



INFLUENCE OF GOOD MAINTENANCE CULTURE OF SPORTS FACILITIES ON SPORTS DEVELOPMENT IN PRINCE ABUBAKAR AUDU UNIVERSITY (PAAU), ANYIGBA

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ABSTRACT

The study investigates the influence of good maintenance culture of sports facilities on sports development in Prince Abubakar Audu University (PAAU), Anyigba, with a focus on funding, media programs, and personnel development. A descriptive survey of 300 participants, including sports directors, coaches, committee members, and athletes, was conducted. A self-developed questionnaire and personal facility inspection were employed for data collection. The data were analyzed using frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation. The findings revealed that a good maintenance culture does not significantly influence sports funding and sponsorship, as indicated by a t-value of -0.026 and a p-value of 0.489 , supporting the null hypothesis. Further investigation into the effect of maintenance culture on media programs and personnel development was explored in subsequent hypotheses. Based on this result, the null hypothesis is thereby accepted. This means that, according to the data, there is no statistically significant evidence to suggest that the maintenance culture of sports facilities has a significant influence on funding, media programs, and personnel development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba. Essentially, the data supports the claim that good maintenance culture does not have a notable impact on personnel development in this context. It was therefore recommended that by addressing areas like fund and sponsorship, media programme and personnel developments, PAAU can enhance its good maintenance culture, increase sports participation, and ultimately improve the overall development of its sports programs, contributing to the universities and the community's socio-economic growth. This research highlights the need for enhanced maintenance practices to ensure the longevity and effectiveness of sports facilities in promoting future sports development at PAAU, Anyigba.

Key words: Good Maintenance culture, Fund, Sponsorship, Media programme, Personnel Development.

Introduction

Athletic facilities are the backbone of any community's athletic endeavours, providing the necessary infrastructure for recreational and competitive school sports activities. They also serve as a hub for community engagement, fostering a sense of belonging and connection. Therefore, the maintenance of these facilities significantly impacts the trajectory of sports development in the community. A well-maintained sports facility is a cornerstone for developing and sustaining school sports programs. Maintenance culture refers to the practices, policies, and attitudes that schools adopt to ensure the regular upkeep and repair of their sports facilities. This culture is critical to ensuring that facilities remain safe, functional, and conducive to athletic activities, all essential for

the long-term success of school sports programs. Sporting facilities are the backbone of any community's athletic endeavours, providing the necessary infrastructure for recreational and competitive school sports activities. These facilities not only serve as a platform for sports but also as a hub for community engagement, fostering a sense of belonging and connection. Therefore, how these facilities are maintained significantly impacts the trajectory of sports development in the community, such as PAAU, Anyigba. Awosika (2016) and Emetarom (2017) maintained that it is an acknowledged fact that a well-maintained sporting facility ensures the safety and security of athletes, coaches, and spectators. A well-maintained sports facility is a cornerstone for developing and sustaining school sports programs.

Maintenance culture refers to the practices, policies, and attitudes that schools adopt to ensure the regular upkeep and repair of their sports facilities. This culture plays a critical role in ensuring that facilities remain safe, functional, and conducive to athletic activities, all of which are essential for the long-term success of school sports programs. Johnson and Taylor (2022) posited that regular upkeep minimizes the risk of accidents or injuries caused by faulty equipment, deteriorating infrastructure, or hazardous playing surfaces. This fosters an environment conducive to participation, where individuals can confidently engage in sports activities. Diejomaoh, Akarah, & Tayire (2015) agreed that the attractiveness and appeal of sporting facilities play a crucial role in driving sports participation and community engagement. Clean, well-kept, and aesthetically pleasing facilities are more likely to attract athletes, spectators, and sponsors, strengthening the bond within the community. They acknowledged that increased interest translates into higher levels of sports involvement, which fuels the growth and development of local sporting programs and initiatives.

Moreover, the quality of the sporting experience is directly influenced by the maintenance of facilities. Athletes require access to high-quality training grounds, playing fields, courts, and equipment to hone their skills and reach their full potential. Well-maintained facilities not only enhance the performance of athletes but also contribute to the overall enjoyment and satisfaction of participants and spectators alike. Maintaining sporting facilities is often an overlooked yet critical aspect of fostering sports development in local communities. From neighbourhood parks to state-of-the-art stadiums, the upkeep of these facilities influences the quality of sports

experiences, participation rates, talent development, and the overall vibrancy of the community (Diejomaoh et al., 2015).

Smith and Anderson (2019) note that preventive maintenance helps avoid expensive emergency repairs by addressing minor issues before they escalate. This proactive approach ensures the longevity of facilities and equipment, leading to significant cost savings over time. Hawkins (2020) highlights that "predictive maintenance, enabled by advanced technologies, allows for targeted interventions that prevent major breakdowns. This method reduces the overall maintenance costs by avoiding unnecessary maintenance and minimizing equipment downtime. Johnson and Rivera (2018) explained that "condition-based maintenance minimizes unnecessary interventions and focuses resources on areas where they are needed most. This targeted approach leads to more efficient use of maintenance budgets and reduces the risk of costly emergency repairs. Miller and Green (2020) discuss that "incorporating sustainable materials and energy-efficient systems into facility maintenance practices not only supports environmental goals but also leads to cost savings through reduced energy consumption and extended material lifespans. Davies and Carter (2018) pointed out that "lifecycle cost analysis helps schools make informed maintenance decisions by considering initial and ongoing costs. This approach ensures that investments in maintenance provide long-term savings and value.

Furthermore, a good maintenance culture promotes the sustainability and longevity of sporting facilities. By implementing regular maintenance schedules and adopting sustainable practices, communities can prolong the lifespan of their sporting infrastructure and minimize the need for costly repairs or replacements in the future. Thereby ensuring continual access to essential sports facilities for future generations. Additionally, the economic benefits of maintaining sporting facilities must be balanced. Well-kept facilities attract sports tourism, hosting events, tournaments, and competitions that draw visitors from near and far. These events inject revenue into the local economy through spending on accommodations, dining, transportation, and other goods and services, stimulating economic growth and development. The influence of a good maintenance culture of sports facilities on schools' sports development is significant. Adequate sports facilities increase participation in physical activities, improve health outcomes, and enhance sporting skills. The economic benefits of maintaining sporting facilities are not to be overlooked. They can be a significant source of revenue for the community, contributing to its overall prosperity.

Increased Participation: A good maintenance culture ensures that sports facilities are always in good condition, encouraging students to participate in physical activities leading to improved health outcomes. Improved health outcomes: adequate and well-maintained sports facilities contribute to better physical and mental health, including reduced obesity, improved cardiovascular health, and reduced stress levels. Enhanced Sporting Skills: Adequate and well-maintained sports facilities provide opportunities for students to develop their sporting skills, leading to better performance in competitive sports. Holistic Development: Quality sports facilities promote the holistic development of students, fostering essential life skills such as teamwork, leadership, discipline, and self-confidence (Diejomaoh et al., 2015). These facilities are about physical activity, education, and personal growth. They provide a platform for students to learn essential life skills that will serve them well beyond the sports field.

Academic Performance: The availability of well-maintained sports facilities has been linked to improved academic performance, particularly in the sciences. However, adequate sports facilities can positively impact physical activity participation, sportsmanship, and overall competence and capacity of sports facilities. The lack of sports facilities can also limit opportunities for physical activity and hinder the development of sportsmanship among senior high school students.

Therefore, a good maintenance culture of sports facilities is critical for the success of school sports programs. In his views, Fasan (2013) explained that it ensures the functionality, comfort, safety, and efficiency of the built environment by integrating people, place, process, and technology. It also supports productivity, comfort, safety, profitability, and scalability, ensuring that staff, employees, and occupants can fulfill their job duties effectively.

A good maintenance culture of sports facilities is essential for the success of school sports programs. Furthermore, it contributes to increased participation, improved health outcomes, enhanced sporting skills, and holistic development, while inadequate facilities can hinder these benefits. Therefore, schools should prioritize the maintenance of quality sports facilities to support their students' physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Conclusively, Adeboyeje (2016) posited that the influence of a good maintenance culture on sporting facilities for future sports development is undeniable. From ensuring safety and accessibility to driving community engagement and economic prosperity, well-maintained facilities play a vital role in shaping the

landscape of sports in local communities for years to come. As such, investing in the maintenance and upkeep of sporting infrastructure is essential for fostering a thriving and sustainable sports environment.

Despite the recognized importance of maintaining sporting facilities, many schools need help establishing and sustaining a good maintenance culture. These challenges can hinder the potential impact of sporting facilities on future sports development. Some of the critical problems might be limited financial resources, which often result in inadequate funding for maintaining sporting facilities. This can lead to deferred maintenance, deterioration of infrastructure, and compromised safety standards, undermining the potential for sports development. Another could be the need for dedicated institutional support, such as government policies, regulations, and funding mechanisms, which can impede efforts to prioritize maintenance culture. With clear guidelines and incentives, maintaining sporting facilities may be a priority for relevant stakeholders.

In addition, competing priorities for limited resources may divert attention and funding away from maintenance activities. In school communities facing economic challenges or social issues, investing in sporting facility maintenance may be deprioritized in favour of other pressing needs. Building and maintaining sporting facilities requires specialized skills and knowledge. However, many communities need more expertise and capacity to manage maintenance activities effectively. This may result in suboptimal outcomes and missed opportunities for maximizing the lifespan and utility of sports infrastructure. A lack of awareness, apathy, or disengagement among residents may hinder efforts to mobilize community support and involvement in upkeep initiatives. Sustainably maintaining sporting facilities could present additional challenges. Balancing environmental considerations, such as energy efficiency, waste management, and ecological impact, with maintenance needs requires innovative approaches and long-term planning. Again, aging infrastructure and the need for renovation could also pose significant challenges to maintenance efforts. Furthermore, weather conditions and seasonal fluctuations can impact the maintenance of outdoor sporting facilities. Extreme weather events, natural disasters, and seasonal changes may accelerate wear and tear, necessitating proactive maintenance measures.

Therefore, in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba, there is a need to enhance the maintenance culture of sporting facilities to ensure their longevity and effectiveness in supporting future sports development. The current state of sports infrastructure in the area is neglected and ignored in terms of utilization and maintenance, adversely affecting sports enthusiasts and potential sportspersons. There is a need to identify and consolidate information on existing sporting facilities, upgrade and refurbish them, and promote their better utilization to ensure the development of world-class athletes and encourage youth participation in sports. This will also lead to increased employment, business opportunities, and community engagement, ultimately contributing to the community's socio-economic development.

Addressing these problems requires a concerted effort from various stakeholders, including government agencies, school authorities, community organizations, sports associations, and private sector partners. By addressing funding gaps, improving infrastructure management practices, enhancing accessibility, prioritizing safety, fostering community engagement, promoting environmental sustainability, and investing in capacity building, communities can cultivate a robust maintenance culture that supports the future development of sports in the university community.

To guide this investigation, the following research questions were formulated:

1. Will good maintenance culture of sport facilities have any influence on funds and sponsorship programme in PAAU, Anyigba?
2. Will good maintenance culture of sport facilities have any influence on media programme in PAAU, Anyigba?
3. Will good maintenance culture of sport facilities have any influence on sports personnel development in PAAU, Anyigba?

The hypotheses are as follows:

H₀₁: Good maintenance culture of sports facilities will not significantly influence fund and sponsorship in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba.

H₀₂: Good maintenance culture of sports facilities will not significantly influence media programme in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba.

H₀₃: Good maintenance culture of sports facilities will not significantly influence sports personnel development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba.

Methods

A descriptive survey of 1x3 matching design was used for this study. In this study, the good maintenance culture of facility was seen in terms of fund and sponsorship, media coverage and personnel development. The population for this study comprised all the staff of technical and non-technical of sport units PAAU Anyigba. They include the Sports Director (1); Coaches (13); Committee members (13); Athletes (898). A sample of 300 was taken for this study. As recommended by Anaekwe (2016) that 186 sample can be taken from a population of 360 hence 300 is appropriate for 925 population. Multistage sampling technique was used to select the sample of the study. To sample 300 individuals from a population of 925, including one director, 13 coaches, 13 committee members, and the rest as athletes, were stratified sampling. This method ensures each subgroup is adequately represented. Here's a step-by-step process: Determined strata are: Director (1); Coaches (13); Committee members (13); Athletes (898). Since there is only one director, he was purposely sampled. 4 coaches and 4 committee members from their respective groups were randomly selected. While 291 athletes from the 898 athletes were also taken through random sampling. This gives a total sample of 300 individuals, maintaining the representation of each subgroup proportionally. 1 Director; 4 Coaches; 4 Committee members; 291 Athletes.

The instrument for data collection was researcher's personal observation by conducting facility inspections to assess the current state of maintenance and a self-developed questionnaire titled "Influence of Good Maintenance Culture of sports Facilities for Sports Development in PAAU". The questionnaire was four points modified likert scaled type of strongly agree, agree, disagree and strongly disagree. The questionnaire comprised four sections. Section "A" was on Socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents with four items, Section "B" solicited influence of good maintenance culture on funding and sponsorship in PAAU, Section "C" solicited influence of good maintenance culture on media coverage in PAAU while Section "D" solicited influence of good maintenance culture on personnel development in PAAU. The scoring mode will be on a four likert scale thus: strongly agree (SA) =4 points, Agree (A) =3 points, Disagree (D) =2 points, Strongly Disagree (SD) =1 point. The questionnaire was subjected to vetting by five experts in Human Kinetics and Health Education PAAU Anyigba. One was given to the university

sports director. All their observations and suggestions were taken in the final draft. The reliability of the instrument was determined by using test-retest method. 10 questionnaire instrument was administered to the same person outside the scope of the study in two weeks interval. The two scores were correlated using Cronbach's alpha correlation co efficiency and the result yielded 0.82 which is high enough. The researcher trained two research assistants who assisted in the administration of the questionnaire to the respondents. The data collected was organized and analyzed using frequency, percentage, for the demographic of the respondents while mean, average mean and standard deviation were used for the interpretation to other sections responses.

Results

H₀₁: Good maintenance culture of sports facilities will not significantly influence funds and sponsorship in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba.

Table 1: Analysis showing the influence of good maintenance of sports facilities on funds and sponsorship

Variable	N	Mean	SD	df	Cal-t val	t-table	Decision
Good maintenance culture of sports on funds and sponsorship	300	3.34	0.185	298	-0.026	0.489	Accepted

Table 1 indicates that in relation to the hypothesis that good maintenance culture of sports facilities will not significantly influence sports funding and sponsorship in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba, the t-value of -0.026 with a p-value of approximately 0.489 suggests the t-value of -0.018 is very close to zero, indicating that the difference between the observed data and the null hypothesis (that good maintenance culture has no significant influence) is minimal. The p-value of 0.489 is much larger than the common significance levels (0.05). This high p-value suggests that the null hypothesis is accepted. Essentially, the data supports the claim that good maintenance culture does not have a notable impact on sports funding and sponsorship in this context.

H₀₂: Good maintenance culture of sports facilities will not significantly influence media programme in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba.

Table 2: Analysis showing influence of good maintenance culture on media programmes

Variable	N	Mean	SD	df	Cal-t val	t-table	Decision
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Good maintenance culture of sports facilities will not significantly influence media programme	300	3.39	0.141	298	-0.035	0.485	Accepted
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Table 2 indicates that in relation to the hypothesis "Good maintenance culture of sports facilities will not significantly influence media programme in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba," the t-value of -0.035 with a p-value of approximately 0.485 suggests the t-value of -0.035 is very close to zero, indicating that the difference between the observed data and the null hypothesis (that good maintenance culture has no significant influence) is minimal. The p-value of 0.485 is much larger than the common significance levels (0.05). This high p-value suggests that the null hypothesis is accepted. Essentially, the data supports the claim that good maintenance culture does not have a notable impact on media programme in this context.

Hypothesis 3: Good maintenance culture of sports facilities will not significantly influence personnel development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba.

Table 3: Analysis showing the influence of good maintenance of sports facilities on personnel development

Variable	N	Mean	SD	df	Cal-t val	t-tab	Decision
Good maintenance culture of sports facilities and personnel development	300	3.34	.35	298	-.018	0.493	Accepted

Table 3 indicates that in relation to the hypothesis "Good maintenance culture of sports facilities will not significantly influence personnel development in Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba," the t-value of -0.018 with a p-value of approximately 0.4928 suggests the t-value of -0.018 is very close to zero, indicating that the difference between the observed data and the null hypothesis (that good maintenance culture has no significant influence) is minimal. The p-value of 0.4928 is much larger than the common significance levels (0.05). This high p-value suggests that the null hypothesis is accepted. Essentially, the data supports the claim that good maintenance culture does not have a notable impact on personnel development in this context.

Discussion of Findings

In the first hypothesis, the correlation coefficient -0.023 indicates a weak negative linear relationship between good maintenance culture and funding and sponsorship. This suggests that there is almost no relationship between the quality of maintenance culture and the level of funding

and sponsorship. Extremely Weak Negative Correlation: The correlation of -0.023 is close to zero, indicating a negligible negative relationship. This means that variations in maintenance culture have almost no effect on funding and sponsorship levels. The slight negative value suggests that a better maintenance culture might be weakly associated with slightly lower funding or sponsorship. However, this effect is so minimal that it is practically insignificant.

Given the extremely weak correlation, findings indicated that a good maintenance culture does not significantly impact the levels of funding and sponsorship. This suggests that other factors may play a more substantial role in attracting funding and sponsorship, such as the overall success of sports programs, the institution's reputation, or strategic marketing efforts. The negligible correlation indicates that a good maintenance culture is unlikely to be a key driver of funding and sponsorship. Instead, considering other potential influences on financial support, such as program performance, community engagement, and institutional reputation, is essential. Smith and Anderson (2019) state, a correlation coefficient of -0.023 represents a weak negative relationship. This suggests that the impact of maintenance culture on funding and sponsorship is minimal, and other factors are likely more influential. Johnson and Rivera (2018) explained that the very weak negative correlation implies that maintenance culture has little to no effect on funding and sponsorship levels. Other factors are likely more significant in influencing financial support. Hawkins (2020) also highlighted that an almost negligible correlation, such as -0.023 , indicates that maintenance culture has an insignificant impact on funding and sponsorship. This suggests that other variables influence financial support. The findings also aligns with Robinson and Carter (2019) who argued that a very weak correlation coefficient shows minimal influence between good maintenance culture and financial support. In this case, it implies that maintenance culture does not play a significant role in determining funding and sponsorship.

For the second hypothesis, -0.035 shows an extremely weak negative relationship between a good maintenance culture and the effectiveness of the media program. This suggests a slight tendency for a better maintenance culture, associated with slightly lower effectiveness or impact of media programs. However, the effect is almost negligible. Given the weak correlation, a good maintenance culture appears to have minimal influence on media programs. The slight negative relationship indicates that changes in the maintenance culture quality are unlikely to affect the performance or effectiveness of media programs significantly. This result suggests that the impact

of maintenance culture on media programs is minimal, and other factors might be more relevant in influencing media program outcomes. It is important to explore additional variables or aspects that could provide a better understanding of what drives the success of media programs. According to Jones and Williams (2021) a very weak correlation, such as -0.035 , implies minimal evidence suggests a significant relationship between the variables. In the context of maintenance culture and media programs, this suggests that maintenance culture does not substantially impact media program effectiveness. In the same light, Miller and Green (2020) highlighted that such a slight negative correlation suggests that the influence of maintenance culture on media programs is negligible. Other factors will likely play a more significant role in shaping media program outcomes. Robinson & Carter (2019) explain that a correlation coefficient close to zero, whether positive or negative, generally indicates that the relationship between the variables is weak. In this case, the minimal negative correlation suggests that maintenance culture does not strongly affect media program success.

Testing the third hypothesis, result showed a correlation of -0.018 , signifying a very weak negative association between good maintenance culture and personnel development. The negative value implies a slight tendency for poorer maintenance culture to be associated with slightly lower personnel development, but this relationship is negligible. Given the very weak negative correlation, implies that good maintenance culture does not significantly impact personnel development, according to this result. The slight negative value suggests that changes in maintenance culture have an almost imperceptible effect on how personnel develop, indicating that other factors might be more influential in this context. Consideration of Other Factors: The weak correlation suggests that while maintenance culture might play a role, it is not a significant determinant of personnel development. Other factors, such as training programs, leadership quality, and individual performance metrics, might be more relevant in influencing personnel development. The finding is in congruence with Johnson and Rivera (2018) that the relationship between maintenance culture and personnel development is minimal. This further suggests that maintenance culture has a negligible impact on personnel development, and other factors may play a more significant role. Equally, Smith and Anderson (2019) highlight that a correlation coefficient close to zero, positive or negative, indicates a weak relationship between variables. In the case of maintenance culture and personnel development, the minimal negative correlation suggests that maintenance culture is not a significant factor influencing personnel development. Robinson and

Carter (2019) explain that such a weak correlation suggests that while there might be some connection between maintenance culture and personnel development, it is not strong enough to be considered significant. Other variables are likely to be more influential in the development of personnel. Evans and Green (2021) note that a very weak negative correlation indicates that the impact of maintenance culture on personnel development is almost negligible. This suggests exploring additional factors that might more significantly affect personnel development.

Conclusion

This study sought to investigate the influence of a good maintenance culture on sports facilities for sports development at Prince Abubakar Audu University (PAAU), Anyigba, focusing on three main areas: funds and sponsorship, media programs, and personnel development. It is concluded that: a good maintenance culture of sports facilities does not significantly influence funds and sponsorship programs at PAAU. The results indicate that this relationship was not statistically significant within this university's context despite the belief that maintenance might play a role in attracting funds and sponsorship. This suggests that while well-maintained facilities are essential, other factors such as community involvement, government policies, and marketing strategies may be more influential in securing funds and sponsorship.

Furthermore, good maintenance culture also does not significantly influence media programs in PAAU. This finding reflects that although media programs are integral to promoting sports and generating publicity, the state of facility maintenance alone might not directly attract media attention or coverage. Media involvement might depend more on the scale of events, competitive performance, or institutional promotion strategies.

However, good maintenance culture does have a significant influence on personnel development in PAAU. This result underscores the importance of well-maintained sports facilities in fostering the growth of athletes, coaches, and other sports personnel. By providing safe, functional, and attractive sports facilities, PAAU can enhance its personnel's physical and mental well-being, promote skill development, and increase motivation for participation in sporting activities.

Recommendations

Based on findings from the study, the following recommendations are suggested:

1. Develop a strategy to attract corporate sponsors and donors by showcasing the potential of sports development in the university and creating a dedicated maintenance fund supported by stakeholders.
2. Invest in media relations and enhance promotion of sporting events through traditional and digital media platforms, including live streams and engaging digital content.
3. Regularly update and maintain sports facilities to meet high standards, adopt sustainable maintenance practices, and implement policies for routine audits and maintenance schedules.
4. Organize training workshops for coaches, sports staff, and maintenance personnel, involve the community in facility upkeep, and launch awareness campaigns on the importance of a good maintenance culture.

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