Relationship between impulsiveness and tactical performance of U-15 youth soccer players

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Abstract

Impulsiveness has been suggested as being a factor of interference on general perceptual-motor performance (Barratt, 1967). However, studies that investigate the influence of this variable on soccer performance are apparently scarce. Thus, this study aimed to examine the relationship between impulsiveness and tactical performance of U-15 youth soccer players. The sample comprised 100 U-15 youth soccer players. Impulsiveness and tactical performance were assessed, respectively, through the Continuous Performance Test-II (Conners, Epstein, Angold, & Klaric, 2003), and FUT-SAT (Teoldo, Garganta, Greco, Mesquita, & Maia, 2011) which enables the assessment of players' tactical performance through 10 tactical principles. Tactical performance values were obtained through the Game Tactical Performance Index (GTPI), Offensive Tactical Performance Index (OTPI) and Defensive Tactical Performance Index (DTPI). Kolmogorov-Smirnov and Pearson's Correlation tests were performed (p<0.05) through SPSS, v.18.0. We observed a positive correlation between impulsiveness and GTPI (r=0.226; p=0.018). Results can be explained by the need of the quick performance regarding the tactical demands, since impulsiveness can be classified as functional and is not always a negative factor (Dickman, 1990). It is concluded that impulsiveness is related with the tactical performance of U-15 youth soccer players.

Keywords: Soccer; Impulsiveness; Tactics.

References