

AI-Driven Performance Analysis of College-Level Inter-Collegiate Kabaddi Players

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Abstract

This study critically analyzes the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) within the performance evaluation of college-level inter-collegiate kabaddi players, focusing on the development of an innovative framework that leverages machine learning algorithms. By systematically identifying key performance indicators (KPIs) that notably influence players' efficacy, we utilize extensive performance data collected via video analytics and motion tracking to offer actionable insights. The empirical findings reveal strong correlations among tailored training regimens, quantifiable performance metrics, and success rates as illuminated by AI analysis. This research not only contributes to the academic discourse surrounding sports science but also provides practical implications for coaches and athletes, thereby fostering a more data-driven approach to enhancing competitive strategies in kabaddi.

Introduction

This paper investigates the role of AI in performance analysis among college-level inter-collegiate kabaddi players, focusing on how data can shape training and improve outcomes. Kabaddi is a sport that demands

physical prowess, tactical intelligence, and teamwork. Though widely played in India and gaining international recognition, systematic performance analysis in kabaddi remains scarce. The use of AI in sports has opened avenues for monitoring and

enhancing player

performance through data-driven insights. This research explores how AI technologies can assess key performance indicators (KPIs) in college-level kabaddi players to provide a scientific basis for training and development. Kabaddi, a traditional Indian sport, is rich in cultural significance and combines elements reminiscent of both tag and wrestling. It is not merely a test of physical strength and endurance; it also demands a high level of strategic thinking and mental agility from its players. Athletes must exhibit quick reflexes, tactical acumen, and the ability to read their opponents while maintaining peak physical performance. Each match becomes an intricate dance of maneuvering, where skillful raiding and effective defending play crucial roles. As Kabaddi continues to gain prominence in various inter-collegiate competitions across the country, the demand for advanced methodologies to enhance training and performance is on the rise. Coaches and athletes alike are constantly exploring innovative approaches to help players gain a competitive edge, whether through improved techniques, enhanced conditioning, or refined tactical strategies.

In this evolving landscape, the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI) offers a groundbreaking opportunity to systematically and scientifically analyze performance data. With the integration of AI technologies,

coaches can delve deeper into the complexities of player performance. AI algorithms have the capability to process vast amounts of data collected during practice sessions and matches, identifying patterns, trends, and insights that might remain obscured under traditional coaching methods.

These insights can reveal critical aspects of gameplay, such as player positioning, movement efficiency, and decision-making patterns during high-pressure situations. For instance, AI could analyze video footage to assess each player's strengths and weaknesses, enabling personalized training regimens tailored to individual needs. Additionally, predictive analytics can help in understanding opponent behavior, allowing teams to devise counter-strategies and anticipate plays.

Methodology:

Research Design

This study employs a quantitative research design, leveraging advanced machine learning techniques to meticulously analyze player performance data in a systematic manner. The research encompasses several critical stages, including the collection and pre-processing of performance metrics such as tackles, raids, successful points, and overall match contributions. By rigorously analyzing these variables, the study not only seeks to enhance understanding of individual player effectiveness but also aims to provide

actionable insights that can inform coaching strategies and team dynamics, thereby advancing the competitive edge in the sport.

Selection of Subjects

In a carefully structured study, participants were selected from five different colleges with active kabaddi teams in the region, establishing a diverse pool of talent. A total of 50 players were randomly chosen, including 30 males and 20 females, based on their engagement in inter-collegiate tournaments during the previous season. This strategic selection ensured a balanced representation of players across various positions—raiders, defenders, and all-rounders—allowing for a comprehensive analysis of skills and gameplay dynamics tailored to competitive kabaddi scenarios.

The focus on players with competitive kabaddi experience is particularly significant, as it provides a foundation for assessing performance metrics and skill levels in a standardized context. Having a diverse group not only reflects the contemporary landscape of kabaddi, which continues to gain popularity, but also underscores the importance of inclusivity in sports research. Furthermore, statistical insights, such as the performance ratios of male versus female players in team dynamics, can yield important findings that contribute to the development of training programs and strategies aimed at enhancing athlete performance across genders within the

sport.

Data Collection

Performance data were collected through automated video recording of matches and player tracking technology. Each match was analyzed to generate a dataset containing player movements, interactions, and performance outcomes. In addition, interviews and surveys were conducted to gather qualitative insights about training practices.

Literature Review

A review of existing literature reveals a growing trend in using technology and data analytics in sports performance analysis. Research has shown the efficacy of video analysis and wearable technologies in tracking player movements and performance (Mäntysaari et al., 2021; Wong et al., 2022). However, limited studies focus specifically on kabaddi, indicating a lack of tailored performance insights for the sport. Previous studies have highlighted the importance of strategic training based on empirical performance data, which strengthens the premise of integrating AI into kabaddi performance analytics.

Recent studies in sports analytics have shown marked improvements in athletes' performance by leveraging AI and machine learning technologies. For instance, research by Zhang et al. (2020) demonstrates how video analysis and AI can optimize strategy in basketball.

Similarly, Patel and Sharma (2021) examined the efficacy of AI in analyzing football player performance. However, limited literature addresses the application of these technologies in kabaddi. The gap underscores the necessity for this research, potentially leading to performance-enhancing strategies specifically tailored for kabaddi.

Data Collection

Performance data were collected through wearable devices that tracked physical metrics such as heart rate, acceleration, and movement patterns during practice sessions and competition matches. AI algorithms processed this data to generate performance reports highlighting individual strengths and weaknesses.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
1. Successful raids per match
2. Successful tackles per match
3. Average speed during matches

Statistical Analysis of Data

The analysis conducted using SPSS software reveals significant insights into performance metrics by employing robust statistical methods. Descriptive statistics were calculated to assess mean performance, providing a foundational understanding of the data distribution and central tendencies.

Furthermore, paired sample t-tests were utilized to compare pre- and post-analysis performance results, enabling a more nuanced evaluation of changes induced by the interventions. A significance threshold of $p < 0.05$ was established, underscoring the importance of statistical rigor and allowing for the identification of meaningful differences in performance outcomes, thereby enhancing the reliability of the findings in a professional context.

Pre-Intervention KPIs

The average KPIs before the implementation of the AI interventions were as follows:

KPI	Average Value
Successful raids per match	5.2
Successful tackles per match	3.4
Average speed (km/h)	7.1

Post-Intervention KPIs

After the introduction of AI analytics and tailored training:

KPI	Average Value
Successful raids per match	7.8
Successful tackles per match	5.6
Average speed (km/h)	8.5

Statistical Significance

The results of the paired t-tests indicated significant changes in all KPIs:

Key Performance Indicator	t-value	p-value
Successful raids per match	$t(99) = 9.36$	$p < 0.0001$
Successful tackles per match	$t(99) = 7.42$	$p < 0.0001$
Average speed during matches	$t(99) = 5.67$	$p < 0.0001$

These results provide statistical legitimacy to the conclusion that the AI-driven intervention positively impacted player performance.

Analysis of Data

Data analysis revealed significant relationships between training regimens and match performance. Machine learning models, particularly decision trees and support vector machines, identified the most critical KPIs. Notably, successful raids and tackles correlated strongly with overall points scored. Regression analysis indicated that enhancements in specific training areas could improve player efficiency and match outcomes.

Discussion

Analysis of Improvement

The incorporation of AI-driven performance analysis clearly improved college-level Kabaddi players' efficiency in raids and tackles while increasing their speed. This enhancement can be attributed to the personalized coaching metrics derived from AI insights, enabling players to focus on specific areas for growth.

Implications for Coaching and Training

This study outlines the potential for AI to transform training methodologies in college sports. By continual monitoring and analysis of the identified KPIs, coaches can reinforce strengths and address weaknesses, providing a dynamic and responsive training environment.

Key Findings

1. A positive correlation exists between the number of successful raids and overall match performance.
2. Players who engaged in targeted training showed measurable improvements in key performance metrics over a competitive season.
3. The analysis confirmed that data-driven insights could assist coaches in developing individualized training programs.

Conclusions

This study highlights the potential of AI-driven performance analysis in the realm of college inter-collegiate kabaddi. The ability to leverage performance data not only aids in identifying strengths and weaknesses among

players but also serves as a guide for tailored training that enhances players' competitive edge. As kabaddi continues to evolve, incorporating AI and data analytics will be crucial in developing future strategies that promote excellence in sports performance.

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