



## Determinants of Performance of 12-Year-Old Soccer School Players in Central Java

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### Abstract

This study aims to predict the determinants of performance in the 12-year age group. This study uses a mixed methods approach with a diverse research method (concurrent), namely a balanced quantitative and qualitative hybrid model (concurrent triangulation). The sample of this study amounted to 201 KU 12 soccer school athletes in Central Java. Anthropometry is measured using anthropometric measurements, including head circumference, arm length, leg length, arm circumference, abdominal circumference, thigh circumference, and chest circumference. 2) Body Mass Index (BMI) uses measurements of height and weight. Biomotor ability tests include 1) Speed Running speed using a 20m running test on a straight line with the fastest possible time measured in seconds. It was measured as quickly as possible using units of seconds. 2) Flexibility Flexibility using the sit and reach test is measured in centimeters (cm) 3) Strength Measuring leg muscle strength using the leg strength test using a leg dynamometer. 4) Aerobic endurance VO2 Max ability is measured using a 12-minute running test according to the Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test Protocol 5) Coordination Eye-foot coordination test with Soccer Wall Voley Test. Factors that affect the performance of 12-year-old soccer students are height, Body Mass Index. 20 meter run, strength, coordination and biomotor. While anthropometric and psychological factors as a whole there is no relationship. In the future, further research is needed with playing position-based analysis.

### How to Cite

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## INTRODUCTION

Currently, the game of soccer is developing very rapidly. The number of soccer academies to develop the talents, interests, and potential of early childhood so that later they can make the nation proud to excel in the world of domestic and foreign football. For a soccer team, many factors are essential for the success of anthropometric and physiological characteristics in sports performance (Sutton et al., 2009). However, evaluating body composition in soccer players can help improve their performance and assess the results of the training plan that has been implemented (Sutton et al., 2009).

These factors can help formulate sports development plans and policies (Ackland et al., 2012). Factors such as the setting and grading sports examination items, research on standards, training methods, and physical examination learning can affect sports performance (Mahdavi et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2022). In addition, environmental quality, including air, water, and soil pollution, can also affect athletes' health and performance (Musaddiq et al., 2022). By identifying and monitoring these factors, sports professionals can make informed decisions to improve performance and ensure athletes' well-being (Alshanqiti & Namoun, 2020). Therefore, predicting and understanding the factors influencing athlete performance is crucial for effective sports development and overall athlete success.

Measuring soccer performance is essential for many reasons. It allows for the identification and selection of talented individuals and the evaluation of the effects of specific training programs (Ali, 2011; Benchehida et al., 2015). Performance tests provide a controlled simulation of sport and exercise performance, which allows for research and applied science purposes (Rösch et al., 2000). Validity, reliability, and sensitivity are essential factors in performance testing. A valid protocol closely resembles simulated performance, while a reliable protocol has low variation (García-Ceberino et al., 2020). Measuring soccer performance involves assessing the physical condition, technical and tactical performance, cognitive and perceptual skills, motor skills, and decision-making ability (Currell & Jeukendrup, 2008). A battery of standardized tests has been developed to evaluate physical and skill performance in soccer, providing objective measures for coaches, researchers, and health professionals. Overall, measuring soccer performance is essential for talent identification, training evaluation, and understanding the complex factors contributing to the sport's success.

Soccer talent identification at 12 is crucial because it enables younger athletes to receive early support and resource allocation, improving their chances of realizing their potential (Babu & Nimkar, 2020). Furthermore, identifying talent at this age aids in providing a top-notch coaching and training environment to maximize the future development of likely elite athletes (Babu & Nimkar, 2020). Youth talent identification should be multidisciplinary, considering football-specific content and physiological and physical evaluations (Jauhainen et al., 2019). Furthermore, research suggests that assessments of general motor skills given in elementary school may have a moderate-to-high predictive validity when forecasting an individual's success in competitive soccer during their teenage years (Hohmann & Siener, 2021). As a result, seeing soccer talent at 12 enables early intervention, focused training, and the chance to discover future elite players—benefits that extend to the player and the sport.

Previous research (Doewes et al., 2021; Zambom-Ferraresi et al., 2018) has limitations, namely the diverse and complex nature of soccer performance analysis and limited consideration of performance indicators. This study aims to predict the determinants of performance in the 12-year age group.

## METHODS

This study uses a mixed methods approach with a diverse research method (concurrent), namely a balanced quantitative and qualitative hybrid model (concurrent triangulation). The sample of this study amounted to 201 KU 12 soccer school athletes in Central Java. Anthropometry is measured using anthropometric measurements, including head circumference, arm length, leg length, arm circumference, abdominal circumference, thigh circumference, and chest circumference. 2) Body Mass Index (BMI) uses measurements of height and weight. Biomotor ability tests include 1) Speed Running speed using a 20m running test on a straight line with the fastest possible time measured in seconds. It was measured as quickly as possible using units of seconds. 2) Flexibility Flexibility using the sit and reach test is measured in centimeters (cm) 3) Strength Measuring leg muscle strength using the leg strength test using a leg dynamometer. 4) Aerobic endurance VO2 Max ability is measured using a 12-minute running test according to the Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test Protocol 5) Coordination Eye-foot coordination test with Soccer Wall Voley Test.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Table 1.** Results

X	Y	Result	
Height		0,007	
BMI		0,037	
20 Meter Run	Performance	0,004	Corelate
Strength		0,048	
Coordination		0,230	
Biomotor		0,046	

The results of the biomotor component are great but not consistent. Variations in measurement accuracy are caused by different approaches and technology employed for data collection (Mara et al., 2017). Recent works by (Park et al., 2019; Scott & Lovell, 2018) however, reveal that methodological approaches might affect data in a different way than previously proposed. High-intensity running and sprinting, regardless of their overall activity contribution, are essential elements (22-28% of total match distance covered (Vescovi & Favero, 2014) of the sport's physiological demands (because they are involved in crucial match and ball running actions) and will require the use of extra physiological and metabolic resources (e.g., anaerobic energy systems). Athletes that prioritize biomotor components have a lower risk of injury. Soccer-related injuries are often complicated and impacted by the interplay of several risk variables (Bittencourt et al., 2016). Risk factors can be either extrinsic (connected to the environment) or intrinsic (related to the athlete), and they can also be changed or not (Bahr & Holme, 2003).

In soccer, speed is vital since it is connected to many technical and physical aspects of the game. Players need speed to change directions, stop abruptly, shoot after dribbling, and escape opponents (Roecker et al., 2017). In addition, speed influences game results and is related to other tactical and physical aspects of soccer (Abt et al., 2003; Beato et al., 2021). Players at various places on the pitch need to be able to move quickly and access the ball soon (Tomáš et al., 2014). Although it can be challenging to develop speed, it can be enhanced by training regimens emphasizing high-speed running and agility exercises. Soccer players need to possess quickness to perform well in the game.

In soccer, strength and coordination are crucial. College soccer players' physical stress levels have decreased, and their bodily functions have developed more effectively with coordina-

tion training. Coordination is essential for players to make decisions together and successfully intercept the ball in soccer (Smith et al., 2023). It has been demonstrated that soccer players perform better using training techniques that emphasize lower limb strength and coordination (Fei, 2023).

## CONCLUSION

Factors that affect the performance of 12-year-old soccer students are height, Body Mass Index. 20 meter run, strength, coordination and biomotor. While anthropometric and psychological factors as a whole there is no relationship. In the future, further research is needed with playing position-based analysis.

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