

Why Delhi Women Hockey is in Pathetic Condition?

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Abstract

Even though many ancient civilization played hockey in different variations, the modern game of field Hockey evolved in the British in the Ninth Century. Hockey was introduced in India by British Army regiments and the game soon found favor among native Indians. The first hockey club in India came up in Calcutta in 1885-86 and soon Bombay and Punjab followed suit. Making its Olympic debut at the 1928 Amsterdam Games, Indian Hockey team cruised home to its first Olympic gold without conceding a single goal. The hallmark of this ruthless domination was the wizardry of Indian Hockey legend Dhyhan Chand who mesmerized the Amsterdam crowd with his dazzling skills. Viewing on the status of women in sports historical evidences proves that women have been involved in sports since fourth century B.C. The fight for Women Hockey players to earn respect and acceptance have been hard fought over the past one hundred years. The road of women Hockey has had many ups and down's but has preserved to the present day and is stronger than it has ever been. The future of women hockey is bright thanks to diligence and hard work of those who kept it all going. Women in India have also been taken up Hockey along men. Though the women Hockey in India are coming up from all parts of country but it is lacking in northern region of the country especially in Delhi. Delhi's poor performance at National level from last ten years is a cause of serious concern for all of us. Therefore, this study has attempted to find out the various reasons and remedies for the poor performance of the Delhi Women Hockey at various levels (Inter-University, Nationals etc). For the purpose of the study 80 Hockey players those who have played for Delhi at various levels were selected as the subjects. The age of the subjects was from 17 years and above. An opinionnair was constructed for the selected Delhi Women Hockey Players and a structured interview was administered on 10% of the total population of administration and coaches from the Delhi Women Hockey Association. The responses were collected and data was analyzed by computing through percentage method and item analysis. It was found that 91.4% of the colleges have specialized hockey players and only 53.75% of the colleges have more than fifteen specialized players who practice regularly as a team. Further it was analyzed that 98.72% of the respondents feel that role of the coach is important to determine the performance and 50% of the respondents feel that coaches are not giving sufficient time to develop physical parameter and psychological preparation which are prerequisite for good performance. Using facilities to its optimum level may be difficult for players as 40% of the respondents say that stadium is more than 15 km away from their residence also it lacks in providing well qualified coaches for women team. The training camps for high level competitions are not of sufficient duration and lacks in psychological training program. Dissatisfaction among players was reported towards sufficient government support. After the analysis and discussion of findings, it was suggested to provide sufficient facilities like Astroturf, proper diet and nutrition, other type of motivation and incentives to develop and improve the performance of Delhi Women Hockey players.

INTRODUCTION

Sports and games make a person physically, mentally and emotionally fit and develop personal and social qualities which will help to live happily with others and build into a good citizen. The national policy on education visualizes sports and physical education as an integral part of the learning process and these should aim enabling the child to know that harmonious development of body and mind is essential for the good health.

Hockey has come a long way. India will have to work hard to get back to being on top of the world. Women Hockey developed separately from men's Hockey. Women do not seem to have played Hockey widely before the modern era. Women's Hockey was first played at British universities and schools, and the first club, Molesey ladies Hockey club, was founded in 1887. The first National Association was the Irish ladies Hockey union in 1894, and though rebuffed by the Hockey Association, Women's Hockey grew rapidly around the world. This lead to the formation of the International Federation of Women's Hockey Association (IFWHA) in 1927.

Field Hockey has several regular and prestigious international tournaments for women as well as men. These events include the Olympic games, the quadrennial world Hockey cups, the annual championship trophies, and world cup's for juniors. Women's Hockey at international tournaments all over the world are showing

remarkable performance. The Indian Women has passed through various phases of civilization as women in other countries. Traditional India had seen a women only as a member of the family, as daughter wife and mother, and not as an individual with an identity or rights of her own. Indian society is now awakening to a new life and to new conception of freedom for women

Finding the pathetic condition of Delhi Women Hockey team since last so many years, the research scholar decided to take up the study to find out the reasons and remedies to improve the performance of Delhi women hockey team. The present study is an attempt towards exploring the causes and remedies of pathetic condition of Delhi women hockey through documented information provided by players of National, Inter-University and International levels belonging to Delhi State. Also verbal interviews were conducted on Administrative officers of Delhi Women Hockey Association along with the coaches keeping in mind the purpose of the study.

OBJECTIVES

1. To analyze the performance of Delhi Women Hockey team at various levels since last 10 years.
2. To find out the various reasons and their remedies for the poor performance of women hockey in these years.

PROCEDURE & METHODOLOGY

For the purpose of present study, eighty Hockey players who have played for Delhi at various levels (Inter College, Inter-University, and Nationals etc) were selected as subjects. The age of the subjects was from 17 years and above. Also, 10% of the total population from administration and the coaches attached to Delhi Women Hockey Association were selected randomly for the present study.

Construction of Opinionnaire & interview

For the purpose of the present study, an opinionnaire was constructed in consultation with the guide and other experts in the field and colleagues of the research scholar by trial run and test and re-test method. Keeping in mind the purpose of the study, the researcher planned to conduct a semi-structured interview. For the purpose questions were prepared in consultation with the guide be included in the interview. Also, for getting insight into the problem, some unstructured questions were also asked from the respondents during the interview.

Administration of Data

Before the administration of the opinionnaire, the scholar held several meetings with all of the subjects chosen from various colleges and stadium of Delhi. The subjects selected for the study were female hockey players from Delhi who are playing or played at various levels (Inter-College, Inter-University and National etc.) of age 17 yrs and above. For the purpose of obtaining required information about the study, the interview was conducted on the President, Secretary and coaches of the Delhi Women Hockey Association. They were explained about the purpose and importance of the study. Also, assurance was given to them to keep secrecy of their responses. The interview was conducted according to the availability and feasibility of the interviewees. The interview of each person was recorded and analysed afterwards according to the need of the study.

Collection of Data

For the collection of the data for the present study, the responses of the women hockey players representing Delhi in last 10 years were collected through opinionnaire. Also, the information imparted by administration and coaches belonging to Delhi Women Hockey Association was also recorded through interview for the purpose of the study.

Statistical Analysis

For the purpose of the present study, percentage method is used as a statistical tool to analyze the data obtained through administration of the opinionnaire whereas for analyzing the interviews item analysis method was applied.

RESULTS & DISSCUSSION

After analyzing the data, the findings pertaining to different questions have been presented as follows:

Table No. 1
Percentage Responses of Hockey Players regarding information about the game in their respective colleges

S.No.	Questions	Responses		Percentage
1.	Do your college have specialized Hockey Players?	Yes	72	91.4
		No	07	8.86
2.	Do you think there is proper sports administration in your college?	Yes	51	64.55
		No	28	35.44
3.	How many players are there in your college who regularly come for Hockey Practice?	5<	2	2.5
		5-10	14	17.5
		10-15	21	26.5
		>15	43	53.75

Table No. 2
Percentage Responses of the Hockey Players regarding Infrastructure

S.No.	Questions	Responses		Percentage
1.	Do you think the facilities available to play Hockey at School level is adequate?	Yes	15	18.98
		No	64	81.01
2.	Do/Did you have standardized hockey ground to practice your game in your institution?	Yes	59	73.75
		No	21	26.25
3.	Do you have sports hostel for the Hockey Players in your institution?	Yes	18	22.5
		No	62	77.5
4.	Are the medical facilities provided in your college?	Yes	68	85
		No	12	15
5.	Do you have Gym facility in your college?	Yes	69	86
		No	11	14
6.	Are there enough stadium to practice for the game?	Yes	23	28.75
		No	57	71.25
6 (a)	How far stadium is situated from your Home?	< 5 km	4	5
		5-10 km	3	3.75
		10-15 km	41	5.25
		> 15 km	32	40

Table No. 3
Percentage Responses of the Hockey Players regarding Coaches and their Coaching

S.No.	Questions	Responses		Percentage
1.	Did you have qualified coaches at school level?	Yes	47	59.49
		No	32	40.50
2.	Do/Did you have qualified coaches at college level?	Yes	73	91.25
		No	7	8.75
3.	Do you think the role of the coach is important to determine the performance of the team?	Yes	79	98.75
		No	1	1.25
4.	Do/Did you have qualified coach to train Delhi Team?	Yes	57	71.25
		No	23	28.75
5.	Do you think that the coaches have sufficient knowledge of the game?	Yes	65	81.25
		No	15	18.75
6.	Do you think that only a good player can become a good coach?	Yes	32	40
		No	48	60
7.	Do you think that the Coaches are technically sound to train the players?	Yes	65	81.25
		No	15	18.75

Table No. 4
Percentage Responses of the Hockey Players with Regard to their Physical & Psychological Aspects

S.No.	Questions	Responses		Percentage
1.	Do you feel that Delhi women Hockey Players are Physically Weak?	Yes	51	63.75
		No	29	36.25
2.	Do you think Delhi Women Hockey Players don't have enough endurance capacity?	Yes	42	52.5
		No	38	47.5
3.	Are Delhi Women Hockey Players prepared psychologically to compete in different tournaments?	Yes	53	66.25
		No	27	33.75
4.	Do you think psychological preparation of an athlete can meet the challenges of the sports?	Yes	74	92.5
		No	6	7.5
5.	Do you think for good performance physical parameters are pre-requisite?	Yes	77	96.25
		No	3	3.75
6.	Are the coaches giving sufficient time to develop physical parameters?	Yes	36	45
		No	44	55

Table No. 5
Percentage Responses of the Hockey Players regarding Training Camps

S.No.	Questions	Responses		Percentage
1.	Are training camps conducted regularly before each tournament?	Yes	55	68.75
		No	25	31.25
2.	Is the presence of the player mandatory during the camp period?	Yes	66	82.5
		No	14	17.5
3.	Are the players inducted in a team without being present in a camp?	Yes	59	73.75
		No	21	26.25
4.	Are the proper training camps being arranged before the selection of the team for any level?	Yes	32	40
		No	48	60
5.	Do you think training given to you for the tournament are appropriate?	Yes	27	33.75
		No	53	66.25
6.	Are /Were you satisfied with the training given to you before any tournament?	Yes	31	38.75
		No	49	61.25

Table No. 6
Percentage Responses of Hockey Players regarding their Selection Procedure

S.No.	Questions	Responses		Percentage
1.	Do you think there is politics in selection procedure of Delhi Team for Nationals?	Yes	73	91.25
		No	7	8.75
2.	Do you think there is Castism in Selection Procedure?	Yes	41	51.25
		No	39	48.75
3.	Do you think castism play role within the team?	Yes	46	57.5
		No	34	42.5
4.	Do Delhi Women Hockey federation conduct selection trial for each major competition?	Yes	11	13.75
		No	69	86.25

Table No. 7
Percentage Responses of Hockey Players on having sufficient tournaments for their competition

S.No.	Questions	Responses		Percentage
1.	Do you have enough tournament to play?	Yes	16	20
		No	64	80
2.	Do you play club matches?	Yes	50	62.5
		No	30	37.5
3.	Do you feel that players should be made to play enough competition?	Yes	69	86.25
		No	11	13.75

Table No. 8
Percentage Responses of Hockey Players on being Motivated

S.No.	Questions	Responses		Percentage
1.	Is there enough media coverage for women Hockey Tournament?	Yes	11	13.75
		No	69	86.25
2.	Is there any Hockey academy for Delhi Girls?	Yes	37	46.25
		No	43	53.75
3.	Do you think there is lack of encouragement from Delhi Women Hockey federation?	Yes	59	73.75
		No	21	26.25
4.	Do you get enough motivation /incentives from the institution you belong for your performance?	Yes	58	73.41
		No	21	26.58

Table No. 9
Percentage Responses of Hockey Players on the Social Boundaries

S.No.	Questions	Responses		Percentage
1.	Is/were your parents supportive for participation in the game?	Yes	77	96.25
		No	3	3.75
2.	Are you satisfied by your parents behaviour towards your game?	Yes	77	96.25
		No	3	3.75
3.	Do they encourage you to participate in the game?	Yes	75	93.75
		No	5	6.25
4.	Do your friends /neighbours encourage your participation in the game.	Yes	71	88.75
		No	9	11.25
5.	Do you think performance in Hockey can enhance your social life?	Yes	77	96.25
		No	3	3.75
6.	Do you get positive social environment	Yes	61	77.21
		No	18	22.78

CONCLUSIONS

Within the limitation of the study following conclusions were drawn:

1. Significant percentage i.e. 91.4% of the colleges have specialized hockey players and Interestingly only 53.75% of the colleges have more than fifteen specialized players who practice regularly as a team.
2. 98.72% of the respondents feel that role of the coach is important to determine the performance and 60% of the respondents feel it is not necessary to be a good player to become a good coach.
3. More than 90% of the respondents feel that physical parameters and psychological preparation are prerequisite for good performance and further it was analyzed that 50% of the respondents feel that coaches are not giving sufficient time to develop physical parameter.
4. Using facilities to its optimum level is difficult as 40% players say that stadium is more than 15 km away from their residence. 73.75% of the colleges have standardized hockey ground and 71.25% feels they do not have enough stadium to practice.
5. Results further show that 57.5% of the respondents think that castism play significant role within the team. 86.25% of the respondents think that concerned association do not conduct selection trials for each major competition and also a large section of respondents reveal that the politics (91.25%) play significant role in selection procedure.
6. The 86.25% respondents informed about lack of enough competition in the game for the players.73.41% of the respondents say that they get enough motivation. However, in contrary when asked about encouragement 71.25% of the respondent says that there is lack of encouragement.
7. Most of the respondents agree to receive support from their parents (96.25%) and friends/neighbors (88.75%).
8. Delhi also lack in providing well qualified coaches for women team.
9. An important part of the coaching i.e. psychological training is missing in the training for the players and also the training camps provided to train the team for high level competitions are not of sufficient duration.
10. 61.25% of the respondents are not satisfied with the training and camps conducted. Although a proper selection procedure for selecting the team for the competitions was claimed but the existence of role of the politics in selection procedure was also not denied.
11. It was suggested to provide sufficient facilities like Astroturf, proper diet and nutrition, other type of motivation and incentives to develop and improve the performance of Delhi Women Hockey players.

12. The respondents also indicated dissatisfaction towards government support provided to the game.

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