ABSTRACT

An Investigation Into Stakeholders' Perceptions of Academic School Support for Footballers at Signor High School

John Thatcher

This study sought to investigate the perceptions of stakeholders about academic support for footballers at a secondary school in Trinidad and Tobago. Data were collected through interviews held with eight participants, comprising three student footballers, two teachers, a coach, a dean, and an administrator. The findings revealed that: 1) the participants felt that the major purpose of student athlete academic school support was to assist footballers in achieving academic athletic balance; 2) most stakeholders felt that the school leadership was inadequate and did not provide sufficient resources, structures, or policies to ensure that footballers received adequate academic support; 3) there was a lack of collaboration and accountability amongst the stakeholders, and academic support was inconsistent and mainly informal; and 4) teacher willingness to provide academic support was affected by their dispositions and backgrounds in sports.

Keywords: Physical education; Perceptions; Stakeholders; Case studies; Athletic activities; Teacher attitudes; Student attitudes; Administrator attitudes; Academic achievement; Football players; Student school relationship; Trinidad and Tobago