

Abstract

Title:

Motivations of Climbers for Sport Climbing

Objectives:

The aim of this bachelor's thesis was to determine what motivates climbers to engage in the activity of sport climbing. Additionally, we investigated the influence of age, gender, and duration of climbing practice on climbers motivation.

Methods:

The research was conducted through a survey among 78 sport climbers (37 women and 41 men) in the Czech Republic. The survey inquired about various aspects of climbing motivation, such as personal reasons, risk perception, and social factors influencing participation in climbing activities. The survey included a total of 14 closed or semi-closed questions with selectable options. The results were processed using Microsoft Excel and Google Forms.

Results:

We found that the most common motivations for sport climbing are: overcoming personal limits and fears, the desire for physical improvement, the social aspect—meeting friends and building community, and the climbing activity itself. Furthermore, we discovered that younger climbers tend to seek adventure and excitement more. Older climbers cited being in nature and the climbing activity itself as their main motives. Both genders mentioned the social and communal aspect as an important motivation. Men leaned more towards the physical challenge and overcoming fear, while women preferred being in nature, overcoming personal limits, or psychological challenges. Men more frequently selected categories of high and very high risk. Women preferred safer and more cautious climbing, mainly choosing from medium and low-risk categories. Additionally, we found that the longer an athlete climbs, the greater their ability to manage and accept risks grows.

Keywords:

mountaineering, rock climbing, motive, reason