ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate Malaysian students’ sport spectatorship motives and to determine differences in motives in terms of gender and nationalities. Using Capella’s (2001) Fan Behavior Questionnaire, data was collected from 259 local and international students studying at Universiti Putra Malaysia. The result of t-tests (p < 0.05) suggests significant differences in motives between males and females in terms of pro social behaviors (t = 3.308), anti-social behaviors (t = 4.104), and emotionality (t = 5.383). Local and international students differed significantly in terms of pro social behaviors dimension (t = 2.203, p < 0.05), but there was no significant difference in terms of negative behaviors and emotionality. The results of the study were discussed in light of earlier findings concerning motives of watching sports events.

Keyword: Sport events; Sport fan; College students’ motivation