

## **The refereeing leadership of volleyball referees in Iraq**

**Zeyad Aneed Salman Al-Nasrawi<sup>(1)</sup> , Prof.Dr Sawsan Hadood Obaid<sup>(2)</sup>**

<sup>(1)</sup> Ph.D. Student. Faculty of Physical Education and Sports Sciences / University of Babylon, Iraq.

<sup>(2)</sup> Faculty of Physical Education and Sports Sciences / University of Babylon, Iraq.

[ziad.rg.79@gmail.com](mailto:ziad.rg.79@gmail.com) , [Phy.sawsan.h@uobabylon.edu.iq](mailto:Phy.sawsan.h@uobabylon.edu.iq)

### **Abstract**

The purpose of this paper is building and applying the arbitral leadership scale for volleyball referees in Iraq, identifying the nature of the arbitral leadership level for volleyball referees in Iraq and the possibility of predicting it through a form prepared for this purpose. The researchers used the descriptive approach using survey methods, correlational relationships and predictive studies in order to suit the requirements of the study, and the research community was determined by the working referees accredited and registered in the records of the Iraqi Central Volleyball Federation, which numbered (90) referees. Divided into the three arbitral scores (international, first and second), the research sample was chosen by the comprehensive inventory method, and the refereeing leadership form consisted of (22) paragraphs representing (4) dimensions, which are (appearance and personality, match management, cooperation and commitment, decision-making), and the refereeing leadership of volleyball referees was evaluated by the (5) match supervisors, and five standard levels were extracted for the sample using the statistical bag (spss) to extract the results, and from the results that came out The researchers, after applying the scale to the research sample, said that the study scale for volleyball referees in Iraq is a valid tool for measuring and evaluating their refereeing leadership and distinguishing between them, just as the volleyball referees in Iraq are superior and at high levels in all dimensions of the arbitral leadership scale. (Appearance and personality, match management, cooperation and commitment, decision-making), and one of the recommendations that came out of the research is the importance of adopting a central volleyball referee committee for the refereeing leadership form prepared by researchers to evaluate the performance of volleyball referees.

### **Introduction:**

Volleyball is one of the group games that has taken on an increasing spread in various parts of the world as it is one of the games that are played in most times and places of different ages and for both sexes, which made it take that distinguished position among many games. Refereeing in volleyball has a large and effective role, as it is one of the aspects of the game's progress and development, like other collective or individual sports, as the arbitral leadership is one of the main important pillars for the referee's success in producing the match in the required manner and delivering it to safety. And the arbitral leadership appears through several

methods, and each of them succeeds in achieving the goals and according to the situations that the referee deals with, as well as his enjoyment of the knowledge in using these methods that facilitate his task and achieve his success, that the success of refereeing is the success of the match in general and this depends on the cognitive, physical and psychological aspects which directly affects the decisions of the referee, which plays a major role in the direction of the match, as volleyball referees constitute the main and important pillar as they are responsible for implementing the law of the game and issuing all administrative and technical decisions related to the match, as well as being responsible for the safety of the players and ensuring that the match reaches safety. It enables him to manage the match in the best possible way by making the appropriate decisions at the right time and dealing with all matters with high professionalism. This only comes if the referee has a leadership personality that enables him to lead the match in this way, from the above, the importance of the research lies in recognizing the level of refereeing leadership among volleyball referees in Iraq, due to the lack of studies on referees, according to the researchers' knowledge, which has an effective and distinctive role in managing sports competitions, which would raise the level of refereeing . and because the refereeing profession is a difficult job that is subject to great and important responsibility in managing and successfully managing matches, especially in team games, including volleyball, which is characterized by the rapid pace of play in it, and in line with the multiplicity of attack plans, the speed of the ball when pressing has increased to reach (130) km / h. From all of the above, the current study will work to answer the following question (What is the level of refereeing leadership for volleyball referees).

**Research objective:**

- Building and applying the arbitral leadership scale for volleyball referees in Iraq.
- Identifying the nature of the arbitral leadership level for volleyball referees in Iraq and the possibility of predicting it through a form prepared for this purpose

**Research methodology and field procedures:**

**Research Methodology:**

The researchers used the descriptive approach using survey methods, which is compatible with the nature and objectives of the current study.

**Community and sample research:**

The selection of the sample is one of the important steps and stages of the research, the nature of the research is the one that controls the research sample, which is a group that is examined or monitored to carry out the experiment, and it consists of one or two persons or more. (Wajih Mahjoub. 1988).

Therefore, the research community was determined from the working referees accredited and registered in the records of the Iraqi Central Volleyball Federation for the year (2021), and their number is (90), distributed among the three international refereeing grades (8) referees, the first (62) referees, the second (20) referees. All of them were chosen to represent the research sample.

## **Devices, tools and means used in the research:**

### **Means of data collection:**

The tools that are used in the research should be described to give an indication of the needs of the study, as Muhammad Khalil et al. states, "The appropriate tool is determined in the light of the research objectives and hypotheses and the questions he seeks to answer. The tools are the means that the researcher uses to obtain information" (Khalil Abbas and et al. 2011), and in order for researchers to be able to complete their research in the most complete manner, they must use tools and means to help them complete their work, which are:

#### **1- Research methods: they include:**

- Arab and foreign sources and references.
- Personal interviews.
- Experts' questionnaire for standards.
- Assistive work team.
- Standards used in the research (judgmental leadership).

#### **2- Tools and equipment used in the research:**

- One (1) hp computer.
- Hand-held electronic calculator (CASIO) number (1).
- Stationery and office supplies (papers and pens).
- Camera type (Nikon5200), number (1).

### **Field research procedures:**

To achieve the objectives of the current research, it required building a refereeing leadership scale for volleyball referees in Iraq, so the researcher took the following procedures:

#### **Procedures for Building the Refereeing Leadership Scale:**

##### **Determining the objective of constructing the Refereeing Leadership Scale:**

The aim of building the scale is to identify the nature of the refereeing leadership of volleyball referees in Iraq from the point of view of the match supervisors in the Iraqi Central Volleyball Federation.

##### **Identify the dimensions of the arbitral leadership scale:**

After reviewing the literature and previous studies, the researchers adopted (4) dimensions representing the refereeing leadership of volleyball referees, and developed a theoretical definition for each dimension and presented it to (9) experts and specialists within a questionnaire prepared for this purpose, and requested their opinion for the purpose of

indicating their validity or not, and the relative importance of each After, and table (1) shows the agreement of experts and specialists about the dimensions of the form

Table (1) shows the agreement of the experts and specialists on the dimensions of the refereeing leadership form.

No.	Fields	Agree	Disagree	Chi-2	Level sig	Type sig
1	Appearance and personality	9	zero	9	0.000	sig
2	Match management	9	zero	9	0.000	sig
3	Cooperation and commitment	9	zero	9	0.000	sig
4	Make decision	9	zero	9	0.000	sig

Thus, all dimensions obtained the approval of experts and specialists for their validity in measuring arbitral leadership, as they had values of (sig) less than (0.05). The degree of the relative importance of each dimension was extracted and compared with the accepted percentage of (52.778), and all values of the degrees of relative importance were acceptable because it is greater than the accepted percentage, and the form consisted of (22) paragraphs distributed over the four dimensions, and table (2) shows that.

Table (2) shows the degree of importance, relative importance, percentage and number of paragraphs of the refereeing leadership form

No.	Fields	Degree of importance	Relative importance	Percentage of relative importance	No. paragraphs
1	Appearance and personality	70	77.777	%24.137	5
2	Match management	77	85.555	%26.551	6
3	Cooperation and commitment	68	75.555	%23.448	5
5	Make decision	75	83.333	%25.862	6
Total		290	322.22	%100	22

### **Scale the refereeing leadership of volleyball referees:**

The scale of refereeing leadership in volleyball matches is of great importance in the success of these matches, so it is necessary to measure it and know the details of its accuracy. After the steps of preparing the form were completed, it became necessary to apply it to achieve this purpose, the forms were distributed to the technical observers of the matches, which numbered (5) supervisors. And asking them to evaluate the refereeing leadership of the volleyball referees, as indicated in the form, as the degree of evaluation of each paragraph ranged from (zero) to (10) degrees.

### **The exploratory experiment of the Refereeing Leadership Scale:**

The exploratory experiment is conducted to verify the clarity of the instructions, the clarity of the paragraphs of the scale and their accuracy, and the time taken to answer. And to identify errors before conducting the basic experiment, the researchers applied the Refereeing Leadership Scale to an exploratory sample of (5) referees from the holy governorate of Kerbala and Baghdad on Tuesday 16/11/2021 at ten in the morning in the People's Hall and they were chosen by the intentional way and they are from outside The construction sample, and it became clear from this experience that the instructions and paragraphs of the scale are clear thus, the scale is ready to be applied to the sample preparation for the purpose of statistical analysis of the (twenty-two) items.

### **Applying the judgmental leadership scale to the construction sample:**

The scale was applied to the construction sample, which numbered (90) judgments from the point of view of the match supervisors for the period from 25/11/2021 to 30/11/2021 in volleyball halls and stadiums, and according to the tournament system, which takes place in the form of gatherings, with the aim of conducting the statistical analysis process of the scale.

### **Scientific basis of the scale:**

Among the most important standard characteristics of the scale, which the measurement specialists emphasized, are the two characteristics (honesty and stability), as well as the standards, as the accuracy of the data or the degrees we obtain from the standards depend on them (Abd al-Rahman Adas and Wahi al-Din Tawq. 1989.).

### **Honesty of the scale:**

The researchers found the relationship between the ratings of the aforementioned evaluators in order to identify the validity of the evaluation form for volleyball referees in leading matches according to the refereeing leadership. The relationship was found by extracting the simple correlation coefficient (Pearson) between the scores that were extracted from the evaluation form, and the oral scores that were requested from the concerned assessors. The correlation coefficient was (0.789), which is a high indicator that indicates the validity of the questionnaire. The researchers relied on two types of validity to verify the validity of the current scale:

- Honesty content: honesty content aims to know the extent to which the test or scale represents the aspects of the trait, trait or ability to be measured, and whether the test or

scale measures a specific aspect of this phenomenon or measures it all. (Muhammad Hassan Allawi and Muhammad Nasr al-Din Radwan. 2008), The researchers used this type of honesty after the concept of arbitral leadership was defined and the scale items were presented to a group of experts and specialists in the field of (sports management, sports psychology, testing and measurement, and judges), to confirm the validity of each paragraph of the scale areas candidate for use.

- **Honesty hypothetical configuration:** This was verified in the current scale through statistical analysis of the items, by calculating the discriminatory ability of the items of the scale and the internal consistency of each item of the scale with the overall scale score and the degree of the domain to which it belongs and this was previously verified.

### **Scale stability:**

The concept of stability refers to the consistency of test scores and standards for a certain group of individuals, i.e., consistency over time, consistency of different versions of the same test, consistency of the vocabulary of the same test, or consistency across different testers and correctors (Allam. 2000). The stability was calculated using two methods:

- **Split-Half:** This method is one of the common methods used in verifying the stability of scales, and this method relies on dividing the scale after its application on a certain group into two equal parts and calculating the correlation between these two parts. For the purpose of applying this method, the scale items were divided into odd and even items, as the variance of the odd and even items was calculated and subjected to a coefficient (f) and when comparing the calculated value of (0.761) with the tabular value of (1.35) at the two degrees of freedom (109-109) and the level of Significance (0.05), we find that the difference is not statistically significant, and this means the homogeneity of the odd and even paragraphs, then the Pearson correlation coefficient was calculated between the two halves of the scale, as its calculated value reached (0.83) and this degree means stability for half of the test and in order to obtain complete stability of the test, the researcher applied The (Spearman-Brown) equation showed that the value of (Spearman-Brown) was (0.90), which is a high value that indicates the stability of the scale.
- **Cronbach's alpha :** The idea of this method, which is characterized by its proportionality and the possibility of reliability of its results, is based on calculating the discrepancy between the degrees of all the items of the scale because the paragraph is a self-contained scale and the stability coefficient indicator is the consistency of the individual's tool, i.e. the homogeneity between the items of the scale (Odeh. 2000). The stability was extracted in this way, where the researchers applied the reliability coefficient (Cronbach's) to the scores of the valid forms, which numbered (90) forms using the statistical package for social sciences (spss). It appeared that the value of the scale's stability coefficient is (0.85), which is a high indicator of the scale's stability.

**Statistical methods:** The search data was processed through the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS).

**Discussing and analyzing the results:**

After the goal of the first research was achieved, which is to build the refereeing leadership scale for volleyball referees in Iraq from the point of view of the match supervisors and those accredited by the Iraqi Central Volleyball Federation, the researcher went to achieve the other research objectives as follows:

**Presenting, analyzing and discussing the results of the Refereeing Leadership Scale:**

The results related to the analysis of data for the degree of the refereeing leadership scale for the individual research sample from the point of view of the game supervisors using statistical means the arithmetic mean, standard deviation and hypothetical mean, and after inferring the significance of the differences between the arithmetic means of the sample and the hypothesis of the scale, the researcher used the (t) test for one sample to identify the reality of leadership Judging by the members of the main research sample from the point of view of the match supervisors, as shown in Table (3).

Table (3) shows the arithmetic mean, standard deviation, hypothetical mean, and the calculated (t) value for the refereeing leadership Scale

Variables	No.of sample	arithmeti c mean	standard deviatio n	hypothet ical mean	T value	Level sig	Type sig
Refereeing leadership	90	119.51	13.38	105	93.67	0.00	sig

The results of Table (3) show the total score of the Refereeing Leadership Scale, which consists of (4) dimensions and (22) items with high discriminating ability, efficiency and statistical significance because the arithmetic mean is greater than the hypothetical mean and the significance level (0.00), which is smaller than the significance level (0.05), this indicates that there are statistically significant differences between the two means and in favor of the arithmetic mean of the sample, which indicates that the volleyball referees have a level of refereeing leadership above the average; The researcher attributes the reason for these differences to the fact that the research sample (volleyball referees in Iraq) They enjoy a good amount of arbitral leadership, in general, and possess experience, skill and knowledge of modern refereeing concepts that are in line with developments in the level of the game, which makes them go according to the progress in their work and the tasks entrusted to them and preserve everything that exists away from changes, as well as the division of work and distribution Responsibilities and tasks between referees according to competence, experience and ability to manage the match, issue judgments and administrative and technical decisions, and supervise their implementation in order to bring the matches to safety, and this is consistent with what was mentioned that the arbitral leadership "It is the referee's ability to issue the necessary decisions (technical and administrative penalties) during the match, apply these decisions and supervise the implementation mechanism."

## **Conclusions and Recommendations:**

### **Conclusions:**

By presenting, analyzing and discussing the research results, the researcher reached the following conclusions:

- It was reached to build the refereeing leadership scale for volleyball referees in Iraq.
- The study scale for volleyball referees in Iraq is a valid tool for measuring their refereeing leadership, evaluating them with it, and distinguishing between them.
- Standard grades and levels have been set for the refereeing leadership scale for volleyball referees in Iraq.
- The volleyball referees in Iraq are superior and at good levels in all dimensions of the refereeing leadership scale (appearance and personality, match management, cooperation and commitment, decision-making).

### **Recommendations:**

Through the conclusions of the study, the researchers made the following recommendations:

- Adopting the results of this study and its scale to measure the refereeing leadership of volleyball referees in Iraq.
- The necessity of circulating the standard scores of the refereeing leadership scale for volleyball referees in Iraq, in order to use them in the selection, follow-up and continuous evaluation processes to know the referees' abilities and their classification.
- Adopting the levels that were reached through the use of the tables developed by the researcher for the final paragraphs of the scale in the evaluation and evaluation process for volleyball referees in Iraq.
- It is necessary to open courses for volleyball referees in Iraq to raise awareness of the importance of refereeing leadership.

### **References**

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## Appendix

## Volleyball referees performance evaluation form

Referee name .....

Governorate .....

Refereeing degree .....

No.	Fields	No.	paragraphs	Score for each item out of (10)
1	Appearance and personality	1	Good erect and good looking.	
		2	Courage and ability to deal with critical situations.	
		3	It is characterized by calm and is not affected by the public and external influences.	
		4	He is characterized by high concentration throughout the duration of the match and keeping pace with the speed of its tempo.	
		5	He is characterized by intellectual flexibility and quick reaction in dealing with emergency situations.	
2	Match management	1	The ability to apply the law and be fully familiar with the arbitration tasks.	
		2	Use the spirit of the law to maintain the rhythm and aesthetics of the gameplay.	
		3	He has a sense of responsibility for guiding and participating in the management of the match by his fellow referees.	
		4	His physical abilities qualify me to perform the best refereeing skills in the match.	
		5	The ability to diagnose the error and the possibility of calculating it or not when playing near the network.	
		6	Penalties using cards coloured in ascending order.	
3	Cooperation and commitment	1	Work with his fellow referees in a team spirit to generate complete harmony between them.	
		2	Consistent and positively interacting with the head of the game and within the limits of the law for the success of the match.	
		3	Adhere to the official uniform and arrive before the match.	

		4	The impact of cooperation between the first and second referees to bring the match to safety.	
		5	Professionally and in compliance with the instructions of the Federation and the directives of the match supervisor.	
5	Make decision	1	Resolute in making the decision to control the conditions of the match.	
		2	He does not hesitate to take decisions and penalties in a timely manner and in proportion to the size of the error.	
		3	Independent, impartial and equitable in all its decisions.	
		4	Taking administrative penalties in the event of many mistakes and objections by the head of the game and the coaches.	
		5	The speed of making the appropriate decision in changing situations from among the available alternatives.	
		6	Follow-up the implementation of the decisions taken accurately in the match, since his decisions are binding on everyone.	

Game Supervisor Name:

Governorate:

Signature:

Date: / / 2022