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EXAMINATION OF SUCCESS RELATED FACTORS IN CHAMPIONSHIP SPORT: A QUANTITATIVE PERSPECTIVE

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Whole of activities in championship sport are focused on elite athletes development for obtaining medal or better rank. the purpose of this study was to examine success related factors in championship sport from systematic and quantitative perspective. But, quality of factors was ignored. statistical population of this study was whole of provinces of Iran in 2007, and sample was equal with population. (n=30) Data were collected from statistics and information sector of physical education organization of Iran as most important sport organization in Iran. Variables of this study were: sport area, budget, number of elite athletes, coaches, human resource for each provinces, and number of events hosting, number of participation in events as predictor variables and success rate in championship sport as evidence variable (gold, silver and bronze medals, number of national teams members and number of athletes participated in national teams camps). results showed significant correlation between elite sport participation and success in championship sport. more participation provides more opportunities for sport talents appearance and development. Having more sport budget wasn't related with success in championship sport. Inefficient management can be a reason for this result. Finally, from quantitative perspective, increasing number of athletes in championship sport and increasing in number of events can be predictors to success. Other factors such as coaches, human resource, facilities and etc can effect on success from quality perspective.

SPORT TEAM IDENTIFICATION AND PERSONALITY TYPE

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Introduction&aim:Sport team identification, defined as the extent to which an individual feels a psychological connection to a team or athlete (Wann,Melnick,Russell&Pease,2001), has been found to be strong predictor of spectator behavior. Team identification of sports spectators predicts pre-game anxiety (Wann,Schrader&Adamson,1998), aggression (Wann,Carlson&Schrader,1999) and evaluations of other fans (Wann&Branscombe,1995; Wann&Dolan,1994). Basic personality traits such as extraversion, agreeability, and need for arousal positively affect the need for affiliation, and simultaneously the need for affiliation positively influences the level of identification with the team (Donavan,Carlson&Zimmerman,2005). Therefore, the purpose of this study was to examine the relationship between sports spectators' team identification and their personality types.

Methodology:A total of 381 undergraduate students aged between 18 and 30, participated in the study. They were randomly selected, and those who were a football sport fan were included in the study. The Turkish version of Wann&Branscombe's (1993) Sport Spectator Identification Scale(Günay&Tiryaki,2003) and the Turkish version of John,Donahue&Kentle's (1991) BFI(Evinç,2004) were used to collect data.

Results: Regression analysis results revealed that there is no significant relationship between fans' personality traits and their team identification level ($R=0.169, R^2=0.028, p>.05$). Follow up t-test results for the correlation coefficients showed that open-mindedness and extraverted are the significant interpretive factor for fans' team identification level. T-test results showed that there is a significant difference on personality types of fans with respect to their gender ($t(379)=4.242, p<.01$). Females are more neurotic ($x_F=25.23, x_M=22.29$) and open-minded ($x_F=39.30, x_M=37.87$) than males. Nevertheless, according to the ANOVA results, there is no significant difference on personality types of fans in terms of their supported teams ($F(2-378)=1.585, p>.05$).

Conclusion:It might be concluded that personality traits do not affect participants' team identification levels. However, personality traits of the participants differ according to their gender. Besides, it might also be concluded that personality types of the fans (participants) is not a distinguishing factor for their teams that they supported.

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COMMITTED TO QUALITY IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROGRAMMES FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE – THE CUSTOMER RESULTS

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There has been a growing concern in conceiving physical activity (PA) programmes for elderly people since the evidence indicates that this type of health promotion interventions may reduce the deleterious effects of the aging process. In Portugal, the Public Administration is the sector that offers the largest supply of goods and services and as such, it is the sector that must devote most attention to Quality. Some studies support the EFQM Excellence Model as an operational framework for Total Quality Management. Excellent Results with respect to Performance, Customers, People and Society are achieved through Leadership driving Policy and Strategy that is delivered through People, Partnerships and Resources, as well as Processes. Consequently, the EFQM Model might be used as a self-assessment instrument, to discern the strengths of the programmes, as well as areas in which improvement can be made. Purpose: the purposes of this study were 1) to examine the existence of customers' outcomes measurement in Portuguese PA programmes for elderly people, comparing it with programmes' characteristics and 2) to analyse the associations between the different evaluated items. Methods Data were collected by an on-line questionnaire sent to 26 Coordinators of PA Programmes. Descriptive statistics were used in order to characterize de PA programmes and the participants' outcome measurement items. Statistical analysis was performed using Fisher's Exact Test and Pearson's Qui-square test. Results: 57,7 % of the programmes recorded participants' outcome measures at regular intervals.

Most of them (73,3%; $p \leq 0.05$) were free of charge programmes. Statistically significant associations were found between the following outcomes items: cardiorespiratory fitness, flexibility, muscular strength, coordination, balance and body composition. Conclusion: Portuguese PA programmes for elderly people showed a feeble attention on participants' outcome measures, even though the measurement process represents one of the most important components of customer results from an exercise programme. Furthermore, there are significant differences between customers' outcome measures chosen by each programme.

THE LAST FIFTEEN MINUTES OF THE FOOTBALL MATCH: ANALYSIS OF TECHNICAL ACTIONS OF GOALKEEPER

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Introduction

Match analysis studies show that the Italian Serie A football players cover 23.5% metres less at high intensity in the last fifteen minutes than in the first fifteen minutes of the match and the highest number of goals are scored in the last fifteen minutes of the second half (Ferretti F., 2007). A high-level goalkeeper runs about 4 km in a match (Stølen T. et al., 2005) and his movements are accomplished primarily through slow changes of position, alternating with fast actions of a few meters (Filippi C. and De Bellis R., 2008).

Therefore the aim of this study was to analyze the frequency of technical actions that the goalkeeper of the Serie A completes during the match and to check if in the last quarter of an hour there is a change in frequency of such actions.

Methods

50 games of the 2007-2008 season of the Italian Serie A were examined for a total of 100 goalkeeper performances. The collected data was analyzed using the Anova test to check if every single action in each performance showed significant differences between the different quarters of the match (6 quarters), and with the Student t test to verify if there were differences between each action in the average of the first 5 quarters and last quarter of the match. The statistical significance calculated at $p < 0.005$. Statistical analysis was performed using the software SPSS v. 17.

Results and Discussion

An analysis using the Anova test did not show any statistically significant difference, while analyzing the average of the first 5 quarters with the last quarter of the match, there was a significant difference in the high outputs with one or two punches ($p < 0.001$). This result indicates that there are more high outputs with one or two punches in the first 5 quarters of the match than in the last fifteen minutes.

Conclusion

With the passing of minutes, the game becomes less organized as a result of physical decline, the players often try to shoot a goal, remaining in large numbers inside the box and increase the danger to the goalkeeper and the possibility of being scored a goal. From this study it is possible to assume that, towards the end of the match, these factors lead the goalkeeper to change his technical and tactical approach, opting for different choices, such as not making high outputs because of the presence of many players in the goal-area making possible contact with a player and loss of the ball.

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IS THE AUSTRALIAN HEALTH AND FITNESS INDUSTRY GOING TO BE THE BIGGEST LOSER?

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Is the Australian Health and Fitness Industry going to be the Biggest Loser?

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Introduction

Obesity, peaking in the middle to older age groups in Australia (ABS, 2007-2008), is considered to be a world pandemic that is the leading cause of sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) (Solomon & Manson, 1997). Considering the fact that the majority of the health and fitness facility members in Australia are middle or older adults (Fitness Australia Annual Report, 2008-2009) the industry is facing high risk of SCA and pertinent liability (ACSM, 2007; Cotten, 2005; Norton & Norton, 2008). Therefore, the aim of this study was to ascertain if the health and fitness facilities in Australia comply with pre-activity screening, emergency procedures and the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) as described in published international standards (ACSM, 2007).

Method

The Health and Fitness Industry Risk Management Questionnaire (HFIRMQ) was conducted through standard and electronic mail delivery among all the health and fitness facilities in Queensland (QLD) (n=260) with a 20% (n=52) return rate.

Result

The results of the Spearman's rho ($p < .05$) statistical analysis revealed that there was no association between the health and fitness facilities offering programs for people over the age of 50 (92.3%, n=48) and having a written emergency plan ($r(50) = .149$, $p = .291$) and pre-activity screening procedures ($r(50) = .201$, $p = .152$). In addition, there was a negative association between offering programs for people over the age of 50 (92.3%, n=48) and having an AED installed in the facility ($r(50) = .201$, $p = .871$).

Discussion

The results of the study suggest that the health and fitness facilities in QLD show low compliance with emergency plans, pre-activity screening and use AED. To conclude, this paper highlights the need for the familiarization of the health and fitness industry in Queensland with aforementioned risk management practices to increase participant safety and minimise risk of legal liability. The implications of this study for future research are to extend this study across Australia and develop standards of risk management practices for improved safety in the health and fitness industry.

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