



Identification of Football Talents in U12 – U14 Years in Bangkalan Regency

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the potential talent of the Dekate FC Football School (SSB) players in the U12-U14 age group in Bangkalan Regency. The method used is quantitative descriptive research with survey techniques and the application of tests and measurements to collect data from a sample of 40 players. The data obtained were analyzed using descriptive statistical techniques to identify the talent categories of the players. The results of the analysis showed that 30 players (75%) were classified as talented, while 10 players (25%) were not talented. The average value (mean) of the entire data is 0.75, with a median and mode value of 1, which indicates that most members of the Dekate FC SSB team have potential talent in the field of football.

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AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTION

A. Conception and design of the study;
B. Acquisition of data;
C. Analysis and interpretation of data;
D. Manuscript preparation;
E. Obtaining funding

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INTRODUCTION

Football is a sport that is widely loved and played by various groups of people (Hasanuddin et al. 2020). Football is a team sport played by two teams, each consisting of eleven players (Risqi, 2020). The development of football from year to year shows a significant increase, which also encourages the birth of talented and high-potential athletes (Helmi Rezatul, 2021). The importance of talent in achieving sports achievements is very large because to advance sports achievements in Indonesia, athletes who have superior talent are needed as the main capital in achieving the highest success (Pradana et al., 2020). Someone who has talent needs to get further training in a focused manner in order to achieve maximum achievement in the future (Abidin & Nasirudin, 2021).

Based on the researcher's experience when implementing PLP II, the researcher observed that many team members had extraordinary talents in the sport of soccer, but



had not received adequate coaching. The researcher then tried to dig up direct information by asking several students about the obstacles they faced. From the results of the interview, it was found that limited access to information and the absence of a coaching program for talent identification were the main factors that caused their potential not to develop, and even slowly disappear with age. In addition, some students only utilized extracurricular activities to a limited extent without any clear targets or demands for achievement.

Advances in science and technology require the identification of athlete talent from an early age so that their potential can develop optimally (Supriyono et al., 2021). With the sport search talent guidance method, sports talent can be identified from an early age according to the potential of each individual. Lack of understanding and introduction of the sport search method in educational environments is one of the obstacles in finding potential athletes in the field of sports. Researchers are interested in providing solutions to overcome students who have football talent but have not received coaching by identifying football talent at U12-U14 years in Bangkalan Regency.

The purpose of talent identification is to identify potential athletes and monitor their development regularly so that their abilities can be directed to achieve the desired goals (Arya et al. 2018). Through the talent identification program, team members who have abilities will be assessed objectively through a series of tests that include aspects of strength, endurance, and coordination (Ilyas et al. 2024). Talent identification helps determine the potential success of prospective athletes and their ability to complete training programs in the chosen sport. The implementation of the talent identification program is very important because athletes are a key factor in achieving achievement, so determining prospective early-age athletes, must be done seriously. Make appropriate sentences (Mislán & Arya, 2020). The sport search talent identification method can direct talented U12-U14 soccer team members to be trained towards achievement.

METHODS

Types of research

This study uses quantitative descriptive research, where researchers conduct data surveys and apply test and measurement techniques to the samples to be studied. Data analysis in this study is statistical, allowing researchers to draw valid conclusions based on the data obtained.

Research Site

This research was conducted in Bangkalan Square, which is located at Jl. KH Abdul Karim, Demangan Barat, Demangan, Kec. Bangkalan, Kabupaten Bangkalan, Jawa Timur.

Population and Sample

(Sugiyono, 2019) states that population is a generalization area that includes objects or subjects that have certain qualities and characteristics, which have been determined by researchers to be studied so that relevant conclusions can be drawn from the research. The population in this study was 40 members of the SSB Dekate FC team.

According to (Sugiyono, 2019) the sample is a representation of a larger population, so the research results obtained from the sample can be generalized to understand the condition of the population as a whole. The sample selection in this study used the cluster sampling technique. The sample of this study was members of the SBB Dekate FC team, for U12 totalling 20 people and U14 totalling 20 people.

Research Variables

1. Independent Variable

The independent variable of this study is the identification of football talent of SSB Dekate FC students at U12-U14 years.

2. Dependent Variable

The dependent variable of this study, the dependent variable observed is the sport of football.

Research Instruments

The research instrument is a sports search test, which helps identify the potential talent of athletes systematically and measurably. The implementation began with testing members of the SSB Dekate FC team at Alun-Alun Bangkalan, followed by equipment preparation and implementation of 10 sports search test items. The test was carried out alternately according to the procedure, while the results were recorded by the researcher. The collected data was then analyzed and inputted into the sport search website to determine the level of athlete talent.

Data Collection Technique

Data is collected from the results of instrument tests conducted on each sample. Furthermore, the data is processed using appropriate statistical test tools so that the results can be analyzed and relevant conclusions can be drawn.

Data Analysis Techniques

The steps taken in this data analysis include:

1. Inputting name, age, and gender.
2. Inputting the results of 10 measurement tests into the sport search website.
3. Selecting football as the focus of research for talent potential.
4. Clicking "view results" to determine whether or not team members are talented.



Figure 1.

Sports Search Website Appearance



Figure 2.

Sports Search Website Appearance

- ## 5. Calculating the mean

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\Sigma (x \times f)}{N}$$

- ## 6. Calculating Median

- ## 7. Calculating Mode

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Result

This research was conducted on members of the SSB Dekate FC team. The research activity began on May 27, 2025, located in Alun-Alun Bangkalan. The researcher's initial step was to take measurements using a sport search with the data collected, namely: (1) Height, (2) Sitting height, (3) Weight, (4) Arm span, (5) Tennis ball throw and catch, (6) Basketball throw, (7) Vertical jump, (8) Agility running, (9) 40-meter sprint, and (10) Multistage running.

1. Calculate the mean (average)

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Mean} &= \frac{\Sigma(x \times f)}{N} \\ &= \frac{(1 \times 30) + (0 \times 10)}{40} \\ &= \frac{30}{40} \\ &= 0.75\end{aligned}$$

- ## 2. Calculating the median

Ordered data (from smallest to largest)

[illegible]

Number of blood = 40 (even), so the media is the average of the 20th and 21st data.

- 1st to 10th data = 0
- 11th to 30th data = 1
- 20th data = 1
- 21st data = 1

$$\text{So, Media} = \frac{1+1}{2} = 1$$

3. Calculating the mode

- Gifted frequency (value 1) = 30
 - Frequency of not being gifted (value 0) = 10
- Mode = 1 (talented), because the frequency is $30 > 10$.

Table 1.

Frequency Distribution and Statistics Data Results

Category	Mark (x)	Frequency (f)	$f \times x$	Percentage
Not Talented	0	10	$10 / 40 = 0.25$	25%
Talented	1	30	$30 / 40 = 0.75$	75%
Total	-	40	1.00	100%

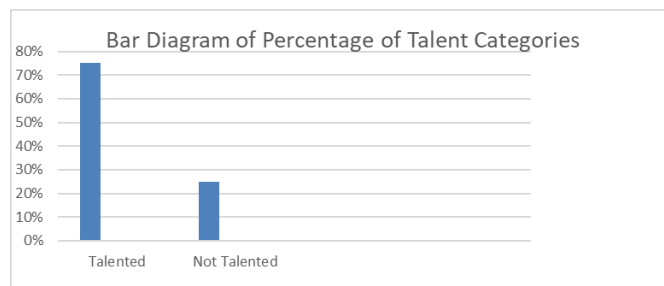


Figure 3.

Vertical Bar Chart of Talent Category Percentage

Based on the results of descriptive statistical analysis of 40 team members, it was found that 30 people (75%) were included in the talented category, while 10 people (25%) were not talented. The mean (average) value of the entire data is 0.75, which indicates that the majority of SSB Dekate FC team members are classified as talented. The median and mode values of this data are 1, which also indicates that the highest value and the middle value of the data are in the talented category. These results show that the proportion of talented individuals is much more dominant than those who are not talented in the group analyzed.

Discussion

Identification of talent in football is an important step to develop the potential of young athletes, especially among U12-U14 students in Bangkalan Regency. With good mastery of basic techniques, players can show their best abilities on the field. Therefore, a structured and sustainable training program is needed to help students understand and master the skills needed in the game of football.

In Bangkalan Regency, early-age soccer coaching activities are increasingly developing with many young players taking part in training at various SSB. However, based on the results of initial observations in the field, researchers saw that the talent identification process has not been carried out systematically and tends to be based only on subjective observations of coaches. This has caused many potential players aged 12-14 years to not be fully explored. Therefore, a comprehensive identification system is needed so that potential talents can be recognized early and properly developed.

The results of this study are reinforced by the findings of (Eko Yulianto, 2020) in the

journal "Football Talent Identification in Students of the Hizbul Wathan Yogyakarta Football School" which shows that most students aged 11-13 years have varying levels of talent, with the dominant category at the fairly talented level. Therefore, success in identifying talent in this age group is very important as a basis for long-term athlete development. The U12-U14 age category is the golden age for the development of motor skills and game techniques, so accurate talent detection will help coaches and football schools in designing appropriate training programs. Thus, the results of this study not only describe the current conditions but also provide a strategic direction for the development of football in Bangkalan Regency.

CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that based on the results of descriptive statistical analysis of 40 team members, as many as 30 people (75%) are included in the talented category, while 10 people (25%) are not talented. This finding shows that the talent identification process carried out is able to group players based on potential effectively. Thus, it can be concluded that talent identification has a significant influence on mapping player potential.

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