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Comparative Analysis on the Performances of 800mts track events between London, 2012 and Rio, 2016 Olympics

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Abstract

The purpose of the study was to analyze the performance of 800mts track events between London and Rio Olympics. There may be significant differences in the performance of 800 of Rio (2016) Olympics than London (2012) Olympics. There may not be significant differences in the performance of 800 in Rio, 2016 Olympics than London 2012 Olympics. The data collected for this study were through secondary sources and the census sampling was considered for collecting data. In order to find the differences in performances of these two Olympics, descriptive statistics and t-test were employed by Excel 2016 statistical tool packages. The results of the study showed that the Performances of Rio Olympics (2016) in 800 mts is in line with the performances of London 2012 Olympics.

Keywords: London, Rio, Performances, 800 mts, Olympics.

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Introduction

The sport of track and field has its roots in human prehistory. Track and field-style events are among the oldest of all sporting competitions, as running, jumping and throwing are natural and universal forms of human physical expression (Wikipedia,2016). The first recorded examples of organized track and field events at asports festival are the Ancient Olympic Games. At the first Games in 776 BC in Olympia, Greece, only one event was contested: the stadion footrace (Instone, Stephen,2009).The scope of the Games expanded in later years to include further running competitions, but the introduction of the Ancient Olympic pentathlon marked a step towards track and field as it is recognized today-it comprised a five-event competition of the long jump, javelin throw, discus throw, stadion, footrace and wrestling (Waldo E. Sweet, Erich Segal,1987).

Track and field events were also present at the Panhellenic Games in Greece around this period, and they spread to Rome in Italy around 200 BC (Jean-Paul Thuillier, 1996). After the period of Classical antiquity (in which the sport was largely Greco-Roman influenced) new track and field events began developing in parts of Northern Europe in the middle Ages. The stone put and weight throw competitions popular among Celtic societies in Ireland and Scotland were precursors to the modern shot put and hammer throw events. One of the last track and field events to develop was the pole vault, which stemmed from competitions such as the

Fierljeppen contests in the Northern European Lowlands in the 18th century (Wikipedia, 2016).

The most common middle-distance track events are the 800 metres, 1500 metres and mile run, although the 3000 metres may also be classified as a middle-distance event. The 880 yard run, or half mile, was the forebear of the 800 m distance and it has its roots in competitions in the United Kingdom in the 1830s. The 1500 m came about as a result of running three laps of a 500 m track, which was commonplace in continental Europe in the 20th century. (Wikipedia, 2017)

Objectives of the study

The objective of the study was to analyse the performance of 800 mts of track event between London 2012 and Rio 2016 Olympics.

Methodology

The source of data for this study was exclusively secondary data. It means all the data collected and used for this study were the e- sources. The census sampling method was used to collect data. The data were collected based on two categories such as the finalist's male's performances of 800mts of these two Olympics Viz. London, 2012 and Rio, 2016 Olympics. The top 8 finalist's performances were analysed and compared systematically. The timing of all eight finalists were converted into minutes.

Statistical Analysis

The descriptive statistics and t-test were used as statistical tools to find out the significant differences between London, 2012 and Rio, 2016 Olympics. The Level of significance was set at 0.05 for testing the

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significance differences if any. The Excel 2016 statistical tool packages were used to find the differences in

performances of these two Olympics.

Analysis of the study

Table 1

The male Performances of track event of 800 mts at London and Rio Olympics - 2012&2016 (in minute)

Olympics	X (In minute)	SD	Computed t-Value	Table t-Value
London	1.708375	0.006	-1.76	2.144
Rio	1.72825	0.009		

Significant at 0.05 level

Table 1 shows that the sum performances of all eight finalists of 800 mts in London 2012 and Rio 2016 Olympics are 1.708375 minutes and 1.72825 min. Thus, the standard deviation of these two Olympics is 0.006 and 0.009. Since, the computed T-value lies in the range

of the table t-value, there was no significant difference in the male's performances of 800 mts between 2012 and 2016 Olympics. It is clearly showed in the below Figure 1. That there was a similar performance of first eight athletes in both London and Rio Olympics.

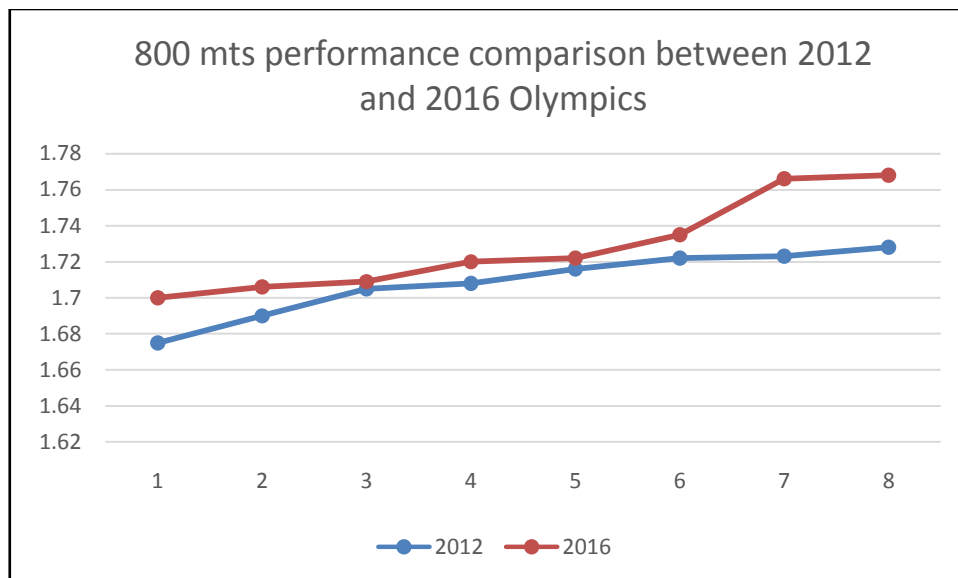


Figure 1

The Male Performances of 800 meters in London 2012 and Rio 2016 Olympics

Conclusions

The following conclusion was drawn from the results of the study.

1. The Performances of Rio Olympics (2016) 800 mts is in line with the performances of London 2012 Olympics.

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