

**Investigating the Structural Factors Affecting Legal
Knowledge of Coaches toward Athletes**

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate the knowledge of sports coaches about their legal duties towards athletes. The tool used in the research has two parts: in the first section, the demographic characteristics include age, gender, degree, coaching, coaching history, field of sport, championship background, national and international championship background, and first aid certificate checked out.. In the second part, a questionnaire of 48 questions was used in the area of knowledge of coaches that has seven dimensions of supervision, training, facilities and equipment, medical care, matchmaking of players, recognition of players and hazard warning. In order to collect data, a questionnaire was distributed among 460 active coaches in various sports fields. Finally, with the elimination of imperfect or defective items, 428 questionnaires were examined. Data analysis was performed using SPSS software version 18. The results of multiple analyses of variances showed that the degree can only affect the instructors' recognition of the players and the degree and coaching history of coaches can not affect the knowledge of the coaches. Also, having "championship background" and "first aid certificate" has affected the coaches' knowledge in the areas of

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"recognition of players" and "medical care and hazard warning" respectively.

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Introduction

In our country, in order to increase the legal knowledge of sports coaches, various courses and classes are held, and this issue is also emphasized in coaching classes or knowledge-enhancing courses. Greenberg (2017) has introduced various sources of coaching learning, including formal training courses, coaching experiences, interaction with other coaches, non-sporting experiences, university and the Internet. However, some research on coaching course participants has shown that the content of the courses was inappropriate and should be applied, usable, and related to educational and sequential approaches to actively engage learners (Nelson et al., 2020). In addition, it is unclear to what extent some structural factors such as degree, coaching degree, coaching experience, championship record, and having a first aid certificate can affect the level of knowledge of coaches and how they handle the tasks assigned to them. Due to the fact that internal research has not addressed this issue in more detail, this study was conducted to investigate the structural factors affecting the knowledge of sports coaches about their legal duties towards athletes.

Research Tools

The present study was a field study in terms of practical purpose and in terms of collection method and necessary information that the researcher used to distribute his questions using a questionnaire among the sample. The statistical population of this study



consisted of all coaches in popular sports in Iran. Due to the lack of accurate statistics on the number of trainers in the country and based on what structural equation modeling experts recommend that in such studies the sample size is at least 200 people, and assuming the existence of missing data and using the maximum likelihood (ML) method, targeted sampling is available. It was done at the request of educators across the country who were willing to participate in the research and had access to it. A researcher-made questionnaire based on library studies and review of domestic and foreign articles was used to collect data. After the questions related to demographic information, in the first part of the questionnaire, structural factors including degree, coaching degree, coaching history, championship record, championship record (national or international level) and having a first aid certificate were examined and in the second part A 48-item questionnaire of the coach's knowledge and duties towards athletes was used, which has seven dimensions of supervision (8 questions), training (7 questions), facilities and equipment (7 questions), medical care (6 questions), player matching (6 questions).) Were player recognition (6 questions) and hazard warning (8 questions). In the discussion of face validity, the questionnaire was reviewed and modified based on its appearance by two management professors and several sample members. To assess the reliability, a questionnaire was given to 11 experts, which was confirmed by the fact that the alpha coefficient was 0.87 (and above 0.7). Data were analyzed using SPSS software version 18 and the significance level was considered 0.05.

Data Analysis

In the descriptive study section, the results indicate that among the respondents to the questionnaire, the highest number of samples were related to wrestling (125 people), taekwondo (121 people), futsal (43 people) and football (36 people), respectively. Regarding the coaching degree of the respondents, the highest number were related to the holders of coaching degree of grade 3 (160 people), then the degree of coaching degree of grade 2 (142 people) and grade 1 (126 people).

Multiple analysis of variance (ANOVA) test was used to test the hypotheses that measure coaching knowledge based on independent variables (degree, coaching degree, coaching experience, championship record, and having a first aid degree). Regarding the first hypothesis that there is a difference between coaches' qualifications and coaches' knowledge dimensions, as the significance level of Table 3 shows, qualifications only significantly affected coaches' knowledge of players and could not affect other dimensions. Give.

Results:

The results of the present study, contrary to the initial assumption of researchers, showed that coaches' knowledge about their legal duties towards athletes was lower than expected, so that a number of factors such as coaching history and coaching degree did not affect coaches' knowledge and other factors such as coaching degree. The history of heroism and familiarity with first aid was also limited to one or two dimensions. Although the lack of knowledge of coaches is partly related to the wide range of their duties that should monitor training, competition, places, equipment, nutrition, health, travel and many other things, but it is



important to note that the knowledge of Iranian coaches compared to other countries. It also shows that there is a similar trend for other nations. For example, Baron et al. (2016) in the United States reported that educators in Michigan do not have sufficient knowledge of their first aid and injury prevention responsibilities; Singh and Surjalal (2017) in South Africa and Bozdik (2016) in Wisconsin, USA reported that most high school educators did not have sufficient knowledge and that the educators themselves admitted that they had not performed their legal duties towards student-athletes; And in Australia, Carter and Müller (2020) showed that rugby coaches lack knowledge about their responsibilities in medical care and injury management, and concluded that it was necessary to change the coaching system. Considering the holding of various coaching courses at different levels in the country and the fact that most of these courses focus on increasing the knowledge of coaches about their legal duties towards athletes, review these courses and emphasize on increasing the knowledge of coaches about their legal duties. It is necessary for athletes.

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