

Abstract

Title: Czech Hockey Academies' role analysis in players development system in the Czech Republic

Objectives: The main objective of this thesis is to determine which hockey players had been nominated to the Czech under-18 and under-20 national teams during the period starting by the 2015/16 season until the 2019/20 season and to determine afterward the probability of players selection to the national teams mentioned before in terms of competing only in domestic leagues and in terms of competing abroad.

Methods: In the thesis a quantitative method of data collection was used, namely the statistical analysis. The probability of players competing in the domestic and foreign leagues was compared using the odds ratio model. All the information collected in terms of thesis composing was verified within practical usage by a qualitative method of semi-structured interviews with two different respondents.

Results: During the observed period the majority of selected players to under-18 national team selection for top tournaments played in domestic league. For Under-20 World Championship is players selection slightly dominated by players competing in foreign leagues. The probability of being selected to the players selection for the top tournaments during the observed period was higher for players competing in foreign leagues approximately 24,32 times for Hlinka Gretzky Cup, 30,37 times for under-18 world championship and 24,14 times for Under-20 World Championship. According to interview participants, Czech ice hockey lacks long-term conceptual work and its clearly defined identity. Both participants also agreed on the system of domestic players transfer compensation within domestic league transformation need.

Keywords: ice hockey, youth hockey, youth national teams, international transfer