

# **STUDY ON RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF SOMATOTYPE PSYCHOLOGICAL PARAMETERS AND BASIC SOCCER SKILLS WITH RESPECT TO POSITION OF PLAY**

## **Abstract**

**Objectives:** The purpose of the study was to analyze and understand the difference among the different groups of soccer players on the basis of position of play in selected Somatotyping Profiles, Psychological Parameters and basic soccer skills. It was believed that the results would help to understand the relative importance of somatotype, psychological parameters and basic soccer skills with respect to position of play for soccer game.

**Methodology:** The study was carried out on a sample of total of one hundred Twenty (120) soccer players were selected as subjects for the study. Among them there were twenty-five (25) Goal Keepers, thirty- nine (39) Defenders, twenty- six (26) Midfielder and rest thirty (30) Forwards. The subjects were selected on the basis of purposive sampling principle. The subjects had the experience of participation in Inter-University tournaments and Kolkata Football league tournaments. Somatotyping profile was selected as one of the criteria for measurement and it was measured by Heath Carter method. Aggression and Achievement motivation were selected as the psychological criteria. Aggression was measured using the questionnaire developed by Bharwadwaj and Achievement motivation was measured using the questionnaire developed by Goregaonkar and Helode. Performance in selected basic soccer skills were measured by using following standardized soccer skill tests - Mor-Christian Soccer Skill tests for passing, dribbling and shooting; Warner Soccer Skill test for kicking; Rossum and Wijnbenga Soccer skill for heading. The general soccer ability was tested using McDonald Soccer Skill test. Collected data were analysed using appropriate statistical methods. Mean and standard deviation were calculated as the measure of central tendency and variability. Statistical significance of the difference among the mean values of different groups was tested using the technique of Analysis of Variance. Exact location of the difference was tested using post-hoc test.

**Results:** The results showed that the Somatotyping profile, Psychological Parameters and Basic Soccer Skills of different groups of subjects were analyzed. Inter group analysis of somatotyping

profile revealed no significant inter-group difference in any of the somatotyping components of Endomorphic, Mesomorphic and Ectomorphic. Psychological Parameters in Aggression the group of Forwards was significantly higher than the groups of Goalkeepers and Defenders and Achievement Motivation there was no significant difference among the selected groups of positional soccer players. Performance in Basic Soccer Skills revealed that there was no statistically significant difference among the groups of positional soccer players in the basic soccer skill of Passing, Shooting, Kicking and Heading. But Dribbling with the greatest time taken to complete the specific task of dribbling, the group of Goalkeepers appeared to be lowest in performance in this basic soccer skill of dribbling. All other groups were significantly higher in performance than the group of goal keepers. The group of Mid-fielders appeared to be the best of all groups in performance in dribbling. Finally, the results revealed that relative importance Dribbling as basic soccer skill was significantly lower for the for the group of Goalkeepers than other three groups- Defenders, Midfielders and Forwards. General Soccer Ability results showed that there was no statistically significant difference among the groups of positional soccer players.

**Conclusion:** Results of the present investigation lead to draw the following conclusions- 1) Somatotyping profile indicates that Goal keepers are Endomorph- Mesomorph; Defenders are Ectomorph– Mesomorph, Midfielders are slightly more Mesomorphic and Forwards are slightly more Ectomorphic in nature. 2) In aggression Forwards are significantly higher than Goalkeepers and Defenders. 3) Among the basic soccer skills, Goal-Keepers are lowest in performance ability in dribbling than all other groups of positional soccer players – Defenders, Mid-Fielders and Attackers. 4) There is no significant difference among different groups of positional soccer player’s viz. Goal-Keepers, Defenders, Mid-Fielders and Forwards in basic soccer skills viz. Passing, Shooting, Kicking and Heading. 5) There is no significant difference among different groups of positional soccer player’s viz. Goal-Keepers, Defenders, Mid-Fielders and Attackers in General Soccer Ability.

**Key Words:** *Relative Importance, Somatotype, Psychological Parameters, Soccer Players, Basic Skills, Different Position.*