



LOCUS OF CONTROL IN NATIONAL, STATE AND DISTRICT LEVEL BASKETBALL PLAYERS : A COMPARATIVE STUDY

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ABSTRACT

The aim of the present study is to compare locus of control in male basketball players with different level of participation. For present study, 100 national level male basketball players (Ave. age 25.12 yrs.), 100 state level male basketball players (Ave. age 22.34 yrs.), 100



district level male basketball players (Ave. age 21.92 yrs.) were selected as sample. The sample was collected through purposive sampling method. To assess locus of control among selected subjects, Rotters Locus of Control Scale (1966) was used. Results indicate that district level male basketball players were found to be

highest on external locus of control and national level male basketball players were the lowest with state level male basketball players lies in between. It was concluded that national male basketball players believe in internal factors for their performance outcomes (internal locus of control) as compared to state and district level male basketball players who believe that external factors are responsible for an outcome of event (external locus of control).

KEYWORDS :Locus of control, Basketball, Level of Participation.

INTRODUCTION

In personality psychology, locus of control refers to the extent to which individuals believe they can control events affecting them. Understanding of the concept was developed by Rotter in 1954, and has since become an aspect of personality studies. A person's "locus" (Latin for "place" or "location") is conceptualized as either internal (the person believes they can control their life) or external (meaning they believe their decisions and life are controlled by environmental factors which they cannot influence, or by chance or fate). Just like life events, theory of locus of control may be applied to sports.

because a sportspersons performance or execution of certain task may be affected by quite a few factors. A sportsperson may believe that the outcome of a competition is dependent upon external factors and on the other hand he may believe that outcome of a competition is entirely dependent upon his abilities or shortcomings.

One such team sport is basketball which requires not only superior physical fitness but also mental skills for better performance. Because basketball is a team sport outcome of a particular match is also dependent upon other team members performance also. Hence it would be interesting to know the difference in locus of control in basketball players with different level of participation.

Although researchers like Deeb et al. (2009), Mohd. Sofian Omar-Fauzee et al. (2009), Gencer (2010), Chugh et al. (2012), Singh (2015), Fard and Khosravi (2015) studied locus of control in sports setting, no study has yet been conducted in which locus of control among male basketball players has been assessed in the light of their level of participation, hence the present study was planned.

HYPOTHESIS

Locus of control in national, state and district level male basketball players will differ significantly with each other.

METHODOLOGY :-

The following methodological steps were taken in order to conduct the present study.

Sample :-

For present study, 100 national level male basketball players (Ave. age 25.12 yrs.), 100 state level male basketball players (Ave. age 22.34 yrs.), 100 district level male basketball players (Ave. age 21.92 yrs.) were selected as sample. The sample was collected through purposive sampling method.

Tools:

Rotter's I-E Locus of Control Questionnaire :

To assess locus of control among selected subjects, Rotters Locus of Control Scale (1966) was used. It consists of 29 items with two choices i.e. A and B. If the score is high, the subject's locus of control is termed as external and if the score is low, the locus of control is termed as internal. Reliability of this scale has been reported to 0.78 and 0.73 in split half and test retest techniques respectively. The scale reported the good discriminate validity.

Procedure:

First of all 100 national, 100 state and 100 district level male basketball players were identified and after obtaining written consent for participation in research they were selected as sample. Rotters Locus of Control Scale (1966) was administered to all selected subjects as per their convenience and availability. After scoring of the responses according to author's manual, the data was tabulated according to their respective groups. To compare locus of control between national, state and district level male basketball players One Way Anova was applied. Result depicted in table 1 and 2 respectively.

ANALYSIS OF DATA

Table 1
Descriptive Statistics of Scores on Locus of Control in National, State and District Level Male Basketball Players (N=300)

Groups	N	Sports Achievement Motivation	
		Mean	S.D.
National Level Male Basketball Players	100	9.80	2.86
State Level Male Basketball Players	100	10.90	2.77
District Level Male Basketball Players	100	13.08	2.47
		F=37.96, p<.01	

Table 2
Comparison of Mean Scores on Locus of Control in a Group of National, State and District Level Male Basketball Players (N=300)
Least Significant Difference Test with Significance Level .05

Mean (I)	Mean (J)	Mean Difference (I-J)
National Level Male Basketball Players	State Level Male Basketball Players	-1.10*
	District Level Male Basketball Players	-3.28*
State Level Male Basketball Players	National Level Male Basketball Players	1.10*
	District Level Male Basketball Players	-2.18*
District Level Male Basketball Players	National Level Male Basketball Players	3.28*
	State Level Male Basketball Players	2.18*

* Significant at .05 level

Results obtained through One Way ANOVA indicate that locus of control in national level male basketball players, state level male basketball players and district level male basketball players differ significantly with each other. The F ratio of 37.96, which is statistically significant at .01 level, confirms this finding. (Table 1)

Statistical figures presented in table 2 draws following inferences:

- State level male basketball players believe more firmly than national level male basketball players that external factors do play a part in sports performance. The mean difference of 1.10 was found to be statistically significant at .05 level. Thus
- District level male basketball players believe more firmly than national level male basketball players that external factors do play a part in sports performance. The mean difference of 3.28 was found to be statistically significant at .05 level.
- District level male basketball players believe more firmly than state level male basketball players that external factors do play a part in sports performance. The mean difference of 2.18 was found to be statistically significant at .05 level.

On the basis of analysis of data, following results are obtained :

RESULTS :

National male basketball players showed significantly more magnitude of internal locus of control as compared to state and district level male basketball players.

DISCUSSION:

According to Locke & Latham (1990), internally oriented people view their performance as a function of their skill level and effort whereas externally-oriented persons view factors such as luck, chance, and fate as determinants of the performance. Hence high performing athletes strive to achieve more with hard work and correct their shortcoming because they believe that outcome of a task is more or less dependent on their own abilities. Hence the results of the present study are consistent with theory of locus of control.

CONCLUSION

It can also be concluded that differences in competitive performance at various levels by male basketball can be attributed to internal-external locus control with national male basketball players having more favourable locus of control as compared to state and district level male basketball players.

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