direction of behavior, the direction of behavior indicates whether an individual approaches or avoids a particular situation, and the intensity of behavior relates to the degree of effort put forth to accomplish the behavior (Singer, 1993).

A number of conclusions can be derived from the research on participation motives of young athletes. First, young athletes have diverse motives for participating in sports they may want to have fun, seek affiliation, demonstrate power, improve skills, pursue excellence, exhibit aggression, have something to do, experience thrills or excitement, be independent, receive rewards, fulfill parental expectations, and win. Moreover, most young athletes have not one but several motives for participation. Second, of the various motives identified for participation, those consistently rated as most important are improving skills, having fun, being with friends, making new friends, experiencing thrill or excitement, achieving success or winning, and developing fitness. Third, gender differences have been found in participation motives of young athletes. Females for example rate fun and friendship as more important motives than males do. Although no gender differences emerged on the achievement or excellence items. Fourth, a number of sports, experience, and age difference also showed up in participation motives but no consistent patterns emerged. Finally, while the results reveal that consistent patterns of participation motives are found across youngsters.

The purpose of the study was to assess and investigate the socio-economic status and participation motives in sports of Inter-university level players. It was hypothesized that the male and female players of inter-university level in different game and sports will significantly differ in their Socio-economic status and their perception of motivational factors for competition.

METHODOLOGY

Subjects:

One hundred and Sixty Six (141 male and 25 female) inter-university level players of different games and sports belong to colleges affiliated to R D. University, Jabalpur (M.P.)

and volunteered to participate in the study were the subjects of this study. The age of subject ranged from 17 to 25 years of age.

Instrumentation:

1. Participation Motivation Questionnaire :The participation motivation questionnaire prepared by Gill, Gross and Huddleston (1983) consists of 30 items reflecting possible reasons for taking part in a sports (e.g. want to improve ray skill) and was adapted by making minor changes to the wording of some items (without altering the meanings) to reflect the sport of wrestling for example "my parents and close friends want me to play game " subjects were requested to indicate on a 3 point Likert-type scale (1=not at all important. 2=some what, important, and 3= very important) the relative value of each motive influencing their participation.

2. Socio-economic Status Scale: Socio-economic Status Scale was prepare and developed by L. N. Dubey and B. Nigam (2005). The SES scale consisted of 30 items and each item has 4 alternatives. The scoring of the four alternatives was 4 (First choice) to 1 (Fourth choice) by using scoring key. The reliability coefficient of correlation and validity of scale are 0.81, and .62 respectively. The raw scores for the class of SES are 100 and above -Upper class, 80-99 – Upper Middle class, 60-79- Middle class, 40-59- Lower Middle class and 39 and less-Lower class

Administration of Questionnaire:

In order to ensure full co-operation from the subjects, the scholar had a meeting with them in presence of their respective coaches, the purpose of the study was explained to them and doubts if any were clarified. All the subjects voluntarily extended their full co-operation and the coaches of respective teams ensured that the subjects were made available for the collection of data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

To assess the preferences on eight factors of participation motivation of inter-university level male and female players of different games, means and standard deviations for all the subjects were computed and data pertaining to this have been presented in Table 1 & 2.

TABELE 1

DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS AND RANK ORDER FOR EIGHT FACTORS OF PARTICIPATION MOTIVATION OF INTER-UNIVERSITY LEVEL MALE PLAYERS OF DIFFERENT GAMES AND SPORTS

Participation Motivation Factors	Means	SD	Rank order
Skill (SKL)	2.815	.287	1 Most important
Achievement /status (AS)	2.780	.341	2
Other(OTH)	2.776	.304	3
Fitness(Fit.)	2.704	.317	4
Team work (TW)	2.695	.395	5
Energy release (ER)	2.668	.328	6
Friend (FRD)	2.588	.456	7
Fun (FN)	2.541	.405	8 Least important

The mean scores of eight factors of participation motivation of inter-university level male players of different games and sports have been depicted in figures 1.

TABELE 2
DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS AND RANK ORDER FOR EIGHT FACTORS OF PARTICIPATION
MOTIVATION OF INTER-UNIVERSITY LEVEL FEMALE PLAYERS OF DIFFERENT
GAMES AND SPORTS

Participation Motivation Factors	Means	SD	Rank order
Skill (SKL)	2.866	.304	1 Most important
Achievement /status (AS)	2.792	.428	2
Fitness(Fit.)	2.705	.396	3
Other(OTH)	2.612	.629	4
Energy release (ER)	2.586	.393	5
Team work (TW)	2.571	.476	6
Fun (FN)	2.516	.419	7
Friend (FRD)	2.280	.541	8 Least important

The mean scores of eight factors of participation motivation of inter-university level female players of different games and sports have been depicted in figures 2.

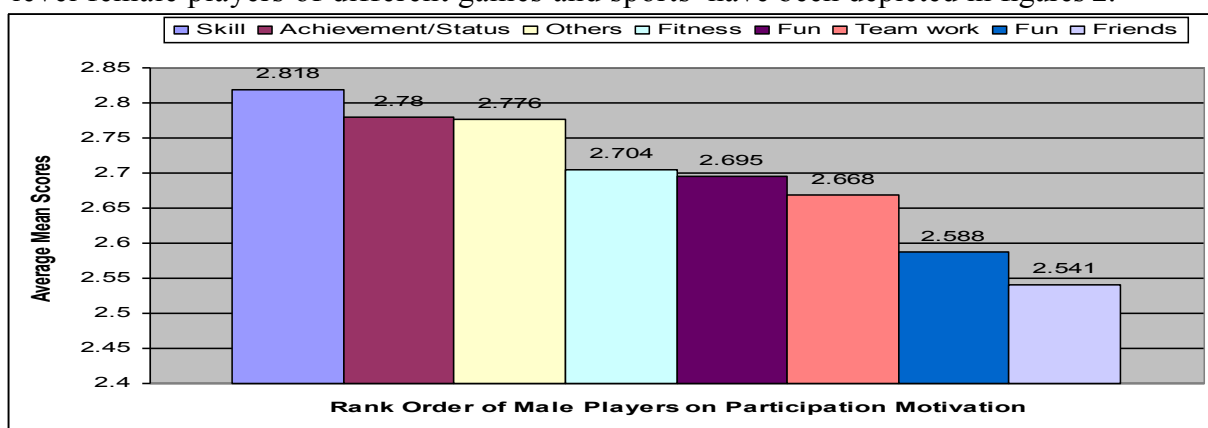


Fig. 1: Average Mean Scores of Inter-university Level Male Players of Different Games and Sports on Eight Factors of Participation Motivation.

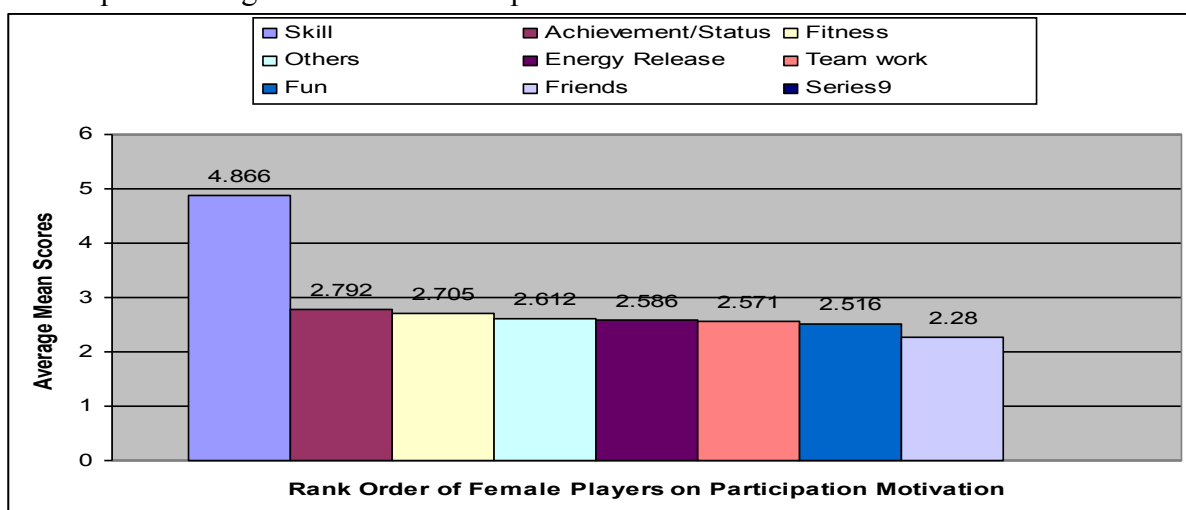


Fig. 2: Average Mean Scores of Inter-university Level Female Players of Different Games and Sports on Eight Factors of Participation Motivation

To assess the significance of difference between inter-university level male and female players of different games and sports on eight factors of participation motivation and socio-economic status, t-ratios were computed and data pertaining to this have been presented in table 3.

TABELE 3

SIGNIFICANCE OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MEAN SCORES OF INTER- UNIVERSITY MALE AND FEMALE PLAYERS OF DIFFERENTT GAMES AND SPORTS ON EIGHT FACTOR OF PARTICIPATION MOTIVES

Participation Motives	Sex	Mean	MD	σ DM	t-ratio
Achievement /status (AS)	Male	2.780	.012	.089	0.134
	Female	2.792			
Team work (TW)	Male	2.695	.124	.088	1.410
	Female	2.570			
Fitness(Fit.)	Male	2.704	.001	.017	0.017
	Female	2.705			
Energy release (ER)	Male	2.668	.082	.073	1.117
	Female	2.586			
Other(OTH)	Male	2.776	.164	.080	2.045*
	Female	2.612			
Skill (SKL)	Male	2.815	.050	.063	0.805
	Female	2.866			
Friend (FRD)	Male	2.588	.308	.101	3.028*
	Female	2.280			
Fun (FN)	Male	2.541	.023	.088	0.272
	Female	2.516			

*Significant at .05 level, $t_{.05}(164) = 1.97$

It is evident from table 5, that there were statistically significant differences between the inter-university level male and female players of different games and sports in others and friends factors of participation motivation, as the obtained t-values of 2.045 and 3.028 respectively were higher than the required t-value of $t_{.05}(164) = 1.97$. But the insignificant differences existed between inter-university level male and female players of different games in their achievement status, team work, fitness energy release, skill and fun factors of participation motivation, as the obtained t-values of .134, 1.410, .017, 1.117, .805 and .272 respectively were less than the required t-value to be significant.

To assess the socio-economic status of male and female inter-university level players as a whole of different game and sports, SES class-wise and Game- wise percentage were computed and data pertaining to this have been presented in table 4 & 5.

TABLE 4

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF INTER-UNIVERSITY LEVEL PLAYERS AS A WHOLE OF BOTH GENDER OF DIFFERENT GAMES AND SPORTS

S.NO.	Class of SES	Number of Players	Percentage (%)
1	Upper Class	16	09.64%
2	Upper Middle Class	31	18.67%
3	Middle Class	59	35.54%
4	Lower Middle Class	45	27.55%
5	Lower Class	15	09.04%

It is clearly evident from table4, that the maximum number of inter-university players as a whole were found under middle class (35.54%) followed by Lower Middle Class (27.55%), Upper Middle Class (18.67%), Upper Class (9.64%) and Lower Class (9.04%) in their socio-economic status.

TABLE 5

GAMEWISE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF INTER-UNIVERSITY LEVEL PLAYERS AS A WHOLE OF BOTH GENDER

Games	Upper Class		Upper Middle Class		Middle Class		Lower Middle Class		Lower Class	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Baseball (N=13)	01	06.25	03	06.67	02	03.37	03	06.67	04	26.67
Basketball (N=19)	04	25.00	06	13.35	04	06.76	04	08.88	01	06.66
Volleyball (N=23)	03	18.75	02	06.44	05	08.45	09	20.00	04	26.67
Cricket (N=22)	04	25.00	08	25.76	06	10.14	04	08.88	00	00.00
Kabaddi (N=30)	01	06.25	00	00.00	17	27.73	09	20.00	03	20.00
Kho-Kho (N=31)	03	18.75	04	12.88	15	24.45	09	20.00	00	00.00
Badminton (N=08)	00	00.00	03	06.67	01	01.69	04	08.88	00	00.00
Athletics (N=20)	00	00.00	05	16.13	09	15.21	03	06.67	03	20.00

It is evident from table 5, that the 26.67% of inter-university level Baseball players were related to lower class, followed by 6.67% players belong to upper middle and lower middle class, 6.25% players of upper class and 3.37% belong to Middle class in their socio-economic status.

Whereas, 25 % of inter-university level Basketball players were related to upper class, followed by 13.35 % players belong to upper middle class, 8.88% of lower middle class, 6.76% of middle class and 6.66% belong to lower class in their socio-economic status.

The inter-university level Volleyball players (26.67 %) were related to lower class followed by 20.00 % players belong to lower middle class, 18.75% of upper class, 8.45% of middle class and 6.44% belong to upper middle class in their socio-economic status.

The inter-university level Cricket players (25.76 %) were related to upper middle class followed by 25 % players belong to upper class, 10.14% of middle class, and 8.88% belong to lower middle class in their socio-economic status.

The inter-university level Kabaddi players (27.73 %) were related to middle class followed by 20 % players belong to lower middle and lower class, and 6.25% belong to upper class in their socio-economic status.

The inter-university level Kho-Kho players (24.45 %) were related to middle class followed by 20 % players belong to lower middle class, 18.75% belong to upper class and 12.88% of upper middle class in their socio-economic status.

The inter-university level Badminton players (8.88 %) were related to lower middle class, followed by 6.67 % players belong to upper middle class and 1.69% belong to middle class in their socio-economic status.

The inter-university level Athletes (20%) were related to lower class, followed by 16.13 % players belong to upper middle class 15.21% of middle class and 6.67 % belong to lower middle class in their socio-economic status.

To assess the significance of difference between inter-university level male and female players of different games and sports on socio-economic status, t-ratio was computed and data pertaining to this have been presented in table 8.

TABELE 6
SIGNIFICANCE OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MEAN SCORES OF INTER- UNIVERSITY
MALE AND FEMALE PLAYERS OF DIFFERENTTT GAMES AND SPORTS
SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS

Sex	Mean	MD	σ_{DM}	t-ratio
Male	70.09	. 2.085	. 4.554	0.458
Female	68.00			

Insignificant at .05 level, $t_{.05(164)} = 1.97$

It is evident from table 6, that there were no statistically significant differences between the inter-university level male and female players of different games and sports in their socio-economic status, as the obtained t-value of 0.458 was less than the required t-value of $t_{.05(164)} = 1.97$.

DISCUSSION

Ranking of reasons for participation in different games and sports as expressed by Inter University level male and female players indicated that reasons rated most highly (highly ranked five reasons) important were same to some extent with little difference in ranking. Significant differences between inter-university level male and female players was were observed in others and friends factor of participation motivation.

Findings of descriptive data of inter-university level male and female players on eight factors of reason of participation in sports indicated that inter-university level male players of different games and sports preferred more of skill development followed by achievement /status, others, fitness, team work, energy release, friendship and fun from most important to least important rank order. In case inter-university level female players of different games and sports, they preferred more of skill development followed by achievement /status, fitness, others, energy release, team work, fun and friendship from most important to least important rank order.

To assess the percentage of different classes of socio-economic status of male and female inter-university level players as a whole of different game and sports indicated that the maximum number of inter-university players were found under

middle class followed by Lower Middle Class, Upper Middle Class, Upper Class, and Lower Class in their socio-economic status.

To assess the percentage of different classes of socio-economic status game-wise of male and female inter-university level players of different game and sports indicated that inter-university level Baseball players were related to lower class, followed by upper middle and lower middle class, upper class and Middle class in their socio-economic status. The inter-university level Basketball players were more related to upper class, followed by upper middle class, lower middle class, middle class and lower class in their socio-economic status. Incase of inter-university level Volleyball players, they were more of them related to lower class followed by lower middle class, upper class, middle class and upper middle class in their socio-economic status. Inter-university level Cricket players were related more to upper middle class followed by upper class, middle class, and lower middle class in their socio-economic status. Inter-university level Kabaddi players were related more to middle class followed by lower middle and lower class, and upper class in their socio-economic status. Whereas, more of inter-university level Kho-Kho players were related to middle class followed lower middle class, upper class and upper middle class in their socio-economic status. More of inter-university level Badminton players were related to lower middle class, followed by upper middle class and middle class in their socio-economic status. Maximum number of inter-university level athletes were related to lower class, followed by upper middle class, middle class and lower middle class in their socio-economic status.

The results of t-ratio on socio-economic status expressed insignificant difference between inter-university level male and female players of different games and sports.

It was hypothesized that: the inter-university level male and female players of different games and sports would significantly differ in their sports participation motives and socio-economic status is partially accepted.

CONCLUSIONS

Within the limitation of present study, the following conclusions are enumerated:

- 1 Inter-university level male and female players of different games and sports had different preferences for reason of participation in sports.
- 2 Inter-university level male players of different games and sports preferred more of skill development followed by achievement /status, others, fitness, team work, energy release, friendship and fun from most important to least important rank order.
- 3 Inter-university level female players of different games and sports, they preferred more of skill development followed by achievement /status, fitness, others, energy release, team work, fun and friendship from most important to least important rank order.
- 4 Maximum number of inter-university players were found under middle class followed by Lower Middle Class, Upper Middle Class, Upper Class, and Lower Class in their socio-economic status.
- 5 Inter-university level male and female players of different games and sports expressed statistically insignificant difference in their socio-economic status

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Dubey L. N. and Nigam, B.** Socio-economic Status Scale Jabalpur : Arohi Manovigyan Kendra, 2005.
- Gill, D.L., Gross G.B., and Huddleston, S.** "Participation Motivation in Youth Sports" International Journal of Sports Psychology 14 (1983): 1-14
- Kokate, S.** Physical Education Activity (Jaipur: Book Enclave Publications, 1997), pp. 223-224.
- Singer, R. N. et.al.** Robert N. Hand Book of Research on Sports Psychology (New York: Macmillaii Publi shing Company, 1993), p 406
- StemH. P., et.al.** "Young Children in Recreational Sports" Clinical Pedialrics.29(1990) :89-94.
- Weiss, Paul** "Sports A Philosophical Inquiry (Illinois: Carbondale, 1969) Cited by Corothry, V. Harries. Involvement in Sports, Philadelphia: Lee and Fabiger, 1973), pp.33-34.