ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship among preferred and perceived leadership, their congruence and satisfaction with leadership. The second purpose was to investigate the differences among the offensive, the defensive and the mid-field players of football premier league club players in Ethiopia, in perceived leadership, preferred leadership and satisfaction with leadership. The five leader behaviors which were measured were: training and instruction, democratic behavior, autocratic behavior social support, and positive feedback. The four aspects of leadership satisfaction, which were measured, were: individual performance satisfaction, team performance satisfaction, training and instruction satisfaction, and personal treatment satisfaction.

The subjects of the study were 182 male football premier league club players 7 of 14 in Ethiopia. The players consisted of 52 offensive players, 65 defensive players, and 65 mid-field players. Data was collected by using lekert type questionnaire. The data were analyzed by using descriptive statistics to see coaching leadership styles of football premier league coaches in Ethiopia. Sub group differences were tested using non parametric statistics.

The study finding indicated that, except Perceived Training and Instruction players did not showed statistical significant difference across different age group of players. Players do not showed any significant difference in their leadership perception based on their playing experience in clubs. Player’s satisfaction across different playing position showed no significant difference across players playing at different position. Within this regression analysis all the four satisfaction enhanced and increased by democratic behavior, Positive feedback, training and instruction and social support leadership behaviors.

**Key words:** Coaching leadership styles, Players, Satisfaction.