

# ASSESSMENT OF ACHIEVEMENT MOTIVATION AND FACTORS INFLUENCING SPORTS CAREER OF BADMINTON PLAYERS

**Dr. S. K. Yadav**  
*M. P. E., M. Phil., Ph. D.,*  
*Diploma in Coaching Badminton (N.S.N.I.S.)*  
*Reader, School of Physical Education,*  
*Devi Ahilya University, Indore (M.P.)*

**Vikas Dutt**  
*Ph.D. Scholar*  
*Devi Ahilya University, Indore (M.P.)*

**Dr. Rajesh Tripathi**  
*Principal,*  
*V.N.C.P.E. Bhopal (M.P.)*

---

## Introduction:

Sports are a fun, but even such a fun without some sort of competition is useless waste of energy. Competition in whatever form, not only but also sustains the interest, provides thrill, satisfies one's urge for recognition and dominance. Manifestation of excellence and a struggle for perfection are the main motives behind sports competitions. Motivation research is thus one of the most important areas of study for the sports psychologists holding potentially useful information for the coach and athlete.

There are two major factors influencing career of sports competitors – the internal and the external. Internal factors may include ability, superiority in the skills, practice, suitable body build etc. While the external factors indicate chance, luck, influence of the high ups, financial backing, official's role and judgment etc. Success or failure in sports to a great degree are definitely dependent on these factors. The political climate exerts tremendous influences upon the direction and the quality of sports participation.

The purpose of the study was to analyse and determine the level of achievement motivation and factors influencing sports career of badminton players.

## Methodology:

Ninety-six male university badminton players representing their university teams qualifying from different zonal badminton tournaments to participate in the All India Inter-Zonal University Badminton Tournament held at Nagarjuna University, Guntur (A.P.) from 30th December 2002 to 1st January 2003 were selected to serve as subjects for this study. The age of the subjects ranged from 18 to 25 years. Two universities (Mumbai and Dibrugarh) did not report to participate in the tournament and the final data could be collected on sixty male badminton players from different universities.

To identify factors as perceived to be influencing the sport career of subjects, inventory of factors influencing sports career by Kamlesh and Sharma was used. The inventory consists of 20 statements covering internal and external factors in such a manner that the response to one statement relating to a particular factor is substantiated by the responses to a similar statement elsewhere.

Internal factors include ability, superiority in skill, practice, suitable body build etc, while the external factors indicate chance, luck, influence of high ups, financial backing, official's role and judgement etc. Internal factors are related to athlete's own internal will, inherited or acquired qualities through self – motivation, while external factors are related to socio-cultural milieu in which the athlete operates.

The tool has 20 questions veering round internal and external factors. The allocation of different items is given below.

- Internal
1. Game Superiority = 3(6,11,19)
  2. Practice =3(4,16,20)
  3. Ability =4(1,10,17,18)

- External
1. Financial backing = 2(5,12)
  2. Equipment and Coaching =2(9,15)
  3. Luck = 3(2,7,13)
  4. High ups = 3(3,8,14)

The responses were scored on Likert's method according to the strength of feeling: Strongly disagree =0, Disagree =1, Undecided =2, Agree = 3, Strongly agree = 4.

In this way two response scores were obtained - one external factor response scores from 0 to 40 and other internal response scores also ranging from 0 to 40 as the number of questions in each category was limited to 10.

To determine the need of achievement motivation in performance the sports achievement motivation questionnaire prepared and standardised by Kamlesh was administered.

This consisted of twenty items and each item has two answers. Each statement has a maximum 2 as a responses value. When the subject ticked the high pole, he was given 2 points and when he touched the low pole earned zero. The total responses ranged from 0 to 40. Subjects scoring below 24 marks could be characterised as low in sports achievement motivation, those scoring 24 and above but below 30 as moderate, and above 30 as highly motivated, as suggested by Kamlesh.

Responses given by each subject on the questionnaires were separately tabulated to alternatives and thus the tables were prepared for the analysis of data.

### Findings:

To assess the achievement motivation level and factors influencing sports career of university level male badminton players, means and standard deviations were computed and the data pertaining to this has been presented in Table-1.

**TABLE-1**  
**MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS OF MALE BADMINTON PLAYERS ON ACHIEVEMENT MOTIVATION AND FACTORS INFLUENCING SPORTS CARRER**

| Variable                         | Mean   | Standard Deviation |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------------------|
| Achievement Motivation           | 27.9   | 5.25               |
| Factor Influencing Sports Career |        |                    |
| 1. Internal                      | 27.53  | 6.17               |
| 2 External                       | 17.067 | 5.957              |

To determine the significance of difference between means of internal and external factors influencing sports career of male badminton players, t-ratio was applied and the data pertaining to this has been presented in Table – 2.

**TABLE - 2**  
**SIGNIFICANCE OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEANS OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL FACTORS INFLUENCING SPORTS CAREER OF MALE BADMINTON PLAYERS**

| Factors  | N  | Mean   | S.D.  | SEM   | Mean Difference | σ <sub>DM</sub> | t     |
|----------|----|--------|-------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
| Internal | 60 | 27.53  | 6.171 | 0.797 | 10.467          | 1.165           | 8.98* |
| External | 60 | 17.067 | 5.957 | 0.697 |                 |                 |       |

\*Significant at .05 level

tab  $t_{0.05}(118) = 1.98$

Table-2 shows that there is significant difference between internal and external factors influencing sports career as perceived by male badminton players as the obtained t value of 8.98 is much more than the required value to be significant at  $t_{0.05(118)} = 1.98$ .

To determine the significance of difference among the means of various sub-factors of internal and external factors influencing sports career of male badminton players, F – ratio was applied and the data pertaining to this have been presented in Table - 3 through 6.

**TABLE – 3**  
**ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE FOR SUB - FACTORS OF INTERNAL FACTORS**  
**INFLUENCING SPORTS CAREER OF MALE**  
**BADMINTON PLAYERS**

| Source of Variance | DF  | Sum of Squares | Mean Sum of Squares | F – ratio | tab F |
|--------------------|-----|----------------|---------------------|-----------|-------|
| Between Groups     | 2   | 333.744        | 166.87              | 24.64*    | 3.05  |
| Within Groups      | 177 | 1198.567       | 6.77                |           |       |
| Total              | 179 | 1532.311       |                     |           |       |

\*Significant at 0.05 level

Table - 3 indicates that statistically significant difference existed among the three sub factors of internal factors influencing sports career as perceived by male badminton players as the obtained value of 24.64 is much more than the required F- value of  $F_{0.05}(2,177) = 3.05$ .

As the F ratio was found to be significant Least Significant Difference (L.S.D.) test of Post – Hoc Comparison was applied to study the significance of difference between ordered paired means and data pertaining to this has been presented in Table – 4.

**TABLE – 4**  
**SIGNIFICANCE OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ORDERED PAIRED MEANS**  
**OF SUB-FACTORS OF INTERNAL FACTORS INFLUENCING SPORT**  
**CAREER OF MALE BADMINTON PLAYERS**

| S. No | Games Superiority | Mean Scores |         |                 | Critical Difference |
|-------|-------------------|-------------|---------|-----------------|---------------------|
|       |                   | Practice    | Ability | Mean Difference |                     |
| 1.    | 7.37              | 9.52        |         | 2.15*           |                     |
| 2.    | 7.37              |             | 10.65   | 3.28*           | 0.936               |
| 3.    |                   | 9.52        | 10.65   | 1.13*           |                     |

\*Significant at .05 level.

It is obvious from Table – 4 that there were significant differences between game superiority and practice, game superiority and ability, and practice and ability sub – factors of internal factors influencing sports career, as the mean difference of 2.15, 3.28 and 1.13 respectively were higher than the critical difference of 0.936.

**TABLE – 5**  
**ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE FOR SUB - FACTORS OF EXTERNAL FACTORS**  
**INFLUENCING SPORTS CAREER OF MALE**  
**BADMINTON PLAYERS**

| Source of Variance | DF  | Sum of Squares | Mean Sum of Squares | F – ratio | tab F |
|--------------------|-----|----------------|---------------------|-----------|-------|
| Between Groups     | 3   | 420.91         | 140.304             | 29.06*    | 2.64  |
| Within Groups      | 236 | 1139.55        | 4.829               |           |       |
| Total              | 239 | 1560.46        |                     |           |       |

\*Significant at 0.05 level  
 tab  $F_{0.05(3,236)} = 2.64$

It is evident from Table – 5 that the male badminton players differ significantly in their perception of sub factors of external factors influencing sports career, as the obtained F value of 29.06 is much more than the required F value of  $F_{0.05(3,236)} = 2.64$ .

As the F ratio was found to be significant, Least Significant Difference Test of Post-hoc Comparisons was applied to study the significance of difference between ordered paired means and data pertaining this has been presented in Table –6.

**TABLE – 6**  
**SIGNIFICANCE OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ORDERED PAIRED MEANS**  
**OF SUB-FACTORS OF EXTERNAL FACTORS INFLUENCING SPORT**  
**CAREER OF MALE BADMINTON PLAYERS**

| S. No | Mean Scores |       |      |          |       | Mean Difference | Critical Difference |
|-------|-------------|-------|------|----------|-------|-----------------|---------------------|
|       | F.B.        | E. C. | Luck | High ups |       |                 |                     |
| 1.    | 2.02        | 4.77  | -    | -        | 2.75* |                 |                     |
| 2.    | 2.02        | -     | 5.45 | -        | 3.43* |                 |                     |
| 3.    | 2.02        | -     | -    | 4.82     | 2.80* | 0.790           |                     |
| 4.    | -           | 4.77  | 5.45 | -        | 0.68  |                 |                     |
| 5.    | -           | 4.77  | -    | 4.82     | 0.05  |                 |                     |
| 6.    | -           | -     | 5.45 | 4.82     | 0.63  |                 |                     |

\*Significant at .05 level.

It is obvious from Table – 6 that there were significant differences between the means of financial backing, and equipment and coaching; financial backing and luck; and financial backing and high ups various sub factors of external factors influencing sports career as the mean differences of 2.75, 3.43 and 2.80 respectively were higher than the critical difference of 0.790. But the mean differences of 0.68, 0.05 and 0.63 between equipment and coaching, and luck; equipment and coaching, and high ups; and luck and high up respectively were not significant at 0.05 level.

### Discussion of Findings:

Analysis of descriptive data on achievement motivation and factors influencing sports career indicate that All India Inter University male badminton players have moderate achievement motivation level (27.9), showed moderate dependence on internal factors (27.53) and poor dependence on external factors (17.067) influencing sports career. The comparison between the means of internal (27.53) and external (17.067) factors indicate that the All India University badminton players are more internally controlled than the external factors influencing sports career as perceived by male university badminton players.

Results of one way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) on sub-factors of internal and external factors indicate significant difference between perceived influences of various sub-factors. In case of internal factors - ability (10.65) and practice (9.52) were given more importance than game superiority (7.37). Whereas in case of external sub-factors - luck (5.45), high ups (4.82), and equipment and coaching (4.77), were considered more important followed by financial backing (2.02). Locus of control is a personality variable that manifests through an individual's perception of reinforcement he receives. Players believe that outcome of the game is purely dependent on their personal control or on the performance of individual or group. Achievement oriented motivation even though an abstract concept is certainly an important adjunct of performance, refers to success in competition with some different standards of excellence. Performance in sports is outcome of motivational support experienced by the sports persons. The subjects of the study show moderate achievement motivation level and be attributed to the difference in the playing among the badminton players as all the subjects were not of the same playing performance.

### Conclusions:

1. All India University level male badminton players have moderate level of Achievement Motivation.
2. All-India University level badminton players are internally controlled and they show poor dependence on external factors and moderate dependence on internal factors influencing sports career.
3. Ability, Practice and Games Superiority all are considered to be important sub factors of internal factors as perceived to be influencing sports career of university level male badminton players.
4. University level male Badminton Players give equal importance to Luck, High ups, and Equipment and Coaching, among the sub- factors of external factors influencing their sports career.

### References:

- Alderman, R. B. *Psychological Behaviour in Sports* Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders Company, 1974.
- Cratty, B. J. *Psychology in Contemporary Sport: Guidelines for Coaches and Athletes*, 1973.
- Cratty, B.J. *Psychology in Contemporary Sport* 2nd Edition Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice Hall Inc., 1983.
- Downey, Jake *Better Badminton for All* Great Britain: Hollen Street Press, 1980.
- Kamlesh, M. L. *Psychology of Physical Education and Sports* 2nd Edition, New Delhi: Metropolitan Book Company, 1983.
- Kamlesh, M. L. and Sharma R. T. *Manual for Inventory of Factors Influencing Sports Career* Agra: National Psychological Corporation, 1986.
- Silva, John M. and Weinberg, Roberts S. *Psychological Foundations of Sports* Champaign Illinois: Human Kinetics Publishers INC, 1984.
-