AN INVESTIGATION OF HOW HIGH SKILLED AMATEUR GOLFERS SOURCE CONFIDENCE IN THE LEAD UP TO A COMPETITION

Abstract
The aim of this present study was to investigate how high skilled amateur golfers source confidence in the lead up to a competition. Eight proficient golfers from Cardiff Metropolitan University were interviewed. The sport of golf was specifically chosen due to the suspected unique socio-cultural and organisational cultures of the individual sport. Seven sources of confidence were identified as being salient to the sample group: event preparation, golfing accomplishments, coaching, perceived advantage, comfort in playing environment, social support and golfing image. Results indicated that event preparation and golfing accomplishments were the most cited sources of confidence in the lead up to a competition. This finding may suggest that specific sources may be more beneficial than others to golfers for developing confidence. Further qualitative research involving a greater number of participants may be required in order to gain a more in depth understanding of why such sources are salient to high skilled amateur golfers.

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How is my competitive skill group different than my profile rank? What are competitive skill groups? Like an Elo rating in Chess, CS:GO competitive skill groups predict how well players will perform when playing against other players. Two equally skilled teams should, on average, win an equal number of matches when competing against each other. What are all of the competitive skill groups? Once a player has been assigned a skill group, it will be displayed in the main menu, in party lobbies, and in the match scoreboard next to their name. Players sharing a lobby will have their skill group displayed at all times. Why don't I have a skill group? New players will not immediately have a skill group because it hasn't been calibrated yet.