

# REASON WHY SOME THAILAND'S RISING FOOTBALL PLAYER STARS CAN'T HAVE A SUCCESSFUL CAREER.

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## ABSTRACT

The study of “Reason why some Thailand’s rising stars can’t have a successful career” is using theory of success in career, youth development, factors effecting to success and 5 factors affecting Thai Football Player’s Career Success theory. The main objectives are to study reason of not success in career of youth’s rising star and to study methods of preventing athletes quit playing football before appropriate time. Methodology of this study is in-depth interview management level, coach, sport scientist and staff in FA. The total sample size is 20 persons and uses that data to analyze by following 5 Factor Affecting Thai Football Player’s Career Success. (Archavit, 2018). The results showed that for Thailand the way of life is different from other countries especially in two factors that make Thailand overlap and causing big disadvantages in youth development. Firstly, respecting elderly is considered unique character of Thai people, humble, respect and honoring the elder with more experience. Secondly is Patronage system in Thailand is clearly a country that uses patronage system due to the culture that is a tradition inherited from Thai people with unity at country level helping to look after each other like relatives.

**Keywords:** Successful Career, Youth Football Player, Profession Football Player

## INTRODUCTION

A football player is one of the most popular professions in the sports world. The job is required player who are playing football professionally, and it is a common career choice in some particular areas of the world. A football player typically starts their career at a low-ranking team and continues to build up fame and experiences until they’ve grab the attention of a team higher up in the rankings. Thus, player can continue to climb up to higher team as much as they want. When they’re not having competition game, football players are generally spending their time training physically and perfecting their teamwork which is the most significant aspect of a team’s success in the sport.

The natural of football player is pretty much the same with all other types of sports players, becoming a football player required showing interest in the sport from an early age. Many successful sports players have been interested in the sport since their junior school by taking part in their local teams and clubs. A great degree of physical fitness and the ability to think fast on one’s toes are the requirements for a successful football player.

It’s hard to specify an average salary for a football player like most other sports players. Their income varies regarding to their skill and place of employment. Amateur football players who play in the lower-ranking teams usually earn 25,000 – 35,000 a month but in some cases this can go even lower while those who manage to go up to the professional teams and build a solid reputation can easily gain salary of over 100,000 – 300,000 a month. These can happen while they maintain their peak level of performance.

Speaking about the Thai high rising football stars, I believe that we have all read in the newspaper for the past ten years especially when government and private organization fully supporting to develop the Thai youth. For example, Thai beverage, King power, Thaicom foundation and Coca-cola organizations. All mentioned organizations fully support to developing Thai youth as their main goal and succeed to create Thai youth to higher standard in Asean and Asia especially under 15 and 12 years of age. As for those of 17 years and above, Thai athlete seem to have problem clearly and from many research papers referred to interesting topic as human capital in athlete as being fully professional athlete and format in practice.

Pro.Dr.Sombat Karnchanakit referred to athlete having potential and ability from three factors which are skill, physical fitness and mental performance. The first important factor in winning or losing is skill. In many cases, athlete or former athlete with professional skill in sports has an advantage to win above their stronger opponents. Therefore it is important to build and develop basic skill for the youth but from information that I found, football training center or school mostly expressing the importance of being successful instead of developing basic skill to youth. It leads to their training program that teaches youth to use their body impact as advantage in the match in order to win the prize. For this group of youth who mainly focus on body impact, these create advantage with competitors in similar age who mainly focusing only basic skill. Besides, for athlete in other countries as they grow older they will also get stronger as well having basic skill and experience. If we compare youth who have the similar basic skills, physical fitness level will be factor to determine victory. As a result, training plan must be considered to train athlete to advance in basic skill first and slowly increasing additional movement, speed, ruggedness endurance and power at suitable age. (Archavit, 2018)[1].

Finally, when skill is not advantage and also physical fitness must now depend on mental performance. Many sportsmen have different mental performance, some have problem in setting a clear goal, some have problem in setting motivation and some have mental disturbance. For example, some sportsmen has goal to join national team which can give them high salary in order to look after their family. In many cases that some sportsman being in national team at age of 17 or not above than 19 years creating self-credit in order to attract others professional clubs and offer them a contract to be their team membership which comes along with higher salary. For this case, this sportsman has achieved his goal in profession. They have no other goal to set for their intention and determination in training would slowly decrease. This problem can be found in Thai National youth sportsman. Another case would be about motivation theory, many youth footballer come from upcountry have fun in playing football but the fun has slowly diminish and winning match has come in place. The goal in winning matches has been instructed by trainer or school. When grown up this sportsman has a chance in signing contract with professional clubs which motivation will come from salary, cash prize or award. Therefore, playing and self-progressing are inside motivation in the past but now it has changed to outside motivation. Sportsman seems to focus at prize money which is outside motivation but become inside motivation for them now. If prize money is low, they will lack of motivation. All these things create lack of motivation in sportsmanship in being national team member as in the past because in the past to be national team is great honor, but now rewards and being taken care of and prize money received while in national team member has less importance than playing for professional club. Moreover, the clubs thinks that sportsman playing with national team risk being injured, and requesting for higher pay from club. It makes sportsman withdraw themselves from national team when exhausted from stimulation.

Present football players receive high popularity and favorite for representing advertising and services. This makes current sportsman compare to as actor or public idol. It is something sportsman must learn to accept and adjust them to receive all comments good or bad stimulated with all illusion like banquet, dinner party and increased income can lead our mind from our goal. Moreover, family also becomes top rank of stimulus. Sportsman with family must be both responsible as husband, as father and it changes the way they ranking important things in their lifestyle especially as father when they are not ready to face problem pressured from social in term of incentive that has come into their life. All these things sportsman needs to have advisor who can advise and emphasize the motivation in being professional sportsman as objective clearly setting in their mind towards sport. They can easily line up importance in their life including incentives disturbing their daily life could be easily over come to reach their goal.

Regarding to Dr.Archavit Choengklinchan (2018) [1] conclude the five main reasons in being successful in Thai National football team are following: indications to success, support from club, intelligence in playing, decision making ability and public support. Details in being successful in life from above elements are as follow.

1. Indication to success are setting clear goal, satisfaction in job, satisfaction in profession and accepting social trend. All these basic elements are born with sportsman depends on foster in their childhood. A person who can accept truth from social media criticism, setting clear goal, satisfaction in job and profession. All these are internal factors emerge from learning and being train. Having clear goal does not make you in hurry to be happy in what you are doing. By having regular training and developing self-ability is the skill in physical and mental fitness altogether. They increase success for sportsman but in reality of society our factor is not the only factor to success. There are many other surrounding factors involve.

2. Supports from club are support from trainer and teammates. Having good training program, good quality coaching and receiving support opportunities from affiliated club. It is important element to success in profession because sportsman receiving club support from youth will have better changes than other sportsman. Being accepted from teammates and trainer will create self-confidence and be proud of this will effect self-confidence and decision making. Receiving good training program at suitable age is also important for sportsman to develop. (DuBrin, A. J.,1994) [6]

3. Intelligence in playing is understood rules and regulation of the game and accepting own mistake. Having attitude in solving immediate problem and controlling emotion. This is important spirit for sportsman in game. Therefore, a genius sportsman is someone having ready skill knowing rules and regulations will be able to grasp opportunities at right. Above is meaning of genius sportsman. Then, the word depends on luck in sports world it would be sportsman who are ready when opportunity arrives. Therefore, trainer having cultivated knowledge and understanding in football sports, must also encourage players to bravely solve problems and barriers in different situation because while playing players have only few seconds to decide. This is beyond learning and listening from coach. To accept own mistake and self-improvement is also important for being professional football player. (Cabrita, T. M., et al, 2014) [3]

4. Ability in making decision is being self-confidence, planning and studying possibility factors accepting the truth and the situation that will occur. Decision is one important element in being professional football player both in and out of football field. Every decision must pass thinking system with careful planning by gathering all sufficient data from decision making, understanding your own position, club and social. As we have heard of news regarding youth sportsman choosing to top club with hope of better known and compensation but the chances of playing is less. It leads to value and popularity of that

sportsman decrease, chances of becoming a national team also reduce. By making decision in every time of athlete life, there will be parents or coach to advice. Coach is person who expert in football sport, more experience and understand nature of football sport then coach takes important part in sportsman successful life.

5. Public support is included support from football fan club, social acceptance and have career after quit being football player. This factor, sportsman cannot control because it occurs from others perspective which included football fan club, audience or general people who not watch football. As regards, football player is count as public person that everyone can catch eyes on or criticize about perform. Social opinion can affect both good and bad side towards sportsman. This factor counts as dangerous for sportsman who not the way to behave but it also gives advantage to sportsman who knows how to use it precisely. The way of sportsman behaves when meet with mass media, it will reflect to public. If notice, some sportsman who allow reporter to interview and behave well in front of them, they will more popularity then sportsman who refused to get interview. (Eisenberg, R., 1986) [7]

Bruner, M. W., et al. (2015) had study “Interdependence and Social identity in youth sport teams” [2]. The results showed that youth sport teams need support from social in term of acceptance and develop from amateur athlete to become professional athlete. This can put up family’s confidence and also athlete to develop themselves to be professional athlete in the future. The acceptance from social especially from family is the key factor to make athlete to stay on this career or quit.

Daniel J., et al. (2014). had study “Relation of parent-and coach-initiated motivational climates to young athletes’ self-esteem, preformation anxiety, and autonomous motivation” [4]. The results showed that success factor in athlete career come from parent and coach. These impacts on inspiration, confidence and anxiety. Both parents and coach are person who close to youth athlete and also is role model for daily life, decision and mostly for coach is role model in sport and make them have aspiration in professional athlete.

Judge, T. A., and R. D. Bretz, (1994). had study “Political influence behavior and career success” [11]. The results showed that political influence behavior does affecting success in career. When we look at macro level, we found out that political affect organization’s policy, business goal and budget. On the other hand, in micro level, political create inequality in person and as a result some people did not get acceptance and support from social as much as it should be.

Gattiker, U.E. and L. Larwood, (1986). had study “Subjective career success: a study of managers and support personnel”[9]. The results showed that support from others affect on success career. The support has to be in system and fairness to everyone in organization. These really affect on succeed more than personal support except give special opportunity to person who have high potential to success.

## **OBJECTIVE**

1. To study reason of not success in career of youth’s rising star.
2. To study methods of preventing athletes quit playing football before appropriate time.

## **METHODOLOGY**

Methodology of this study is in-depth interview management level, coach, sport scientist and staff in FA. The total sample size is 20 persons and uses that data to analyze by following 5 Factor Affecting Football Player’s Career Success in Thailand Professional Football (Archavit, 2018)

## RESULTS

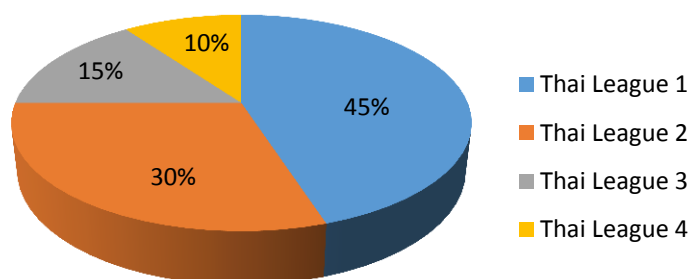
The result showed that football club that gave interview to us is from Thai league 1 and 2 at 75% and only 25% come from Thai league 3 and 4. Respondents mostly are management person who have experience in football around 10-15 years and work at present club 5 years and above. Majority of football club have structure of youth development at 80% and have coach for developing youth athlete at 60% as shown in table 1

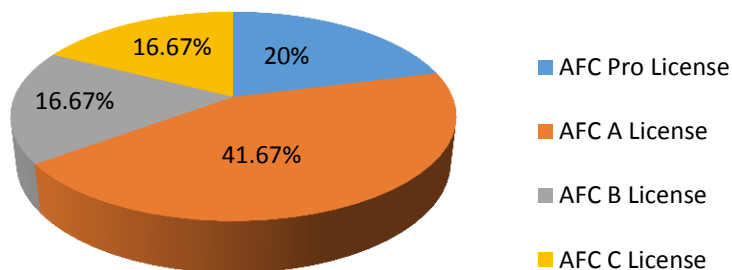
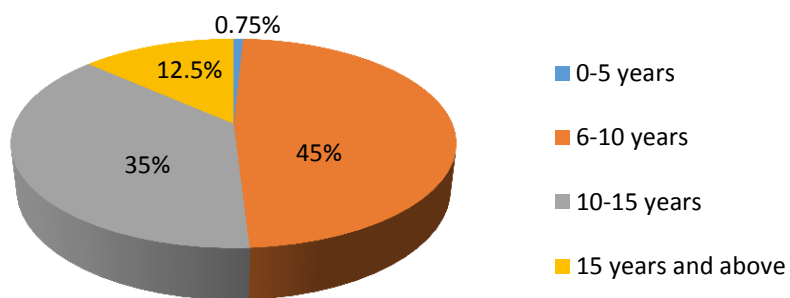
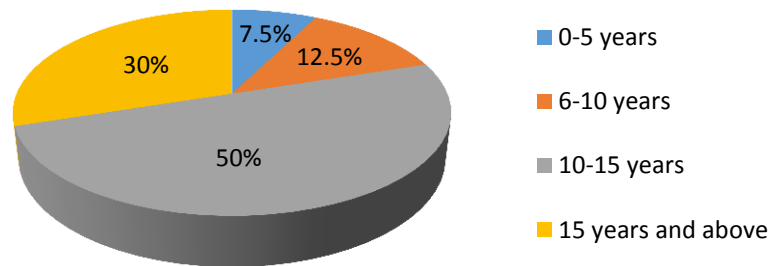
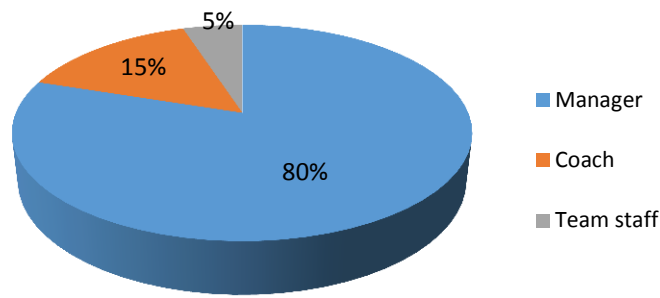
**Table 1**  
**Respondent profiles**

No.	Question	Category	Data	Percentage
1	Division of Club	Thai League 1	18	45%
		Thai League 2	12	30%
		Thai League 3	6	15%
		Thai League 4	4	10%
2	Position	Manager	32	80%
		Coach	6	15%
		Team Staff	2	5%
3	Football Experience	0-5 years	3	7.5%
		6-10 years	5	12.5%
		10-15 years	20	50%
		15+ years	12	30%
4	Work Experience with team	0-5 years	3	0.75%
		6-10 years	18	45%
		10-15 years	14	35%
		15+ years	5	12.5%
5	Have youth development project	Yes	32	80%
		No	8	20%
6	Have specific Youth Coach	Yes	24	60%
		Do	16	40%
7	Youth Coach License	AFC Pro License	6	20%
		AFC A License	10	41.67%
		AFC B License	4	16.67%
		AFC C License	4	16.67%

Data from question 1,2,3,4 and 7 can be shown in pie chart as Figure 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

**Figure 1**  
**Division of club**





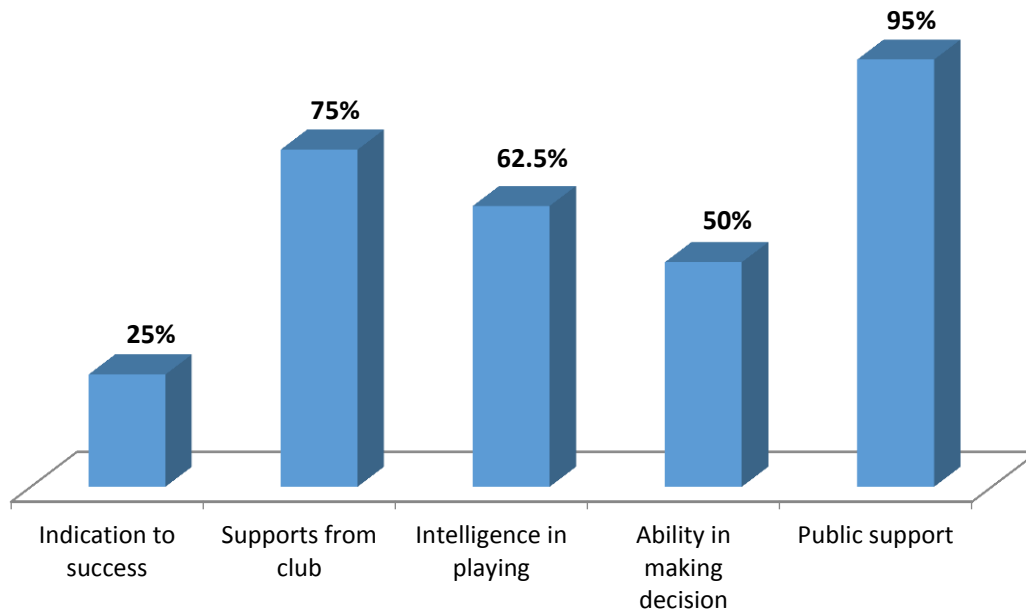
From the interview data, the results showed that rising star athlete of club be able to become professional athlete at 75% but success in different level and 25% is athletes who quit, change coach or career path which depends on family status, sedulousness in practicing and chance that come to life. If we use 5 Factor Affecting Thai Football Player's Career Success and allow respondents to answer more than 1 answer, the results showed that athletes who not successful in career mainly focusing on public support at 95% included family's support and strict to rule and regulation of athletes and followed by supporting for the club at 75% which means chance that come to life, acceptance from friends in the team and acceptance from coach as shown in table 2.

**Table 2**  
**The study of problem factors towards successful in athletes' career by using 5 Factor Affecting Thai Football Player's Career Success.**

No.	Factors	Data	Percentage
1	Indication to success	10	25%
2	Supports from club	30	75%
3	Intelligence in playing	25	62.5%
4	Ability in making decision	20	50%
5	Public support	38	95%

Data can be shown in bar chart as Figure 6.

**Figure 6**  
**The result of problem factors towards successful in athletes' career by using 5 Factor Affecting Thai Football Player's Career Success.**



From all the information, it has shown various factors that affect success in football career consisting of key elements that are similar in each country. For Thailand the way of life is different from other countries especially in two factors that make Thailand overlap and causing big disadvantages in youth development.

Firstly, respecting elderly is considered unique character of Thai people, humble, respect and honoring the elder with more experience. This is included president of the club, team manager and trainer. Regarding not being respectful doing things beyond the eyes and will be mistreated by words or intense play during training. All of this makes some young people unable to advance competing in team causing the sportsman to clearly slow down development.

Secondly is Patronage system in Thailand is clearly s country that uses patronage system due to the culture that is a tradition inherited from Thai people with unity at country level helping to look after each other like relatives. In a way is considered a good identity of

the society. A society that support care and encourage one another but in the case of other group of people, they would choose to support their own people first. Leading to favoritism some sportsman does not receive sufficient support as it should be due to not being on the same side as the leader.

From the above points, it is probably enough to let the reader know the elements or factors in development of Thai Youth at maximum potential. Capability arises from perseverance in practice psychological determination and appropriate support to be able to achieve the maximum development of Thai football player. The last element that Thailand still lack is the structure and guidelines for career planning of football player. Having a part of department that is responsible for overseeing as well as having a main career plan after being a football player which can occur from the football association of Thailand or sports organization in Thailand in order to take care and look after the life of the sportsman creating reputation for the country. (Delaney, T. and T. Madigan., 2009) [5]

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