

## Analysis of unforced errors in relation to performance in singles in badminton

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### ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was the analysis of unforced errors in relation to performance in singles in badminton. All the men badminton players of Devi Ahilya University, Indore badminton team and the players who played in singles matches from their teams against them in the West Zone Inter University Tournament organized by Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat from 24th to 26th October 2010 were selected to serve as the subjects for this study. No significant relationship ( $r = 0.166$ ,  $r = -0.016$ ) was found between the number of unforced errors and singles ranking of winners and losers male badminton players, respectively. However, significant relationship was observed between unforced errors of winners and losers male badminton players in singles ( $r = 0.825$ ). Further significant difference was observed between unforced errors of winners and losers male badminton players in singles ( $t = 8.322$ ).

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Badminton is a competitive game (Davis, 1982). Players compete against each other whenever they go onto the court to play a game (Anand *et al.*, 1976). If winning is of primary importance in competition, then the performance the players gives in the game is the determining factor in winning. The competition is the arena in which a player tests his skills against his opponent. (Downey, 1982).

Unforced errors result basically from 'lack of care, concentration technique or tactical awareness. Top class players, because they have practiced forty or fifty consecutive shot routines, make very few such errors. They thus give away virtually no points unless under the relentless and continuous pressure of an equal or better player. Their opponents have therefore to play to even finer limits to gain points and in doing so, are themselves possibly forced into errors.

### METHODOLOGY

All the men badminton players of Devi Ahilya University, Indore Badminton team and the players who played in singles matches from their teams against them in the West Zone Inter University Tournament organized by Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat from 24th to 26th October 2010 were selected to serve as the subjects for this study. Thus, a total of 16 players from five universities served as subjects. Age of the subjects ranged between 18 to 28 years.

Initially data on unforced errors committed by

badminton players of Devi Ahilya University, Indore Badminton Team was collected during the coaching camp, held at university gymnasium hall for the West Zone University Badminton Tournament, everyday in the evening session from 12th to 22nd October 2010, in which all the players played league matches in singles against each other. Thus, a total of 21 matches were played to establish the ranking of Devi Ahilya University players on the basis of their results in league matches during the coaching camp.

Further data on unforced errors of Devi Ahilya University Badminton players and their opponents in singles matches against different teams were collected during West Zone Inter University Badminton Tournament held at Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat from 24th to 26th October 2010.

Total numbers of unforced errors committed by the winner and loser badminton players in singles for each match were recorded. Devi Ahilya University Men Badminton Team was placed second in the West Zone University Tournament and its players played 9 singles matches in total against their opponent players from different university teams. Thus, a total of 30 singles matches were recorded for analysis of data on unforced errors. The ranking of Devi Ahilya University and their opponent team players was assigned by three badminton experts based on their performance in the coaching camp and West Zone University Tournament.