



# Locus of Control and Will to Win Between Inter-College Basketball and Volleyball Players

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## Abstract

The purpose of the study was to compare the locus of control and will to win between inter – college level male basketball and volleyball players. The present study was conducted on a sample of forty (N=40), which includes twenty each, male basketball (N<sub>1</sub>=20) and volleyball (N<sub>2</sub>=20) players of age ranging from 18 to 25 years who participated in inter-college competitions of Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab, India respectively. All the participants were informed about the aim and methodology of the study and they volunteered to participate in this study. Data was collected by using Locus of Control and Will to Win (Kumar and Shukla, 1988) questionnaires. The independent samples t-test was applied to assess the differences between basketball and volleyball players. The level of significance was set at 0.05. Results revealed statistically significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) differences between basketball and volleyball players with regard to will to win but insignificant ( $p > 0.05$ ) differences with regard to locus of control.

**Keywords:** Locus of control, will to win, basketball, volleyball.

## Introduction

Sports have both psychological and social dimensions besides physical, physiological and technical aspects. All other factor biological and sociological being equal, psychological conditioning of an athlete decidedly determines his success or failure in competition<sup>1</sup>. In modern era of competition, the psychological preparation of the player is as much important as teaching the different skills of a game on the scientific lines. A sportsperson can perform optimally only when he/she is in a perfect state of physical, physiological, psychological preparedness for an event or performance. Locus of control is a psychological, social learning theory that refers to the extent to which individuals perceive control over their lives, and environment<sup>2</sup>. This can either be internal or external. If a person has an internal locus of control, that person attributes success to his or her own effort and abilities. On the other hand, a person with an external locus of control attributing his or her success to luck or fate, will be less likely to make the effort needed to learn<sup>3</sup>. "A winner never quits and the quitters never win"<sup>4</sup>. That means if one has the desire to win surely wins. It indicates that where there is a will, there is a way. For an athlete goal is the victory, nothing sort of that. The determination with which an athlete moves- runs, throws, jumps or swims towards victory is the construct called 'will to win'. No doubt, extensive work has been reported in the area of locus of control and will to win during last decade and the concept has diversified application in various fields of human activity. There fore, the purpose of the study was to compare the locus of control and will to win between inter -college level male basketball and volleyball players.

## Material and Methods

**Subjects:** A sample of forty (N=40), which includes twenty each, male basketball (N<sub>1</sub>=20) and volleyball (N<sub>2</sub>=20) players of age ranging from 18 to 25 years, who participated in inter-college competitions of Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab, India respectively. All the participants were informed about the aim and methodology of the study and they volunteered to participate in this study. The purposive sampling technique was used to select the subjects.

**Methodology:** Questionnaire method was used to collect the data. Data was collected by using Locus of Control questionnaire developed by Sanjay Vohra<sup>5</sup> and Will to Win questionnaire developed by Kumar and Shukla<sup>6</sup>. The locus of control scale consists of twenty four totals statements with eight statements for each subcategory which included: (i) Powerful Others (P), (ii) Chance Control (C) and (iii) Individual Control (I). Will to win questionnaire consists 14 items, in which 7 items are keyed true and rest of 7 false. For each item 1 score should be given. Before filling up the questionnaire necessary instructions were given and questions were explained to the subjects.

**Statistical Analyses:** Data was analyzed using SPSS Version 16.0 (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences, version 16.0, SPSS Inc, Chicago, IL, USA). Independent samples t-test was used to test if population means estimated by two independent samples differed significantly.

**Results:** Table 1 presents the mean scores of inter-college level male Basketball and Volleyball players with regard to

Locus of Control and Will to Win. The inter-college level Basketball players when compared to Volleyball players, have exhibited insignificant ( $p>0.05$ ) differences with regard to locus of control but statistically significant ( $p<0.05$ ) differences with regard to will to win. While comparing the

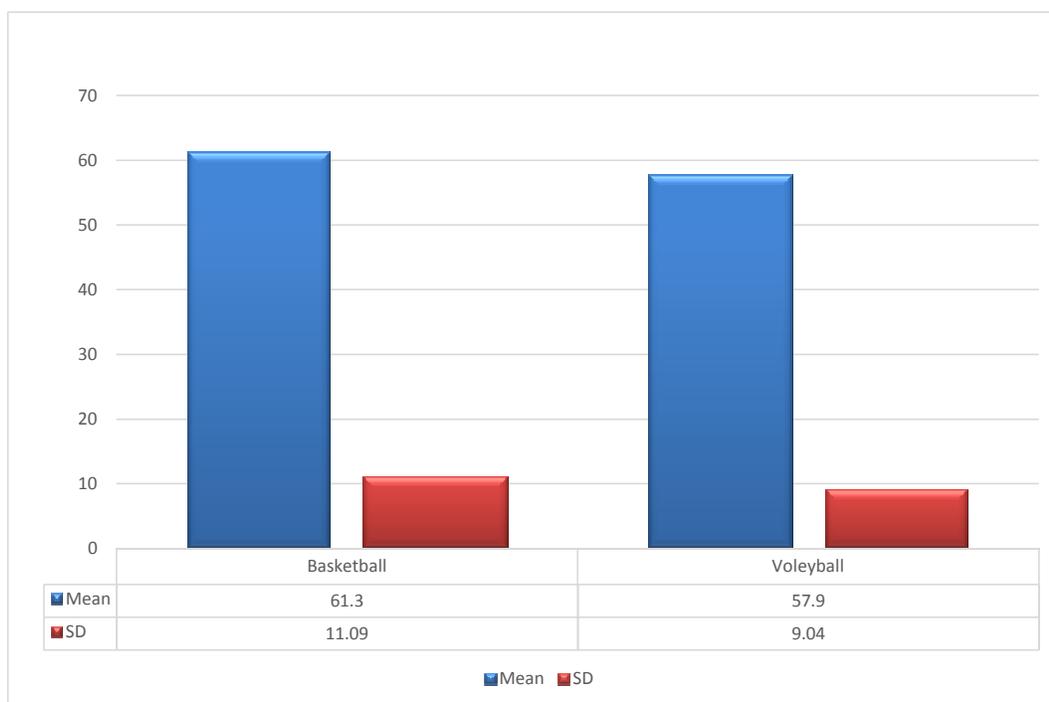
means, inter-college level basketball players had greater locus of control and will to win than volleyball players. Mean and Standard Deviation values of Locus of Control and Will to Win have been graphically represented in Figure 1 and Figure 2 respectively.

**Table-1**  
 Mean values ( $\pm$ SD), standard error difference of the mean and test statistic t of Locus of Control and Will to Win between Basketball and Volleyball Players

Variables	Basketball Players (N <sub>1</sub> = 20)		Volleyball Players (N <sub>2</sub> = 20)		Mean Difference	SEDM	t-value	Sig.
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD				
Locus of Control	61.30	11.09	57.90	9.04	3.40	3.20	1.06	0.295
Will to Win	9.40	1.93	6.35	1.95	3.05	0.61	4.97*	0.000

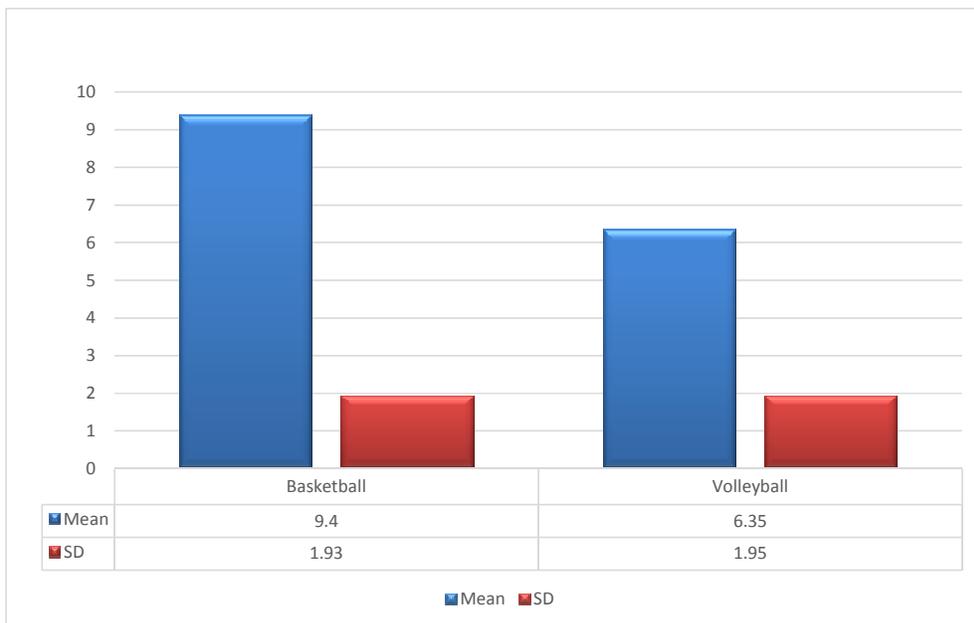
\*Significant at 0.05 level

$$t_{.05}(38) = 1.684$$



**Figure-1**

Graphical Representation of Mean and SD of Locus of Control between inter-college Basketball and Volleyball players



**Figure-2**  
**Graphical Representation of Mean and SD of Will to Win between inter-college Basketball and Volleyball players**

**Discussion:** Results of the present study showed that basketball players have exhibited insignificant differences with regard to locus of control, when compared to volleyball players, but statistically significant differences with regard to will to win. While comparing the means, inter-college level basketball players had greater locus of control and will to win than volleyball players. Mckelvie and Husband<sup>7</sup> have concluded that volleyball players are externally control and playing captains of volleyball of both sexes are internally controlled. Lynn et al.<sup>8</sup> on the basis of their study found that athletes are internally controlled on locus of control. The results revealed by Di-Giuseppe<sup>9</sup> and Gilliland<sup>10</sup> are in line with the findings of this study as they also revealed insignificant differences between team athletes and individual athletes. On the other hand, the results of the present study indicated significant differences between basketball and volleyball players. Similarly, significant differences were found in a study conducted by Bal et al.<sup>11</sup> with regard to male hockey players. Results revealed significant differences among different playing positions on the variable i.e., will to win. The findings of the present study are in line with Tiwari<sup>12</sup> revealed significant relationship between will to win and locus of control of high and low achiever rowers. Reddy et al.<sup>13</sup> showed significant differences with regard to will to win among male long distance runners, short distance runners, jumpers and throwers.

### Conclusion

It is concluded that statistically significant differences were found between basketball and volleyball players with regard to will to win but insignificant differences were found with regard to locus of control. The inter-college level basketball players had greater locus of control and will to win than volleyball players.

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