

An analytical study for basic skills and it's effectiveness on Matches results of volleyball at Beijing and London Olympic Games

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Abstract:

The purpose of the study was to determine the effect of a team's level on the performance of skills (serve, reception, spike, block and dig) in high level volleyball. Thirty-eight mens matches of London Olympics Games 2012 and 38 mens matches of the Olympics Games of Beijing 2008 were purchased from the international volleyball Federation and analyzed. The performance of skills was evaluated in relation to the success and options that these skills give to one's team. The team's level was established in relation to the final classification of the team in both competitions (level 1: 1st - 4th; level 2: 5th - 8th; & level 3: 9th - 12th). Six observers participated in the study. In London Olympics Games 2012 the results show a high significant difference between teams' levels for the skills of spiking and setting. The dig and reception are the skills that differentiates the teams of level 1 with the teams of level 2. In Beijing Olympics Games 2008, we found a significant difference in the performance of the set in the teams of level 1. An increase in success of reception, spike, reception and dig in relation to the level of the team is observed.

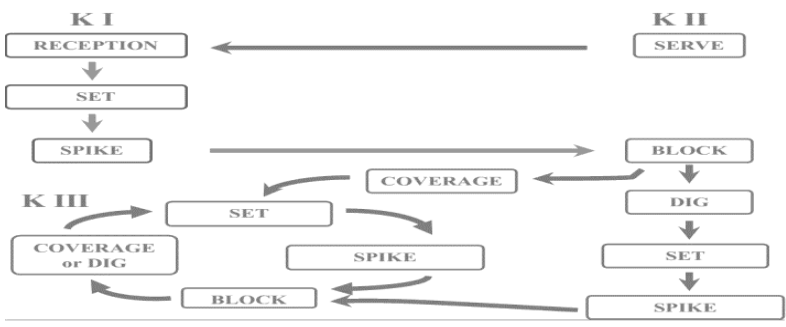
Key words: volleyball, performance, skills.

Introduction

Volleyball is a very popular sport worldwide, with millions of people participating and playing a game at least once a week (Kenny, & Gregory, 2006). Volleyball is differentiated from the rest of

team sports, because although it is a sport with discrete skills, the game has a cyclical and sequential pattern (Beal, 1989). It is possible to find a sequence of the actions in the game (graph 1).

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Regardless of the rule changes, the game is constructed by a series of individual skills that are directly related to the team's performance and proficiency. In comparative evaluations of the game's skills.

Performance analysis is a way to understand the factors explaining success in elite-level sports. It gives coaches knowledge of the sport so they can think of ways to develop playing and training (Bergeles, 2009). Performance analysis has been recently utilized in different levels of volleyball in many studies (Bergeles, 2009 - Ismail, 2003).

In fact that the tendencies are still prevalent in high-level volleyball, the rally point system compelled both players and trainers to focus

their attention on avoiding errors that would reward the opponent with an easy point. Thus, many teams continue to strive toward perfect execution of the basic skills. (Laios, 2004)

A volleyball match consists of different volleyball basic skill executions, which are serve, reception, set, Spike, block, and Dig. There is technical variability in the execution of these basic skills. (Lobiatti 2006) . Previous studies have analyzed player and team performance in several top-level women's and men's volleyball tournaments. The efficiency of different skills has been observed in relation to winning a match.

Most of these studies have considered the differences between winning or losing a

game, but, some Studies, they do not consider the classification of teams in the competitions. The fact of not differentiating team levels can provoke that some aspects of the game compensate between them. Also, knowing the differences between levels can let the coach clearly establish their objectives to try to achieve the next level. The purpose of this paper was to study the relationship between team's level and skill performance (serve, reception, spike, block and dig) in high level volleyball and to establish references for coaches to design and control practices and competitions.

METHOD

The total number of games videotaped and analyzed were 76 matches, A total of (31535) Repetitions from 38 mens matches of the London Olympics Games 2012 and (35944) Repetitions from 38 mens matches of the Beijing Olympics Games 2008 in was analyzed in this descriptive

preexperimental study. The observation instrument was a category system. The variables registered were spike performance, block performance, serve performance, dig performance Set performance, and reception performance, team level. Team level was established in relation to the final classification of the team in the competition: level 1, classified between 1st - 4th; level 2, classified between 5th - 8th; and level 3, classified between 9th - 12th. Skill performance was evaluated in relation to the success and options that the actions gave to our team and the opponent's team. We utilized the statistic system of the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB). Diaz, J. (1992, 1996). We distinguished Three levels to categorize the performance (table 1):

2 : Success Skill Performanc.

1 : Attempts Skill Performanc

0 : Error Skill Performanc

Table 1. Criteria of the Performance Level of Skill

Spike	
2	Point: the attack goes to opponent's court, the ball is unplayable after block, or opponent makes an error in blocking
1	Good attack: opponent's block or dig is weak or Easy attack: opponent's block or dig is good
0	Error: attacker touches the net or the attack is unsuccessful
Block	
2	Point
1	Good attenuation of block: the ball is easy for own defense or difficult for opponent's side or Weak attenuation of block: the ball comes difficult to own defense or easy for opponent's side
0	Error: net foul
Serve:	
2	Jump Serve, Jump Float Serve, or Overhead Float Serve point, ace
1	Good serve: (reception goes straight back to the serving team or receiving team has no change to attack) , Good serve: (opponent has only limited attack options (no first tempo)) and Easy serve: (opponent has maximum attack options)
0	Serving error
Dig	
2	Perfect dig: quick attack tempo possible
1	Good dig: attacking is possible Or Weak dig: attacking is not possible,
0	Error or Dig goes straight back to the opponent
Set	
2	Good set
1	Bad set: attacker cannot attack or has to attack with difficulty
0	Technical error in setting or a set that ends the rally
Reception	
2	Perfect reception: quick attack tempo possible
1	Good reception: quick attack tempo is possible with minor risk Or Weak reception: only limited attack options
0	Reception error Or Reception goes straight back to the serving team or the receiving team has no change to attack

All the matches were recorded by fivb, the researcher used (20) dvd contains 76 matches in beijing

and london olympic games, and get the dvd from the international volleyball federation after their correspondence on the website www.fivb.org and is coordinating with the site receiving dvd shipments through (courier shipments).and analyzed by 6 observers were had exepirance in volleyball matech analysis.

Statistical analysis

The statistical analysis of the matches was made by ibm spss statistics 16 and microsoft office excel 2010 software. Statistical comparison between the two levels and comparisons between the teams level were made by nonparametric chi-square test. The level of statistical significance was determined as $\alpha = 0.05$. All comparisons were made by the repetitions of skills and

percentage of the distribution of sets. A performance coefficient is calculated (sum of attempts by category multiplied by value of the category and divided by total attempts)

Results and discussion

Table (3) shows the significance differences between the repetitions and significance of differences between the ratios for skills performance for the teams of level 1, 2, 3 at the london olympics games 2012, the teams of levels 1 and 2 have better performance than teams of level 3 in serve, reception, set, spike, block and dig. Teams of level 1 present better values than teams of level 2. These differences between levels 1 and 2 with level 3 are statistically significant in the spike, set, dig and reception .

Table (2)
Statistical characterization, N=288

Olympic games	Team of Level	Teams Rank	Height (m)		Weight (kg)		Age		Spike Jumb(m)		Block Jumb(m)	
			M	SD	M	SD	M	SD	M	SD	M	SD
London Olympic Games 2012 N=144	Level 1	Russia	1.98	0.08	91.29	8.92	28.73	4.77	3.43	13.94	3.24	13.11
		Brazil										
		Italy										
		Bulgaria										
	Level 2	Argentina	1.98	0.07	90.98	7.99	27.65	4.19	3.46	10.99	3.24	9.79
		Germany										
		Poland										
		United States										
	Level 3	Australia	1.97	0.07	87.21	8.41	25.98	4.29	3.39	14.16	3.21	14.62
		Serbia										
		Great Britain										
		Tunisia										
Total Mean, Std Deviation			1.98	0.08	89.83	8.61	27.45	4.54	3.43	13.31	3.23	12.65
Beijing Olympic Games 2008 N=144	Level 1	United States	1.98	0.07	89.94	7.43	29.35	4.34	3.45	11.66	3.25	10.75
		Brazil										
		Russia										
		Italy										
	Level 2	Bulgaria	1.97	0.07	86.85	7.75	27.15	4.19	3.46	11.76	3.28	10.85
		China										
		Poland										
		Serbia										
	Level 3	Germany	1.97	0.07	90.04	7.97	27.79	4.36	3.44	12.41	3.28	13.09
		Venezuela										
		Egypt										
		Japan										
Total Mean, Std Deviation			1.97	0.07	88.94	11.92	28.09	4.37	3.45	11.92	3.27	11.61

M.. Mean

S D.. Standard Deviation

The spike and set have a statistically higher performance in level 1 and it is this skill which differentiates the teams of level 1 with the teams of level 2 and level 3. In volleyball, serve and Spike have a major role in winning

the set. Also, it has been noted that digging is important in volleyball. digging is also relevant to a team's success and likelihood of winning.(Miskin, 2010) (Rodriguez, 2011)

Form1: Effectiveness of skill performance in different team of levels

in London and Beijing Olympic Games	
Form 2: Effectiveness of skill performance in team of level 1 in London Olympic Games	Form 3: Effectiveness of skill performance in team of level 1 in Beijing Olympic Games
Form 4: Effectiveness of skill performance in team of level 2 in London Olympic Games	Form 5: Effectiveness of skill performance in team of level 2 in Beijing Olympic Games
Form 6: Effectiveness of skill performance in team of level 3 in London Olympic Games	Form 7: Effectiveness of skill performance in team of level 3 in Beijing Olympic Games

Table (4) shows the Significance differences between the repetitions and significance of differences between the ratios for skills performance for the Teams of Level 1, 2, 3 at the Beijing Olympics Games 2008, the performance of the skills increase in relation to the level of the teams, so a higher performance of the skills is found in level 1 than in level 2, and a higher performance is founded in level 1 than in level 3. But These differences between levels are statistically significant in the ratios of performance of the Success spike, Success Block, Success dig and Success Set in the teams of level 1. There are differences between levels are

statistically significant in the ratios of performance of the Error Set in the teams of level 2. Table (5) shows the Significance differences between the Repetitions and significance of differences between the ratios for skills performance for the Teams of Level 1, 2, 3 at the London Olympics Games 2012 and Beijing Olympics Games 2008, The results in London and Beijing Olympics Games confirmed previous studies which indicated that the spike is the action which is most correlated to the result of the competition but only between teams with higher level (first eight team classified in the Olympic games) and teams with lower level (classified

ninth through twelfth). With respect to the Success Set, our results also ratify the previous studies but only with the first four classified in the Olympic Games. This result show the Set as the skill that establishes the differences in high level.

On the other hand, many studies report the significant contribution of the setter during a volleyball match, who, in most cases, is considered as the key for the team's victory (Bergeles, 1993; McGown, 1994; Stork, 1992; Zhang, 1996). Due to the fact that the setter is involved in all volleyball skills, player should

possess all the necessary skills to cope with difficult situations and to predict the strategy that the opponent team intends to develop.

As coaches, I also has to consider the use of these skills in the game to design our practices. Table 5 presents the percentage of use in the game of the different skills. In general, I observed similar values in the proportion of use of the different skills by levels, with variations between London and Beijing Olympics Games. More stability in the percentage by level is observed in London Olympics Games.

Table (3)

Significance differences between the Repetitions and significance of differences between the ratios for skills performance for the Teams of Level 1, 2, 3 at the London Olympics Games 2012

Skills	Skill Perf-ormance	Teams of Level 1		Teams of Level 2		Chi-Squar	DR %	Teams of Level 1		Teams of Level 3		Chi-Squar	DR %	Teams of Level 2		Teams of Level 3		Chi-Squar	DR %		
		R	R %	R	R %			R	R %	R	R %			R	R %	R	R %			R	R %
		Spike	Success	1484	10.82%			1015	10.48%	88.02*	0.82			1484	10.82%	775	9.57%			222.52*	3.03**
Error	480		3.50%	338	3.49%	24.05*	0.04	480	3.50%	394	4.84%	8.40*	4.90**	338	3.49%	394	4.84%	4.28*	4.53**		
Attempts	1097		8.00%	773	7.98%	56.14*	0.04	1097	8.00%	678	8.33%	98.91*	-0.88	773	7.98%	678	8.33%	6.22*	-0.88		
Block	Success	296	2.16%	211	2.18%	14.25*	-0.011	296	2.16%	154	1.89%	44.81*	1.33	211	2.18%	154	1.89%	8.90*	1.34		

Follow Table (3)

Significance differences between the Repetitions and significance of differences between the ratios for skills performance for the Teams of Level 1, 2, 3 at the London Olympics Games 2012

Skills	Skill Performance	Teams of Level 1		Teams of Level 2		Chi-Squar	DR %	Teams of Level 1		Teams of Level 3		Chi-Squar	DR %	Teams of Level 2		Teams of Level 3		Chi-Squar	DR %
		R	R %	R	R %			R	R %	R	R %			R	R %	R	R %		
	Error	562	4.10%	441	4.55%	14.00*	-1.70	562	4.10%	272	3.34%	100.84*	2.81**	441	4.55%	272	3.34%	40.86*	4.11**
	Attempts	529	3.86%	379	3.91%	24.78*	-0.22	529	3.86%	295	3.63%	66.45*	0.96	379	3.91%	295	3.63%	18.47*	1
Serve	Success	173	1.26%	109	1.13%	14.53*	0.94	173	1.26%	65	0.80%	49.01*	3.18*	109	1.13%	65	0.80%	11.13*	2.21**
	Error	461	3.30%	281	2.90%	43.67*	1.97**	461	3.30%	238	2.93%	71.14*	1.77	281	2.90%	238	2.93%	3.56	-0.09
	Attempts	2023	14.75%	1463	15.1%	89.96*	-0.76	2023	14.75%	1091	13.4%	278.94*	2.73**	1463	15.1%	1091	13.4%	54.18*	3.22**
	Success	971	7.08%	652	6.73%	62.70*	1.02	971	7.08%	539	6.63%	123.59*	1.28	652	6.73%	539	6.63%	18.72*	0.29
Dig	Error	326	2.38%	266	2.75%	6.08*	-1.78	326	2.38%	232	2.85%	15.84*	2.15**	266	2.75%	232	2.85%	2.32	-0.42
	Attempts	341	2.49%	230	2.38%	21.58*	0.54	341	2.49%	214	2.63%	29.86*	-0.66	230	2.38%	214	2.63%	0.58	-1.69
	Success	1390	10.13%	954	9.85%	81.30*	0.71	1390	10.13%	734	9.02%	202.61*	2.68**	954	9.85%	734	9.02%	28.67*	1.88
	Error	33	0.24%	16	0.17%	5.90*	1.24	33	0.24%	33	0.41%	0.0	2.15**	16	0.17%	33	0.41%	5.90*	-3.05
Set	Attempts	1512	11.02%	1076	11.1%	73.45*	-0.21	1512	11.02%	1070	13.2%	75.66*	4.72**	1076	11.1%	1070	13.2%	0.82	4.17**
	Success	1298	9.46%	957	9.88%	51.57*	-1.07	1298	9.46%	801	9.85%	117.68*	-0.93	957	9.88%	801	9.85%	13.84*	0.08
Reception	Error	134	0.98%	108	1.12%	2.79	-1.03	134	0.98%	100	1.23%	4.94*	-1.75	108	1.12%	100	1.23%	0.31	-0.71
	Attempts	607	4.43%	414	4.28%	36.48*	0.55	607	4.43%	450	5.53%	23.32*	3.69**	414	4.28%	450	5.53%	1.50	3.89**
Total Repetitions		13717	100%	9683	100%	695.43*		13717	100%	8135	100%	1425.9*		9683	100%	8135	100%	134.49*	

* Chi-Squar value (0.05)=3.84.

** significance of differences between the ratios = ±1.96.

DR % Differences between ratios.

R Repetitions

R % Ratios

Table (4)

Significance differences between the Repetitions and significance of differences between the ratios for skills performance for the Teams of Level 1, 2, 3 at the Beijing Olympics Games 2008

Skills	Skill Performance	Teams of Level 1		Teams of Level 2		Chi-Squar	DR %	Teams of Level 1		Teams of Level 3		Chi-Squar	DR %	Teams of Level 2		Teams of Level 3		Chi-Squar	DR %		
		R	R %	R	R %			R	R %	R	R %			R	R %	R	R %			R	R %
		Spike	Success	1593	10.31%			1199	10.12%	55.6*	0.51			1593	10.31%	869	10.05%			212.91*	0.64
	Error	485	3.14%	407	3.44%	6.82*	-1.37	485	3.14%	359	4.15%	18.81*	-4.1**	407	3.44%	359	4.15%	3.01	2.67**		
	Attempts	1209	7.82%	979	8.27%	24.18*	-1.33	1209	7.82%	648	7.49%	169.48*	0.92	979	8.27%	648	7.49%	67.34*	2.02**		
Block	Success	362	2.34%	220	1.86%	34.65*	2.75**	362	2.34%	130	1.50%	109.4*	4.42**	220	1.86%	130	1.50%	23.14*	1.93		
	Error	603	3.90%	435	3.67%	27.19*	0.98	603	3.90%	324	3.75%	83.97*	0.6	435	3.67%	324	3.75%	16.23*	-0.28		
	Attempts	777	5.03%	532	4.49%	45.86*	2.06**	777	5.03%	371	4.29%	143.59*	2.58**	532	4.49%	371	4.29%	28.71*	0.69		
Serve	Success	142	0.92%	74	0.62%	21.41*	2.72**	142	0.92%	61	0.71%	32.32*	1.74	74	0.62%	61	0.71%	1.25	-0.71		
	Error	440	2.85%	327	2.76%	16.65*	0.43	440	2.85%	294	3.40%	29.04*	-	327	2.76%	294	3.40%	1.75	-		
	Attempts	2326	15.05%	1708	14.42%	94.68*	1.46	2326	15.05%	1154	13.35%	394.71*	3.62	1708	14.42%	1154	13.35%	107.24*	2.19**		
Dig	Success	1133	7.33%	850	7.18%	40.30*	0.49	1133	7.33%	547	6.33%	204.4*	2.94**	850	7.18%	547	6.33%	65.72*	2.38**		
	Error	693	4.48%	554	4.68%	15.49*	-0.75	693	4.48%	446	5.16%	53.56*	-	554	4.68%	446	5.16%	11.66*	-1.58		
	Attempts	333	2.16%	267	2.25%	7.26*	-0.55	333	2.16%	197	2.28%	34.89*	-0.63	267	2.25%	197	2.28%	10.56*	-0.11		
Set	Success	1041	6.74%	788	6.65%	34.99*	0.28	1041	6.74%	514	5.94%	178.6*	2.4**	788	6.65%	514	5.94%	57.66*	2.05**		
	Error	16	0.10%	23	0.19%	1.26	-	16	0.10%	25	0.29%	1.98*	-	23	0.19%	25	0.29%	0.08	-1.39		
	Attempts	2113	13.67%	1677	14.16%	50.16*	-1.14	2113	13.67%	1294	14.96%	196.88*	-	1677	14.16%	1294	14.96%	49.37*	-1.62		
Reception	Success	1411	9.13%	1142	9.64%	28.34*	-1.43	1411	9.13%	753	8.71%	200.00*	1.1	1142	9.64%	753	8.71%	79.85*	2.28**		
	Error	76	0.49%	77	0.65%	0.01	-1.74	76	0.49%	90	1.04%	1.18*	-	77	0.65%	90	1.04%	1.01	-		
	Attempts	699	4.52%	586	4.95%	9.94*	-1.64	699	4.52%	571	6.60%	12.90*	-	586	4.95%	571	6.60%	0.19	-		
Total Repetitions		15482	100%	11845	100%	476.63*		15482	100%	8647	100%	1921.5*		11845	100%	8647	100%	499.08*			

* Chi-Squar value (0.05)=3.84.

** significance of differences between the ratios = ±1.96.

DR % Differences between ratios.

R Repetitions

R % Ratios

Table (5)

Significance differences between the Repetitions and significance of differences between the ratios for skills performance for the Teams of Level 1, 2, 3 at the London Olympics Games 2012 and Beijing Olympics Games 2008

Skills	Skill Performance	London Olympics		Beijing Olympics		Chi-Squar	DR %	London Olympics		Beijing Olympics		Chi-Squar	DR %	London Olympics		Beijing Olympics		Chi-Squar	DR %
		Teams Level 1		Teams Level 1				Teams Level 2		Teams Level 2				Teams Level 3		Teams Level 3			
		R	R %	R	R %			S	S %	S	S %			S	S %	S	S %		
Spike	Success	1484	10.82%	1593	10.31%	3.86*	1.41	1015	10.48%	1199	10.12%	15.29*	0.86	775	9.53%	869	10.05%	5.38*	-1.14
	Error	480	3.50%	485	3.14%	0.03	1.72	338	3.49%	407	3.44%	6.39*	0.22	394	4.84%	359	4.15%	1.63	2.16**
	Attempts	1097	8.00%	1209	7.82%	5.44*	0.55	773	7.98%	979	8.27%	24.22*	-0.75	678	8.33%	648	7.49%	0.68	2.02
Block	Success	296	2.16%	362	2.34%	6.62*	-1.06	211	2.18%	220	1.80%	0.19	1.68	154	1.89%	130	1.50%	2.03	1.96**
	Error	562	4.10%	603	3.90%	1.44	0.85	441	4.55%	435	3.67%	0.04	3.26**	272	3.34%	324	3.75%	4.54*	-1.41
	Attempts	529	3.86%	777	5.03%	47.09**	-4.83**	379	3.91%	532	4.49%	25.70*	2.09**	295	3.63%	371	4.29%	8.67**	-2.22**
Serve	Success	173	1.26%	142	0.92%	3.05	2.82**	109	1.13%	74	0.62%	6.70*	3.98**	65	0.80%	61	0.71%	0.13	0.7
	Error	461	3.36%	440	2.85%	0.49	2.53**	281	2.90%	327	2.70%	3.48	0.62	238	2.93%	294	3.40%	5.89*	-1.75
	Attempts	2023	14.75%	2326	15.05%	21.11*	-0.73	1463	15.1%	1708	14.42%	18.93*	1.42	1091	13.4%	1154	13.35%	1.77	0.12
Dig	Success	971	7.08%	1133	7.33%	12.47*	-0.84	652	6.73%	850	7.18%	26.10*	-1.27	539	6.63%	547	6.33%	0.06	0.79
	Error	326	2.38%	693	4.48%	132.18*	-9.79**	266	2.75%	554	4.68%	101.15*	-	232	2.85%	446	5.16%	67.55*	7.58**
	Attempts	341	2.49%	333	2.16%	0.09	1.88	230	2.38%	267	2.25%	2.76	0.59	214	2.63%	197	2.28%	0.70	1.48
Set	Success	1390	10.13%	1041	6.74%	50.10*	10.47**	954	9.85%	788	6.65%	15.82*	8.56**	734	9.02%	514	5.94%	38.78*	7.6**
	Error	33	0.24%	16	0.10%	5.89*	2.85**	16	0.17%	23	0.19%	1.26	-0.5	33	0.41%	25	0.29%	1.10	1.29
	Attempts	1512	11.02%	2113	13.67%	99.64*	-6.85**	1076	11.1%	1677	14.16%	131.20*	6.66**	1070	13.2%	1294	14.96%	21.23*	3.37**
Reception	Success	1298	9.46%	1411	9.13%	4.71*	0.97	957	9.88%	1142	9.64%	16.31*	0.6	801	9.85%	753	8.71%	1.48	2.54**
	Error	134	0.98%	76	0.49%	16.02*	4.89**	108	1.12%	77	0.65%	5.20*	3.68**	100	1.23%	90	1.04%	0.53	1.15
	Attempts	607	4.43%	699	4.52%	6.48*	-0.41	414	4.28%	586	4.95%	29.58*	2.33**	450	5.53%	571	6.60%	14.34*	-2.9**
Total Repetitions		13717	100%	15452	100%	103.2*		9683	100%	11845	100%	217.12*		8135	100%	8647	100%	15.62*	

* Chi-Squar value (0.05)=3.84.

** significance of differences between the ratios = ±1.96.

DR % Differences between ratios.

R Repetitions

R % Ratios

Table (6)

Effectiveness of skill performance in different team of levels in London and Beijing Olympic Games

Olympic Games	Level	Spike	Block	Serve	Dig	Set	Reception	Total's Levels
London Olympic Games 2012	Level 1	1.33	0.81	0.89	1.39	1.46	1.57	7.45
	Level 2	1.32	0.78	0.91	1.34	1.46	1.57	7.38
	Level 3	1.21	0.84	0.88	1.31	1.38	1.52	7.14
	Total	1.29	0.81	0.89	1.35	1.43	1.55	7.32
Beijing Olympic Games 200	Level 1	1.34	0.86	0.90	1.20	1.32	1.61	7.23
	Level 2	1.31	0.82	0.88	1.18	1.31	1.59	7.09
	Level 3	1.27	0.76	0.85	1.08	1.27	1.47	6.7
	Total	1.31	0.81	0.88	1.15	1.30	1.56	7.01

Although the different skills have a different effect on the performance, their utilization in practice has to be considered in a way to respect the proportion of use of different skills in practice and to design "game-like situations".

Another aspect to consider for exercise design is the ratio of success and the ratio of error (table 5); in London Olympics Games I found the error of the skills was reduced in relation to the level of the teams. These differences are statistically

significant in the performance of the Dig in the teams of level 1. Set success increases with level, and this increase is significant for level 1. In Beijing Olympics Games, the success of Block, Serve, Set, and Dig increases in relation to the level, and this increase is significant in the Block of level 1. The block is probably the most difficult skill in volleyball. According to Demerchant (1992), block is more a mental activity rather than a somatic one. When properly structured, it covers a

ground region that forces opponent spikers to improvise (Demerchant, 1995). Block is also the “first line” of defense and as for the opponents it is considered a simultaneously defensive and offensive movement aiming to stop the opponent attack and many times to gain a point (George, 1992). Coleman (1992) supports that block constitutes the first important factor of success during a volleyball match, followed by the attack as the second factor. The key for a successful block is the simplification of its total movement by “reading” the all available elements such as the direction of the opponent spiker, a foreseeing ability that results through experience (George, 1992).

These results let us establish objectives to control player action in practices and competitions and design exercises with “game-like situations”. But it is important that when we do it, we consider the coefficient of skill performance, the percentage of actions in the game and the

ratio success - error, in addition to considering which skills are more important for the classification in competition. Also, we should not forget the cyclical character of volleyball (graph 1), because if we do not respect it we can lose the game for the continuous actions. The teams have to have a minimum level of these skills (table 6), and when you get it, you have to maintain these levels, controlling the ratio success-error (table 5) and dedicate time to improve the skills most related to success (table 6).

The complexity of peak performance provokes finding clear differences between teams classified between 1st-8th with the rest of the teams, but the differences between these teams which established what teams got the medals are more difficult to establish.

Conclusions

In general, we can establish the following conclusions:

a) London Olympics Games a different reality than Beijing Olympics Games with respect to performance of skills

(coefficients, ratio success, and ratio error).

b) Each skill has their different and specific efficacy criterion. This has to be considered when we design practices and establish objectives in competition.

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