



## Performance Management of Clubs at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> League of the Disabled Basketball

Turan Sezan<sup>1</sup>  Uğur Alemdar<sup>2</sup>  Serhat Turan<sup>3</sup> 

<sup>1</sup>Mardin Artuklu University, Faculty of Sport Sciences, Mardin-Turkey, <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4322-1703>, [turansezan@hotmail.com](mailto:turansezan@hotmail.com)

<sup>2</sup>Sakarya University of Applied Sciences, Faculty of Sport Sciences, Sakarya -Turkey, <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7352-7108>, [uguralemdar@subu.edu.tr](mailto:uguralemdar@subu.edu.tr)

<sup>3</sup>Balıkesir University, Faculty of Sport Sciences, Balıkesir- Turkey, <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6236-3825>, [serhat.turan@balikesir.edu.tr](mailto:serhat.turan@balikesir.edu.tr)

✉ Corresponding Author: [turansezan@hotmail.com](mailto:turansezan@hotmail.com)

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### ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to investigate the performance management of clubs in the 1st and 2nd League of the disabled basketball. The study group consists of 107 volunteer athletes who are active in 11 clubs in the 1st and 2nd leagues of the disabled basketball for the 2023-2024 season. "Performance Management Scale" was used in the research. The personal information form of the research includes demographic characteristics such as sports age, league and athlete age. In the study, IBM SPSS 25 package program was used to analyze the data, and the results were evaluated at p<0.05 significance level. Independent samples t test was used for normally distributed data, ANOVA test was used for multiple comparisons was used to determine. In line with the data obtained, no significant difference was found in the variables of sports age, the league of the athletes and the age of the athlete. Looking at the descriptive statistics results, the answers given by the athletes to the questions were positive. As a result, it can be said that examining the performance management of clubs should not be limited to the opinions of athletes only, but other employees within the club should also be included in the performance management evaluation process.

**Keywords:** Performance Management, Disabled Athlete, Wheelchair Basketball, Sports club

### INTRODUCTION

Disability is not a concept that is distant from people. Because every person is a candidate for disability. Disability is defined as the loss of basic characteristics of individuals such as movement, as well as some skills such as communication (Afacan, 2020; Akarsu et al., 2024). Güzel and Kafa (2016) define disability as the impairment of movement, thinking and behavior that restricts the normal life of individuals from birth or as a result of accidents experienced later. Disadvantage is the inequality between individuals and other individuals in their health status due to their disability (Afacan, 2023; Royana et al., 2024). Disadvantage is seen as a

factor that disrupts individuals' participation in their social lives and prevents them from building their social structures in common living spaces with other individuals.

Today's world offers a wider area in people's social structures compared to past lives. Due to developing technology and world standards, human communities get into interaction more. This interaction is achieved both through social media tools and through sports, which are the unifying and uniting force of societies. Although sports are a set of movements performed by healthy individuals, it is seen that disabled individuals participate in sports today. It is known that there are legal regulations regarding the participation of disabled individuals in sports and that they are supported by the state.

When Yılmaz and Batu (2016) examined the legal regulations in Türkiye, they found that special education legislation is sufficient to meet the needs of disabled students and protect their rights.

The process of rehabilitation of disabled people through sports activities in the world began on February 1, 1945, when Dr. Guttman gave archery, bowling, billiards and table tennis training to soldiers injured in World War II. Later, these sports were followed by branches such as fencing, javelin, shot put, wheelchair racing, wheelchair slalom racing and weightlifting (Kahvecioğlu, 2019). This research study focuses on the performance management of clubs in the first and second leagues of disabled basketball. Sports enable individuals with disabilities to improve their physical, social and psychological well-being (Erbaş et al., 2021; Martin, 1999; Martin et al., 2020). Wheelchair basketball, one of the sports branches that is the subject of this study, along with other disability sports called "adaptive sports", has only become widely known to the public in the last few decades through television broadcasts and the media (Hardin and Hardin, 2003, Howe, 2008, Howe, 2011, Martin et al., 2018).

The establishment and development of disabled sports in Türkiye took place with the Disabled People's Federation, which was established at the beginning of 1990. Since the word disabled creates a negative perception on individuals and society, and also prevents disabled individuals from participating in society, the federation changed its name to Disabled Sports Federation in 1997. Since the federations carry out their work under the Ministry of Youth and Sports, it is seen that the management task for disabled sports in Türkiye is progressing especially depending on the state (Mumcu, 2018).

It is known that clubs focus on not only sports performance but management performance as well. In terms of sports, clubs evaluate successful results such as winning matches, winning cups, and advancing in the league from a sports perspective. These sporting successes offer importance for the club. Through these successes, clubs provide sustainability in terms of economic performance and management performance. The better the clubs are managed, the easier it will be for them to reach their goals. Because a club with a good management system will also exhibit a sustainable efficiency in terms of performance. No studies on performance management in disabled basketball were found in

the literature. This emphasizes the importance of the study in terms of originality. The main purpose of this study is to examine the performance management of disabled clubs in the 1st and 2nd leagues of basketball.

## METHOD

### Research Model

This research was conducted using the descriptive scanning model, one of the quantitative research methods. According to this model, descriptive research is carried out without any intervention by the researcher in order to have a general perspective on the research topic (Karasar, 2020). In short, the existing situation is observed in its most natural state.

### Population and Sample

The population of the study consists of wheelchair basketball team athletes competing in the Turkish 1st and 2nd Leagues. There are 23 teams competing in these leagues. There are 219 registered athletes in the teams in the 1st League, while there are 223 registered athletes in the teams in the 2nd League (WEB-1). In this study, 107 wheelchair basketball players, who actively compete in teams in both leagues, took part. In determining the sample, the stratified sampling method was used. In stratified sampling, the first stage is to divide the population into strata according to a specific criterion (Westfall, 2009). This method is applied by dividing the population into different groups or layers (such as dividing the business into different departments in its own field, dividing the league into different levels). In a population divided into different strata, equal amounts of randomly selected samples are taken from the strata and thus each stratum is equally represented (Walliman, 2006). The stratified sampling model is important because it produces separate results for each stratum and permits the researcher to carry out comparison between strata (Choi et al., 2024; Singh, 2007).

Ethics committee approval for the research was received from Sakarya University of Applied Sciences Rectorate Ethics Committee (11.07.2024-46 /13).

Information on the athletes participating in the study is given in the table below.

**Table 1.** Demographic Information Participants.

Variables	F	%	
Sports Age	1-5 year	29	27,1
	6-10 year	38	35,5
	11-15 year	17	15,9
	16 and over	23	21,5
League	1st League	62	57,9
	2nd League	45	42,1
	Total	107	100,0
Athlete's Age	18-22	15	14,0
	23-27	27	25,2
	28-32	15	14,0
	33-37	7	6,5
	38-42	21	19,6
	43 and over	22	20,6
Total	107	100,0	

It is seen that the participants are mostly in the 6-10 sports age group (35.5%), while the least is in the 11-15 sports age group (15.9%). In the league variable, the number of athletes in the 1st League was determined as 62 (57.9%) and the number of athletes in the 2nd League was determined as 45 (42.1%). Regarding the age of the athletes, it was seen that the most athletes were in the age range of 23-27 (25.2%), while the least number of athletes was in the age range of 33-37 (6.5%).

### Data Collecting Tools

The survey form used as a data collection tool consists of two parts. These parts are "Personal Information Form" and "Performance Management Scale".

**Performance Management Scale in Sports:** The scale was developed by Itai Beeri, Anna Uster & Eran Vigoda-Gadot in 2018 and adapted to Turkish by Demir, Sertbaş, and Sivrikaya (2020). The scale consists of 24 items and 3 sub-dimensions in a 5-point Likert type. These sub-dimensions are strategic planning stage, observation stage and review process, and lesson learning stage. There are no reverse scored items in the scale. Increasing scores received from the sub-dimensions of the scale indicate an increase in the level of engagement with the topic. In the study of adapting the scale to

Turkish, Cronbach's Alpha values were found as  $\alpha = .909$  for the overall scale,  $\alpha = .904$  for the strategic planning sub-dimension,  $\alpha = .864$  for the observation stage sub-dimension, and  $\alpha = .908$  for the review process and lesson learning stage sub-dimension. In this study, Cronbach's Alpha values were found as  $\alpha = .971$  for the overall scale,  $\alpha = .919$  for the strategic planning sub-dimension,  $\alpha = .936$  for the observation stage sub-dimension, and  $\alpha = .946$  for the review process and lesson learning stage sub-dimension.

### Data Analysis

The data obtained in the study were analyzed with IBM SPSS 25 package program. In the analysis of the data, descriptive statistical methods, namely standard deviation, arithmetic mean and percentage rates, were used. The skewness and kurtosis values of the scales were analyzed and the values are presented in Table 2. Since the skewness and kurtosis values were between -2 and +2, it was assumed that the data showed a normal distribution (George & Mallery, 2003). In order to detect differences in the league variable, independent sample t test, to determine differences in sports age, one-way anova test were performed. The findings were found by taking 95% confidence interval and  $p < 0.05$  significance level as reference.

**Table 2.** Kurtosis and Skewness Values Related to Normality Assumption

	N	Skewness	Kurtosis
Strategic Planning	107	-,908	,249
Observation	107	-1,011	,911
Review Process and Learning lessons	107	-1,386	2,000
Performance Management	107	-1,230	1,697

**RESULTS**

This section includes analyses conducted to determine whether the league and sport age

variables make a difference in terms of performance management.

**Table 3.** Descriptive Statistic Results Regarding the Performance Management Scale

Scale	N	M	SD
Strategic Planning	107	3,51	0,93
Observation	107	3,55	0,86
Review Process and Learning lessons	107	3,66	0,84
Performance Management Average	107	3,59	0,81

According to Table 3. the attitude averages of disabled basketball players towards performance management were evaluated as M=3.51, SD=0.93, for the strategic planning sub-dimension, M=3.55, SD=0.86 for the observation sub-dimension,

M=3.66, SD=0.84 for the review process and lesson learning sub-dimension and M=3.59, SD=0.81 for the performance management scale average.

**Table 4.** Results of the Independent Sample t Test Conducted to Examine Performance Management and its Sub-Dimensions According to the League Variable

Scale	League	N	Mean	ss	t	p
Strategic Planning	1 <sup>st</sup> League	62	3,60	,80	1,024	,309
	2 <sup>nd</sup> League	45	3,40	1,08		
Observation	1 <sup>st</sup> League	62	3,64	,70	1,141	,258
	2 <sup>nd</sup> League	45	3,44	1,03		
Review Process and Learning lessons	1 <sup>st</sup> League	62	3,77	,60	1,422	,160
	2 <sup>nd</sup> League	45	3,51	1,08		
Performance Management	1 <sup>st</sup> League	62	3,68	,60	1,304	,197
	2 <sup>nd</sup> League	45	3,46	1,02		

As a result of the analysis, it was determined that performance management and its sub-dimensions

did not show a significant difference according to the league variable ( $p > .05$ )

**Table 5.** One Way Anova Test Results for Examining Performance Management According to Sports Age Variable

Sport Age		Sum of squares	sd	Mean of Squares	F	p
Strategic Planning	Intergroups	2,557	3	,852	,991	,400
	Intragroups	88,585	103	,860		
	Total	91,142	106			
Observations	Intergroups	1,778	3	,593	,796	,499
	Intragroups	76,702	103	,745		
	Total	78,480	106			
Review Process and Learning lessons	Intergroups	4,387	3	1,462	2,132	,101
	Intragroups	70,658	103	,686		
	Total	75,045	106			
Performance Management	Intergroups	2,845	3	,948	1,466	,228
	Intragroups	66,628	103	,647		
	Total	69,473	106			

As a result of the analysis performed, it was determined that the sports age variable scores did not show a significant difference in terms of

performance management perspective and its sub-dimensions ( $p > .05$ ).

**Table 6.** One Way Anova Test Results for the Analysis of Performance Management According to the Athlete's Age Variable

Athlete Age		Sum of Squares	sd	Mean of Squares	F	p
Strategic Planning	Intergroups	3,04	5	,61	,70	,63
	Intragroups	88,11	101	,87		
	Total	91,14	106			
Observation	Intergroups	3,61	5	,72	,97	,44
	Intragroups	74,88	101	,74		
	Total	78,48	106			
Review Process and Learning lessons	Intergroups	2,50	5	,50	,69	,63
	Intragroups	72,55	101	,72		
	Total	75,04	106			
Performance Management	Intergroups	2,51	5	,50	,76	,58
	Intragroups	66,96	101	,66		
	Total	69,47	106			

## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

In this study, where the performance management of the clubs in 1st and 2nd leagues of the disabled basketball was investigated, it was determined that it was positive in terms of strategic planning, observation, review process and learning lessons and performance management. The performance management scale was evaluated in terms of age, sports age and the league variables of the athletes. When the literature was examined, no study was found regarding the performance management scale of disabled basketball players.

In the study, no statistically significant difference was found in the analysis results made according to the league variable of the athletes in the strategic planning, observation, review process and learning lessons and performance management sub-dimensions (Table 4). When the literature is examined, it is seen that in a similar study conducted by Demir (2021) on athletes in U15-U19 categories in football clubs, no significant difference was observed in the performance management scale, observation, review process and lesson learning and sub-dimensions, while a significant difference was determined in the strategic planning sub-dimension. It was observed that there was a significant difference between the athletes in U15 category and the athletes in U16 and U19 categories. When the sample group was examined in the study, it was seen that the age groups were between 18 and 43 years old and above. Compared to this study in the literature, it is thought that there will be a difference in the strategic planning skills of athletes depending on their development stages and training processes. Compared to the adult athletes in the study, it can

be thought that athletes in the U15 category may have developed their strategic thinking and planning skills at an earlier age or that this age group may have been subjected to a different education and training program.

According to the analysis results made according to the sports age variable, no statistically significant difference was found in the sub-dimensions of strategic planning, observation, review process and learning lessons and performance management (Table 5). In the literature, as a similar study, in Demir's (2022) study on football clubs, no significant difference was found in the performance scale sub-dimension when the duration of athletes playing in the youth team was examined. Such findings reveal that more studies and under different conditions are needed to better understand the effects of age on athletes' performance. Additionally, the lack of significant differences in the subscales may suggest that age may have an impact not only on general performance, but perhaps on specific skills and strategies. In this context, the relationship between age and performance can be examined in more depth.

In the performance management analysis results according to the age variable of the athletes, no significant difference was observed in all sub-dimensions (Table 6). Contrary to the study, Demir (2021) found significant differences in all sub-dimensions in the analyses he conducted according to the age variable of the athletes. In the sub-dimensions of strategic planning, observation and review process and learning lessons, the 13-15 age range was found to be more significant than the 16-18 age range. In the performance management, strategic planning and observation sub-dimensions, the 13-15 age range was found to be more significant than the 16-18 age range. In the



examination process and learning lessons sub-dimension, it was determined that the 15-13 age range was more significant than the 16-18 age range, and the athletes aged 18 and over were more significant than the 16-18 age range. It is thought that the different results in the study were effective because the two studies had different branches and age groups.

As a result of the analyses, no significant differences were found in this study in terms of sports age, the league in which the athletes are and the age of the athletes. When evaluated within the framework of these results, it is thought that the performance management of the clubs will be analyzed better by not only limiting the opinions of the athletes to examine the performance management of the clubs, but also by including other employees within the club in the performance management evaluation process. In this study, which examined the performance management of the clubs in the 1st and 2nd leagues of the disabled basketball, the lack of studies related to disabled athletes in the literature constituted its strength in contributing to the literature; however, it was observed that it also had some limitations. The first limitation is that the study was limited to 11 clubs. The second limitation is that the study findings were compared with findings outside the sample of disabled basketball athletes. As a solution to these limitations, the scope of the study can be expanded, more clubs can be reached and different results can be obtained.

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