

UTILIZATION AND CONSTRAINTS TO THE USE OF SPORTS-RELATED WEBSITES AS SOURCE OF SPORTS INFORMATION AMONG HUMAN KINETICS STUDENTS, UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

One of the media for the dissemination of sports information is internet. Latest sports information are provided, stored and could be retrieved from the internet through sports-related websites by sports producers and consumers including students. A descriptive cross-sectional survey design was employed to find out the utilization and constraints to the use of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students, University of Port Harcourt, Rivers state, Nigeria. Data were collected from the participants (N=57) using structured questionnaire. Percentage and chi-square (χ^2) were used for data analysis. Results showed that none (0.00%) of the students utilize football-related websites for football information; basketball-related websites for basketball information; cricket-related websites for cricket information; hockey-related websites for hockey information; volleyball-related websites for volleyball information, and general sports websites for information on all sports. It was also found that majority of the students indicated that alternative media sources such as radio, television, newspapers and magazines (100.00%); lack of knowledge of sports websites (93.48%); lack of internet surfing skill (58.70%); far distance of cyber cafe/internet facility (69.57%); too much academic load (89.13%), and lack of time (80.43%) are constraints to their utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information. In addition, gender, age, and year of study had no significant influence on the students' utilization of sport-related websites for sports information. Again, gender, age and year of study had no significant influence on majority of the constraints to students' use of sports-related websites as source of sports information. It was recommended that lecturers should give students assignments on sports information regularly and encourage them to use sports-related websites; seminars should be organized for the students on sports-related websites, and students should be exposed to the sports-related websites in sports administration/management classes. Also an information communication technology (ICT) centre should be provided by the department, made free and accessible for students of the department with the sports-related websites publicly displayed on the notice-boards; sports-related websites should be integrated into the contents of computer education in Nigerian schools; mass media should assist in sensitizing the public on the sports-related websites, and the department should organize a free computer training programme for the students with emphasis on how to surf the internet and sports-related websites.

Keywords: Utilization, constraint, sports-related websites, sports information, Nigeria.

INTRODUCTION

In this modern era, information is passed through some technological means. Information especially sports information are communicated to the society through radio, television, newspaper, and internet. Adegbesan and Ekpo (2004) noted that the computer network most familiar to the public is the internet. Among the popular sites for information dissemination on the internet is the sports-related websites. The website and internet have enabled the fans to be communicated on what is happening in sports (Elendu & Chigbata, 2006). Sports-related websites communicate sports records or statistics to sports individuals (producers and consumers). In this study, sport information refer to all information

concerning a particular sport including its history and development, rules and regulations, players, sport administrators, officials, organization and administration, associations and consumers. For instance, sports enthusiasts through the sports-related websites can know sports history, sports schedules, athletes and coaches profiles, sports associations, sports products, and services. Modern electronic technology particularly the internet, according to Adegbesan and Ekpo (2004), makes it possible for coaches and athletes to effectively and efficiently gather, analyze and integrate information and resources in order to improve training, decision-making, and collaboration. Brown (2002) noted that nearly of all online users seek out sports information from time to time. Caskey and Delpy (1999) identified four types of sport websites namely commerce, content, team or league and gambling websites. Commerce sites are those designed to sell athletic equipment or services on the website. Content websites are those that aggregate and provide sports-related information such as news, scores, and team or player analysis. Team or league websites include the official sites of professional sports leagues and team, as well as intercollegiate sports teams. Gambling sites offer up-to-date sport handicapping information and gambling opportunities for those users paying the subscription fee.

Adegbesan and Ekpo (2004) noted that there are hundreds of internet sites bringing sports fans, family members, reporters, and other interested individuals up to the minutes details, including pictures, audio recordings and video clips of actions. Sports information are stored in website. The study covered "general sports", football, basketball, volleyball, cricket, and hockey websites. "General sports websites", in this study, refers to those websites that cover all sporting activities. They are not meant for one particular sport.

There are thousands of sports-related websites in the internet. Wikipedia Foundation (2008) identified various sports-related websites. According to them, the football-related websites (FRW) include www.soccerbase.com; www.databasefootball.com; www.profootballhof.com; www.pro-football-reference.com; www.abseits-soccer.com; www.wldcup.com; soccernet.espn.go.com; www.footballcardgallery.com; www.resultsfromfootball.com; www.arenafootball.com; www.thesocceroffame.ca; www.football-lineups.com; pro-football-reference.com; www.soccerhall.org; profootballreference.com; www.footballdvic.com.au, and www.footballreaserach.com. The basketball-related websites (BRW) include www.basketball-reference.com; www.basketballreference.com; www.databasebasketball.com; www.fiba.com; www.interbasket.net; databasebasketball.com; www.hoopsstat.com; www.draftexpress.com; www.nbawire.com; www.hoopshype.com; www.orangehoops.org, and www.insidehoops.com.

The cricket-related websites (CRW) include cricketarchive.com; www.cricketarchive.com; www.cricketarchive.com.uk; contentcricinfo.com; www.cricinfo.com; content-aus.cricinfo.com; content-uk.cricinfo.com; cricketarchive.co.uk; uk.cricinfo.com; www.icc-cricket.com; content-ind.cricinfo.com; www.cricket-online.org; ind.cricinfo.com; aus.cricinfo.com, and www.cricket-online.com. The hockey-related websites (HRW) include www.lovetoknow.com; www.bbc.co.uk; ezinearticle.com; www.49cent-puck.com; www.pickyguide.com; www.ehow.com; www.dummies.com; www.hughston.com; librarythickquest.org, and www.prohockeystuff.com.

The volleyball-related websites (VRW) include www.volleyball.com; www.volleyballmag.com; www.fivb.org; home.earthlink.net; www.volleyballmemorabilia; www.volleyballseek.com; www.volleyball.org; www.volleyballforms.com, and www.nudistvolleyball.com. Moreover, www.cnn.com; sportsillustrated.cnn.com; espn.go.com; www.spotingnews.com; www.sportline.com; www.si.com; espnradio.espn.go.com; www.eurosport.com, and sports.espn.go.com are the general sports websites (GSW). There are websites covering different sports but this study was delimited to football, basketball, cricket, hockey, and volleyball. In addition, websites that cover all sports which was tagged "general sports websites" in the context of this study was also studied.

Studies (Odusanya & Bamgbala, 2002; Ogunyade & Oyibo, 2003; Ajuwon, 2003) showed that the utilization of computer and information technology was poor among Nigerian students. Bello, Arogundade, Sanusi, Ezeoma, Abioye-kuteyi and Akinsola (2004) speculated that lack of structured

training and computer accessibility, limited access to the internet and the relatively expensive nature of internet cafes may have contributed to the students' poor knowledge and utilization of information technology. The use of information technology is associated with socio-demographic factors. In a study conducted by Bello et al. (2004), marital status, number of children, gender and computer training were not found to influence significantly the students' knowledge and utilization habits of information technology. Access and use of computer and internet were associated with gender, race/ethnicity, income and education (Shaheen, Smith, Garcia & Baker, 2007). In developing countries such as Nigeria and Rivers state in particular, no study has been conducted to ascertain students' utilization of sport-related websites as source of sports information, and constraints to their use. Human Kinetics students of University of Port Harcourt, Rivers state were explored for the study.

The following research questions guided the study.

1. What proportion of the students utilizes FRW for football information; BRW for basketball information; CRW for cricket information; HRW for hockey information; VRW for volleyball information and GSW for information in all sports?
2. What are constraints to the use of sports-related websites for sports information by the students?
3. What is the influence of gender, age, and year of study on the students' utilization of sports-related websites for sports information?
4. What is the influence of gender, age, and year of study on the constraints to the students' use of sports-related websites for sports information?

HYPOTHESES

In order to further give direction the study, the following hypotheses were postulated and tested at 0.05 level of significance.

1. Gender has no significant influence on the utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students of University of Port Harcourt.
2. Age has no significant influence on the utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students of University of Port Harcourt.
3. Year of study has no significant influence on the utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students of University of Port Harcourt.
4. Gender has no significant influence on the constraints to the use of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students.
5. Age has no significant influence on the constraints to the use of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students.
6. Year of study has no significant influence on the constraints to the use of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students.

METHODOLOGY

A descriptive cross-sectional survey design was used for the study. The population for the study was the entire Human Kinetics students of University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State. Multi-stage sampling procedure was used to draw the sample. The first stage involves the use of purposive sampling technique to select year three and year four Human Kinetics students. Secondly, proportionate stratified random sampling technique was employed to select 50% of the students from each of the two groups. At the end, fifty-seven students constituted the sample for the study. A structured questionnaire was used for data collection. Five experts in University of Port Harcourt established the face and content validity of the instrument. Split-half method was used after administering the questionnaire to twenty Physical Education students of University of Nigeria, Nsukka. The overall reliability coefficient (0.77) of the questionnaire was established using Pearson product moment correlation in conjunction with Spearman-Brown Correction statistic. Inter-scale correlation coefficients of 0.79 for football-related websites; 0.72 for basketball-related websites; 0.69 for cricket-related websites; 0.76 (hockey-related websites); 0.81 for volleyball-related websites; 0.74 for general sports websites, and 0.71 for constraints to the use of sports-related websites were established using

Cronbach alpha statistic. Fifty-seven copies of the questionnaire were administered, out of which fifty-two copies were returned giving a return rate of 91.23 per cent. However, forty-six copies of the returned questionnaire were properly filled and used for analysis. Data were coded and analyzed using percentage and chi-square.

RESULTS

Table 1: Students' utilization of FRW for football information

S/n	Websites	F	%
1	www.soccerbase.com	0	0.00
2	www.databasefootball.com	0	0.00
3	www.profootballhof.com	0	0.00
4	www.pro-football-reference.com	0	0.00
5	www.abseits-soccer.com	0	0.00
6	www.wldcup.com	0	0.00
7	www.soccernet.espn.go.com	0	0.00
8	www.footballcardgallery.com	0	0.00
9	www.resultsfromfootball.com	0	0.00
10	www.arenafootball.com	0	0.00
11	www.thesocceroffame.ca	0	0.00
12	www.football-lineups.com	0	0.00
13	www.pro-football-reference.com	0	0.00
14	www.soccerhall.org	0	0.00
15	www.profootballreference.com	0	0.00
16	www.footballedvic.com.au	0	0.00
17	www.footballreaserach.com	0	0.00

Data in table 1 showed that none (0.00%) of the students utilize www.soccerbase.com, www.databasefootball.com, www.profootballhof.com, www.pro-football-reference.com, www.abseits-soccer.com, www.wldcup.com, www.soccernet.espn.go.com, www.footballcardgallery.com, www.resultsfromfootball.com, www.arenafootball.com, www.thesocceroffame.ca, www.football-lineups.com, www.pro-football-reference.com, www.soccerhall.org, www.profootballreference.com, www.footballedvic.com.au, and www.footballreaserach.com to get football information.

Table 2: Students' utilization of BRW websites for basketball information

S/n	Websites	F	%
1	www.basketball-reference.com	0	0.00
2	www.basketballreference.com	0	0.00
3	www.basketball-reference.com	0	0.00
4	www.databasebasketball.com	0	0.00
5	www.fiba.com	0	0.00
6	www.interbasket.net	0	0.00
7	databasebasketball.com	0	0.00
8	www.hoopsstat.com	0	0.00
9	www.draftexpress.com	0	0.00
10	www.nbawire.com	0	0.00
11	www.hoopshype.com	0	0.00
12	www.orangehoops.org	0	0.00
13	www.insidehoops.com	0	0.00

Table 2 revealed that none (0.00%) of the students utilize www.basketball-reference.com, www.basketballreference.com, basketball-reference.com, www.databasebasketball.com, www.fiba.com, www.interbasket.net, databasebasketball.com, www.hoopsstat.com, www.draftexpress.com, www.nbawire.com, www.hoopshype.com, www.orangehoops.org, and www.insidehoops.com for basketball information.

Table 3: Students' utilization of CRW for cricket information

S/n	Websites	f	%
1	www.cricketarhive.com	0	0.00
2	www.cricketarhive.com	0	0.00
3	www.cricketarhive.com.uk	0	0.00
4	www.contentcricinfo.com	0	0.00
5	www.cricinfo.com	0	0.00
6	www.content-aus.cricinfo.com	0	0.00
7	www.content-uk.cricinfo.com	0	0.00
8	www.cricketarhive.co.uk	0	0.00
9	www.uk.cricinfo.com	0	0.00
10	www.icc-cricket.com	0	0.00
11	www.content-ind.cricinfo.com	0	0.00
12	www.cricket-online.org	0	0.00
13	www.ind.cricinfo.com	0	0.00
14	www.aus.cricinfo.com	0	0.00
15	www.cricket-online.com	0	0.00

Table 3 showed that none (0.00%) of the students utilize cricketarchive.com, www.cricketarhive.com, www.cricketarhive.com.uk, contentcricinfo.com, www.cricinfo.com, content-aus.cricinfo.com, content-uk.cricinfo.com, cricketarchive.co.uk, uk.cricinfo.com, www.icc-cricket.com, content-ind.cricinfo.com, www.cricket-online.org, ind.cricinfo.com, aus.cricinfo.com, and www.cricket-online.com for cricket information.

Table 4: Students' utilization of HRW for hockey information

S/n	Websites	f	%
1	www.lovetoknow.com	0	0.00
2	www.bbc.co.uk	0	0.00
3	www.ezinearticle.com	0	0.00
4	www.49cent-puck.com	0	0.00
5	www.pickyguide.com	0	0.00
6	www.ehow.com	0	0.00
7	www.dummies.com	0	0.00
8	www.hughston.com	0	0.00
9	www.librarythickquest.org	0	0.00
10	www.prohockeystuff.com	0	0.00

It is evident in table 4 that none (0.00%) of the students utilize www.lovetoknow.com, www.bbc.co.uk, ezinearticle.com, www.49cent-puck.com, www.pickyguide.com, www.ehow.com, www.dummies.com, www.hughston.com, librarythickquest.org, and www.prohockeystuff.com for hockey information.

Table 5: Students' utilization of VRW for volleyball information

S/n	Websites	f	%
1	www.volleyball.com	0	0.00
2	www.volleyballmag.com	0	0.00
3	www.fivb.org	0	0.00
4	home.earthlink.net	0	0.00
5	www.volleyballmemorabilia	0	0.00
6	www.volleyballseek.com	0	0.00
7	www.volleyball.org	0	0.00
8	www.volleyballforms.com	0	0.00
9	www.nudistvolleyball.com	0	0.00

As could be seen in table 5, none (0.00%) of the students utilize www.volleyball.com, www.volleyballmag.com, www.fivb.org, home.earthlink.net, www.volleyballmemorabilia, www.volleyballseek.com, www.volleyball.org, www.volleyballforms.com, and www.nudistvolleyball.com for volleyball information.

Table 6: Students' utilization of GSW for information in all sports

S/n	Websites	f	%
1	www.cnn.com	0	0.00
2	sportsillustrated.cnn.com	0	0.00
3	espn.go.com	0	0.00
4	www.spottingnews.com	0	0.00
5	www.sportsline.com	0	0.00
6	www.si.com	0	0.00
7	espnradio.espn.go.com	0	0.00
8	www.eurosport.com	0	0.00
9	sports.espn.go.com	0	0.00

Table 6 showed that none (0.00%) of the students utilize www.cnn.com, sportsillustrated.cnn.com, espn.go.com, www.spottingnews.com, www.sportsline.com, www.si.com, espnradio.espn.go.com, www.eurosport.com, and sports.espn.go.com for information in all sports.

Table 7: Constraints to students' use of sports-related websites as source of sports information

Constraints	f	%
1 Lack of knowledge of sports websites	43	93.48
2 Lack of internet surfing skill	27	58.70
3 Lack of money to pay the cyber cafe operators	12	26.09
4 Far distance of cyber cafe/internet facility	4	8.70
5 Too much academic load	41	89.13
6 Lack of cyber cafe/internet facility	0	0.00
7. Lack of time	37	80.43
8. Negative attitude of the cyber cafe/internet facility attendants	3	6.52
9. There are alternative media sources such as radio, television, newspapers and	46	100.00

Data in table 7 revealed that lack of knowledge of sports websites (93.48%), lack of internet surfing skill (58.70%), and too much academic load (89.13%) are the constraints to the students' utilization of sports-related websites. Also, lack of cyber cafe/internet facility (82.61%), lack of time (80.43%) constrained the students from utilizing sports-related websites as source of sports information. The table revealed that all (100.00%) the students indicated that alternative media sources such as radio, television, newspapers and magazines are constraints to their utilization of sports-related websites for sports information.

Hypothesis 1

Gender has no significant influence on the utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students.

Table 8: Chi-square test on students' utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information based on gender

	Sports-related Websites	Male (n = 30)	Female (n = 16)	χ^2 cal	Result
1	FRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
2	BRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
3	CRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
4	HRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
5	VRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
6	GSW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS

χ^2 crit. = 3.841; df = 1; p < .05; NS = Not significant

In table 8, it could be seen that none of the male and female students utilize football-related websites for football information, basketball-related websites for basketball information, cricket-related websites for cricket information, hockey-related websites for hockey information, volleyball-related websites for volleyball information and general sports websites for information in all sports. In addition, gender had no significant influence on the students' utilization of FRW (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), BRW (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), CRW (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), HRW (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), VRW (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), and GSW (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841) for sports information.

Hypothesis 2

Age has no significant influence on the utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students.

Table 9: Chi-square test on students' utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information based on age

	Sports-related Websites	Less than 25 years (n = 20)	25 years and above (n = 26)	χ^2 cal.	Result
1	FRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
2	BRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
3	CRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
4	HRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
5	VRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
6	GSW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS

χ^2 crit. = 3.841; df = 1; p < .05; NS = Not significant

As could be seen in table 9, among the students aged less than 25 years and those from 25 years and above, none (0.00%) of them utilize football-related websites for football information, basketball-related websites for basketball information, cricket-related websites for cricket information, hockey-related websites for hockey information, volleyball-related websites for volleyball information and general sports websites for information in all sports. Furthermore, age had no significant influence on the students' utilization of FRW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841), BRW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841), CRW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841), HRW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841), VRW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841), and GSW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841) for sports information

Hypothesis 3

Year of study has no significant influence on the utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students.

Table 10: Chi-square test on students' utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information based on year of study

	Sports-related Websites	Year 3 (n = 19)	Year 4 (n = 27)	χ^2 cal.	Result
1	FRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
2	BRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
3	CRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
4	HRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
5	VRW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS
6	GSW	0(0.00%)	0(0.00%)	0.00	NS

χ^2 crit. = 3.841; df = 1; p < .05; NS = Not significant

It is evident in table 10 that none of the year 3 and year 4 students utilize football-related websites for football information, basketball-related websites for basketball information, cricket-related websites for cricket information, hockey-related websites for hockey information, volleyball-related websites for volleyball information and general sports websites for information in all sports. Also, year of study had no significant influence on the students' utilization of FRW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841), BRW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841), CRW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841), HRW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841), VRW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841), and GSW (χ^2 cal. $0.00 < \chi^2$ crit. 3.841) for sports information.

Hypothesis 4

Gender has no significant influence on the constraints to the use of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students.

Table 11: Chi-square test on constraints to students' use of sports-related websites as source of sports information based on gender

Constraints	Male (n = 30)		Female (n = 16)		χ^2 cal.	Result
	f	%	F	%		
1 Lack of knowledge of sports websites	27	90.00	16	100.00	1.703	NS
2 Lack of internet surfing skill	14	46.67	13	81.25	5.152	S
3 Lack of money to pay the cyber cafe operators	3	10.00	9	56.25	11.597	S
4 Far distance of cyber cafe/internet facility	1	3.33	3	18.75	3.130	NS
5 Too much academic load	25	83.33	16	100.00	2.994	NS
6 Lack of cyber cafe/internet facility	0	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	NS
7 Lack of time	21	70.00	16	100.00	5.966	S
8 Negative attitude of the cyber cafe/internet facility attendants	0	0.00	3	18.75	6.048	S
9 There are alternative media sources such as radio, television, newspapers and magazines	30	100.00	16	100.00	0.00	NS

χ^2 crit. = 3.841; df = 1; p < .05; NS = Not significant; S = Significant

It is evident in table 11 that gender had no significant influence on lack of knowledge of sports websites (χ^2 cal. 1.703 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), far distance of cyber cafe/internet facility (χ^2 cal. 3.130 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), too much academic load (χ^2 cal. 2.994 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), alternative media sources such as radio, television, newspapers and magazines (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), and lack of cyber cafe/internet facility (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841) as constraints to students' use of sports-related websites as source of sports information. However, gender had significant influence on lack of internet surfing skill (χ^2 cal. 5.152 > χ^2 crit. 3.841), lack of money to pay the cyber cafe operators (χ^2 cal. 11.597 > χ^2 crit. 3.841), lack of time (χ^2 cal. 5.966 > χ^2 crit. 3.841), and negative attitude of the cyber cafe/internet facility attendants (χ^2 cal. 6.048 > χ^2 crit. 3.841) as constraints to the use of sports-related websites as source of sports information.

Hypothesis 5

Age has no significant influence on the constraints to the use of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students.

Table 12: Chi-square test on constraints to students' use of sports-related websites as source of sports information based on age

Constraints	Less than 25 years (n = 20)		25 years and above (n = 26)		χ^2 cal.	Result
	f	%	f	%		
1 Lack of knowledge of sports websites	18	90.00	25	96.15	0.711	NS
2 Lack of internet surfing skill	12	60.00	15	57.69	0.024	NS
3 Lack of money to pay the cyber cafe operators	7	35.00	5	19.23	1.453	NS
4 Far distance of cyber cafe/internet facility	2	10.00	2	7.69	0.076	NS
5 Too much academic load	16	80.00	25	96.15	3.059	NS
6 Lack of cyber cafe/internet facility	0	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	NS
7 Lack of time	13	65.00	24	92.31	5.368	S
8 Negative attitude of the cyber cafe/internet facility attendants	1	5.00	2	7.69	0.131	NS
9 There are alternative media sources such as radio, television, newspapers and magazines, etc.	20	100.00	26	100.00	0.00	NS

χ^2 crit. = 3.841; df = 1; p < .05; NS = Not significant; S = Significant

Table 12 showed that age had no significant influence on lack of knowledge of sports websites (χ^2 cal. 0.711 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), lack of internet surfing skill (χ^2 cal. 0.024 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), lack of money to pay the cyber cafe operators (χ^2 cal. 1.453 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), far distance of cyber cafe/internet facility (χ^2 cal. 0.076 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), too much academic load (χ^2 cal. 3.059 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), alternative media sources such as radio, television, newspapers and magazines (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), lack of cyber cafe/internet facility (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), and negative attitude of the cyber cafe/internet facility attendants (χ^2 cal. 0.131 < χ^2 crit. 3.841) as constraints to students' use of sports-related websites as source of sports information. Data in the table showed that age had significant influence on lack of time (χ^2 cal. 5.368 > χ^2 crit. 3.841) as a constraint to the use of sports-related websites as source of sports information.

Hypothesis 6

Year of study has no significant influence on the constraints to the use of sports-related websites as source of sports information among Human Kinetics students.

Table 13: Chi-square test on constraints to students' use of sports-related websites as source of sports information based on year of study

Constraints	Year 3 (n = 19)		Year 4 (n = 27)		χ^2 cal.	Result
	F	%	f	%		
1 Lack of knowledge of sports websites	17	89.47	26	96.30	1.057	NS
2 Lack of internet surfing skill	11	57.89	16	59.26	0.008	NS
3 Lack of money to pay the cyber cafe operators	3	15.79	9	33.33	1.787	NS
4 Far distance of cyber cafe/internet facility	2	10.53	2	7.41	0.138	NS
5 Too much academic load	14	73.68	27	100.00	7.941	S
6 Lack of cyber cafe/internet facility	0	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	NS
7 Lack of time	10	52.63	27	100.00	15.883	S
8 Negative attitude of the cyber cafe/internet facility attendants	1	5.26	2	7.41	0.084	NS
9 There are alternative media sources such as radio, television, newspapers and magazines, etc.	19	100.00	27	100.00	0.00	NS

χ^2 crit. = 3.841; df = 1; p < .05; NS = Not significant; S = Significant

From table 13, it could be seen that year of study had no significant influence on lack of knowledge of sports websites (χ^2 cal. 1.057 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), lack of internet surfing skill (χ^2 cal. 0.008 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), lack of money to pay the cyber cafe operators (χ^2 cal. 1.787 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), far distance of cyber cafe/internet facility (χ^2 cal. 0.138 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), lack of cyber cafe/internet facility (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), negative attitude of the cyber cafe/internet facility attendants (χ^2 cal. 0.084 < χ^2 crit. 3.841), and alternative media sources such as radio, television, newspapers and magazines (χ^2 cal. 0.00 < χ^2 crit. 3.841) as constraints to students' use of sports-related websites as source of sports information. Year of study had significant influence on too much academic load (χ^2 cal. 15.883 > χ^2 crit. 3.841) as a constraint to the students' use of sports-related websites as source of sports information.

DISCUSSION

The findings that none of the students utilize football-related websites for football information; basketball-related websites for basketball information; cricket-related websites for cricket information; hockey-related websites for hockey information; volleyball-related websites for volleyball information, and general sports websites for information in all sports are surprising considering the rate at which the world populations are using internet as source of information. The findings were in total disagreement with earlier studies. The findings contrast with the findings of Nurjahan, Lim, Yeong, Foong and Ware (2002) and Omotayo (2006) that high percentage of students used the internet. The finding also disagrees with Bello et al. (2004) finding that forty per cent of the medical students showed good utilization habits to information technology. Discouraging was the finding by Oduanya and Bamgbala (2002), Ogunyade and Oyibo (2003), and Ajuwon (2003) reported that the utilization of computer and information technology was poor among Nigerian students which was still in disagreement with non-utilization of sports-related websites by the students. The disagreement may be because the study was not on the use of computer and information technology or internet but on specified part of the internet (sports-related websites) for specified purpose (sourcing sports information). Human kinetics students may have been using the internet for other purposes like sending and receiving messages through e-mail, chatting, business transactions, and watching

pornographies other than sourcing sports information. The findings that there were no differences in the utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information by students of different gender and age were in disagreement with Leung and Ivy (2003) who found differences in websites use among students of different age and gender. Also, in a study by Bello et al. (2004), gender was not found to influence significantly the information technology utilization habits of the students. It was also found that year of study had no significant influence on the students' utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information which supports Shaheen et al. (2007) report that access and use of computer and internet were associated with education. The findings that lack of knowledge of sports website, lack of internet surfing skill, far distance of cyber cafe/internet facility, too much academic load and lack of time are constraints to the utilization of sports-related websites confirm the speculations of Bello et al. (2004) that lack of structured training and computer accessibility, limited access to the internet and the relatively expensive nature of internet cafes may have contributed to the students' poor utilization of information technology.

CONCLUSION

Sports information are disseminated to sports producers and consumers through different media including internet. Internet does not operate in isolation of websites. Among the popular sites for information dissemination on the internet is the sports-related websites. Notwithstanding the up-to-date or latest sports information provided in sports-related websites, none of the Human Kinetics students utilize them as source of information. It is apparent from the study that lack of knowledge of sports websites, lack of internet surfing skill, far distance of cyber cafe/internet facility, too much academic load, and lack of time are constraints to students' utilization of sports-related websites.

RECOMMENDATIONS

There is need to encourage the students to source sports information from internet through the sports-related websites. In order to ensure students' utilization of sports-related websites as source of sports information, the following recommendations are made.

1. Lecturers should give students assignments on sports information regularly and encourage the students to use sports-related websites.
2. Seminars should be organized for the students on sports-related websites.
3. The students should be exposed to the sports-related websites in sports administration/management classes.
4. An information communication technology (ICT) centre should be provided by the department, made free and accessible for students of the department with the sports-related websites publicly displayed on the notice-boards.
5. Sport-related websites should be integrated into the contents of computer education in Nigerian schools.
6. The mass media should assist in sensitizing the public on the sports-related websites.
7. The department should organize a free computer training programme for the students with emphasis on how to surf the internet and sports-related websites.

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