

RESEARCH CONNECTIONS

AUSTRALIA

PERFORMANCE-FOCUSED SPORT: AVENUES TO GOLD-MEDAL CLINICAL OUTCOMES FOR PEOPLE WITH NEUROLOGICAL IMPAIRMENTS (2016)

Authors

Sean M Tweedy, Emma M Beckman, Leanne M Johnston and Mark J Connick

Article Abstract (amended)

This paper investigates the premise that long-term engagement in performance focussed sports training may lead to significantly enhanced clinical outcomes for people with neurological impairments (NI). The minimum volume of moderate intensity activity recommended for good health is 450 MET.minutes/week, although evidence from the general population indicates that outcomes may be enhanced by completing up to five times this volume (2250 MET.minutes/week) at vigorous (rather than moderate) intensity. Most studies evaluating physical activity interventions for people with NI deliver low volumes (<450 MET.minutes/week), which may explain why evidence for some clinical outcomes is weak. Evidence that clinical outcomes for people with NI may be enhanced through performance focussed sports training includes: evidence from studies investigating the benefits of high-intensity and/or high volume clinical exercise; scientific evidence from elite/high level athletes; and anecdotal evidence from Paralympic athlete testimonials. Sports participants with NI may also accrue an important array of psychosocial benefits, including higher rates of employment, and higher satisfaction with life and social integration.

Published Brain Impairment Vol 17. Issue 1. pp 99-110

Download https://static1.squarespace.com/static/564a6ee8e4b042b968d31165/t/572fd727c65e4a1135c6e6e/1462753066347/Tweedy_2016.pdf

Price FREE

SPORT, CLIMATIC CONDITIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS (2017)

Author

Ralph Richards

Article Abstract (key messages)

- Many sports will be confronted by climate change and its impact upon participants and spectators.
- Sporting organisations, as well as government and private sector providers and managers of sports facilities, will be encouraged to consider their environmental impact and move toward more sustainable facility design, environmental policies and practices.
- Some sports may need to adapt equipment, competition rules, or operational practice to suit prevailing climatic conditions.

Published Clearinghouse for Sport, Last updated 10 February 2017

Download https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/knowledge_base/organised_sport/sports_administration_and_management/sport_climatic_conditions_and_environmental_concerns

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MODIFIED SPORTS (2017)

Author

Ralph Richards

Article Abstract (key messages)

- Modified sports for children are intended to provide an attractive 'entry level' activity to a more traditional form of the sport.
- Modified sports may take into account the developmental (physical, cognitive, and social) level and attributes of participants.
- Modified sports may be designed to shorten or simplify the traditional format of competition, or enhance spectator appeal.

Published Clearinghouse for Sport, Last updated 24 January 2017

Download https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/knowledge_base/sport_participation/Sport_a_new_fit/modified_sports

ENHANCING DESTINATION COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH DISABILITY SPORT EVENT LEGACIES:

DEVELOPING AN INTERDISCIPLINARY TYPOLOGY (2017)

Authors

Tracey Dickson, Laura Misener, Simon Darcy

Article Abstract (amended)

Purpose: This paper contributes to the event legacy discourse through exploring the nexus between event legacy literature and destination competitiveness focusing on disability sport events or parasport, and addressing an identified gap in the research literature.

Design/methodology/approach: This is achieved through i) conducting a systematic review of disability sport events literature; ii) performing an audit of international disability sport events; iii) developing a typology of disability sport events; and iv) outlining a research agenda drawing upon these previous steps. The typology is then placed in context to the destination competitiveness framework to provide direction for both host organising committees and tourism destination managers. While the research framework reflects the complexity of disability sport events with specific reference to the social impact of disability sport events for destinations. **Findings:** Despite calls for increased research into accessible tourism and events, the potential social legacy for communities and destinations from disability sport or parasport events remains absent from most sport, event and tourism literature.

Published Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management Vol 29. Issue 3. 2017

Download <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/doi/abs/10.1108/IJCHM-10-2015-0530>

Price FREE

OUTCOME QUALITY IN PARTICIPANT SPORT AND RECREATION SERVICE QUALITY MODELS: EMPIRICAL RESULTS FROM PUBLIC AQUATIC CENTRES IN AUSTRALIA (2016)

Authors

Gary Howat, Guy Assaker

Article Abstract

The role of service quality outcomes has often been understated in service quality models for participant sport and recreation. The aims of this study were to validate a range of outcome quality dimensions and to compare the relative influence on loyalty of outcome quality compared to process quality and value. Using data from 2109 customers of eight public aquatic centres in Australia the results validated four first-order outcome quality dimensions which in turn determined a higher-order outcome quality construct. Moreover, the results demonstrated that a process quality construct had the most significant impact on loyalty mediated by overall satisfaction, followed by outcome quality and value. These results provide both theoretical and practical insights in terms of managing service quality in the context of community sport and recreation in general, and public aquatic centres in Australia in particular.

Published Sport Management Review Vol 19. Issue 5. pp 520-535. 2016

Download <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1441352316300043>

Price \$31.50

TOURISM FORECASTS 2016

Author

Tourism Research Australia

Article Abstract (key messages)

- Key tourism industry targets are being met
- International visitors to drive growth in total spend
- Australian residents continue to trade overseas travel for domestic travel
- China to overtake New Zealand as our largest international tourism market

Published Tourism Research Australia, Canberra 2016

Download http://www.tra.gov.au/documents/forecasts/Tourism_Forecasts_2016.pdf

Price FREE

'SISTAS' AND AUNTIES: SPORT, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, AND INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN WOMEN (2016)

Authors

Megan Stronach, Hazel Maxwell, Tracy Taylor

Article Abstract

Indigenous women have alarmingly low rates of participation in organised sport and physical activity (PA) in contemporary Australian society. To gain a better contextual and cultural

understanding of the issues involved, we discussed the life experiences and the place of sport and PA with 22 Indigenous women. The research was guided by a culturally appropriate interpretative qualitative methodology. A complex amalgamation of cultural beliefs and traditions, history, gendered factors, and geography are presented in the womens' stories. Sport and PA were highly regarded, providing the women with opportunities to maintain strong communities, preserve culture, and develop distinct identities as 'enablers'. The women called for culturally safe spaces in which to engage in PA and noted the need for Indigenous females to act as role models. The study provides preliminary understandings that can be used to facilitate greater sport and PA inclusion, and implications for future research are presented.

Published Annals of Leisure Research Volume 19. Issue 1. 2016

Download <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/11745398.2015.1051067>

Price \$42 (USD)

NEW ZEALAND

EXPLORING MOTIVATIONS FOR ADVENTURE RECREATION EVENTS: A NEW ZEALAND STUDY (2016)

Authors

Pip Lynch, Mark Dibben

Article Abstract

Adventure recreation events are a relatively new form of leisure that have become increasingly popular since the 1990s, yet little is known about motivations for participation. In this study, participant motivations were investigated through an interpretive methodology and the theoretical framework of self-determination theory (SDT). Exploratory, indepth interviews with 22 participants in six different New Zealand events revealed intrinsic and extrinsic motivations, some of which overlap with motivations previously found for endurance sports and others that are also associated with outdoor recreation. In addition, two sets of dynamic relationships between motivations appear to exist: one set is competence, challenge and self-responsibility and the other is adventure, place and identity. These relationships need closer investigation. There is wide scope for further research that extends understanding of motivation for adventure recreation events beyond the context studied.

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Download <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/11745398.2015.1031804>

Price \$42 (USD)

INTERNATIONAL

PREFERENCES AND WILLINGNESS TO PAY FOR CLOSE TO HOME NATURE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION IN SWEDEN (2015)

Authors

Eugene E Ezebilo (Southern Swedish Forest Research Centre), Mattias Boman, Leif Mattsson, Anders Lindhagen, Werner Mbongo

Article Abstract

In Sweden there is a strong tradition of using nature areas for outdoor recreation. This paper reports on a study that explored preferences and willingness to pay for outdoor recreation close to home (≤ 100 km away from home and ≤ 24 hours stay at a recreation site) using the contingent valuation method. The data originated from a mail survey that involved Swedish residents who were randomly selected from a national register. An ordinary least squares regression model was used to account for factors influencing willingness to pay. The results showed that approximately 50 percent of the respondents used nature areas close to their home for recreation and their average frequency of visits to these areas was 74 times annually. Areas dominated by forests were the most preferred, followed by water. The respondents were willing to pay approximately 7200 SEK (US\$1080) annually. Their willingness to pay was influenced by factors such as type of nature area, distance to and time spent at the recreation site and income. The results provide one input to the land use planning process by considering the demand for nature-based outdoor recreation close to home.

Published Journal of Environmental Planning and Management Vol 58. Issue 2. 2015

Download <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09640568.2013.854196>

Price \$42.00 (USD)

THE ROLE OF ECONOMIC BENEFIT MEASURES IN RECREATION PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT (2016)

Author

J Loomis

Article Abstract

When one thinks of the benefits of recreation, many different thoughts come to mind. Although the 'economic value' of those benefits is probably

not the first thing that comes to mind, economic value is one important dimension of the benefits of recreation. Why? Because acquiring, maintaining, keeping open and managing recreation sites requires funding from someone, somehow. When recreation is only considered a 'nice to have' amenity, it can be hard for recreation to compete against other public programs for money in a city or state budget. When recreation is only considered an amenity it is hard for it to compete against housing developments, mining or timber harvesting for the same piece of land or natural resources. Unfortunately, scarcity of budgetary or natural resources forces trade-offs. While economics isn't (and never should be) the only perspective, it almost always is an issue. In addition, understanding the relationship between reasons why people participate in outdoor recreation and their economic benefits can help recreation managers provide the most benefits from an agency's limited budget.

Published Journal of Park and Recreation Administration Vol 34. Issue 4. 2016

Download <https://www.cabdirect.org/cabdirect/abstract/20163385922>

Price \$32.00 (USD)

PROMOTING CAMPUS CYCLING FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION: INVESTIGATING FACTORS INFLUENCING STUDENT BICYCLE USAGE ON A LARGE, SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY FROM AN ECOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE (2017)

Authors

Margaret M Shields, Katherine H Thomas, Angelia Paschal, Melanie Tucker, James Leeper, Stuart Usdan

Article Abstract

Biking is a popular recreational activity, and understanding how to promote participation is important to college health and recreation professionals. The purpose of this study was to examine factors contributing to cycling behaviours on one large college campus from an ecological perspective. Students were surveyed at a southeastern university in 2014 (n = 356). The survey instrument included intrapersonal, interpersonal, and institutional predictors of cycling practices. The predictors of cycling engagement included gender, ethnicity, and race and also intrapersonal and interpersonal variables that predispose participation. This inquiry was intended to offer insights to guide

the planning and implementation of targeted, multilevel cycling promotion programming for the campus community to increase commuting options and create opportunities for outdoor recreation involving bicycling. This study identified factors that facilitate or hinder university campus cycling as well as demographic predictors of cycling behaviour.

Published Journal of Outdoor Recreation, Education and Leadership Vol 9. Issue 1. 2017

Download <https://js.sagamorepub.com/jorel/article/view/7475>

Price \$80 (USD) per year

ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND BODY IMAGE: INFLUENCE OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURE ON HEALTHY LIVING (2016)

Authors

Susie K Barr-Wilson, Nina S Roberts

Article Abstract

Outdoor adventure may improve body image. However, minimal research exists on the effect outdoor adventure has on body image in adolescent girls, a demographic continually plagued by negative body image. In response, this exploratory study considered the influence of one outdoor adventure program in the San Francisco Bay Area. Through questionnaires and focus groups, 13 high school-aged GirlVentures, Inc. (GV) alumnae discussed body image in the context of 'healthy living' and the effect their course had on personal body image. Results show key influences included instructors, other girls on the course, and the natural environment. All participants perceived their program as positively influencing their body image during and directly following their course, and most (n = 9) perceived their program as still positively influencing their body image up to 3 years post course. Findings offer insight to GV and can provide new information for other outdoor adventure organisations to promote healthy development in adolescent girls.

Published Journal of Outdoor Recreation, Education and Leadership Vol 8. Issue 2. 2016

Download <https://js.sagamorepub.com/jorel/article/view/7693>

Price \$80 (USD) per year

NATURAL LEISURE SPACES IN LONG-TERM CARE HOMES: CHALLENGING ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT SUCCESSFUL AGING THROUGH MEANINGFUL LIVING (2017)

Authors

Collen Whyte, Darla Fortune

Article Abstract

In promoting high physical activity and productive engagement as the motto of successful aging, society has cast individuals living in long-term care (LTC) homes as aging unsuccessfully [Holstein, M B, and M Minkler 2003. Self, Society and the 'New Gerontology'. The Gerontologist 43: 787-796]. The purpose of this paper is to explore ways natural leisure spaces within an LTC home can challenge deficit-based assumptions of decline and dependence in later life. Interviews were conducted with 9 residents, 8 family members and 11 staff recruited from one mid-sized LTC home in Ontario, Canada. The study used a hermeneutic phenomenological method, as described by van Manen [1997 Researching Lived Experience: Human Science for an Action Sensitive Pedagogy. London, ON: The Athlone Press]. Lived experiences of participants throughout the interviews revealed how natural leisure spaces sparked continued expressions of individuality, opportunities to nurture relationships and maintain family social roles.

Published Annals of Leisure Research Vol 20. Issue 1. 2017

Download <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/11745398.2016.1175954>

Price \$42 (USD)

