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Sports and games are ideally suited not only for conditioning and recreation but also for the development of the qualities like quick reaction, reflection, co-ordination, accurate thinking, cool judgement, aggressiveness and determination. Games are classified as individual games and team games. Among team games basketball is one such game where all the qualities mentioned above can be developed. It is a real democratic sport and requires teamwork and sportsmanship. Hence the game of basketball, being an inexpensive game that can be played by a common man is ideally suited even for being carried into the rural parts of our country. Unlike other games, basketball promotes and helps the growth of all parts of the body and mind. It develops co-ordination between body and mind (neuromuscular co-ordination) apart from giving maximum recreation to persons taking part in basketball game.

Although history does not mention the exact date, it is known that the first game of basketball was played in December 1891 in a small second floor Gymnasium at Winchester Square in Springfield, Massachusetts, USA about a mile from current Springfield college campus.

1James Naismith, later to become a Doctor (Graduated as Doctor of Medicine in 1898) and then a student instructor at Springfield college was asked by Dr Luther Gulick an early pioneer in physical education to devise a game that would keep some of the students who had played the game of American Foot-Ball during the fall season happy and active during winter months.

Dr. James Naismith got the idea of a game that can be played with a ball (foot-ball) and some object kept above the floor as goals. A pair of old peach baskets nailed to the walls were the goals. After a goal was scored each time, some one climbed up to get the ball out of basket. Thus basketball got its name from the baskets used in the first game. A ladder to retrieve the ball was part of the equipment. The close bottom baskets were in use for many days and the method of starting play was by throwing the ball on the ground between two players at centre. In the beginning as many as 40 to 50 players frequently represented a team. The number of players has varied considerably since the inception of the game. The number was fixed ‘9’ in each side before it was standardised as ‘5’ on a side as the game became more specialised and popular.

The first set of rules were formulated by the inventor himself in 1892 and these rules were standardised in 1915 and since then the game has seen many changes and modifications. Dr. James Naismith first devised 13 rules for the game, pasted them in the Gymnasium and had a janitor, placed a peach basket on a beam which was exactly 10 feet above the floor. (the height of the basket from floor to-day).

Charles V Ryan, Jr. Mayor of the city of Springfield Massachusetts, U.S.A. while greeting the Springfield College basketball team on the occasion of its world tour on behalf of great game basketball said, when Dr. James Naismith hung on old peach basket in a balcony in Gymnasium on the Springfield college campus explained the 13 rules of a new game to 18 students, neither he nor his pupils could have dreamt of the tremendous popularity that this game would achieve.

Ibid.,

FOUNDER

OF

BASKETBALL

Fig 1

Dr. JAMES NAI SMIIH
Mr R P Karghu described the early games as they were in 1891-92. The first games were 'rough' and wherever the ball went out of play the first player who reached it, gained possession. This always produced an uproar with all 18 men diving after the ball and scattering gymnasium equipment all over the floor. Then, when the ball went into balcony they would stamped up the narrow stairway or climb up the narrow railing by jumping on each others shoulders to get the ball. There was no dribbling in those days. The player could run when he bounced the ball into the air in his hands, which gave the opponent a chance to slap it. At first everyone in possession of the ball fired away at the basket from any position on the floor. The foul rule was very strict. When a player committed a personal foul, he had to leave the game until his team scored a goal. Some times one team would have three players less than opponents. Dr James Naismith had no idea or dreamt that the game would be so popular as it is today.

Of the 13 original rules eleven are still in use. It seems the first game was almost a wild scramble as mentioned earlier and reports are that only 'ONE' basket was scored. But the game proved popular and by March 1892 the first game for spectators from the general public was played in a gymnasium in Spring Field campus. From these starts, many young men went to Y M C A and youth organisations through the nation (U S A) to spread the game of basketball with great rapidity. By the early 1900s teams have been formed in many communities and basketball became popular sport as more gymnasium were erected and more young men learnt the fundamentals.

Basketball is now rated as one of the most popular sports in the world.


This is an architect's version of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame to be located on the Springfield College campus. At this writing, part of this building is expected to be erected in the near future and added construction will take place at a relatively near future date. The Hall of Fame will be a Museum for all basketball throughout the world.
passing, shooting, dribbling and other movements with skill which far surpasses performances of just a few years ago.

Although tall players tend to predominate, especially in the professional ranks in the United States, it is a game that can be played by any able bodied person and many of small stature have achieved remarkable records as players.

Many years after the invention of the game of basketball when Dr James Naismith was alive there was a discussion regarding a ‘Hall of Fame’ (Shrine) to commemorate basketball. At the time Dr Naismith specified that if such a building were to be erected, it should be on the spring field college campus, where the game was started. After many years of intensive work and many problems, the shrine has come to reality. An intensive effort has been made in the city of spring field to raise money for building and success had been met. It contains museum, a gallery of great players, a replica of the original gymnasium, a motion picture area and many other interesting historic items.

Mr Clifford Wells, who was an executive director of the Dr Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of fame, has worked hard to accomplish this long sought memorial to a great man and a great game. This Hall of fame consist of ample parking space for visitors, permanent staff to maintain the building museum and to explain the historical aspects of the game. Visitors from all over the world go to see the ‘Hall of Fame’.

To-day basketball is played throughout the world. It is enjoyed by millions both as players and as spectators. After the invention of the game it spread to foreign countries within a span of two years. The game is played usually during winter season and mostly indoors on smooth non-slippery
In 1891, the first basketball team in history posed for a photograph on the steps of the gymnasium in Springfield, Massachusetts where the first game was played. In 1961, almost exactly 75 years later, the Springfield College varsity team of that year posed on the same steps, in the same manner. Shortly after the 1961 photograph was taken, the old building was torn down, but many items from the gymnasium were saved for use in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Fig 3
wooden floors. Under such conditions the game is played at its best. It becomes all the more colourful when played at night or under flood light.

Basketball rules were standardized in 1915 and since then the game has seen many changes and modifications which have resulted in speeding up and refining the game and now it has become a great game for the youth and spectators.

Since 1902 Dr James Naismith worked ceaselessly to get the game admitted in the schedule of Olympic and went to every Olympiad till 1932 when the game was recognised and played as a demonstrative game.

Few people know that this game was demonstrated at the 1904 Olympic Games, which were held at Saint Louis, U S A.

In 1919 the first international tournament was held among American, Italian and French teams in Paris. Basketball was at its peak when it was played in the 1936 Olympics where Dr Naismith was honoured. The popularity of the game was due to the painstaking efforts of Dr Phog Allen of Kansas University, U S A and who was a coach to the 1952 U S Team. The appearance of basketball in the 1936 Berlin Olympics was due to the efforts of Dr Allen who secretly worked with Japanese and German Olympic Officials.

When basketball was introduced, it had little appeal generally but very soon it attracted the youngsters. The game was adopted by schools and colleges throughout U S A. Today basketball is one of the most popular games in the world. The game is played usually during the winter season and mostly indoors on smooth non-slippery wooden floors. Under such conditions the game is played at its best in both schools and colleges from the beginning.

Before the game of basketball was two years old it had spread to foreign countries. Y M C A men graduates trained at Spring Field College.


and soldiers have carried the game all over the world

World War II helped account for the World wide boom in the sport. After the war, American servicemen played basketball wherever they happened to be stationed. People who had never seen it seemed charmed and thrilled by it.

The rules of the game had been translated into more than 35 different languages in the beginning itself. As a result, basketball had become internationally known as early as 1904.

After international recognition was given to the game in the year 1936, the number of participating teams (countries) in the Olympics gradually increased. USA, Russia, France, Brazil, Chile, Bulgaria, Philippines, China, Czechoslovakia, Canada, Cuba, Argentina, Mexico, Uruguay are some of the important participating countries in the Olympics which has shown tremendous standard in the game. The Americans are undoubtedly the champions of the game today but the Russians and a few other countries are equally good as far as the standard of basketball is concerned. Apart from basketball in the Olympics, a number of International level basketball championships like Asian Games, Commonwealth games, etc., are being conducted.

Stephan Vasiliev is regarded as Dr. James Naismith's Russian counterpart. Vasiliev eventually earned the title of merited master of sports and National referee, was the first captain of the Russian Basketball team in 1906.

Until October 1917 socialist revolution in Russia, basketball was a game played by small groups of enthusiasts in St. Petersburg and Moscow.

Souvenir 1976, Junior Basket Ball Club, Basketball a popular sport world wide, Madras

Ilyichev Lev, USSR Ball games, Novost Press Agency Publishing House, Moscow 1972
There could be no talk of achievements by Russian basketballers at that time. After 1917 basketball became a popular sport. The first National basketball championship in USSR was held in 1923. During this time USSR players did not participate in official International competitions because of the war. After 1940 basketballers of Moscow gained supremacy at International level tournaments and joined FIBA – the International Amateur basketball Federation in 1947. Then onwards the USSR team never looked back and gained a place in the World Championship, in the Olympics, in the European Championship etc.

Soviet basketball is successful because of the grass root scale, over four million people in USSR play basketball and half of them are 17 and below in age. There are two special basketball boarding schools in the country and the sports schools for children and teenagers have a total of 1,160 basketball sections.

Among Asian Countries Japan took a lot of initiative to introduce basketball in schools and colleges.

By 1900 Basketball had become an important sport in Japan. By 1905 it had spread to China and the Phillipines. Europe learnt the art of playing the game first through Mel B. Rideout who had participated in the early games at spring field. He was teaching his players fundamentals of the game at the Union Chretienne dela jeunesse in Paris as early as the fall of 1893. Soon afterwards he arranged a demonstration in London and was gratified to see it catch on quickly.

The game has also been promoted by American coaches who volunteered to popularize the game world wide by making good will tours and also to teach the techniques of the game. The Harlem Globetrotters, a band of U.S. Negro professional players who combined exquisite with comedy routines,

12 Sourvenior 1976 - Basketball a popular sport world wide,
Junior Basketball Club, Madras.
have also helped to popularise the game internationally. They have played in about 60 countries since they undertook their first around the world tour in 1952. Annually they performed before more than two million spectators. Americans have shown their supremacy in basketball right from the origin of the game. No doubt the Americans are the champions of the game today. Though other nations are quickly copying the game of Americans and improving their standard in the game, most of the nations in the world are yet to learn the finer points in the various departments of the game. The game of basketball as it is played in America today is highly organised, competitive and complicated and peculiarly American. Perhaps, the basketball tournaments which are being organised and conducted in America will stand first in the world. No other country is giving so much of importance, prominence in popularising the game. NBA Tournaments in America is the best example.

Though basketball is American in origin, today it is one of the most popular games in the world. The rapid stride that basketball has made in the past few years bears witness to the genuine thrills this game provides both for players and spectators.

Basketball became internationally known by 1904, when U.S.A. teams gave demonstrations during Olympic games at St. Louis, and an International basketball Federation was set up in 1932 and the game was given International recognition in the year 1936 where 21 nations took part in the Berlin Olympics. 10 teams from Europe, 7 teams from America, 3 teams from Asia participated in that Olympics.

An unforgettable moment during the prize giving ceremony has been touchingly narrated by Dr. Jones. When Dr. Naismith had shaken hands with the last of the Mexican players, the little German girl accompanying


him placed the ‘wreath’ on his head and the medal round the neck.

Dr. Naismith overjoyed hurled his hat high on the air. What a great moment for a pioneer of Basket Ball!

Now more than 178 countries are affiliated to FIBA i.e., International Amateur Basketball Federation and an estimated two hundred and fifty million people regularly play basketball.

What an uplifting experience it must have been for Dr. James Naismith to see that what he had once tentatively tried to fashion into a game with his students has risen to International heights. It does not mean to say that he was a guest of honour. He could be happy to be there. The American basketball coaches had chipped into a cover the cost of his journey. The Olympic Committee of U.S.A. however had flatly refused to pay the costs of his stay and the entrance tickets. Finally FIBA, General Secretary of the organising Committee Dr. Carl Deim made sure Dr. Naismith was given due respect. On the opening day all the participants marched past him across singing and cheering. The tournament itself lasted for seven days.

It is everyone’s belief, that since then Dr. James Naismith cherished watching basketball wherever it is played. He left the world on 23rd November 1939 leaving an unforgettable mark on physical Education of the Globe.

India is also one among the countries affiliated to the International Amateur Basketball Federation. The game of basketball was introduced in India by American missionaries and the members of YMCA at the beginning of the 20th Century.

YMCA, Calcutta and YMCA College of Physical Education, Madras have played important roles in the propagation of this game throughout the country. Old boys of YMCA, Calcutta and Madras have taken the game to all parts of India. As a result the game gained its popularity gradually in

\[15\text{Ibid.}\]
schools and colleges and became popular and a favourite game. A great deal of interest has been taken to promote basketball all over India by popular Physical Educationists and sports promoters.

The game of basketball requires proper organisation based on modern management principles. The organisation should be aware of casting pattern of the game, need and requirement of players. The organisation also should bare in mind the basic playing principles and implementation of the plan on sound scientific basis.

There is general feeling that the Basketball Association in India at the State level and at the National level, no positive plan or approach towards promoting the game. It is felt that these bodies should primarily responsible for the management and development of the game and popularise the game from the grass root level.

In a democratic set up the public involvement is a major factor for the promotion of sports. It is necessary that sports organisation need to involve the public and satisfy the demands of the public in terms of popularising the game and reach the needy players. When the Association are manned by vested interest and with people with lack of commitment, many a time lead to maladministration leading to poor public acceptance.

The Government of India and the State Government which provide funds for Association have many a times formulated guidelines for the proper functioning of the sports associations but these guidelines could not be implemented due to autonomous state of existence of sports Associations in India.

Competitions organised in its proper perspective can improve the standard of the game to the great extent. Competition conducted merely as a formality and to satisfy certain requirement cannot do true justice. Competition require proper organisation structure, facilities, financial control and true atmosphere for proper exhibition of talent. Prior to the competition it is also necessary to have proper training or coaching under competent trainers
or coaches. In the game of Basketball the competition should lead to scouting teams with talents and potential. It is also necessary that the competitions at various levels from the school to the National level should be organised in a planned and wellknit manner. In this connection it is very appropriate to quote the opinion of Prof. Parappa\(^6\) a renowned professor and a committed coach of basketball in Karnataka state states:

1. A well planned calendar for competitions taking into account inter-collegiate, inter-university, inter-state and other important competitions.
2. Intra-mural and Extra-mural programme should be continuous and interlinked activity.
3. Inter-personal and inter-organisational rapport should be established.

Public recognition is an urge of every individual. The modern technological advancement has brought to us the highly technical visual media into every home. The sports coverage provided by the print media and visual media have gone a long way for mass participation in sports. It is very apt to state here that, the ‘National Basketball Association’ games shown in the various channels of television have made Basketball more popular and attractive.

The incentives and cash awards provided by various organisations and sponsorship of many talents have acted as a big boost to the organisation of the game at the state and national level. The modern developments in the game have also brought about new surfaces of Basketball in the indoor stadium and also electronic gadgets for the conduct of championships. This include the modern electronic score boards, foul indicators, electronic game watches, electronic devices etc. Personnel kits of players have also greatly changed for the better performance and better standard of the game.

\(^6\)N.C.Parappa: “organisation of competitions for colleges” paper submitted in the seminar, Department of Physical Education, Bangalore University, December 1975.
This has been discussed in a seminar\textsuperscript{17} and it states that:

In our country incentives were always forth coming in abundant measures. What is more important is that the incentive reaches the proper person at the proper time. Sports organistaion should raise above the normal human weakness and direct its energy in encouraging and recognising the real talent. When awards are given to the real talent to express the appreciation, it shall be encouraging the sportsman and sportswoman to do better and better. To keep the athlete a satisfied individual and making him feel important to be stimulated for better performance, incentives and awards are positive media for attaining perfection.

The exposure for the game to-day is much more than the yester years both at National and International level. There are as many as eight National Championship in various sections and opportunities for International participation. There are also new inventions like Sports Schools, Sports Hostels, Sports Academies, Adaptations programme etc., in the game of Basketball. Coaching camps for various age groups is order of the day. Trained coaches certified by Sports Authority of India are appointed at State, District and University level of Sports (Basketball) promotion.

All said and done, there is a general belief, that the game of Basketball is yet to attain its due place and recognition in terms of standard and public recognition. The game is not accepted as a priority sports in view of the poor performance of Indian team at International level.

Karnataka State also cannot boast of achievement at National and International level. Even though the then Mysore State could imprint its name as a top state team at the National level till the year 1964, a slow and steady decline creap into the standard and popularity of the game.

\textsuperscript{17}Incentives and Awards. Seminar on Masterplan for the promotion of Physical Education and sports in the state of Karnataka, post graduation Department of University College of Physical Education, Bangalore University, Bangalore –1975.
According to Prof. Parappa\textsuperscript{18}, the main if not the sole reason for the poor standard of Indian sports could be attributed to the mal-administration of the sports associations, both at national and state level. The public and the government many a time have drawn the attention of the association, federations about the need to work in a more constructive and purposive manner. Many sports associations are manned by men with vested interest. Life members and honorary members are virtually monopolising the office bearers positions. Of course now and then the glimpses of excellence were shown by sports persons or players but the stability of success were not maintained.

Mysore State Basketball Association came into existence in the year 1942 and the Basketball standard of each state in India is assessed in the National Basketball championship and Mysore State team (Now Karnataka State team) dominated its supremacy from 1946 to 1964 by securing winners place seven times and Runnership place ten times in the National Basketball Championship.

So, from the year 1965 onwards the decline in the Karnataka State Basketball started and till this year it is not able to come out of the muddle and to recover from the downfall. Why this decline or down fall? No evidence of scholarly effort was made so far to critically and scientifically analyse Karnataka State Basketball to find out causes or reasons for the "decline". Hence the investigator is prompted to critically analyse Basketball in Karnataka.

This study could analyse the origin and development and present status of the game of Basketball in terms of structure, function, management of the game in the state and agencies promoting the game of Basketball.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The purpose of this investigation is to analyse basketball in Karnataka with regard to the origin and development of the game, the working of the association, the conduct of tournaments, All India participation, coaching, selection, officiating (umpiring), facilities, incentives and awards, the attitude of basketball players towards the affairs of basketball, the effort of the State government to promote and improve the standard of basketball in the state.

In brief the statement is mentioned as "Analytical Study of Basketball in Karnataka".

DELIMITATION

The study was restricted to game of basketball for men in Karnataka.

HYPOTHESIS

The following Hypothesis was set forth to guide this investigation.

1. The functioning of the State Basketball Association, District Association and Clubs have not proved to be effective in making the standard of the game.

2. The manner and the method of conduct of Tournaments in the state may not be helpful to youngsters to improve the standard.

3. The manner of conduct of Tournaments, Practice Matches may be unproductive in terms of providing full opportunities to the potential players.

4. More objective methods of selection of teams can bring about better results.

5. Lack of facilities like condition of Basketball Court, Playing Kit, Poor officiating may be the reasons for not attaining a high standard in the game.
6. Incentives and awards for players may not be sufficient compared to those of other games and procedure of selection for such awards may not be objective.

7. Coaches may not be able to prepare a winning team out of best players due to lack of scientific method of coaching, lack of freedom to coaches, lack of practical knowledge among coaches.

8. Steps taken by other states to improve the standard of the game, are not implemented in Karnataka.

9. Recruitment of players by Public sectors, State and Central Government Agencies, Private Concern and Banks may be one of the reasons for decline in standard of the game in Karnataka.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This study may be justified on the following basis:

1. This study will bring to light, the existing status of the game in Karnataka.

2. This study will enable to find out the role played by the agencies, Clubs and other institutions promoting the game of Basketball.

3. This study will enable to find out the drawbacks of the existing bodies promoting the game and also the positive aspects of the promotion of the game.

4. This study is significant since it will bring to light, the organisational structure, functions and management and the administration of the game and to find out remedial measures to overcome deficiencies.