



ISSN Print: 2394-7500
ISSN Online: 2394-5869
Impact Factor: 5.2
IJAR 2016; 2(9): 745-747
www.allresearchjournal.com
Received: 11-07-2016
Accepted: 12-08-2016

Dr. Vijay Bahadur Singh Bisht
Assistant Professor (Physical Education), Rajendra Prasad Degree College, Meeraganj (Bareilly) Uttar Pradesh, India.

Study of different dimensions of personality of Indian soccer referees

Dr. Vijay Bahadur Singh Bisht

Abstract

A study was conducted to analyze and compare the personality (Extraversion/Introversion and Neuroticism/Stable dimension) of Indian soccer referees. Total 200 Indian male, active and retired, FIFA/National Referees (Elite group) and State Football referees, divided into two groups of 100 referees in one group, were taken as subjects.

Findings of the study revealed that majority of the elite referees were found to be more extrovert and stable dimension of personality while on other hand majority of state referees were found of more introvert and neurotic dimension of personality. State referees were more neurotic and less stable than elite referees while Elite referees are more Extrovert (or less Introvert) than their state counterparts.

Keywords: Personality, extraversion, introversion, neuroticism, soccer, referee, FIFA, elite

Introduction

Officials are the part and parcel of games and sports. They are there to take care that games go on smoothly as per the prescribed laws of the game formed by the governing body of that game. Sports' officiating has been recognized as a potentially stressful activity. Sports officials are placed in a competitive environment and they are in a highly evaluative position, in which their integrity is often questioned. Reports of verbal and instances of physical abuse of soccer officials are on the increase. This can be threatening if they anticipate failure or negative appraisal from other^[1].

Being a referee is demanding and full of unrelenting pressure. There are occasions when referee may succumb to the pressure. Refereeing is one of the most difficult professions in the world. To be an effective referee one must possess extraordinary abilities, skills and knowledge. After coaches and managers, referees are the third dimension of athletic contest^[2].

Soccer is a game of constant action and requires continuous adaptation to changing situations by the players as well as by the officials so the game of soccer requires that an official is physically fit possesses technical knowledge concerning the rules and has the necessary psychological attributes to deal with a broad range of situations and experiences.

Today soccer is established firmly in most of the world as a vital part of sporting scene. Countless millions play the game at many levels and many more watch it. Surely no game has even had the appeal and found such a fixed place in lives of so many nations as soccer has at this time^[3].

Soccer is the game where excitement runs so high throughout the contest, even before and after the contest. Players, spectators, officials, TV viewers or organizers, everyone is under the grip of this mounting excitement. Officiating is one of the most important aspects of games and sports but has been very much neglected until recently, this is very unfortunate. Poor officiating detracts so much from the enjoyment of the spectators, and players and sometimes it becomes the cause of unstoppable and undesirable unrest.

To become superior official certain combination of physical and mental skills is necessary. Being an official can be challenging, exciting and rewarding, on the other hand, officials can also feel frustrated, abused and unappreciated. Whether an official experiences the positive or the negative rests on his mental approach. The mental approach can be thought of as three selves. So this study was focused on to analyze the self-concept of Indian soccer referees.

How a referee handles a game, how seriously players take a referee or how a referee reacts to the pressure situation and crowd behavior, to a great extent this depends on the personality of

Correspondence

Dr. Vijay Bahadur Singh Bisht
Assistant Professor (Physical Education), Rajendra Prasad Degree College, Meeraganj (Bareilly) Uttar Pradesh, India.

the referee. Personality of the referee gives a reasonably stable idea about his behavior which becomes an instrument to assess and predict his performance which proves a deciding factor in determining his career graph.

Personality can be defined as a dynamic and organized set of characteristics possessed by a person that uniquely influences his or her cognitions, motivations, and behaviors in various situations. Contemporary research suggests that most personality traits are based on the joint influence of genetics and environment.

Extraversion - Introversion and Neuroticism - Stable are most common dimensions of the personality. Extraversion is the tendency to be outgoing, sociable, fun-loving, and affectionate against being retiring, somber, and reserved i.e. introversion. Neuroticism is the tendency to be anxious, insecure, and self-pitying against being calm, secure, and self-satisfied i.e. stable.

Looking at the importance of good personality for being a good referee, this study was focused on to analyze the personality (Extraversion - introversion and Neuroticism - stable) of Indian soccer referees.

Procedure

Selection of Subject

Total 200 Indian male, active and retired, FIFA, National and State Football referees were taken as subjects, divided into

two groups of 100 referees in one group. Group one consisted of India’s 100 FIFA and national referees combined together (elite referees) and group two consisted of India’s 100 state level referees (state class Ist, IInd and IIIrd referees combined together), registered with different Indian states/districts football associations.

Administration of Questionnaires and Scoring

Eysenck Personality Inventory (E.P.I.) prepared by H.J. Eysenck and Sybill B. G. Eysenck was used to measure the personality inventory factor of the subjects. Test reliability for extroversion scale ranged from 0.87 to 0.89, for neuroticism scale ranged from 0.86 to 0.91 on both the forms of the EPI. Before giving the inventory to the respondents, the purpose of the testing was explained to the respondents and they were ensured about the secrecy of the information provided by them.

Scoring

Eysenck personality inventory (EPI) contains total 57 questions. Each question is provided with two options “Yes” and “No”. All the questions are to be answered by ticking (√) either “Yes” or “No” without spending much time over any question. Questions are in different sets to derive different scores for Neuroticism, Extroversion and Lie scale of the respondents.

Following interpretations of the score denote the level of Extraversion / Introversion and Neuroticism / Stable dimensions of the subject.

Dimension	Scores	Groups
Extroversion/Introversion	18 and above	Extrovert
	17 to 11	Average in Extroversion/ Introversion Dimension
	10 and below	Introvert
Neuroticism/Stable	17 and above	Neurotic
	16 to 9	Average in Neuroticism/Stable Dimension
	10 and below	Stable

Analysis of Data and Results of the Study

Table 1: Frequency distribution of Neuroticism/Stable Dimension in Elite & State Referees

Personality (Neuroticism/stable)	Total	
	Elite Soccer Referees	State Level Soccer Referees
Stable	62	07
Average	35	56
Neuroticism	03	37
Total	100	100

Interpretation: The scores of table 1 makes it clear that 62 elite and 07 state soccer referees found to be having stable personality trait while 37 state referees and 03 elite referees were found neurotic. 35 elite and 56 state level referees had average scores in Neuroticism/Stable dimension.

Table 2: Frequency distribution of Extroversion/Introversion Dimension in Elite & State Referees

Personality (Introvert/Extrovert)	Total	
	Elite Soccer Referees	State Level Soccer Referees
Introvert	05	06
Average	30	65
Extrovert	65	29
Total	100	

Interpretation: Table 2 reveals that out of 65 & 29 elite and state soccer referees respectively were found extrovert. Remarkably very few of both classes of referees were found introvert.

Table 3: Descriptive Analysis of Elite Referees (FIFA & National Level) and State Referees on Personality (Neuroticism/ Stability Dimension)

Variables	Groups	Mean	Standard Deviation	Standard Error
Neuroticism/ Stability	Elite Referees	10.04	3.152	.315
	State Referees	15.31	3.383	.338

Table-3 clearly indicates the mean, standard deviation and standard error of Elite Referees (FIFA & National Level) and State Referees on Neuroticism/Stability dimension. The observed mean and standard deviation on Neuroticism/Stability of Elite Referees were 10.04 and 3.152 while standard error was .315; and State Referees 15.31 and 3.383 with standard error .338 respectively. State Referees had higher mean score as compared to Elite referees.

Table 4: Significance of mean difference of Elite Referees (FIFA & National Level) and State Soccer Referees on Personality (Neuroticism/ Stability Dimension)

Variables	Groups	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	df	M.D.	SEd	t ratio
Neuroticism/ Stability	Elite Referees	100	10.04	3.152	198	5.27	.462	11.396*
	State Referees	100	15.31	3.383				

*Significant at 0.05 level, Tabulated t value= 1.960. df (198)

From table 4, it is evident that the obtained t ratio 11.396 is greater than the tabulated t value 1.960 at 0.05 levels with df (198); therefore, there is a significant difference between Elite

Referees (FIFA & National Level) and State Referees on Neuroticism/ Stability.

State Soccer Referees are more Neurotic (or less stable) than Elite Referees (FIFA & National Level).

Table 5: Descriptive Analysis of Elite Referees (FIFA & National Level) and State Referees on Personality (Extroversion/ Introversion Dimension)

Variables	Groups	Mean	Standard Deviation	Standard Error
Extroversion/ Introversion	Elite Referees	17.53	2.851	.285
	State Referees	15.19	3.154	.315

Table-5 clearly indicates the mean, standard deviation and standard error of Elite Referees (FIFA & National Level) and State Referees on Extroversion/ Introversion. The observed mean and standard deviation on Extroversion/ Introversion of

Elite Referees were 17.53 and 2.851 while standard error was .285; and State Referees 15.19 and 3.154 with standard error .315 respectively. State Referees had lower mean score as compared to Elite referees.

Table 6: Significance of mean difference of Elite Referees (FIFA & National Level) and State Referees on Personality (Extroversion/ Introversion Dimension)

Variables	Groups	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	df	M.D.	SEd	t ratio
Extroversion/ Introversion	Elite Referees	100	17.53	2.851	1 198	2.340	.425	5.503*
	State Referees	100	15.19	3.154				

*Significant at 0.05 level, Tabulated t value= 1.960. df (198)

From table 6, it is evident that the obtained t ratio 5.503 is greater than the tabulated t value 1.960 at 0.05 levels with df (198); therefore, there is a significant difference between Elite Referees (FIFA & National Level) and State Referees on Extroversion/Introversion.

Elite Referees (FIFA & National Level) are more Extrovert (or less Introvert) than State Referees.

may make him more speculative, withdrawn, reserved and not so confident person i.e. an introvert person.

Questionnaires were given to subjects personally, by mail or sent by post. Although full confidentiality of the responses was promised, still some of the subjects might have hesitated in giving genuine responses and any bias that might existed due to this should be considered as a limitation of the present study.

Conclusions and Discussion of Findings

Study revealed that majority (62%) of Elite Soccer Referees (FIFA & National Level) have been found to be with stable dimension of personality while 93% of State Soccer Referees have average or neurotic scores in stable/ neuroticism dimension of personality. It can be concluded that state referees are more neurotic and less stable than elite referees. It was further revealed that majority (65%) of Elite Soccer Referees have been found to be of Extrovert dimension. Whereas majority (65%) of state referees have average scores in (Extroversion/Introversion) dimension. Elite referees are more Extrovert than their state counterparts.

Reasons for elite referees being more extrovert and less neurotic than their state counterparts can be attributed to their frequent exposure to the continuously changing environment as FIFA & national level referees are bound to visit many places (in India or abroad) and meet number of people with different social and cultural backgrounds and every time they work with them in close association it definitely enriches their social and cultural experience and makes them more outgoing and socially adjustable i.e. an extrovert person.

Whereas state referees have limited exposure that too in limited areas and they are still in the process of fighting for their existence. As 45 is the age for a referee to retire so if he gets late in getting promoted to higher level, then he is left with very less time to progress in his refereeing career which

References

1. Taylor AH, Danial JV. Sources of Stress in Soccer Officiating, cited in T.Reilly *et al.*, Science and Football, Great Britain: St. Edmundsbry Press, 1988.
2. Robert S. Weinberg and Peggy A. Richardson, Psychology of Officiating, Illinois: Leisure Press, 1990.
3. Ball Allan. International Soccer Annual, London, Pelham Books Ltd, 1969.