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Acomparative study on agility assessment among hockey and soccer intercolligeate players

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Abstract

Purpose of the study was to compare the agility of soccer, and field hockey intercollegiate players of CCS University. Total 30 subjects (N=15 from respective game), age ranged between of 18-25years were selectedfrom CCS University, Meerut. The collected data on agility variables were analysed through descriptive statistics, independent t-test at the level of confidence 0.05. No significance difference was found among male soccer and field hockey intercollegiate players on selected on their agility. On the basis of the results and findings it was concluded that both players have similar level of agility at intercollegiate level.

Keywords: Physical fitness, agility, sports performance.

Introduction

Physical fitness, including strength, speed, endurance, flexibility, and coordination abilities, has been considered a crucial element for success in sports since ancient times (Harre, 1979; and Mal, 1982) ^[6, 8]. Physical fitness is crucial for athletes in intense games and sports, as it influences health and skill. Field games like soccer and hockey require complex physical fitness, including muscular strength, endurance, and cardiorespiratory endurance (Karpovich and Wayne, 1971) ^[11]. Different games require different endurance and other abilities, while football players' physical abilities vary based on their playing positions. The complexity of physical fitness depends on external conditions and the nature of the game (Secora *et al*, 2004; and Das and Sharma, 2016) ^[14, 3].

Physical fitness variables are essential physical attributes for optimal performance in various motor skills and activities. These include agility, balance, coordination, speed, power, and reaction time. Agility is crucial for sports like soccer, hockey and basketball, while balance is essential for stability in yoga and gymnastics. Coordination involves harmonious functioning of body parts, while speed is essential for sprinting and racing (Priya, and Murugavel, 2023) [12]. Further, Studies have examined the physical fitness components and performance variables of spasmodic sports players (Kariyawasam, 2019; Abdullah et. al., 2016; Singh and Rajendra; 2015; Mishra et. al, 2015; Saharan, *et al*, 2014; Gaurav et. al, 2011; and Gaurav and Singh, 2003) [7, 1, 15, 9, 13, 5, 4] respectively. They found that different combinations of fitness are needed depending on the game's pace and situation.

Purpose

The purpose of the study was to compare the agility between male intercollegiate soccer and field hockey players of CCS University, Meerut.

Hypotheses

It was hypothesized that, there will be no significance difference in agility of soccer and field hockey male intercollegiate players of CCS University, Meerut.

Selection of Subject

Total 30male participants (i.e. N=15 in soccer and N= 15 in field hockey) intercollegiate players of CCS University, Meerut, age ranged between 18-25 years were selected as subjects by using purposive sampling technique to assess the agitlity.

Corresponding Author: Dr. Sanjay Yadav Associate Professor, CSSS, PG College, Machhra, Uttar Pradesh, India Selection of Variables

Dependent Variables: Agility

Independent Variables: Soccer and filed hockey.

Criterion Measures

10 Meters X 4 shuttle run test was used to assess agility and score was recorded in time i.e. nearest to 0.01 Seconds.

Collection of Data

Data on the physical fitness variables i.e. agility were taken on the university athletic ground with the permission of the authorities. Further, all the necessary information and demo was provided to the subjects well before the conduction of test.

Statistical Technique

Descriptive statistics, t-test were applied for the analysis of the selected physical fitness variables between soccer and field hockey intercollegiate male players and the level of significance was set at 0.05 level respectively.

Table 1: Analysis of agility between soccer and field hockey intercollegiate players of CCS University, Meerut

Variable	Group	Mean	S.D.	Degree of Freedom	T-Ratio	Sig. Value
Agility	Soccer	9.97	0.50	28	0.98	0.34
	Field Hockey	9.81	0.37			

N=30

Table 1 exhibits the mean and std. deviation of agility (9.97±0.50) of soccer intercollegiate players. Further, the table also highlights the mean and std. deviation of agility (9.81±0.37) of field hockey intercollegiate players. Furthermore, Table-1 also indicate the no significant difference among the soccer and field hockey players of CCS University, Meerut at intercollegiate level asthe obtained P value (0.34) is higher than 0.05 (T= 0.98, P>0.05) at 0.05 level of significance. Further, the graphical representation of selected physical fitness variables i.e., agility of soccer and field hockey intercollegiate players are shown in figure no. 1.

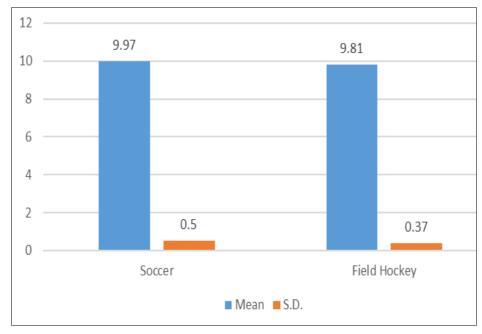


Fig 1: Graphical representation of mean of agility between male soccer and filed hockey intercollegiate players of CCS University, Meerut

Discussion of Findings

This study was conducted in order to compare the agility between male soccer and field hockey players from CCS University at intercollegiate level. Further, the findings of the descriptive analysis from Table 1 were reveals that soccer intercollegiate players have greater mean value on agility than field hockey players. Moreover, Table 1 were also reveals the analysis of independent t-test and no significance difference were found among male soccer and field hockey intercollegiate players of CCS University, Meerut on selected physical fitness variables agility at 0.05 level of confidence. This insignificant difference in agility among soccer and field hockey players of present study was due to the similarity in nature and activities of these games. Further, similar level of participation of the subjects of both games i.e. soccer and field hockey have similar competition demands and physical fitness condition at intercollegiate level could be another reason for this insignificant difference in physical fitness variables. However, these findings were also supported by Nandgopal and Murugavel (2018) [10] who founded insignificant difference among handball and football goalkeepers on their physical fitness variables. Moreover, Abdullah *et al* (2016) ^[1] also founded similarities in physical fitness related performance among amateur hockey and football players. Additionally, Singh (2013) ^[16]; Singh, *et al*. (2014) also concluded an insignificant difference in agility between hockey and football. Further, Chittibabu and Chandrasekaran (2014) ^[2] also not founded any difference in physical fitness between hockey and football players due to the similar nature of the games.

Conclusion

Study shows statistically insignificant differences between field hockey and soccer intercollege players in agility. Further, it is concluded that both sports players have similar level of agility at intercollegiate level.

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^{*}Significant at 0.05 level.

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