

## Comparison of Sports Morality among Male Cricket Players of Various Levels

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### Abstract

The purpose of the study was to compare Sports Morality of male cricket players of various levels. The study was delimited to the male cricket players with age ranging from 15-25 years. The study was further delimited to assessment of Morality by using sports morality questionnaire of Dawn Slephae and David Layed Shield. It was hypothesized that there shall be any significant difference between means of Sports Morality of male cricket players of various levels. A total of fifty male cricketers of each level will be selected for the study from the state of U. P. The age of the subjects ranged between 15 to 25 years. Total one hundred and fifty subject from various cities is divided into three group of fifty each based on their age for the study from the state of U. P., those who have represented at least one time the state tournament of U.P. state as shown. Group I age group 15-17, Group II age group 17-19, Group III age group 19-25. Morality score of the subjects was obtained by using sports morality test by Dawn Slephae and David Layed Shield. To compare the Sports Morality between male cricket players of each level from the state of U. P. Analysis of variance will be applied at .05 level of significance. **Result:** The mean and standard deviation of players belonging to various levels. The observed mean and standard deviation of Morality were Group I: 73.54 & 5.84, Group II: 74.00 & 7.46 and Group III: 81.82 & 6.26 respectively. There exist a significant difference among the three group, since the computed value of F (25.46) on cricket players belonging to various levels in relation to morality was more than the tabulated of 3.0576, at F(2,147) at .05 level. There exist significant differences between Group 1 and Group 3, & Group 2 and Group 3. There exist no significant differences between Group 1 and Group 2.

### INTRODUCTION

The concept of morality (and associated concepts such as sportpersonship, fair play, etc.) has attracted considerable research interest in the field of sport psychology. One possible reason for this might be the frequent appearance in the media of incidents of prosocial and antisocial behavior in various sports. Another reason may be the lay, yet empirically unfounded, belief that sport participation per se contributes to character building and the development of moral attitudes that can be transferred to other contexts (e.g., Bredemeier, 1986). Various theoretical frameworks have been employed to investigate moral issues in sport, the description of which is beyond the purpose of this study. Two separate but related lines of research are relevant to this study. The first is by Vallerand, Deshaies, Cuerrier, Brière, and Pelletier (1996) who asked a large sample of young athletes to provide their definition of sportsmanship (subsequently called sportpersonship by Vallerand, Brière, Blanchard, & Provencher, 1997) and examples of sportsmanlike behavior. Drawing from the results of this survey, Vallerand et al. (1996, 1997) proposed a multidimensional definition of sportsmanship/ sportpersonship encompassing the following aspects: (a) full commitment to participation, (b) respect for social conventions, (c)

respect for rules and officials, (d) respect for opponents, (e) a negative approach to participation. Only the last factor focuses on an antisocial dimension (i.e., the importance of winning at all costs). As such, Vallerand et al. identified and subsequently assessed primarily positive socio-moral behaviors involved in sports participation. A second line of research which is relevant to this study has been conducted by Lee and colleagues. For example, Ntoumanis (2008) presented a series of studies that developed a new scale tapping two negative and one positive aspect of sport participation: acceptance of cheating, acceptance of gamesmanship and keeping winning in proportion. Gamesmanship is a British term used to describe a category of actions that, although they do not violate the rules of the sport, they contravene the spirit of the contest, primarily by attempting to psychologically unsettle opponents.

### **Statement of the problem**

The purpose of the study was to compare Sports Morality of male cricket players of various levels.

### **Delimitations**

1. The study was delimited to the male cricket players with age ranging from 15-25 years.
2. The study was further delimited to assessment of Morality by using sports morality questionnaire of Dawn Slephae and David Layed Shield.

### **Hypothesis**

Based on evidence available in the literature and on the basis of personal experiences, as well as discussion with experts, the following hypothesis was formulated. It was hypothesized that there shall be any significant difference between means of Sports Morality of male cricket players of various levels.

### **Significance of the study**

1. The study may help the coaches to maintain the optimum self-concepts and Morality, level during the play.
2. The coaches may inculcate the moral values in the players by telling them not to be blindfolded by Self Concept and Morality.
3. The study may help the coaches in selection of the suitable activities for the players according to their level of self-concept and Morality.

### **Method**

#### **Selection of subjects**

A total of fifty male cricketers of each level will be selected for the study from the state of U. P. The age of the subjects ranged between 15 to 25 years. Total one hundred and fifty subject from various cities is divided into three group of fifty each based on their age for the study from the state of U. P., those who have represented at least one time the state tournament of U.P. state as shown below.

<b>Cricket Group</b>	<b>subjects</b>	<b>Age group</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>15-17</b>
<b>II</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>17-19</b>
<b>III</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>19-25</b>

#### **Criterion measures**

Morality score of the subjects was obtained by using sports morality test by Dawn Slephae and David Layed Shield.

#### **Administration of sports morality test**

**Purpose:** To measure the sport morality test among various level of cricket players.

**Administration of Questionnaire:** To ensure maximum cooperation from the subjects, the research scholar had a meeting with the selected players where the subjects were oriented and explained regarding the purpose and procedure of the questionnaire. The Sports Morality test (SMT) was administered to each athlete after the competition. The direction was read by the research scholar at a dictation speed to make the subjects understand about what they had exactly required to do. After making sure that the subjects had clearly understood the procedure to fill up the questionnaire, they were asked to record the answers the questionnaire. The questionnaire was taken back after it was duly filled. Thorough screening was made to ensure that no question was left unanswered. **Scoring:** The sports morality test consisted of total 28 items divided in two parts. The part “A” consisted of 20 items with four points of answers, and the positive statements No. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19 and 20 were scored as:

- Not at all true 1
  - Partly True 2
  - Moderately True 3
  - Exactly True 4
- And the negative statement No. 3, 13, 14, 16 and 17 were scored reversibly.
- Not at all true 4
  - Partly True 3
  - Moderately True 2
  - Exactly True 1

The part “B” consisted of 8 items, which were, keyed “Yes” and “No”. For each answer, which was marked “Yes”, two points were awarded and for “No” 0 (Zero) was given. Therefore, the maximum score might be 96 and minimum score might be 20. Scores obtained by each subject on each statement was added up which represented one’s total score on morality.

**Statistical procedure**

To compare the Sports Morality between male cricket players of each level from the state of U. P. Analysis of variance will be applied at .05 level of significance.

**Findings**

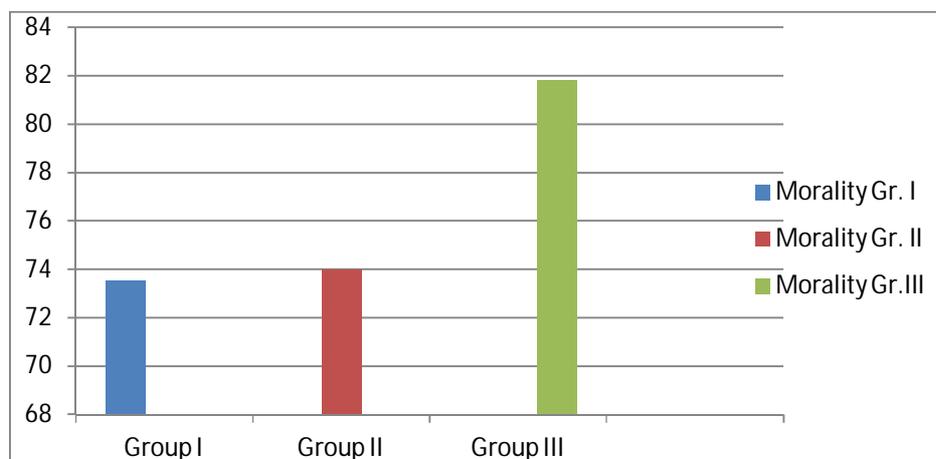
The findings and discussion of findings with regard to the present study have been presented below. Descriptive statistics was applied to characterize morality belonging to various levels. To study Morality of cricketers at various levels mean and standard deviations were computed and data pertaining to that have been presented in table-

**Table-1 Mean and Standard Deviation of Morality and Self-Concept belonging to Various Levels (Cricketer)**

Variables	Groups	Mean	Standard Deviation
<b>Morality</b>	<b>I</b>	73.54	5.48
	<b>II</b>	74.00	7.64
	<b>III</b>	81.82	6.26

**Table-1** clearly indicates the mean and standard deviation of players belonging to various levels. The observed mean and standard deviation of Morality were **Group I:** 73.54 & 5.84, **Group II:** 74.00 & 7.46 and **Group III:** 81.82 & 6.26 respectively.

The observed mean on Morality of all group are shown in graphical form **Group I:** 73.54, **Group II:** 74.00 and **Group III:** 81.82



To find the difference between and within the cricket players belonging to various levels in relation to morality, the data is analyzed using Analysis of variance is shown in table-2.

**Table -2 ANOVA Table of Cricket Players belonging to Various Levels in Relation to Morality**

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	d.f.	Variance	F	p
Between Groups	2165.37	2	1082.69	25.46*	0.000
Within Groups	6251.79	147	42.53		
Total	8417.17	149			

\*Significant at .05 level,  $F_{0.05}(2,147)=3.0576$

It appears from the Table- 2 that there exist a significant difference among the three group, since the computed value of F (25.46) on cricket players belonging to various levels in relation to morality was more than the tabulated of 3.0576, at  $F(2,147)$  at .05 level. To find the difference between the groups the post hoc test is done, the post hoc test is shown in table-3

**Table -3 Post-hoc Test of Cricket Players belonging to Various Levels in Relation to Morality**

Group 1 vs Group 2	Diff=0.4600	95%CI=-2.6279 to 3.5479	p=0.9338
Group 1 vs Group 3	Diff=8.2800	95%CI=5.1921 to 11.3679	p=0.0000
Group 2 vs Group 3	Diff=7.8200	95%CI=4.7321 to 10.9079	p=0.0000

It is evident from the table-3 that there exist significant differences between Group 1 and Group 3, & Group 2 and Group 3. There exist no significant differences between Group 1 and Group 2.

#### **Discussion of findings**

The findings of the study in relation to sports morality of cricket players belonging to various levels in relation to sports morality indicated significant difference in sports morality. It has been widely emphasized for the need for optimum sports morality levels among cricket players belonging to various levels for better performance outcomes. The results of the study have shown significant sports morality difference between cricket players belonging to various levels in Uttar Pradesh. Group 1 and Group 3 & Group 2 and Group 3 differ in sports morality. The results of this study have also shown insignificant sports morality difference between cricket players belonging to various levels in Uttar Pradesh. Group 1 and Group 2. The mean value obtained on sports morality test is more in case of Group 3 as compared to Group 1 and 2, and the mean value obtained on sports morality test of Group 2 is more than the Group 1 as it is evident from table-1.

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