

# Practice and Challenges of Sport Facility Management in Nekemte Town

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**Abstract:** Sports facilities are referred to as mainly the immovable structures for sport practice, maintenance, repair and health, in which safety issues should be considered by authorities. However, there has been insufficient research to determine how well practice and challenges in sports facility management have been carried out in Ethiopia, as well as in western Oromia, East wollega zone in Nekemte town. As a result, the purpose of this study is to look in to the practice and challenges of sport facility management in the Nekemte of town. The main objective of this study was to assess the practice and challenges of sport facility management in Nekemte town. The descriptive survey approach was used in this study. The total population of this study were 84, 69 males and 15 females. The researcher used the available purposive sampling technique for all respondents, because of they were directly concerned with the issues under discussion and also they are few in number, so all of them were included in these study. Questionnaires, interviews and observations were used to gather data from sample respondents. The thesis employs both quantitative and qualitative data processing methods. SPSS (v-24) was used to analyze the quantitative data, tables, percentages, and frequency, to calculate on the base responses of the respondents. Qualitative data is analyzed by using words. Based on data analyzed, the following findings were obtained. According to the response gained about challenges, the current result revealed that Marjorie's of respondents 50 (85%) of respondents, there was challenges in sport facility management particularly in stadium in Nekemte town, when explained their idea as the following, lack of employee experience, lack of coordination from top level to low level, Budget and financial constraints. To overcome these challenges, the following recommendations have been forwarded, Nekemte town administration should approve the budget for the sports facilities in Nekemte tow, give training for sport employees, and sport facility employees should be give high attention for football stadium.

**Keywords:** Challenge, Practice, Sport Facility, Manager

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## 1. Introduction

According to Adiele, D., and Morgan [1], Sports facilities are referred to as mainly the immovable structures for sport practice, maintenance, repair and health, in which safety issues should be considered by authorities. All responsible company should ensure that they are familiar with the fundamentals of sports facility management. According to Bu Jawdeh [2], facilities management (FM) is an ancient discipline that dates back to the Romans, who could see FM as important. The term facility comes from the Latin words facio (I do) and facilis (facilities, easy to do). Nget et al. [3] stated that advances in science and

technology require facility managers to implement new facility management methods; as a result, sports facility managers must be mindful of the quality of care provided to participants. Managing and sports organizations are required to have a high level and quality of service for the safety and welfare of their community members and customers. According to Adiele and Morgan [4], Sport facilities have been shown to be very important for sports fans. King [5] finds that sports fans have come to expect comfort and convenience from sporting facilities, making it necessary for teams to build and renovate facilities at record speed. Dugalić and Krsteska [6] stated that Sports facilities were originally used to preserve military readiness as well as to entertain noblemen, but they eventually developed

into pioneers of today's sports complexes targeted at the overall nation. The construction of sports-recreational complexes was necessitated by an increase in demand for leisure facilities at the turn of the twenty-first century. According to Parnell, et al. [7], Hope this commentary provides an interesting record and reference point for future research and practice of those operating in sporting organizations. Sports facilities, equipment and supplies are fundamental to sports development and achievements globally as idea of the Franca, & Haruna [8]. Kotthaus [9] stated ascertain whether these universities are able and willing to market themselves via their sport facilities.

However, there has been insufficient research to determine how well practice and challenges in sports facility management have been carried out in Ethiopia, as well as in western Oromia, East wollega zone in Nekemte town. As a result, the purpose of this study is to look in to the practice and challenges of sport facility management in the Nekemte of town.

To this end, the study tries to answer the following basic research questions:

How is the practice of sports facility management in Nekemte town?

What are the challenges of sports facility management at different levels of the sport's governing body in Nekemte town?

What should be done to improve the practice and reduce the challenges of sport facility management in Nekemte Town?

The main objective of study was to assess the practice and challenges of sport facility management in the Nekemte of town.

The specific objectives of these studies were:

To identify the practice of sports facility management in Nekemte town.

To identify the challenges of sports facility management at different levels of sport's governing body in Nekemte town.

To provide a recommendation that helps to reduce the challenge of sports facility management in Nekemte town.

## 2. Research Methodology

### 2.1. Description of the Study Area

The area of this study was Nekemte town. Nekemte town is located 327 km from Addis Ababa. It was the capital city of the former Welega Province. It has an Apostolic Vicariate of the Roman Catholic Church. It is the burial place of Onesimos Nesib, a famous Oromo who translated the Bible in to the Oromo Language for the first time, in collaboration with Aster Ganno. Nekemte is the host city to the newly built Wollega University as of 2007 G.C.

### 2.2. Research Design

According to Mafuwane [10], research design was a plan for selecting subjects, research sites, and data collection procedures (MacMillan and Schumacher 2001:166). The

research design is a strategic framework for action that serves as a bridge between research questions and the execution, or implementation of the research strategy. The study was focus on the practice and challenges of sport facility management in Nekemte town. In this research researcher used a descriptive survey design to described and explained the problems either qualitatively or quantitatively.

### 2.3. Population

The target population of this study sport commission commissiner 1 male, Football Federation, 1male, Nekemte town administration and also male 1, Sport commission members 9 (male 6, female 3), Stadium board 1, male, Football Coaches 2 male, football players 25male Stadium maintenance and safety person, 4 male, Football stadium Guards 2 male, Facility security or police, 6 male, Fire emergency 3, male, Electronic power management, 4, (2, male and female 2), Facility generators or cleaners, 5 female, Water office, 3 male 2 and female 1, Football fan 15 male 11, female 4, the total population of this study was 84, Both male and female; which is 69 male and 15 female.

### 2.4. Sampling Techniques and Sample Size

#### 2.4.1. Sampling Techniques

In this study the researchers used the available purposive sapling technique for all respondents, because of they were directly concerned with the issues under discussion, and also they were few in number, so all of them are included in the study. The respondents of this study were, football federation, Nekemte town administration, Sport commission members, Stadium board, Football Coaches, Referee, B group Football players, Stadium guards, facility security or police, Fire emergency, electronic power management, facility generators or cleaners, stadium maintenance and safety person, water office, and football fan. Taked by using avaiable purposively sampling, because of they were directly concerned with the issues under discussion and few in number.

#### 2.4.2. Source of Data

To get the essential data and information, the researcher used primary source. Primary data is very reliable because it is usually objective and collected directly from the original source. Primary data sources were gathered through questionnaires, interviews, and observation. The primary data were collect from different respondents; such as Football federation, Nekemte town administration, Sport commission members, Stadium board, Football Coaches, Referee, Football players, stadium Guards, Facility security or police, Fire emergency, Electronic power management, Facility genitors or cleaner, Stadium maintenance and safety person, Water office, and Football fan.

#### 2.4.3. Method of Data Collection

Therefore, the researcher used three kinds of data gathering tools; questionnaire, interview and observation checklist.

**(i). Questionnaire**

It is the most common data gathering method, and also helps to collect a great deal of information within the time limit and helps to reach a large group of research subjects [11]. In this study, the questionnaire contains open-ended and close-ended types of questions. In this study, researchers prepared 32 questions for employees and 11 questions for group B football players.

**(ii). Interview**

In this study semi-structured interviews involve a list of key questions that were followed, though open-ended, and often lead to alternative questions depending on the direction of the conversation. The researcher used the semi-structured interviewing method. In this semi-structured interview, the interviewee responded with precise answers and it described when an additional explanation would be needed. Accordingly, the stadium board and football coaches were participating in the interview.

**(iii). Observation**

In this study, the used of observation was for gathering relevant information for the study. In addition to the above instruments, observation was employed to study the existing conditions using appropriately designed checklists. These observations focus on practice and challenges of the sports facility management particularly, stadium inside and outside of that stadium area observe to get the relevant information using appropriately designed checklists.

**2.5. Reliability**

They do not administer the instruments directly to the respondents after they have been prepared. They are instead tests to see if they can generate the desired information (validity) and to assess their internal consistency (reliability). Piloting has paramount importance for shifting out difficult,

vague, and ambiguous items and concepts. It is one of the best ways of improving the instruments for data collection. Accordingly, the instruments are checked and verified by researchers, and instructors to judge the content validity. After valuable comments, the questionnaires were modified and finalized to make use of the pilot study. So reliability was to evaluate the data quality.

**2.6. Pilot Study**

According to Benett [12], reliability refers to the consistency of scores obtained by the same persons when re-examining with the same test on different occasions, or with different sets of equivalent tests, or under variable conditions. The purpose of the pilot study was to assess the relevance of the questionnaires designed to collect data for the study. The objective was to check the clarity of the questionnaire items. On the bases of the feedback of the pilot study and expert's comments some modification was made on the questionnaire.

**2.7. Methods of Data Analysis**

Both quantitative and qualitative data analysis methods are used in the study. SPSS (v-24) used to analyze the quantitative data, table, percentages, numbers, Frequency, to calculate on the base of responses of the respondents. Qualitative data collected from participants through the interview, and observations, described using open-ended questions, and were analyzed through qualitative data analyzed used words.

**2.8. Ethical Considerations**

The respondents of the questionnaires and interviews were informed about the purpose of the study and asked to find their agreement to participate in the study. All the research respondents were also notified that the data, which was gathered from them, would be held confidentially and their identity would not be revealed.

**3. Results**

*Table 1. Sex, Age, education level of respondent.*

Sex	No	Respondents (%)
Male	44	74.5
Female	15	25.4
		Total No
		Respondents (%)
Age	25-28	5
	29-31	39
	36-39	15
		Total No
		Respondents (%)
Level Educations	Diploma	15
	Degree	44
	Master	-

Where, NO=number of respondents, %=percent, 59=total number of the male and female of the employees.

The above Table 1 was indicated distribution of personal back grounds including sex, ages, and level of educations of employees, respectively. In the table 2 indicate number respondents and alternative of person who participate on study of research information about the practice and

challenges of sport facility management specifically on football stadium in Nekemte town. According to that item (1) 1 (2%) do not know about the challenges of sport facility management, 8 (13%) said there is no challenges in sport facility management, while 50 (85%) said there is challenges

in sport facility management in different governing bodies in Nekemte town respectively. That challenges in sports facility management of Nekemte town, lack of employee experience, lack of enough coordinating structure, budget and financial constraints. Some of the major issues that sports facilities

may face are as follows: inappropriate equipment purchases, a lack of safety and technical standards and principles, and exploitation phases; and a lack of planning and scheduling for the maintenance and protection of non-standard and sports facilities [13, 14].

**Table 2.** Questionnaires ((1) For water office (2) For sport federation (3 and 4) for group B football players).

Item	Respondent response		
	Alternatives	Frequency	Percent
1. Is there challenges in sports facilities management, at different levels of the sport's governing body specifically on football stadium in Nekemte town? If your answer yes what types of the challenges?	Yes	50	85
	No	8	13
	I don't know	1	2
	Total	59	100.0
	Yes	20	33.8
2. Is there enough water in stadium area?	No	39	66.1
	I don't know	-	-
	Total	59	100.0
	Yes	25	42.3
3. Is there a specific leading body or association of sports Facility management in Nekemte town?	No	34	57.6
	I don't know	-	-
	Total	59	100.0
	1	14	56.0
4. How many days the football stadium is open per week?	2	6	24.0
	3	5	20.0
	Total	25	100.0
	Yes	40	68
	No	19	32
5. Does fight occur in football stadiums during competition yes or not, if your answer yes what types of the materials damages?	I don't know	-	-
	Total	59	100.0

Where IDN=I don't know.

According to the current study in item (2), 39 (66.1%) of the stadium areas did not have enough water at the time. Others respondents 20 (33.8) said enough water there in area of the stadium. most respondents said no, when explained their idea lack of a budget there. In this case, both the stadium and the showers are of poor cleaniend. A valuable tool to service spectators and fans in their quest for image uniqueness is the physical environment or sports cape-stadium factors [15]. It is actually the physical environment where the core service is being present and consumed by the fans of the team [16]. According to them, it includes the interior and the exterior elements such as environment sof stadium, beauty of facilities, quality of scoreboard, rest seats, decoration of stadium, space of stadium, signs inside the stadium and quality of staff. It is generally encompasses aspects of spatial layout, functionality and elements related to the aesthetic appeal of the physical environment [17].

According to the above item (3), 25 (42.4%) of respondents said there is a specific leading body association of sports facility management in town, while 34 (57.6%) said there are no leading body or association on sports Facility management, fact that sports facilities, particularly football stadiums administrated by board, even now, there has no self-manager, managers rather than a board of directors, because stadium bourd to do at overtime. According to Hammond, A., Lee, S., Juravich, M., & Kornspan, A. [18], sport facility performance has been overlooked in the scolarly literature. However, in recent years, as the sport industry has become more revenue-driven, non-game day sport facility

performance has begun to receive increasing attention.

According to the above item (4), 14 (56%), football players said football stadiums are open two days a week, 6 (24%) said open one day a week), and a few players said they are open three days a week, respectively. The most of players stated that football stadiums are open two days per week. Note in those players, group B football players were competitor players, so researcher selected they players.

According to the above item (5), 40 (68%) respondents responded said fighting occurs in football stadium during competition, the reason in this case is emotion between two groups, which means a winner's and a loser's group, and that can be both negative and positive emotion. The most of respondents said that a fight occurs during the competition, which causes a lot of damage or broken football stadium, like broking chairs, additionally personal accidents, and also competition dropouts. Others 19 (32%) said no. This may they not present during the game, and they dropped the competition.

## 4. Conclusions

This study assessed on the practice and challenges of sport facility management in Nekemte town, Ethiopia and to suggest possible solutions. The respondents mentioned sports facility management challenges in various sports governing bodies in Nekemte town, specifically at the football stadium, the respondents explained challenges follows, lack of employee experience, lack of coordination from the top to the bottom,

budget, financial constraints, and lack of sufficient maintenance. There is also not enough water in the area of the football stadium. Mostly, researchers get information that there is not enough water in the area of the football stadium, as respondents also discussed their thoughts on the lack of a budget there. The most of respondents said that a fight occurs during the competition, which causes a lot of damage or broken football stadiums properties, like broken chairs, and also personal accidents, and competition dropouts. This is due to emotion between two groups, which means a winner's and a loser's groups, and that can be both negative and positive emotion.

The majority of respondents said there was no leading body or association for sports facility management, particularly football stadium, because, in this case, stadium administration by board, even now, because there is no self-manager. Thus, some of the major issues that sports facilities may face were, lack of technical standards and principles, a lack of planning, scheduling for the maintenance, protection of non-standard and sports facilities in Oromia region East Wolloga Zone in Nekemte town. Generally, Nekemte town stadium need follow up to overcome the stated problems.

## Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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