

PARENTAL ATTITUDE TOWARDS FEMALES PARTICIPATION IN SOFTBALL OF GUJARAT STATE

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Abstract

The purpose of the study was to see the parental attitude towards female's participation in softball. The questionnaire was administered to 100 subjects who were parents of girl's participation in district, intercollege, state, inter-university and national in softball tournaments. The respondents were requested to fill up the questionnaire. In this study it was concluded that the parents have very positive attitude towards participation of their daughters in softball as it apparent from the fact that only four statements reading book is more enjoyable than taking part in softball, allowing daughters to participate in softball with boys, allowing daughters to participate in softball tournament with boys/males, softball were meant for selected few women who possessed extra ordinary qualities, were not found significant. The data was collected by the researcher himself. The responses given by subjects were analyzed using chi-square test at the level of significance (.05). Responses were also analyzed in percentage.

Introduction

The First Softball Game: In 1887, a group of twenty young men had gathered in the Farragut Boat Club gym in order to hear the Harvard-Yale football game. After Yale's victory, a man picked up a stray boxing glove and threw it at someone, who hit it with a pole.

In the year 1944 and 1945 some of the boys played Softball Game with AMERICAN ARMY stationed in Jodhpur during second world war . The Father of Indian soft ball Dr. Dashrath Mal Mehta was one of them ,later he and his friends started playing Softball regularly. Later they discovered that games similar to Softball were being played in India. First time this game was started in Rajasthan and after that spread throughout the Country, Dr. Dashrath Mal Mehta formed SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION OF INDIA on 21st Nov 1961 under the noble guidance of Dr. L. M. Singhavi, Mr. Anand Singh Kachawa, Mr. MadanlalPungalia, Mr. K. D. Gautam and valued support of their good friends.

Still they had confusion in rules and they were in search of Softball Association in America and had some addresses to clarify the rules. In the year 1964 they came in contact with the softball lovers who formed INTERNATIONAL SOFTBALL FEDERATION for the promotion of the softball game headquartered in America. The International Softball Federation organized the first World Softball Championship (women) in Australia in 1965. the members of International Softball federation agreed to visit our country on way after world championship. The American team visited India at Calcutta in March, 1965 and played Softball Exhibition Game with Indian Team which proved boon for us to develop softball game in country and to publish our own Rules Book, Mr. W.W. Khetan, President Mr. Don A. Porter, Secretary and Mr. Dickston, Umpire in Chief, International Softball Federation were with the team who conducted the first Official clinic for Indian Umpires. They cleared the rules on Softball and system of umpiring on softball game. Persons with the Indian team attended that clinic and were successful. We cannot forget the kind patronage of Mr. P.D. Himmatsika who managed the event in Calcutta.

In 1965 the first rule book on softball game was published in country to promote softball game in different states and in the year 1967 first National softball championship for men and Women was organized at Jodhpur, Teams from Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Maharashtra and Rajasthan participated in this event. In the year 1973 the Softball Association of India was recognized by All India Council of Sports. We did our best to promote softball game in country and send our teams to participate in the Asian Championships for men and women. We organized the coaching camp for coaches first time in Panaji (Goa) to have batter coaches to prepare Indian team which was attended by 42 Trainees (men and Women), Mr. Le Min Kuan of China and Mr. Sanny Sultan of Singapore Imparted Coaching Camp. Mr. Abdul Aziz Bin Abu Talib Secretary General of ASA ASIA visited and expressed that the camp was land mark keeping view of number of trainees and standard. We have also conducted Umpires and coaching clinic in 1997 at Indore (M.P.), Mr Tommy Wang of Chinese Taipei and Mr. Sunny Sultan of Singapore trained our umpires and coaches. Since the days of humble beginnings in Rajasthan the Softball as a game in India has become a name to reckon with and its popularity is increasing day by day.

Objective of the study

The objective of the study was to find out Parental Attitude towards female participation in softball of Gujarat state

Selection of subjects One hundred parents of girl's participation in district, Intercollege, state, inter-university and national in softball tournaments, was selected as subjects.

Statistical Procedure

The various responses received in terms of parental attitude towards female's participation in softball of Gujarat state was analyzed by using the chi-squared percentage analysis.

Discussion of Finding

From the analysis of the responses made by the parents. It is evident that majority of them have a positive attitude toward female's participation in softball, although the reasons may defers from individual to individual. Positive attitude may be due to fact the many parents have sports back ground as they understand the importance of fitness day to day life, so they encourage their daughters to engage or participate in softball as well as games/sports. Further physical fitness, healthy life style and in general total well-being are other reasons for encouraging their daughters to participate in softball. Moreover parents have shown greater enthusiasm to allow their daughters to take competitive sports seriously, excel in sports to reach international level and even choose softball as well as sports as career. Therefore, their willingness to provide them required equipment's & coaching facilities as well as competitive experience by allowed them to participate in different levels of softball competitions. Parents have indicated a positive attitude towards female's participation in softball, which is an encouraging and healthy sign. Efforts should be made to provide better facilities and well-organized programme of physical education, softball games & sports in schools for qualitative and quantitative.

Conclusions

1. The study indicated that the majority of the respondents had favorable attitude towards softball.
2. Most of the respondents agreed that softball develops physical, mental, social and cultural contribution.
3. The study indicates through modern life provides us enough experiences and recreation. Respondents are of the opinion that the softball sport is compulsory in schools and colleges as they are valuable in later life.
4. Most of the respondents had given unfavorable opinion to softball as an optional sport.
5. The population engaged in softball activities has a better social status, wider social circle and freedom to a desirable life style.

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