ORGANIZATIONAL FACTORS FOR MOBILIZING BORNO STATE ATHLETES FOR THE NATIONAL SPORTS FESTIVAL

BY:

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DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this Thesis entitled 'Organizational Factors for Mobilizing Borno State Athletes for the National Sports Festival' has been performed by me in the Department of Physical and Health Education under the supervision of Prof. Mrs. F.B. Adeyanju and Prof. B.A. Ladani.

The information derived from the literature has been duly acknowledged in the text and a list of references provided. No part of this Thesis was previously presented for another degree or diploma at any university.

…… Date:……
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CERTIFICATION

This Thesis entitled 'Organizational Factors for Mobilizing Borno State Athletes for the National Sports Festival' by Malgwi Haruna Abore, meets the regulations governing the award of the Degree of Master of Science, Sports Management of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and is approved for contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to assess the organizational factors for mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sport Festival. The study specifically looked at seven (7) variables: facilities and equipment, funding, organizing state and local government sports festivals, Inter Zonal Secondary School Sports Competition, motivation/camping of athletes, recruitment practice/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication and their influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

To achieve this purpose a questionnaire was developed, validated and administered on one hundred and fifty-six subjects. The population of the study was Borno State Sports Council/National Sport Festival participants, school sports inspectors in the Borno State Ministry of Education, Borno State Ministry of Youth Sports and Culture, zonal sports coordinators in local government areas and clubs and associations in the local government areas.

The purposive sampling techniques was adopted to take samples of the population from the Borno State Sport Council, Borno State Ministry of Education, Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture, student athletes that represent their schools in the State Inter Zonal Secondary School Sports Competition, athletes in sports clubs in the local government areas, zonal sports coordinators in the four zones in the local government areas, game masters in secondary schools in the state, patrons and athletes of sports clubs in the local government areas.

The data collected were statistically analyzed by using frequencies and percentages, while two tailed t-test was used to test the hypotheses for the purpose of acceptance or rejection of the hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance.

From the result of the data obtained and analyzed it was found that there is a significant influence of facilities and equipment, funding, organizing local and state government sports festival, Inter Zonal Secondary School Sports competition, motivation/camping of athletes, recruitment/selection of athletes and personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno state athlete for the National Sports Festival. The major hypothesis showed a significant influence on mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

- The finding on the sub hypothesis showed that facilities and equipment have a significant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.
- The research finding showed that there is a significant influence of funding on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.
- The research findings showed that there is a significant influence of organizing local and state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.
- The study showed that there is a significant influence of Inter Zonal Secondary School Sports Competition on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.
- The study showed a significant influence of motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

- The study showed a significant influence of recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.
- The study showed a significant influence of sports personnel communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Recommendation for further research. The researcher recommends that further research should be considered under the headings:

- Deboarding of Secondary Schools in Borno State and mobilization of students for inter mural, zonal and inter zonal secondary school sports competitions.
- Local and state government sports festival and mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page:

Declaration:----------i

Certification:----------ii

Acknowledgements:----------iii

Abstract:----------iv

Table of Contents:----------vii

List of Tables:----------x

Appendices:---------- ----------xiii

Definition of Terms ----------xiv

Chapter One

1.1 Introduction ----------1

1.2 Statement of the problem ----------7

1.3 Basic assumption ----------9

1.4 Purpose of the study ----------10

1.5 Research questions ----------10

1.6 Hypothesis ----------11

1.7 Significance of the study ----------12

1.8 Delimitation ----------13

1.9 Limitation ----------13

Chapter Two

2.0 Review of literature----------15

2.1 Introduction ----------15

2.2 Historical Background of Sports Development in Nigeria. ----------17

2.3 Historical Background of Sports Development in Borno State ----------22

2.4 Borno State and National Sports Festival participation ----------27

2.5 Why should athletes be mobilized for the National Sports Festival ---------31

2.6 Mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival ----------35

2.7 Research Studies related to mobilization of athletes ----------36

2.8 Summary ----------64

Chapter Three

Research methodology

3.1 Introduction ----------69

3.2 The Research Design ----------69

3.3 Population ----------69

3.4 Sample and Sampling Technique ----------69

3.5 Instrumentation ----------70

3.6 Validity of Instrument ----------70

3.7 Administration of Questionnaire ----------71

3.8 Method of Data Treatment and Analysis ----------71

Chapter Four (Results and Discussion)

4.1 Introduction ----------73

4.2 Results ----------73

4.3 Data Analysis ----------91

4.4 Discussion ----------102

Chapter Five

5.0 Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation ----------117

5.1 Summary ----------117

5.2 Conclusion ----------119

5.3 Recommendation ----------121

References. ----------124

LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

Table 2.1 Medal table showing the position of Borno State in the National Sport Festival ----------29

Table 2.2 Medal table of triangular Sport Festival ----------29

Table 2.3 Medal table of the 2nd inter-zonal sport competition held between the former North-eastern states----------30

Table 2.4 The 1991 National Sports Festival held in Bauchi on zonal basis ---------30

Table 2.5 The number of Borno State athletes who featured in the Edo 2002 National Sports Festival ----------31

Table 4.1 Age distribution of respondents ----------73

Table 4.2 Sex distribution of Respondents----------74

Table 4.3 Highest educational qualification of Respondents----------75

Table 4.4 Distribution of respondents according to department----------75

Table 4.5 Distribution of respondents according to designation ----------76

Table 4.6 Years of experience in sports competitions----------77

Table 4.7 Opinion of respondents on the influence of facilities and equipment on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.-----78

Table 4.8 Opinion of respondents on the influence of funding on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.---------- 80

Table 4.9 Opinion of respondents on the influence of state and local government sports festival on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.----------82

Table 4.10 Opinion of respondents on the influence of inter zonal secondary school competitions on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival----------84

Table 4.11 Opinion of respondents on the influence of motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.----------86

Table 4.12 Opinion of respondents on the influence of recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.---------- -------88

Table 4.13 Opinion of respondents on the influence of sports Personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival ----------90

Table 4.14 Two tailed t-test on the influence of facilities and equipment, funding, organizing local and state government sports festivals, inter zonal secondary school sports competition, motivation/camping of athletes, recruitment practice/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival ----------92

Table 4.15 Two tailed t-test on the influence of facilities and equipment on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival ---------93

Table 4.16 Two tailed t-test on the influence of funding on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival----------95

Table 4.17 Two tailed t-test on the influence of organizing local and state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival----------96

Table 4.18 Two tailed t-test on the influence of inter zonal secondary school sports competition on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival ----------97

Table 4.19 Two tailed t-test on the influence of motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival ------98

Table 4.20 Two tailed t-test on the influence of recruitment/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival ----100

Table 4.21 Two tailed t-test on the influence of sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival----101

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A: Facilities and equipment frequency and percentages

Appendix B: Funding of sports frequency and percentages

Appendix C: State and local government sports festival frequency and percentages

Appendix D: Inter-zonal secondary school sport Competition frequency and percentages

Appendix E: Motivation/camping/selection of athlete frequencies and percentages

Appendix F: Recruitment practice/selection of athletes frequencies and percentages

Appendix G: Sports personnel/communication frequencies and percentages

Appendix H: Request to vet questionnaire

Appendix I: Letter of introduction

Appendix J: Questionnaire

Definition of Terms

Athlete: A person who has been trained to compete in a particular sports or game.

Amateur: Person or player who plays for the love of the game and not for a living

Camping of athletes:- Athletes who have been recruited for training are kept together in a place where training facilities are available. They are provided with accommodation, feeding and pocket money when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival.

Camp: - Training ground where athletes are accommodated and fed while undergoing training in preparation for sports festival.

Equipment: These are materials that are used for sports; they include rackets, nets, mat, crossbars etc.

Facilities. Physical structure, which includes stadium, playing ground, athletic track, gymnasium, swimming pool, basketball court, sports hall.

Funding: Amount of money allocated by the state to the sports council and the local governments in order to organize state and local government sports festivals for the training of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Grassroots Development: Programmes that are designed to involve mass participation at all levels of organization.

Mobilization: Act of getting prepared to carry out a task at a particular time.

Motivation: - The arousal of tendency, it is the inner state that energizes, activates or moves toward a desired goal. It is also the giving of incentive to act in a desired way.

Recruitment of athletes: - This is the process of selecting athlete for who are to represent the state during the National Sports Festival or any other sports competition.

State Sports Festival: - It is organized to select and train athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival.

Sports Festival: Sports competitions that are organized periodically, annually or bi-annually or sports competitions among groups who are bound by the same cultural and ethnic identity or competition among people who are bound by the same ideological belief or within the same geographical area e.g. federation, city, states or confederation.

Training: - Learning to perfect one's skills and strategies in games and sports in preparation for sports competitions.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Plays, games and sports have been part of the various civilizations. Historical and anthropological research evidences indicate that plays, games and sports have been part of the fundamental aspect of all culture throughout the history of mankind (Huizinga, 1950; Fatile, 1981). As society increases its physical activities becomes more complex.

Bucher (1979), reported that primitive society did not think of the organization of sports as people today. There were no organized physical education and sporting programmes from the physical point of view. But they do set aside a period during which they could participate in various forms of activities at periods like harvest, beginning of planting season etc. Physical activities were a part of their daily regiment for well-developed bodies.

The most notable examples were the Greeks and the Romans. In Greek civilization sports reached their zenith in the games of various city-states and in the crown festival of Olympia, Pathain, Isthmia and Nemia. The Olympic festival, which was organized and staged in the 776 BC marked the beginning of organized sports. (Bucher, 1979).

Despite the fact that man has always wanted to play and has played when possible, only recently has he ventured to play on a wider level to embody distant groups or tribes with a central organizing body. At the beginning of the 18^{th} century, England led in the industrial revolution so too did it lead in sporting

movement by organizing clubs, beginning with the sports of cricket and soon encompassing other activities such as football, rowing, rugby, tennis, as well as track and field athletics. (Venkatswarlu, 1984).

Those sports were taken to various countries in the world through various means, e.g. establishment of missionary schools, and through the activities of sailors and colonial administrators. Documentary evidence transmitted from generations, as well as archaeological and anthropological evidence revealed that Africa had sporting activities like games and dance. Those involved in the organization and administration of sports at that time were individual sponsors at the village or local level, group leaders and the chiefs in charge of youths and traditional sports (Fatile, 1981).

Amateur sports was organized in modern ways under governing associations which were to govern and settle dispute arising from competitions. Membership was strictly on voluntary basis. As such, the governing associations had effective and efficient administration as the clubs and various associations gave them maximum cooperation. However, these organizations were disbanded by various countries when the need for competitive sports at the international level was increasingly becoming important. (Venkateswarlu, 1984),

This development coupled with socio-political cultural changes and pressure, forced many African countries to re-evaluate their organizational structure of sports by deciding to directly involve themselves in the control, regulation, development and promotion of sports, (Venkateswarlu, 1984).

Nigeria's real sports progress began with the introduction of formal sports organization in 1910 and its extension from teacher training colleges to secondary schools when around 1909, Empire Day competitions were organized on inter-school basis (Adedeji, 2000).

The establishment of mission schools assisted the development of new sports and games, which were full of new challenges to students though not related to their cultural experience and traditional environments. In spite of these differences, there was a common goal of bringing Nigerians together through sports competitions. This was the outcome of views that national unity could exist through sports participation in Nigeria in spite of the country's diversity. According to Ladani (1986), the Empire Day competitions contributed to the development of competitive sports because they laid the foundation for competitive sports especially in the primary school in the country. The participation of children in these celebrations established standards in track and field and helped to identify athletic talents. The establishment of more secondary schools and teacher training colleges all contributed tremendously to the development of modem sports in the country.

Nigerians began to see the value and joy of taking part in sports and their increased participation met with greater support by both the British and Nigerian governments. Between 1917 and 1961, the British government introduced cricket, lawn tennis, track and field athletics and football (soccer). The introduction of those sports into Nigeria made rapid progress. Track and field event were introduced into teacher training colleges which organized competitive athletics in

Oyo Province. For greater enthusiasm and direction, Mr. Rowden donated the first shield dedicated to athletic achievement in Nigeria and presented it to four teacher training college (Ladani, 1986).

After independence and before the advent of the first military administration (1960-1966) the body that was responsible for organizing and administering sports in the Northern Region was known as the Northern Nigerian Sports Commission (NNSC) with headquarters in Kaduna, sequel to the creation of states in 1967.

The development above, coupled with socio-political, economic, cultural changes and pressure, forced Nigeria to re-evaluate her own organizational structures of sports. The outcome of this led the Federal Government of Nigeria to promulgate Decree No.34 of August 1971, which established the National Sports Commission as the supreme body to control, regulate, promote and organize sports in the country. This brought about autonomous sports councils funded by the respective state governments.

The view of the Federal Government of Nigeria for its direct involvement in the control, regulation and promotion of sports was shared by every state government in Nigeria. The result was the establishment of sports council vested with the responsibilities to regulate, control, develop and organize sports in the states.

Thus, when Borno State was created in 1976 the government realized the need to establish its sports council. In pursuance of this, the Borno State Sports Council was established by Edict No.4 of 1979. The Borno State Sports Council

was vested with the power to formulate the policies regarding the development of amateur sports and to use it to raise the standard of performance of amateur sports in the state.

In the early 1970s a three man committee was sent by the National Sports Commission to Western Germany, to study the German Sports Festival. The recommendations of the committee gave birth to the National/Sports Festival, a bi-annual sports festival.

The objectives of the festival were to promote mass participation in amateur sports from village level to the national level in all the states of the federation, with a view to discovering hidden talents and to promote and strengthen friendship among sportsmen and women. (Onifade, 1984; Awosika, 2000). Nigeria being a federation, and with the motto, “unity in diversity”, and after fighting a bitter civil war for three years, saw sports as an important unifying factor.

Mshelia (2000) stated that the founding fathers of the National Sports Festival had a vision that was to make Nigeria a global sports power, and above all to use the festival as an instrument for the promotion of national unity.

The National Sports Festival envisioned that since the youth are the leaders of tomorrow, the integration in the field of sports would help them bridge the cultural gap in a vast multicultural and linguistically diverse Nigeria. (Mshelia, 2000).

The first sports festival took place in Lagos in 1973, with athletes from 12 states of the federation participating in various sport events.

The first National Sports Festival started with emphasis on junior, intermediate and senior categories, but because of constant cheating in age declaration by contestants, the organizers decided to make the festival an open one. (Onifade, 1984). Since the inception of the National Sports Festival in 1973, Borno State has participated in every festival to date except in 1985 and 1993, in 1993 the festival was not held.

Before any state can participate in the National Sports Festival it is supposed to organize its own sports festival at the state and local government levels. The purpose of the sports festival is to hunt for hidden athletic talents at every nook and crony of the state and to encourage mass participation in all aspects of sports.

However, since the beginning of the National Sports Festival, Borno State has only been able to organize its own State Sports Festival on three occasions that is 1975, 19-79 and 1987. The zonal sports festivals were only organized on two occasions in 1979 and 1987. Since that time the local government and the state sports festivals have not been organized. These sports festivals are supposed to serve as a forum for the recruitment and selection of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival. The sports council is to serve as the agent through which potential athletes in local government areas are to be discovered and groomed. This was to have been achieved through the organization of state championships and also by liaising with local government sports committees to organize sports festivals at the local government and the state levels, thereby discovering hidden athletic talents in the local government areas to represent the

state in the National Sports Festival.

The state relies on the local governments as its resource base from where athletic talents were tapped and to determine those who are to represent the state at the National Sports Festival. Without these events being organized in the state, the state now depends mostly on athletes who live within the state capital.

The state has not been able to discover potential athletes that abound in the local government areas, because the sports festivals that are meant to discover those athletes are no longer being organized. This has left the state without the reservoir of athletes who can be relied on when preparing for national sports festivals. Prior to the time of national sports festivals Borno State depended on athletes that were hired from other states to compete for it. There have also the use of the same athletes to represent the state in more than one National Sports Festival.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Today the national policy on sports emphasises on grassroots development of sports as well as the effective management of sports in Nigeria, with emphasis on making provision for mass participation and talent discovery.

There is no doubt that the Borno State Sports Council did fulfill these roles in the past. The state was involved in organizing sports festivals from the local government level to the state level. It also organized the Zonal Secondary School Sports Competition, personnel were employed and posted to the zonal and local government sports council, and most importantly funds were provided to run the programme. Unfortunately, there has been a decline in the level of

participation in sports competition especially by the secondary schools in the state. The zonal and inter-zonal secondary school sports competition in the state is a shadow of itself because for sometimes now the competition has not been organized in the state. The researcher also observed that most of the athletes who are recruited and selected in preparation for the National Sport Festival are not accommodated in training camps. Athletes are mostly recruited and selected at the state capital when preparing for the national sports festival.

Sports facilities and equipment were provided by the state in the past and sports council officials were very much involved in recruitment and camping of athletes for the National Sports Festival. But now all this has virtually stopped and with the cessation of these functions the reservoir of sports talents in the state has gradually dried up. The state was left without the reservoir of athletic talent that could be used to represent the states athletic team whenever the need arises.

The last local government and state sports festivals were organized in 1987 in preparation for the Rivers 88 National Sports Festivals. Since that time numerous problems have been encountered in the areas of the provision of functional facilities and equipment, lack of cooperation from the legislative council in the state and local government areas and provision of funds for organizing sports competitions at the state and local government levels.

Today most of the local governments do not have sports centers, which can be used for sports competitions in the local government areas. The national policy on sports development (1989) mandated every local government council to build a sports center in their localities but only few have responded to the call.

Sports competitions at the state and local government levels have declined rapidly, while local government sports festivals which prepare athletes for the state sports festival is now a thing of the past. The state sports festivals which are organized every two years in order to discover athletic talents and to prepare the state athletes for the national sports festival is no longer being organized.

1.3 Basic Assumption

For the purpose of the study the following basic assumptions are made:

1. The lack of sports facilities and equipment has negatively affected the mobilization of athlete for the National Sports Festival.
2. The lack of funding of sports by the state and local governments has negatively affected the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.
3. The lack of organization of local government and state sports festivals have negatively affected the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.
4. The decline of the secondary school inter zonal sports competition has negatively affected the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.
5. Lack of motivation and camping of athletes have negatively affected the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.
6. Lack of proper recruitment, practice/selection of athletes has negatively affected the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

1.4 Purpose of the Study.

This study was conducted to achieve the following specific purposes.

I. To find out how the provision of facilities and equipment at the state and the local government levels can influence the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

2. To find out how funding of sports at the state and local government levels can influence the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

3. To find out how organizing sports festivals at the local government and state levels can influence the preparation of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

4. To determine the influence of inter zonal secondary school sports competitions on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

5. To determine the influence of motivation/camping of athletes on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

6. To determine the influence of recruitment, practice/selection of athletes on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

1.5 Research Question.

1. Do facilities and equipment at local government and state levels influence the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival?

2. Do funding of sports by the state and local governments influence the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival?

3. Does organizing local and state government sports festivals influence the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival?

4. Does organizing inter zonal secondary school sports competitions influence the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival?
5. Do motivation/camping of athletes influence the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival?
6. Do recruitment, practice/selection of athletes influence the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival?
7. Do sports personnel/communication influence the mobilization for the National Sports Festival?

Major Hypothesis.

There is no significant influence of sports facilities and equipment, funding, organizing local government/state sports festivals, organizing inter zonal secondary school sports competitions, .motivation/camping of athletes, recruitment practice/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

1.6 Sub-Hypotheses

The following hypotheses are formulated for the purpose of the study: -

HO_1 There is no significant influence of the availability of sports facilities and equipment at the local and state government levels on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

HO_2 There is no significant influence of the funding of sports at the local and state government levels on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

HO_3 There is no significant influence of organizing local and state government

sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

HO_4 There is no significant influence of inter zonal secondary school sports competitions on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

HO_5 There is no significant influence of motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

HO_6 There is no significant influence of recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

HO_7 There is no significant influence of sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

1.7 Significance of the study.

The study was undertaken to critically examine the mobilization of Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The significance of the study is to help coaches and administrators of the Borno State sports Council to solve the problem of mobilizing athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival.

The study will provide solution to the reason why only few athletes represent the state in the National Sports Festival.

The study will provide insight into why the state has not been performing well in the National Sports Festival.

The study will give recommendations for improving athletic representation from the local government to the state and the national levels.

The study will help stimulate the provision and utilization of sports facilities and equipment at the local and state government levels as well as in the

secondary schools in the state.

The result of the study will provide imperical data on the influence of funding, organizing local and state sports festivals, inter zonal secondary school sports, camping and recruitment/selection of athletes on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

1.8 Delimitation

This study is delimited to the following aspects:

1. The study is concerned with the mobilization of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival from 1987-2002.
2. Facilities and equipment in the state and the four zones of the local governments in the state.
3. Funding of sports at the state and zonal headquarters of the local governments in each of the zones.
4. Organization of sports festivals and competitions at the state and local government levels.
5. Camping and training of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival.
6. Borno State Inter Zonal Secondary School Sports Competition.

1.9 Limitation

The study is limited in the following aspects:

1. There was no comprehensive record of sports festivals organized at the local government and state levels.
2. There was no comprehensive record of National Sports Festivals, attended by

Borno State.

3. Most councilors in charge of sports at the local government level do not have any regard for sports and are not willing to provide information concerning sports in their locality. In some of the local governments, there were no councilors designated for sports.
4. There have been frequent changes of the State Director of Sports; most appropriate to that office were not specialists in the field of sports. This has brought a lot of setback in the implementation of sports policies in the state.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 Review of related literature:

The purpose of the study was to assess the organizational factors for mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

To achieve this purpose all related literature and references available to the investigator have been reviewed and presented in this chapter under the following subheadings:

2.1 Introduction.

2.2 Historical background of modern sports development in Nigeria.

2.3 Historical background of modern sports development in Borno State.

2.4 Borno State and National Sports Festival participation.

2.5 Why athletes should be mobilized for the National Sports Festival

2.6 Mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

2.7 Research studies related to mobilization of athletes.

2.8 Summary.

2.1 Introduction

History has shown that early societies used sports to train people for survival and for war. Man gradually organized his plays into games and as civilization developed, his games became highly competitive.

The evolution of sports has been closely associated with the evolution of man himself. The primitive man used sports in his existence in a relatively more hostile environment as a medium to develop abilities to fight, and to express his exuberant emotions, to transmit his skills to positive life and to recreate himself

after a hard day's toil. (Venkatswarlu, 1984; Gabakau, 1991).

As the people in the early times lived together peacefully, sports festivals were developed. The primitive society did not think of the organization of sports as people think today; there were no organized physical education and sporting programmes (Bucher, 1979).

Huizinga (1950), Fatile (1981) reported that play, games and sports are part of the fundamental aspect of all cultures throughout the history of mankind. The most notable example was the games of the Greek and the Romans. Games have always been common features of religious festivals among the Greeks.

The development of the crown games of Greek and the Olympic was unrivalled in the city-states and sports and games were a primary part of this festival. The gymnasium also provided the citizens a place to meet and talk, to exercise, and to perform various physical activities (Hardy 1958; Ziegler (1979).

Athletic contests and festivals became common from the ninth century BC. The most prominent of these festivals were the Nemian, Pathian, Isthmus and particularly the Olympic Games. Athletic festivals became more common from the ninth century BC Ziegler (1979) list end 146 towns where athletic festivals of some kinds were known to have been held in the prime days of Greek athletics.

Man's earliest endeavor to perfect the body, discipline the mind and mould the character of the young by means of selected forms of physical activities and special requirement could doubtless be traced back to a prehistoric age. In Greek we find that gymnastics was generally adapted as a necessary part of education. Provision were made for the exercise of youths and adults in

establishments supported and administered by the state. Games and gymnastics seem to have occupied the larger part of the boy's time. Among those sports were javelin throwing and the discuss for distance. The youth were conspicuous figures in the numerous local festivals held at Athens.

The early society used sports as a means of unity and entertainment, in which they gradually started to organize sports festivals of which the Olympic Games became the most outstanding (Bucher, 1979; Gabakau, 1991).

Sports is a social phenomenon that has grown from its humble beginning of being an entertainment, recreation and pastime to becoming a visible and prominent business phenomenon that could no more be ignored in the social, political and economic activities of any nation.

2.2 Historical background of sports development in Nigeria.

Earliest history of modern sports development in Nigeria can be traced back to between 1861 and 1917. The British introduced cricket, lawn tennis, track and field athletics into teachers training colleges which organized competitive athletics (Ladani, 1986).

Sports development in Nigeria has been greatly tied to her political development because each colonial governor brought his own reforms. Adedeji (2000) reported that competitive tract and field athletics was introduced in primary schools in Nigeria through the Empire Day celebration and that actual sport progress in the country began with the introduction of formal sports organization in 1910. The establishment of the mission school which was much earlier than this assisted the development of new sports and games which were

fully of new challenges to students though it was not related to their cultural experience and traditional environment.

When the Empire Day competition which appeared around 1927 was organized, competitions were organized on inter school basis. Mission schools were called upon to take part in these competitions. (Ladani, 1986). The missionaries also introduced track and field athletics to make the celebration more meaningful and to initiate the primary school children to competitive sports. With the introduction of athletics, the celebration also became a centre for competitive sports for all primary schools in Nigeria. The competition also extended to teachers training colleges and secondary schools at that time. The only big time sporting feature was the Empire Day celebration.

According to Adedeji (2000), missionaries who entered Nigeria through Calabar late in the 19th country introduced football. But until 1930 soccer activities were not well known alongside other sports.

In 1921, provisional sports competition for both junior and senior levels in track and field events were organized. The junior competed for the Clifford Shield while the senior competed for the Colonial Main Shield. (Ladani, 1986).

The Federal Ministry of Youth and Sport Development in further pursuit of effective management of sports at the grass roots level, divided the country into six (6) zones.

The zoning system was adopted in order to check the over – centralization of sports organizations in the urban areas. It was believed that the new structure would take sports to the grassroots and increase the scope of cooperation between

the state and local government areas. It was also believed that it would enhance mass participation and facilitate the search for budding athletics talents in all sections of the country.

There have been many efforts to promote the growth and development of sports in Nigeria given the laudable role of sports in the society. Sports in Nigeria has been a veritable avenue for national cohesion and unity; it is also a fact that sports has become a pervasive social phenomenon whose influence is felt in all facets of life. (Mshelia, 2000).

National Sports Festival

Sports today in Nigeria is more than just running, and jumping or going after external objects or scoring a goal or point. Sports has been found as an instrument of patriotism. Individuals in a group can identify with their countries and government policies. When individuals from the same country perform especially in international sporting events under the same banner, it goes a long way in promoting unity and national awareness. Therefore, sports has helped Nigeria in uniting her diverse ethnic groups even when politics has failed (Awosika, 2000).

The National Sports Commission Board sent members of its Technical Standing Committee to Germany to study the German Sports Festival. It was felt that the objective of spartakide were ideal and the aftermath of the mass participation in high performance sport would expose a lot of potentials who would be trained and nurtured by the National Sports Commission for international competitions.

In order to make the Nigeria vision more embracing, it was decided that the competition should be in three categories: Junior, intermediate and seniors for males and female. The idea was brought by the Federal Government and funds were immediately provided for organizing the first ever National Sports Festival in 1973 (Omeruan, 1996).

The objectives of the festival were three fold, namely:

(1). To promote mass participation in amateur sports from the village level to the national level in all states of the Federal Republic of Nigeria with a view to discovering talents.

(2). To encourage the organization of amateur sports competitions throughout the country in order to raise the standard of performance of Nigerian sportsmen and women and;

(3). To promote and strengthen friendship among the sportsmen and women throughout the federation. (Awosika, 2000).

The first National Sports Festival which was organized in 1973 featured all the 12 states of the federation and pragmatically galvanized the various governments of the federation into talent hunting and sports development. This took the form of states organizing festivals at local government and state level in order to maximize their talent hunt preparatory to the National Sports Festival.

Mshelia (2000) stated that at a glance the aim of the all embracing festival is to continuously enable the country discover new talents as a first step toward building reservoir of athletes from which Nigeria could always field potential athletes at future international competitions.

The sport festival encourages and promotes mass participation in amateur sports from local to national levels, and encourages the organization of sports competitions at all levels. It promotes and strengthens friendship among athletes as well as fosters national unity and sports excellence.

The laudable programme started in 1973 with junior, intermediate and senior categories but due to the emphasis laid on medals there was flagrant cheating in age declaration. After the Kaduna 77 National Sport Festival it was decided that the biannual event should be rotated among the states so that they would have the opportunity of developing sports infrastructural facilities and also train technical officials (Omeruan, 1996).

The festival, which became a biannual affair at the local government, state and national levels, became the most authentic forum for the discovery of talents.

To further consolidate the gains made in the area of cementing unity, its hosting became rotational. This paved the way for politics to come into the festival. States with hardly any facilities were awarded the hosting right. The essence was to assist them in developing their facilities. As a result of this, the festival failed to hold on scheduled dates. In some cases two or three years were lost while waiting for hosting states to develop their facilities and at most times Lagos with the best facilities had always come to the rescue while the original host still labored to lay a tartan track and field. (Sunday Punch Nov. 2000 page 39.) In Bauchi 1991 National Sports Festival, a new rule was introduced that gave room for young and upcoming athletes to gain exposure through participation. The new festival, which is aimed at grooming the young athletes to

take over from their older colleagues, forbids athletes who have taken part in three previous festivals or who have represented the country in two international competitions in the senior category, from taking part in the festival. In terms of discovery of talents, the festival has failed to live up to its early reputation. Most of those who featured are already known stars that have been discovered but are yet to become national champions (Omeruan, 1996).

There is also the idea of states spending fortune to buy up athletes from other slates. This practice which is referred to as 'poaching', involves enticing top athletes from other states with promise of offering them employment and scholarship. So instead of going to the grass roots to raise athletes, states waited for those athletes and use money to buy them over. The rule that says athletes should be resident in a particular state for a set period of time in order to qualify to represent that state is easily circumvented.

2.3 Historical background of sports development in Borno state:

The beginning of modern sports in Borno State could be traced back to the time when primary schools were established in Maiduguri, then known as (Yerwa) by the British colonialists around 1920. Most of the teachers in these schools were British men who introduced British sports, which involved simple exercises like military drills calisthenics and folk dance.

Although all the British sports introduced into Nigeria started in Lagos, regional and provincial headquarters, divisions and towns later adopted these sports (Adedeji 2000).

Dual individual games like lawn tennis, squash racket and cricket were introduced by the colonial administrative officials who resided in Government Reservation Areas (G.R.A). Sports gained prominence in the state because institution such as the police, the army, and mercantile houses like (U.A.C), United African Company, RT Briscoe, Songhai Construction Company, Post and Telegraph (P & T) and other cooperative bodies adopted and embraced sports.

The Police ground in Maiduguri has been used to host athletic meetings and football matches up to the mid 70s. The first North-Eastern States Sports Festival was held in this place in 1973. In order to coordinate the administration of sports and also to provide finance for the promotion of sports, the Northern Regional Sports Commission was founded in 1960 with the headquarter in Kaduna. Borno being a province at that time organized sports competition sbetween the five divisions in the province namely Biu, Fika, Bonio, Dikwa and Bade (Gabakau 1991).

Competitions among these divisions were in track, field event and football. The provincial administrator for the overall best team donated trophies. With the creation of the North-Eastern State in 1967 most of the athletes were drawn from the secondary schools and the teachers colleges in the state.

In 1971 the Federal Military Government promulgated Decree 34 to establish the National Sports Commission to replace the National Sports Council of l962.(Onifade 2000). This led to the establishment of sports councils in every state of the federation. The Borno State Sports Council was established around that time to run the affairs of sports in the state.

The formation of clubs were also became popular in the early 70s. In the mid 70s, clubs were formed in the local government areas and in the Maiduguri metropolis. The clubs offered varieties of sports, some of which were dual individual games like lawn tennis, badminton, squash racket and polo games to their members. Most of these games were restricted to the elite class in the state where we have the Civil Service Club, Lake Chad Club that is more of a recreational activity than competitive sports. Some sports or recreational clubs provided facilities for lawn tennis, swimming and boxing.

As mentioned earlier, the establishment of Decree 34 of 1971 which was amended in 1979 saw the birth of the National Sports Commission for the administration and development of sports all over the country.

Bearing this in mind the then Military Administrator late Major General Babatunde Idiagbon promulgated Edict No.6 of April 1979 to reactivate the council and its activities to promote high standard of sports in the state with the aim of extending sports to the local government level.

The Borno State Sports Edict defines amateur as any person who participates in sports solely for pleasure and for physical, mental or social benefit he derives from his participation and to whom participation in sports is nothing more than recreation without any material gain whatsoever.

The Edict No.6 of 1978 stated that: 1. There shall be established by the council for each local government area in the state a committee consisting of the local government supervising committee in charge of sports in the area who shall be the Chairman and the following other members.

a). One representative from each district, village unit, ward or other administrative sub-area in the local government.

b). One representative of the governing body of sports in the area.

c) One representative of the Armed Forces, if any stationed in the area.

d) One representative of the Ministry for Social Welfare Matters.

e) One representative of teacher training colleges.

f) One representative of secondary school.

g) One representative of Prisons Department if any in the area.

h) One representative of the Ministry of Works and Housing.

i) Two local dignitaries.

With the creation of Borno State in 1976 there were few clubs most of which were formed by voluntary organizations, cooperate or private individuals. There were also few sports programmes that were designed to promote sports in the state and at the local level.

The edict No.6 of April 1978 was to reactivate the sports council and its activities and to promote high standard of sports in the state with the aim of extending sports to the grassroots (Gabakan 1991).

The Sport Council is to serve as the agent through which sports could be developed at the grassroots level. This was to be achieved through the organization of state championship thereby discovering hidden athletic talents in the local government areas.

There is no doubt that the state Sports Council did fulfill this role in the past. The sports council was involved in the construction of mini Stadiums in

local government areas and established zonal sports offices. The council organized and held sports festivals from the local government to the state levels. It also organized inter school zonal secondary school sports competitions.

Personnel were employed and posted to the zonal and local government sports council and most importantly, funds were provided to run the programmes. (Morakinyo, 2000).

The sports council was expected to discover and nurture athletes to such a level that they would be able to represent their state and nation in sporting events. These athletes were to be discovered through the local government sports festival and the zonal and inter state championships. The sports council, up to 1983 did enjoy adequate founding in order to execute such programmes. (Morakinyo 2000). The states no longer organize sports programme at the local government level.

In Bomo State, the last local government and state sports festival that was organized was in 1987, when the state was preparing for the Rivers 88 National Sports Festival. All the five zones, which consist of Biu, Potiskum, Bade, Monguno, Gwoza and Maiduguri Metropolitan Council, participated in the festival. At the zonal level, the festival was plagued with many problems, such as lack of functional sport facilities especially in the area of track and field events, and the officiating officials who handled those events were not knowledgeable in those areas of sports. With the cessation of the local and state government sports festiva1s, the athletes who were supposed to be monitored from the local government level to the state level by the coaches are now fast disappearing,

because the championships that could be used to discover them are no more being organized, the coaches that should handle them are also no more seriously interested in their jobs due to lack of incentive.

2.4 Borno State and National Sports Festival Participation

The first National Sports Festival featured 12 states of the federation and pragmatically galvanized the various governments of the federation into talent hunting and sports development. This took the form of states organizing festivals at local government and state levels in order to maximize talent.

The former North Eastern State comprises Borno, Bauchi and Gongola states all of which attended the first National Sports Festival, which was held in Lagos in 1973. They came 5th out of the l2 states with ten gold, three silver and six bronze. Since the inception of the National Sports Festival, prior to the week long contest, competitions were held at district, zonal and state levels iIn order to select athletes who would represent the state in the National Sport Festival.

Since the inception of the National Sports Festival in 1973 Borno State has attended all the National Sports Festivals except in 1995. Borno, Bauchi and Gongola states have also jointly organized a triangular sports festival. The festival was held to help participating states scout for talent and to improve their athletes' performance in preparation for the national sports festival. The festival was to help each state know its potentials. The country relied on states and local governments as its resource base from which talents were tapped, thus making the organization of local and states government sport festivals important for sportsmen and women to prove their talent or potential.

In 1991 the Minister of Youth Sports and Culture, Air Commodore Anthony Ikhazoboh lumped the country into seven sporting zones. Borno State was grouped in zone four (4) together with Bauchi and Gongola States. In 1991, this zone jointly organized and financed a mini zonal sports festival for men and women so as to give athletes the much desired competition and form the basis for the selection of athletes for the seventh (7^{th}) National Sports Festival.

Awosika (2000) stated that the 1973 National Sports Festival started with Junior, Intermediate and Senior categories, but due to the emphasis laid on winning medals, there was flagrant cheating in age declaration. The Festival committees enacted laws which identified the type of athletes who were to participate in the National Sports Festival.

The idea here is that since most national athletes come from the states, the latter state should come to the festival to expose young but promising athlete who can now be trained overtime by international standards. However, the decision led to much chaos such that the organizers finally decided on making the festival open.

Table 2.1 Medal table showing the position of Borno State in the National Sports Festivals

Host State	Year	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Position
Lagos	1973	10	3	6	5th
Lagos	1975 NES	5	2	6	8th
Kaduna	1977 Borno				
Ibadan	1979	1	3	3	
Henin	1987				
Ilorin	1985				
Port-Harcourt	1988				
Bauchi Zone 4	1991	24	28	38	
Benin	1996	4	12	19	18th out of 30
Imo state	1998	5	4	8	23rd out of 36
Bauchi	2000				
Edo state	2002	5	2	6	19th out 36

NB: In 1991 the country was divided into seven zones; Borno in Zone 4 emerged 5th out of 7 zones.

The result of the triangular sports festival held in Bauchi among the former North-Eastern States of Bauchi, Borno and Gongola States in preparation for the national sports festival. September 19th 1987.

Table 2.2: Medal table of triangular sports festival

State	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Position
Bauchi state	89	41	18	1st
Gongola state	23	46	43	2nd
Borno state	9	29	50	3rd

N.B: This festival was organized when the various states in the country were grouped into zones.

Inter zonal sports competition held among the former North Eastern States of Bauchi, Borno and Gongola States. The competition was held in Maiduguri on the 5th of April 1991 in preparation for the National Sports Festival.

Table 2.3: Medals Table of the 2nd inter-zonal sport competition

State	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Position
Bauchi state	68	49	34	1st
Borno state	55	45	42	2nd
Gongola state	42	62	46	3rd

Table 2.4: The 1991 National Sports Festival held in Bauchi State on zonal basis

Zone	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Borno State is in zone four
Two	70	61	59	
One	51	39	65	
Six	46	36	45	
Four	24	28	38	Bauchi, Gongola and Borno States
Five	23	26	40	
Seven	13	14	38	

Table 2.5: Table of the number of athletes from Borno State who featured in the Edo 2002 National Sports Festival

S/N.	Event Featured	No. of Athletes	Male	Female
1.	Handball	12	-	12
2.	Basketball	10	-	10
3.	Hockey	14	14	-
4.	Weight lifting	8	8	-
5.	Traditional Boxing	3	3	-
6.	Athletic	5	5	-
7.	Judo	2	2	-
8.	Cycling	8	5	3
9.	Badminton	4	2	2

2.5 Why Athletes should be mobilized for the National Sports Festival

One major objective of the festival is to unify the country, and to help states discover budding athletic talents and that is why it was not thrown open to all classes of athletes. When a state is preparing for the national sports festival it is expected that it would organize a mini state sports festival both at the state and the local government levels.

The aim of the festival is to enable the state to discover new talents at the grassroots level as first step toward building a massive reservoir from which the state could always field potential athletes at future national and international competitions. A close look however, reveals that the festival does contribute to the development of this nation in some other ways. Mshelia (2000) stated that the sports festival encourages and promotes mass participation in amateur sports competition at all level as well as promotes and strengthens friendship among

athletes; it also fosters national unity and sports excellence.

Mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival will not only help to bring to limelight those hidden talents but it will also determine the extent of effort and labour put in by states during their preparation for the National Sports Festival.

The festival is also expected to serve as a training ground for sportsmen and women, and also provide people in the rural areas the opportunity to participate fully in the sporting life of the country. The mobilization of athlete will also give opportunity for states to construct and upgrade their facilities.

Mshelia (2000) stated that by organizing the state and the local government sports festivals, the "storage bank of young talented athletes are constantly replenished so as to avoid using the same athletes often, or only to resort to looking for new ones each time the need arises. The process of recruiting and framing and polishing a player to an international standard requires a long-term plan.

Sports programme if well organized, would have prepared the youth for adult sport life, thus contributing to a nation's development. This type of activity has some bearing on the youth's qualities of education, physical fitness, health, culture, economy, national and international prestige, understanding and goodwill. Through sporting activities, the youth are also expected to be properly integrated into all these facets of life in order to prepare them for a full and worthwhile adult life (Onifade, 1984; Awosika, 2000).

Participation in national sports festival is expected to instill discipline in the youth, since the festival embodies rules and regulations; spirit of teamwork, indirect training regime, repeated practice of different tasks, fair play and acceptance of defeat. These qualities of sports are to inculcate the most desirable human qualities, which are in turn reflections of a disciplined nation. Any nation that fails to imbibe these attributes in her youth is likely to face political and economic disaster (Awosika, l995; Awosika, 2000).

In terms of discovery of talents, the state and local sports festivals have failed to live up to the expectation of their introduction because, most of those who feature are already known stars who have been discovered but are yet to become national champions.

The idea of barring those who have represented the country twice in international competitions has only reduced but not eradicated the re-emergence of those already known stars.

Dogo (2000) stated that before, the sources of supply of athletes for the states were all from the institutions of learning and other club organizations. In the past, those institutions contributed immensely toward the development of sports at the grassroots when states were operating the boarding system of education. At that time most of the students lived in dormitories where inter house competitions were encouraged or made mandatory with standard facilities. Now that most of the schools have been deboarded, little is being achieved in the area of sports in those institutions.

The state sports council is expected to discover and nurture athletes to such a level that they should be able to wear the national colour. These athletes are to be discovered through local government, zonal and inter state championships. (Morakinyo, 2000).

These athletes who were supposed to be monitored from the local government level to the state level by the coaches are now fast disappearing because the championships that could be used to discover them are no more being organized. The coaches that should handle them are also no more seriously interested in their jobs due to lack of incentive or they are often not even professionally equipped to do the job. The result is that the number of athlete is fast diminishing and the ones existing are not skilful to such an extent that those invited to national camps are being taught basic skills.

Borno State now owns and finances professional soccer club in the national league with huge funds being pumped into maintaining this soccer club while other sports are relegated to the background. The result is that these other sports, including soccer at the local government level are neglected. Mobilization of athletes in Bomo State will give the state opportunity to construct and upgrade the sport facilities in the state and at the local government level.

Durasanmi (2002) speaking to the Nigerian Vanguard said that the festival has original focus. He said if the objective of the festival was to discover talents for grooming, then the syndrome of wining at all cost especially by host states have grievously destroyed the focus, The states need to go back to the drawing board for redirection.

2.6 Mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Mobilization has a strong military *connotation* and can be defined as gathering and preparing people toward a set target or goal.

MAMSER as reported by Abdulrahman (1993) andAdeyanju (1998) defined mobilization as the process of pooling together, harnessing, actualizing and using human resource for the purpose of development. To mobilize according to the Advanced Learners Dictionary is to become ready for service or action. Therefore, it could be said that mobilization involves the act of developing people's consciousness, which brings about mutual agreement, consensus and eagerness in wanting to carry out an obligation. (Ikhioya and Gloria, 1993, Adeyanju, 1998).

Mobilization will give equal opportunities for athletes, in the state to be recruited and selected in preparation for the National Sports Festival. Potential athletes abound in the entire nooks and crannies of the local government areas in the state.

Mobilization of athletes will lead to the discovery of those hidden athletic talents who will be nurtured and brought up to stardom. The purpose of mobilization is to bring more sporting glory to the state through excellent sport performance during the national sports festival.

Mobilization of athletes can be made possible when structures are in place to enable the organizers conduct competition in which athletes will be selected to represent the state in the National Sports Festival. Facilities, equipment and supplies are made available for every athlete so that they will have the

opportunity of training for proficiency.

There are a lot of hidden talents that abound in clubs in the local government areas and in the secondary schools in the state who have not been discovered.

2.7 Research Studies Related to Mobilization of Athletes.

The study is discussed under these six variables.

1. Facilities and equipment.
2. Funding of sports.
3. Local and State Government Sports Festivals
4. Inter Zonal Secondary School Competition.
5. Motivation of athletes
6. Camping/training of athletes.
7. Recruitment, practice/selection of athletes.
8. Sports personnel/communication.

1. Facilities and Equipment.

Facilities play a major role in all human endeavours. There can be no sporting activities without sports facilities. Ekanem (1995) stated that the existence of sport facilities and equipment is of vital importance in the conduct of sports competitions. He observed that standard facilities and equipment are essential prerequisite to good and impressive performance in sports at all levels of participation.

The facilities and equipment available in the state for the conduct of sports and games programmes determine to a considerable extent of the type of sports programme that can be offered.

Ekanem (1995) stated that different types of activities require different facilities and equipment. Consequently therefore, any limitation of these facilities and equipment creates difficulties in presenting the desired variety of sports activities. Ezegwu (1992) and Chorn (1999), observed that the provision and development of sports facilities makes it possible for athletes to train harder in order to achieve success and win laurels for their respective states.

Ezegwu (1992) stated that the provision of new and well-maintained facilities and equipment is in themselves good motivation for the athletes. In England, the provision of sports facilities is not the prerogative of a single body but, the joint efforts of government and voluntary bodies, local authorities, corporate organization are the main providers of land and large facilities to be used by the community for recreation.

Ladani (1986) stated that according to a national survey conducted on facilities in Japan in 1980 a total of 218,700 sports facilities were available in the country. Such a survey conducted in 1974 reported that the former Soviet Union had 3,178 sports centres, 103,200 soccer fields, 4,000 basketball courts, 59,000 volleyball and tennis courts, 1,059 gymnasium and swimming pools in the country.

According to Ladani (1986) the Academy of Physical Culture in Peking China has facilities, which include three gymnasiums, two table tennis halls, two

basketball stadiums, a weight training area, and an outdoor accommodation for soccer, track and field, basketball, shooting range, volleyball, handball courts and swimming. Factories and communities including schools have their own facilities, built by communal labour.

Most African countries are seriously lagging behind in the world in terms of the provision of facilities and equipment. Only few countries in Africa can boast of standard facilities like, stadium and swimming pool. Morocco, South Africa and Egypt have few international swimming pools. Nigeria with a population of 90 million according to Ezugwu (1992) has inadequate sporting facilities and this can be observed from the federal to the local government levels. Not withstanding the researcher observed that there has been slight improvement in the provision of standard facilities and equipment at the federal level and in some few states in the country.

At the federal level, few standard facilities exist. The recently completed Abuja National Stadium that hosted the 6th All African Game is an example. The National Stadium in Lagos, with its tartan track, Olympic size swimming pool and indoor sport hall have all dilapidated or vandalized.

The influence of facilities on the level of preparation and performance of athletes in the National Sports Festival can be seen in the Afuze project, which was initiated by Samuel Ogbemudia in the former Bendel State. The medal sweep by the former Midwest during the first National Sports Festival in Lagos. The exploits done by the former Bendel State which was created out of the Midwest point to the invaluable role played by facilities and equipment in preparing

athletes for the National Sports Festival. To crown it all the Edo 2002 National Sports Festival proved to be a great success for Edo State and Nigeria as a whole (Ornorege 2002).

Ogbemudia (2002) said "Sport development is not only about facilities - but if you provide the facilities the performance will surely improve that was the philosophy of the Afuze project a unique sports village that has now proved to be far ahead of its time."

lshaku (1991) and Chom (1998) were of the same opinion and observed that states like Lagos and former Bendel had excelled in sports as a result of making available better sporting facilities than other states of the federation. The provision of improved sporting facilities not only helped in the proper training of athletes when preparing for sports festivals but also was one of the major factors for the improvement of athletic achievement.

The Borno State Sport Council is still battling with facilities problem, which has been the major problem of the state. Over the years, there have been over centralization of sports facilities and equipment in the state headquarters with non-existent sports facilities in the local government areas.

According to Awosika (1996) facilities and equipment are programs related if they are available, adequate and well maintained there is every possibility of having a good sports programme. The success in mobilizing athletes depends to some extent on the availability of sports facilities and equipment.

Adedeji (2005) said that the availability of the right training facilities and equipment in designated areas is an indispensable ingredient in the training of

athletes. As a matter of paramount importance, there is the need to provide equipment and facilities, to train potential athletes to develop their self-acquired skills to the advantage of prospective clubs. Where such facilities are lacking, the problem of giving adequate technical training would be the biggest headache confronting the handler of a given team be it local or international.

Bennet *et al*, (1975) and Chuntar, (1996) stated that Japan is the only country in which the federal government plays a significant role in the construction of sports facilities. In New Zealand, the local government carries the responsibility for the construction and maintenance of facilities. In Nigeria, Ghana and most African countries the national Government as well as the state and local governments share the responsibility.

Omoregie (2002) reported that the National Sports Festival was a orelude to the Second All African Games, which took place in Lagos in 1973. The game left a legacy of new facilities in the National Stadium, which had the sports hall, the swimming pool and the hockey pitch. This neatly packaged complex incited the idea of a local sports festival within the country. The National Stadium set the pace for the extension of facilities for sports competition in the country. It is interesting to note that the first state to borrow a leaf from that example was the then Midwestern State (present day Edo and Delta state) which brought about the Afuze project, a unique sports village which has brought about great success for those states in the National Sports Festival.

The lack of maintenance culture in Nigeria has left those facilities in deplorable condition. Now attention has been shifted to the Abuja National

Stadium leaving the National Stadium, Surulere in dire need of maintenance.

Research evidence has revealed the lack of sporting facilities all over the federation. Chuntar (1995) lamented that there were no sufficient courts; Asekum (1984) mentioned the lack of standard swimming pool in the country.

Ebewale (1984) reported that most Nigerian athletes train on substandard tracks which makes a lot of difference with the foreign athletes. In Borno State today the state does not have even one substandard track to train on when preparing for the national sports festival. The state constructed the only sport centre in the state headquarters in the late eighties. The sport centre has one football field with no athletic track. It also has two-basketball courts, two-handball court, one volleyball court and one mini sports ball for wrestling and judo and a boxing ring. There is no standard athletic track standard or standard swimming pool in the state.

When the University of Maiduguri hosted the Nigerian University Games (NUGA) competition the dearth of facilities was so glaring that athletic events and swimming had to be shifted to Bauchi because those facilities were not available in the state.

A study of sports facilities in some selected schools in Borno State by David (1986) revealed a minimum list of sports facilities for each school, junior Secondary School of about 240 students to include the following: two football fields, two basketball courts (one concrete), three volleyball courts (one concrete), five table tennis boards in hostels/school premises, four badminton courts and two handball fields. All these facilities are no longer functional because of lack of maintenance. For sporting activities to be encouraged, there is need for the

improvement of the sport facilities and equipment in schools.

Ifeadi (1980) observed that where facilities and equipment are available students could be seen participating in sporting activities. To affirm it all, Dougherty and Diane (1973), and Chuntar (1995) reported that adequate and better equipment and facilities contribute to performance and enhance effectiveness and efficiency in sports.

In 1988 Borno State was only able to feature 180 athlete during the Rivers 88 National Sports Festival which was half of the number featured by Bauchi and Bendel States due to lack of adequate facilities and equipment.

In 1989 the government of Abdul One awarded a contract for the construction of a standard sports stadium in Maiduguri. The construction work started, and it even reached midway with the structures already erected, but the construction work was discontinued by the civilian administration of Maina Ma'aji in 1991. `Since that time, all attempts by concerned citizens to persuade the government to finish the project have been ignored.

2. Funding of Sports

Sports plays an invaluable role in projecting the image of a nation. Sports also serves as a means of recreation in the life of a nation. Many countries now spend a good percentage of their annual budget on the development of sports.

Lipsyte (1976) and Chom (1996) stated that in England, the greater part of the funding of sports is done by voluntary organization. These voluntary organizations sponsor all clubs or national teams to any international sports competitions. Sometimes, the government gives financial assistance, but it has no

say in the organization and conduct of such competitions.

In the former Soviet Union, sports programmes were financed by the government through the state budget. However, funding in Russia is done directly by the government, while in the United States sports is funded by both government and business organization, (Bennet *et al*, 1975; Chuntar 1995).

In England the greater part of funding of sports is done by voluntary organizations. These organizations sponsor all clubs or the national team to any international sports competition. Sometime however, the government gives financial assistance, but it has no say in the organization and conduct of such competitions (Lipsyte 1976, Chom 1996).

In the former German Democratic Republic, fund for sports came from gate receipt while the sports clubs raise their own funds in various ways. In China, the nation's sports association are financed by the government through the All China Athletic Association. (Dahiru 1988; Chom (1996). In recent years, there has been global increase in the demand for sporting facilities and this in turn has necessitated an increase in more funds allocated for sport in government budget or other services.

The funding of sports varies from country to country. Bennet *et al*, (1975), and Chom (1995) stated that most national governments provide direct financial subsidies or support for sports programme in one way or the other. Chuntar (1995) stated that the government of Uganda is responsible for the financing of sport including the University Sports. Other sources of funding for the sports council include gate-taking, donations from companies and individuals,

special aids from philanthropists and endowment funds. But the most reliable source of funding is from budgetary appropriation.

Dogo (2000) stated that sports management as it is in Nigeria, is always having problem because organizers adopt the fire-brigade approach due to the late release of government funds either to the Ministry of Sports or to the sports councils. There is always complaint from the Sports Development Department that the funds come in late or not at all. When the funds are not forthcoming, the department has to look elsewhere for funds and to commence camping based on the little resource at hand. Dogo went on to say that funds were always released at the eleventh hour and the camping would have been overtaken by events. He also asserted that most cooperate bodies were not interested in sponsoring sports competitions. According to Venkatswarlu (1985) and Chuntar (1995) funding of sports in Nigeria has been on an ad-hoc basis especially whenever the government was in financial crises; the government always resorted to contributions from the public to organize sports.

Sometime, the governments launch sports endowment funds e.g. the 100 million naira appeal funds for USA 94.

Sports is a social venture that require a huge financial outlay for the implementation of various programmes. In times past, the government had shouldered the total financial need for the execution of sports projects and programmes with occasional support from individuals and cooperates bodies (Morakinyo, 2000).

The Sports Development Policy for Nigeria (1989) stated that the government accepts primary responsibility of the funding of the sports development sector in such areas as mass participation.

Government is also expected to provide funding as part of her role of creating awareness for amateur sports, funding would also come in the form of provision of financial support to assist in hosting and financing of sports events (Onifade 2000).

Abdullahi (1975) speaking to New Nigerian Newspaper said that eighty thousand naira was earmarked for the expansion and development of the Kofar Mata Festival Stadium, while seven hundred and fifty thousand was voted for the development of facilities in the rural areas.

Solomon (2002) stated in the Vanguard Newspaper that a total of thirty-six (36) million naira was approved toward effective participation in Edo 2002 Sports Festival by Bayelsa State, while about 56 million naira was spent for the prosecution of the festival challenges and the sum of twenty-five million naira (N25, 000,000) was spent for the sports festival proper. The Edo 2002 local organizing committee was able to assemble about (25) twenty-five cooperate sponsors who bank rolled the festival to the tune of 60 million naira.

The massive wealth of a free spending era supported the first National Sports Festival in 1973 which was attended by the then (l2) twelve states of the federation. As the number of states grew in the country so did the problem of finance and organization. This led to postponement of the National Sports Festival on several occasions. The demand for logistics alone stretched the capabilities of

many hosts, almost to breaking point. The toll on the finances of each state has been crippling.

Nigeria possesses great potentials for sports excellence but the resources are not adequately tapped.

Provision of modern and adequate facilities depend very much on funding of sports, without adequate funding the maintenance of existing facilities will be a dream and the hopes and aspirations of mobilizing athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival will remain unattainable. Success in mobilizing athletes can be attributed to the adequate provision of facilities and equipment and the maintenance of facilities. The lack of provision of funds at the right time has compounded the problem of facilities and equipment.

Those who are in the position to provide funds, grants, subventions and donations appear to do so reluctantly. David (1986) and Chuntar (1995) stated that when such funds are given by government, for example it is not only meager and insignificant but it may come at a time when the money cannot be effectively used for what it was meant. He further stated that lack of concern to provide sufficient funds invariably leads to lack of provision of adequate sporting facilities and equipment which are prevalent in most schools in the state.

Borno State Sports Council perhaps like any other sports council depends on the state government for funds. Grant is made available annually to the council to meet most of its financial obligations. The council also gets funds from few sports loving individuals.

Over the years, the council has experienced inadequate funds to execute its programmes, which include among others, organizing sports festivals at the local government and the state levels. Funding plays a major role in the selection and recruitment of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival. Funding is also central to the provision of facilities and equipment, camping of athletes in preparation for the national sports festival and organizing inter zonal secondary school sports competition.

3. Local and State Government Sports Festival

The National Sports Festival does not only play the role of sports in the unification of a nation, but the bi annual sports festival serves as an avenue for talent hunting. The aim is to enable the country discover new talent as a first step towards building a massive reservoir of potential athletes to represent the country. (Mshelia 2000).

Mshelia (2000) stated that the sports festival encourages and promotes mass participation in amateur sports competitions at all levels. It is expected that before any state participates in the national sports festival, it is supposed to organize its own mini state sport festival in order to maximize its talent hunt in preparation for the National Sports Festival (Omeruan 1996)

The Olympic, which was the most celebrated national festival among the Greek, was conducted every four years at Olympia. This festival started in 776 Bc and the game lasted five days. The Olympia games included foot races, pentathlon, wrestling, boxing discuss throws, and throwing the javelin which is like the Nigerian National Sports Festival.

Omoregie (2002) stated that the National Sports Festival proper is not supposed to be the ground to search for new talents or serve as a kind of catch them young festival. The individual sporting associations are expected to organize close or open competitions in their states either close or open depending on the direction they want their sports to move towards. For close competitions the goal would be to discover new talents, while for the open competitions, improvement and maintenance of standard would be the priority. The National Sports Festival is now a close one. The idea here is that since most of the national athletes come from the state, state should come to the festival to expose young but promising athletes who can now be trained over time by national coaches.

In the past, the Borno State Sports Council did fulfill its role in establishing zonal sports councils, held sports festivals from local government to the state level organized local and state governments sports festivals and funds were also provided to run these programmes. All these have virtually stopped, with the cessation of this function. The discovery and nurturing of athletic talents in the local government areas by the state sports council have stopped because the championships that could be used to discover them are no longer being organized.

The result is that the number of athletes is fast diminishing and the ones existing are not skilful. The states have now fallen into the practice known in sports circle as 'poaching', which involves enticing top athletes from other states with the promise of offering them employment and scholarship. With this development, the states have not extended their search for talents to the local government areas.

4. Inter Zonal Secondary Sporting Mobilization of Athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Adedeji (2000) stated that real sports progress began in Nigeria with the introduction of formal sports organization in 1910 and its extension from teacher training colleges to secondary schools when the Empire Day competition were organized on inter school basis around 1928. Secondary school sports were categorized under youth sports. The youth sports programme is very important because this age is a transitional period in human life when the individual can successfully acquire and develop the motor skill necessary to participate in a variety of sports (Singer 1975; Anyanwu 2000). That is why the zonal secondary school sports competitions should be revived in Borno State, because this is the stage where young athletes' talents can be discovered and developed.

Athletes in their youth are sure to respond promptly to sports training and displaying exciting performances if the necessary enabling environment is provided e.g. when adequate facilities and equipment are provided for training as well as accommodation and incentives.

Secondary school sports teams serve as feeder to the various sports teams in the state. It therefore became necessary for coaches to look for talent in the secondary schools. This required them to attend inter school competitions to scout for athletes.

Inter zonal secondary school sports competition is one of the fora where the state sports council recruits its athletes when preparing for the National Sports Festival. Before the deboarding of most of the schools in the state, the secondary

schools in the state used to provide the bulk of the athletes who represented the state in the National Sports Festivals. Marokinyo (2000) stated that secondary schools and teachers colleges in the past contributed immensely towards the development of sports at the grassroots when states were operating a boarding system of education. The students lived in dormitories where inter house competitions were encouraged or made mandatory with standard facilities. Inter zonal sports competition in the secondary schools are now a shadow of their past. Apart from football, many schools are not able to raise teams in other sports and games.

Betiyong (1998) stated that officials handling school sports employ the fire brigade approach in recruiting players who are non students to represent their zone in inter zonal sports competitions. There have been reports during the state inter zonal sports competitions where mercenaries were used to represent zones during the competitions.

The secondary schools whether boarding or deboarding, public or private is to be a place where talents are identified and developed through training and properly groomed for future use at the local, state and national levels. Betiyong (1998) further stated that students' teams to represent their schools in the zone are hard to come by in most schools. This is also similar to what is obtained in Borno State because the number of teams representing the zones in various sports has reduced drastically. Sports like athletics have completely disappeared now in the secondary school sports at the state level. No school in the state or even the sports council can boast of a standard track. The state government is supposed to carry

the campaign for youth sports down to the grassroots level of the community.

Talent hunt for potential athletes that abound all over the federation should be spearheaded by the state and local government sports council through regular coaching programmes and sports competitions for secondary schools in their location.

In most of the secondary schools in the state only one teacher or coach handles sports in a school with a population of the students of up to one thousand. (Adedeji 2005).

One of the serious problems facing sports competition in schools today is the lack of adequate facilities and equipment. In addition, David, (1986) lamented the predicament of schools in terms of sporting facilities like basketball, or and lawn tennis courts, standard football fields and athletic tracks. Other equipment like rackets, nets, balls and mats were lacking. Most of the secondary schools in Borno State have few boarding students, with the bulk of the students being day students. There are more day secondary schools than boarding schools in the state. This has negatively affected the level of participation in sports by students in their respective schools. Inter house competitions are no longer being organized in those schools. Inter house competitions offer the opportunity for every student to display and develop his or her skill, which offers the students the opportunity to excel in specific sports.

5. Motivation of athletes

Motivation by definition deals with the variables that incite or direct a person towards activity and ultimately toward a specific goal. (Atkinson 1964). Some

situations are generally motivating to most people, other situations elicit responses specific to and compatible with individual personality. However, it must be remembered that the human organism, reaction are also influenced by previous experiences, present expectations and other individual differences. Each athlete needs to be considered on an individual basis to determine what certain motivational technique will work best for him.

Motivation therefore is 'the inner state that energizes, activates or moves and directs or channels behaviour toward goal. (Motivation helps in sustaining effort to reach goal. It may therefore be stated that man's goals are influenced by his action and hence behaviour is purposeful (Venkatswarlu 1986; Zubairu 2000).

Many reasons have been advanced as to why athletes take part in competitive sports. These reasons can be broadly categorized into external reward and internal reward of sports. The external rewards of sports include quest for recognition, prize money, position, fame and status, while internal rewards of sports include feeling of well being, self-esteem, confidence, need for affiliation, personal success and achievement (Venkateswarlu 1984; Saka 2000).

Among the ancient Greek, motivation was ever present among the Athenian society because boys were required to emulate the great heroes of literature and the victor in the festival. Undoubtedly, the prize, praise, prestige and privileges granted to winners of the athletic games motivated the boys to desire to achieve athletic prowess (Ladani 1979).

Motivation plays a great role in sports performance among sports men and women more especially the athletes when undergoing training.

Zubairu (2000) reported that there are different kind of variables that affect the performance of athletes notably among which is reward, monetary or otherwise. Some coaches may verbally approve or disapprove of the effort they are observing during training. The verbal exhortation tends to impale complex performance. The effect of praise increases if subject highly needs social approval.

Setting a specific performance goal influences score on complex coordination task more positively than simply encouraging subjects to do their best. Thus it is more helpful to encourage the performer to attain reasonable goal than simply encouraging him with specific word.

Osage (2000) stated that athletes often complain that their legitimate allowances are not paid, travel expenses are also not refunded. The athletes also lack proper training kit, and suffer from poor accommodation. Since incentives are to serve as motivator to athletes, efforts have to be made to meet their needs to enable them perform better.

Venkateswarlu (1997) stated that the strategies for motivating athletes include reinforcement, control and cognitive/self control. The former is used to strengthen the motivation of athletes to strictly adhere to preplanned training regimen.

In the latter strategy, athletes out of their will deposit certain amount of money with the coach on the condition that the coach should return the money to them only if they successfully complete their training programme. By this the athletes can exert self-control on their behaviour. This method is preferable

because it is intrinsically oriented, independent of others influencing the athletes.

The Grecian boys were strongly motivated by rivalry and competition was not limited to sport alone but extended to art, speech and poetry.

In the same vein rivalry was not confined to individuals but completed in games. Prizes were usually awarded at each contest. The prize was more of honour than to attract contestants.

The urge to participate and succeed in athletics is basic to skilled performance. The reason for participation in athletic is as diverse as they may be from person to person, and can be classified as either materialistic or ideal. There is no doubt that anticipated and obtained reward is important in motivation. The successful athlete receives money, status and other materialistic rewards. (Adedeji 2005).

Adeyanju (quoted by Zubairu (2000)) stated that reinforcement refers to an event, which increased the probability of an act or behaviour being repeated. It is a form of reward, which makes an earlier behaviour to be repeated. In learning a skill, the praise, gift or encouragement given to the individual after a correct performance serves as reinforcement. Such rewards reinforce the act; they let the individual know that they are performing the desired act and that further good performance wou1d be rewarded. The same way reinforcement given immediately is more effective than delayed reinforcement.

Social reinforcement such as praise, encouragement, approval and recognition always reinforce behaviour; when we give an outstanding athlete a trophy, cup or medal we are rewarding him for a feat. Reward from the coach is

necessary to encourage sustained effort and performance at repetitive practice. Reinforcement must be continuous when the young person is learning behaviour or a skill (Adedeji 2005).

Athletes are motivated to participate in competition on many occasions because of the reward they are going to receive. Motivation whether internal or external can influence the behaviour of the athlete when responding to call to participate in sports festivals or when undergoing training in preparation for state or national assignment.

Osagie (2000) observed that reward in sports is as old as the existence of man himself. When he ran after an animal for his food and caught up with it, he has his meal as a reward. If he accidentally falls into a river and succeeds *in* swimming out – he saved his life. That is his reward for hard swim. The ancient Olympic Game still remains the best philosophy for amateur athlete. The prizes awarded winners of the Olympic Festival were not of great material value; rather an appropriate wreath was placed on the head of the victors in an impressive ceremony. At Olympia, the crown was of olive leaves. At the Atlanta Olyrnpic games the winners were given garland of flowers plus their medals. Today, practicing athletes do not know what the future holds for them on retirement. Special provision should be made for star athletes who have nothing to fall back to because of poor educational start. Such benefit on retirement will drive practicing athletes to the height of advancement that will bring recognition and honour to the state and to the nation and appreciated by the athletes (Osagie, 2000).

Camping/Training of athletes

One of the rules for qualifications in the games of the ancient Olympics was that competitor were required to train for 10 months. (Ladani, 1996)

Bomo State has been organizing open camping for athletes preparing for the National Sports Festival. Coach Mado speaking in an interview with the researcher disclosed that the state has not been able to accommodate athletes in camp when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival. He stated that in the early days of the National Sports Festival before the division of Borno State into two states most athletes came from the institutions and secondary schools in the state where most of the schools which operated the boarding system. Athletes were selected and camped in preparation for the National Sports Festival in those secondary schools. At that time, athletes were provided accommodation, feeding and pocket money throughout the period of the camping. At that time the facilities and equipment for training are available and better than what is obtainable today.

The open camp does not encourage the discovery of athletic talents because it is the same old players who have represented the state in the National Sports Festival on more than two occasions that are selected to represent the state in the National Sports Festival. Over the years, Borno State Sports Council has been organizing open camps. The open camp does not encourage the discovery of hidden athletic talents,

The former Bendel State which now consists of the present day Edo and Delta States camped its athletes at the now legendary Afuze town and thus began the magic which produced champions that conquered every facet of sport in the

country. (Omoregie, 2002).

Brigadier General Samuel Ogbornudia the erstwhile Governor of Bendel State chose Afuze, a unique sports village as the campsite for the bulk of the athletes when preparing for the National Sports Festival. The main reason was that Afuze provided the right camping environment, which did not have the usual urban distraction like nightlife, unnecessary visitors and most importantly having sports facilities close to the camp.

Nixon, (1968) and Egbunike, (1985) observed that the provision of improved sporting facilities not only helps in the proper training of athletes when preparing for sports festival, but also is one of the major factors for the improvement of athletic achievement, as evident in the dominance of the medal table of the National Sports Festival by Bendel State and present day Edo State.

Ekanem, (1995) reported that the existence of adequate sports facilities and equipment in camping sites is of vital importance in the training of athletes. The extent of the availability of sports facilities and equipment determines to a considerable extent the type of training programme that can be offered.

Standard facilities and equipment are essential pre-requisite to good and impressive performance in sports at all levels of participation.

Infrastructural facilities in Borno State are in acute shortage and the existing ones are dilapidated, which affects the level of training of the athletes. Today in Borno State athletes are not accommodated in camps and allowance are not paid to them when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival. Any athletes who desire to represent the state in the National Sports Festival have

to bear the expenses incurred during the course of their training.

Training can be defined as the art of teaching, instructing and imparting of knowledge and skills. During training, learners are often made to learn personal skills relevant to a task but not often exposed to interaction skills even though such skills could be required in the future in order to share responsibilities and participate on the same tasks when the learner works as part of a team (lreogbu, 1989; Chuntar, 1996).

Igbanugu, (1997) stated that a training programme is one which develops an athlete for a particular event and involves increasing energy capacity as well as skill performance. Training will condition as well as deal with skill, strategies and tactics. It involves total conditioning. Training therefore focuses on all the qualities of performance providing an all round readiness for competition. The purpose of camping is to prepare the athletes for the task ahead of them. State and local government sports festival is supposed to serve as a forum for the selection and recruitment of athletes when preparing for the National Sports Festival. Athletes in Borno State are not camped when preparing for the National Sports Festival. Most of the athletes reside in the state capital; they only report for training everyday.

Sports Development Policy for Nigeria (1989 chapter 10 section 10.1 and 2) stated that sport training in Nigeria has been ad-hoc and uncoordinated in nature.

Planning training programme is the most essential pre-requisite for successful participation in state, regional, national and international competitions.

Unfortunately, sports organization in Nigeria has not been consistent in the planning programmes for the state athletes. This has generally been inadequate and unrealistic (Chado, 1990; Kabido, 1993; 1997).

In Borno State there are no training facilities for athletes when preparing for he National Sports Festival, as Venkateswarlu, (1986) Kabido, (1993) stated that most plans are based on ad-hoc arrangement, leading to the production of ill prepared and ill equipped athletes. The preparation always comes at the eleventh hour. This has always been the attitude. Things do not just start at the right time and this can be seen in every sphere of life of the nation including sports. Most of the preparations for the National Sports Festival in the state are haphazard and uncoordinated. Athletes are not accommodated in camps for training. This has been the recurrent issue over the years. No proper preparations and trainings are undertaken**;** athletes are only assembled and drilled for few days prior to the National Sports Festival.

6. Recruitment and selection of athletes

One of the major objectives of the sports festival is to help discover budding athletic talents. By the rules of the National Sports Festival, athletes who are considered over exposed either locally or internationally are automatically barred. Any athlete who has participated in three consecutive festivals or two appearances is barred. The idea here is that states should come to the festival to expose young but promising athletes who can now be trained over time by coaches for national competition.

Almost every phase of human life is built on the desire to excel and to be on top, whether in a chosen profession or on the athletic field. However, this enthusiasm for competition and coming out successful does not always have positive effects. The drive to excel in a particular sports or in several sports has its prize.

Today, the National Policy on Sports emphasises on making provision for mass participation and talent discovery. This necessitates the organization of sports at the local and state levels. The National Sports Festival is one of the major means of mobilizing athletes at the local and the state level. Sports festivals at the local and the state level are organized so that athletic talents which abound in the rural areas could be discovered and recruited in preparation for the National Sports Festival.

Neal, (1978) observed that as a result of the big money being poured into sports, and stakeholders wanting to gain popularity through sports, the pressure on coaches and teams to produce result has become tremendous. This has led to greed and selfishness in sports. More and more pressure is being put on coaches to come up with good teams. As a result of this, coaches do not want to take the time to go through a long building process. They have found it easier to go out and lure the super talents, which makes the coaches look good because skills on the part of the players have already been developed waiting to be drafted for action during the sports festival.

The great obsession for winning has done a lot of harm to athletes and sports development in general. Before states participate in the National Sports

Festival, they are supposed to organize their own mini state and local government sports festivals in order to maximize their talent hunt preparatory to the National Sports Festival. When this festival is being held, coaches are supposed to embark on recruitment drive to recruit athletics talents who have been discovered in these sports festivals. The sports festivals that are organized at the local government and state levels in preparation for the national sports festival have now stopped. Instead of going to the grassroots level to recruit young athlete talents, so that the sports council will nurture and maintain locally sourced talents among its athletes. Coaches merely 'poach' athlete who are already known stars.

Abdullahi, (2001) reported that Kano State Sports Council speaks of terminating contract appointment with athletes and in its place nurture and maintain locally sourced talents. The council chief said that government is more interested in building and developing the raw materials on ground rather than hire ready – made athletes. He said it is possible to nurture the youth and bring them to stardom.

Adedeji, (2005) stated the criteria for selecting players based on standard that are necessary for a given competition whether at local or international level. The selection of these players is geared toward achieving a particular goal or set objective. Therefore, in the search of material, emphasis on the qualities of the individual player focuses attention on the position of the entire exercise to select suitable materials befitting standard and level of the assignment given.

There is no doubt that the recruitment and selection of athletes in Borno State to represent the state in the National Sports Festival have not been done to

involve the local government areas in the state. The mode of selecting athletes when preparing for the National Sports Festival has been ad-hoc arrangement. Only athletes who reside in the Maiduguri metropolis are usually selected for training in preparation for the National Sports Festival. Local sports festivals are no longer being organized in the various zones of the state.

7. Sports Personnel/Communication

There is a general consensus among experts in the field of sports that no meaningful progress can be achieved in the field of sports at the national, state and local government levels without a pragmatic and efficient organizational and administrative system manned by committed and knowledgeable sports managers (Kabido 1995). Sports personnel help to influence and attract more athletes to participate in sports. The inspiration given by the coach to his players can ginger them into action and commitment. The coach or the trainer systematically imparts knowledge and experience to his athletes. A good administrator, coach or trainer has experience of life and personal maturity and eager to share his knowledge and experience (Bjerkhaug 1993; Adeyanju 1998). To be able to mobilize athletes into sports, coaches in the Sports Council and game masters (specialists in sports) should be able to recruit, select and train athletes so that they will be able to compete in sports competitions. To properly organize and administer competitive sports experience for athletes, administrators and coaches should under go seminars, conference and workshops so that they will update their knowledge (Adeyanju 1990; 1991).

Mobilization and management of athletes require the acquisition of a body of knowledge and skill. Unfortunately, there is an acute shortage of professionally trained staff in the country. In any formal organization the provision of human resources is paramount to its success. Over the years the governments in Nigeria and in the states have not readily taken into cognisance the aptitude, quality, professional training or relevant qualifications and experience of personnel to be employed or appointed. In most cases appointment is based on political considerations without respect to competence or merit (Akioye 1975; 1976; Amuchie 1977; Venkateswarlu 1984; Chado 1994; Kabido 1997).

Sports is supposed to be managed by specialists in the field of sports but in most cases it has not been the practice. From game masters in schools to the post of the director of sports have become the most insecure job in the country because appointees are changed constantly.

Communication

The process of communication involves messages from a source through a channel to a receiver. The mass media potential can be tapped to pursue mass mobilization of athletes in Borno State.

Borroface (1990) stressed the need for multi media involvement in any mobilization programme for sports. He reported that for a successful mobilization for sports participation, the mass media must be fully involved and be made to play a positive role.

Communication between Coaches and Athletes during training

Many coaches use three steps of communication procedures during practice, such as verbal communication, graphic display and physical demonstration. The use of these strategies gives appropriate pedagogical strategies that increase the effectiveness of the coaches' massages (Marten, 1969; Gilbert, 1975).

Thompson, (1971) and Gilbert (1975) reported that another strategy is to distribute communication rotes among the coaching staff. Each member of staff can contribute his or her unique expertise to the task of communicating with the athletes and the coaches can monitor and a balance one another so that one form of communication does not dominate. This is an effective and valuable strategy for youth sports coach. When there is a breakdown of communication between athletes and coach the level of interaction will be negative. This will lead to inhibition of learning.

2.8 Summary.

The existence of sports facilities and equipment is of vital importance in the conduct of sports programmes including the local and the state national sports festivals. Ekanem, (1995) observed that standard facilities and equipment are essential pre-requisite to good and impressive performances in sports at all levels of participation. This agrees with this researcher's findings, which show a significant influence of facilities and equipment on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Ezegwu, (1992) and Chom, (1996) reported in their findings that provision of sports facilities and equipment makes it possible for athletes to train harder in order to achieve success and win laurels for their respective countries.

The non-availability of sports facilities makes it almost impossible for coaches and trainers to improve upon their training skills and programmes aimed at perfecting performance (Fatile, 1981). Thus little is achieved by an athlete who is not exposed to adequate and modem training facilities.

The provision of modern and adequate facilities and equipment depends on the funding of sports. With adequate funding, the existing facilities will be updated and maintained. Without adequate funding of sports at the state and local government levels the dream and aspiration of mobilizing athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival will only be a mirage.

Chuntar, (1995) in his research indicated that the sports council in Plateau State lacked adequate funding to execute its programmes, which include organizing local and state government sports festivals in preparation for the National Sports Festival. Borno State Sports Council also lacks funds to execute its programmes. Programmes like the local and the state sports festivals which are organized to mobilize athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival are no longer being organized because of lack of adequate provision of funds from the sports council.

According to Venkatsewarlu, (1985) funding of sports in Nigeria has been on ad-hoc basis. Sometime the fund comes in at the last minute after much bickering, at times the money does not come at all while at some other occasion,

the government solicits for donations from the public.

Awosika, (2000) also lamented the lack of funding from the local government council for sports. Funds meant for sports at the local government level are diverted for other purposes.

Mshellia, (2000) stated how in most states school sports festivals are not annually organized as they used to be. He went on to say that even the popular inter house secondary school competitions are fading out in some states. The inter house competition serves as a forum for discovering and selection of athletes who will represent their schools and subsequently their zone in inter zonal sports competitions which will eventually lead to the selection of these athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival. In Borno State there is a decline in the level of participation in sports in the secondary schools. This has negatively affected the level of participation in the inter zonal sports competition. Most .of the secondary schools in the state have more day students than boarding students. This has also affected inter house sports competitions and others sports competitions in the schools.

School sports competitions in Borno State provide avenue for the selection and camping of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival. Most secondary schools inter zonal sports competitions have declined over the years, because of lack of facilities and equipment, funding and administrative lapses. In the early days of the sports festivals, the bulk of the athletes that represented the state in the National Sports Festival came from the secondary schools and the teachers colleges in the state at a time when the state was still operating boarding

system of education. At that time, students were accommodated in dormetries and inter house competitions used to be mandatory for every student. With the cancellation of teachers colleges and the debboarding of most of the secondary schools in the state, all this has ceased.

Marokinyo, (2000) reported that those athletes who are supposed to be discovered and monitored from the local government level to the state level are fast disappearing. The championship that could be used to discover them like the state and the local government sports festivals are no longer being organized. Lack of money for promotion of sports in the state relegates sporting activities to the background. Also lack of modern and standard training facilities as well as incentive for athletes are serious contributing factors, which have continued to force promising athletes out of the state in search of greener pasture.

On many occasions, state contingents are not sufficient camped nor tested in a festival at the local and state level. Onifide, (2000) reported that daily allowances of athletes are not paid during camping. Most camping of athletes for the National Sports Festival is based on ad-hoc arrangement, leading to the production of ill-prepared and ill-equipped athletes.

Motivation as defined by Atkinson, (1975) and Zubairu, (2000) is the arousal of tendency to act to produce one or more effect. Motivation therefore is the inner state that energizes, activates or moves and directs an individual toward carrying out particular tasks.

Venkateswarlu, (1988) and Zubairu, (2000) reported that motivation helps in sustaining effort to reach a goal. Goals are influenced by action and motivate

athletes to take part in competition, because of the external and internal reward of sports. External reward ranges from materials such as trophies, colour, prize money, position and fame, while the internal rewards of sports include feeling of well being, self esteem, confidence, need for affiliation, personal success and achievement. Adedeji, (2005) stated that Nigerian are now replacing intrinsic motivation with extrinsic motivation. He said Nigerian athletes now carry out their threats by quitting participation in sporting events when the extrinsic rewards are no longer forthcoming. However, there is a school of thought that generally accepts that intrinsic motivation is enhanced by extrinsic rewards which are made contingent upon the quality of one's performance. Coaches should encourage goals – directed activities of young athletes through the pursuit of personal excellence.

CHAPTER THREE

Research Methodology

3.1 Introduction.

The purpose of the study was to assess organizational factors for mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The method, instrument, subject and statistical technique used to achieve this purpose are described in this chapter.

3.2 The research design.

The ex-post factor research design was used for the study. Some research questions and hypotheses were formulated in chapter one, which guided the researcher in constructing the data gathering instrument. A questionnaire which consist of eight (8) sections relating to the study was developed. The statistical techniques adopted were based on hypotheses.

3.3 Population

The population for this study consists of the officials and athletes of Borno State Sports Council, schools sports Inspectors in the Ministry of Education Borno State, Zonal Sports Coordinators in the local governments, athletes and games masters who participated in the Inter-zonal Secondary School Sports Competition, as well as sports clubs and associations in the local government areas.

3.4 Sample and sampling technique.

The purposive sampling technique was used in this study because the respondents were drawn from the Borno State Sports Council, the Ministry of

Education Zonal Sports Coordinators in the local government areas, sports clubs and associations, gamesters and athletes in the post primary schools.

A total of 156 respondents were served a copy of the questionnaire each. Out of 156 respondents, 42 were from Borno State Sports Council, 3 were from Borno State Ministry of Education, 15 to directors in the Ministry of Youth Sports and Culture, and 86 to games masters and athletes who represent their zones in the Inter-Zonal Secondary Schools Sport Competition. 9 were administered to sports clubs and associations and 3 to Zonal Sports Coordinators in the various zones.

3.5 Instrumentation

The instrument employed for collection of data was a questionnaire. It consists of seven sections. A set of questionnaire comprising 41 statements was prepared, these statements were grouped under 8 sections. Section "A: has personal information, section "B" consists of facilities at state and local government levels. Section 'C" has funding at state and local government levels. Section "D" has state and local government sports festivals/other sports competitions, while section "E" has Inter-zonal Secondary School Sports Competitions. Section "F" has motivation/camping of athletes while section "G" has recruitment practice/selection of athletes and section "H" has sports personnel/communication.

3.6 Validity of instrument.

The questionnaires thus prepared was distributed to five (5) professional experts in the P.H.E. Department Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria to serve as

Juror for vetting to determine the face and content validity.

3.7 Administration of questionnaire.

The procedure adopted was to give 156 questionnaires, which were distributed by the researcher. One copy each was served to the respondent which consists of administrative officers in Borno State Sports Council, 15 were given to coaches in the Sports Council and 15 were given to athletes in the Sports Council, 4 questionnaires were served to the coordinators of the four zones in the state. 3 were given to schools sports inspectors in Borno State Ministry of Education, 15 were given to directors in the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture, 86 were given to games masters and students of post primary schools who participated in Inter Zonal School Sports in the State, while 9 were given to sports clubs and associations in the local government areas.

3.8 Method of data treatment and analysis.

In order to achieve the purpose of this research the information that was collected relating to respondents' reaction to the questionnaire were coded and fed into the computer. The statistics used were: -

(a) Descriptive statistics to determine the frequencies of response and percentages to various statements and for the purpose of comparison.

(b) The two tailed t-test was applied to compare the observed mean with the independent variables stated in the hypotheses to find out whether the independent variables stated in the hypothesis have significant influence on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

While inferential statistics were used to test each of the hypotheses for the purpose of acceptance or rejection at 0.05 alpha level of significance.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction.

This chapter presents the result of data analysis on the organizational factors for mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The demographic information of the respondents investigated in the first section of the questionnaire were analyzed by using relevant descriptive statistics.

Section A. Personal Information

4.2 Result.

This questionnaire investigated the age range of respondents. The cumulative frequencies were computed and the results are presented in the table below.

Table 4.1: A two-way percentage table showing the age range and distribution of respondents.

Age Range	Frequency	Percentages
15 - 19 Years	45	28.8
20 - 24 Years	21	13.5
25 - 29 Years	12	7.7
30 - 34 Years	13	8.3
35 - 39 Years	19	12.2
40-44 Years	31	19.9
50 and above	15	9.6
Total	156	100

Table 4.1 shows that forty-five respondents 28.8 % were within the age range of 15 - 19years. Twenty one respondents (13.5% were within the age range of 20-24 years, twelve (7.7%) were within the age range of 25-29 years, thirteen respondents (8.3%) were within the age range of 30-34 years, nineteen respondents (12.2%) were within the age range of 35-39 years, thirty-one respondents (19.9%) were within the age range of 40-44 years and fifteen (9.6%) were within the age range of 50 years and above.

Table 4.2 Sex distribution table of respondents

T. sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	128	81.3
Female	28	17.9
Total	156	100

Table 4.2. Shows that 28 respondents or (17.9%) were females. The low percentage recorded by females in this part of the country may be attributed to the low percentage recorded by female in academic and sports pursuit in this part of the country.

Table 4.3 Highest Educational Qualification

Highest Education qualification	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Primary School Certificate	1	0.6
WASC/GCE	19	12.2
Diploma/N.C.E	32	20.5
Degree	35	22.4
Others	69	44.2
Total	156	100

Table 4.3 shows that one respondent representing 0.6% had Primary School Certificate, while nineteen (19) respondents representing (12.2%) had WAEC/GCE Certificate. Thirty-two (32) respondents representing 20.5% had Diploma/NCE certificate. Thirty-five (35) respondents representing (22.4%) had the bachelor degree and sixty-nine (69) representing (44.2%) were from the secondary school who were yet to sit for their WEAC or GCE examination.

Table 4.4 Distribution of respondents according to Departments/Institutions

Department/Ministry/Institution	Frequency	Percentage
Borno State Sport **Council**	42	**26.9**
Ministry of Education	15	9.6
Ministry of Youth and Sports	1	0.6
Post Primary School 8.5	86	55.1
Sports Club and Association Zonal Sport Office	9	*5.8*
Zonal Sports Office	3	1.9
Total	156	

Table 4.4 shows that forty-two (42) respondents representing (26.9) were from the Borno State Sports Council. Fifteen (15) respondents representing

(9.6%) were from the Ministry of Education. One respondent representing (0.6%) was from the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture. Eighty-six (86) respondents representing (55.1%) were from post primary institutions while nine (9) respondents representing (58%) were from sports clubs and associations. Three (3) respondents representing (1.9%) were from the Zonal Sports Office.

Table 4. 5 Distribution of respondent according to designation

Designation	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Administrator	21	13.5
Coaches	20	12.9
Team Manager	2	1.3
Athletes	89	57.1
Inspectors/Coordinator School Sports	24	15.4
Total	156	100

Table 45 shows that twenty-one (21) respondents representing (13.5%) were administrators, twenty (20) respondents representing (12.9%) were coaches. Two (2) respondents representing (1.3%) were Team Managers. Eighty-nine (89) respondents representing (57.1%) were athletes, while twenty-four (24) respondents representing (51.4%) were Inspectors/Coordinator of School Sports.

Table 4.6: Years of Experience in Sports Competition

Years of Experience	Frequency	Percentage
1-5 Years	45	28.9
6-l0Years	49	31.2
11-20 Years	43	27.6
21-30 Years	15	9.6
31Years and above	4	2.6
Total	156	100

Table 4.6, shows that forty-five respondents (45) representing twenty eight (28%) had 1-5 years experience in sports competition, forty-nine (49) representing thirty-one (31%) percent had 6-10 years, forty-three (43) representing twenty-seven (27%) had 11-20 years exposure, fifteen (15) representing 9.6% had 21-30 years experience, while 4 representing 6.2% had 31 years of experience.

Table 4.7: Assessment of respondent opinion on sports facilities and equipment and its influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sport Festival.

The influence of sport facilities and equipment on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival is evaluated in this section. Naturally mobilization of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival requires the existence of facilities and other necessary equipment, without which sporting activities can not be conducted, for instance, sports facilities like athletic track, basket ball courts, football fields, volley ball courts, swimming pools, sports halls etc.

Table 4.7 Opinion of respondents on facilities and equipment on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

S/N		Mean	Standard deviation
1.	Adequate sport facilities are provided when preparing for the National Sports Festival	3.013	1.354
2.	Lack of facilities hinders adequate preparation for the National Sports Festival	4.051	1.058
3.	Inadequate facilities in the state does not cause serious problem when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	2.167	1.146
4.	There is always qualitative sport equipment in the state when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	2.628	1.299
5.	The state sport council provides good balls, nets, jerseys, rackets and boats for games when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	3.103	1.397
	Total	2.950	0.714

In Table 4.7 above the respondents opined that statement No 2 is significant with a mean above average level of 3.5, while the remaining No 1, 3, 4, 5, were significant with a mean score of less than 3.5.

On the likert scale, 3.5 is the significant level standing between those who have a positive opinion on the item and those with a negative opinion on the item. Thus any mean higher than 3.5 indicates a positive opinion while a lower mean indicates a negative opinion on the same item. The mean score on item one 1 shows that the Sports Council does not provide adequate facilities and equipment when preparing for the National Sports Festival. The mean score for the item is

3.013 with standard deviation of *1.354,* also the mean score of the statement in item 3 indicates that inadequate facilities do not cause a serious problem when preparing for the National Sports Festival. The mean score in the item is 2.167 with a standard deviation of 1.35. The mean score in item 4 in the table indicates that the respondents disagree with the statement which says that there is always qualitative equipment in the state when preparing for the National Sports Festival. To further buttress this lack of provision of equipment in the state, the score in the item indicates that the respondents disagree with the statement that the State Sports Council provides good balls, jerseys, nets, boats etc when training in preparation for National Sports Festival

Table 4.8: Assessment of the respondents opinion on the funding of sports and its influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

Funding is a major factor in the mobilization of athletes. This is because it is a prerequisite for the acquisition of facilities and equipment which could be mandatory to most sports programmes at any level. In this section, the opinion of the respondents on funding of sports and its influence on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival was analyzed. A total, of five items were used in this assessment.

Table 4.8: Opinion of respondents on funding on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

S/N		Mean	Standard deviation
1.	Funds have always been made available for organizing the local government sports festivals and other sports competitions when preparing for the National Sports Festival	2.827	1.415
2.	Local government sports festivals are no longer being organized in preparation for the National Sports Festival because of lack provision of funds from the local councils.	3.801	1.025
3.	Funds provided for sports in the local government area are diverted for other projects not related to sports.	3.744	1.158
4.	Voluntary agencies and sports philanthropists have contributed financially toward the mobilization of athletes when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	3.013	1.223
5.	Funds have always been provided by the state to mobilize athletes all over the state in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	2.910	1.307
	Total	3.246	0.669

Table 4.8 above. The respondents in item 2 and 3 does agree that the local government sports festival are no longer being organized because of lack of provision of fund from the local councils. Respondents in item 3 agreed that fund provided for sports in the local government areas are diverted for other purposes. The mean response to item 2 is 3.801 with a standard deviation of 1.025, and the

means response to item 3 is 3.744 with a standard deviation of 1.158. The remaining items 1, 4 and 5 were all significant with a mean score of less than 3.500. The mean score on item one (1) of Table 4.8 shows that funds have not always been made available for organizing local government sports festivals in preparation for the National Sport Festival. The mean score for the item is 2.827 with a standard deviation of 1415.

In item 4 with a mean of 3.013 and a standard deviation of 1.223, the respondents disagree that voluntary agencies and sports philanthropists have contributed financially toward the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival. The score of item 5 in the table indicates that the respondents disagree with the statement that funds have always been provided by the state to mobilize athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival. The items have a mean score of 2.910 with a standard deviation of 1.307.

Table 4.9: Assessment of respondents opinion on the organization of local and state government sports festivals and its influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. One of the objectives of the National Sports Festival was to promote mass participation in armature sports from the local government level to the national level in all states of the federation with a view to the discovery of athletic talents. The first National Sports Festival featured twelve states of the federation and pragmatically galvanized the various state governments in talent hunting and sports development. This took the form of states organizing sports festival sat local government and state levels in order to select talented athletes preparatory to the National Sports Festival.

Table 4.9: Opinion of respondents on state and local government sports festival on mobilizing Borno athletes for the National Sports Festival

S/N		Mean	Standard deviation
1.	Local government and state sports festivals have always been organized in order to recruit and select athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival	3.006	1.312
2.	Without organizing the state sports festival the mobilization of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival will not be possible.	3.538	1.149
3.	Hidden athletic talents in the local government areas are not being discovered because of the non organization of local government sports festivals when preparing for the National Sports Festival	4.032	1.025
4.	Organizing competitions among clubs in the local government areas is another means of mobilizing athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival	4.064	0.855
5.	Athletes from the local government areas have represented the state in the National Sport Festival as a result of organizing the local government sports festival.	3.378	1.267
	Total	3.5577	0.731

Table 4.9 above shows the opinions of respondents which indicate that the statements are not significant as shown in items I and 5. There was agreement from the respondents to the statement in item 3 with a mean of 4.032 and the

standard deviation of 1.025. The statements in this item state that hidden athletic talent in the local government areas are not being discovered because of the lack of organizing sports festival. The respondents agreed in item 4 which states that organizing sports competitions among clubs in the local government areas is another means of mobilizing athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival. The items have a mean score of 4.064 with a standard deviation of 0.85. Respondents also agreed to the statement in item 2 which state that without organizing the State Sport Festival the mobilization of athletes will not be possible. The item has a means score of 3538 with a standard deviation of 1.149.

The respondents disagree with item I, which states that, local government and state sport festival have always been organized in order to recruit and select athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival. This item has a mean score of 3.006 and standard deviation of 1.312. To further buttress the lack of organizing the state and local government sport festivals the score in item 5 in the table indicates that the respondents disagree with the statement that athletes in the local government areas have been representing the state in the National Sports Festival.

Table 4.10: Assessment of respondents' opinion on organizing inter-zonal secondary school sports competition and its influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The inter-zonal secondary school sports competitions provide a forum where athletic talents are identified, developed through training and properly groomed for future use at the state and the national levels in the areas of sports.

In this section respondents' opinion on the organization of inter-zonal secondary school sports competitions which pave the way for the selection and recruitment of athletes by the State Sports Council are evaluated in the table below.

Table 4.10: Opinion of respondents on inter-zonal secondary school sports competitions on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sport Festival

S/N		Mean	Standard deviation
1.	The zonal secondary school sports competition is one of the means of mobilizing athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival	4.199	0.838
2.	The deboarding of most of the secondary schools in the state has reduced the number of athletes invited for camping when preparing for the National Sports Festival	3.744	1.089
3.	Inter-zonal sports competitions among secondary schools, play a major role in mobilizing athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festivals.	4.051	0.935
4.	Most of the athletes who are invited for camping in preparation for the National Sports Festival are in the higher institutions in the state.	3.192	1.281
5.	Most of the athletes who are invited for camping in preparation for the National Sports Festival are from the secondary schools in the state.	2.904	1.217
	Total	3.5641	0.660

In Table 4.10 above the respondents opined that the statements in No. I, 2 and 3 are significant. The mean score of respondents to item one (1) in the table shows that the Inter-zonal Secondary School Sport competition is one of the

means of mobilizing athletes for the National Sports Festival. This indication is further reflected in the mean of (4.051) response to item 3 in the table. The respondents did agree that inter-zonal sports competitions among secondary schools play a major role in mobilizing athletes for the National Sports Festival. The respondents as indicated in item 2 agree with the statement that the deboarding of most of the secondary schools in the state has reduced the number of athletes in secondary schools who are invited for camping in preparation for the National Sports Festival. This underscores the fact that most of the athletes who represent the state in the National Sports Festival do not come from the secondary schools. This may not be unconnected with the decline in the level of sports competition in the secondary schools. The mean score to item 2 is 3.744 with standard deviation of 0.89. The mean score for item 4 is 3.192 which implies that the respondents did not agree that most of the athletes who are invited for camping in preparation for the National Sports Festival are in institution of higher learning in the state. There was also disagreement by the respondents to the statement in item 5 which states that most of the athletes who are invited for camping in preparation for the National Sports Festival are from secondary schools in the state. The mean score to the statement in item 5 is 2.904 with a standard deviation of 1.217.

Table 4.11: Assessment of respondents' opinion on motivation/camping of athletes and its influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

In this section, the respondents' opinions on the level of motivation given to athletes when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival are evaluated. The statements in these items include provision of training camps for athletes and incentives that are given to athletes for participating in the National Sports Festival.

Table 4.11: Opinion of respondents on motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

S/N		Mean	Standard deviation
1.	The sports council recognized good sports performance by athletes by presenting certificates, gifts, cash and scholarship when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	3.660	1.167
2.	There is no special recognition for athletes when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	3.167	1.190
3.	Performances of athletes when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival have not been effective due to lack of motivation.	3.795	1.045
4.	Cash allowances for feeding are given to athletes when camping in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	3.256	1.207
5.	Athletes are not accommodated in training camps when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	2.904	1.217
	Total	3.3282	0.549

In Table 4.11 above, item one (1) shows that the respondents agreed that Sport Council recognized good sports performance by athletes by presenting certificates, gifts, cash and scholarship. The mean score for item one (1) is 3.660

with a standard deviation of 1.167. In item three (3) with a mean score of 3.795 and a standard deviation of 1.207 the respondents agree that the performance of athletes when preparing for the National Sports Festival has not been effective due to lack of motivation. In item two (2) on the table with a mean score of 3.167 and a standard deviation of 1.190, the respondents disagreed with the statement that there are no special recognitions for athletes when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival. The respondents also disagreed with the statement in item four (4) that cash allowances for feeding are given to athletes when camping in preparation for the National Sports Festival. In item 4 with the mean score of 3.256 and a standard deviation of 1.207, the respondents disagreed with the statement that athletes are not accommodated in training camps when preparing for the National Sports Festival. The statement in item five (5) has a mean score of 2.955 and a standard deviation of 1.22.

Table 4.12: Assessment of respondents opinion on recruitment practice/selection of athletes and its influence on mobilizing Borno State athlete for the National Sports Festival. The place of recruitment and selection exercise when mobilizing athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival can not be overemphasized. This section assesses the respondents' opinion and evaluates the methods of recruitment and selection of athletes when mobilizing athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Table 4.12: Opinion of respondents on recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

S/N		Mean	Standard deviation
1.	Recruitment and selection of athletes are carried out by organizing the local government and the State Sports Festivals when preparing for the National Sports Festival	3.699	1.247
2.	The Inter-zonal Secondary School Sports Competition serves as a forum for the recruitment and selection of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	3.878	1.018
3.	Only athletes in sports clubs in the Maiduguri metropolis are recruited and selected when the state is preparing for the National Sports Festival.	2.994	1.183
4.	Only athletes who have represented the state before in the National Sports Festival are selected when the state is preparing for the National Sports Festival.	2.910	1.209
5.	Only athletes who are hired or those on the payroll of the State Sports Council are selected to represent the state when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	3.038	1.280
	Total	3.2885	0.699

In Table 4.12 above, the respondents agreed that statement number one (I) and 2 are not significant with a mean average of 3.5 while the remaining items 3, 4 and 5 were significant with a mean score of less than 3.5. The mean score in item one (1) shows that recruitment and .selection of athletes are carried out by organizing local and state government sports festivals. The score for the item is 3.699 with a

standard deviation of 1.247. The respondents were reacting to what is suppose be done by the state when preparing for the National Sports Festival. The respondents in item two (2) agreed to the statement that inter-zonal secondary school sports competitions serve as a forum for the recruitment and selection of athletes when preparing for the National Sports Festival. The item's mean score is 3.878 with a standard deviation of 1.018. The respondents disagreed with the statement in item three (3) with a mean score of 2.994 and a standard deviation of 1.183 that only athletes who are in sports clubs in the Maiduguri metropolis are selected when the state is preparing for the National Sports Festival.

There was also disagreement from the respondents as indicated by the mean score of 2.910 to item four (4) in the table with a standard deviation of 1.209. The item states that only athletes who have represented the state before in the National Sports Festival are selected when preparing for the National Sports Festival. The respondents did not agree with the statement in item five (5) that athletes who are hired or those on the payroll of the States Sports Council are the only who are selected to represent the state in the National Sports Festival. The mean score for the item is 3.038 with a standard deviation of 1.280.

Table 4.13 Assessment of respondents' opinion on sports personnel/communication and its influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Sports personnel/communication pays a major role in the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival. Effective management of sports at the state and local government levels will lead to the successful organization and

implementation of sports programmes. Sports will suffer a setback when there is poor administration due to lack of qualified personnel.

Table 4.13: Opinion of respondents on sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

S/N		Mean	Standard deviation
1.	When preparing for the National Sports Festival, athletes are always mobilized in the state because the administrators and coaches are committed to their work.	3.031	1.260
2.	Athletes in training camps receive good training because the coaches are professionally equipped to handle their job.	3.021	1. 186
3.	Zonal Sports coordinators in the local government areas have been involved in organizing sports competitions in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	3.730	1.038
4.	Relationship between administrators, coaches and athletes have always been cordial when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	3.661	1.1.168
5.	Information concerning preparation for the National Sports Festival is communicated on time by the Sports Council to sports clubs and associations in the local government areas of the state.	3.246	1.203
	Total	3.2885	0.699

In Table 4.13 above the respondents opined that all the statements in number 3 and 4 are significant. The mean score of 3.730 and standard deviation of 1.038 to item 3 shows that the respondents disagreed with the statement that zonal sports

coordinators are involved in organizing sports in the local government areas. They also disagreed with the to statement in item 4 with a mean score of 3.661 with a standard deviation of 1.68. In item 5 (90%) of the respondents with a mean score of 3.246 with standard deviation of 1.203 disagreed that information concerning preparation for the National Sports Festival is not communicated on time to the local government areas.

4.3. Data Analysis

Testing of Major Hypotheses

The major hypothesis raised in this study was that, there is no significant influence of the availability of sports facilities and equipment, funding, organizing local/state government sports festivals, organizing inter zonal secondary school sports competitions, motivation/camping of athletes and recruitment practice/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The major hypothesis was tested by summing up all the variables involved in the studies; the idea was to list the combined effect of facilities and equipment, funding, organizing local/state government sport festivals, inter-zonal secondary schools sport competitions, motivation/camping of athletes recruitment practice/selection of ath1etes and sports personnel/communication on the mobilization of Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

To determine this influence, a constant of 3.5 was chosen on the Likert scale for the study. The idea of this constant was to examine the opinion of the respondents whether these variables have significant influence on the athletes

mobilization for the National Sport Festival or not.

In this text the mean responses of the respondents were compared with constant of 3.5. The idea here is that if the mean score of the subject is up to 3.5 or greater it means that in the opinion of the respondents the variables have significant influence on the National Sports Festival. To test the hypotheses therefore, one-tailed t-test was applied.

Table 4.14 show a two tailed t-test on the influence of facilities and equipment, funding, organizing local/state sports festivals, inter zonal secondary school sports competitions, motivation/camping of athletes and recruitment selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Source of Variable	Number of cases	Mean	S.D	SE	T-value
Constant	156	3.5000	.000	.000	
Major Hypotheses	156	3.3220	.449	.036	4.93

$t(310) = 1.960 < 0.05$

Table 4.14 shows a significant influence of facilities and equipment, funding, organizing local/state sports festival, inter zonal secondary school sports competitions, motivation/camping of athletes recruitment/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value is 4.93 while the critical value is 1.645. Thus it shows that there is a significant influence of the seven (7) variables stated in the hypotheses on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The major hypothesis which stated that there is no significant influence of these variables on the mobilization of Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival is therefore rejected.

Sub Hypothesis one

There is no significant influence of sports facilities and equipment at the local and state government levels on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports festival.

The objective of this hypothesis was to test whether facilities and equipment have any significant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. This hypothesis was tested by using two tailed t-test to find out whether facilities and equipment have influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The sub section on facilities and equipment in the questionnaire is tabulated in frequencies and percentages. The respondents' chosen option in the questionnaire are shown in the table marked appendix A. these are made up of numbers 7 – 11.

The scores were then summed up as one variable called facilities and equipment; The result is shown in table 4.15.

Table 4.15 shows a two tailed t-test on the influence of sports facilities and equipment on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Source of Variable	Number of cases	Mean	S.D	SE	t-value
Constant	156	3.5000	.000	.000	
Facilities & equipment	156	2.9500	.714	.714	9.62

$t(310) = 1.960 < 0.05$

Table 4.15 shows a significant influence of facilities and equipment on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value 9.62 is higher than the critical value of 1.960. This shows that there is a significant influence of facilities and equipment on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival, implying that the availability of facilities and equipment is vital when mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. Table 4.7 item 2 with a mean score of 4.051 and a standard deviation 1.058 shows that lack of provision of adequate facilities and equipment hinders proper preparation of Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The null hypothesis is therefore, rejected.

Sub Hypothesis two

There is no significant influence of funding of sports at the local and state government level on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

This hypothesis is aimed at establishing whether funding of sports has influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. There are five *(5)* statements involved in this sub section. These are made up of statements numbers 12-16.

The statement in this section deals with funding of sports by state, local government and philanthropic organizations. The table marked appendix B shows the percentages and frequencies assigned to the various options in the questionnaire.

In testing the hypothesis, the scores in the sub-section were summed up to find out the influence of funding of sports on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The result of the test is presented below at Table 4.16.

Table 4.16 show a two tailed t-test on the influence of funding on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sport Festival.

Source of Variable	Number of cases	Mean	S.D	SE	T-value
Constant	156	3.5000	.000	.000	
Funding of sports	156	3.2436	.669	.054	4.79

$t(310) = 1.960 < 0.05$

Table 4.16 shows a significant influence of funding on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value for the test is 4.79 which is higher than the critical value of 1.960. From the observed significant value (000) it could be said that funding has significant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. This shows that funding is central in every area of sports mobilization. In table 4.9 item *5* with a mean of 2.900 and standard deviation 1.307 showed that funds are not adequately provided by the state when mobilizing athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival. The null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant influence of funding on the mobilization of Borno Sate athletes for the National Sports Festival is therefore rejected.

Sub hypothesis three

There is no significant influence of organizing local and state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. Statement numbers 11-21 deal with the issue of organizing local/state sports festival. The table-marked appendix C shows the frequencies and percentages of response of the respondents. In order to test the hypothesis, the statements scored were summed up into a variable which was used to test the influence of organizing local and state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for National Sports Festival.

To test the hypothesis, a two tailed t-test was applied. The computed result was presented below in table 4.17.

Table 4.17. Two tailed t-test on the influence of organizing local and state government sports festival on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Source of Variable	Number of cases	Mean	S.D	SE	T-value
Constant	156	3.5000	.000	.000	
Organizing local/state government sports festival	156	3.5577	736	.059	0.98

$t(310) = 1.960 < 0.05$

Table 4.17 Shows insignificant influence of organizing local/state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value (0.98) is lower than the critical value of 1.960. The test shows that there is no significant influence of organizing local and state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The null hypothesis is therefore retained.

Sub Hypothesis four

There is no significant influence of inter zonal secondary school sports competitions on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. This section containing statements 22-26 was used to test the influence of inter zonal secondary school sports competitions on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The statement sought respondents' opinion on the influence of inter-zonal secondary schools competitions on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The statements involved are listed with their corresponding frequencies and percentages provided in the heading marked Appendix D.

The two tailed t-test analysis performed for the hypothesis is show in table 4.18 below.

Table 4.18 two tailed t-test for the influence of inter zonal Secondary School Sports competition on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Source of Variable	Number of cases	Mean	S.D	SE	T-value
Constant	156	3.5000	.000	.000	1.21
Inter-zonal Secondary School Sports	156	3.5641	.660	.053	

$t(310) = 1.960 < 0.05$

Table 4.18 shows insignificant influence of inter-zonal secondary school sports competitions on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value is 1.21 while the critical value is 1.960. This

implies that there is no significant influence of inter-zonal secondary school sports competitions on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant influence of organizing inter-zonal Secondary School Sports Competition on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sport Festival is therefore retained.

Sub Hypothesis five

There is no significant influence of motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. Statements used in this hypothesis were 27-31. The section is made up of statement on motivation/camping of athletes. The table shows the frequencies and percentages relating to the questionnaire which are tabulated and marked appendix E. To test the hypothesis, two tailed t-test was computed, the result is presented in the table 4.19 below.

Table 4.19: two tailed t-test of the influence of motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Source of Variable	Number of cases	Mean	S.D	SE	T-value
Constant	156	3.5000	.000	.000	
Motivation/Camping of Athletes	156	3.3282	.549	.044	3.91

t (310) = 1.960 < 0.05

Table 4.19: shows a significant influence of motivation/camping of athletes on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value is 3.91. Which is greater than the critical value of 1.960. The null hypothesis stated is therefore rejected.

Item 2 on the table with a mean score of 3.167 and a standard deviation of 1.207 shows that the respondents disagree with the statement that there is no special recognition for athletes when camping in preparation for the National Sport Festival. The respondents also disagreed with the statement in table 4.11 item 4 with a mean score of 3.256 and a standard deviation of 1.201 that cash allowances for feeding are given to athletes when camping in preparation for the National Sport Festival. The mean score in item 4 shows a significat influence of motivation on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival. The null hypothesis which states that there is no significance influence of motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival is therefore rejected.

Sub Hypothesis Six

There is no significant influence of recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athlete for the National Sports Festival.

Statements used in testing this hypothesis were numbers 30-36. This section is made up of statements on recruitment practice/selection of athletes. The sub section on recruitment practice/selection of athletes in the questionnaire is tabulated in frequencies and percentages. The respondents' chosen options from the questionnaire are shown in the table marked Appendix F.

These hypotheses were tested by using the two tailed t-test for the influence of recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival, which was then tested to find out its

influence on the mobilization of Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The two tailed t-test analysis is shown in Table 4.20 below.

Table 4.20 two tailed t-test for the influence of recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

Source of Variable	Number of cases	Mean	S.D	SE	t-value
Constant	156	3.5000	.000	.000	3.78
Recruitment Practice/Selection of athletes	156	3.2885	.699	.056	

t (310) = 1.960 < 0.05

Table 4.20 shows a significant influence of recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value for the test is 3.78 while the critical value is 1.960. The observed level of significance is .000 (P < 0.05). The implication is that the null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant influence of recruitment practice/selection athletes on mobilizing Borno state athletes for the National Sports Festival is therefore rejected.

Sub Hypothesis Seven

There is no significant influence of sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The objective of this hypothesis was to test whether sports personnel/communication has any influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. This hypothesis was tested by using two tailed t-test. The sub section on sports personnel/communication in the questionnaire is

tabulated in frequencies and percentages. The respondents chosen option in the questionnaire are shown in the table marked Appendix G. These are the last statements in the questionnaire. They are made up of statements number 37 – 41.

Table 4.21. Shows a two tailed t-test on the influence of sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Source of Variable	Number of cases	Mean	S.D	SE	t-value
Constant	156	3.500	.000	.000	
Sports Personnel/communication	156	3.324	531	.34	3.61

t (310) = 1.960 < 0.05

Table 4.21 shows a significant influence of sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The observed t-value is 3.61 which is higher than the critical value of 1.960. The null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant influence of sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival is therefore rejected.

4.4 DISCUSSION.

Major Hypothesis:

To test the hypothesis therefore, the total mean score of the seven (7) variables involved in the study were summed up. These variables are facilities and equipment, funding, organizing local/state government sports festivals, inter-zonal secondary school sports, motivation/camping of athletes, recruitment practice/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication. The idea was to compare the observed mean with the mean scored by the respondents on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The fixed value of the mean with the observed mean tested was 3.5. The observed mean by the respondents was then compared with the constant of 3.5. This was to establish whether the respondents agreed with the hypothesis that was formulated that there is no significant influence of facilities and equipment, funding of sports, local/state governments' sports festivals inter zonal secondary school competitions, motivation/camping of athletes and recruitment practice/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The result shows that the expected mean of 3.5 is greater than the observed mean score of 3.3220. By implication it means that the six variables thus play a significant role in mobilization of Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. This is in agreement with Ekanem, (1995) who reported that sports facilities and equipment are of vital importance in the conduct of sports competitions.

Five of the hypotheses which consist facilities and equipment, funding, motivation/camping of athletes, recruitment practice/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication all showed significant influence on mobilizing Borno state athletes for the National Sports Festival. However, only two hypotheses which consist of organizing local and state government festival and inter zonal sports secondary school competitions showed insignificant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

Sub Hypothesis One

The hypothesis stated that there is no significant influence of facilities and equipment on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The two tailed t-test was used for the test. The result of the test shows that facilities and equipment have significant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value of 9.62 is higher than the critical value of 1.960. This implies that facilities and equipment have a significant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

In view of this, the null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant influence of facilities and equipment is therefore rejected implying that sports facilities and equipment are vital in mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. This is in agreement with Ekanem, (1995) who reported that standard sports facilities and equipment are essential prerequisites for good and impressive performance in sports at all levels of participation.

This findings was also substantiated by Nixon (1988) Egbunike, (1985) and Chom, (l996) who reported that the provision of improved sporting facilities do not only help in the proper training of athletes when preparing for sports competition but also are some of the major factors for the improvement of athletic achievement as evident in the dominance of U.S.A and Russia in Basketball.

The findings agree with Usman, (1987) and Chom, (1996) who reported that Hakeem Olajuwon became what he is today as a result of the training he received from modern and well developed sports facilities. Ishaku, (1991) and Chom, (1996) reported in their study that states like Lagos, as a result of making available better sports facilities than other states of the federation have been in the forefront in producing athletes who have won medals for their states and the nation. Similarly, Ezegwu, (1992) and Chom, (1996) also reported in their studies that the provision of sports facilities and equipment makes it possible for athletes to train harder in order to achieve success and win laurels for their respective states.

Ezegwu, (1992) reported that the provision of new and well maintained facilities and equipment are in themselves good motivation for the athletes.

The Borno State Sport Council is still battling with the problem of facilities, while lshaku, (1991) reported how Lagos state, Edo and Delta states, which formed the former Bendel state excelled in sports as a result of making available better sporting facilities than other states of the federation.

Inadequate facilities and equipment negatively affect the training level of athletes. This is evident in the fact that most of the respondents (73.0%) indicated

that inadequate sports facilities in the state causes problem when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival. There was also lack of provision of good balls, nets, boats and jerseys (as indicated by *55.5%* of the respondents). 52.4% of respondents disagreed that adequate facilities are provided when preparing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

Sub Hypothesis Two

The hypothesis stated that there is no significant influence of funding on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sport Festival. The two tailed t-test was used for the test. The result of the test shows that there is a significant influence of funding on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value for the test is 4.79 which is higher than the critical value of 1.6 45. This implies that there is a significant influence of funding on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sport Festival. In view of this, the null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant influence of funding of sports on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sport Festival is therefore, rejected.

The result of this test revealed a significant influence of funding on the mobilization of athletes for the National Sport Festival.

Adesanya, (1992) and Igbanugo (1992) emphasized that funding is a very important aspect of sports and that it seems to be at the root of the administrative problem that states sports councils are facing.

Without sufficient funding, facilities and equipment cannot be provided and maintained, local and state government sports festivals cannot be organized

and other sports competitions which could be used to mobilize athletes in preparation for the national sports festival would be difficult to organize. This idea is supported by Venkateswarlu, (1985) and Chuntar, (1995) who observed that sports is a social venture that requires a huge financial outlay for the implementation of various programmes. The provision of modern and adequate facilities depends very much on funding of sports. Without adequate funding the maintenance of existing facilities would not be possible. Fasan, (2004) also reported that sports organization whether public or private requires money for the execution of sports programmes at the local, national and international levels. Funding is needed in human resource management, and for the payment of salaries, training, and purchase of equipment, construction of facilities and payment of match bonuses. Local and state governments are expected to finance sports.

Chuntar, (1995) reported that the government is responsible for the funding of sports. Other sources of funding for sports include gate taking, donations from companies and individuals, philanthropists and endowment funds. The most reliable source of funding is from budget appropriation.

This finding supports Dogo, (2000) who reported that sports management in Nigeria is always having the problem of adopting the fire brigade approach due to late release of government funds to sports councils.

Vankateswarlu, (1985) and Chuntar, (1995), also reported that funding of sports in Nigeria has been on ad-hoc basis. They also stated that another source of fund is through donation for sports endowment funds. This is evident in the fact

that most of the respondents (76.8%) indicated that local and state government sports festivals are no longer being organized because of lack of funds as a result of which the councils lack adequate funds to execute their programmes (as indicated by 77.6%) of the respondents.

This finding supports Dogo, (2000) who reported that money provided in budgeting allocation for state and local government sports development is diverted for other projects not related to sports (as indicated by 70.5%) of the respondents) and lack of financial support for sports development by voluntary agencies and sports philanthropists (as indicated by 43.6% of the respondents). The support given by voluntary agencies and sports philanthropists is minimal in Borno State. The state and the local government have not been providing enough money for the mobilization of athletes. Money meant for sports in the budgeting allocation is always diverted for other projects by local government chairmen. Pocket money is not paid to athletes when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival.

Sub Hypothesis Three

The hypothesis stated that there is no significant influence of organizing local and state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The finding of this study revealed insignificant influence of organizing local and state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The two tailed t-test was used to test the influence of local and state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The result of the test shows that there is insignificant influence of organizing local/state and state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value of 0.98 is lower than the critical value of 1.960. The null hypothesis is therefore retained. This implies that local and state sports festivals are not a major factor in mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

This finding is in contrast with Mshelia, (2000) who reported that sports festival not only bring to the limelight those hidden athletic talents, but they also determine to some extent the efforts and labour put in by states during their preparation for the National Sports Festival. Mshelia, (2000) in his findings reported that sports festivals encourage and promote mass participation in amateur sports from local to national levels. The festivals also encourage the organization of sports competitions at all levels, as well as promote and strengthen friendship among athletes.

Mshelia (2000) and Omeruan, (1996) also reported that the local and state government sports festivals are the most authentic fora for talent discovery. They were of the opinion that athletes that prove their worth during the competitions are selected for camping in preparation for the National Sports Festival. They observed that sports festivals do not only bring to limelight those hidden talents, but that they also determine the extent of the effort and labour put in by states during their preparation for the National Sports Festival. Mshellia, (1996) also

observed that sports festivals encouraged mass participation in other sports from the local to the national level. The festivals also encourage the organization of sports competition at all levels, as well as promote and strengthen friendship among athletes. Marokinyo, (2000) disagreed with this report stating that in terms of the discovery of talents the festivals have failed to live up to their early days reputation; he emphasized that most of those who featured in the festivals are already known stars that have been discovered for long. In the past Borno State Sports Council did fulfill its role in organizing sports festival from the local government to the state level, but all this has stopped. The sports festivals are no longer being organized.

This is in agreement with the respondentss opinion as indicated in Appendix C item 3, 2 and 4 that hidden athletic talents are no longer being discovered the state and local government sports festivals, are no longer bein organized (as indicated by 74.6% of the respondents). The finding also shows that without organizing the state sports festival the mobilization of athletes will not be possible (as indicated by 64.0% of respondents). Organizing competition among clubs in the local government areas is another means of mobilizing athletes (as indicated by 84.4% of respondents).

Sub-Hypothesis Four

The hypothesis states that there is no significant influence of inter zonal secondary school sports competitions on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The two tailed t-test was used for the test of influence. The result of the test shows that inter zonal secondary school sports competition,

have insignificant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value is 1.21 while the critical value is 1.960. This means that the Inter-zonal Secondary School Sports Competition is not a significant factor in mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The null hypothesis is therefore, retained. The finding is in agreement with Dogo (2000) who reported that the deboarding of most of the schools have brought about little achievement in the area of sports. Most athletes in the secondary school are not skilled enough to represent their state in the National Sports Festival because they are not exposed to various sport activities due to lack of facilities and sports personnel in most of the secondary schools.

Betiyong (1998) also reported that the zonal and inter zonal secondary school sports competition in Kaduna state is a shadow of its past. He stated that the skill level exhibited and the general low performance in such competition demonstrate the fact that students are not exposed to various sports in their respective schools. He further stated that students' teams to represent their zones and state in sports competition are now hard to come by in most schools. This is similar to what is obtained in Borno State secondary schools (as indicated by 72.7% respondents) on the deboarding of students which has affected the level of participation in sports.

Dogo, (2000) reported that before now the source of supply of athletes for the state was from the secondary schools and the institutions when they were operating the boarding system of education. Now most of the schools have been deboarded, little is being achieved in the area of sports. Chuntar, (1996) also

reported that the secondary schools whether public or private, boarding or deboarded are supposed to be a place where talents are identified, developed through training and properly groomed for future use at the local, state and national levels. But today most of schools are no longer breeding grounds for potential athletes.

The finding also agreed with Marokinyo, (2000) who reported that before the deboarding of most schools in the states, the secondary schools and teachers colleges provided the bulk of athletes who represented the state in the National Sports Festival (as indicated by 92.3% of the respondents). Adedeji, (2005) also reported that talent hunt for potential athletes should be spearheaded by the state and local government sports councils through regular coaching programmes and sports competitions for secondary schools.

Inter zonal sports competitions play a major role in mobilizing Borno Sate athletes for the National Sports Festival (as indicated by 85.3% of respondents).

Anyanwu (1979) reported that through the inter mural and inter scholastic sports competitions the potential athletes are identified and selected for further intensive training in preparation for sports festivals and other competitions.

Sub-Hypothesis Five

This hypothesis stated that there is no significant influence of motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The two tailed t-test was used to test the influence of motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value of 3.91 is greater than critical

value of 1.960. This implies that motivation/camping of athletes is a major factor in mobilizing Borno State athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival.

The result of the test revealed a significant influence of motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. Venkatsewarlu, (1986) and Zubairu, (2000) stated that motivation helps in sustaining effort towards goal. Motivation deals with the variables that excite or direct a person toward activity and specific a goal. Motivation plays a great role in sports performance among sports men and women more especially the athletes when undergoing training. Omfide, (2000) reported that daily allowance of athletes are not paid to athletes during camping. Marokinyo, (2000) reported that lack of money for promotion of sports in the state relegates sporting activity to the background. Similarly, lack of incentives for athletes continues to force promising athletes out of the states in search of greener pasture.

This finding supports the report of Adeyanju quoted by Zubairu, (2000) which stated that different kinds of variable affect the performance of athletes. These variables are rewards in the form of money, praise, gifts, recognition etc. Reinforcement increases the probability of an act or behaviour being repeated. Adedeji, (2005) also identified social reinforcement such as praises encouragement, recognition, and presentation of a trophy or medal as forms of motivation. Omo Osagie, (2000) stated that special provision should be made for star athletes who have nothing to fall back on because of poor educational background. Such benefits will help them on retirement; he also reported that

most athletes complaint of the lack of payment of legitimate allowances, for example travel expenses which are not refunded, lack of proper training kits, poor accommodation, lack of proper feeding and lack of payment of match bonuses. This is in agreement with the finding of this study which states that athletes are not given special recognition as (indicated by 71.2%) of the respondents. Most of the athletes affirmed that athletes lack motivation when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival, (as indicated by 84.7% of the respondents). 53.3% of the respondents indicated that cash allowance for feeding are not paid to them when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival.

Sub-Hypothesis Six

The hypothesis stated that there is no significant influence of recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The two tailed t-test was used. The result of the test shows that recruitment practice/selection of athletes has significant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The result of the test showed that the observed t-value is 3.78 while the critical value is 1.960. The null hypothesis is therefore, rejected. This means that recruitment practice/selection of athletes significantly influenced the mobilization of Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant influence of recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival is therefore, rejected.

The study showed that inter zonal secondary school sports competitions serve as a forum for the recruitment and selection of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival. Morakinyo (2000) reported that local government and state sports festivals provide an avenue for the selection and camping of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival. He stated that athletes who prove their worth during the competition are selected for camping in preparation for the National Sports Festival.

Adedeji, (2005) in his finding reported that the criteria for selecting athletes should be based on standards that are necessary for a given competition whether at local or the international level. The selection of those players should be geared toward achieving a particular goal or set objective. Mshelia, (2000) stated that the inter-house competition and the inter zonal secondary school competition serve as a forum for discovering and selection of athletes who will be trained to represent the state, (as indicated by 80.7% of the respondents). This finding is in contrast with Marokinyo, (2000) in which he reported that athletes who are supposed to be discovered and monitored from the local level to the state level are fast disappearing, because the championships that could be used to discover them are no longer being organized. He stated that in the past, local/state government sports festivals provided an avenue for the selection and camping of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival. He was of the opinion that athletes who prove their worth during the sports festival are selected for camping in preparation for the National Sport Festival.

Sub hypothesis Seven

There is no significant influence of sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The two tailed t-test was used for the test. The result of the test showed that sports personnel/communication have significant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The observed t-value is 3.61 which is higher than the critical value of 1.960. This shows that sports personnel/communication have significant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. This finding is in agreement with Adeyanju (1990), who reported in her findings, that to properly organize and administer sports competitions for athletes, coaches and administrators must serve as role model. This can help influence and attract more athletes into sports and serve as a mentoring process. She further stated that a mentor (coach or trainer) systematically impart knowledge and experience to his or her athletes. (Bjerkhaug 1993; Adeyanju 1998).

The finding above also agrees with, Kabido (1995) who reported in his finding that no meaningful progress can be achieved in the field of sports at the national, state and the local government levels without a pragmatic and efficient organizational and administrative system manned by committed and knowledgeable sports managers. Akioye (1975) (1976); Amuchie (1977) Venkateswarlu (1984); Chado (1994) and Kabido (1997) reported the acute shortage of professionally trained staff in the country. This is in agreement with this research finding (as indicated by 73.1% of the respondents) who agreed that

the coaches and administrators are not professionally equipped to handle their jobs.

The finding is also in agreement with Borrofice (1992) who reported that for a successful mobilization of sports participants the mass media must be involved and be made to play a positive role.

Ubeku (1975) and Kabido (1995) reported that adequate and timely communication in any sports organization is of great advantage and vital to achieving success in the organization. In Borno State the research finding showed that information from the Sports Council is not disseminated on time to the local government councils (as indicated by 63.4% of the respondents).

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation

5.1 Summary

The research was carried out to find out the influence of facilities and equipment, funding, local and state government sports festivals, inter zonal secondary school sports competitions, motivation/camping of athletes, recruitment practice/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

The purposive sampling technique was used to sample the population from the Borno State Sports Council, Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture, Ministry of Education, and post primary schools in the state which consisted of athletes who participate in the state inter zonal Secondary School Sports Competition. Athletes in sports clubs and associations and zonal sports offices in the local government areas were also sampled

To achieve this purpose of the study, some research questions were developed. The researcher postulated seven (7) hypotheses, one major and seven (7) sub-hypotheses which guided the researcher in this investigation.

A questionnaire was used to collect data for the study and the researcher personally administered the questionnaire with the help of the technical director in the Sports Council as well as games masters of the selected schools. The questionnaire contained statements on the bio data of the respondents and statements on facilities and equipment, sports funding, local/state government sports festivals, inter zonal secondary school sports competitions,

motivation/camping of athletes, recruitment practice/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication.

A total number of one hundred and fifty six (156) questionnaires were distributed to subjects. One hundred and fifty five (155) questionnaires were completed and returned to the researcher (98.5%).

A questionnaire was designed for this purpose and was used for data collection. The data collected in this study were statistically analyzed by using:

(1). Descriptive statistics to determine the frequencies of response or percentage to various statements and for the purpose of comparison.

(2).Two tailed t-test was administered to determine the influence of the independent variables on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

(3). Inferential statistics was used for the purpose of acceptance or rejection of the hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance.

The major finding of the study reveals that: -

1. There is a significant influence of facilities and equipment, funding, organizing local and state government sports festivals, organizing inter zonal secondary school competitions, motivation/camping of athletes and recruitment practice/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

2. There is a significant influence of facilities and equipment on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

3. There is a significant influence of funding on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.
4. There is no significant influence of organizing local and state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno athletes for the National Sports Festival.
5. There is no significant influence of organizing inter zonal secondary school sports competitions on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.
6. There is a significant influence of motivation/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.
7. There is a significant influence of recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.
8. There is a significant influence of sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

5.2 Conclusion

The following conclusions are drawn from the findings of this study.

1. The influence of facilities and equipment, funding, motivation/camping of athletes, recruitment practice/selection of athletes and sports personnel/communication does show statistical significance. In the same way, organizing local and state government sports festivals and inter-zonal Secondary School Sports competitions show a significant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.
2. There is a significant influence of facilities and equipment on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. In this study, we have

sought to find out the influence of facilities and equipment on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. Availability of facilities and equipment has a significant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

3. In this study, we have sought to find out whether funding has any influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The finding showed that there is a significant influence of funding on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

4. In this research, we have sought to find out whether organizing local and state government sports festivals has any influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. It was found out that there is no significant influence of organizing local and state government sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

5. This research also sought to find out whether inter zonal secondary school sports competitions have any influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sport Festival. The research finding showed insignificant influence of local and state sports festivals on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. It was found out that these sports festivals have not been organized for sometime now. The finding also showed that other competitions have been used to mobilize athletes in the state when preparing for the National Sport Festival.

6. The study also sought to find out whether motivation/camping of athlete have influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The

research finding showed that there is a significant influence of mobilization/camping of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

7. The research was to establish whether recruitment practice/selection of athletes have influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The study found out that there is a significant influence of recruitment practice/selection of athletes on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. Recruitment drive should not be restricted within the state headquarters only but it should extend to the local government areas in the state. Local government/state sport festivals and club competitions should be used as a forum for recruitment of athletes when preparing for the National Sports Festival.

8. The research also sought to find out whether sports personnel/communication have significant influence on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival. The study found out that there is a significant influence of sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival.

5.3 Recommendations

Based on the findings and the limitation of the study, the following recommendations are made: -

1. The Borno State government should build a standard sports complex with standard sport facilities to cater for athletics, awimming pool, sports halls, as well as for ball game and racket games. The Borno State government should make available sports facilities and equipment in the secondary schools in the

state

2. The Borno State government should provide for sports in the budgeting allocation and more fund should be given to the state Sports Council so that it will be able to execute sports programmes in the state.
3. The Borno State government should revive the local and state government sports festivals which will be used to mobilize athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival.
4. The Zonal and Inter Zonal Secondary School Sports Competition should be revived by the state government.
5. Athletes should be motivated and camped when preparing for the National Sports Festival. Allowances and accommodation should be given to athletes when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival.
6. Sports Council officials should embark on recruitment drive for potential athletic talents in the local government areas and secondary schools of the state when preparing athletes for the National Sports Festival.
7. The State Sports Council should empower Zonal Coordinators with more funds and responsibility in order to organize sports at the local government level. The state government should appoint sports committees headed by a specialist in sports organization and administration to run the affairs of sports in the state and in the local government areas.

Recommendation for further research

Mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival is closely connected with mass participation in sports at all levels, the local and state

Levels. As a result it is further recommended that another research be considered under the following headings: “Deboarding of secondary schools in Borno state and mobilization of students for inter mural, zonal and inter zonal secondary school sports competitions”.

“Local and state government sports festivals and the mobilization of athletes for the National Sports Festival”.

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APPENDIX A:

Table 4.7 opinion of respondents on facilities and equipment on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

		Agree		Disagree	
S/N	Facilities an equipments	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Adequate sport facilities are provided when preparing the National Sports Festival	68	43.6	71	52.4
2.	Lack of facilities hinders adequate preparation for the National Sports Festival	131	84.0	23	14.8
3.	Inadequate facilities in the state does not cause serious problem when preparing for the National Sports Festival	27	17.3	104	73.0
4.	There are always qualitative sport equipment in the state when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	46	29.5	101	64.8
5.	The state sport council provide good balls, net, jerseys rackets and boats for games when preparing for the National Sports Festival	62	55.1	86	39.7

APPENDIX B:

Table 4.8: Opinion of respondents on funding and on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

		Agree		Disagree	
S/N	Funding	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Funds have always been made available for organizing the local government sports festival and other sports competitions when preparing for the National Sport Festival.	64	41.1	81	57.0
2.	Local government sports festivals are no longer being organized in preparation for the National Sport Festival because of lack of provision of funds from the local council.	121	87.6	25	16.0
3.	Funds provide for sports in the local government area are diverted for other projects not related to sports.	110	70.5	28	17.2
4.	Voluntary agencies and sports philanthropist have contributed financially toward the mobilization of athletes when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	68	43.6	59	37.9
5.	Funds have always been provided by the state to mobilize athletes all over the state in preparation for the National Sport Festival.	66	42.1	80	51.3

APPENDIX C:

Table 4.9: Opinion of respondents on state and local government sports festival on mobilizing Borno State athlete for the National Sports Festival

		Agree		Disagree	
S/N	State and Local government sports festival	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Local government and state sports festival have always been organized in order to recruit and select athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	72	46.2	75	48.0
2.	Without organizing the state sports festival the mobilization of athletes in preparation for the National Sport Festival will not be possible.	109	64.0	44	28.2
3.	Hidden athletic talent in the local government areas are not being discovered because of lack of organizing the local government sports festival when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	121	74.4	16	10.3
4.	Organizing competitions among clubs in the local government areas is another means of mobilizing athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	122	84.4	8	5.2
5.	Athletes from the local government areas have represented the state in the National Sports Festival as a result of organizing the local government sports festival.	87	55.8	52	33.3

APPENDIX D:

Table 4.10: Opinion of respondents on inter-zonal secondary school sports competition on mobilizing Borno State athlete for the National Sport Festival

		Agree		Disagree	
S/N	Inter zonal Secondary School Sports Competition	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1.	The zonal secondary school sports competition is one of the means of mobilizing athlete in preparation for the National Sports Festival	143	92.3	10	6.4
2.	The deboarding of most of the secondary schools in the state have reduced the number of athletes who are invited for camping when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	114	72.7	20	19.2
3.	Inter-zonal sports competition among secondary schools, play a major role in mobilizing athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	133	85.3	16	10.2
4.	Most of the athletes who are invited for camping in preparation for the National Sports Festival are in the higher Institutions in the state.	78	50.0	65	41.7
5.	Most of the athletes who are invited for camping in preparation for the National Sport Festival are from the Secondary Schools in the state.	68	43.6	76	48.7

APPENDIX E

Table 4.11: Opinion of respondents on motivation/camping of athlete on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

		Agree		Disagree	
S/N	Motivation/camping of athletes	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1.	The sports council recognized good sports performance by athletes by presenting certificates, gifts, cash and scholarship when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	111	71.2	42	27.0
2.	There is no special recognition for athletes when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	81	51.9	65	33.6
3.	Performances of athletes when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival have not been effective due to lack of motivation.	126	80.7	82	14.2
4.	Cash allowances for feeding are given to athletes when camping in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	90	58.3	55	35.2
5.	Athletes are not accommodated in training camps when preparing for the National Sport Festival.	69	44.2	71	45.5

APPENDIX F:

Table 4.12: Opinion of respondents on recruitment practice/selection of athlete on mobilizing Borno State athlete for the National Sport Festival

		Agree		Disagree	
S/N	Recruitment practice/selection of athletes	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Recruitment and selection of athletes are carried out by organizing the local government and the State Sports Festival when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	111	38	24.3	126
2.	The Inter-zonal Secondary School Sports Competition serves as a forum for the recruitment and selection of athletes in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	80.7	26	16.6	66
3.	Only athletes in sports clubs in the Maiduguri Metropolitan are recruited and selected when the state is preparing for the National Sports Festival.	66	42.4	73	46.8
4.	Only athletes who have represented the state before in the National Sports Festival are selected when the state is preparing for the National Sports Festival.	51	39.1	77	49.4
5.	Only athletes who are hired or those on the payroll of the State Sports Council are selected to represent the state when preparing for the National Sports Festival.	69	44.2	74	47.4

APPENDIX G

Table 4.13: Opinion of respondents on sports personnel/communication on mobilizing Borno State athletes for the National Sports Festival

		Agree		Disagree	
S/N	Recruitment practice/selection of athletes	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1.	When preparing for the National Sports Festival athletes are always mobilized in the stated because the administrators and coaches are committed to their work.	66	42.2	73	45.3
2.	Athletes in training camp receive good training because the coaches are professionally equipped to handle their job.	120	73.1	28	22.2
3.	Zonal Sports coordinators in the local government areas have been involved in organizing sports competition in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	20	13.1	123	77.2
4.	Relationship between administrators, coaches and athletes have always been cordial when training in preparation for the National Sports Festival.	26	20.3	119	72.1
5.	Information concerning preparation for the National Sports Festival is communicated on time by the sports council to sports clubs and association in the local government areas of the state.	110	63.3	80	50.3

APPENDIX H:

AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA – NIGER

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Date:……

Dear Sir/Madam,

I Haruna Abore Malgwi is a Post-graduate (M.Sc.) candidate of this Department, in partial fulfillment of the requirement for his Masters Programmes. He is conducting research on the 'Organizational Factors for Mobilizing Borno State Athletes for the National Sports Festival'.

Your organizations have been chosen as one of the area from which the candidate has to collect information by administering questionnaire to your staff on his research work. I therefore request for your kind permission to allow him to administer his questionnaires on the staff of your organization.

Thank you.

Prof. F.B. Adeyanju (Mrs)

Major Supervisor.

APPENDIX I:

Department of Physical and Physical Education,

Faculty of Education

Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

REQUEST TO VET QUESTIONNAIRE

Haruna Abore Malgwi, is a Postgraduate student of Physical and Health Education Department in partial fulfillment of the requirement of the programme, he is conducting a research on 'Organizational Factors for Mobilizing Borno State Athletes for the National Sports Festival'.

In this regard, he has prepared a questionnaire to be filed by employee of Borno State Sports Council.

In view of your proficiency and experiences you have been selected as one of the jurors to critically examine the questionnaire and make your inputs so as to give it better face and content validity. I will appreciate very much if you can go through and make your suggestion to improve the standard of the questionnaire.

Please, go through the questionnaire critically, and return it to the bearer with your suggestion(s) soon as possible.

Thank you.

Prof. F.B. Adeyanju

Dept. of Physical & Health Education

ABU, Zaria.