

INADEQUATE FUNDING AND SUBSTANDARD FACILITIES AS DETERMINANTS OF RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH FOOTBALL LEAGUES IN SOUTH-SOUTH GEO-POLITICAL ZONE OF NIGERIA; IMPLICATIONS FOR SPORTS COUNSELLING

NWANKWO, GLORIA O. (PH.D)

Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education
University of Port Harcourt

&

EKECHUKWU ROSEMARY .O. (PH.D)

Department of Educational Psychology Guidance and Counselling
University of Port Harcourt

ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to find out if inadequate funding and substandard football facilities are determinants of risks associated with football league organization in South-South geo-political Zone of Nigeria. The cross-sectional survey design was used for the study. The population was 2,160 which constituted of football association, members, football club officials, football referees, players, members of football supporters clubs, coaches sports writers and counselors. The sample size was 1,080 respondents representing 50% of the population via multi-stage procedure, Researchers developed, structured and validated questionnaires were used. Six research Assistants were used for the study. The reliability of the instrument was established through test-retest method. The generated data was analyzed using mean and standard deviation. The findings revealed that inadequate funding and substandard football facilities were determinants of risks associated with Nigeria football league organizations in South-South geo-political Zone of Nigeria. Recommendations were made which included; that tax rebate should be granted to organizations that are sponsoring sporting activities, in order to attract more sponsors. Old football facilities should be renovated and upgraded to meet international standards while the construction of new ones should be supervised by relevant and competent professionals to ensure compliance with international specifications. The footballers and organisers should counseled to be part of protecting and maintaining the facilities and their psychological well being.

Keywords: Funding, facilities, determinants, risks, football league, sports counseling.