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Comparison of batsmen and medium pacers on aggression

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Abstract

The present study was an attempt to investigate the significant mean difference between Batsmen and Medium Pacers on aggression which are participating at District level. The sample of the study comprised of 20 Batsmen and 20 Medium Pacers of Jind district of Haryana state. All the players are male participants and their age ranges from 18 to 25 years. In order to test the significance of mean difference between the variables descriptive statistics was employed. The result indicates that there exists a significance difference between Batsmen and Medium Pacers on aggression. Medium Pacers have high level aggression as compared to their counterpart Batsmen.

Keywords: aggression, cricket, batsmen, medium pacers

Introduction

Aggression in sports has become all too common. We see it among the spectators on the benches and most commonly among the players on the field. We speak about good or bad aggression. The term seems to draw automatic associations and produce positive or negative value judgments and emotional responses. However, most aggressive behavior in sports and physical activity setting are not inherently desirable or undesirable rather it depends on interpretation. Aggression is easier to talk about if judgments in terms of good or bad could be avoided and if it could be viewed neutrally as a behavior to be understood and appreciated. Aggression is usually divided into two types: hostile and instrumental. Hostile aggression involves anger and consists of the reactive or retaliatory intent to injure another person e.g. an athlete turning abusive or starting to assault an opponent. Instrumental aggression involves hurting another person as a means to an end such as winning a game or intimidating an opponent e.g. knocking out the opposition's star quarter back. Stephens (2001) noted that researchers used different criteria for classifying aggressive acts as either hostile or instrumental. Due to its more subtle nature and more frequent occurrence, instrumental aggression is typically considered less severe than hostile aggression. It is felt that aggressiveness enhances athletic performance, either at team or individual level. Silva (1983) argues that aggression would not facilitate performance because it elevates a person's arousal level and shifts attention to non performance issues. Certainly aggression plays an important role in sports specially cricket. It is required to a great extent in cricket involving efficient fast bowling and effective hitting during batting.

Methodology

For this study the investigator adopted survey method to collect data related to cricket players (Batsmen and Medium Pacers). The subjects of the study consist of 40 cricket players i.e. 20 Batsmen and Medium Pacers. The age group of cricket players ranges between 17 to 23 years. The data at hand was collected by the researcher by personal visits to cricket players at popular centers of Jind district. The random sampling technique was utilized to collect the required data of the subjects. All these cricket players are male participants and belong to district Jind (Haryana) only.

Tools Used: Aggression Questionnaire

The questionnaire for measuring aggression developed by G.C. Pati in English version has

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been used for measuring aggressive behavior. The questionnaire consists of 16 questions. Each question describes a situation, where some form of aggression or deviant behavior has occurred. The subject is requested to indicate the best appropriate response out of the given three responses elicited by the situation, from persons described in the question. In this way, the questionnaire described 16 different situations relating to family, peers, certain outside persons, persons of antisocial characters, police and court.

Scoring

The questions admit of three possible replies ranging from low to mildly aggressive, moderately aggressive and highly aggressive trends. These may be easily scored as 1, 2, and 3. The distances between 1 and 2, 2 and 3 are mathematically equal. This equality should be expected in the distances between low and mildly aggressive, between mildly aggressive and moderately aggressive and between moderately aggressive and highly aggressive trends, for these to be scored as 1, 2, and 3. But, the idea of equal distances between them may not be tenable. Perhaps a greater distance is found between moderate aggression and high aggression. Therefore, scoring the alternatives as 1, 2, and 3 is not used. Sigma deviate weighting method as formulated by Likert is used. By this method, a scoring schedule is prepared to score individual performance. The total score varies from 16 to 48 counted as single total score of a subject.

Validity

To find out validity coefficient of the aggression questionnaire, it was compared with statements in questionnaire of aggression borrowed from Murray. The group of subjects upon whom this validity study was made, comprised of psychiatrists, clinical psychologists and students of psychiatry and clinical psychology of national institute of mental health and neuro sciences, Bangalore. Subjects were administered both questionnaires successively. The correlation with aggression questionnaire was found to be 0.828.

Reliability

The reliability co-efficient of the aggression questionnaire was calculated by split half method of the 16 questions. Eight odd and eight even questions supplied the halves. The reliability co-efficient was equal to 0.71.

Findings

The main objective of the study is to compare Batsmen and Medium Pacers on Aggression. The data collected from cricket players was arranged, tabulated and statistically analyzed. The obtained data was processed for descriptive statistics i.e. Mean, S.D and Z-ratio.

Table 1

Sr. No.	Variable	Batsmen		Medium Pacers		Z-ratio
		Mean	S.D	Mean	S.D	
1.	AGG	22.26	2.98	24.15	4.00	2.784**

**Significant at .01 level of confidence

Table 1 shows the results of mean scores on Pati's aggression questionnaire of cricketer's aggression of Batsmen and Medium Pacers are 22.26 and 24.15 respectively. The Z-ratio of the mean difference on this test is 2.784 in favor of Medium Pacers. It is significant at .01 level of confidence. Hence, there is a significant difference between the mean

scores of Batsmen and Medium Pacers on this test. The mean score of Medium Pacers is higher than that of Batsmen. It denotes that the Medium Pacers have high level aggression as compared to Batsmen. It may be due to the fact that Medium Pacers have to bowl fast in each and every match they play but Batsmen have to stay calm and compose while batting. Batsmen heavily rely on their timing and footwork while their counterpart Medium Pacers rely on their speed and aggressiveness. They have to bowl bouncers, yorkers at a speed of more than 140 to 150 km./hour which is not at all possible without aggressiveness. Therefore, Medium Pacers are usually found to be more aggressive than Batsmen.

Discussion of Findings

The results suggested that the Medium Pacers have high level aggression as compared to Batsmen. It Hence, there exist a significance difference between Batsmen and Medium Pacers on aggression.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the present study the following conclusion is drawn:

There exists a significance difference between Batsmen and Medium Pacers on aggression. Medium Pacers have high level aggression as compared to their counterpart Batsmen.

Implications

The findings of the study have a number of implications for coaches, physical education teachers, trainers and cricket players.

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