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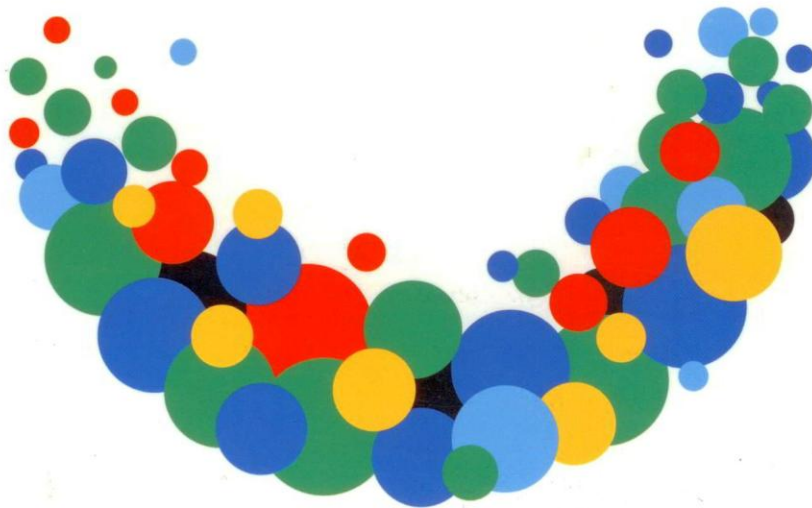
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MOTIVATIONAL CLIMATE IN UNIVERSITY ATHLETES IN TEAM SPORTS

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The term "motivational climate" was introduced by Ames (1992), as a way to define the various types of atmospheres created by adults who play important roles (parents, teachers, coaches) in achievement-oriented settings. In a related sense, as discussed by Ames (1992), Maehr (1984), and Nicholls (1989), "psychological climates" created by these types of significant others (parents, teachers, coaches, friends) can also affect the adoption of a concept of ability that is based upon both mastery of skills (task-involving) and actual performance (ego-involving), and which can play a key role in leading to either success or failure in sport competition. The objective of the present study was to survey the psychometric properties established by the Perceived Motivational Climate in Sports Questionnaire (PMCSQ-2; Smith, Balaguer & Duda, 2001), using a group of athletes participating in college-level team sports in Nuevo León, México. The Spanish-language, 29-item version of the PMCSQ-2 was used (Balaguer, Mayo, Atienza & Duda, 1997). The intentional sample was 290 athletes from four different sports (soccer, football, softball, and volleyball) participated in the study, including 273 males and 17 females. These athletes' ages ranged from 14 to 25 years old, with a mean age of 16.7 years ($SD = 2.9$). The athletes followed a training regimen of 2 hours per day, 5 days per week, and had an mean of 8 years of experience in their sport ($SD = 3.8$), and a minimum time of competitive participation in their respective sports of 1 year and a maximum of 16 years. In regard to the level of competition reached, 10.7% had participated in local competitions, 17.9% in regional competitions, 17.6% in national competitions, and 53.8% in international competitions. The results show that both of the factors covered by the questionnaire demonstrated adequate internal consistency (fiability): the ego-involving factor ($\alpha = 0.81$) and the task-involving factor ($\alpha = 0.88$). Application of the Bartlett test to the correlation matrix for the various items (Bartlett = 2,764; $df = 406$; $p < 0.000$) has shown that the PMCSQ-2 variables were not independent, while the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin test KMO indicates that the correlations between pairs of variables could be adequately explained by the questionnaire's other variables (KMO = 0.865). Confirmatory factor analysis presented adequate goodness-of-fit indices: $\chi^2 = 989.99$, $\chi^2/df = 2.633$, GFI = 0.84, RMSEA = 0.065, NNFI = 0.805, CFI = 0.823, IFI = 0.826 and PGFI = 0.709, means that the items are distributed with the theoretical factors. The present research has shown adequate and consistent psychometric properties derived from the PMCSQ-2 questionnaire. The results are discussed in terms of their theoretical and practical utility.