



ISSN: 2456-0057  
IJPNE 2017; 2(1): 287-288  
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www.journalofsports.com  
Received: 24-11-2016  
Accepted: 28-12-2016

**Dr. BV Shrigiriwar**  
Director, Department of  
Physical Education and Sports,  
Annasaheb Gundewar College,  
Nagpur, Maharashtra, India

## A study of sportsman spirit among intercollegiate athletes according to their tribal-non tribal belongingness and gender

**Dr. BV Shrigiriwar**

### Abstract

The objective of the present study was assessment of sportsperson spirit in intercollegiate athletes in relation to their tribal-non tribal belongingness and gender. To conduct the study 30 tribal intercollegiate male athletes, 30 intercollegiate female athletes, 30 non tribal intercollegiate female athletes and 30 non tribal intercollegiate female athletes were selected. The age of selected subjects was between 19 to 25 years. Dubey (1988) Sportsman Spirit Questionnaire was used to assess sportsman spirit in selected subjects. To analyse the data, 2x2 factorial design was employed. Results reveal significant main effect of tribal-non-tribal belongingness on sportsman spirit of intercollegiate athletes. Similarly the significant main effect of gender was also observed on sportsman spirit of intercollegiate athletes. The two factor interaction effect of tribal-non tribal belongingness was not found to create significant variance on sportsman spirit. It was concluded that tribal-non-tribal belongingness and gender alone but not jointly affect sportsman spirit of intercollegiate athletes.

**Keywords:** Sportsman spirit, intercollegiate, tribal-non tribal, gender

### Introduction

Sportsman spirit or sportsmanship is kind of behaviour which includes appreciative, polite and fair play. These forms of behaviour constitute sportsman spirit. In modern context sportsperson spirit is a disputed term because of fierce competition in sports or for that matter any other field. Sportsman spirit is not only the mode of thinking but it is also a general guidelines for orderly behaviour in any field whether it's in sports or any other fields in life. Disciplined and open hearted behaviour comes under sportsman spirit in which a sportsperson is willing to participate in sports within the domain of fair play.

Sportsman spirit is basically associated with behaviour and conducts that are within the rules of that particular sport. Sportsperson spirit wants athletes to lose graciously and be normal in winning. The other terms that are used for sportsman spirit are etiquicy and sportsmanship. Sportsman spirit contains ethos of sports and games. Some of the sports psychologist considers it as golden rule in sports which requires every athlete to abide by certain rules and ethos of that particular sport. Sportsman spirit can be termed as morality in sports. It includes admiration for opponents and officials. Character refers to temperament, values and habits that determine the way that person normally responds to desires, fears, challenges, opportunities, failures and successes and is typically seen in polite Behaviors toward others such as helping an opponent up or shaking hands after a match.

Number of researcher namely Meyer (2003)<sup>[2]</sup>, Dodge and Robertson (2004)<sup>[6]</sup>, Miltiadis *et al.* (2006)<sup>[3]</sup>, Kavussanu (2007)<sup>[7]</sup>, Clifford and Feezel (2010)<sup>[4]</sup>, Dada (2015)<sup>[5]</sup> investigated sportsman spirit in the light of social and psychological variables. Surprisingly sportsman spirit of intercollegiate athletes has not been analysed so far in the light of tribal, non-tribal belongingness and gender. Since tribal culture is entirely different from non-tribals it would be interesting to assess sportsman spirit of tribal and non-tribal athletes of both the sexes.

### Objective

The objective of the present study was to assess the impact of tribal-non tribal belongingness and gender on sportsman spirit of intercollegiate athletes.

**Corresponding Author:**  
**Dr. BV Shrigiriwar**  
Director, Department of  
Physical Education and Sports,  
Annasaheb Gundewar College,  
Nagpur, Maharashtra, India

**Hypothesis**

It was hypothesized that significant main and interaction effect of tribal non-tribal belongingness and gender will be observed on sportsman spirit of intercollegiate athletes.

**Methodology**

**Sample**

To conduct the study 30 tribal intercollegiate male athletes, 30 intercollegiate female athletes, 30 non tribal intercollegiate female athletes and 30 non tribal intercollegiate female athletes were selected. The age of selected subjects was between 19 to 25 years.

**Tools**

Dubey (1988) [1] Sportsman Spirit Questionnaire was used to

assess the Sportsman spirit of the selected subjects. The questionnaire consist of 40 questions. There are three alternatives for each questions. Numerical weightage of 00, 01 and 02 was assigned. The reliability coefficient of 0.89 and validity coefficient of 0.78 support the genuine nature of this questionnaire to assess sportsman spirit.

**Procedure**

120 intercollegiate athletes were selected purposively on the basis of tribal and non-tribal origin and gender. Dubey's sportsman spirit questionnaire was administered to each subject. After scoring the data was tabulated according to 2x2 ANOVA design. The obtained results are presented in table 1.

**Results**

**Table 1:** Effect of Tribal-Non Tribal Belongingness (A) x Gender (B) on Sportsman Spirit of Intercollegiate Athletes (N=120)

		Gender (B)		Marginal Mean
		Male (b <sub>1</sub> )	Female (b <sub>2</sub> )	
Tribal-Non Tribal Belongingness (A)	Tribal (a <sub>1</sub> )	N=30 M=60.03 S.D. = 7.16	N=30 M=61.50 S.D.=7.71	60.76
	Non-Tribal (a <sub>2</sub> )	N=30 M=52.13 S.D.=10.09	N=30 M=57.93 S.D.=12.40	55.03
Marginal Mean		56.08	59.71	

**ANOVA summary**

**Table 1:** Reveals the following facts

Source of Variation	SS	DF	MS	F
A	986.133	1	986.133	10.79**
B	396.033	1	396.033	4.33*
AB	140.833	1	140.833	1.54 (NS)
Within treatment (Error)	10599.800	116	91.378	

\*\* Significant at .01 level;

\* Significant at .05 level; NS Not Significant

- The main effect of tribal-non tribal belongingness on sportsman spirit of intercollegiate athletes was found to be statistically significant at .01 level (F=10.79,  $p < .01$ ). It reveals that sportsman spirit in intercollegiate tribal athletes (M=60.76) was significantly higher as compared to intercollegiate non-tribal athletes (M=55.03).
- The main effect of gender on sportsman spirit of intercollegiate athletes was found to be statistically significant at .05 level (F=4.33,  $p < .01$ ). It reveals that sportsman spirit in intercollegiate female athletes (M=59.71) was significantly higher as compared to intercollegiate male athletes (M=56.08).
- The F of 1.54, an indicator of interaction effect of tribal-non tribal belongingness and gender on sportsman spirit of intercollegiate athletes was not found to be statistically significant.

**Discussion**

Modern sport is associated with financial aspects such as sponsorship. Sportspersons try to win a match at all cost because failure leads to negative financial and social repercussion. Since tribal athletes are still untouched by the changes of modern world they show more magnitude of sportsman spirit as compared to non-tribal athletes. The result related to gender is not surprising because so much at stake for male athletes in terms of livelihood and social status.

**Conclusion**

1. Tribal athletes have relatively superior sportsman spirit as compared to non tribal athletes.
2. Female athletes possesses more magnitude of sportsman spirit as compared to male athletes.
3. Tribal-non-tribal belongingness and gender together were in no position to influence sportsman spirit of intercollegiate athletes.

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