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The level of tactical skills among young football players

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Abstract

The research aims to identify the level of tactical skills among young players in the Electrical Industries and Civil Defense Sports Club, as well as to identify the differences between them in terms of these skills. The researcher used the descriptive analytical method in this research, as he applied a measure of tactical skills, which is the Everlink scale consisting of (21) a statement divided into four areas. The researcher chose the research community intentionally, namely the young players in the Electrical Industries and Civil Defense Club. The research sample was chosen randomly from within this community, numbering (28) players, and after the researcher completed his procedures. In the field research, conducted statistical treatments on the data obtained to come up with several conclusions, including: The results of the current research showed that the level of tactical skills among the players of the Electrical Industries Club and the players of the Civil Defense Club reached a high degree through the scale, the level of tactical skills among the players of the two clubs was approximately the same level. According to the conclusions reached, the researcher came out with several recommendations: Coaches pay attention to the tactical aspect of players, especially the junior and youth categories, and emphasis on club administrations selecting coaches with a high degree of psychological and general culture in the players' intellectual affairs.

Keywords: Tactical skills, young football players, psychological

Introduction

Sports training aims to prepare athletes to reach high sporting levels, and this requires integration in the physical, skill, tactical and psychological aspects. Tactical skills are considered essential to the success of players in team sports, as they contribute to their ability to implement appropriate actions at the right time, adapt to game changes, and exchange the ball. Players need a deep understanding of the game they are playing, in addition to developing their personal, technical, and skill abilities. Tactical skills are the basic skills for players in Sports that rely on attack and attacking tactics, such as football, where teams compete on the field and need to make quick and accurate decisions with constant changes in the game environment. Using advanced tactical skills, players can achieve success in team sports and achieve high performance at high sporting levels. (Ibrahim Hanafi Shaalan. 1996) [3].

Football is one of the most popular team sports played by players and fans around the world. This game is characterized by its wide popularity due to the variety of skills required and the challenges facing the players. Proficient skill performance and cooperation between players to exploit these skills for the benefit of the team is the basis that the team needs to achieve success in this fun game, which imposes focus and harmony among the players. The playing style of each team reflects their skills and their individual strategies, making each match a unique and exciting experience for the fans. Watching players compete with passion and challenge increases the appeal of this exciting game.

The balance between individual skills and team cooperation is what makes soccer a great and fun game for spectators and players alike.

The tactical aspects in sports are considered essential for improving the performance of players and raising the level of their abilities, as tactical thinking is one of the basic elements in competitive sports performance, as it plays an important role in making decisions and

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achieving goals. In this context, Al-Jabali pointed out the importance of tactical thinking in improving the performance of athletes and achieving goals. Desired results: By applying sports plans, players can improve their skills and develop their tactics necessary for success in competitions. Tactical thinking processes require a great deal of consent percentage and psychological and physical preparation, as implementing plans correctly may determine the outcome of the match. In short, tactical thinking is important for achieving success in sports, as athletes can through it improve their performance and achieve their goals more effectively. It provides all Training supplies are required, as well as coaches and experts in the field of football. In order to complete this process, it is necessary to research and work to provide everything that is modern and advanced in order to develop the players in this center, and from here lies the importance of this research, which is identifying the levels of emerging players in this center in terms of the tactical aspect. In order to develop the necessary and appropriate plans for its development.

Research problem

The subject of research on tactical skills is one of the sports topics of great importance. In addition, it is one of the main aspects of sports form, as Hara defines sports form as “an increase in the level of ability of an individual athlete as a result of the impact of the training load and the load of matches, as well as a result of the effects of other efforts made for the purpose of Increasing an individual's physical efficiency and his degree of readiness to perform an effort. Sports form is a group of physical abilities in addition to motor and tactical abilities that constitute the general condition of the player, which is characterized by a high level. It is also considered the ideal relationship between all aspects of his preparation (physical - technical – tactical-Psychological)

Through the researcher's connection to this topic, as he is an academic specializing in the game of football and a follower of this game, he found it important to research the aspects that support the physical training aspect, which is the tactical aspect and the development of tactical skills among young players in this game. Therefore, the research decided to identify the level of tactical skills among club players. Electrical industries and civil sports defense, and answering the following questions: What is the level of tactical skills among emerging players and what is the difference in these skills between the youth of the National Center and the Amo Baba Football Academy.

Research objectives

- Identifying the level of tactical skills among young players of the Electrical Industries and Civil Defense Football Club.
- Finding differences in the level of tactical skills between young players of the Electrical Industries and Civil Defense Football Club.

Definition of terms

Tactical skills: It is a link in the chain of football players, and it is also part of the integrated construction of the training situation, as it raises the level of players' performance of basic skills, and increases their physical fitness, in addition to the positive educational and

psychological impact on the team (Jawdat Ezzat Atiwi. 2011) ^[4].

Research Methodology

The researcher used the descriptive method in the analytical method to suit the objectives and nature of the research, as the method is ((the method followed by the researcher to determine the steps of his research through which he can reach a solution to the research problem)). (Diyaa Munir. 2006) ^[1], and the survey method is known as (It is the approach that is based on studying the causal relationships between variables that occur in a normal situation in which the subjects of the research sample practice their jobs or have a certain experience or are in the situation that one would like to study (Muhammad Hassan Allawi. 1994) ^[6]).

The research community and its sample

The research community was chosen intentionally, namely the emerging football players at the National Center for Talent Nurturing and the Ammo Baba Football Academy. The total number of the research community was (38) young players, divided into (18) players from the Electrical Industries Club, and (20) young players from the Defense Club. Civilian. The research sample was chosen randomly through a lottery. A sample consisting of (28) players was selected, divided into numbers (14) players from the Electrical Industries Club, and the same number for the Civil Defense Club. Players were chosen from each club in order to conduct The exploratory experiment was therefore the main experiment applied to (12) players from each club.

Means of collecting information, devices and tools used

Means of collecting information

- Arab and foreign sources
- Observation and experimentation
- Personal interviews
- Tests and measurement
- A personal computer (laptop), American-made (HP).
- Stopwatch.

Research tool

To achieve the research objectives and collect the necessary data, the researcher used the Efflernik scale to measure tactical skills. The scale was divided into 21 items distributed over four different axes. The first axis relates to knowledge of ball movements, and includes paragraphs (1, 2, 3, 4). The second axis focuses on knowledge of others, and includes paragraphs (5, 6, 7, 8, 9). The third axis focuses on decision-making, with paragraphs (10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17). The fourth axis deals with behavior in changing situations, with paragraphs (18, 19, 20, 21). Alternatives were provided for each item in the scale, with alternatives including the following choices: very rarely, rarely, sometimes, often, always, and very always.

Exploratory experience

For the purpose of identifying the extent to which the scale agrees with the sample to which it is to be applied, as well as the clarity of the scale and its items and its suitability to the research sample, from the level of the items to their level of understanding, as well as to obtain the scientific characteristics of the scale, the researcher conducted a reconnaissance experiment on a group of young players on

18/2/2024, and they numbered four players. From both teams.

Scientific characteristics of the scale

Firstly, the validity of the scale

For the purpose of identifying the validity of the scale, the

researcher presented it to a group of experts and specialists regarding the game of football and the field of measurement and tests. Their number was (9) experts, and after making some modifications to the items of the scale, it was approved by them, with percentages exceeding (75%), and the table (1) Explain it.

Table 1: Percentage of experts and specialists' agreement on the appropriateness of the scale's statements

No.	Paragraphs	Validate	Invalidate	Percentage	Modifications
1	I know very well when to pass or not to pass the ball to my colleague	11	----	100%	
2	I'm good at acting when my team has the ball	10	1	90.90%	
3	I have the ability to move the ball to the safe side	9	2	81.81%	
4	I know very well who to pass the ball to when i gain possession of it.	11	----	100%	Modifications
5	I have the ability to evaluate the opposing team at the beginning of the match	11	----	100%	
6	I can know the movements of the opposing team during the match	11	----	100%	
7	Know well what the opponent will do when he has the ball	11	----	100%	
8	Make general decisions about previous movements during matches	9	2	81.81%	
9	Realize well the appropriate timing to change the pace of play	11	----	100%	
10	Take the appropriate position while playing	10	1	90.90%	
11	I offer valid viewpoints on game plans	11	----	100%	
12	I anticipate all the variables of the game	10	1	90.90%	
13	I have the ability to make sound decisions at the right time	9	2	81.81%	
14	I understand what the coach wants from me while playing	11	----	100%	
15	There is a high language of understanding and harmony between me and the rest of the team members	11	----	100%	Modifications
16	I realize the importance of my position to the coach	11	----	100%	
17	I have the ability to intercept the ball from the opposing team	10	1	90.90%	Modifications
18	I have a high ability to defend my court	11	----	100%	
19	I change my playing position according to the requirements of the matches	11	----	100%	
20	Respond quickly to changes caused by gameplay	10	1	90.90%	
21	No variable in play can affect my skill level	11	----	100%	

Second: Stability of the scale

To determine the reliability of the scale, the researcher applied the Cronbach's alpha equation, and a high reliability coefficient was obtained, whose value was (0.84).

- Standard deviation.
- Percentages.
- T-test for two independent groups.

Main experience

To achieve the goals and purpose of the research, the researcher distributed the research scale to the research sample, who are the young players of the Electrical Industries Club and the Civil Defense Club, on 24/2/2024, with the help of the assistant work team, and after the scale was answered by the subjects, the questionnaires were collected for the purpose of conducting statistical transactions and come up with correct and realistic results.

In order to obtain different and clear levels of the level of tactical skills among young players, the researcher adopted percentages in interpreting the results, as the percentage for each item and each field is revealed through the arithmetic averages obtained, and the levels are as follows

- From 50 and below is very low
- From 50 to 60 low.
- From 61 to 70 average.
- From 71 to 80 high.
- From 81 to 100 is very high.

Statistical methods

For the purpose of processing data statistically, the researcher used the ready-made statistical package SPSS through the following

- Arithmetic mean.

Presentation, analysis and discussion of the results

Presenting and analyzing the levels of tactical skills among the youth players of the Electrical Industries and Civil Defense Club

First: The field of knowledge of ball movements

Table 2: Shows the levels of tactical skills of the research sample in the field of knowledge of game movements

No.	Paragraphs	Electrical industries			Civil defense		
		Arithmetic mean	Percentage	Level	Arithmetic mean	Percentage	Level
1	I know very well when to pass or not to pass the ball to my colleague	4.30	71.58	High	4.39	72.82	High
2	I'm good at acting when my team has the ball	4.05	67.42	Middle	3.94	66.02	Middle
3	I have the ability to move the ball to the safe side	4.22	70.09	Middle	4.15	70.01	Middle
4	I know very well who to pass the ball to when i gain possession of it.	4.36	72.43	High	3.72	63.08	Middle
The total sum of the field		4.23	70.38	Middle	4.05	67.98	Middle

It is clear from Table (2) that the level of tactical skills among the research sample in the field of knowledge of ball movements was divided into an average level for both clubs, as the Electrical Industries Club obtained, as an overall result for the field, an Arithmetic mean of (4.23), i.e. a percentage of (70.38), while As a total score for the field of knowledge of ball movements, the Civil Defense Club obtained an arithmetic average of (4.05), equivalent to a percentage of (67.98). The researcher finds that the reason for these results is logical for the players in both clubs, as the field of knowledge of ball movements is an essential matter in sports training. Where coaches constantly

emphasize it. These movements are continuously trained, and this contributes to improving the players' tactical skills. Obtaining this knowledge depends on theoretical lectures and instructions given by the coach to the players. In addition, players must memorize plans for matches and execute them accurately, which requires activating their mental abilities. Therefore, players must use their mental abilities in an effective and intelligent way, and act wisely and seriously during matches. This helps them adapt to different situations they may encounter and react creatively in stressful situations. (Mufti Ibrahim).

Second: The field of knowledge of others

Table 3: It shows the levels of tactical skills of the research sample in the field of knowledge of others

No.	Paragraphs	Electrical industries			Civil defense		
		Arithmetic mean	Percentage	Level	Arithmetic mean	Percentage	Level
5	I have the ability to evaluate the opposing team at the beginning of the match	4.38	73.00	High	4.30	71.63	High
6	I can know the movements of the opposing team during the match	4.12	71.03	High	4.48	72.11	High
7	Know well what the opponent will do when he has the ball	3.92	65.01	Middle	4.25	70.70	Middle
8	Make general decisions about previous movements during matches	4.17	69.46	Middle	4.62	73.44	High
9	Realize well the appropriate timing to change the pace of play	4.42	73.56	High	4.18	70.23	Middle
	The total sum of the field	4.20	70.41	Middle	4.36	71.62	High

It is clear from Table (3) that the level of tactical skills among the research sample in the field of knowledge of others led to an average level for the Electrical Industries Club, as this club obtained, as an overall result for the field, an arithmetic average of (4.20), i.e. a percentage of (70.41), while it obtained The Civil Defense Club, as an overall result for the field of knowledge of ball movements at a high level, as its arithmetic average reached (4.05), equivalent to a percentage of (67.98). The researcher attributes the current results to the player's lack of skill in anticipating the performance and movements of others, or vice versa to the ability to absorb what it is presented by the coach and the

player's stable psychological state. The researcher also points out the importance of knowing how others think in team play, especially with regard to the opposing player.

In addition, the results are linked to the psychological factors that the player is exposed to from coaches, officials, and the public, which creates great psychological pressure on the player and negatively affects his ability to think strategically and control technical skills. (Hedayat Ahmed Hassan. 1992) [2].

Third: Decision making area

Table 4: Shows the levels of planning skills of the research sample in the field of decision-making

No.	Paragraphs	Electrical industries			Civil defense		
		Arithmetic mean	Percentage	Level	Arithmetic mean	Percentage	Level
10	Take the appropriate position while playing	4.66	77.92	High	4.47	74.90	High
11	I offer valid viewpoints on game plans	4.48	74.95	High	4.70	78.82	High
12	I anticipate all the variables of the game	4.62	77.20	High	4.53	75.22	High
13	I have the ability to make sound decisions at the right time	4.52	75.14	High	4.82	79.70	High
14	I understand what the coach wants from me while playing	4.73	79.00	High	4.30	71.58	High
15	There is a high language of understanding and harmony between me and the rest of the team members	4.40	73.35	High	4.62	73.44	High
16	I realize the importance of my position to the coach	4.55	75.80	High	4.12	71.03	High
17	I have the ability to intercept the ball from the opposing team	4.68	77.94	High	4.48	74.95	High
	The total sum of the field	4.58	76.41	High	4.50	74.95	High

It is clear from Table (4) that the level of tactical skills among the research sample in the field of consent percentage and decision-making has led to a high level for the Electrical Industries Club, as this club obtained, as an overall result for the field, an arithmetic average of (4.58), i.e. a percentage of (76.41), while The Civil Defense Club obtained an overall score for positioning and decision-making at a high level, as its arithmetic average reached

(4.50), equivalent to a percentage of (74.95). The researcher attributes the players' ability to take the correct positions and make the right decisions on the field according to the coach's directives. Marzouk also points out, "The players understand well what the coach is asking and practice accordingly. It also highlights the players' ability to fully and accurately perceive the visual aspects of playing events." (Ibrahim Hanafi Shaalan. 1996) [6].

Fourth: The field of dealing with changing situations**Table 5:** Shows the levels of planning skills of the research sample in the field of dealing with changing situations

No.	Paragraphs	Electrical industries			Civil defense		
		Arithmetic mean	Percentage	Level	Arithmetic mean	Percentage	Level
18	I have a high ability to defend my court	4.36	72.43	High	4.71	78.20	High
19	I change my playing position according to the requirements of the matches	4.53	75.22	High	3.78	64.11	Middle
20	Respond quickly to changes caused by gameplay	4.34	72.81	High	4.58	73.40	High
21	No variable in play can affect my skill level	4.05	67.42	Middle	4.21	72.14	High
The total sum of the field		4.28	71.97	High	4.32	71.96	High

It is clear from Table (5) that the level of planning skills among the research sample in the field of dealing with changing situations has led to a high level for the Electrical Industries Club, as this club obtained, as an overall score for the field, an arithmetic average of (4.28), i.e. a percentage of (71.97), while The Civil Defense Club obtained an overall score for the field of dealing with changing situations at a high level, as its arithmetic average reached (4.32), equivalent to a percentage of (71.96). The researcher attributed the coaches' use of individual skills more than tactical programs, as it is believed that this negatively affects the development of the players. In addition, the researcher believes that physical preparation programs receive more attention than tactical programs, which leads to unbalanced progress in sports performance. Moreover, the researcher points out the lack of training of players on the mental and mental level, which can affect their way of thinking and hinder their personal and sports development.

If the trend is towards enhancing only the technical and physical aspects, the mental and tactical aspects may be neglected and thus there could be a gap in the development of footballers.

In addition, the researcher promises that players need to focus on different gaming situations that enhance their strategic thinking and enhance their tactical and strategic skills. Players should be guided to benefit from their previous experiences in developing their mental abilities to improve their performance in matches and increase their chances of winning.

Presentation and analysis of the differences in the level of tactical skills between the players of the Electrical Industries Club and the Civil Defense Youth Football Club

Table 6: Shows the significance of the differences in the level of tactical skills between the players of the Electrical Industries Club and the Civil Defense Youth Football Club

No.	Fields	Electrical industries club		Civil defense club		Calculated t value	Level sig	Type sig
		Arithmetic means	Standard deviations	Arithmetic means	Standard deviations			
1	Knowledge of ball movements	4.23	1.04	4.05	0.98	1.96	0.002	SIG
2	Knowledge of others' movements	4.20	1.17	4.36	0.87	1.50	0.004	SIG
3	Focusing and decision making	4.58	1.19	4.50	1.10	0.35	0.14	Non- sig
4	Dealing with changing situations	4.28	1.09	4.32	1.14	0.13	0.006	Non- sig

Table (6) shows the arithmetic means, standard deviations, calculated T value, error rate, and statistical significance. The arithmetic mean for the field of knowledge of ball movements for the Electrical Industries Club reached (4.23), with a standard deviation of (1.04), while the arithmetic mean for the Civil Defense Club for the same field reached (4.23), with a standard deviation of (1.04). It reached (4.20), with a standard deviation of (0.98), while the calculated T value reached (1.96), and an error rate of (0.002), since the error rate is smaller than the significance level (0.05), which indicates the presence of significant differences between the players of the two clubs in The field of knowledge of ball movements for the benefit of the Electrical Industries Club. It is also clear from Table (6) that the arithmetic mean of the field of knowledge of the movements of others for the Electrical Industries Club is (4.20), with a standard deviation of (1.17), while the arithmetic mean for the Civil Defense Club is (4.36), With a standard deviation of (0.87), the calculated T value reached (1.50), and the percentage of error was (0.04), and since the percentage of error is smaller than the level of significance (0.05), which indicates the presence of significant differences between the players of the two clubs in the field of knowledge of the movements of

others, in favor of The Civil Defense Club. It is also clear from Table (6) that the arithmetic mean for the field of consent percentage and decision-making for the Electrical Industries Club is (4.58), with a standard deviation of (1.19), while the arithmetic mean for the Civil Defense Club is (4.50), with a standard deviation of (1.10) As for the calculated T value, it was (0.35) and the error rate was (0.14), since the error rate is greater than the significance level (0.05), which indicates that there are no significant differences in the field of positioning and decision-making between both players for the two clubs. It is also clear from Table (6) that the arithmetic mean for the field of dealing with changing positions for the Electrical Industries Club is (4.28), with a standard deviation of (1.09), while the arithmetic mean for the Civil Defense Club is (4.32), with a standard deviation of (1.13). The calculated T was (0.23) and the percentage of error was (0.05), and since the percentage of error is greater than the level of significance, which indicates that there are no significant differences between the players of both clubs in the field of behavior in changing situations, and the researcher attributes this to the difference in training methods that the coaches follow in training the teams and the players have, and these changes

reflect the skill reality of the players, especially their tactical skills.

Conclusions

According to the results reached by the researcher through statistical processing of the data, several conclusions were drawn

- The results of the current research showed that the level of tactical skills among the players of the Electrical Industries Club and the players of the Civil Defense Club reached a high degree through the scale.
- The level of tactical skills among the players of the two clubs was approximately the same level
- The effect of the coach's level of knowledge in raising the players' tactical level, through the type of theoretical and psychological lectures and information that the coach provides to the players, ensures a good reflection on the players and their general skill performance.

Recommendations

According to the conclusions reached, the researcher came out with several recommendations

- The attention paid by coaches to the tactical aspect of the players, especially the junior and youth categories.
- Emphasis on club administrations choosing coaches with a high degree of psychological and general culture in the intellectual affairs of the players.
- Adopting the tactical skills scale used in the current research for other game players.
- Benefiting from the current study in developing and improving the tactical skills of other age groups and levels in the game of football among other clubs.
- Working on using the current scale to identify the tactical skills of players in other sports.

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