A PUBLICATION OF ILORIN JOURNAL OF HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION (IJOHPER)

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MANAGEMENT OF SPORTS FACILITIES AND PERFORMANCE OF YOUTH ATHLETES IN NIGERIA

Dauda – Olajide, R. O., Obiyemi, O. O., Olaoye, A. K., Odesola, J. A. & Joel, K.I.
Department of Human Kinetics Education, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria

Abstract

Youth athletes are naturally energetic, full of life and apparently looking for an avenue to display in born tendency through engaging in one sporting activities as the case may be. This study investigated the relationship between management of sports facilities and performance of youth athletes in Nigeria. Athletes who are exposed to unkept, abandoned sports facilities are likely to perform below expectation among their other counterpart sports championships. The objectives of the study are to; (i) examine the relationship between the state of school sports facilities and the performance of youth athletes; (ii) identify the relationship between the school administrators' managerial experience and the performance of youth athletes (iii) evaluate the relationship between the management of school sports facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria. Descriptive research design of survey type was used for this study. The population comprised of 994 male and female athletes who participated at the 2018 National Youth Games, held at the University of Ilorin, Kwara State. Multistage Sampling Technique comprised of proportionate and stratified sampling techniques were employed in selection of the respondents for the study. The researcher's developed instrument was adopted using moderate four - point Likert type rating scale after validated by three experts in the department of human kinetics education. A reliability of the instrument was tested using Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient and Coefficient of 0.80 was obtained which showed that the instrument was reliable enough to carry out the study. The data collected were to subjected appropriate statistical tools of frequency, percentage and mean scores for the demographic data of the respondents while Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient was used to test the hypotheses formulated for the study at 0.05 alpha level. The findings revealed significant relationship between the state of school sport facilities, the school administrators' managerial experience and management of school sport facilities and performance of youth athletes in Nigeria. Based on the findings, the following were recommended, school sports facilities in most of the public secondary schools should be renovated and upgraded in order to meet the national requirement which will in no measure enhance the performance of the youth athletes' in Kwara State in particular and the country in general. Certified, experienced and well exposed personnel should be employed and charged with the responsibilities of managing sports facilities in ensuring that the available implements last longer while more funds should be disbursed in ensuring that proper maintenance of sports facilities, procurement of equipment and supply are extended to schools appropriately.

Introduction

Background to the Study

Sporting activities have formed an integral component of the educational programmes of most nations of the world. It is a general phenomenon over the time that the attainment of World class status in sports world is a complete reflection of development objective of any country (Akinsolu, 2012).

Nigerians are making enormous efforts to encourage secondary school system to set up a well - structured physical education programmes and viable sporting activities. This implies that Nigeria secondary schools are a catalyst for grooming the Nation's future sportsmen and women that are capable of making the country proud. In order to ensure actualization of this objective, the onus lies on the government through the sports ministries, parastatals agencies and others to ensure that standard sports facilities, are available to all the secondary schools at the grassroots for upliftment of optimal outcome from the athletes (Daughtrey & Woods, (2000).

School facilities have many other rooms and areas, which may include: Cafeteria, dining hall or canteen where students can have their meals, snacks and shopping at will. Athletics field which comprises playground known as football pitch, Gymnasium hall where some of the indoor games are performed, and between eight to ten lane modern tartan track where students can exhibit their mettle in sports or physical education practice. School yards, that is, all-purpose playfields typically found in elementary schools, often made of concrete. In some schools, yards have been transformed into environmentally friendly teaching gardens by landscape artists a good example is Rheomics International School in Ilorin, Kwara State **(**Orunaboka).

School facilities are structures planted in the school premise which facilitate effective teaching of theories and practical and thereby making learning and teaching process becomes more meaningful and purposeful to the students. School facilities can be referred to as immovable structures such as the entire school materials whereby coaches, teachers and students' harness, access and utilize for the smooth and prompt running of any professional training. The main purpose is to make the process of teaching and learning experience more enjoyable, fun and exciting (Amanchukwu & Ololube, (201).

Dauda – Olajide, Dominic & Adesoye (2015), described sports facilities as a physical plant which provide enabling opportunity for effective training and practice of athletes that will increase the production of results. Sports facilities serve as strength and enhance effective practice for school athletes and should include semi-permanent and permanent structure which are; indoors and outdoors structure. Quality and standard of school facilities depend largely on the provision, adequacy, utilization and management of the available resources. From all indications, sports facilities are physical resources that enhance effective practice. In an enabling environment These include courts, pitches, stadium for track and field events, locker rooms, changing rooms, electricity, water, storage sports hostels and toilets others.

Ladani (2014) stated that sports facilities refer to a relatively permanent implements or applauses which usually last for decades even with regular use such as swimming pool, squash court, hickey pitch whereas equipment that are disposable can last for two years or thereabout with repeated use are, balls, boots, running shoes, jerseys, bean bags (Ventakeswarlu, 2018).

Outdoor like indoor sports facilities comprise all sporting activities taken place outside the classroom which resulted into action and transformation of theory to real life display. All the activities involved in them are means in which the school and students use as a social system to interact in the sports world. Availability of sports facilities exhibits the potentials that are inherent in youths that are yet to be unearth to the larger society (Adeboyeje, 2016).

With adequate, standard sports facilities and a well-organized sports programmes put together by expertise serves in a way in generating funds to execute or purchase needed sports facilities through invitation of parents and stakeholders to participate actively at the fiesta also show appreciation and honour them for their assistance to the growth and development of the school sports programme (Emetarom, 2017).

In a similar vein, where the necessary sports facilities are not provided in the school, the need for the school team to engage in outdoor competitions becomes a problem. For instance, where a school cannot provide school bus to convey the team to competition venues becomes a problem and no provision for chartering a bus is made in the school budget, there will be a problem to participate in competitions which, will in no doubt dampen the morale of the interested ones from engaging in sporting programmes (Hardman & Marshall, 2018).

Finance also poses a challenge to planning, purchase and supplies of sports facilities in most schools. The planning, executing and implementation of any sports activities as small as it

is involved funding in order to record an appreciable improvement at the sports programmes. This has made some schools not to be responsive in engaging in sporting programmes but rather attend to more pressing issues in the school (Obiyemi, Adesoye, & Ojo, 2017). Little success may be achieved in sporting programmes of any kind, with little or no equipment just as students cannot be expected to learn to read without books. Sport boys and girls are not expected to perform any magic without proper preparation with equipment (Obiyemi, 2016 & Ojo, (2017). The current situation of sports facilities in most secondary schools make it difficult for students to develop their movement abilities as and when due. Also trainers who are employed to groom school athletes have excuses because of lack of implement to work with (Ladani, 2004).

Obiyemi (2015) opined that the quantity and quality of sports facilities in most secondary schools are very poor and damaged equipment used frequently can poses dangers to users or trainers. Inadequate sports facilities limit the performance of an athlete either male or female during practice at home or away. In addition, athletes who do not use the appropriate safety sports facilities may limit performance greatly by experiencing injuries (Daughtrey & Woods, 2000). For any meaningful performance to manifest, safe, adequate equipment and facilities should be made available so that each individual benefit through maximally participation and practice. (Hardman, 2018 & Marshall, 2018) reported that experts throughout the nation expressed that the quantities and qualities of sports facilities in secondary schools were said to be grossly inadequate and this is greatly affecting the performance of the athletes at state and national events.

However, Zuba and Young (2016), stated that sports organs would be gradually developed if basic sports facilities that will lead to successful human participation, development and promotion and proper maintenance of sports facilities are kept in perfect condition and healthy will be of great value. Costly sports equipment's are hard to access if it is not properly cared, stored and maintained because equipment in poor state results in mayhems and in effectiveness in the development of sporting programmes (Amanchukwu & Ololube, 2017).

Statement of the Problem

Management of sports facilities over time, has been observed to be a general phenomenon affecting the development of world class status of athletes in the sports industry. To a large extent, the management of the right quality and quantity of sports facilities is partly what makes the difference between the sports maintenance culture of developed and developing

nations. In the developed world, sports facilities of the appropriate standard are available to facilitate the athlete's performance (Obiyemi, 2015) and (Ojeme, 2000). It is therefore, not surprising that once a professional athlete travels outside the country seeking for greener pastures his/her performance becomes tremendously improved.

Facilities therefore, occupy such available place in all ramifications of sports administration. Many researches work on facilities, personnel and maintenance (Obiyemi, 2015). Administration and management of physical education and sports. Lagos, Nigeria; Talabi, (2015). Poor facilities: A deterrent to skill excellence in sports journal of Nigeria Academy of sports Administration; Olajide, (2014), "Sports Facilities A Problem of School Sports in Nigeria. International Journal of Emotional Psychology and Sports Ethics; showed that the study areas are deficient and that sports management in the state and the country at large cannot function adequately without regular maintenance of sports facilities (Awosika, 2016).

However, it is disheartens to note that some schools in this present dispensation still have uneven and undulated surfaces that may have led some athletes involved in accidents while in the field of play that may result to severe injuries and eventually exclusion totally from engaging in their chosen sport career. Nevertheless, field of play required to be free of hazard. As a ride to this development, federal ministry of youth and sports development entered an agreement with the University of Ilorin a couple of years ago for hosting the National Youth Games which recorded a huge success. The physical edifice and manpower they received attracted them to further extend the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of hosting right for five years consecutively. The body would not have asked for the extension if they experienced ugly situation during the first endorsement. In view of the above, the researcher is interested in investigating the relationship between management of sports facilities and performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study stated as follows;

1. to examine the relationship between the state of school sports facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.
2. to identify the relationship between the school administrators' managerial experience and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

3. to evaluate the relationship between the management of school sports facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

Research Questions

This study provides to answer the following research questions;

1 Is there any relationship between the state of school sports facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria?

2 Is there any relationship between school administrators' managerial experience and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria?

3 Is there any relationship between management of school sports facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria?

Methodology

The descriptive research design of survey type was used for this study. Population of the study comprised all the 994 (100%) secondary schools' athletes during the 2018 National Youth Games. Multistage sampling techniques comprising of proportionate and stratified sampling techniques were used to sample 497 (50%) athletes from four (4) selected sports. Stratification and the breakdown of the samples from the sampled sports includes, 200 (40%) Track and field athletes, 50 (10%) Badminton players, 210 (42%) Baseball players and 37 (8%) Combat sports was used for the study.

The instrument used for this study was a researcher - developed questionnaire which consisted of sections A and B. Section 'A' focused on demographic variables of the respondents while section B contained 20 null hypotheses formulated structured along the modified Four Point Likert Scale format of Strongly Agreed (SA), Agreed (A), Strongly Disagreed (SD) and Disagreed (D). The questionnaire was validated by three experts in the Department of Human Kinetics Education of which all the criticisms, ideas and their wealth of knowledge were incorporated into the final draft of the instrument.

Copies of the questionnaire were administered on 40 secondary school athletes at Kwara State Township Stadium, Ilorin Kwara State. A reliability test was carried out using test – re – test method was administered and at interval two weeks after which the two results were correlated using Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient and 0.80 was obtained. The

validated instrument was administered and retrieved by the researcher and three trained research assistants. The data collected were subjected to statistical analyses using frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation to analyze the demographic data of the respondents while Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) was adopted to test the hypotheses formulated for the study at 0.05 alpha level.

Frequencies and Percentages of Demographic Data of the Respondents

Table 1 Data Analysis

Variables	**Frequency**	**Percentage (%)**
Gender		
Male	298	60.00%
Female	199	40.00%
Total	497	100%
Age range		
10 – 11 years old	60	12.1%
12 – 13 years old	78	15.7%
14 -15 years old	162	32.6%
16 years and above	197	39.6%
Total	497	100.0%
Years of Experience in Sports		
1 – 2 years	188	37.8%
3 – 4 years	217	43.7%
5 – 6 years & above	92	15.5%
Total	497	100.0%
Religion		
Islam	172	34.6%
Christian	325	65.4%
Total	**497**	**100.0%**

Table one present the demographic data of the respondents indicated that the population of male students athletes was higher with 298 (60%) than their female counterparts who were

relatively on the average with 199 (40%) Age range of the respondents revealed that age 10 -11 years were 60 (12.1%), 12-13 years were 78 (15.7%), 14-15 years were 162 (32.6%), 16 years and above were 197 (39.6%) respectively. This showed that majority of athletes who access the sports facilities on regular basis centered between 12-13 years and minority were between 10-11 years. Years of experience reflected that 1-2 years were 188 (37.8%), 3-4 years were 217 (43.7%) and 5 years and above were 92 (15.5%). Religion of the respondents showed that Christians are participating greatly in sporting activities than Muslims with scores of 325, 65.4% and 172 (34.6%) respectively.

Testing of Hypotheses

Research Hypothesis One: There is no significant relationship between the state of school sport facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

Table 2: Pearson Correlation Analysis on the relationship between the state of School Sport Facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

Variables	N	Mean	SD	r	Df	Sig (2 tailed)	Decision
School Sport Facilities	277	18.8	7.99				
				0.647	495	.012	**Rejected**
Athletes' Performance	218	11.6	0.55				

P<0.05

Table 2 presents the Pearson correlation analysis on the state of school sport facilities and the performance of youth athletes yielded a value of 0.647 with 495 degree of freedom, Mean 18.8, Standard Deviation of 7.99 which is significant with P value .012 < 0.05. This showed a significant result. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected. This means that there is a significant relationship between the state of school sport facilities and the performance of youth athletes.

Research Hypothesis Two: There is no significant relationship between school administrators' managerial experience and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

Table 3: Pearson Correlation Analysis on the Relationship between School Administrators' Managerial Experience and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

Variables	N	Mean	SD	r	Df	Sig (2 tailed)	Decision
Managerial Experience	275	16.6	8.59				
				0.475	495	.007	**Rejected**
Sport Facilities Management	220	14.9	6.55				

P<0.05

Results from table 3 shows the Pearson correlation analysis on the school administrators' managerial experience and the performance of youth athletes yielded a value of 0.475 with 495 degree of freedom, Mean 16.6, Standard Deviation of 8.59 which is significant with P value .007 < 0.05. This shows a significant result. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore, the null hypothesis is hereby rejected. This implies that there is a significant relationship between School Administrators' Managerial Experience and the Management of Sport Facilities and the performance of youth athletes.

Research Hypothesis Three: There is no significant relationship between the management of school sport facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

Table 4: Pearson Correlation Analysis on the Relationship between the Management of School Sport Facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

Variables	N	Mean	SD	r	Df	Sig (2 tailed)	Decision
Management of school sport facilities	275	11.4	9.56				
				0.651	495	.013	Ho Rejected
Athletes' Performance	220	10.7	7.45				

P<0.05

Results from table 4 shows the Pearson correlation analysis on the management of school sport facilities and the performance of youth athletes yielded a value of 0.651 with 495 degree of freedom, Mean 11.4, Standard Deviation of 9.56 which is significant with P value .013 < 0.05. This shows a significant result. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected. This indicates that there is a significant relationship between the management of school sport facilities and the performance of youth athletes.

Discussion of findings

Table two showed the Pearson Correlation Analysis on the Relationship between the state of School Sport Facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria. The finding revealed that there was significant relationship between the state of school sport facilities and the performance of youth athletes in this country. Field observation showed that the condition of sports facilities in my school is not up to date with 465 (93%) positive responses. The finding was in line with the studies of (Ladani, 2016), Obiyemi, (2016) and Ojo (2017) that stated situation of sports facilities in most secondary are capable of making it difficult for students to develop their movement abilities as and when due. However, trainers who are employed to groom school athletes have excuses because of lack of vital tools to work with that will make their output better.

Table three showed the Pearson Correlation Analysis on the Relationship between School Administrators' Managerial Experience and the Management of Sport Facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria. The findings revealed that there was significant relationship between the school administrators' managerial experience and the management of sport facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria. It was showed that the inadequate manpower to manage the sports facilities 484 (98%) respondents were in support of the statement. The finding by Hardman and Marshall (2018), reported that experts throughout the nation commented that the quantities and qualities of sports facilities in secondary schools were grossly inadequate and this has been greatly affecting the performance of athletes at state and national events. Therefore, this can be improved by procurement of sports facilities that will stand test of time which will enable the school administrators to diversify and thereby lead to great performance of youth athletes in the state.

Table four of Pearson Correlation Analysis on the Relationship between the Management of School Sport Facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria. The findings revealed that there was significant relationship between the management of school sport facilities the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria. The study revealed that 480 (97%) were convinced that sports administrators should ensure that all sports facilities in the storage room should be well kept and adequate care. The finding reflected that before sports organs would be gradually developed, basic sports facilities could show case successful human participation, development, promotion and proper maintenance of sports facilities are in order, capable of keeping the structures in perfect condition. Costly sports facilities are hard to justify if it is not properly cared, stored and maintained. Facilities in poor state results in mayhems and in effectiveness in the development of sporting programmes Zuba and Young (2016) and Amanchukwu and Ololube (2015).

Conclusion

Based on the findings of this study the following conclusions was drafted;

1. There was a positive relationship between the state of school sport facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria;

2. There was positive relationship between the school administrators' managerial experience and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria;

3. There was a positive relationship between the management of school sport facilities and the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are presented below;

1. State of school sport facilities in most of the public secondary schools in Ilorin requires total renovation, upgrading in order to meet the national requirement which will, in no measure enhance the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

2. Certified, experienced and well exposed personnel should be recruited for the responsibilities of managing sports facilities to enable the available facilities last longer in order to save cost and aid the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

3. Adequate funds should be disbursed in ensuring that sports facilities are well maintained, purchased and supplied to schools appropriately so as to boost the performance of youth athletes in Nigeria.

References

Adeboyeje, R.A. (2016), Management of School Physical Facilities. Ibadan: Foundation Publications.

Adesoye, A. A. (2017). "An Assessment of the Involvement of Military Athletics Training". *Journal of Research in Behavioural Sciences*, vol. 2: pp. 66-73. Publications of Association of Behavioural Sciences, OAU, Ile-Ife.

Akinsolu, R.A. (2016). Provision and Management of Facilities in Nigerian Primary Schools. In E.O. Fagbemiye, J.B. Babalola, M. Fabunmi and Ayeni (eds). Management of Primary and Secondary Education in Nigeria. NAEAP publications.

Amanchukwu, R. N., & Ololube, N. P. (2015). Managing school plant for effective service delivery in public secondary schools in Rivers State of Nigeria. Human Resource Management Research, 5(4), 95-102. doi:10.5923/j.hrmr.20150504.02.

Awosika, Y. (2016). Status facilities and equipment in producing successful Olympic athletes. In National Institute for Sports Seminar on Managing Olympic Success: The Centennial Olympic Experience (Serial No 1.) 30-37.

Dauda – Olajide, R. O., Dominic, O. L. & Adesoye, A. A. (2015), Influence of Sports Facilities on the performance of track and field athletes of Tertiary Institutions in Ilorin Metropolis, Kwara State. Journal of Health and Sports Science (JORHASS)14, (1). Available online at www.jorhass.com

Daughtrey, G., & Woods, J. B. (2000). Physical education and intramural. Philadelphia: Philadelphian sunders.

Emetarom, U.C. (2017). Provision and Management of Facilities in Primary Schools in Nigeria: Implication for Policy Formulation. In E.O. fagbemiye, J.B. Babalola et al. Management of Primary and Secondary Education in Nigeria. NAEAP publication.

Hardman, K., & Marshall, J. J. (2018). Update on the state and status of physical education worldwide. 2nd World Summit on Physical Education, Magglingen, Switzerland, 2-3 December.

Ladani, B. A. (2004). Assessment and grading in physical education. Journal of Teaching in Physical Education, 13, 305-405.

Obiyemi, O. O. (2006). Administration and management of physical education and sports. Lagos, Nigeria: Macmillan Publisher.

Ojeme, E.O (2016). Standard sports facilities, equipment and the new challenges 21st Century and sports development in Nigeria. Abuja Federal Ministry of Sports and Social Development 112-122.

Ojo, A. L. (2014). Teaching physical education in Nigerian secondary schools is a barrier: an implication for future generation, a case study of Ado metropolis secondary schools in 96 Ekiti State, Nigeria. International Journal of Education, Learning and Development, 3(5), 38-53.

Olajide, A. O. (2014), "Sports Facilities A Problem of School Sports in Nigeria." International Journal of Emotional Psychology and Sports Ethics. Vol. 6, pp19-23

Orunaboka, T.T. (2012). Factors related to the teaching of physical education in secondary schools in Okrika, Rivers State, Unpublished B.Ed Project. University of Port Harcourt.

Venkateswarlu. K. (2018). Towards scientific management of athletes for sports in Nigeria. Lagos, Nigeria: Duke Venture.

Zuba, T., & Young, R. (2016). Planning guide for maintaining school facilities, NCES 2003-347. Washington, DC: School Facilities Maintenance Task Force.