Investigation of the effect of volleyball training on perception and decision-making parameters of 12-14 year old boys

Yakup AKTAŞ¹, Ruken YILMAZ²

¹Harran University, School of Physical Education and Sports, Şanlıurfa, Turkiye ²Gaziantep University, Faculty of Sport Sciences, Gaziantep, Turkiye

| Araștırma Makalesi/Research Article | | DOI : 10.70736/jrolss.603 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Gönderi Tarihi/ Received: | Kabul Tarih/ Accepted: | Online Yayın Tarihi/ Published: |
| 11.09.2024 | 17.02.2025 | 25.03.2025 |

Abstract

The aim of this study was to investigate the effects of volleyball training on the perception and decision-making skills of 12-14-year-old male children. The participants were divided into two groups: an experimental group and a control group. The experimental group participated in regular volleyball training sessions three times a week for one year, while the control group did not participate in any regular volleyball training. To assess the participants' perception and decision-making parameters, the computer-assisted Psychotechnical ALG system was used, including the Selective Attention Test (SEDT), Visual Perception and Memory Test (GABT), Visual Continuity Test (GST), Judgment Ability Test (MYT), Speed and Distance Test (HMT), Reaction Time Test (RTT), and Environmental View Test (EVT). Statistical analysis of the data was conducted using SPSS 26. The differences between pre- and post-tests were determined using the Paired-Samples t-test. The significance level was set at (p<0.01). Significant differences between pre- and post-test scores were found for the experimental group in the Selective Attention Test (JT), and Environmental View Test (EVT) (p<0.01). No significant differences were found between the pre- and post-test scores of the control group in terms of perception and decision-making parameters (p>0.01). As a result, regular volleyball training has been shown to improve parameters such as attention, judgment ability, and visual perception in children.

Keywords: Attention, decision making, perception, training, volleyball

Voleybol antrenmanlarının 12-14 yaş erkek çocukların algı ve karar verme parametrelerine etkisinin incelenmesi

Öz

Çalışmada voleybol antrenmanlarının 12-14 yaş erkek çocuklarının algı ve karar verme becerilerine etkisinin incelenmesi amaçlandı. Katılımcılar deney ve kontrol grubu olarak 2'ye ayrıldı. Deney grubu 1 yıl haftada 3 gün düzenli voleybol antrenmanlarına katıldılar. Kontrol grubu ise 1 yıl düzenli herhangi bir voleybol antrenmanına dahil edilmediler. Katılımcıların algı ve karar verme parametrelerini değerlendirmek için bilgisayar destekli Psikoteknik ALG sisteminde Seçici Dikkat Testi (SEDT), Görsel algı ve bellek testi (GABT), Görsel Süreklilik Testi (GST), Muhakeme yeteneği testi (MYT), Hız ve mesafe testi (HMT), Tepki hızı Testi (THT), Çevresel Görüş Testi (ÇGT) uygulandı. Verilerin istatistiksel analizinde SPSS 26. paket programı kullanıldı. Ön ve son test arasındaki farklılıkların belirlenmesinde bağımlı gruplar t-test kullanıldı. Anlamlılık düzeyi (p<0,01) olarak belirlendi. Deney grubunun Seçici Dikkat Testi (SEDT), Görsel algı ve Bellek testi (GABT) Yanlış Yüzde, Görsel Süreklilik Testi (GST), Muhakeme Testi (MT) ve Çevresel Görüş Testi ÇGT) ön test ve son test değerleri arasında istatistiksel olarak anlamlı farklılık tespit edildi (p<0,01). Kontrol grubunda ise algı ve karar verme ön test ve son test değerleri arasında istatistiksel olarak anlamlı farklılık tespit edilmedi (p>0,01). Sonuç olarak; düzenli voleybol antrenmanlarının çocuklarda algı ve karar verme parametrelerinden dikkat, muhakeme yeteneği, görsel algı gibi parametrelerde iyileşmeler sağladığını göstermektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Algı, antrenman, dikkat, karar verme, voleybol

Sorumlu Yazar/ Corresponded Author: Yakup AKTAŞ, E-posta/ e-mail: yakupaktas@harran.edu.tr

INTRODUCTION

Perceptions, especially in terms of stimuli, it is important to be able to act a little earlier than our competitors in sports in order to be successful. For this, athletes need to have a high level of perception. Perception means being aware of the environment around us, which gives us the ability to respond quickly and accurately to the developing situation in sporting activities. Accelerating and optimizing perception is possible through training. The increase of perception speed in athletes develops especially through elements such as sudden changes of speed, changes of direction and caromboles (Sayin, 2011). Perception is especially important in open skill disciplines. Open skill can be defined as the athlete's ability to make a quick decision and react to random external stimuli in an unpredictable environment (Farrow, 2005; Schmidt & Craig 2008). Training level, ability, cognitive processes are effective at different levels in performing skills (Karakas, 2018; Sancı, 2022; Arslan Kabasakal et al., 2023; Elitok, 2023; Arslan Kabasakal, 2024). Perception plays a critical role especially in open skill disciplines. In this context, the athlete's ability to perceive environmental stimuli and react accordingly is of great importance in sports such as volleyball, which require dynamic and rapid decision-making. Volleyball, as a sport that develops such perceptual and cognitive abilities, constantly tests players' attention, strategising and decision-making skills (Büyükipekçi & Taşkın, 2011). In volleyball, which is a technical game, besides motoric characteristics, players' skills such as perceiving the environment, sensing the speed and distance of the ball, and moving with the right timing are of great importance (Gündüz, 1997).

Volleyball is a sport in which technical, tactical, conditioning and mental abilities interact in a complementary way and these elements form the basis of performance. Volleyball competitions can create high levels of emotional and mental stress on players. In order to be successful in such competitions, athletes need to be able to make quick and correct decisions, control their emotions, and play an error-free game under challenging conditions (Çelenk, 2013). The decisions made in volleyball games can directly affect the course of the match or the score. Critical situations, moments under pressure, changes in the last minutes and tactical changes play a big role in the decision-making process of athletes (Kelecek, 2013). Decisions made correctly and appropriately affect the game in a positive way; however, wrong decisions or decisions made at the wrong time not only affect the player negatively, but can also change the outcome of the game (Leveaux, 2010). Therefore, the factors that make up perception and decision-making mechanisms need to be examined and improved. It is emphasized that cognitive processes such as perception, intuition and decision-

making should be guided in a holistic manner in addition to fitness skills in order to perform game actions at a conscious level in volleyball.

When the literature is analysed, perception and decision making in volleyball are critical factors that directly affect the performance of players in the game. The development of these skills constitutes an important development area especially for athletes in childhood. This study aims to contribute to this field by investigating the perception and decision-making processes of 12-14 year old boys in volleyball and how training methods can be adapted to improve these skills.

METHOD

Research model

The study examined the effect of volleyball training on the perception and decisionmaking skills of boys aged 12-14 years. The experimental design of the study was based on a pretest-posttest model with experimental and control groups.

Research group

The participants were divided into 2 groups as experimental and control group. The mean age, body weight and height of the experimental and control groups are given in Table 1. The experimental group consisted of 13 volunteers who were selected among the children who had not participated in volleyball training before and who regularly participated in volleyball training of GAP sports club 3 days a week for 1 year, and the control group consisted of 14 volunteers who were selected among the children who had not participated in volleyball training before and who did not receive any regular volleyball training for 1 year, totaling 27 male students. In determining the sample group, the participants were selected by random selection method. The experimental group was trained with basic volleyball techniques, finger pass, cuff, serve, block and defence techniques in volleyball training programme 3 days a week for 12 months. The control group did not receive any regular volleyball training and continued their normal daily activities. The participants were administered a pre-test before starting 12 months of regular volleyball training and a post-test after completing 12 months of regular volleyball training programme. selective attention test (SEDT), visual perception and memory test (VPMT), visual continuity test (VCT), reasoning ability test (CRT), speed and distance test (HMT), speed of reaction test (RTT), peripheral vision test (PERT) were applied with Psychotechnical ALG Test System to evaluate the perception and decision-making skills of the participants before and after the study and the scores were recorded on the computer-aided system.

| Variables | Measurements | Experimental Group (n=14) Ž/Sd | Control Group (n=13) X̄/Sd |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Pre-Test | 12,53±1,05 | 13,21±0,57 |
| Age (years) | Pre-Test | 13,53±1,16 | 14,21±0,75 |
| Height (cm) | Post-Test | 163,69±7,68 | 150,64±5,75 |
| | Pre-Test | 171,69±7,36 | $158,78\pm7,50$ |
| Body weight (kg) | Post-Test | 53,07±6,71 | 40,21±8,29 |
| | Pre-Test | 60,53±7,30 | 48,85±7,57 |
| | Pre-Test | 60,53±7,30 | 48,85±7,57 |

| Table 1. Pretest and | posttest averages of | f age, height and body | y weight of experimental | and control groups |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| | | 0 / 0 . | | 8 1 |

Data collection tools

Licensed assessment system software developed by Psychotechnical ALG (https://www.algpsikoteknik.com) was used to evaluate the perception and decision-making skills of the participants before and after the study. selective attention test (SEDT), visual perception and memory test (VPMT), visual continuity test (VCT), reasoning ability test (CRT), speed and distance test (HMT), Speed of Reaction Test (RTT), peripheral vision test (PERT) were applied and the scores were recorded on the computer-aided system. The test was performed in a standardised isolated test room prepared to obtain objective data in accordance with international norms without being affected by environmental factors (İşsever et al. 2021).

Selective attention test (SAT)

In this test, the level of selective attention is measured by asking participants to distinguish certain stimuli from complex stimuli. Attention is directed to the perception process among the various stimuli that make up the content of the test, only on those that are determined as critical stimuli within the scope of the test, and these critical stimuli, which come frequently and continuously, are asked to be recognized and decided by selective perception.

Visual perception and memory test (VPMT)

It is a test that measures visual perceptual performance and perceptual speed after being shown photo-related images for short periods of time (1 second).

Visual continuity test (VCT)

In an environment with complex images, attention is asked to be directed in a controlled manner in a certain direction. This test is a test that takes into account visual continuity in shape perception, the ability to continuously follow the criteria that enable selective behavior in shape perception, and the speed of the responses given in this context.

Reasoning ability test (RAT)

This test is based on comprehending and recognizing the relationships between abstract visual shapes and includes multiple-choice questions. The questions are arranged from easy to difficult. It is a test based on the ability to understand and evaluate, the use of analytical thinking skills, the process of drawing meaningful conclusions from clues about phenomena and understanding the principles that provide the relationships between phenomena. The participant is first asked about the logical relationship between two pictures and asked to find the correct one among the options.

Speed and distance test (SDT)

This test measures a person's ability to estimate the speed of movement of moving objects and their distance to the target.

Peripheral vision test (PVT)

Examined when stimuli presented at an angle between 120 and 140 degrees entered the participants' field of view. This test was based on the participant's ability to recognize and react to stimuli coming from the left and right while focusing attention on a task in front.

Speed of reaction test (SRT)

In this test, the participants correct responses to visual stimuli of different colors and auditory stimuli of different tones, and the speed of these responses were measured. It measured how fast and how accurately the participants could react in a sudden and panic situation.

Ethical approval and participant disclosure

The ethical appropriateness of the study was approved by Harran University Health Sciences Ethics Committee with decision number 22.02.21/2. The study was also conducted in accordance with the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki. All participants in this study were informed about the purpose and content of the study. Written informed consent was obtained from their families and children's consent for voluntary participation was obtained. In this way, it was ensured that the participants developed full awareness of the study process and were informed about possible risks. This research was supported by Harran University Scientific Research Projects (BAP) unit within the scope of the project dated 12.12.2022 and numbered 22265.

Data analysis

SPSS 26 (Statistical package for social sciences) package programme was used for statistical analysis of the data. Paired-Samples t-test was used to determine the differences between pre and post-test data within and between groups. Cohen'd method was used to calculate the effect size of the data. The significance between the differences was determined at (p<0,01) level.

FINDINGS

In this study, pre-test and post-test values of perception and decision-making skills of the experimental and control groups were analyzed. selective attention test (SAT), visual perception and memory test (VPMT), visual continuity test (VCT), reasoning ability test (RAT), speed and distance test (SDT), peripheral vision test (PVT), speed of reaction test (SRT) were measured before and one year after the volleyball training of the experimental group. The comparison of pre-test and post-test data is presented in Table 2.

| Variables | Measurements | Ū√Sd (n=13) | р | Cohen's d |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------|-----------|
| | Pre-Test | 59.00±11.66 | 0.000* | |
| Selective Attention Test (SAI) (%) | Post-Test | 75.30±13.63 | 0.000 | 1.23 |
| Visual Percention and Memory Test | Pre-Test | 63.92±11.35 | | |
| Correct (VPMT) (%) | Post-Test | 65.07±8.52 | 0.64 | |
| Perception and Memory Test | Pre-Test | 41.15±9.89 | 0.010* | 0.600 |
| Incorrect (VPMT) (%) | Post-Test | 30.15±8.22 | 0.010 | 0.090 |
| Visual Continuity Test (VCT) | Pre-Test | 56.76±21.19 | 0.000* | 0.870 |
| (%) | Post-Test | 73.30±19.13 | 0.006 | 0.870 |
| Reasoning Ability Test (RAT) | Pre-Test | 15.38±3.17 | 0.000* | 0.790 |
| (points) | Post-Test | 21.61±2.46 | 0.000 | 0.780 |
| Speed and Distance Test (SDT) | Pre-Test | 50.76±10.91 | 0.247 | |
| (points) | Post-Test | 54.15±10.85 | 0.347 | |
| Peripheral Vision Test (PVT) | Pre-Test | 84.76±16.29 | 0.011* | 1 1 2 |
| (%) | Post-Test | 97.07±3.20 | 0.011 | 1.15 |
| Speed of Reaction Test (SRT) | Pre-Test | 730.15±115.07 | 0.520 | |
| (ms) | Post-Test | 754.84±137.52 | 0.329 | |

Table 2. Pre-test and post-test comparison of perception and decision-making parameters in the experimental group

*p<0.01; SAT: Selective Attention Test, VPMT: Visual Perception and Memory Test, VCT: Visual Continuity Test, RAT: Reasoning Ability Test, SDT: Speed and Distance Test, PVT: Peripheral Vision Test, SRT: Speed of Reaction Test

When Table 2 is analysed, a highly significant difference was found between the pretest and post-test values of selective attention test (SEDT), visual perception and memory test (VPMT) false percentage, visual continuity test (VCT), reasoning test (MT) and peripheral vision test (PVT) of the experimental group (p<0.01). There was no statistically significant difference between the pre-test and post-test values of the visual perception and memory test (VPMT) correct percentage, speed and distance test (SDT) and speed of reaction test (SRT) (p>0.01).

| Variables | Measurements | ⊼/Sd (n=14) | р | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------|--|
| \mathbf{C}_{-1} | Pre-Test | 71.64±13.84 | | |
| Selective Attention Test (SAT) (%) | Post-Test | 74.42 ± 20.32 | 0.640 | |
| Visual Perception and Memory Test | Pre-Test | 71.78±10.03 | 0 800 | |
| Correct (VPMT) (%) | Post-Test | 70.92 ± 8.38 | 0.800 | |
| Perception and Memory Test Incorrect | Pre-Test | 35.85±10.81 | 0.070 | |
| (VPMT) (%) | Post-Test | 31.07±8.85 | 0,070 | |
| Visual Continuity Test (VCT) | Pre-Test | 88.28±5.75 | 0.159 | |
| (%) | Post-Test | 84.00±12.84 | 0.158 | |
| Descening Ability Test (DAT) (noints) | Pre-Test | 21.28±2.67 | 0 121 | |
| Reasoning Adnity Test (RAT) (points) | Post-Test | 19.21±4.28 | 0.121 | |
| Speed and Distance Test (SDT) (points) | Pre-Test | 57.14±12.47 | 0.561 | |
| Speed and Distance Test (SDT) (points) | Post-Test | 59.35±13.06 | | |
| Peripheral Vision Test (PVT) | Pre-Test | 95.28±5.15 | 0.170 | |
| (%) | Post-Test | 90.14±13.00 | 0.170 | |
| Speed of Reaction Test (SRT) | Pre-Test | 675.07±87.55 | 0 222 | |
| (ms) | Post-Test | 641.78±111.46 | 0.225 | |

Table 3. Pre-test and post-test comparison of perception and decision making parameters in the control group

*p<0.01; SAT: Selective Attention Test, VPMT: Visual Perception and Memory Test, VCT: Visual Continuity Test, RAT: Reasoning Ability Test, SDT: Speed and Distance Test, PVT: Peripheral Vision Test, SRT: Speed of Reaction Test

When Table 3 is examined, no statistically significant difference (p>0,01) was found between the pre-test and post-test values of selective attention test (SAT), visual perception and memory test (VPMT) false percentage, visual perception and memory test (VPMT) correct percentage, visual continuity test (VCT), reasoning ability test (RAT), speed and distance Test (SDT), peripheral vision test (PVT) and speed of reaction test (SRT) of the control group.

 Table 4. Pre-test and post-test comparison of perception and decision making parameters of experimental and control groups

| Variables | Measurements | ⊼/Sd | р | Cohen's d |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------|
| | Control Group (n=14) | 2.78±21.76 | 0.05% | 0.79 |
| (%) | Experimental Group (n=13) | 16.30±12.25 | - 0.038 | 0.78 |
| Visual Perception and Memory | Control Group (n=14) | -0.85 ± 12.40 | 0 (28 | |
| Test Correct (VPMT) (%) | Experimental Group (n=13) | 1.15±8.68 | - 0.628 | |
| Perception and Memory Test | Control Group (n=14) | -4.78 ± 9.05 | | |
| Incorrect (VPMT) (%) | Experimental Group (n=13) | -11.00±12.95 | 0.166 | |

| Variables | Measurements | Ī√Sd | р | Cohen's d |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| Visual Continuity Test (VCT) | Control Group (n=14) | -4.28±10.69 | 0.001* | 0.910 |
| (%) | Experimental Group (n=13) | 16.53±17.93 | - 0.001 | 0.810 |
| Reasoning Ability Test (RAT) | Control Group (n=14) | -2.07±4.66 | - 0.000* | |
| (points) | Experimental Group (n=13) | 6.23±3.81 | - 0.000 | 0.220 |
| Speed and Distance Test (SDT) (points) | Control Group (n=14) | 2.21±13.88 | 0.820 | |
| | Experimental Group (n=13) | 3.38±12.46 | - 0.820 | |
| Peripheral Vision Test (PVT) | Control Group (n=14) | -5.14±13.24 | 0.002* | |
| (%) | Experimental Group (n=13) | 12.30±14.75 | - 0.003 | 0.500 |
| Speed of Reaction Test (SRT) (ms) | Control Group (n=14) | -33.28±97.35 | 0.215 | |
| | Experimental Group (n=13) | 24.69±137.36 | - 0.215 | |

In Table 4, in the pre-test and post-test comparisons of the perception and decisionmaking parameters of the experimental and control groups, a statistically significant difference was observed between selective attention test (SAT) and visual continuity test (VCT) at high level, reasoning ability test (RAT) at low level and peripheral vision test (PVT) at medium level (p<0.01), visual perception and memory test (VPMT) false percentage, visual perception and memory test (VPMT) correct percentage, speed distance test (SDT), and speed of reaction test (SRT) showed no statistically significant difference (p>0.01).

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

As a result of the data obtained in this study, which aimed to examine the effect of volleyball training on the perception and decision-making parameters of 12-14 years old boys, a statistically significant difference was found between the pre-test and post-test comparison of the experimental group, which continued regular volleyball training for 1 year, between the values of attention, visual perception correct percentage, visual continuity, judgement and peripheral vision among the perception and decision-making parameters (p<0.01). There was no statistically significant difference between visual perception false percentage, speed and distance estimation and reaction speed values (p>0.01). In the control group who did not participate in any regular volleyball training, no statistically significant difference was found between the pre-test and post-test values of perception and decision-making parameters (p<0.01). When the pre-test and post-test differences of perception and decision-making parameters (p<0.01). When the pre-test and post-test differences of perception and decision-making parameters (p<0.01). When the pre-test and post-test differences of perception and decision-making parameters (p<0.01). When the pre-test and post-test differences of perception and decision-making parameters (p<0.01). When the pre-test and control groups were compared, statistically significant differences were found in selective attention, visual continuity, reasoning ability and peripheral vision values (p<0.01).

When the literature is examined, there are studies showing that games and physical activities applied to children can improve attention (Yurdakul et al., 2012; Göktepe et al., 2016; Kartal et al., 2016; Renk et al., 2020). In Ads1z's (2010) study investigating the effect of regular sports on attention of primary school students, it was determined by the tests that those who do sports are 83% more careful than those who do not do sports. Çağlar and Koruç (2006) found no significant difference between genders in the validity and reliability study of the d2 test evaluating attention for athletes, while a difference was found between the years of education of the participants. Asan (2011) conducted a study to examine the attention levels of children doing table tennis exercises and observed that table tennis exercises had a positive effect on the attention characteristics of children aged 9-13 years. Sürek (2021) examined the perceptual motor skills and attention characteristics of team and individual sports students and found a significant difference in attention skill and reaction test subheadings according to the gender of students in volleyball and handball sports. Lola et al. (2022), in their study on the effect of different attention focusing instructions on the skill learning of volleyball beginners, concluded that the outward focusing method is suitable for improving both the form and outcome of perceptual-motor skills. İbiş et al. (2021) found no significant relationship between physical activity level and attention level in a study on the examination of physical activity level, motor skills and attention levels in children, while a significant relationship was found between motor skills and attention level parameters. Kurt and Ince (2022) examined the relationship between selective attention and technical skill performances in male football players and found a low level significant relationship between selective attention, technical skills with and without ball. In our study, a statistically significant difference was found in the attention parameter of the volleyball training experimental group when the pre-test and posttest were compared (p<0.01). There was no statistically significant difference in the attention parameter of the control group when the pre-test and post-test were compared (p>0.01). When the pre-test and post-test differences of the experimental and control groups were compared, a significant difference was found in favour of the experimental group (p<0.01). This result in our study was in parallel with the literature.

Ciucmanski and Watroba (2005) found that peripheral vision and depth perception in football players with 12 years of experience had better results than non-athletes. Kohmura and Yoshigi (2004) gave four-week training using perceptual training methods (computer programme) in college male baseball players and found a significant difference in the visual field of the players at the end of the training. Aktaş (2015) examined the effect of perception

and decision-making mechanisms on agility performances in elite female volleyball players and found that there was a relationship between dual processing skill and visual field of vision values of reactive agility. In our study, no statistically significant difference was found in the pre-test and post-test comparison of peripheral vision values of the experimental group (p<0.01). No statistically significant difference was found when the pre-test and post-test of the peripheral vision values of the control group were compared (p>0.01). In the comparison of the pre-test and post-test differences of the environmental opinion values of the experimental and control groups, a significant difference was found in favour of the experimental group (p<0.01). When the studies on environmental vision parameters were examined, our study showed the same parallelism with the literature.

Zwierko et al. (2010) used the Vienna test system in male 1st league volleyball players (n=12) and non-athletes and found reaction time as 592.11 ± 39.38 (ms) in volleyball players and 648.61±75.14 (ms) in non-athletes. Piras et al. (2014) recorded the reaction time of 15 experienced volleyball players and 15 inexperienced volleyball players as 351 (ms) and 406 (ms), respectively, and found statistical significance between reaction time in experienced and inexperienced volleyball players in favour of experienced volleyball players. Özsaydı et al. (2015), examined the norms of arm and hand coordination, reaction speed, visual motor control, arm speed and hand dexterity in a study in which they examined the motor development of children who did not do sports with an average age of 8.8 years and children in basketball infrastructure and found no significant difference in these skills in basketball playing children according to gender. In current study, no statistically significant difference was found between the speed and distance estimation and reaction speed values of the experimental group in the pre-test and post-test comparison (p>0.01). There was no statistically significant difference between the speed and distance estimation and reaction speed values of the control group (p>0.01). There was no statistically significant difference between the speed and distance estimation and reaction speed values of the experimental and control groups (p>0.01). While this result in our study was similar to some studies in the literature, it also differed with some studies. While this result in our study is similar to some studies in the literature, Bhabhor et al. (2013) and Deepa and Sirdesai (2016), who compared table tennis players and sedentaries, found that the mean reaction time parameters of table tennis players were faster than sedentaries. Aktas (2015) found a statistically significant relationship between agility and speed distance estimation values of female volleyball players. In the literature, while there are studies showing that athletes have better reaction parameters than sedentary people, there are also studies in the opposite direction. Lesiakowski et al. (2013) used the Vienna test in boxers and non-athletes and found that the reaction time of boxers was 0.85 (ms) and that of non-athletes was 0.78 (ms), a result in favour of athletes. Aktop et al. (2017), in the study in which they evaluated hand-eye coordination and reaction speed, stated that licensed football players aged 10-12 years completed the test in a longer time than unlicensed football players. Egesoy et al. (1999) evaluated the decision-making performance of elite and non-elite football players and found no statistically significant difference between the decision speeds of the two groups. These results in current study differ from the literature.

As a result, it was observed that playing volleyball regularly 3 days a week for 1 year had a significant effect on attention, visual perception, visual continuity, reasoning and peripheral vision among the perception and decision-making parameters of boys aged 12-14 years. In addition, it was observed that the selective attention, visual continuity, reasoning ability and peripheral vision values of children who played sports regularly improved in favour of those who did not. This result can be said that regular and planned sports, especially in team sports, support cognitive development in children and such activities have an effect on perceptual and decision-making skills. It is thought that children doing sports in addition to their academic life will contribute to their cognitive development.

Recommendations

According to the results of our study, families and teachers should support children's participation in regular sports activities in order to contribute to their skills such as attention, visual perception, visual continuity, selective attention, and reasoning ability.

This study showed the positive effects of volleyball on perception and decision-making skills. It would be useful for future studies to compare the effects of different sports branches on children's cognitive development and provide more extensive data.

In our study, no significant difference was found in distance estimation and reaction time parameters of children who practised volleyball. In order to improve these characteristics, it is recommended to include reaction exercises in addition to the basic technical skills of sports in future studies and training contents.

Strengths of the research

The 12-14 years old boys of the study group are an important period in terms of motor skills and cognitive development. analysing the perception and decision-making skills of this

age group will provide important information about the development of children. In addition, the fact that the study was conducted over a long period of time such as 1 year allows a better understanding of the effects of volleyball training over time. This provides more effective results compared to short-term studies.

REFERENCES

- Adsız, E. (2010). İlköğretim çağındaki öğrencilerde düzenli yapılan sporun dikkat üzerine etkisinin araştırılması, (Publication no. 298898) [Master's Thesis, Ege Üniversity], Turkey.
- Aktaş, Y. (2015). Algı ve karar verme mekanizmalarının elit bayan voleybolcularda çeviklik performanslarına etkisi. (Publication no. 570884) [Doctoral thesis, Celal Bayar University], Turkey.
- Aktop, A., Kuzu, O., & Çetin, E. (2017). Analysis of attention, eye-hand coordination and reaction time of young soccer players. *European Proceedings of Social and Behavioural Sciences*, 14-19. <u>https://doi.org/10.15405/epsbs.2017.06.2</u>
- ALG Psikoteknik. (01.01.2025). Psychotechnical evaluation tests. Alg psikoteknik. available from https://www.Algpsikoteknik.Com/Testler.html
- Arslan Kabasakal, S. (2024). Physical education lessons improve physical fitness and functional mobility in rural children with limited participation in regular physical activities comparison of integrated neuromuscular training and core stabilization training. *Biomedical Human Kinetics*, *16*(1), 285–294.
- Arslan Kabasakal, S., Keskin, B., & Kaya, S. (2023). The relationship between posture and dynamic balance in 10-12 age group wrestlers. *Acta Kinesiologica*, *17*(2), 49–54.
- Asan, R. (2011). Sekiz haftalık masa tenisi egzersizinin 9-13 yaş arası çocuklarda dikkat üzerine etkisi. (Publication no. 281513) [Master's thesis, Selcuk University]. Türkiye
- Bhabhor, M. K., Vidja, K., Bhanderi, P., Dodhia, S., Kathrotia, R., & Joshi, V. (2013). Short ommunication a comparative study of visual reaction time in table tennis players and healthy controls. *Indian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology*, 57(4), 439-442.
- Büyükipekçi, S., & Taşkın, H. (2011). Bayan voleybolcularda reaksiyon zamanı, çeviklik ve anaerobik performanstaki değişimlerin sezon süresince incelenmesi. Selçuk Üniversitesi Beden Eğitimi ve Spor Bilim Dergisi; 13(1): 20–25.
- Ciucmanski, B, & Wątroba, J. (2005). *Training selected visual perception abilities and the efficiency footballers*. (İn Polish) In: Gry Zespołowe w Wychowaniu Fizycznym i Sporcie, [red Żak S., Spieszny M., Klocek T.], Studia i Monografie nr 33 AWF Kraków: 298 – 303.
- Çağlar, E., & Koruç, Z. (2006). D2 dikkat testinin sporcularda güvenirliği ve geçerliği. Spor Bilimleri Dergisi, 17(2), 58-80.
- Çelenk, B. (2013). Voleybol oyun kuramı ve uygulamaları. Spor Yayınevi ve Kitabevi, Ankara.

- Deepa, H.S., & Sirdesai, N. (2016). A comparative study of auditory & visual reaction time in table tennis players and a ge matched healthy controls. *Indian Journal of Clinical Anatomy and Physiology*, *3*(*4*), *408-411*. https://doi.org/10.5958/2394-2126.2016.00093.1
- Drenowatz, C. & Greier, K. (2019). Cross-sectional and longitudinal assocaition between club sports participation, media consumption and motor competence in adolescents. *Scandinavian Journal of Medicine Science in Sports*, 29(6), 854-861. https://doi.org/10.1111/sms.13400
- Egesoy, H., Eniseler, N., Çamlıyer, H., & Çamlıyer, H. (1999). Elit ve elit olmayan futbol oyuncularının karar verme performanslarının karar verme hızı ve verilen kararın doğruluğu açısından karşılaştırılması. *CBÜ Beden Eğitimi ve Spor Bilimleri Dergisi*, *3*(2), 22-33.
- Elitok, F. (2023). *Fiziksel aktivitenin ortaöğretimde öğrenim gören öğrencilerin dikkat ve bilişsel süreçlerine etkisi.* (Publication no._815715) [Master's thesis, Karamanoğlu Mehmetbey University], Turkey.
- Farrow, D., Young, W., & Bruce, L. (2005). The development of a test of reactive agility for netball: A new methodogy, *Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport*, 8(1), 40 48.
- Fransen, J., Deprez, D., Pion, J., Tallir, I. B., D'Hondt, E., Vaeyens, R., ... et al. (2014). Changes in physical fitness and sports participation among children with different levels of motor competence: A 2-year longitudinal study. *Pediatric Exercise Science*, 26(1), 11-21. <u>https://doi.org/10.1123/pes.2013-0005</u>
- Göktepe, M., Akalın, T. C. & Göktepe, M. M. (2016). Kayak sporu yapan çocukların dikkat düzeylerinin incelenmesi. International Journal of Science Culture and Sport, 4(3), 722-731. <u>https://doi.org/10.14486/IntJSCS620</u>
- Gündüz, N. (1997). Antrenman bilgisi. Saray Medikal ve Yayımcılık, İzmir.
- İbiş, S. & Aktuğ, Z. B. (2018). Effects of sports on the attention level and academic success in children. Educational Research and Reviews, 13(3), 106-110. <u>https://doi.org/10.5897/ERR2017.3455</u>
- İbiş, S., Aka, H., Kurt, S., & Aktuğ, Z. B. (2021). Çocuklarda fiziksel aktivite seviyesi motor beceri ve dikkat düzeylerinin incelenmesine yönelik bir araştırma. Akdeniz Spor Bilimleri Dergisi, 4(2), 210-220. <u>https://doi.org/10.38021/asbid.931302</u>
- İşsever, H., Ezirmik, E., Şeker, N., Sağlam, Z. B., Öztan, G., & Canatar, F. (2021). An evaluation of continuous, selective attention, reasoning and collision time prediction skills in security guards. *Journal* of Istanbul Faculty of Medicine, 84(4), 582-589.
- Karakaş, G. (2018). Hafîf düzeyde zihinsel engelli çocuklara uygulanan serbest zaman aktivitelerinin fiziksel uygunluk ve motor gelişimleri üzerine etkisi. (Publication no.517136) [Doctoral Thesis, Sakarya University], Turkey.
- Kartal, R., Dereceli, Ç. & Kartal, A. (2016). Eskrim sporu yapan ve yapmayan 10-12 yaş arası çocukların dikkat düzeylerinin incelenmesi. *Sportif Bakış: Spor ve Eğitim Bilimleri Dergisi, 3*(2), 82-88.
- Kelecek, S., Altıntaş, A., & Aşçı F.H. (2013). Sporcuların karar verme stillerinin belirlenmesi. CBÜ Beden Eğitimi ve Spor Bilimleri Dergisi; 8(1), 21–27.

- Kohmura, Y., &Yoshigi, H. (2004). Training effects of visual function on college baseball players. *Human Performance Measurement*, (1), 15-23.
- Kurt, A. H., İnce, G. (2022). Genç erkek futbolcuların seçici dikkat, çeviklik, sürat ve teknik beceri performansları arasındaki ilişki: kesitsel araştırma. *Türkiye Klinikleri Journal of Sports Sciences*, 14(1).
- Lesiakowski, P., Zwierko, T., & Krzepota, J. (2013). Visuospatial attentional functioning in amateur boxers. Journal of Combat Sports and Martial Arts, 2(2), 141–144.
- Leveaux, R. (2010). Facilitating referee's decision making in sport via the application of technology. *Communications of the IBIMA*, s: 1–8. https://doi.org/10.5171/2010.545333
- Lola, A., Koutsomarkou, A., & Tzetzis, G. (2022). Influence of different focus of attention instructions on learning volleyball skills for young novices. *Journal of Human Sport and Exercise*, 17(4), 867–881. <u>https://doi.org/10.14198/jhse.2022.174.14</u>
- Mumcu, N. (2019). Aktif spor yapan ve yapmayan beden eğitimi öğrencilerinin stres ve mutluluk düzeylerinin belirlenmesi. (Publication no. 584227) [Master's Thesis, Hiti University]. Turkey
- Özgün, A., Yaşartürk, F., Ayhan, B., & Bozkuş, T. (2017). Hentbolcuların spora özgü başarı motivasyonu ve mutluluk düzeyleri arasındaki ilişkinin incelenmesi. *Uluslararası Kültürel ve Sosyal Araştırmalar Dergisi*, *3*(Special Issue 2), 83-94.
- Özsaydı, Ş., Salici, O., & Orhan, H. (2015). İlköğretim düzeyindeki sedanter çocuklar ile basketbol altyapısındaki çocukların motor gelişimlerinin incelenmesi. *Niğde Üniversitesi Beden Eğitimi ve Spor Bilimleri Dergisi.* 9 (14-20).
- Piras, A., Lobietti, R., & Squatrito, S. (2014). Response time, visual searchstrategy, and anticipatory skills in volleyball players. *Journal of Ophthalmology*, (30).
- Renk, M., İbiş, S. & Aktuğ, Z. B. (2020). 10-13 Yaş grubu çocuklarda oyunsal etkinliklerin dikkat gelişimine etkisi. Gaziantep Üniversitesi Spor Bilimleri Dergisi, 5(2),181-193. <u>https://doi.org/10.31680/gaunjss.675451</u>
- Sancı, K. (2022). *E sporcuların zihinsel dayanıklılık düzeyleri, mücadele ve tehdit algıları ile psikolojik beceri düzeylerinin incelenmesi.* (Publication no. 760822) [Master's Thesis, Başkent University]. Turkey.
- Sayın, M. (2011). Hareket ve beceri öğretimi. Spor Yayın evi ve Kitabevi, Ankara.
- Schmidt, R.A., & Craig, A.W. (2008). Motor learning and performance: A situation based learning approach. *Human Kinetics*, 7-39.
- Sürek, S. (2021). Takım sporu yapan ve bireysel spor yapan öğrencilerin algısal motor becerileri ile dikkat özelliklerinin incelenmesi. (Publication no. 676554) [Master's Thesis, Marmara University]. Turkey.
- Yurdakul, A., Çamlıyer, H., Çamlıyer, H., Karabulut, N. & Soytürk, M. (2012). The effects of movement education on attention and memory development in the age group of 8 years children. *Selçuk University. Journal of Physical Education and Sport Sciences*, 14(1), 103-108.

Zahner, L., Muehlbauer, T., Schmid, M., Meyer, U., Puder, J. J. & Kriemler, S. (2009). Association of sports club participation with fitness and fatness in children. *Medicine Science in Sports Exercise*, *41*(2), 344-350.

Zwierko, T., Osiński, W., Lubiński, W., Czepita, D., & Florkiewicz, B. (2010). Speed of visual sensorimotor processes and conductivity of visual pathway in volleyball players. *Journal of Human Kinetic*, *23*, 21-27.

| KATKI ORANI | AÇIKLAMA | KATKIDA BULUNANLAR |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| CONTRIBUTION RATE | EXPLANATION | CONTRIBUTORS |
| Fikir ve Kavramsal Örgü Idea or Notion | Araştırma hipotezini veya fikrini oluşturmak Form the research hypothesis or idea | Yakup AKTAŞ |
| Tasarım Design | Yöntem ve araştırma desenini tasarlamak To design the method and research design. | Yakup AKTAŞ |
| Literatür Tarama | Çalışma için gerekli literatürü taramak | Yakup AKTAŞ |
| Literature Review | Review the literature required for the study | Ruken YILMAZ |
| Veri Toplama ve İşleme | Verileri toplamak, düzenlemek ve raporlaştırmak | Yakup AKTAŞ |
| Data Collecting and Processing | Collecting, organizing and reporting data | Ruken YILMAZ |
| Tartışma ve Yorum | Elde edilen bulguların değerlendirilmesi | Yakup AKTAŞ |
| Discussion and Commentary | Evaluation of the obtained finding | Ruken YILMAZ |

Destek ve Teşekkür Beyanı/ Statement of Support and Acknowledgment

Bu araştırma Harran Üniversitesi Bilimsel Araştırma Projeleri (BAP) birimi tarafından 12.12.2022 tarih ve 22265 numaralı proje kapsamında desteklenmiştir.

This research was supported by Harran University Scientific Research Projects (BAP) unit within the scope of project number 22265 dated 12.12.2022

Çatışma Beyanı/ Statement of Conflict

Araştırmacıların araştırma ile ilgili diğer kişi ve kurumlarla herhangi bir kişisel ve finansal çıkar çatışması yoktur. Researchers do not have any personal or financial conflicts of interest with other people and institutions related to the research.

Etik Kurul Beyanı/ Statement of Ethics Committee

Bu araştırma, Harran Üniversitesi Etik Kurulunun 24.01.2022 tarihli 22.02.21/2 sayılı kararı ile yürütülmüştür.

This research was conducted with the decision of Harran University Ethics Committee dated 24.01.2022 and numbered 22.02.21/2.



This study is licensed under a <u>Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License</u> (<u>CC BY 4.0</u>).