



INVESTIGATION INTO FACTORS MILITATING AGAINST FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS IN PRINCE ABUBAKAR AUDU UNIVERSITY, ANYIGBA

¹ABUBAKAR, Nurudeen Ojo & ²CHUKWUDO, Donatus Udochukwu

1. Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba

2. Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

Corresponding Author

Abubakar, Nurudeen Ojo

Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba.

Email: nurudeenabu001@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This study examined the investigation into factors militating against future development of sports in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba. The population of this study is made up of the athlete of Prince Abubakar Audu University Kogi state, sports council staff, sport administrators in the Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education. Simple random sampling technique was used to select 40 among athletes by using fish bowl method and complete enumeration procedure. This was done by selecting 10 available Sport council staffs (Coaches) from different games and 10 available sport administrators making a total of 60 respondents altogether. Self-structured questionnaire was used. The instrument was validated and tested for reliability using Cronbach alpha test with a co-efficient of .76 was obtained. Data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics of mean and standard deviation to answer the research questions. The result revealed that lack of incentives to sports participants has significant influence on the level of sports development, gender disparity will be a problem towards sports development, lack of provision of fund affects effective development of sports, lack of sports facilities affects effective development of sports in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba. It is therefore recommended among others that for a sports implementation to be effective, the principles of flexibility, comprehensive, coordination, ethical and clarity, will help to attain set objectives of sports, there is need for incentives and benefits which should be in monetary and non-monetary form for Athletes and coaches.

Keywords: Equipment, Facilities, Fund, Future, Sports Development and Sports Personnel

Introduction

Prince Abubakar Audu University, a sport loving community has devoted time to sports such as; Football, Basketball, Swimming and Wrestling. These have brought development thereby boosting the school's economy. Another dimension to sports through mental and physical development as well as financial recognition from sponsors and government is enjoyed.

Therefore, according to Obiyemi and Musa (2003), sports are the activities involving powers, skills, competition and strategy for the enjoyment and satisfaction of personal gain. Traditionally, these were the main aim of participating in sports. In Nigeria today, sports is fast gaining recognition as a way of the life of the people. Today sport is a global phenomenon and at the same time very dynamic, this is because sports are changing with time and technological advancement. According to scientific evidence from history archeology and sociology, sport has been an essential element in all cultures world-wide and throughout the evolution of the human race. The word sport was derived from "disport" meaning to "divert itself" carrying the original implication of people diverting their activities (Adewole, 2019).

Sports development deal with the opportunities available for people to progress to their potential in sports, from taking parts for fun and health to competition and also encompasses the provision of opportunities for addressing the social issues of the day through participation in sports (Adebayo, 2003). Sports for sport sake deals with activity management, support services and quality of education through coaching with sports for” social good” dealing with a variety of issues from social integration, health, community regeneration, crime and social inclusion.

Modern competitive sports were introduced to Kogi State mainly by British Christian Missionaries. Sports were organized on recreational basis in the school, but were later held competitively as part of the British Empire day- celebrations. Nigeria has a national Sports development policy (Federal republic of Nigeria, 1989a) which identifies five specific programme areas: Sports development voluntary organization; research and planning; education and training; and mobilization of resources for sports. In addition, the government also publishes guidelines for implementing the sports Development policy (Federal Republic of Nigeria 1989b).

It can be argued, however that given the many years of military rule in Nigeria, and in view of the fact that victory is associated with success, the government’s strong commitment towards sports development is—a political maneuver aimed at diverting attention and popularizing military rule. The national sports commission has been strongly criticized on a number of occasions for fielding athletes at international competitions, not strictly based on merit or skill, but rather on geographical spread. In recommending players for inclusion in national teams, national sports Federations are often compelled to field players from previously disadvantaged parts of the states. This phenomenon is commonly referred to as’ Federal Character’. Although this practice might have hindered the performance of athletes in certain sports and denied them the opportunity to represent the state locally, it has nevertheless enhanced capacity building and raise the overall development of sports in the state.

Sports management serves as the bedrock of sports development of any state. There is the need to manage the vast sports resources, which include financial, materials and human resources that exist in the field of sports. The ultimate aim is to achieve set objectives. In spite of the resource potentialities existing in the state towards sport development, Prince Abubakar Audu University has not made any appreciable impact in local sports. This is due to the fact that Prince Abubakar Audu University has witnessed a lot of metamorphosis from the colonial pre-independence and post-independence eras. However, those at the helm of affairs in the sports ministry had been non-professionals and this had negatively affected the future of sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba.

This study therefore intended to investigate those factors militating against sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba. It sought to know whether incentives to sports participant would have significant influence on the level of sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, to examine whether there is significant difference between male and female athletes towards sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, to determine whether provision of funds would enhance effective development of sports in Prince Abubakar Audu University, to determine whether maintenance of sports facilities would affect effective development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, to proffer solution to the factor militating against sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University and to investigate whether promoting sports at the grassroots level will aid sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University

Research Questions

The following research questions will be raised for the study:

1. Would introduction of incentives to sports participant have significant influence on the level of sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University?
2. Would there be significant difference between male and female athlete towards sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University?
3. Would adequate provision of fund enhance effective development of sports in Prince Abubakar Audu University?
4. Would maintenance of sports facilities enhance effective development of sports in Prince Abubakar Audu University?
5. Would promotion of sports at grassroots level aid sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University?

Materials and Methods

The survey research technique was used through administration of research questionnaires to the investigate into factors militating against sports development in prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba.

The population of this study is made up of the administrative staff of Prince Abubakar Audu University, Kogi State. Sports council, sports administrators in the Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education.

Simple random sampling techniques was used to select 40 among athletes by using fish bowl method and complete enumeration procedure will also be used in selecting 10 administrative staff (Coaches) from different games and 10 sport administrators making a total of 60 respondents all together.

The research instrument used for this study was self-constructed questionnaire, which was administered to the sports administrators and athletes. In order to determine the validity of this research study, the structured questionnaire would be given to experts in the Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education to determine the face and content validity.

The researchers administered the questionnaire to the personnel staffs and athletes personally. The research questionnaires were collected back from the respondent for coding immediate after completion.

Results

Table1: Demographic characteristics of the respondents

Item	Variables	N	Percentages (%)
Age (years)	16-25	4	6.7
	26-35	25	41.7
	36-45	22	36.6
	46 years and above	9	15
Sex	Male	56	93.3
	Female	4	6.7
Education	SSCE/GCE	18	30.0
	OND/NCE	15	25.0
	BSC/HND	19	31.7
	MSC/PHD	8	13.3
Position	Sport Admin	23	38.3
	Athlete	19	31.7
	Coach	18	30

Table 1 above shows that on age out of 100 respondent 4 representing (6.7%) were between 16-25 years of age, 25 respondents representing (41.7%) were between 26-35 years of age, 22 respondents representing (36.6%) were between 36-45 years of age and 9 respondents representing (15.0%) were 46 years and above. On Sex, out of 100 respondents 56 respondents representing (93.3%) were male and 4 respondents representing (6.7%) were female. On education qualification out of 100 respondents 18 representing (30.0%) were SSCE/GCE, 15 respondents representing (25.0%) were OND/NCE, 19 respondents representing (31.7%) were HND/BSC, 8 respondents representing (13.3%) were MSc/Ph.D. respectively. On position, out of 100 respondents 23 respondents representing (38.3%) were sport administrators, 19 respondents representing (31.7%) were athletes, 18 respondents representing (30.0%) were coach respectively.

Table 2: Influence of incentives on the level of sports development

Incentives to Athletes	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	SD	Decision
Honorarium to champion athletes for any gallant performance will boost their morale in the subsequent sporting events	27	18	0	15	3.20	.82	Accepted
Regular training program for amateur athlete will reduce their prompt interest in participating in sporting event	23	18	19	0	2.75	1.3	Accepted
Issuing visa is not a good means of participating in sporting event	8	48	0	4	3.07	.45	Accepted
Motivation such as money and gift will improve Sports at grassroot level	27	18	15	0	3.20	.82	Accepted
Average Mean					3.05	.73	Accepted

Table 2 above shows the mean and standard deviation of research question one which says will lack of incentives to sports participant has significant influence on the level of sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba was accepted since its average mean was above the 4-likert scale decision rule of reject when the mean was below 2.5 and accept when

the mean was 2.5 and above. Since the average mean and standard deviation was $3.054 \pm .730$ which was above 2.5 the question was accepted that lack of incentives to sports participants had significant influence on the level of sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba.

Table 3: Gender Disparity and Sports Participation

Gender Disparity	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	SD	Decision
Male participate in sport than the females	27	18	0	15	3.20	.82	Accepted
Female athletes perform better than their male counterparts in sporting events	8	4	18	30	2.03	.96	Rejected
Female athletes are more recognized than male athletes	8	22	0	30	2.63	.71	Accepted
Both male and female athletes should be given equal treatment	27	22	0	15	3.20	.82	Accepted
Average Mean					2.77	.65	Accepted

Table 3 above shows the mean and standard deviation of gender disparity with average mean and standard deviation of $2.767 \pm .654$. This was accepted since the average mean was greater than 2.5. Meaning that gender disparity will be a problem towards sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba.

Table 4: Provision of Funds and Sports Participation

Provision of Funds	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	SD	Decision
Sport development could be achieved through adequate funding of sports program	27	18	0	15	3.20	.82	Accepted
Sports is properly funded in Prince Abubakar Audu University	8	18	0	34	2.57	.72	Rejected
Misappropriation of funds meant for Sport Facilities hinders Sport development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Kogi State	27	18	0	15	3.20	.82	Accepted
Government and Sport administrators do not need to account for funds spend on coaches and athlete	8	18	4	30	2.50	.81	Accepted
Average Mean					2.87	.61	Accepted

Table 4 above shows the mean and standard deviation of provision of funds with average mean and standard deviation of $2.867 \pm .613$ which means that the question that says will lack of provision of fund affect effective development of sports in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba was upheld that provision of fund will affect the effective development of Sports in Prince Abubakar Audu University.

Table 5: Sports Facilities and Equipment and Sport Participation

Sports Facilities and Equipment	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	SD	Decision
It is the sole duty of ministry of Sports to make provision for sports equipment	27	18	0	15	3.20	.82	Accepted
Maintenance of Sports equipment and facilities will prolong its life span	27	18	0	15	3.20	.82	Accepted
Construction of modern facilities will Influence Sports facilities in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Kogi state	12	18	0	30	2/70	.79	Accepted
Construction of standard courts and field will have no influence in athlete performance	8	18	0	30	2.57	.72	Accepted
Average Mean					2.92	.63	Accepted

Table 5 above shows the mean and standard deviation of provision of funds with average mean and standard deviation of $2.917 \pm .632$ which means that research question 4 that says will lack of sports facilities affect effective development of sports in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba was upheld that lack of Sport facilities will affect the effective development of Sports in Prince Abubakar University, Anyigba.

Discussion of Findings

Participation in sporting activities could provide tangible rewards such as money, trophy, medal, scholarship to students and help them form social bonds and relationships with school (Daniel, 2001). Research question one that says will lack of incentives to sports participants have significant influence on the level of sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba was accepted since its average mean was above the 4-Likert scale decision rule of reject when the mean was below 2.5 and accept when the mean was 2.5 and above. Since the average mean and standard deviation was $3.054 \pm .730$ which was above 2.5 the question was accepted that lack of incentives to sports participant had significant influence on the level of sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba. According to (Kandu & Tutoo, 2002) who said the effects of incentives on performance of sports administrators and athletes have long been of interest, for quite some time now in the context of this study, incentives is something that motivates an individual to perform an action. The level and amount of effort in a person will either increase or decrease on the basis of the quality of incentives offered to the person. This was in line with this view, Eboh (1992) noted that incentives, are essential gadgets or the totality of the factors which should assist sportsmen and women to whichever their goals. In the same vein, Orlick (1981), incentives motivate, energies and spurs one to action and at the same time, it is capable of sustaining high performance level, because it is contained in the process of obtaining one's optimum goals. It is necessary that when athletes and sports administrators have been provided with sufficient incentives in a supportive and attractive environment, they will behave, learn new skills and achieve level of performance towards the goal setting of the sports council. However, incentives, both monetary and non-monetary may have invariably influenced the performance behaviors of athletes and sports administrators. Obviously, not all incentives are created equal and the rewards that you find motivating might not be enough to inspire another person to take action. The fundamental purpose of incentive is to provide positive consequences for contributions to desired performance (Wilson, 2013).

Monetary rewards are used to motivate human behaviors in a number of ways. In the athletic context, players are often enticed to improve their performance to obtain higher salaries, bonuses or tournament rewards. Monetary incentives are used by employers to attract, retain as well as compensate best work force for a job well done (Milton, 2013). Non-financial incentives are listed as enabling authority, participating in the management, job enrichment, promotion, holidays, better working atmosphere and enhancing sense of belonging (Erabsi& Anat, 2012). Conversely, in sports setting and athletic competitions, praise, recognition and a stimulating environment are non-financial rewards that can motivate high performance and creativity.

Research question two that says will gender disparity be a problem towards sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba was accepted since the average mean was greater than 2.5. Meaning that gender disparity will be a problem towards sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba. This was in line with Shehu, et.al (2010) who said there should not be no differences between male and female in all aspect of Sport development.

Research question 3 that says will lack of provision of fund affect effective development of sports in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba was upheld that provision of fund will affect the effective development of Sports in Prince Abubakar Audu University. This was in line with (Akarah, 2014) who says Nigeria government no doubt realizes the impact of funding towards sports development in the country and notes that; the relatively high overhead costs associated with financing sports programmes, camping, training and competitions continue to hinder its development. Toward this end, the National Sports Policy (2009) notes that, it is necessary to encourage greater financial support for sporting activities. Therefore, the National Sports Commission, its agencies and affiliates shall amongst others seek to, offer incentives that would encourage financial assistance from the private sector for sports programmes, undertake fund raising programmes to enhance financing of their activities, encourage the private sector to contribute to developing sports.

Research question 4 that says will lack of sports facilities affect effective development of sports in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba was upheld that lack of Sport facilities will affect the effective development of Sports in Prince Abubakar University, Anyigba. This was also in line with Akarah, (2007) noted that almost all the sporting facilities in Nigeria are owned by governments while maintaining them is recurring problem that has left them in sorry situations. The impact of sports facilities in sports marketing cannot be under estimated as, the number and nature of sports facilities are the place (market) where the product (sports) are showcased if the product (sports) are to be appreciated and patronized by the consumers. Adeyanju (1986), Ojeme(1999) and Jeroh (2005) espoused that the provision of good and well-equipped facilities was among the essential factors that are necessary for effective sports organization and administration in Nigeria.

Conclusion

Sport is distinctive for its values because there is no doubt that sport contributes to human development, to social development, to the promotion of peace, environment and education, etc. This is development through sport. It is not important what kind of sport is used to reach these types of objectives because every sport can be used if it is used in the right context.

Sport is a technical area that requires adequate preparation for those that will manage sports. A good sports manager should have a thorough knowledge of sports; possess educational degree, preferably in the area of sports administration, professional attitude and commitment, in addition to personal characteristics like personality, intelligence, fairness, flexibility, integrity, honesty,

leadership and sincere interest in the management of sports. The need to create a solid base for the continual improvement of athletes, coaches, events, etc. To secure the credibility of sports organisations around the world by living up to the roles of being a governing body. To promote values through sport, which contribute to the development of society. To govern the sport in a proper way, which by nature includes investing in its development. This description helps to also clearly define what sports development is; it is not charity – but solidarity. It is not spending – but investment. It is not more of everything – is it more and better in a sustainable way. If a global perspective is lacking, and there is no cooperation, then development runs the risk of creating competition for resources and opportunities.

Recommendations

In the course of finding lasting solutions to the problems of sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University and beyond. The following recommendations are as follows:

1. For a sports implementation to be effective, the principles of flexibility, comprehensive, coordination, ethical and clarity, will help to attain set objectives of sports.
2. The need for adequate funding's in Nigeria is indispensable because of the need to involve the youths in sport. This will help to transform the area of sports which required urgent attention in the Ministry of Sports and Socio Development.
3. Under the present management structure, sport should be adequately funded given the fact that adequate funds for infrastructural development, training and recruitment of personnel should be prioritized and shared among the various Sports unit in the institution and Sports development.
4. There is need for incentives and benefits which should be in monetary and non-monetary form for Athletes and coaches, considering the economic problems in the state, athletes and traditional sports coaches need to be adequately remunerated either in terms of salary, wages, bonuses and other allowances should be paid as at when due.

Conflict of interest

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

References

- Adeyanju, F. B. (1986). *“Psychological preparation of athletes for sports participation: Tips on coping with stress of competition.”* A paper presented at Sport Psychology Association of Nigeria (SPAN) Seminar, National Institute for Sports, Surulere, Lagos, in Jeroh, E. J. (2005): *The role of incentives in sports performance among Nigerian University Students*. Unpublished Ph. D Dissertation, Department of Science Education (Curriculum and Instruction Unit), Delta State University, Abraka.
- Adebayo, T. S. (2003). *Basic skills and techniques of traditional sport in Lagos State*. Tolly Graphic Production Lagos State
- Akarah, E. O. (2007). Psychosocial and economic factors as predictors of effective sport marketing in Nigeria. Unpublished Ph. D Dissertation, Delta State University, Abraka. Akarah, E. (2009). Professionalism in sports as predictor of effective sport marketing in Nigeria. *Journal of Sports Psychology Association of Nigeria (JOSPAN)*, 5, 53-58



- Audu, M. D. (1998). An overview of policies and sports development in Lagos state. *Journal of Lagos state Association for Physical, Health Education, Recreation, Sports and Dance*, Special Edition, 17-28
- Federal Republic of Nigeria (1997). *Vision 2010*. Report of the Vision 2010 Committee. Main Report.
- Federal Republic of Nigeria (2009). *National Sports Policy*. Abuja, Yaliam Press Ltd.
- Federal republic of Nigeria (2009). *Nigeria Vision 20:2020 Economic Transformation Blueprint*.
- JeroH, E. J. (2005). *The role of incentives in sports performance among Nigerian University Students*. Unpublished Ph. D Dissertation, Department of Science Education (Curriculum and Instruction Unit), Delta State University, Abraka. .
- Kandu, C.L. & Tutoo, D.N. (2002). *Educational Psychology*. New Delhi India: Sterling Publishers PVT Ltd
- Milton, (2013). *The role of monetary and non-monetary incentives in the workplace. As influence by career stage*. Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. University of Florida Gainesville
- Ministry of Education (2000). *Three-Year junior secondary syllabus-physical education* (Draft). Gaborone, Botswana: Curriculum Development Division.
- Ministry of Health (1997). *Botswana HIV and AIDS: Second medium term plan 1997-2002*. Gaborone, Botswana: AIDS/STD Unit, 3-7
- Ojeme, E. O. (1999). *Ensuring the availability of standard sports facilities and equipment for the challenges of sports development*. Proceedings of Seminar Organized by Federal Ministry of Sports and Social Development, Abuja. 24th – 26th August.
- Onifade, A.(2000) . Role of governments in creating sports awareness. *21 Century and Sport Development in Lagos state*. Abuja: Federal Ministry of Sports and Social Development, 128-138
- Shehu, R.A; Shettima, M & N, Tanglang, (2010). Gender perception on the impact of school Sport on Sport development in Borno State, Nigeria. *The social science Journal*, 5(2), 149-151