

## **Abstract**

**Title:** Analysis of the Level of Puck Control in Ice Hockey in the U14 and U15 Category

**Objectives:** The main objective of this thesis was to analyse the level of puck control of ice hockey players in the U14 and U15 categories. The steps to achieve this objective consisted of conducting field testing in selected ice hockey clubs, implementing a detailed analysis of the data obtained through this testing, identifying differences between the categories and determining standards in the area of puck control.

**Methods:** The methods of analysis, comparison and synthesis were used in the bachelor thesis. The method of observation and field testing was used in the implementation of the testing of the puck control levels. The method of analysis, comparison and synthesis was applied in the analysis and interpretation of data obtained through field testing.

**Results:** A total of 257 U14 and U15 players from 10 different clubs took part in the testing of the puck control level, one of which was a foreign club (Norway). The average level of puck control of the U15 category was significantly higher ( $\bar{x}=7.8$ ) than that of the U14 category ( $\bar{x}=5.6$ ). The standard for the U14 category was to achieve item number 6, for the U15 category item number 9. Clubs with Czech Ice Hockey Academy status achieved 4 more test items in the U14 category and 5 more test items in the U15 category. The level of players in the Norwegian hockey environment was among the higher compared to smaller clubs without Czech Ice Hockey Academy status. However, the Norwegian players failed to come close to the average of the category (NOR U14  $\bar{x}=4,8$ ; NOR U15  $\bar{x}=6,5$ ).

**Keywords:** Ice Hockey, Puck Control, Stage of Learning, Terrain Testing, Children of Secondary School Age, Bantam, U14 Category, U15 Category