

## Original Article

### Gender difference in achievement motivation of intervarsity level badminton players

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#### Abstract

Motivation is a frequently studied topic in various areas of sports scientific research studies such as education, business, exercise and so on. Specifically, motivation is a device that describes why some people choose to participate in various activities, try harder, and persist longer than others. Motivation is important psychological variable in sports and its need to achieve high level of competition. The current study was carried out to investigate the effects of gender differences on achievement motivation of university badminton players. The study was based on interuniversity level players who participated in north zone interuniversity badminton tournament held at Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh India. Sports Achievement Motivation Test (SAMT) developed by M.L. Kamlesh was used to collect the data. t-test was applied to test the hypotheses. The result of the study showed that there was no difference between male and female badminton players on achievement motivation.

**Keywords:** Achievement motivation, Gender difference, Badminton players

#### Introduction:

During the last 20 years, studies on motivation in sport or academia have adopted a social-cognitive approach. One approach, achievement goal theory, became one of the most important approaches to understanding sport motivation. Goals are cognitive representations of the different purposes people may have in achievement situations, and are presumed to guide behavior and cognition, and affect academic, work, or sport situations Duda and Nicholas (1992).

Achievement motivation is relatively a new concept in the world of motivation (Mangal 2000). Sunita Sharma (1998) pointed out that achievement motivation refers to the tendency to strive for success or the attainment of desired end. According to Atkinson and Feather (1966) "Achievement motivation is conceived as a talent disposition which is manifested in overt striving only when the individual perceives performance as instrumental to a sense of personal accomplishment."

Achievement motivation can be defined as the athlete's predisposition to approach or avoid a competitive situation. In a broader sense, it includes the concept of desire, or desire to excel. The desire to achieve success in sport is not an innate drive, such as hunger or thirst, but is likely one that is developed or learned in the sporting environment.

Numerous studies have proved the impact of psychological factors on sports performance (Crespo, 2002). Achievement motivation has been one of those factors under consideration. Taylor (1994) treated motivation as the base of a pyramid towards success in sports. Other important factors in this area include 'goal orientation', 'goal setting,' 'motivational climate' (Boyce et al., 2001; Van Aken, 1994). We know that players have multiple motives for continued participation, such as competence, friendship skill improvement and competition (Weiss & Chaumeton, 1992).

There are many studies conducted in the aspect of achievement motivation and its effect on performance. Studies suggest that achievement motivation is most significant predictor of performance and essential to participate in a competition (Huschle, Katie S. & M.S, 2008; Carey, Carl Edward, & Jr, 2000) Several motivation theories in the academic area have been adopted in the quest for greater understanding of achievement motivation in sport (Ames, 1984, 1992; Dweck, 1986; Nicholls, 1989).

Atkinson and Feather (1966) stated that a person's achievement oriented behavior is based on three parts: the first part being the individual's predisposition to achievement, the second part being the probability of

success, and third, the individual's perception of value of the task. McClelland (1961) proposed that "there are at least two kinds of achievement motivation, one of which appears to be oriented around avoiding failure and the other around the more positive goal of attaining success" The present investigation was an attempt to find out the difference of achievement motivation between male and female badminton players participated at interuniversity level. In this study researcher measured the achievement motivation of intervarsity level male and female badminton players. It was hypothesized that there may be difference in the score of male and female players.

#### Method:

For the present study 30 badminton players were selected from various universities who participated in north zone interuniversity badminton tournament held at Aligarh Muslim University by random sampling technique. The subjects were divided into two groups one as male and other was female. Each group consisted of 15 subjects whose age ranged from 18 to 25 years. Sports Achievement Motivation Test (SAMT) by M.L. Kamlesh (1990) was used for the collection of data. Before contacting to the players the consent of coaches were taken. The questionnaire was distributed to the subjects after giving the instructions that they have to follow while to mark their response. t-test was applied to find the difference of achievement motivation between male and female players.

#### Result:

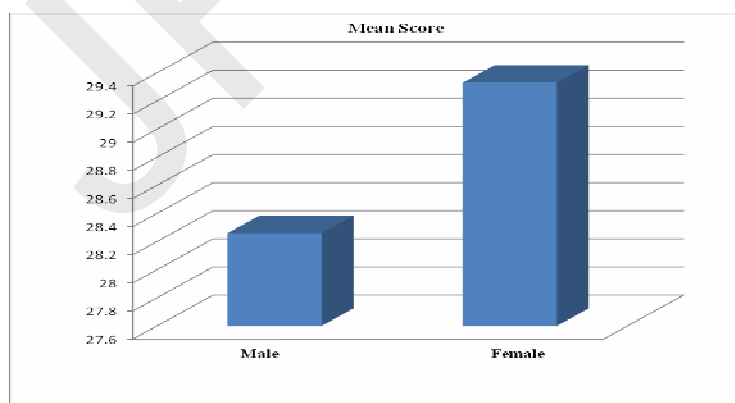
The data was computed and tabulated in the following manner

**Table I - Achievement motivation of male and female badminton players**

Group	N	Mean	S.D.	t
Male	15	28.26	5.59	.49
Female	15	29.33	6.17	

In order to measure level of achievement motivation between male and female badminton players, means and standard deviations were separately calculated for male and female players. The finding showed that there was no significant difference between male and female players. However the mean score of female was higher than the male but it was negligible.

**Fig.- Represent the mean score of male and female badminton players**



#### Discussion:

After analyzing the data researcher found that insignificant difference exists on the variable achievement motivation between male and female badminton players. The finding of the study supports the study of Khan et.al. (2011) who studied the difference of achievement motivation among university level male and female basketball players they selected 24 (12 male & 12 female) university level basketball players and observed that no significant gender difference exists between university level male and female basketball players. Singh et.al. (2010) studied the difference of achievement motivation of team game and individual game players and found that there is a significant difference exists between team game and individual game players on the variable of achievement motivation. The findings of the study also supports the study of Pratibha Sood (2006), Pandey and Ahmad (2007). The present study endorses the study of Nagarathanamma and Rao (2007) who found no significant gender difference between adolescent boys and girls on achievement motivation. Kaushik and Rani

(2005) also confirmed the findings they studied the difference on achievement motivation between adolescents and found that there was no significant gender difference on achievement motivation in students of four educational streams. The findings of the present study are in contradiction with the results of the studies conducted by Bidyadhar Sa (2006) who reported that tribal and non-tribal girls differed significantly with their counterparts in their level of achievement motivation and also contra indict with the study of Adsul & Kamble (2008) who studied achievement motivation among college students they found significant difference between male and female students. The study may help to the administrators of physical education program as well as to the coaches to know that achievement motivation amongst the male as well as females remains the same. The study further may help to researchers of management of physical education program to find out the cause of non participation of females in physical education programmes.

### Conclusion:

Achievement motivation is a very important factor for the performance of a player. The findings of the study revealed that no statistically significant differences between male and female players on the variable of achievement motivation. It may be because of that the sample size. It is recommended that such type of studies may be conducted on larger sample or on different games players.

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