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Arjuna awardee Surinder Singh Sodhi an outstanding hockey player: A case study

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Abstract

The purpose of the study is to highlight the contribution and achievement of Sh. Surinder Singh Sodhi towards Indian Hockey. To investigate the contribution and achievements of Sh. Surinder Singh Sodhi towards the promotion of hockey and sports in the country a case study has been designed in which historical biographical, analytical and interpretive technique was utilized. The main aim of the study is to investigate the contribution and achievements of Sh. Surinder Singh Sodhi towards the promotion of sports in the country and sports achievements as far as hockey is concerned and as a player.

Methods: To assess the personality of Arjuna Awardee Surinder Singh Sodhi researchers had conducted an opinion rating survey related to as a player. The interview method as well as Google forms were used to collect information from eminent sports persons who were associated with him as players, admirers, colleagues and contemporaries for the study. Total one hundred and Twenty four (N-124) responses were received and analyzed for four pre-designed questionnaires separately.

Result: Represents the agreement Level of respondents regarding various qualities of Arjuna Awardee Surinder Singh Sodhi as a Player on a scale of 0 to 3. Over all it can be seen that with the Mean \pm SD of 2.87 ± 0.20 the responders strongly agree and agree with the above statements of the Opinion Rating of respondents on Arjuna Awardee Surinder Singh Sodhi as a player. All the qualities of a good players were possessed by him as the statements included in the questionnaire regarding good players were strongly agreed with overall mean (M-2.87) as well as above 2.80 mean in each and every statement.

Conclusion: It is suggested that similar case studies may be carried out on other outstanding special sports persons who have brought laurels to the country may also be conducted and future generations can learn from their experiences. The finding of this study may prove as motivating tool to growing sportspersons.

Keywords: Awardee, Surinder Singh Sodhi, Hockey

Introduction

Hockey has become one of the most popular games in the world, and of all the great games it is the only one that has remained entirely amateur, a status which is jealously preserved by all those who play or support it. It might also be one of the oldest games, for the game from which the present one is originated generally accepted as having been played for even two thousand years ago. Man finds in hitting a ball with a stick has no doubt always owed popularity. Today, hockey is essentially a team game, and has developed into a fast and -highly skillful one.

The history of hockey is fascinating, though somewhat sketchy- for the very nature of the game has precluded minute recording of details. A form of hockey still played in Ireland today is known as "hurley," and we find reference to this word as far back as 148 A.D, in the will of the Irish king, Cathair Mor. In the document where occurs the sentence: "Cathair gave crimthaun fifty hurling balls made of brass, with an equal number of brass hurlets." It is clear even from this brief reference, that the game of that period certainly had nothing in common with the game of to-day. The term "hurley" is most probably derived from the Low German "hurreln" -to throw or hurl.

Hockey in India

Though there may be an argument as to the origin of hockey, there can be no doubt whatever as to how it came to India. It came to this country with the British, though one is not sure whether the Tommy gave it to India or the British civilian.

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Indian hockey dates back to 1895, British Army played pioneering role in 'planting' hockey, like cricket, in India. Around this time, the game, a fashionable kin of 'Khiddo-Khundi' in Punjab was played. But the game's baptism came about in Bengal where hockey along with cricket and golf was played. The first tournament in India was Brighton Cup in 1895. This tournament was named after Mr. T.D. Beighton, as Legal Remembrance to the Government of Bengal, was inaugurated. A year later, Bombay started the Aga Khan tournament. The game, originally confined to Calcutta and Bombay, spread fast in other areas, Punjab and U.P. were the centers where the game found ready patrons.

The civilians might also have played it. In due course Indians also started playing it. Towards the end of the last century the game had established itself in all the port towns. Soon the Indians took over from the British, and excelled in a rather big way. They participated in the 1928 Olympics and won the gold medal, and kept winning it till 1956. Dhyani Chand's game was to be regarded as one of the best player in the world.

Method and Procedure

The investigator extensively used the literary sources and thoroughly investigated the related literatures and also adopted the questionnaire methods and interview technique as tools of gathering data.

Selection of the subjects

The information will be collected from the following:

- Family members
- Teammates
- Coaches
- Professional colleagues
- Students

- Literary sources such as books, journals, articles, magazines etc.

Population

The aggregate of entire unit pertaining to the study is called the population. The Hockey coaches, sportspersons, villagers, relatives and friends of Sh. Surinder Singh Sodhi in India constitute the population of the present study.

Selection of sample

The process of drawing a sample from a population is called sampling. A sum respondent through non-probability convenient sampling technique from coaches, sportspersons, colleagues and friends respectively in India, were chosen as sample. For this study, 124 respondents were selected as the sample.

Analysis and interpretation of data

The qualitative data obtained from the questionnaires are statistically analyzed, interpreted and discussed with reference to the literary source materials and are presented in this chapter.

Opinion rating survey of Arjuna awardee Sh. Surinder Singh Sodhi as a player

The interview method as well as Google forms were used to collect information from eminent sports persons who were associated with him as players, admirers, colleagues and contemporaries for the study. Total one hundred and Twenty four (N-124) responses were received and analyzed for four pre-deigned questionnaires separately. Findings are presented through graphics and tables in this section. The profile of respondents was as follows:

Table 1: Opinion rating of respondents on Arjuna Awardee Surinder Singh Sodhi as a Player

S. No.	Statement	SA	A	DA	SDA	Mean ± SD
1	He is an iconic and good example for other players.	118 (95.2)	6 (4.8)	-	-	2.95 ± 0.21
2	He had critically analyzed abilities of his opponents	107 (86.3)	17 (13.7)	-	-	2.86 ± 0.34
3	He maintained healthy relationship with his fellow players.	109 (87.9)	15 (12.1)	-	-	2.88 ± 0.32
4	He is a trustworthy person.	106 (85.5)	18 (14.5)	-	-	2.85 ± 0.35
5	About his training he is very punctual and specific.	110 (88.7)	14 (11.3)	-	-	2.89 ± 0.31
6	He kept regular record of his schedule	102 (82.3)	21 (16.9)	1 (0.8)	-	2.81 ± 0.41
7	He had displayed compatible performance.	106 (85.5)	18 (14.5)	-	-	2.85 ± 0.35
8	He is expert and talented player of hockey.	113 (91.1)	11 (8.9)	-	-	2.91 ± 0.28
9	He had always stand for his teammates.	108 (87.1)	16 (12.9)	-	-	2.87 ± 0.33
10	He always appreciated by his coplayers and colleagues.	108 (87.1)	16 (12.9)	-	-	2.87 ± 0.33
11	He never displayed laziness during practice	105 (84.7)	18 (14.5)	1 (0.8)	-	2.84 ± 0.39
12	He had realistic aspiration for his game	102 (82.3)	22 (17.7)	-	-	2.82 ± 0.38
13	He was technically and tactically very sound player	113 (91.1)	11 (8.9)	-	-	2.91 ± 0.28
14	He had unique and distinct playing abilities	113 (91.1)	11 (8.9)	-	-	2.91 ± 0.28
15	During play he had the ability to comprehend the situations and solve the problem	106 (85.5)	18 (14.5)	-	-	2.85 ± 0.35

Represents the agreement Level of respondents regarding various qualities of Arjuna Awardee Surinder Singh Sodhi as a Player on a scale of 0 to 3.

With a percentage of 95.2 and 4.8 the responders strongly agreed and agreed respectively with the Mean ± SD of 2.95 ± 0.21 that he is an iconic and good example for other players.

He had critically analyzed abilities of his opponents and the total of 86.3% strongly agrees with the statement while 13.7% agrees with the Mean ± SD of 2.86 ± 0.34 with the same.

The Mean ± SD of 2.88 ± 0.32 of responders strongly agrees

(87.9%) and agrees (12.1%) with the statement that he maintained healthy relationship with his fellow players.

Around 85.5% responders strongly agrees and 14.5% agrees with the

Mean ± SD of 2.85 ± 0.35 that he is a trustworthy person.

About his training he is very punctual and specific and 88.7% of the responders strongly agree while 11.3% of them agree with Mean ± SD of 2.89 ± 0.31.

With the Mean ± SD of 2.81 ± 0.41 around 82.3% of the responders strongly agrees with the statement while 16.9%

agrees that he kept regular record of his schedule.

Around 85.5% of the responders strongly agree with the statement and 14.5% of the responders agree with the Mean \pm SD of 2.85 ± 0.35 that he had displayed compatible performance.

With the percentage of 91.1% the responders strongly agree with the statement and around 8.9% agreed with the Mean \pm SD of 2.91 ± 0.28 that he is expert and talented player of hockey.

The majority of responders strongly agree (87.1%) with the statement and around 12.9% agree with the Mean \pm SD of 2.87 ± 0.33 that he had always stand for his teammates.

The responders strongly agree (87.1%) and agree (12.9%) with the Mean \pm SD of 2.87 ± 0.33 that he always appreciated by his co players and colleagues.

He never displayed laziness during practice and with the Mean \pm SD of 2.84 ± 0.39 the respondents strongly agree (84.7%) and agree (14.5%) with the statement.

With the Mean \pm SD of 2.82 ± 0.38 the respondents strongly

agree (82.3%) and agree (17.7%) with the statement that he had realistic aspiration for his game.

Around 91.1% of respondents strongly agree with the statement while about 8.9% of the respondents agree with the Mean \pm SD of 2.91 ± 0.28 that he was technically and tactically very sound player.

The percentage of 91.1 and 8.9 strongly agree and agree respectively with the Mean \pm SD of 2.91 ± 0.28 that he had unique and distinct playing abilities.

With the Mean \pm SD of 2.85 ± 0.35 the responders strongly agree (85.5%) and agree (14.5%) with the statement that during play he had the ability to comprehend the situations and solve the problem.

Over all it can be seen that with the Mean \pm SD of 2.87 ± 0.20 the responders strongly agree and agree with the above statements of the Opinion Rating of respondents on Arjuna Awardee Surinder Singh Sodhi as a player.

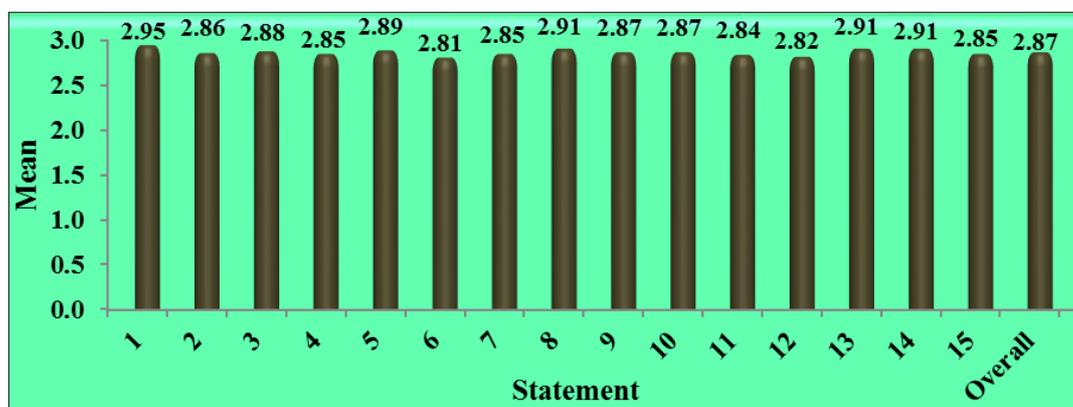


Fig 1: Agreement Level of respondents regarding various qualities of Arjuna Awardee Surinder Singh Sodhi as a Player

The responses of respondents about Arjuna Awardee Surinder Singh Sodhi as a Player are depicted in Figure 1. He was considered iconic and good example for other players (M-2.95) by majority. Mostly respondents acknowledged him as expert and talented player of hockey (M-2.91), Also he was well thought-out technically and tactically sound player (M-2.91) and had unique and distinct playing abilities (M-2.91) according to respondents. All the qualities of a good players were possessed by him as the statements included in the questionnaire regarding good players were strongly agreed with overall mean (M-2.87) as well as above 2.80 mean in each and every statement.

Conclusion

The researcher had attempted to assess various dimensions of his game through reactions from his associates, friends, players and subordinates. The responses of 124 respondents had portrayed him as a player he was strongly accepted as an iconic and good example for other players by highly significant majority 95.2%. All 100% respondents agreed that he had critically analyzed abilities of his opponents. Agreement on maintaining healthy relationship with his fellow players was strong among 87.9%. All, but high majority 85.5% considered him strongly trustworthy person. He is considered very punctual and specific about his training by all. Keeping regular record of his schedule was his one of his highly appreciated quality by 82.3%. His compatible performance was recognized strongly by 85.5%. All 124 respondents accepted him as expert and talented players of hockey. Significant majority 87.1% strongly agreed that he had always stand for his teammates. His quality of

appreciating his co-players and colleagues was well acclaimed by all. Among 124 respondents, 84.7% strongly believed that he had never displayed laziness during practice. Total 100% respondents agreed that he had realistic aspiration for his game. He was considered technically and tactically very sound player by all. His unique and distinct playing abilities were strongly agreed upon by highly significant majority 91.1%. He was largely known for his ability to comprehend the situations and solve the problem during play and agreed strongly for the same by 85.5%. These overall abilities of him as a player were appreciated by all respondents as a whole.

Suggestions

1. It is suggested that similar case studies may be carried out on other outstanding special sports persons who have brought laurels to the country may also be conducted and future generations can learn from their experiences.
2. The finding of this study may prove as motivating tool to growing sportspersons.
3. The finding of the study may be a source of encouragement to the youth to select sports as career.
4. Similar study may be conducted on the institutions of physical education which have important contribution in the development of sports and physical education in the country.

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