

INVESTIGATION OF COMPETITIVE BEHAVIOUR OF MALE BASKETBALL PLAYERS

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ABSTRACT

Competitive behavior is an important dimension or trait of personality of a sportsperson and it directly or indirectly affect the overall sports performance of a sportsperson. The present study was conducted on 72 Basketball players belonging to S. T. C established in India by S.A.I. New Delhi with the collaboration of State Sports Department who were selected from different Zones of the country with an idea to promote Basketball in India. Competitive Behaviour Scale by Yadav (1995) was implemented with the objective of measuring competitive behaviour among male basketball players boys of different zone of SAI. To assess the competitive behaviour and competitive performance of male Basketball players of six zone teams, means and standard deviations, and analysis of variance (ANOVA) were computed. The results of statistical analysis of collected data revealed that the male basketball players of central zone were found to have higher competitive behaviour than their counter parts. Most of the male basketball player of six different zone exhibited very high competitive behaviour. Male basketball players of six zone had different competitive behaviour. Competitive behaviour was found to be better predictor of sport performance in the game of basketball.

Keywords: Male players, Basketball, , Zones, competitive behaviour

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INTRODUCTION

Competition is a very soul of sports, sports competition is not only sustains interest but also provide thrill and joy of life. It satisfies the urge of a player for social recognition and dominance. It provides opportunities to athletes to know their own position in relation to other athletes. Competition provides feedback to athletes and coaches about their potentialities and short comings. Hence competitions serve as a means to improve the performance.

The stimulating effect of competition has been studied through a number of psychology investigations in the condition of actual sports activity. The stimulating factor of competition must be considered and give weight age in the process of the training competition in sports as always connected with the aspiration of individual for activity higher goals. In high class competition one always plans to create a new record become the champion in a particular sports.

Competition in sports is becoming more intense day by day. Individuals and nations are striving hard to gain supremacy over others. Modern competitive sports are an extremely complex behavioral phenomenon. In tough competitions, some top athletes who are potentially strong in terms of technique or physical efficiency often fail to achieve their best form simply because they lack required psychological attributes to excel in competitive endeavours. Performance in sports is not only related to physical strength and skill, rather psychological states and traits are considered indispensable in delivering peak performance. Psychological strength seems to facilitate the players in converting their physical strength and sport skills into optimal performance.

There is growing realization that mind has the power to influence the physical functioning of human body. Performance in top competitive sports goes beyond mere physical efforts and skills which have their own natural limits that can not be pushed beyond certain limits. However, it is difficult even to reach up to these limits without training the mind.

Competitive behavior is an important dimension or trait of personality of a sportsperson and it directly or indirectly affects the overall sports performance of a sportsperson.

Competitiveness have been researched on in a variety of samples from the United States (Houston, Farese, & LaDu, 1992; Gill & Dziewaltowski, 1988; Smither & Houston, 1992; Houston, Carter, & Smither, 1997) but there are unfortunately very few samples from cultures outside of the United States.

Furnham, Kirkcaldy, and Lynn (1994) found that Asian and Eastern countries, e.g., China, India, Israel, and Japan scored higher on competitiveness than countries from the Americas, e.g., Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and the United States.

Competitive behaviours are increasingly affected by the culture of the individual or society, and not necessarily only by their nationality, profession and gender (Hewstone & Ward, 1985).

Similarly McKee and Leader (1995) also indicate that societal and personality factors may also be important determinants of cooperative and competitive behavior

Competitive individuals are expected to strive harder, earlier or more effectively than others, and there is evidence suggesting that higher levels of competitiveness relate to higher levels of performance (Hinsz & Jundt, 2005). One of the earliest research on

competitive behaviour dates back to the pioneering work of Triplett (1897) who propagated concepts such as competitive instincts, mental attitudes and the desire to win. Deutsch (1949) emphasised that competitive behaviour is dependent on the importance of situational or external factors and how rewards are considerably valued by the competitor.

Competitive behavior is an important dimension or trait of personality of a sportsperson and it directly or indirectly affect the overall sports performance of a sportsperson. Therefore; the present study was conducted on competitive behavior among Male Basketball Players of six Zones residing in Sport Authority of India hostels.

METHODOLOGY

Selection of Subjects:

The present study was conducted on 72 Basketball players belonging to S. T. C established in India by S.A.I. New Delhi with the collaboration of State Sports Department who were selected from different Zones of the country with an idea to promote Basketball in India. They were undergoing a well planned training programme in different zones of India allocated by S.A.I. New Delhi. i.e. Central, North, A.B.S.C, South, East and west zones. The age of the subjects ranged between 14 to 21 years. All of them were either school going students or college students and therefore, no difficulty was encountered in administering to the psychological test.

Instrument:

Competitive Behaviour Scale by Yadav (1995) was developed with the objective of measuring competitive

behaviour among boys and girls in different field of sports. The scale contains 60 statements. Each statement has three alternatives- "Yes" "Indefinite" and "No". 30 statements are positively worded leading to indicate competitive behaviour, while other 30 statements shows negative behaviour towards competition. For positive statement-Yes=2, Indefinite=1 and No=0, and for negative statements-No=2, Indefinite=1 and Yes=0. Scoring was done by provided scoring sheet. Reliability and validity of the scale were .75 and .62 respectively.

Data Collection:

With the permission of organizing secretary of the SAI All India Inter-regional Basketball tournament held at STC Rajnandgaon. The subjects and coaches were contacted at the site of championships personally and their sincere cooperation was solicited. Respondents were called to a common place one hour prior to the match for testing. Necessary instructions were given to the subjects before the administration of this test. As the group of players completed the provided questionnaire, the completed questionnaires were collected from the Basketball players and it was verified that no question was left without being answered.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

To assess the competitive behaviour and competitive performance of male Basketball players of six zone teams, means and standard deviations, t-ratios, analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Pearson moment correlation coefficient (r) were computed and data pertaining to this, has been presented in table 1 to 3.

TABLE 1
DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS COMPETITIVE BEHAVIOUR OF MALE BASKETBALL PLAYERS OF DIFFERENT ZONES

S. No.	Zone	N	Age		Competitive Behaviour	
			Mean	SD	Mean	SD
1.	Central Zone	12	16.83	1.11	89.58	13.42
2.	North Zone	12	17.33	1.15	77.58	5.39
3.	ABSC	12	17.25	1.42	84.00	10.11
4.	South Zone	12	18.25	1.48	93.17	12.69
5.	East Zone	12	17.58	1.50	82.92	6.05
6.	West Zone	12	17.33	1.66	89.25	9.58

The mean scores on competitive behaviour of male Basketball players at different zones of India have been depicted in figure 1.

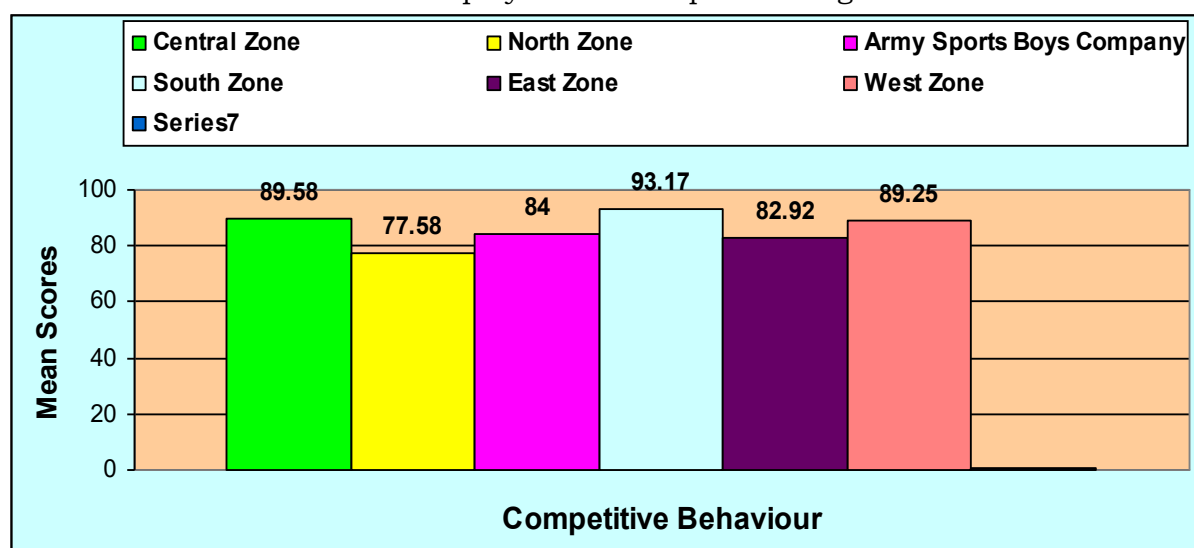


Fig.1: Mean Scores of Competitive Behaviour of Male Basketball Players of Different Zones of Sports Authority of India.

TABLE 2
ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE OF COMPETITIVE BEHAVIOUR OF MALE BASKETBALL PLAYERS OF DIFFERENT ZONES

Source of Variance	df	Sum of Squares	Mean Square	F- Value
Between Groups	5	1908.83	381.76	3.81*
Within Groups	66	6608.67	100.13	

Significant at .05 level,
F.05 (5, 66) = 2.35.

From table 2, It is clearly evident that male Basketball players of different zones of Sports Authority of India differed significantly in their competitive behaviour scores, as the obtained F-value of 3.81 was higher than the required F.05 (5, 66) = 2.35.

As the F-ratio on competitive behaviour of male basketball players was found to be significant, the Scheffe's Test of Post-hoc Comparison was applied to find out the significance of difference between ordered paired means of different zone basketball

players and data pertaining to this, has been presented in table 3.

TABLE 3
SIGNIFICANCE OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ORDERED PAIRED MEANS FOR
MALE BASKETBALL PLAYERS OF DIFFERENT ZONES OF SPORT
AUTHORITY OF INDIA ON COMPETITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Central	North	ABSC	SOUTH	EAST	WEST	MD	C.I.
89.58	77.58	-	-	-	-	12.00*	6.96
89.58	-	84.00	-	-	-	5.58	
89.58	-	-	93.17	-	-	3.59	
89.58	-	-	-	82.92	-	6.66	
89.58	-	-	-	-	89.25	0.33	
-	77.58	84.00	-	-	-	6.42	
-	77.58	-	93.17	-	-	15.59*	
-	77.58	-	-	82.92	-	5.34	
-	77.58	-	-	-	89.25	11.67*	
-	-	84.00	93.17	-	-	9.17*	
-	-	84.00	-	82.92	-	1.08	
-	-	84.00	-	-	89.25	5.25	
-	-	-	93.17	82.92	-	1.25	
-	-	-	93.17	-	89.25	3.92	
-	-	-	-	82.92	89.25	6.33	

*Significant at .05 level

The data in table 4 clearly reveals that mean differences between central zone- north zone; between north zone – south zone followed by west zone; and between ABSC-south zone male basketball players were found statistically significant, as the confidence interval of 6.96 was less than the mean differences of 12.00, 15.59, 11.67 and 9.17 respectively. The mean differences between central zone-ABSC followed by south, east and west zone; between north zone- ABSC

DISCUSSION

Findings of descriptive data of male Basketball players of six zone allocated by Sports Authority of India on competitive behaviour indicated that the higher mean score of competitive behaviour was found among south zone and least mean score in north zone male basketball players. Out of total participants from six zones, majority of the male basketball players had expressed very

followed by east zone; between ABSC-east zone followed by west zone ; between south zone-east zone followed by west zone and between east zone-west zone male basketball players were found statistically insignificant in their competitive behaviour, as the confidence interval of 9.69 was high than the mean differences of 5.59, 3.38, 6.66, 0.33, 6.42, 5.34, 1.80, 5.25, 1.25, 3.92 and 6.33.

high competitive behaviour. Very few male basketball players of six zones showed high and moderate competitive behaviour.

The results of one way analysis of variance (ANOVA) with male Basketball players belong to six zones allocated by S.A.I. indicated significant difference in their competitive behaviour. This may be attribute to the dissimilarity in competition experiences,

competitiveness, personality attributes, cooperative attitudes, competition anxiety and level of participation. Further application of Scheffe's Test of Post-hoc comparison indicated that male basketball players of south zone had greater in amount of competitive behaviour followed by central zone, west zone, south zone, east zone and north zone.

The mean differences between central zone-north zone between north zone – south zone; followed by west zone; and between ABSC-south zone male basketball players were found statistically significant. The mean differences between central zone-ABSC followed by south, east and west zone; between north zone- ABSC followed by east zone; between ABSC- east zone followed by west zone; between south zone-east zone followed by west zone

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and between east zone-west zone male basketball players were found statistically insignificant in their competitive behaviour.

CONCLUSIONS

- 1, Male Basketball players of central zone were found to have higher competitive behaviour than their counter parts.
2. Most of the male basketball player of six different zone exhibited very high competitive behaviour
3. Male Basketball players of six zone had different competitive behaviour.
4. Competitive behaviour was found to be better predictor of sport performance in the game of basketball.

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