



**CHAPTER - V**  
**DISCUSSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

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In this chapter an attempt has been made to present theoretical interpretation to the findings given in chapter IV and also suggest a few problems for further investigation. Therefore, this chapter has been divided in two parts. The first part deals with interpretation of the findings of the study. As our findings are related to the effect of three independent variables, i.e., type of sport event, i.e., individual and team sport event level of sports participation i.e., sub-junior, junior and senior level, and two gender of sport players, i.e., male and female on risk-taking behaviour and social responsibility. Therefore, effects of these three independent variable on two dependent measures have been discussed separately in two sub-parts of first section. In the second part of this chapter an attempt has been made to suggest a few problems, which can be explored by future researchers.

#### **Interpretation of Findings:**

##### **(A) Interpretation of Risk-taking Behaviour:**

Summary of the results obtained from the analysis of data related to risk-taking tendency (chapter – IV) regarding the effects of type of sport event, level of sport participation and gender of sport player on risk-taking are presented below:

1. Participation of sport players in two type of sport event, i.e., individual event and team event produced significant effect on risk taking tendency of the players.
2. Level of sport participation of players in sub-junior, junior and senior level national tournament has yielded significant effect on risk taking behaviour.
3. Sex of the sport player as a variable failed in producing significant effect on risk taking.
4. Interaction between type of sports event and level of sport participation produced significant effect on risk taking behaviour of sport players.
5. Interaction between type of sport event and sex of the player produced significantly differential effect on risk taking behaviour of sport players.
6. Interaction between three level of sports participation and sex of the players produced significant effect on risk taking behaviour.
7. Triple interaction effect between two type of sport event, i.e., individual event and team event, three level of sports participation , i.e., sub-junior, junior and senior level and sex of

the player, i.e., male and female produced significant effect on risk taking behaviour.

**(a) Effect of Type of Sport Event on Risk-Taking:** Findings of the present study related to dependent variable i.e., type of sport event demonstrated that the sport players of individual event ( $M=135.09$ ) have comparatively low risk-taking tendency in comparison of sport players of team event ( $M=153.76$ ). Thus, our finding reflects that players of team event take more risk than the players of individual event. A plausible reason for this difference in the risk-taking behaviour of sport players of individual and team event can be advanced in terms of need achievement and perceived attraction of the reward. It may be postulated that if need achievement in the player is high and the goal (reward) a player is aiming in the tournament is also perceived of high value by the player, then the risk taking tendency will also be high in such player. Thus, we may state that high need achievement motivation and high perceived goal value for winning match will lead to high risk taking and low achievement motivation and low perceived goal value will lead to low risk taking behaviour.

Though players of individual event receive admiration, attention, praise and reward as individual person after winning the game which boosts and enhances their self-esteem, level of confidence

and self-perception after winning the game but during match period the player is alone to fight with opponent. In case of team event a player get encouragement and appreciation continuously by his/her own team members for each good movement he/she has made. Appreciation by a person who is known on friend or team mate is more rewarding than the encouragement and appreciation coming from unknown person. In case of team event encouragement is continuous and it comes from team members who are playing with him/her side by side. Such complement is perceived as more rewarding. A player of team event knows that any laps on his part will bring shame for him in the eyes of other members of the team and he will be held responsible for the defeat in the game. Thus, players of team event are under more pressure to give his best. This demand pressure by the team members and audience watching the tournament create high need achievement in the players of team event and as a result of this high pressure they also place and perceive goal (winning the cup) as of very high value. We all know the case of Mr. Negi who played as Goalkeeper of Indian Hockey team in World Championship Tournament in which Indian team lost by a huge margin of 7 goals. Mr. Negi was held responsible for this defeat and he was blamed of compromising with the national pride. But there is example of many

players of individual event who participated in world championship and lost their game have not been put to such a blame of selling the pride of the country. Defeat of individual player is perceived as defeat of that individual player and mostly he is blamed not to be in good form and out of practice.

Thus, we may conclude that players of team event have high need achievement motivation and perceive goal as highly valuable in comparison of players of individual event. Due to this reason players of team event might have shown higher risk taking tendency in comparison of players of individual event.

**(b) Effects of Level of Sport Participation:** Our findings related to the effects of three level of players' sport participation, i.e., sub-junior, junior and senior level tournament have clearly demonstrated that level of sport participation has significant effect on risk-taking ( $F=1530.84$ ) and  $F$  value is significant at .01 level of confidence. Senior level sport players are relatively high risk takers ( $M=171.56$ ) followed by junior level players who are comparatively moderate degree of risk takers ( $M=134.89$ ) and sub-junior level players who are relatively low risk takers ( $M=126.83$ ) Thus, sport players of different level of participation differ significantly in their risk-taking tendency. Risk taking tendency in a sport player increases with the increase in

the level of sport participation. On the basis of this result it may be concluded that as the level of participation of player goes up from sub-junior level to junior level and from junior level to senior level his/her risk-taking tendency also increases.

Now the question arises why the senior level sport players have very high risk-taking tendency and sub-junior level sport players have comparatively low risk-taking tendency? This difference in the level of risk-taking can be explained in terms of the differences in need for achievement motivation and perceived value of goal. At senior level only those sport players participate who have earlier participated as junior players in national tournament and have established their position. Similarly players of junior level are those players who have participated as sub-junior players in a national tournament. Senior level players know that their success in tournament will make them popular and celebrity. Such feeling will naturally create high need achievement among them. Senior players are also rewarded by offering handsome amount of money and job in Govt. organization. These facilities are not available for junior and sub-junior players. Therefore, senior sport players due to high need achievement motivation and high attraction of reward show high risk-taking tendency in comparison of sub-junior and junior level players.

**(c) Effect of Gender on Risk-taking:** Another significant finding of this study is related to the effect of gender on risk-taking. The finding has revealed that the male and female sport players do not differ significantly in their risk-taking behaviour. Mean risk-taking of male sport players (M=144.34) is almost same as of female sport players (M=144.51). However, Zuckerman (1991) supported the hypothesis of gender differences in risk-taking on the basis of differences in the sensation seeking personality and the risk as value proposed by Kelling, Zirkes and Myerowitz (1976). Here, a single factor such as (a) a naturally lower level of arousal in men or (b) a socially instilled belief that risk taking is a highly valued masculine tendency motivates high level of risk taking in men by implication it means that men would always take more risk than women.

However, our finding of no gender difference in the risk taking of men and women sport players does not support the hypothesis of Kelling et al. (1976). The finding of no gender difference in the risk taking of sport players can be explained in the light of another theory proposed by Kahneman and Tversky (1979). They explained that differences in situation promote risk-taking in most people. Thus, there are some situations which promote risk taking and some situations promote risk aversion. This theoretical model of risk taking

is appropriate and effective in explaining no gender difference in risk taking tendency of sport players. Sport players irrespective being male or female are granted permission by the family members to go for coaching and participate in the tournament. Now a days social situation has changed and only the win or achievement is appreciated. Sport achievement of a player brings joy, recognition and respect not only to that player but also to the family, locality and state he belongs. Thus, women sport players have as high need achievement motivation as male sport players and both attribute equal value to the perceived goal leading to no sex difference in risk-taking tendency.

**(B) Interpretation of the Effect on Social Responsibility:**

Findings of second part of present study based on the analysis of data obtained from sport players on social responsibility scale (chapter IV), are summarized below:

1. Participation of sport players in individual event and team event has produced significantly different effect on social responsibility of the players.
2. Level of participation of sport players in sub-junior, junior and senior level national tournament has produced significant effect on the social responsibility of players.

3. Difference between social responsibility of male and female players is also found to be significant at .01 level of confidence.
4. Interaction between two type of sport event and three level of sport participation of sport players yielded significant effect on social responsibility.
5. Interaction between type of sport event and sex of the player failed in producing significant effect on social responsibility of sport players.
6. Interaction between level of sport participation and sex of the player produced significant effect on social responsibility of the players.
7. Triple interaction effect between type of sport event, i.e., individual event and team event, level of sport participation, i.e., sub-junior, junior and senior level and sex of player, i.e., male and female on social responsibility of sport player was found significant at .05 level of confidence.

**(a) Effect of Type of Sport Event on Social Responsibility:** An important finding of our study is about the differences in the social responsibility orientation of players of individual and team event. A significant difference was found in the social responsibility orientation

of players of individual event and team event. Sport players of team event were found having high degree of orientation towards social responsibility (M=123.82) followed by sport players of individual event (M=114.42). The high degree of social responsibility in players of team event in comparison to players of individual event can be explained not only in terms of need achievement for success and social recognition attached with the win but the players of team event have high need for affiliation and approval. Players of team event try to maintain good relations with the members of team and perceive their approval as most important. They put high value on their friendly and social relationship with their members team but players of individual event do not get such chances. They go on practice all alone as an individual and have not to depend on others cooperation for win in the match. Due to these differences players of team event have high orientation of social responsibility in comparison of players of individual event.

**(b) Effects of Level Sports Participation on Social Responsibility:**

The finding regarding the effect of level of participation, i.e., sub-junior, junior and senior level tournament clearly demonstrates that sport players of three different level participation differ significantly in their degree of social responsibility. Senior level sport players have

high social responsibility (M=123.37) followed by junior (M=119.86) and sub-junior sport players (M=111.14). Thus, higher is the level of sport participation, higher is the degree of social responsibility in the players. A possible reason for the differences in the social responsibility with the level of sports participation can be advanced in terms of social interaction and extended experience with the tournament. Sport players participating in national tournament are those who have long experience of practicing with other players and are continuously under the supervision of their coaches. Such players give high importance to their social relationship with others leading to high need for affiliation and approval in them in comparison of junior and sub-junior sport players. This difference in need for affiliation and approval is the reason for differences in social responsibility in the players of three different level of participation.

**(c) Effect of Gender on Social Responsibility:** Our finding regarding the effect of gender on social responsibility has shown a significant difference in social responsibility of female sport players (M=121.72) and male sport players (M=116.52). Female sport players have high social responsibility in comparison of male sport players. This difference in social responsibility of male and female can be explained in the light of differentiation in the socialization process of boys and

girls. Girls from very beginning are trained to be humble, polite, obedient and submissive while boys are trained to be dominant and assertive. Girls in the family are also trained to seek permission from senior family members before taking any decision while boys are relatively treated leniently and allowed independence. This type of differentiation between boys and girls lead to higher need for affiliation and approval in girls in comparison of boys which as a result inculcate high degree of social responsibility in them.

#### **Suggestions for Further Researches:**

Every study has some limitations and the quality of a study is judged on the basis of problems it generates for the future researchers. In this section an attempt has been made to suggest a few problems which can be explore by other investigations.

1. The present study is a cross sectional study in which we have studied risk taking and social responsibility of sub-junior, junior and senior players. Cross sectional approach has some serious limitation. Therefore, a longitudinal study with limited number of sport player can be conducted to know the developmental trend of risk taking and social responsibility.

2. In the present study we have used verbal scale to measure risk taking and social responsibility of sport players. Verbal scale suffers from the social desirability factor. Respondents being a member of society wish to answer on those alternatives which are highly valued by other members of the society avoiding honest and true answer about their feeling. Therefore, observational method should be used.
3. Family and social environment play important role in determining the psychological makeup of a sport player including personality trait and social behaviour. A research can be planned using case study method to know the role of early experiences of sport players in influencing their achievement.
4. A cross cultural study in the field of sport psychology be also undertaken to know the contribution of cultural factors in the achievement of sport players. There is culture specific game which is popular in a particular country. Preference of a sport by country might be due to some cultural factors. Only a systematic study can answer this question.