Innovations

The impact of sport commitment on Sports Talent identification and Development associated factors: In the case of Oromia regional state selected sports projects

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Abstract

Sport commitment such as sport involvement, sport enjoyment, personal investments-quantity, enthusiastic commitment, constrained commitment, valuable opportunities, personal investments-loss, social constraints, social support-emotional, social support-informational, desire to excel-mastery achievement and desire to excel-social achievement in sport affects sport talent identification and development. The purpose of this study was to assess the impact of sport commitment on Sports Talent identification and Development associated factors: The Case in Oromia Regional state Zones Sport Commission. In this study, concurrent mixed research design was employed. The study area covers selected Oromia Regional State zone and Oromia Special Zone surrounding Finfinne including Laga Tafo Laga Dadhi town, Sebeta town, Burayu town and Gelan town (N = 614 and n = 284). The primary sources of data were sport office experts from Zonal and towns' Sport Commission employees, coaches, players and athletes. Independent variable was measured using Sport commitment dimensions questionnaire and dependent variable was Talent Development Environment associated factors. Data were collected via standardized questionnaires. The quantitative data gathered using questionnaires were analysed using STATA version 14, and then data were summarized using frequency and percentage. Using linear regression was used analyse impact of sport commitment on athlete's talent identification and development. Athlete's commitment significantly affects talent identification and development associated factors ($F(1,282) = 51.62$, $p < 0.01$, $R^2 = 0.155$). The study concluded that project athlete's commitment significant affected talent identification and development associated factors in selected Oromia regional state selected cities' and towns club's and projects. The study recommends that Oromia regional state selected cities' and towns club's and projects management body and coaches should develop two way communications and to create strong social network with their athletes.

Keywords: 1.*sport involvement, 2.sport enjoyment, 3.sport commitment and Talent identification.*

1. Introduction

Ethiopia competed in the Olympic Games for the first time at the 1956 Summer Olympics in Melbourne, Australia. Twelve competitors, all men, took part in ten events in two sports. This was the time for Ethiopian athletes where athletes took an experience and spring board for next Olympic game (Biruk, 2017). Since then, Ethiopia is known by middle and long distance running followed by football participation at international completion and popularity. Whereas, Volleyball, basket and handball was popular sport activity endanger which was declining from time to time. Considering international TID trends, Ethiopia mainly Oromia Regional state needs scientific way TID since large number of sport competitors have been selected from Oromia regional state.

The correlational study demonstrated that several predictors were related to sport commitment. Stepwise regression findings revealed that sport enjoyment and personal investments were the dominant predictors of commitment. Together, these two model components accounted for 58% of the sport commitment variance (Tara, Scanlan, Carpenter, Schmidt, & Simons, 1993). Among other six sport commitment model, sport enjoyment and personal investments was the most dominating dimensions.

Sport enjoyment, dropout, and burnout emerged as important areas of research in the 1980s. Smith (Barth, Emrich, & Daumann) and Gould (1987; Gould &Petlichkoff, 1988) have proposed models to account for these phenomena, and both models include elements from Thibaut and Kelley's (Srikanthan, Seeman, & Karlamangla) social exchange theory. The present paper argues that previous models overlooked an important aspect of social exchange theory and may not be able to adequately account for continued involvement, dropout, and burnout. Kelley's (1983) conception of commitment is offered as an extension of previous models. Recent research examining commitment in close relationships is highlighted, and its relevance to sport is discussed. The proposed model of commitment to sport is able to distinguish between athletes who continue their participation, those who drop out, and those who burn out as cited (Greg & Gary, 1991). As indicated above, sport commitment such as sport enjoyment, dropout, personal investments and burnout was the predictor variable in determining athlete's talent identification and development.

Darren& Geraldine (2010) depicted that traditional talent development pathways for adolescents in team sports follow talent identification procedures based on subjective games ratings and isolated athletic assessment. Most talent development models are exclusive rather than inclusive in nature. Subsequently, talent identification may result in discontentment, premature stratification, or dropout from team sports. Understanding the multidimensional differences among the requirements of adolescent and elite adult athletes could provide more realistic goals for potential talented players. Coach education should include adolescent development, and rewards for team success at the adolescent level should reflect the needs of long-term player development. Effective talent development needs to incorporate physical and psychological maturity, the relative age effect, objective measures of game sense, and athletic prowess. The influences of media and culture on the individual, and the competing time demands between various competitions for player training time should be monitored and mediated where appropriate. Despite the complexity, talent development is a worthy investment in professional team sport.

Helen, Allison, Corinne, Jennifer, Ludmila&Jacquelynne (1999) suggested that there were differences in opportunities for peer relationships and social satisfaction between in-school and out-of school activities, but not between activity domains. Both males and females mentioned equally social benefits of such involvement. However, females mentioned receiving negative peer attention more frequently than males, and more often cited social dissatisfaction as a significant contributor to decreased involvement or quitting. Unfortunately, limitations of current procedures for identifying talented athletes have been reported and it has become apparent that potential talent is often overlooked and scarce resources inappropriately allocated (Helsen, Hodges, Van Winckel, &Starkes, 2000) as cited in (Angela, 2006).

Sport commitment dimensions such as enthusiastic commitment, constrained commitment, sport enjoyment, valuable opportunities, other priorities, personal investments-loss, personal investments-quantity, social constraints, social support-emotional, social support-informational, desire to excel-mastery achievement and items and desire to excel-social achievement(Bentler, 2010) not significantly impacts as Sports Talent Development Environment associated factors which is seven dimensional such Long-Term Development Focus, Quality Preparation, Communication, Understanding the Athlete, Support Network, Challenging and Supportive Environment and Long-Term Development Fundamentals (Martindale, Collins, Wang, McNeill, Lee, Sproule & Westbury, 2010). In Ethiopia especially Oromia regional state sport commission, the sport commitment level of athletes or players, players, sport expertise and other stakeholders towards TID as was studied as far as researchers search engine was concerning. Therefore, the study was aimed to the impact of sport commitment on Sports Talent identification and Development associated factors: In case of Oromia regional state selected cities, towns and clubs and projects.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1.Description of Study Area

This study was conducted in selected Oromia Regional State zone and Oromia Special Zone surrounding Finfinne such as LagaTafoLagaDadhi town, Sebeta town, Burayu town and Gelan Town.

2.2. Study design

In this study cross-sectional research design was used in which data were collected within short period of time(Cresswell, 2012).

2.3. Population and Sample Size

Oromia Regional State zone and Oromia Special Zone surrounding Finfinne cities and towns were communicated. In these study area, Sport commissions, regional and zonal federations, Oromia Athletics clubs registered by Ethiopian Athletics Federation and Oromia football clubs participated on Ethiopian premier league population of the study. Accordingly, the population of the study was (N = 614). Tara Yemane (1967) formula is adjusted with a confidence level of 95% and a confidence interval of 5% for sample size determination.Accordingly, the sample of the study was selected (N = 284).

2.4. Sources of Data

For this study, primary sources of data were used. The primary sources of data will obtained from sport office experts from Zonal and city Sport Commission employees, coaches, players and athletes.

2.5. Identification of variables

2.5.1. Dependent variable

In this study, dependent variable was considered as Sports Talent Development Environment associated factors which is seven dimensional such Long-Term Development Focus, Quality Preparation, Communication, Understanding the Athlete, Support Network, Challenging and Supportive Environment and Long-Term Development Fundamentals (Martindale, Collins, Wang, McNeill, Lee, Sproule& Westbury, 2010). This was modified using Ethiopia context via pilot test.

2.5.1. Independent variable

In this study, independent variable was sport commitment level which is twelve dimensional such as enthusiastic commitment, constrained commitment, sport enjoyment, valuable opportunities, other priorities, personal investments-loss, personal investments-quantity, social constraints, social support-emotional, social support-informational, desire to excel-mastery achievement and items and desire to excel-social achievement. These subscales was measured using 5-likert Scale (SD = strongly agree, D = Disagree, N = Neutral, A=Agree & SA= Strongly Agree) (Bentler, 2010). This was modified using Ethiopia context via pilot test.

2.5. Data collection producers

Sport office experts from Zonal and city Woreda Sport Commission employees, coaches, players and athletes were contacted using letter of permission obtained from Jimma University Sports Academy, Research and postgraduate coordinating office. Before employing a questionnaire pilot test were conducted in Jimma Zone Sports Commission (N = 30). After that the final copies of questionnaires were distributed to sampled participants with cronbatch alpha level = 0.76.

2.6. Methods of data analysis

The quantitative data gathered using questionnaires were analyzed using STATA version 14, and frequency and percentage to identify Sports Talent identification and Development associated factors in Oromia Regional state Zones Sport Commission. Linear regression was used after the data was

transformed then computed the items into the variables in a continuous scale. Then linear regression was used after all the assumptions were fulfilled. Linear regression was used analyze the impact of sport commitment on Sports Talent identification and Development associated factors in Oromia Regional state Zones Sport Commission.

3. Results and Discussions

3.1. Demographic characteristics of athletes

Table 3: 1 Demographic characteristics of athletes

No	Variables	Project athletes			Employees		
		Category	Fre.	%	Category	Fre.	%
1	Project centers	LagaTafoLagaDadhi	71	25	LagaTafoLagaDadhi	12	25
		Sebeta	71	25	Sebeta	12	25
		Burayu	71	25	Burayu	12	25
		Gelan	71	25	Gelan	12	25
2	Age	10-12 years			20-25 years	4	8
		13-14 years	75	26	26-30 years	26	50
		15-17 years	183	65	31-35 years	22	42
		18-20 years	26	9	36-40 years		
3	Training age	<2 years	54	19			
		3-4 years	187	66			
		5-7 years	43	15			
		>8 years					
		Total	284	100			
4	Working experience				1-5 years		
					6-10 years	32	67
					11-15 years	12	25
					16-20 years	4	8
					21-25 years		
5	Educational background	1-3 Grade			Elementary		
		4-8 Grade	23	8	Secondary	4	8
		9-10 Grade	199	70	10+3	42	88
		11-12 Grade	62	22	First Degree	2	4
		College student			Second Degree		
		University student			Total	48	100
6	Gender	Female	63	22	Female	15	31
		Male	221	78	Male	33	69
		Total	284	100	Total	48	100
7	Family Status	Single	284	100	Single	8	17
		Married			Married	40	83
		Divorced			Divorced		

Table 3.1 shows that project centre athletes were similarly selected from LagaTafoLagaDadhi, Sebeta, Burayu and Gelan project centres. In this study, Young athletes participated from 14-20 years. The

majority of athletes were trained from 3-4 years. Largely, secondary and preparatory students were trained in project centres. Large numbers of athletes were male and considerable numbers of athletes were female. All of athletes were single.

Table 3.1 indicates that project centre coaches and administrative workers who were involved in focus group discussion and semi-structured interview was selected proportionally from LagaTafoLagaDadhi, Sebeta, Burayu and Gelan project centres. The majority employees and coaches age was from 26-30 years old. Coaches trained project centre athletes from 6-15 years. The majority of workers completed secondary schools and 10+3 holders. Large numbers of workers were male. Almost all of workers were got married.

3.2. The impact of sport commitment on Sports Talent identification and Development associated factors

Table 3: 2. The impact of athlete's sport commitment on talent identification and development associated factors

Variable	B	SEB	β
Athlete's sports commitment	213.938	8.456	-.393
Notes. R^2 = 0.155 (P<0.05).			

The result of regression indicates that there was significant effect of athlete's commitment on talent identification and development associated factors in selected Oromia regional state selected cities' and towns club's and projects ($F(1,282) = 51.62$, $p < 0.01$, $R^2 = 0.155$).

3.3. Discussion

This study indicates that project athlete's commitment significant affected talent identification and development associated factors in selected Oromia regional state selected cities' and towns club's and projects. In agreement with this finding, other study indicates that many countries have adopted national or sport-specific talent identification programs. In recent years, countries such as Australia, for the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000, and the United Kingdom, for the London 2012 Games, have orchestrated vast talent identification and development programs. In Australia, a deliberate programming approach was taken and resulted in an improvement in overall medals from 27 in 1992 to 41 in 1996 and 58 in 2000, finally they showed an increase of 114% in just 8 years (Baker &Schorer, 2010).

In line with this, the world is currently not selecting their most potentially talented performers due to poorly defined and theoretically weak selection tools. An important step would be to identify the range of key determinants of elite performance (perhaps through retroactive interviews with world-class athletes). Importantly, longitudinal research is needed to monitor micro- and macro-level transitions and to develop athlete behaviour over time (Angela, Chris, Gert-Jan, & Dave, 2005). Talent identification development procedures focus on a limited range of (physical) parameters and select based one-off proficiency measures that fail to acknowledge that physical maturity and previous experience can influence performance (Roel, Matthieu, Mark, &Renaat, 2008).

Supporting this finding, maturity-related problems are also prominent in talent development programs. Sport governing bodies routinely allocate youth participants, irrespective of biological age, to chronological age categories in an effort to ensure developmentally equitable competition and opportunity (Roel et al., 2008). The re-iterated theory suggested that 10 years or 10,000 hours of talent development program is essential for someone to reach high levels of expertise seems increasingly flawed. Consider, for example, the 18 month pathway from novice to world podium reported by Australian Bob Skeleton's athletes (Pankhurst & Collins, 2013).

4.1. Conclusion

The study finding reveals that Oromia regional state selected cities' and towns club's and projects talent identification and development lacks long term development focus, quality preparation, poor communication between office and athletes, unable to understand the demand of athletes, lacks strong

social network, faces challenges and supportive environment and lacks long term development fundamentals.

The finding of this study depicts that athletics, basketball, football, handball, and volleyball project athletes were regularly engaged and committed to perform physical activity Project athletes were regularly engaged in physical activity in order to reduce feelings of anxiety and depression, it helps to maintain muscle mass and weight loss, promote blood flow, protect skin and delay signs of aging, better sleep and feel more energized during the day, sport aesthetic value, for enjoyment, for social cooperation among peers, desire to excel their achievement, desire to excel social achievement, for social and emotional support from their peers and communities.

The finding of this study shows that project athlete's commitment significant affected talent identification and development associated factors in selected Oromia regional state selected cities' and towns club's and projects.

4.2. Recommendation

Oromia regional state selected cities' and towns club's and projects was recommended prepare talent identification and development strategic plan for long term development project athletes and long term development fundamentals.

Oromia regional state selected cities' and towns club's and projects management body and coaches should develop two way communications and to create strong social network with their athletes.

Oromia regional state selected cities' and towns club's and projects coaches have to prepare the platform for athletes so that both of them can understand each other very easily.

Oromia regional state selected cities' and towns club's and projects management body recommended to work to minimize the challenges of talent identification and development and to create supportive environment so as to maximize the scientific way of identifying talent and develop them properly.

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