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The Role of Sports in Promoting Social Inclusion and Health in Marginalized Communities

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1. Round 1

1.1 Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

In the introduction, while you reference several key studies, such as Eather et al. (2023) and Eime et al. (2013), a deeper exploration of how these studies specifically relate to marginalized communities would strengthen the argument for your study's relevance.

The description of participant demographics (page 2) could be enhanced by including more detailed statistics (e.g., exact numbers, percentages of each demographic group) to give a clearer picture of the study sample.

The choice of data collection settings is briefly mentioned. It would be useful to elaborate on why these settings were chosen and how they may have impacted the data collected.

While thematic analysis is qualitative, some quantification (e.g., how many participants mentioned each theme) could strengthen the presentation of the results.

The implications of your findings for policy and practice are briefly mentioned. Expanding on specific recommendations for policymakers and community leaders could make this section more impactful.



Conclusion

Study Limitations: Although you discuss some limitations, there is room for a more thorough analysis. For instance, consider discussing how the reliance on self-reported data might have introduced bias.

The section on future research directions (page 9) could be expanded to include more specific suggestions, such as the need for longitudinal studies or the exploration of sports' impact on other marginalized groups not covered in your study.

Author revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

1.2 Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

On page 1, the introduction briefly mentions the conceptual models. It would be beneficial to elaborate on these models and how they frame your research question and hypotheses.

On page 3, you mention the interview guide included open-ended questions. Including a few sample questions in the Methods section would provide better insight into the interview process.

In the Results section (page 5), you describe several themes identified in the data. Providing more direct quotes from participants for each theme would add depth and support to your findings.

Table 1 (page 6) summarizes the qualitative analysis well, but it could be improved by including example quotes or more detailed subthemes to enhance understanding.

The Discussion section (page 8) would benefit from a more integrated comparison with existing literature. For example, explicitly discuss how your findings confirm, contradict, or expand on the results of previous studies such as those by Hughes et al. (2020) and Toffoletti & Palmer (2016).

Author revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted. Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.

