CONSTRUCTING A SCALE OF COMMUNICATION SOURCES (KINETIC AND SOCIAL) AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO REACTION DURING PASSING AMONG FIRST DIVISION FOOTBALL PLAYERS IN IRAQI LEAGUE FOR 2022-2023 SPORTS SEASON

Maitham Mutair Hamidi Al-Krizi

Ministry of Education, General Directorate of Education in Maysan Governorate, Iraq

Corresponding Author: mathemmatter6@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

Background. Effective communication during football tackles is crucial for team coordination and individual performance. Communication can occur through both kinetic (motor-based) and social (interpersonal) channels, which may influence players' motor response speed. **Objectives.** This study aimed to develop two measurement scales for communication sources—kinetic and social—during tackling situations in football, and to establish a scale for motor response speed. It also sought to examine the relationship between these communication sources and motor response speed among first division football players in the Iraqi League during the 2022–2023 season. **Method.** A descriptive research approach was adopted using the survey method. The exploratory study involved 24 players (18.75%), while the main study was conducted on 104 players (81.75%) from six clubs. The largest participation came from Maysan Club (19.5%), followed by Al-Bahri (18%), Al-Kufa (17.2%), Al-Nasiriyah (16.4%), Afak (14.8%), and Al-Samawa (14.1%). The researcher constructed scales based on the following dimensions: self-denial, mental preparation, self-confidence, attention focus, motor sensation, and feedback, alongside a motor response speed scale. Appropriate statistical techniques were used for analysis. **Results.** The results indicated that the two developed scales effectively measure communication sources and motor response speed. A significant relationship was found between communication sources and players' motor response speed during football tackles. **Conclusion.** The findings highlight the importance of assessing both kinetic and social communication sources to better understand and enhance players' response speeds. It is recommended to integrate modern training methods that strengthen communication and motor coordination, and to involve experts in educational, psychological, and social sciences in sports training to support optimal team communication and performance during matches.

Keywords; communication sources, kinetic and social, reaction, passing, football.

A. INTRODUCTION

Psychological aspect is most prominent and important factor for players in the various stages of preparation and during participation in sports competitions and tournaments due to the differences in these stages and the realistic or sudden turns and changes that occur in them, as they are pivotal stages for teams in achieving advanced positions, and because humans, by nature, are exposed to many of these situations and changes, as well as the player. From here, we find that sports psychology tries to find ways to study these variables in a manner that suits each stage and situation that the player goes through as a result of his exposure to some failures.

We see that his level is good sometimes, and at other times his level is unstable, which is reflected in his performance on the field. This decline in level may continue for long periods, making it difficult to modify this behavior or improve his level. We find that psychology specializes in studying these variables because they contribute to directing and modifying behavior through careful observation of some of the variables that they face in their social life as well as during matches.

Communication in football has received a great deal of attention from psychological experts through developing understanding, harmony, balance, and psychological and physical stability, and finding ways to develop these foundations and ideas, and exchange information between players, sender and receiver, according to plans and tactics agreed upon between the players through training sessions that the technical staff seeks to develop in order for them to possess leadership qualities through correct positioning and distribution according to the different playing positions, to achieve harmony and understanding in transferring the ball with highly skilled skills resulting from the information stored in the memory and the speed of response to this flowing information by delivering the ball to a teammate in a skilled manner, while at the same time preventing the ball from being scattered and interrupted so as not to form counterattacks that may affect the outcome of the match. Hence, the importance of the research emerged, as the topic of communication is one of the topics that contributes to achieving effective harmony between all players, regardless of their positions .

Communication is naturally divided into two parts: kinetic communication and social communication, both of which are inseparable from each other to strengthen the bonds of harmony between players on the field during passes and when building organized attacks by relying on some basic pillars represented by good players because they have solutions in difficult times and they represent the pillars of the team due to their balance and stability and they have a positive impact on all players, especially in pressured playing situations that arise as a result of some variables such as being exposed to an early goal or some adverse referee decisions or pressure from the audience. These players represent the core of the team in controlling and dominating the course of the match, so the technical staff seeks to develop communication through them as they represent the basic pillars of the team and are distributed in several places on the field.

Football requires more joint efforts, starting with the administrative body, the technical staff and the players, by providing all means that contribute to building a cohesive team through adherence to instructions during training sessions and implementing the plans that the coaching staff seeks through, and creating a social atmosphere through which frankness is achieved and removing all negative obstacles that occur due to some bad actions and behaviors during training or during matches with a kind of optimism and positivity to enhance the players' self-confidence.

This requires the role of the technical staff to be fully aware of what the players are thinking by asking questions related to their ambitions on the one hand and their relationships within the team on the other hand, as well as knowing the links of social relationships between the players to ensure their presence close to each other to devote training plans on the field to enhance communication between them. Through this, we can summarize the communication problem between players of first-class clubs:

Most of the short passes between players are cut off in the midfield and opposing team areas, as a result of the lack of proficiency in passing to a teammate due to lack of concentration, which poses a danger to the team to exploit these mistakes in building counterattacks, in addition to individual play being the most prominent feature among players, which causes the balls to be cut off as a result of dribbling by more than one player and thus scattering the ball during the pass, and what proves the weakness of communication, to strengthen the communication process the starting point must be from

the goalkeeper who strives hard in the process of building and organizing short, medium and long passes, but it appears from the matches that we find the opposite, which is making long passes into the opposing team's court in many cases and not building a healthy, organized attack through the defensive line, in addition to the lack of knowledge of the coaching staff and players about the sources of communication .

Due to the importance of the problem, this topic was studied to find ways to achieve harmony between players and to seek the help of specialists in psychological and sports sciences by benefiting from their experience in this field to strengthen social ties among some players and enhance their proximity to each other. Football depends on plans through which the technical staff seeks to direct players to adhere to applying these instructions and implement them with utmost precision during the preparation period and to invest these duties and effort in stadiums in the racing period by achieving harmony between them to enhance positive results through multiple and varied passes, including short and long passes.

speed of the players' motor response in taking the appropriate place and receiving the pass as a result of the factor of harmony and understanding to enhance communication through and exploiting the spaces between the opposing players and exchanging those passes and roles through the movement of the players in several areas to cause the process of confusing the opposing player for two or more players to participate in it, whether in the defense or attack areas, as the speed of the motor response depends on the good reading by the receiver as a result of a specific stimulus and to move at the appropriate time while the sender is performing the movement and handling the ball at the appropriate time end of movement.

From what has been presented, it is clear that some players of the first division clubs in the Iraqi league face difficulty in handing over the ball in several areas, especially in the opposing team's court, as a result of the weakness of the source of contact with the football, as well as the speed of the motor response during short passes during the sports season. 3022-2023, which made us study this problem in this research, entitled " Communication and its relationship to motor response speed during handling among some players of first division football clubs in the Iraqi League for the 2022-2023 sports season.

This research aims to achieve three primary objectives: first, to construct a scale for assessing communication sources among selected players from first division football clubs

in the Republic of Iraq for the 2022–2023 season; second, to develop a scale for measuring motor response speed among these players during the same season; and third, to identify the relationship between communication sources and motor response speed. Based on these objectives, the researcher proposes three assumptions: (1) that communication sources among players in the first division football clubs can be measured; (2) that motor response speed among these players is measurable; and (3) that there is a statistically significant relationship between communication sources and motor response speed in this context.

The concept of communication in this study refers to the definition by Mustafa Mawloud Ashwi (1999), who describes it as the process of transmitting symbols and signals—whether verbal, written, or non-verbal—which forms the foundation for social interaction and facilitates various interpersonal relationships. Meanwhile, motor response speed is defined according to Richard (2011) as the temporal capacity involving both reaction time and movement time—essentially the duration from stimulus reception to the completion of the physical response.

The scope of the research includes the human field, which consists of players from selected first division football clubs; the temporal field, which spans from September 3, 2023, to July 14, 2023, for the main study; and the spatial field, which covers various club stadiums. An exploratory study was conducted between February 15 and February 23, 2023, to anticipate commonly asked questions from participants and clarify ambiguous items in the scale. Following this, the primary study was implemented between September 3 and July 14, 2023, to apply the communication sources scale to the full sample.

For data analysis, the researcher employed various statistical methods, including measures of central tendency (mean, median, standard deviation, and skewness), Pearson's correlation coefficient to assess relationships between variables, intercorrelation matrices, frequency distributions and percentages for descriptive statistics, Cronbach's alpha for reliability analysis, and overall means to interpret item responses across the developed scales.

B. METHOD

Participant

The research community includes some players of clubs participating in the first division football league for the year 2022-2023 **.** The basic research sample was selected randomly, as the size of the basic sample amounted to (128) players from some first division football clubs participating in the Iraqi league for the year 2022-2023, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Numerical description of the research sample according to the clubs distributed over the exploratory study and the basic study 128 = n

Clubs	Sample		exploratory study		Basic study	
	number	%	number	%	number	%
Maysan	25	19.5	5	20.8	20	19.23
Marine	23	18	5	20.8	18	17:30
Kufa	22	17.2	4	16.7	18	17:30
Nasiriyah	21	16.4	4	16.7	17	16.35
Pardon me	19	14.8	3	12.5	16	15.4
Samawah	18	14.1	3	12.5	15	14.42
the total	128	100	24	18.75	104	81.75

Based on the data presented in Table 1, which describes the numerical distribution of the research sample, the total number of participants in this study amounted to 128 players drawn from six football clubs. The exploratory study involved 24 players, representing 18.75% of the total sample, while the main study was conducted on 104 players, comprising 81.75%. The highest proportion of participants came from Maysan Club with 19.5%, followed by Al-Bahri Club with 18%, Al-Kufa Club with 17.2%, Al-Nasiriyah Club with 16.4%, Afak Club with 14.8%, and Al-Samawa Club with 14.1%. The criteria for selecting the sample included two conditions: (1) players must be officially registered in the Iraqi League, and (2) their chronological age must not be less than 18 years. To ensure sample homogeneity in terms of basic variables such as age and playing position, the skewness coefficient was calculated as presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Statistical description of the basic and exploratory research sample data in the basic primary variables n=128

Variables	Statistical implications of the description			
	arithmetic mean	The mediator	standard deviation	Coefficient of skewness
Age level	1.00	1.42	0.58	1.00
Player position	2.00	2.00	0.79	0.24

It is clear from Table 2 regarding the homogeneity of the research sample data in the primary variables (age level and player position) that the skewness coefficients range

between (1.00 - 0.24) and the arithmetic mean values range between (2.00 - (1.00) and the median values reached (2.00 - 1.42), which indicates that the extracted measurements are close to the norm, as the normative skewness coefficient values range between (± 3) and are very close to zero, which confirms the homogeneity of the individuals of the total research sample (basic and exploratory) in the age level and player position.

Research Design

The researcher used the descriptive approach (survey method) to suit the nature of the research. To measure the sources of communication in football, the researcher developed two specific scales: one for communication sources (comprising both social and motor dimensions) and another for motor response speed, tailored for players of first division football clubs. The communication sources scale includes two main components. The social communication axis consists of self-denial, mental preparation, and self-confidence, while the motor communication axis includes focusing attention, motor sensation, and feedback. Given the absence of existing instruments to assess these dimensions—specifically those addressing social and motor communication in football and the speed of motor response—the researcher undertook the task of designing these scales from the ground up.

The development process followed structured steps, beginning with a review of scientific literature and prior studies in the field of sports psychology. Among the references examined were the communication skills scale developed by Muhammad Ibrahim Al-Shahat (2018) and the study by Haitham Muhammad Kazim (2014). Based on this literature review, six relevant communication source indicators were identified. These were then subjected to expert validation, with 13 sports psychology experts consulted to evaluate the relevance, clarity, and appropriateness of the proposed scale dimensions. This expert review helped ensure that the scales were psychometrically sound and contextually suitable for measuring both communication aspects and motor response speed among first division football players.

Table 3. The percentage of agreement of the arbitrators on the axes of constructing the communication sources scale for some first division football club players n = 13

Axis	Agreement rate	
	repetition	Approval rate %
self-denial	11	84.61 %
mental numbers	11	84.61 %
self-confidence	12	92.30 %

focus of attention	12	92.30 %
Kinesthetic sensation	11	84.61 %
Feedback	11	84.61 %

It is clear from Table 3 which is related to the frequency and percentage of the arbitrators' opinion poll on the suitability of the axes for the scale of communication sources for players of first division football clubs, as the approval rate ranged between (80.61 % to 92.30 %). The researcher accepted a rate of 80 % or more to rely on the axes in measuring the sources of communication in football for players of first division football clubs . Thus, the scale in its initial form contains (6) axes, and each axis has (8) phrases, and thus the scale consists of (48 phrases).

Consistency validity of the communication sources scale

The researcher presented the scale to (13) experts specializing in sports psychology to determine the suitability of the phrases as in Table 4 .

Table 4. shows the validity of external consistency and the relative importance of the referees for the scale of football communication sources and the correlation coefficient for each phrase and the dimension to which it belongs. Judges n = 13 and research population n = 128

Variable	No.	suitable		somewhat suitable		Not suitable		relative importance	Correlation coefficient
		repetition	100 %	repetition	100 %	repetition	100 %		
self-denial	1	11	84.62	1	7.69	1	7.69	92.30	.421 **
	2	11	84.62	0	0.00	2	15.38	89.74	.197
	3	9	69.23	3	23.07	1	7.69	87.17	.593 **
	4	9	69.23	1	7.69	3	23.07	82.05	.273 **
	5	12	92.30	0	0.00	1	7.69	94.87	.674 **
	6	10	76.92	2	15.38	1	7.69	89.74	.737 **
	7	7	53.84	2	15.38	4	30.76	74.35	0.00
	8	6	46.15	1	7.69	6	46.15	66.66	0.00
mental numbers	9	11	84.62	1	7.69	1	7.69	92.30	.361 **
	10	9	69.23	3	23.07	1	7.69	87.17	.470 **
	11	10	76.92	1	7.69	2	15.38	87.17	.509 **
	12	12	92.30	1	7.69	0	0.00	94.87	.510 **

	13	9	69.23	1	7.69	3	23.07	82.05	.515 **
	14	10	76.92	0	0.00	3	23.07	84.61	.623 **
	15	6	46.15	3	23.07	4	30.77	71.79	0.00
	16	6	46.15	2	15.38	5	38.46	64.10	0.00
	17	9	69.23	1	7.69	3	23.07	82.05	.269 **
	18	8	61.54	4	30.77	1	7.69	84.61	.330 **
self-confidence	19	10	76.92	1	7.69	2	15.38	87.17	.605 **
	20	10	76.92	2	15.38	1	7.69	89.74	.380 **
	21	11	84.62	1	7.69	1	7.69	92.30	.480 **
	22	9	69.23	3	23.07	1	7.69	87.17	.511 **
	23	7	53.85	2	15.38	4	30.77	74.35	0.00
	24	6	46.15	3	23.07	4	30.77	71.79	0.00
	25	8	61.54	4	30.77	1	7.69	84.61	.736 **
	26	9	69.23	3	23.07	1	7.69	87.17	.685 **
focus of attention	27	8	61.54	3	23.07	2	15.38	82.05	.559 **
	28	10	76.92	2	15.38	1	7.69	89.74	.504 **
	29	8	61.54	4	30.77	1	7.69	84.61	.433 **
	30	10	76.92	1	7.69	2	15.38	87.17	.542 **
	31	7	53.85	4	30.77	2	15.38	79.48	0.00
	32	6	46.15	4	30.77	3	23.07	74.35	0.00
	33	10	76.92	2	15.38	1	7.69	89.74	.707 **
	34	9	69.23	3	23.07	1	7.69	87.17	.420 **
Kinesthetic sensation	35	10	76.92	1	7.69	2	15.38	87.17	.587 **
	36	8	61.54	3	23.07	2	15.38	82.05	.665 **
	37	9	69.23	1	7.69	3	23.07	82.05	.256 **
	38	9	69.23	2	15.38	2	15.38	84.61	.387 **
	39	7	53.85	2	15.38	4	30.77	74.35	0.00

	40	6	46.15	3	23.07	4	30.77	79.48	0.00
	41	11	84.62	1	7.69	1	7.69	92.30	.660 **
	42	10	76.92	1	7.69	2	15.38	87.17	.698 **
Feedback	43	11	84.62	0	0.00	2	15.38	89.74	.784 **
	44	8	61.54	4	30.77	1	7.69	84.61	.680 **
	45	8	61.54	3	23.07	2	15.38	82.05	.132
	46	9	69.23	2	15.38	2	15.38	84.61	.578 **
	47	7	53.85	2	15.38	4	30.77	74.35	0.00
	48	7	53.85	4	30.77	2	15.38	79.48	0.00

It is clear from Table (4) regarding the experts' opinion poll on the suitability of the phrases for football communication sources for first-class players that the experts' approval rate for the phrases ranged between (64.10 to 92.30 %). The researcher accepted an approval rate of 80 % or more to accept the phrase. Therefore, the researcher confirmed that the phrases agree with the dimensions by a percentage greater than 80 % , and thus the scale in its initial form contains (6) sources and ((48 phrases after deleting two phrases from each of these sources because their percentage is less than ((80%) , and thus the scale in its final form consists of (36) phrases as shown in Table (4) . It is also noted from the table above that the correlation coefficient recorded the highest moral consistency in question number (43) from the sixth source, feedback, with a percentage of (.784**) and the dimension to which the phrase belongs, where the lowest moral consistency was recorded in question number (45), where its value reached (.132).

Apparent consistency validity of the motor response speed scale

An expert opinion poll on the suitability of the statements in the motor response speed scale for some first division football club players.

Table 5. shows the validity of external consistency and the relative importance of the judges for each statement and the scale as a whole n=13.

Phrase number	suitable	somewhat suitable	Not suitable	Correlation coefficient	degree of

	repet ition	100 %	repet ition	100 %	repet ition	100 %	relative importa nce		confiden ce
1	9	69.23	1	7.69	3	23.07	82.05	.315 **	0.02
2	10	76.92	1	7.69	2	15.38	87.17	.512 **	.000
3	9	69.23	2	15.38	2	15.38	84.61	.442 **	.000
4	10	76.92	1	7.69	2	15.38	87.17	.703 **	.000
5	8	61.54	3	23.07	2	15.38	82.05	.291 **	.004
6	11	84.62	1	7.69	1	7.69	92.30	.411 **	.000
7	8	61.54	4	30.77	1	7.69	84.61	.269 **	.008
8	9	69.23	2	15.38	2	15.38	84.61	.429 **	.000
9	8	61.54	3	23.07	2	15.38	82.05	.294 **	.003
10	10	76.92	2	15.38	1	7.69	89.74	.568 **	.000
11	9	69.23	2	15.38	2	15.38	84.61	.371 **	.000
12	8	61.54	3	23.07	2	15.38	82.05	.244 **	.016
13	9	69.23	1	7.69	3	23.07	82.05	.139	. 167
14	10	76.92	2	15.38	1	7.69	89.74	.550 **	.000
15	11	84.62	1	7.69	1	7.69	92.30	.376 **	.000
16	8	61.54	3	23.07	2	15.38	82.05	.250 **	.014
17	9	69.23	2	15.38	2	15.38	84.61	.384 **	.000
18	10	76.92	1	7.69	2	15.38	87.17	.418 **	.000
19	8	61.54	3	23.07	2	15.38	82.05	-.022-	.828
20	8	61.54	4	30.77	1	7.69	84.61	.132	.197

Table (5) for the experts' opinion poll on the suitability of the phrases of the motor response speed scale for some first division football club players in the Iraqi league shows that the relative importance of the experts' agreement on the phrases ranged between (80 % to 92.30 %). The researcher accepted an agreement rate of 80 % or more to accept the phrase. Therefore, the researcher confirmed that the phrases agree with the scale as a whole by a percentage greater than 80 %. Thus, the scale in its final form contains (20) phrases as shown in the table. It is also noted from the table above that the correlation coefficient recorded the highest significant consistency in question No. (4) of the motor response speed scale at a rate of (.703 **) and the dimension to which the phrase belongs, where the lowest significant consistency was recorded in question No. (19), at a rate of (-.022-).

Scale stability

The researcher confirmed the stability of the two scales using the Cronbach's alpha coefficient as shown in Table No. (6) , as the scale enjoys validity, stability and objectivity.

Table 6. as the scale enjoys validity, stability and objectivity

Scale	repetition	phrases	Alpha Cronbach
motor contact	120	36	.826
motor response speed	97	20	.774

Table 6 shows that the value of Cronbach's alpha coefficient (.826) Which indicates that the phrases are characterized by high validity and reliability for the scale of motor communication sources for some football players and the scale of motor response speed, as the phrases of the response speed scale reached (20) phrases, and the value of the Cronbach's alpha coefficient reached (774).

C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

In this chapter, the acceptance averages for the communication scale sources will be presented and discussed. (Social and motor) for first division football club players for basic study according to the five-point Likert scale

Table 7. Shows the average answers of the research sample members to the football contact statements.

Dimension	Sample orientation	percentage	standard deviation	arithmetic mean	Sample size	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat agree	OK	Strongly agree	Phrase number
The first source is self-denial.	Agree	59.4	.65	3.77	128	0	3	36	76	13	1
	Agree	53.1	.66	3.75	128	0	1	44	68	15	2
	Agree	54.7	.68	3.92	128	0	1	32	70	25	3
	Neutral	55.5	.57	3.37	128	0	5	71	51	1	4
	Agree	37.5	.91	3.56	128	1	14	45	48	20	5
	Agree	36.7	1.06	3.90	128	5	11	33	47	32	6
Average overall self-denial source	Agree	49.5	0.39	3.68	128	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Neutral	66.4	.65	3.03	128	4	13	85	26	0	7
The second source is mental numbers.	Disagree	48.4	.78	2.34	128	15	62	45	4	2	8
	Agree	57.8	.65	3.70	128	0	4	40	74	10	9
	Neutral	50.0	.55	3.43	128	0	4	64	60	0	10
	Neutral	56.3	.64	3.38	128	0	6	45	5	5	11
	Agree	53.9	.71	3.66	128	1	4	43	69	11	12
The overall average of the source mental numbers	Neutral	55.46	.33	3.26	128	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
The third source is self-confidence.	Agree	54.4	.60	3.66	128	0	1	49	70	8	13
	Neutral	35.9	1.00	2.87	128	9	39	46	27	7	14
	Neutral	42.2	.91	2.84	128	8	37	54	25	4	15
	Agree	44.5	.68	3.67	128	0	0	57	55	16	16
	Agree	54.7	.66	3.82	128	0	1	39	70	18	17
	Agree	41.4	.79	3.64	128	1	4	53	52	18	18
Overall average of self-confidence	Agree	45.51	.33	3.42	128	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Agree	52.3	.72	3.48	128	0	13	44	67	4	19

The fourth source is focusing attention.	Agree	46.1	.70	3.40	128	0	13	53	59	3	20
	Agree	51.6	.61	3.36	128	0	8	66	53	1	21
	Agree	62.5	.54	3.62	128	1	0	46	80	1	22
	Disagree	54.7	.79	2.38	128	11	70	35	11	1	23
	Agree	52.3	.53	3.53	128	0	1	59	67	1	24
Average overall focus of attention	Neutral	53.25	.37	3.29	128	0	120	0	0	0	0
The fifth source is the kinesthetic sensation.	Agree	57.0	.57	3.38	128	0	4	73	49	2	25
	Agree	64.8	.51	3.69	128	0	0	42	83	3	26
	Agree	48.4	.58	3.49	128	0	3	62	60	3	27
	Neutral	43.0	.86	2.80	128	1	55	44	24	4	28
	Agree	65.6	.58	3.95	128	0	0	25	84	19	29
Average overall kinesthetic sense source	Agree	53.78	.32	3.45	128	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Agree	75.0	.49	3.92	128	0	0	21	96	11	31
The sixth source is feedback.	Agree	67.2	.57	3.93	128	0	0	25	86	17	32
	Agree	64.8	.59	4.02	128	0	0	21	83	24	33
	Agree	61.7	.61	3.77	128	0	2	38	79	11	34
	Neutral	56.3	.83	2.44	128	9	72	28	19	0	35
Overall average for the sixth source	Agree	65.88	.32	3.66	128	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

It is noted from Table (7) the average answers of the research sample members on: The phrases of the source (self-denial) constitute a relatively high acceptance, as the averages ranged between (3.37 - 3.90), and the total arithmetic mean of the source was (3.68) , with a standard deviation of (0.39). The sample trend is towards approval . It is noted from Table No. (7) that the average answers of the research sample members on The phrases of the source (mental numbers) constitute a relative acceptance as the averages ranged between (2.34 - 3.70) and the total arithmetic average of the source reached (3.26) with a standard deviation of (0.33). The sample trend is towards approval . As noted from Table (7) the average answers of the research sample members on Source phrases (self-confidence) are relatively high in acceptance, with averages ranging between (-2.84 3.82) The total arithmetic mean for the source was (3.42) with a standard deviation of (.33). The sample trend is towards approval . It is noted from Table (7) the average answers of the research sample members on The fourth source phrases (focus of attention) are relatively high in acceptance, with averages ranging between) 2.38 - 3.62) The total arithmetic mean of the

source was (3.29) with a standard deviation of (0.37). The sample trend is towards the approval. It is noted from Table (7) the average answers of the research sample members on: The phrases of the fifth source (kinesthetic sensation) constitute a relatively high acceptance, as the averages ranged between (2.80 - 3.95). The total arithmetic average of the source reached (3.45) with a standard deviation of (0.32). The sample trend is towards agreement. .and It is noted from Table (7) the average answers of the research sample members on: The sixth source phrases (feedback) represent a relatively high level of acceptance, with averages ranging between (2.44 - 4.02). The total arithmetic mean for the source was (3.66) with a standard deviation of (0.32). The sample trend is towards approval.

Table 8. shows the average answers of the research sample members on: Football motor response speed phrases

Scale	Sample orientation	percentage	standard deviation	arithmetic mean	Sample size	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat agree	OK	Strongly agree	Phrase number
motor response speed	Disagree	31.3	.83	1.84	97	38	40	15	4	0	1
	Disagree	33.6	.84	2.07	97	28	43	23	5	0	2
	Strongly agree	50.0	.50	4.29	97	0	0	2	64	31	3
	I am not neutral	34.4	.73	2.58	97	5	39	44	9	0	4
	neutral	40.6	.79	2.51	97	4	52	29	11	1	5
	OK	52.3	.52	4.18	97	0	0	6	67	24	6
	OK	50.8	.63	4.13	97	0	3	5	65	24	7
	neutral	35.9	.74	2.58	97	3	46	36	12	0	8
	Strongly agree	40.6	.63	4.25	97	0	0	10	52	35	9
	neutral	28.9	.87	2.65	97	7	37	36	16	1	10
	OK	36.7	.65	3.39	97	0	7	47	41	2	11
	OK	33.6	.82	3.10	97	2	20	43	30	2	12
	neutral	53.1	.54	2.94	97	0	17	68	12	0	13
	OK	41.4	.91	3.81	97	2	8	15	53	19	14
	OK	46.9	.63	3.87	97	0	1	23	60	13	15
	neutral	41.4	.62	2.73	97	0	35	53	9	0	16
	Strongly agree	45.3	.57	4.27	97	0	0	6	58	33	17
	Strongly agree	45.3	.62	4.27	97	0	2	3	58	34	18
	OK	48.4	.59	3.32	97	0	3	62	29	3	19
	neutral	45.3	.66	3.02	97	1	17	58	21	0	20
Average overall self-denial source	neutral	41.79	.68	3.29	97	0	0	0	0	0	0

It is noted from Table (8) the average answers of the research sample members on: The phrases of the scale (response speed in football) are neutral, as the averages ranged between (1.84) - 4.27 , and the total arithmetic average for the source was (3.29) with a standard deviation of (0.68). The sample trend is towards neutral.

Discussion

The researcher discusses the results he reached through statistical treatments and data. From Table No. (4), it is noted that there is a consistency relationship between the questions posed and the source (self-denial), as the highest consistency was in statement No. (6) at a rate of (.737 **) and the lowest consistency was in statement No. (2) at a rate of (.179). Looking at Table No. (7) , it is clear that the average answers of the research sample members on The source phrases (self-denial) constitute a relative acceptance, as the averages ranged between (3.37 - 3.90), and the total arithmetic average of the source reached (3.68), with a standard deviation of (0.39). The sample trend is towards approval. .

Ahmed Amin Fawzy (2003) explains that most sports psychologists believe that the psychological factor is an important factor in determining the outcome of the players' struggle during sports competitions to achieve victory and score points, which results in achieving victory and superiority (2 : 2). Ibrahim Shaalan and Amr Abu Al-Majd (1997) mention that raising the efficiency of a football player requires many things, including proper planning for sports training and the level of skill, physical and psychological performance, as reaching the highest sports levels does not come about by chance, but rather as a result of a long plan with completely defined goals that extends over several years. (2:1). The researcher believes that the source of self-denial is represented by the player giving up his desires and not being selfish, but sacrificing himself for the benefit of his team, and having the ability to curb his wild emotions and possessing a noble idea to constitute an incentive for him to cooperate with the rest of the players in facing these challenges, and not seizing opportunities to satisfy his desires at the expense of the team's interest and striving to invest the time factor and move in a way that suits the directives of the technical staff according to the planned goals to achieve positive results.

Looking at Table No. (4) and Statement No. (6), we note the highest consistency, which reached a percentage of (.737 **). This shows that the players need psychological guidance and counseling, as this discomfort negatively affects the physical and mental level while they

are on the bench or even when they are substituted to enter the field. As is common, the substitutions made by the technical staff are unsuccessful, forgetting the psychological factor that affected their technical and skill level. The players of the first division clubs are in dire need of preparing the appropriate capabilities and atmosphere to create a kind of social harmony that reflects positively on the motor aspect during the units and training camps and removing the intensity of tension that arises between the players. Self-denial is one of the sources that players of high levels enjoy. This does not mean not paying attention to this source and developing it and instilling it in the concept of the players of the first division clubs, as it constitutes an important source in achieving balance and harmony within the team as well as between the players themselves.

Muhammad Hassan Alawi (2012) states that despite the multiplicity and diversity of the concepts of self, the player who practices physical activity must understand himself from the point of view of the moral frame of reference, the good values of sports and physical practice, and the adoption of fair and just play, respect for competitors, and the extent to which his behavior is characterized by honesty, integrity, impartiality, and other aspects that characterize sports and physical practice in their highest meanings (105:9). Dodge Frenald (2002) pointed out that increasing the ability to be clearly aware of oneself requires working to increase the area of aspects known to the person and to others, which helps him to acquire good psychological health. (119:21)

This study is consistent with the study of Lener, (2010). Daftairi, O.: Sofian , ((2010 Linner, L. A study by Davtai, Soufian, and Akbari entitled "Self-dialogue strategy in modifying self-efficacy expectations among athletes." (61:29) (78:20). Looking at Table No. (7) , it is clear that the average answers of the research sample members on: The second source phrases (mental numbers) constitute moderate acceptance, as the averages ranged between (3.66 - 2.34), and the total arithmetic average of the source reached (3.26) , with a standard deviation of (0.33). The sample trend is neutral. It is noted that there is a relationship between the questions posed and the source (mental numbers), as the highest consistency was in statement No. (13) at a rate of (.515 **), and the lowest consistency was in statement No. (9), as it reached (.361 **).

The researcher believes that a football player must be distinguished from others in his ability to control his mind throughout the match to reach the optimal performance stage and

maintain his physical and skill level in different playing situations by acquiring the skills, knowledge and experiences accumulated from the training units to gain the mental preparation stage by participating in friendly matches with teams of different levels, as they motivate the player to do his best and acquire additional skills and experiences that develop his knowledge, in addition to practicing a group of regular and gradually complex training. He may face some difficulties at first due to the difficulty of these training sessions, but in the end, they give him an incentive to improve the level of performance and develop his mental and physical capabilities in facing competing teams. There is no doubt that these experiences and knowledge acquired from these training sessions are reflected in his personality in dealing with others, as they represent a kind of psychological and mental balance, and he is more interactive and positive about what he learned from these training sessions and what was benefited from them on the ground.

preparation of the player is represented during the correct passes during delivery and receipt, as well as during the penetration of the ball between competitors in different areas of the field and is not limited to the defensive areas because they do not pose any threat to the opposing team, as well as during long and cross passes, side throws and set pieces because they constitute certain opportunities that embarrass the opposing team and it is possible to score advanced results that contribute to making more effort and repeating those successful cases that enhance the team's position among other teams. In addition, some players of first division football clubs are in dire need of more training units that develop mental preparation and acquire mental and mental skills through training with or without the ball or through practicing other activities and games that contribute to opening the way for them to penetrate and handle in addition to developing their physical fitness.

Muhammad Al-Arabi Shamoon and Abdul Nabi Al-Jamal (1996) indicate that mental preparation is part of mental training and is the first stage of its stages. It aims to develop and advance the player to reach the required levels through the following stages: A- Mental Preparation Stage: It aims to learn muscle relaxation, mental states, and alternative states of consciousness , which represent the basic foundation for positive change. B- Mental Methods Training Stage: It aims to learn alternative systems of self-control, methods of self-direction, self-formation, and methods of mental visualization, the impact of which is in their connection with the alternative state of consciousness. C- Muscle Strength Training Stage: It

aims to integrate the mental skills in the first and second stages and apply them in different fields. (21:11)

This study agrees with the study of Mu'ayyad Abdul Razzaq Hassoun (2010) entitled "Mental Skills and Their Relationship to Tactical Thinking among Football Players." (17). Looking at Table No. (7) , it is clear that the average answers of the research sample members on: The third source phrases (self-esteem) are relatively acceptable, as the averages ranged between (3.82 - 2.84), and the total arithmetic average for the source was (3.42) , with a standard deviation of (0.33). The sample tended towards agreement. Ahmed (2022) explains that in the field of sports practice, there are some athletes who are not confident in themselves, that is, they lack self-confidence (lack confidence), while there are some athletes who are characterized by an exaggerated degree of self-confidence (over confidence) or false confidence (false confidence), and there is a third group of athletes who have a certain amount of self-confidence, and this is the desired level of confidence.(Ahmed et al., 2022)

The researcher believes that the source of self-confidence is one of the important contents that contribute to raising the player's efficiency, as he is exposed to great physical effort throughout the preparation period and competitions, as well as during matches, which requires him to have the ability to endure and balance, especially in some stressful situations, by adhering to the instructions provided to him by the technical staff and gaining experience from training camps in participating in experimental matches and not rushing into any adverse action, and to relax from time to time for the activity to return to its normal state to improve dealing with balls during passes that require a high degree of psychological stability and not confusion, as it causes the ball to be scattered to the opposing player. Self-confidence represents a positive incentive for the player to face strong teams, which requires attention to the source of self-confidence for players of first-class clubs in a manner that is commensurate with facing challenges.

Looking at Table No. (7) , it is clear that the average answers of the research sample members on: The fourth source phrases (focus of attention) constitute moderate acceptance, as the averages ranged between (3.62 - 2.38), and the total arithmetic mean of the source was (3.29) , with a standard deviation of (0.37). The sample's tendency was towards neutral. Ahmed (2022) state that focusing attention is one of the most important mental

skills, as during performance the player's field of attention is on the surrounding environment, whether internal or external, and poor focus is on things related to performance. Therefore, it is necessary for the player to know what things he should focus on in each situation of the match, as focus is the key to the player's control over his emotional side, as it helps him direct his thoughts on the basics related to performance and keeps him away from thinking, as if the player thinks differently than he plays, this will lead to a deterioration in performance, explains that the lack of focus is considered one of the important problems in sports, because it leads to mental errors during performance, and we often hear the athlete say after the competition, justifying the poor level of performance, "I lost focus." (Ahmed et al., 2022)

Hemamy (2021) indicates that the issue of attention is a vital dimension in the fields of training and competition, and the period of an athlete's ability to employ attention focus is one of the decisive factors that widely influence the performance of various skills (Hemamy et al., 2021). The researcher believes that the source of attention focus among football players is one of the factors that require more preparation and plans that develop the ability to concentrate and find alternatives that are compatible with the type of mental skill, as concentration is one of the processes that are based on other mental skills such as memory, imagination and visualization. The movement or skill that the player performs is not fragmented, but rather linked to the rest of the skills.

Therefore, we find many difficult movements that require high concentration, such as the player penetrating a group of opposing players or the movement of jumping and hitting the ball with the head, which requires timing and high concentration, as well as shooting movements for rebounded balls, direct and indirect set pieces, penalty kicks, deception and camouflage movements, and ball handling from behind opponents. It is considered one of the skills that distinguishes one player from another in proportion to the physical effort expended to maintain the level and performance that he provides throughout the match to reach the optimal performance. On the contrary, we find some players who resort to this skill, and the balls are often scattered and the nature of the handling is not controlled due to their preoccupation with other matters such as excessive roughness or negative emotions, which causes distraction. The player loses attention and loses his skills in that match, which requires attention and preparation by developing plans that develop focus and attention.

Looking at Table No. (7) , it is clear that the average answers of the research sample members on: The phrases of the source (kinesthetic sensation) constitute a relative acceptance, as the averages ranged between (3.95 - 2.8), and the total arithmetic average of the source was (3.45) , with a standard deviation of (0.32). The sample's trend is towards agreement, states that sensation of movement is a complex process due to the stimulation of various sensory organs simultaneously, which are contractions and relaxations of muscles and tendons when performing movements. When the player performs various movements, the stimulation occurring in the sensory endings of the muscles leads to the sensation of "muscle tone." The sensation of the degree of muscle tension is also a result of the stimulation of the nerve endings in the tendons. (Van der Woude et al., 2022)

As for the stimulation of the sensory organs in the joints, it leads to the sensation of the direction, shape, and speed of movement. Kinesthetic sensations also play an important role in the coordination process for complex movements that require distinguishing between their different parts. Therefore, changing the nature of the kinesthetic sensation for a specific motor skill that the player is accustomed to affects the degree of coordination for this motor skill, states that the kinetic sense of a soccer player is represented by the mastery of passes, and this skill never tolerates mistakes, and the ball cannot be lost or missed. The player must perform the pass at the appropriate time, as the player who is late in giving the pass will, after a moment, be under pressure from the opposing team (Breaux et al., 2021). The researcher believes that the player's kinesthetic sense gives him a high ability to control the ball according to the different variables of the game, as he has the ability to balance between excitement and kinematic response and how to deal with the ball in different directions during handling, rolling, camouflage, deception and shooting from different areas towards the opposing team's goal. The more the player has a high awareness of kinesthetic sense, the more the handling and shooting will be more perfect.

Looking at Table No. (7) , it is clear that the average answers of the research sample members on: The phrases of the source (feedback) constitute a relative acceptance, as the averages ranged between (4.2 - 2.44), and the total arithmetic mean of the source was (3.66) , with a standard deviation of (0.32). The sample's trend is towards agreement. Feedback is a directed function that directs the player towards his performance, i.e. he must perform skillfully rather than incorrectly. On this basis, feedback can be highlighted as an essential

part of the learning process, as repetition does not generate skillful learning without the correction process, i.e. it must be appropriate to the type of skill. Schmidt also pointed out the importance of feedback in learning different motor skills. mentioned that it increases the motivation to perform, gives more energy, increases the learner's effort and strengthens his performance towards the correct response, helps him to rely on himself personally, and provides him with information about incorrect responses for the purpose of correcting them (Fiľo & Janoušek, 2022).

learning motor skills depends on the importance of feedback, as there is a direct relationship between acquiring the motor skill and the amount of feedback given, the use of which leads to effective performance and correct motor response. Therefore, feedback has a great impact on motor learning (Haarnoja et al., 2024). The researcher believes that feedback contributes to improving the level of performance of a football player for the skill he performs, whether it is a pass, a direct free kick, a penalty kick, or other skills, after removing the errors that occurred automatically in this skill as a result of not responding correctly to sudden stimulation or associated with a stressful situation. As a result of guidance and repetition, the process of correction begins and all external stimuli are removed, whether related to the amount of working muscles or mental perceptions stored in memory for this skill, so that it acquires the characteristic of dynamism or stability. Therefore, feedback has become a criterion for improving the level of performance.

knowing the results enhances learning and plays a fundamental role in strengthening and reinforcing the learned response. It also increases the learner's effectiveness towards learning and thus reaching the necessary consolidation stage and achieving the desired learning. It also provides the learner with a type of desired nutrition, which is considered one of the best means of controlling behavior (Shareef, 2025). Through what has been presented, it is clear that the first hypothesis has been achieved, as it is possible to measure the sources of contact with football for some players of first division football clubs in the Republic of Iraq for the sports season (2022-2023). Looking at Table No. (8) , it is clear that the average answers of the research sample members on: Source phrases (motor response speed) constitute moderate acceptance, as the averages ranged between (4.3 - 1.8), and the total arithmetic average of the source was (3.3) , with a standard deviation of (0.7). The sample's tendency was towards neutral. .

Motor response is everything that occurs in the athletic behavior as a result of a specific and defined stimulus, as motor memory is considered the factor responsible for programming the neural control that begins from the entry of the stimulus to its exit, meaning receiving information and then forming the motor program through the decision-making process, in addition to it being a factor linking the time of the beginning of the movement and the time of its end, meaning that the total time passes between the occurrence of the motor stimulus and the end of the movement or athletic work, as it is the period of time confined between the moment the stimulus occurs until the end of performing the movement, causing changes in motor behavior (Ihsan et al., 2023).

Jensen (2017) states that the speed of motor response is one of the factors affecting the success of sports played in sports fields, as the time of motor response is from the time the stimulus appears until the end of the movement. In sports that use the ball, the player must perform multiple reactions towards the ball, as in many sports a quick reaction is required in order to control the maneuvers of the opposing team and also to keep pace with the movement of the opposing team members (Jensen & Ebben, 2017). The speed of motor response is the period between the stimulus and the complete response in the shortest possible time, as this depends on the signals of the nervous system and the ability of the muscles to implement, and the response is composed of movement of organized games is one of the most important points of the game (vision of the ball - estimating the direction and speed of the ball, and testing the movement plans necessary to implement it), as accuracy in response represents a developing and balanced factor with the development of speed.(Cansu , Ç., Murat, T., Murat , A., Öznur , A., Fatih , Ç., & Atilla, 2020)

Kabacinski confirms (2022) The speed of motor response is necessary for the player, as he needs to adapt and quickly change what he is performing the skill for. This depends on the speed of movement, concentration, and preparation for the length of the playing period and performance of motor duties (Kabacinski et al., 2022). The researcher sees the motor response as one of the characteristics of a good player who moves in different directions as a result of understanding and harmony with the rest of the players and is aware of the type of skill and the appropriate timing for it. Because it depends on the type of movement or skill performed by the player, which depends on the type of stimulus that is compatible with the motor response for that skill and then making a sudden and quick change whether this

response is with the ball (delivery and receipt) or without the ball camouflage and deception, blocking.

Process of developing and improving motor response speed is one of the basic and important steps in sports, including football, due to its great importance in executing any motor skill, whether defensive or offensive, with speed, accuracy and good coordination. The coach plays an effective and important role in developing and improving this trait, as most coaches resort to using traditional methods or modern means and tools in developing motor response speed. A player who does not possess this trait will find it difficult to develop and improve his level, and will need more effort and a longer time to develop this important and basic trait. Motor response speed must be completely linked to accuracy, as a quick, incorrect response and a slow, correct response will lead to negative and unpleasant results (Christiani et al., 2021). Based on what has been presented, it becomes clear to us that the second hypothesis has been achieved, which is to build a measure of the speed of motor response for some players of first-class football clubs in the Republic of Iraq for the sports season (2022-2023).

Table 9. Correlation coefficient between communication sources and response speed scale in football

No.	Source	Correlation coefficient for response speed	degree of confidence
1	self-denial	115	.263
2	mental numbers	.193 *	.029
3	self-confidence	.516 **	.000
4	focus of attention	.472 **	.000
5	Kinesthetic sensation	.442 **	.000
6	Feedback	.227 *	.010

Table 9 There is a correlation between motor communication and the motor response speed scale for first division football club players, where the highest correlation was between the source of self-confidence and the response speed scale, as its percentage reached (.516 **), and the lowest correlation was between the source of self-denial and the response speed scale, at a percentage of (115), with a correlation between the communication sources and the response speed scale in football in the Iraqi League.

From Table 9 we note the existence of a correlation between the sources of communication and the measure of the speed of motor response for players of some first-class clubs, as the percentage of the correlation coefficient for the source of self-confidence

and speed of motor response is (.516 **) , which is a significant indicator and is the highest of the rest of the sources, followed by the source of focusing attention with a percentage and represents a significant value (.472 **), then the source of motor sensation with a percentage and represents a significant value (.442 **), then the source of feedback with a percentage and represents a significant value (.227 *), hostility is the source of self-denial, as it is noted that there is no significant relationship, as its percentage is (115) and a degree of confidence (.263), which proves the absence of a correlation relationship. From here, it is clear that the teams participating in the Iraqi League must prepare their teams in order to achieve harmony and communication, through which we seek to support the players according to the positions that are compatible with the nature of these sources and their positive effects on the players and the extent of interaction between them to achieve the desired purpose and goal, which is communication and striving to remove all the obstacles that arise between them throughout the competition period and the sudden changes that occur in them may disrupt what the technical staff seeks to achieve (Barbosa et al., 2023).

Through what has been presented, it becomes clear that the third hypothesis has been achieved, namely the existence of a statistically significant relationship. Between the sources of communication and the speed of motor response of some players of the first division football clubs in the Republic of Iraq for the 2022-2023 sports season.

D. CONCLUSION

Several challenges have been identified among players of first division football clubs that negatively affect team performance, particularly during the process of building organized attacks. Firstly, some players demonstrate poor passing accuracy, leading to the quick loss of ball possession to the opposing team. Secondly, there is a noticeable delay in initiating offensive plays, often caused by the absence of key and effective players who can distribute the ball strategically across different zones of the pitch. Thirdly, a tendency toward excessive individualism is observed, where players are reluctant to pass the ball to teammates unless under direct pressure or risk of interception. Lastly, many attacking opportunities arise not from well-coordinated team strategies but from unforced defensive errors and poorly executed passes.

To address these issues, the study recommends several interventions. Firstly, it is important to adopt the communication sources examined in this research to better understand the motor and social communication dynamics among players and their role in enhancing team cohesion. Secondly, the provision of educational sessions and guidance lectures by technical staff—assisted by sports psychology professionals—is essential to explain the components of these communication sources and encourage their practical application during both training and competitive matches. Thirdly, coaching staff should develop a precise understanding of the social relationships among players, using this insight to assign roles and positions that foster optimal cooperation and synergy on the field. Fourthly, training units should be intensified and tailored to align with players' individual abilities, especially in areas such as mental preparation, attentional focus, and motor response speed. This can be achieved by integrating structured training programs based on the studied sources and supported by relevant educational and coaching materials. Finally, players should be encouraged to cultivate stronger social bonds through regular team-building activities and meaningful interactions. These relationships form the foundation of effective social communication, which in turn reinforces motor communication and improves overall team performance.

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