



ISSN Print: 2394-7500
ISSN Online: 2394-5869
IJAR 2015; 1(5): 102-105
www.allresearchjournal.com
Received: 18-03-2015
Accepted: 23-04-2015

Dr. Satish Kanaujia
Assistant Professor, Department
of Physical Education, IIT BHU
Gymkhana, Varanasi, Uttar
Pradesh, India

Bowling performance and anthropometric measurement of university cricket players

Dr. Satish Kanaujia

Abstract

Objective: The objective of the study was to find out the relationship of Bowling Performance and Anthropometric Measurement of University Cricket Players.

Methods: For the purpose of the study 120 male Cricket players who participated in Inter-University Cricket Championship, were selected as the subjects for the study. Age of the subjects was ranging from 18 to 25 years. Selected anthropometric characteristics namely Standing Height, Body Weight, Arm Length, Fore Arm Length, Upper Arm Length, Upper Arm Girth, Hand Length, Leg Length, Thigh Length, Lower Leg Length, Thigh Girth, Calf Girth were selected. to find out the relationship of Bowling Performance and Anthropometric Measurement of University Cricket Players, Product Moment Method of Correlation was used. And the level of significance was set at 0.05.

Results: The findings of the study revealed that $r_{0.05(28)} = 0.374$ There exists an insignificant relationship between Batting Performance and all selected Anthropometric characteristics (Height, Weight, Arm Length, Fore Arm Length, Upper Arm Length, Upper Arm Girth, Hand Length, Leg Length, Lower Leg Length, Thigh Girth, Calf Girth).

Conclusions: It was concluded that there is an insignificant relationship between Bowling Performance and all selected Anthropometric Characteristics.

Keywords: Anthropometric measurement, bowling performance, cricket

Introduction

Cricket has become one of the most popular games in the world, and of all the major games. It must also be one of the oldest game. For the game from which the present one originated is generally accepted as having been played for over two thousand years. Its popularity has, no doubt, always owned much to the fascination man finds hitting a ball with bat. Today cricket is essentially team games, and has developed into a fast and highly skillful one. Cricket is one of the team sports which demands high level technical and tactical abilities along with desired level of Fitness (Anspaugh, *et al.*, 1994) [1]. The development of the game of cricket is accompanied by evolving of several new training methods. Coaches and physical education teachers have been constantly employing different training methods to improve the performance of sport. Under the change and to determine the superiority of one method over the other. Due to advancement of scientific methods of training, techniques and tactics every player requires certain specific physical physiological and psychological qualities to achieve higher standard in their respective game. Anthropometric measurement consists of objective measurements of structure and functions of the body. The measurement of the structure includes items such as weight, total height and width, the depth and the circumferences of the chest etc. The measurements of functions includes such items as pulse rate arterial and venous, blood pressure, muscles strength, basal metabolic rate, estimate from cardio-vascular posture and breathing capacity (Sundarajun, 1972) [8]. Measurement of the body size include such descriptive information as height, weight and surface area, while measures of body proportion describe the relationship between height and weight among length, width and circumferences of various body segments. It has been found that top athletes in some sports tend to have those proportions that biomechanical aid, the particular performance required (Timothy, *et al.*, 1998) [9]. Anthropometry comprises techniques that readily contribute to a more in-depth understanding of body composition & nutritional status, allowing the quantification of observations & the observation of changes with time Today cricket is essentially team games, and has developed into a fast and highly skillful one.

Correspondence:
Dr. Satish Kanaujia
Assistant Professor, Department
of Physical Education, IIT BHU
Gymkhana, Varanasi, Uttar
Pradesh, India

Cricket is no longer thought to be an easy game, a great deal of fitness and mastery over the skill is necessary to play their game effectively. The game has unique characteristics in the sense that each player has to play in every position.

Objective: The objective of the study was to find out the relationship of Anthropometric Measurement and Batsman Performance of East zone Inter University Cricket Players.

Methodology

Subjects

For the purpose of the study 120 male Cricket players who participated in Inter-University Cricket Championship, were selected as the subjects for the study. Age of the subjects was ranging from 18 to 25 years. 30 subjects were selected i.e. batsman.

Variables

Selected Anthropometric Characteristics were as follows

1. Standing Height
2. Body Weight
3. Arm Length
4. Fore Arm Length
5. Upper Arm Length
6. Upper Arm Girth
7. Hand Length
8. Leg Length
9. Thigh Length
10. Lower Leg Length
11. Thigh Girth
12. Calf Girth

Criterion Measures for Anthropometric Characteristics

All the Anthropometric Characteristics was measured by anthropometric kit.

Selection of Subjects

For the purpose of the study 120 male Cricket players who participated in Inter-University Cricket Championship organized by Ravenshah University, Cuttack, Orissa in the session 2010-11, were selected as the subjects for the study. Age of the subjects was ranging from 18 to 25 years. 30 subjects were selected of Wicket- Keeper.

Reliability of data

The reliability of data was ensured by establishing the instrumental reliability and tester's competency (Gay, 2000).

Instrumental reliability

The instruments, which were used in the study, were obtained from standard firms, which cater to the needs of various research laboratories in India and abroad and their calibration have been accepted as accurate enough for the purpose of this study.

Design of study

The Correlational design was used for the study. A single group of units of analysis was obtained preferably randomly; each individual was measured on all selected variables at more or less the same time.

Administration of anthropometric characteristics tests

Standing height

Subjects were made to stand erect without shoes against a marked scale on the wall. The heels, buttocks and back were

touching the wall. The subjects were instructed to keep the heels together, head straight and hold a full breath in while measurement was taken. A stiff hard board was held horizontally on the head and touching the scale marked on the wall. The subjects were asked to step out and the reading indicated by the hard board was recorded. This was repeated twice to ensure accurate measurement and height was recorded to the nearest half a centimeter.

Body weight

The subjects were allowed to wear short vest and were made to stand at the centre of the weighing machine. The weight was recorded from the indicator of dial to a nearest half of kilogram.

Arm Length

Arm Length was measured with the flexible steel tape. The subjects were made to stand erect, arm completely hung, relaxed by the side of the body and arm length was taken from the acromion process, the point just above the shoulder joint to the tip of the middle finger. The arm length was recorded to the nearest half centimeter.

Hand Length

Subjects were instructed to place the hand on the table with palm facing upward and fingers close with wrist extension and elbow flexion in relaxed position. The hand length was taken with steel tape from the base of the thumb to the tip of the middle finger.

Leg Length

Subjects were instructed to stand erect and leg length was taken with the flexible steel tape from the greater trochanter to the floor. Leg length was recorded to the nearest half centimeter.

Thigh Length

Subjects were made to stand erect and thigh length was taken with the flexible steel tape vertically from the most protuberant part of patella bulge to the upper edge of the greater trochanter. Thigh length was recorded to the nearest half centimeter.

Thigh Girth

Subjects were made to stand erect and thigh was taken with the flexible steel tape placed round the thigh horizontally with its top edge just under the fold of buttocks. During measurement, subjects were asked to stand with their weight equally distributed on both the feet. Thigh Girth was recorded to the nearest half centimeter.

Calf Girth

Subjects were asked to place the foot on the stool with thigh parallel to the ground and calf girth was measured with flexible steel tape at the maximum circumference of the calf in a plane at right angle to its long axis. In this position, the calf muscle was remaining quite relaxed. Calf Girth was recorded to the nearest half centimeter (Sodhi, *et al.*, 1984).

Statistical technique for analysis of data

To find out the correlation between Cricket Performance and selected Anthropometric Characteristics in relation to specific categories in team, Product Moment Method of Correlation was used.

Findings

Table 1: Correlation between Dependent Variable (Bowling Performance) and Independent Variables (Selected Anthropometric Characteristics)

Independent Variables	Corelation coefficient
Height	0.038824688*
Weight	0.041347718*
Arm Length	0.286202684*
Fore Arm Length	0.034819046*
Upper Arm length	0.167240041*
Upper Arm Girth	-0.195024824*
Hand Length	-0.0823358*
Leg Length	0.288872186*
Thigh Length	0.165837602*
Lower leg Length	0.175783956*
Thigh Girth	-0.064463631*
Calf Girth	0.026848263*

* Insignificant at .05 level
 $r_{.05(28)} = 0.374$

Table – 1 clearly indicates that there exists a insignificant relationship between Bowling Performance and all selected Anthropometric characteristics (Height, Weight, Arm Length, Fore Arm Length, Upper Arm length, Upper Arm Girth, Hand

Length, Leg Length, Thigh Length, Lower leg Length, Thigh Girth and Calf Girth) as the correlation coefficient values were found lower than the tabulated value at .05 level of significance.

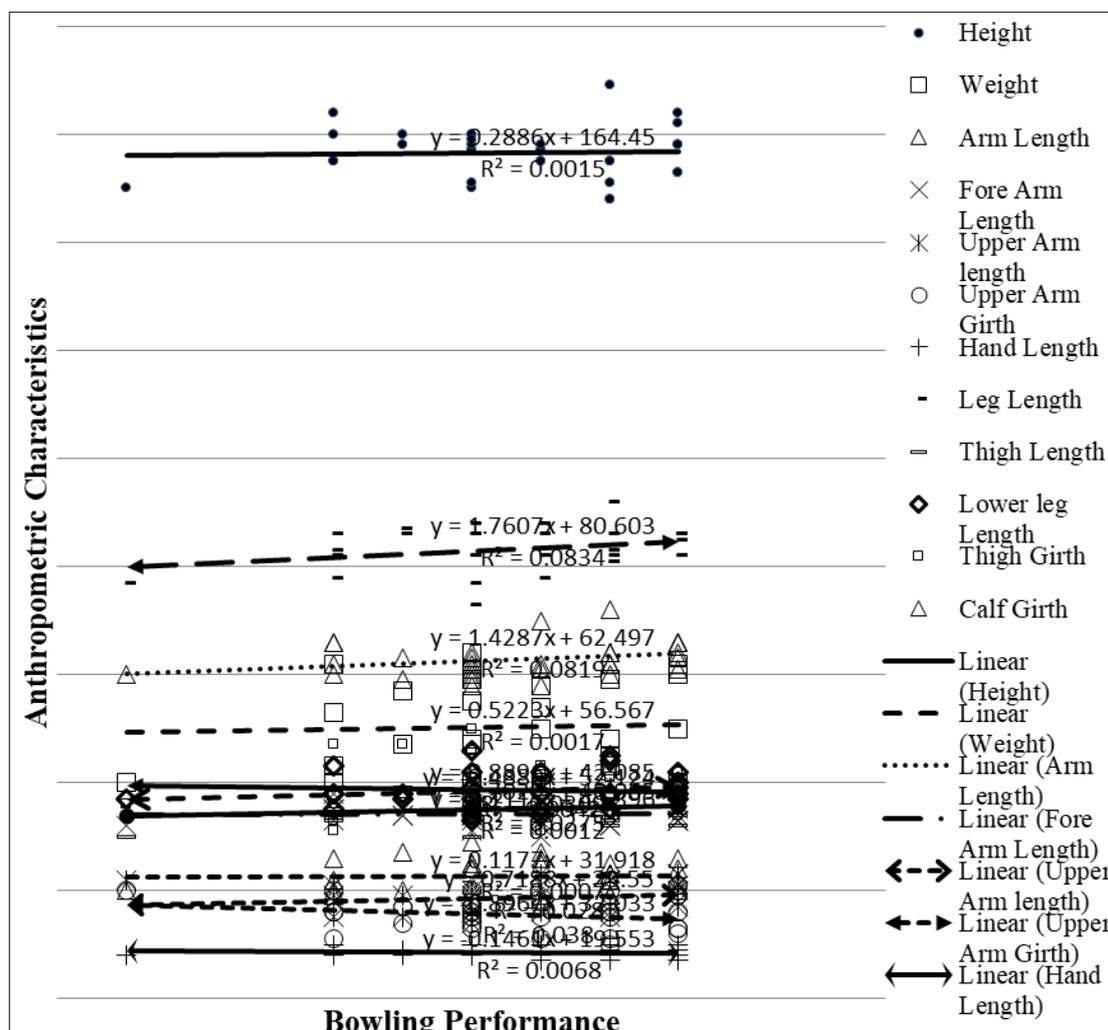


Fig 1: Correlation between Dependent Variable (Bowling Performance) and Independent Variables (Selected Anthropometric Characteristics)

Conclusions

The findings of the study revealed that $r_{.05(28)} = 0.374$ There exists an insignificant relationship between Batting Performance and all selected Anthropometric characteristics (Height, Weight, Arm Length, Fore Arm Length, Upper Arm Length, Upper Arm Girth, Hand Length, Leg Length, Lower

Leg Length, Thigh Girth, Calf Girth).

Conclusions

It was concluded that there was insignificant relationship found in Batting Performance and all selected Anthropometric characteristics

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