THE INFLUENCE OF SMALL-SCALE SPORT EVENT IMPACTS ON PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY QUALITY OF LIFE AND SUPPORT FOR SPORT EVENT TOURISM

By

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A DISSERTATION PRESENTED TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

2012

I would like to dedicate this dissertation to my parents, George and Athena Karadakis who have supported and inspired me in every aspect of my life. My father, George who in fewer words than any man I have ever known instills a sense of calm and wisdom in my life. He has also showed me that taking chances in life can lead to incredible experiences, and fearing the unknown is just that, the unknown so take the chance. My mother, a person that will support and sacrifice everything she has for her children's happiness and success has been the biggest inspiration in my life. I have her to thank for my drive and determination to achieve my highest potential. As I have learned from her that as long as I try and keep working hard she will be proud. In one phrase she has used all my life… "just try your best and don't worry" and I have taken this to heart. So mom and dad I thank you and love you!

Θα ήθελα να αφιερώσω αυτήν την διατριβή στους γονείς μου, που με έχουν στηρίξει και εμπνεύσει σε κάθε πτυχή της ζωής μου. Ο πατέρας μου, ο Γιώργος ο οποίος με λιγότερες λέξεις από ό, τι κάθε άνθρωπος που έχω γνωρίσει ποτέ, ενσταλάζει μια αίσθηση ηρεμίας και σοφίας στη ζωή μου. Μου έχει επίσης δείξει ότι να ρισκαρεις στη ζωή μπορεί να οδηγήσει σε απίστευτες εμπειρίες, και να μην φοβάσαι το άγνωστο γιατί είναι ακριβώς αυτό, το άγνωστο. Λοιπόν αρπαξε την ευκαιρία. Η μητέρα μου, ένα πρόσωπο που έχει στηρίξει και θυσιάσει τα πάντα για την ευτυχία και την επιτυχία των παιδιών της είναι η μεγαλύτερη έμπνευση της ζωής μου. Η μητέρα μου έχει συνεισφερει στην αποφασιστικότητα μου να επιτύχω το καλύτερο δυνατό αποτέλεσμα για της ζωή μου. Όπως έχω μάθει από αυτήν όσο προσπαθώ και συνεχίζω να δουλεύω σκληρά θα είναι περήφανοι. Μαμά και μπαμπά σας ευχαριστώ και σας αγαπώ!

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This dissertation was made possible through the time, support and encouragement of many. Firstly, I would like to thank the members of my supervisory committee at the University of Florida for their guidance and support throughout this project. I would particularly like to thank my chair Dr. Kyriaki "Kiki" Kaplanidou who has guided me to become the best researcher I can be. I will forever remember Friday, April 25th 2008 when Dr. Kaplanidou called to tell me I was accepted as her first doctoral student. I promised that I would do my best to make her proud and never disappoint her, and I hope I have kept my promise. Over the years Dr. Kaplanidou has provided me with outstanding mentoring and guidance, and without her I would never have developed critical thinking skills, problem solving and most importantly attention to details. Kiki has spent numerous hours helping me and challenging me to develop and refine my academic skills. I feel truly lucky to have had her as my advisor to receive feedback and be included on numerous projects. I have the utmost respect for her work ethic, the quality of work she produces, her intellect and her dedication to her students. I thank her not only for taking a chance on me as her student and being my mentor, but for her constant support and encouragement, and also her friendship. I will miss the days where I could come into her office and just have casual chats about life and practicing my Greek with her. I hope I can become as an amazing person as her one day.

I would like to also thank my other committee members. Dr. Swisher, one of the most knowledgeable and intelligent people I have ever had the honor of knowing and taking classes with. She encouraged and inspired me to look at numerous theories and research designs and her insights have been a great help to my academic career. Dr. Donohoe, I thank for her solid knowledge and background on the quality of life literature and for including me in projects. Finally, Dr. Sagas, for his contributions to my research methods and saving me time and money

with regards to data collection, and for recruiting respondents to take my survey. Without these individuals my dissertation would not have materialized.

I would like to thank all those individuals who travelled with me to collect my data. Ben Salo, Trevor Bopp, Shannon Kerwin, Todd Gilmore, Eric Jang, Hany Kim, Galina Simanovskaya, Christina Zhan, Ryan Wang and Ari Kim, without you this dissertation would not have been completed in time.

I would also like to thank Dr. George Karlis, for introducing me to Dr. Kaplanidou and for all his support during my academic career. It took one conversation with George to inspire me to pursue my Ph.D. I thank him and his wife, Penny for all their support and encouragement over the years. Also, I thank all the friends that I have met during my time here, for all their support and conversations about theories, statistical analyses, research design and in general being there to share in my experiences. I will miss weekly steak and dairy queen nights with Trevor, Mike, Ben and Todd. Finally, I would like to thank my family and my brother and sister for their psychological support. Maria, I will still look forward to our weekly Skype conversations, and George our Xbox Live soccer matches that are meant to help me relieve stress, not cause more.

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August 2012

Chair: Kyriaki "Kiki" Kaplanidou
Major: Health and Human Performance

Communities seeking to develop their tourism industry or attract spectators and event participants bid to host small-scale sport events. However, there is limited research that examines the impact these events have on local communities (Gibson et al., 2003). As social exchange theory suggests, if residents experience more positive impacts than negative impacts then they are more likely to support hosting additional events in the future. Furthermore, literature suggests that when a community hosts an event, their quality of life is affected, although this thesis has not been empirically tested. Therefore, the purpose of this study was to examine the relationship between perceived event impacts of a small-scale sport event, quality of life and resident support.

A theoretical model was proposed and tested utilizing Anderson and Gerbing (1988) structural equation modeling. A total of 412 respondents at two Florida Youth Soccer Association events were recruited to examine their perceived impacts of small-scale sport events on their quality of life and support for hosting future events. Respondents were asked to rate the level of importance and satisfaction with event impacts (economic, environmental, psychological, infrastructure, socio-cultural, knowledge development, political and tourism) in their community; their satisfaction with their community's quality of life; as well as their

personal quality of life; and their level of support for hosting small-scale sport events in their community.

It was hypothesized that support for hosting additional events in a community would be influenced by the perceived impacts and quality of life measures. The results indicated respondents felt that all impacts were important and that they were satisfied with the impacts they experienced. Respondents also indicated they were satisfied with their quality of life. Furthermore, respondents indicated they would support hosting future events in their communities. The results indicated that impacts did influence support for hosting small-scale events, and impacts did affect community and personal quality of life. Furthermore, it was found that only personal quality of life influenced resident support for hosting small-scale sport events. A discussion of the results as well as practical and theoretical implications is provided.

CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

Sport and tourism are two rapid developing industries in the world (Kurtzman & Zauhar, 2003). In Florida, sports are a $36 billion industry and employs 434,000 citizens (Florida Sports Foundation, 2011). In order to bring sport events to Florida, the Florida Sports Foundation works with more than 20 sports commissions through their grant program. In 2010, the grant program was able to secure and attract 33 sport events to Florida.

Interest in sport participation and consumption has increased because of media attention on sport events, heightened awareness for public health, and the emergence of new sports (Williams, 2003). Growth in the sport and tourism industries has lead to a trend of more active holidays (De Villers, 2003), and towards holidays where sport or a sporting event is the main attraction. Within the sport tourism market, sport event tourism has a major role for host destinations, evidenced by the inclusion of sport events into their tourism marketing mix (Chalip & Leyns, 2002; Higham & Hinch, 2002) . There is a variety of sport event types. These include mega sport events such as the Olympic Games, medium size sport events such as national championships, and smaller size sport events such as local cycling, walking, and running events (Getz, 2008). Research indicates that small and large-scale sport events can draw tourists, spectators and participants, increase media attention and generate a positive destination image among tourists (Chalip, Green, & Hill, 2003; De Knop, 1998; Getz, 1998; Gibson, Willming, & Holdnak, 2003).

Sport tourism is considered to act as a catalyst for economic development in urban areas (Gibson, 1998; Gibson, Kaplanidou, & Kang, 2012). Research has explored the perceived economic impacts of specific sport tourism events by host community residents. Walo, Bull, and Breen (1996) found that residents perceived an economic benefit from sporting events, however,

smaller scale events also provided a social benefit, as residents were more likely to volunteer for these events which were perceived to bring the community together. The above studies group tourism impacts into positive or negative perceptions without distinguishing specific types of impacts. Chen (2001) suggested that impacts should be broken down to represent different types such as economic, social and environmental in order to provide researchers and organizers with a comprehensive representation of the types of impacts that predict/influence resident support towards sport event tourism.

As mentioned above, sport event impact and tourism impact research has mainly focused on economic impacts; however, there is need for a more balanced research that looks at social and cultural impacts as well. For example, Delamere (2001) looked at developing a resident attitude scale to measure social impact indicators; Fredline and Faulkner (2002) looked at resident perceptions of event impacts such as sociopolitical values, community attachment, and perceptions of participation and justice; and, Fredline (2006) focused on the development of a social impact scale for events. Emerging sub areas of impact studies include: environmental, social/cultural, economic event related impacts, policy and planning, business and management and quality of life. Tourism and sport event impacts/issues can be considered as related to these entire sub areas (Getz, 2008). For the purposes of this study a holistic approach to the impacts mentioned in the literature will be used, as well as residents perceptions of how these impacts relate to residents' personal quality of life and community quality of life. As suggested by Chen (2001), when examining resident support for tourism development, it is important to study the impacts as it allows organizers and policymakers to better understand what impacts influence resident support and for organizers to improve the community's quality of life. By examining the relationship between residents' perceptions of impacts of a small-scale event on their quality of

life, organizers can be aware of problem areas and address them, therefore making efforts to ensure that hosting the event does not threaten residents' quality of life (Fredline & Faulkner, 2002). It is important to note that quality of life is comprised of an individual's satisfaction with their personal quality of life and community quality of life. Personal quality of life can be determined through a person's evaluation and satisfaction of domains proposed by Cummins (2005) and will be discussed in the literature review, while community quality of life refers to a person's satisfaction with domains in their community such as education, neighborhood, service and facilities, social life and relations (Cummins, 1997).

For communities that utilize sport events as a tourism development strategy, local resident support is important in tourism planning and development (Sautter & Leisen, 1999). This is due to the fact that residents interact directly with tourists and athletes who attend the events. Thus, a social exchange is activated. Residents can provide either a welcoming or unfavorable atmosphere, and may also choose to volunteer to help at the event. Therefore, understanding the factors that influence resident support for hosting a sport event is important. Also, there is little research that examines the meaning attached to a small-scale sport event experience from the residents' perspective. Research by Kaplanidou and Vogt (2010) suggests that the meaning derived from an event experience is developed around the organizational, environmental, social and emotional characteristics. Since it was found that active participants use a holistic assessment method when evaluating their event experience, it is important to understand and include how residents evaluate their satisfaction with the event experience when examining residents' perceptions of impacts from a sport event. There has been limited research devoted to small-scale sports events (Higham & Hinch, 2002) because they are seen as having a small economic impact (Daniels & Norman, 2003). But, Walo, Bull, and Breen (1996) argued that

smaller events deserve more research attention because these events operate within the existing resource capacity of a local economy featuring low opportunity costs and high community benefit. Therefore, research should focus on what influences resident support towards these sport events.

Justification for The Study

Compared to the mega-event literature, research examining small-scale events or regular events is limited (Gibson et al., 2003).The factors that influence resident support for hosting small-scale events deserves attention. As Ritchie (2004) stated,

> Despite the popularity and number of small-scale sporting events, little research has been published concerning the nature or tourism potential of small-scale sport events. . . research concerning small-scale sport events has usually examined either spectator/passive sport events or participatory/active sport events. However, despite such research the detailed examination of active small-scale sport event tourism is rare. Yet the potential marketing and economic development benefits are similar, yet smaller in size and scope than ‘‘hallmark’’ or ‘‘mega’’ events which tend to generate the most interest from researchers, policy makers and planners alike (p. 137).

While the majority of small-scale event research has examined economic impacts (Crompton, 1999), other potential impacts (economic, tourism, socio-cultural, environmental, psychological, knowledge development and political) that influence resident support toward sport events are rarely examined. The majority of literature examines resident attitudes towards tourism development and has focused on resident support for tourism development (Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004) or resident support for hosting a mega-event (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006). In order to examine and understand the relationship between residents' perceptions of impacts and support for tourism development or support for hosting mega-events, social exchange theory serves as the proper theoretical framework. Social exchange theory is a theoretical approach used to investigate residents' attitudes and perceptions of impacts produced by tourism development (Emerson, 1976). Factors such as social, cultural, economic, ecocentric attitudes, community

attachment and environmental impacts have been identified by social exchange theory as influencing residents' support for tourism development and mega-events (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004; Twynam & Johnston, 2004). The theory suggests that when residents perceive or feel they experience benefits from tourism development, they will develop a positive attitude and they will support further development mainly because of these perceived benefits (Andereck & Vogt, 2000). As Andereck and Vogt (2000) found residents of a tourism destination had a positive attitude towards tourism and tourism development when community benefits of tourism was experienced. More specifically, their findings revealed that economic, socio-cultural and environmental impacts provided benefits for residents. "Residents generally reported positive attitudes regarding tourism and economic improvement, more recreation and park opportunities, and improved quality of life" (Andereck & Vogt, p. 28). Deccio and Baloglu (2002) found that residents not only considered the impacts of an event, but also the changes in the residents' quality of life. These results suggest that there is a relationship between quality of life, event impacts and support for tourism development through hosting a sport event in the community. Hosting a sport event in a community offers residents an opportunity to improve quality of life through tourism development. As Andereck, Valentine, Knopf and Vogt (2005) stated, "tourism is widely perceived as a potential economic base, providing elements that may improve quality of life such as employment opportunities, tax revenues, economic diversity, festivals, restaurants, natural and cultural attractions, and outdoor recreation opportunities" (p. 1056-1057). However, there is research that has identified negative tourism event impacts such as crowding, traffic, parking problems, increased crime and cost of living as negatively influencing quality of life (Andereck et al., 2005; Ap & Crompton, 1993; McCool & Martin, 1994).

Gursoy and Kendall (2006) in modeling resident support for hosting a mega sport event used variables such as perceived benefits and costs, community concern and attachment, and, ecocentric attitude. Quality of life is alluded to as being affected by hosting an event or engaging in tourism development. However, quality of life has not been empirically tested to determine its relationship with regards to residents' attitudes towards supporting a sport event. Therefore, this research attempts to empirically test whether quality of life is viewed as a platform of exchange for residents which in turn results in supporting behaviors toward event sport tourism initiatives. Two gaps in the literature will therefore be filled:

1. Is quality of life considered an exchange?
2. Which types of impacts influence quality of life and subsequently event support for small-scale events?

Statement of The Problem

The problem this research aimed to address is the poor understanding of the relationship between impacts, community quality of life, personal quality of life and resident support for hosting small-scale sport events in their community. It is important to identify the factors that influence resident support towards hosting a small-scale event in their community and the impacts events have on community and personal quality of life, because the residents can contribute to the sustainability, success and promotion of the event.

Purpose of The Study

The purpose of this study was to identify the relative weight and influence of the impacts that are identified in the literature within the small-scale sport event context on community quality of life, personal quality of life and resident support towards hosting sport tourism events. This study examined the relationship between quality of life and the effect impacts (economic, tourism, environmental, socio-cultural, psychological, knowledge development, infrastructure

and political) have on resident support for the hosting of a small-scale sport event. Finally, this study also aimed to improve the understanding of resident support for hosting an event by extending the application of social exchange theory in the context of small-scale sports events.

CHAPTER 2
LITERATURE REVIEW

The literature review section will discuss the sport tourism phenomenon, the types of sport events and the rationale for small-scale sport events hosting; resident support towards sport events through social exchange theory; quality of life (definitions, operationalization and measurement) and the relationship between quality of life and support for sport events.

Sport Tourism

Travel related to sport tourism has received special attention in the tourism field (Gibson et al., 2003). Sport tourism can occur through a passive or active mode (Gibson et al., 2003). Gibson (1998, p. 49) defined sport tourism as "leisure-based travel that takes individuals temporarily outside of their home communities to participate in physical activities, to watch physical activities, or to venerate attractions associated with physical activities." However, Weed (2005) and Weed and Bull (2004) defined sport tourism as "a social, economic and cultural phenomenon arising from the unique interaction of activity, people and place" (Weed & Bull, 2004, p. 37). The definition provided by Weed and Bull aims to establish sports tourism as "related to but more than the sum of sport and tourism" (Weed, 2009, p. 618). The categorization of sport tourists has been suggested in order to identify motivations, behaviors and characteristics of the types of sport tourists. According to Gibson (1998) there are three types of behaviors associated with sport tourism: active sport tourism, identified as individuals who travel to engage in sport; event sport tourism, individuals that attend sport events and are spectators; and nostalgia sport tourism, "which includes visits to sports museums, famous sports venues, and sports themed cruises"(p. 45). Weed and Bull (2004, p. 123) suggested there are five types of sports tourism: "tourism with sport content, sports participation tourism, sports training, sports events and luxury sports tourism, and that these types may be multi- or single-sport, may be active or

passive, and may involve instruction, elite sport and/or a corporate element." From these categories mentioned above, sport event tourism has received the most attention, with behaviors being the topic most covered, followed by profiles, motivations and impacts (Weed, 2009). According to Weed (2009) research in sport tourism has focused on the problems and evaluations of the economic impacts of event sports tourism; the trend towards leveraging research in event sports tourism; the more holistic focus on social and cultural, as well as economic impacts of sports participation tourism; the behavioral focus of research in sports participation tourism, the examination of the role of sports tourism in destination marketing and in generating media exposure; and the increasing concern with developing positive perceptions among local residents. It has been suggested that there is a need for theory as the field is transitioning from the "what" and the "who" to understanding the "why" and "how" (Gibson, 2004, p. 258). Therefore, the current study utilized social exchange theory to examine the exchange process in understanding resident behavior towards supporting the hosting of a small-scale sport event.

Types of Sport Events

Sport events can range from mega-sporting events such as Olympic Games to medium size sports events such as national championships to smaller scale events such as local cycling, walking and running events (Getz, 2008). It is important to consider the size of each event because of its impacts on the community (Chalip & Costa, 2005). Higham (1999, p. 87), suggested that there is more tourism development potential in small-scale events such as 'regular season sporting competition, international sporting fixtures, domestic competitions, and Masters games or disabled sports.' Higham (1999) further suggested that some of these small-scale events will draw spectators, while others such as marathons, due to their features (i.e.

competition) may attract participants. Higham (1999) also suggested that small-scale sports events can have more positive impacts for residents and is discussed in the next section.

Small-Scale Events

Gibson, Kaplanidou and Kang (2012) suggested, based on the results of their study that small-scale sport tourism can be used as a method for sustainable tourism. If the event a community hosts is compatible with the community's infrastructure and culture, the community may experience economic, social and environmental impacts contributing to the community's sustainable tourism. Although quality of life was not tested in Gibson et al., (2012) study, the authors suggested that local residents as well as event participants that attended the events may have experienced an improvement to their quality of life through the entertainment and pride of interacting with visitors, results reported in similar studies (Ziakas, 2010, Veltri et al., 2009; Walo et al., 1996). The benefits of having or hosting a small-scale event is that they function within existing infrastructures, need little investment of public finances, and are more manageable with regard to crowding and congestion (Higham, 1999). Fredline (2005) agrees with Higham and suggested that impacts from small-scale events may seem minimal, but over time as they persist, residents are likely to view impacts favorably if the event is in harmony with community values and the residents experience benefits through participation. Mega-events, in contrast, may be disturbing but they produce more economic, entertaining and excitement benefits (Fredline, 2005).

Literature discussing the role of small-scale sport events in community development is scant, even though they have the potential to bring in economic benefits (Higham, 1999). As the literature review below indicates, small-scale sport events provide host communities with additional benefits beyond just economic benefits including: psychological, social and

environmental benefits, destination attraction and development and improvements to quality of life.

In one of the earliest studies of the field, Garnham (1996) investigated host community impacts of the Ranfurly Rugby Shield and found that the impact experienced by residents was an increase in spirit and morale. Positive economic impacts were experienced by local businesses such as restaurants and pubs that were in close proximity to the event as opposed to other businesses such as retail shopping that were further away.

Higham and Hinch (2001) examined the symbiotic relationship between sport and tourism of the Super 12 Rugby in New Zealand. They found perceived destination image of the region was linked to publicity obtained from individuals attending the rugby games or watching the media coverage of the games and individual teams.

Walo, Bull and Breen (1996) studied the Northern Conference University Sport's Association Games held in Australia in 1995. Their study found that there was an increase of economic activity within the community with spectators spending their money on food and drinks. Also, the study found that those individuals attending the Games indicated they would not have traveled to the host community had the event not been located there. Another benefit experienced by the community was an increase in sense of spirit and cooperation among the residents who volunteered for the event. Similar results were found by Gibson et al., (2003) who studied tourism related behaviors of football fans following the University of Florida's college football team. Results indicated that the event was the motivation that attracted fans outside of the host community and these fans provided an economic impact by spending money on food, shopping and accommodations, and a psychological boost.

Hritz and Ross (2010) examined tourism business representatives' perceptions of sport tourism impacts in Indiana, Indianapolis. The results revealed that the tourism business representatives experienced social, environmental, economic benefits but also negative impacts. Specifically, support for hosting future sports events was predicted by social and economic benefits. The study also found that negative impacts reduced support for sport tourism. Furthermore, Hritz and Ross (2010) revealed that respondents believed residents' quality of life is negatively impacted by convention and sport tourism. More specifically they said that due to the social costs "the ICVA members indicated that sport tourism did not necessarily enhance their standard of living and residents suffered from living in a destination that caters to sport tourism" (Hritz & Ross, 2010, p. 132). These results support the findings from Avgoustis, Cecil, Fu, and Wang (2005) who reported that as an alternative to sport tourism, the quality of life for Indianapolis residents was improved by the city's cultural tourism attractions.

Mason and Duquette (2008) found that host communities with local Western Hockey League teams in Canada benefited economically with spending occurring in season ticket sales, accommodations and shopping. Another benefit experienced by the host community was branding and exposure through televised games and print media highlights. A negative impact that the authors found was a lack of coordination between franchises, government, and local businesses when it came to leveraging the local hockey franchise. Daniels and Norman (2003) in a study examining several sport tourism events found that hosting the events attracted visitors to the destination, and without the event, these visitors would not have come to the destination. As a result, the host community experienced economic impacts with lodging and meals being the areas that visitors spent most of their money. The authors also found support for the benefits outlined by Higham (1999) related to minimal bidding expenses, limited expenditure of public

money, no interference in the life of local people and residents could attend some of the events for free.

In the context of a recurring small-scale sport event, Kaplanidou and Gibson (2010) examined the variables that influence active sport tourism behaviors. Their study explored whether past participation, attitudes toward event participation, satisfaction with the sport event, and destination image predict active sport tourist's intent to partake in a sport event again. The authors found that attitudes between satisfaction and intentions to participate in the event again mediated the effects of destination image and intentions (Kaplanidou & Gibson, 2010). Specifically, the study found that intentions to participate in a recurring sports event again was influenced by attitudes and satisfaction with the overall event experience while attitudes to participate in a recurring sports event again was influenced by satisfaction and destination image. The results of this study are important because small-scale sport events are re-occurring, which means a satisfied participant that intends to return to the event provides the host community with an economic benefit and the potential to return to the host community as a tourist with family and friends. This leads to additional positive economic and destination image impacts for the host community.

In a study focusing on the economic benefits of hosting a small-scale sport event in a mid-sized city Veltri, Miller, and Harris (2009) found that small-scale sport events provided the host community with an economic benefit, but the event also promoted an active lifestyle and attracted visitors to the area. Ziakas (2010) found similar results as well as social impacts that benefitted the community, suggesting that event tourism should be part of the community's efforts for economic development and improving quality of life.

In summarizing what has been studied in the small-scale event context, studies have focused on economic impacts, development of destination image, fan and participant behaviors and some perceptions of resident impacts. With the exception of the economic studies, most of the studies have used participants and spectators to examine the impacts of a small-scale sport event. What is important to note is how satisfaction has been found to be an influence in developing attitudes and intent to either participate again, or revisit a destination. Satisfaction has also been found to influence the evaluation of an event experience from a participant's perspective. But, there is a lack of literature that focuses on resident perceptions of the importance and satisfaction of impacts beyond that of economic impact studies. Furthermore, although it is alluded to, quality of life has not been empirically tested in the small-scale sport event context, nor the relationship between impacts, quality of life and support for hosting an event been examined. This study aimed to explore these relationships and address the gap in the literature by using a holistic approach and examining the importance and satisfaction of the various impacts residents can experience from an event and the relationship quality of life has in predicting support for hosting a sport event. In order to investigate impacts, mega-event and tourism literature was consulted as there are studies that have researched resident perceptions of the impacts of hosting a mega-event and support for tourism.

Hallmark and Mega-Events

Although not at the focus of this research, limited discussion has to be presented on the mega-event impact literature, as these types of events generated the discussion of impacts and later on legacy. To an extent the mega-event impacts can convert to small-scale sport events.

Ritchie (1984, p. 2) describes hallmark events as "major one-time or recurring events of limited duration" and also notes that these "events rely for their success on uniqueness, status or timely significance" and have the potential to increase international recognition, tourist revenue,

and local pride for the host community. Mega-events are one-time events that take place on an international scale (Jago & Shaw, 1998). The characteristics of a mega-event are: that they attract a large amount of attendees, attract international tourists, and there is a major financial investment from the public and require the development of infrastructures for the event (Lorde, Greenidge, & Devonish, 2011). Mega-events also have the potential to create international awareness through the media and generate economic benefits for the host community (Chalip, 2007; Hall, 1997). Hallmark and mega-events differ with regards to the size, appeal and significance (Lorde et al., 2011) and therefore its impacts can be perceived differently by residents (Kim & Chalip, 2004).

Residents experience the impacts of mega-events first hand and are directly involved with the exchanges of resources and experience the impacts from hosting the event. Therefore, residents are in a position to evaluate whether or not the event met their expectations (Guala & Turco, 2009) and if they perceive personal or community benefits from hosting the event. There are many studies that aim to examine residents' perceptions with respect to hosting a mega-event and the impacts residents are expected to experience (Guala & Turco, 2009). Ritchie (1984) classified the positive and negative impacts of mega-events using the following categories: economic, tourism/commercial, physical, socio-cultural, psychological and political. This classification also fueled discussion on small-scale event impacts. Studies examining resident perceptions of event impacts have examined the impacts through social exchange theory. The following section discusses social exchange theory and how resident support is provided through the evaluation of the benefits (positive impacts) and costs (negative impacts) that resident's experience.

Theoretical Framework

In order to gain an understanding of residents' attitudes toward supporting tourism development or supporting their community's efforts for hosting a sport event, social exchange theory has been used as the relevant theoretical framework (Ap, 1992; Perdue et al., 1990). Social exchange theory dates back to the 1920's (Malinowski, 1922), and is "one of the most influential conceptual paradigms in organizational behavior" (Cropanzano & Mitchell, 2005, p. 874). Social exchange theory posits that individuals interact with other individuals because they anticipate that they will benefit from the interaction (Blau, 1964; Gouldner, 1960) or that through their interaction obligations will be created between the two parties (Emerson, 1976). Accordingly, once an interaction occurs, individuals engage in a subjective cost-benefit analysis that leads to obligations, reciprocity, or repayment between the two parties (Cropanzano & Mitchell, 2005; Gouldner, 1960). According to Emerson (1976), interactions are likely to continue if those involved in the interaction feel that they are benefiting more than they are losing. The advantages of using social exchange theory are that it can help explain positive and negative attitudes, and investigates exchanges at the individual and community level (Ap, 1992). Social exchange theory states that residents are more inclined to engage in exchange with others if they believe they will receive benefits without acquiring intolerable expenses (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006). This theory is a behavioral theory that aims to understand and predict individuals' reactions in an interactive process (Ap, 1990). Exchanges are used to illustrate behavior in this theory, implying that residents take part in sport tourism exchanges, share community resources with visitors, and make use of sport tourism resources developed as a result of the event (Fredline, 2005). Residents then evaluate "the costs and benefits of these exchanges and their overall perception will be the result of an internal cost benefit analysis" (Fredline, 2005, p. 271). If residents feel that benefits experienced from hosting the event

outweigh the costs, then they will have a positive attitude towards hosting future events and exhibit supportive behaviors (Fredline, 2005). If, however, residents feel the experience is negative, then a negative attitude will form resulting in a lack of residential support.

There are numerous studies conducted to evaluate tourism related impacts on a community and to determine resident support for tourism developments that utilize social exchange theory (Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Andriotis, 2005; Andriotis & Vaughan, 2003; Ap, 1992; Bull & Lovell, 2007; Chen, 2001; Deccio & Baloglu, 2002; Gursoy et al., 2002; Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004; Harrill, 2004; Nunkoo & Ramkissoon, 2010; Perdue, Long, & Kang, 1999; Perdue et al., 1990; Preuss & Solberg, 2006; Wang & Pfister, 2008). The basic assumption derived from these studies is that resident support occurs when positive impacts such as economic benefits, outweigh the negative impacts of sharing environmental and social resources with tourists (Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004; Harrill, 2004). It is important to note that resources being exchanged between the residents and the visitors in a community must be valued by both residents and visitors. It is in this exchange process where residents and the community will experience any positive or negative impacts associated with hosting the event and either will support or not support further tourism developments or the hosting of future events based on their perceived benefits or costs (Andriotis & Vaughan, 2003; Sutton, 1967). Resident perceptions are important to consider because if a community feels that they are being exploited and are not benefiting from the host/tourist relationship (Sutton, 1967), then the community may perceive impacts to be negative (Harill, 2004). This leads to some limitations in the use of social exchange theory, such as the idea that residents expect to gain at the end of the exchange process or when the event ends (McGehee & Andereck, 2004). This expectation suggests that a host community and its residents agree to be the host of an event because they want to gain

economically from the tourists that visit their community (Hritz & Ross, 2010). Another limitation to the social exchange theory identified by McGehee and Andereck (2004) is that the theory assumes that residents and tourists take part in the exchange process having enough information about expected impacts, however enough or correct information is not commonly provided by the organizers. Chalip, Green, and Hill (2003) suggested that it is the responsibility of event organizers and destination marketers to show that the events they are providing have a beneficial impact to the host community.

Focusing on the benefits that result from the exchange process, Wang and Pfister (2008) argued it is not just the economic impacts that may influence residents' attitudes towards tourism and hosting an event but also non-economic impacts. They suggested that examining the exchange process should include sociological approaches in addition to econometric analyses. Therefore, analysis of the exchange process should involve non-economic social situations (Emerson, 1976). Homans (1961) suggested that from the sociological perspective, exchange theory is based on interactions that are tangible and intangible. However, studies that used social exchange theory to identify which perceived impacts lead to support for tourism development focused mainly on the economic impacts and neglect the intangible ones (e.g., Andereck et al., 2005; Jurowski, Uysal, & Williams, 1997; McGehee & Andereck, 2004). These studies identified that personal benefits and economic impacts such as income, tax revenue, employment, and consumer spending influence the exchange process, but fail to consider intangible impacts such as social interactions, community pride, cultural exchange and other variables (Wang & Pfister, 2008).

Researchers have suggested that studies investigating resident perceptions of impacts should include impacts affecting individual and community life (Horley & Little, 1985;

McKennell & Andrews, 1983). By taking a more holistic approach to identifying impacts on residents and the community, influences on quality of life can be identified. Research suggested that an increase in quality of life is a result of improved socio-economic benefits (Nichols, Giacopassi, & Stitt, 2002). For example, positive impacts such as social interaction with tourists, increased employment and community pride can explain an improvement to quality of life (Chhabra & Gursoy, 2009). However, negative impacts such as alcoholism, crime and an increase of the cost of local goods and services can deteriorate quality of life (Chhabra & Gursoy, 2009).

Impacts of Events

As identified in the previous section, there is little research that examines resident perceptions of the impacts associated with hosting a small-scale sport event. In order to gain an understanding of what impacts may be experienced by the residents hosting a small-scale sport event in their community, examining the mega-event literature is important, as it provides researchers with insights of what impacts a sport event may have on a community. As Higham (1999) suggested small-scale events have more potential to provide positive impacts for residents and negative impacts are more manageable compared to mega-events. Therefore in order to examine the impacts of a small-scale event (beyond the economic impacts), mega-event literature will be examined and utilized.

Studies focusing on resident impacts discuss the economic impacts including: increased employment, increased spending within the community, increased tourism (Chalip, 2002; Horne, 2007; Owen, 2005; Whitson & Horne, 2006), catalysts for urban regeneration and tax revenues. Additional impacts found in the literature pertain to the development of infrastructure (i.e., transportation, housing, hotels, sports venues, facilities, parks and recreation, media centers, tourist attractions and airports) (Jones, 2001; Chappelet, 2008; Hiller, 2006; Solberg & Preuss,

2007) and with the development of infrastructure, additional economic benefits can occur such as additional sources of income, job creation that will lead to improved skills for local residents as well as improving overall quality of life (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Whitson & Horne, 2006). By hosting a mega-event, the host city has the opportunity to accelerate work and finish projects that otherwise would not have occurred without the event, and a number of these improvements usually come in the form of infrastructure improvements (Terret, 2008).

Social impacts mentioned in the literature include community pride, cohesion, involvement of individuals in community activities, interaction, strengthened image and awareness (Bull & Lovell, 2007; Solberg & Preuss, 2007). There is the benefit of social interaction, increasing cultural understanding, strengthening values and traditions, self esteem, quality of life and the image of the city. The host city also receives the opportunity to promote the city, and can even bring attention to environmental concerns (Bull & Lovell, 2007; Cegielski & Mules, 2002; Gursoy & Kendall, 2006). Studies on hosting the Olympic Games reveal that the local residents take on the identity of citizens of the world (Horne, 2007; Whitson & Horne, 2006). Gursoy and Kendall (2006) found that the community pride and the international recognition were just as important as the economic impacts of the Olympic Games.

Other benefits that residents and the community can experience from hosting an event is the knowledge and skills that the citizens gain. Knowledge and skill development can be enhanced in three ways: (i) skills and knowledge in the service industry through hospitality training for volunteers; (ii) knowledge and skills needed to win future bids to attract congresses, fairs, and cultural and sport events; and (iii) the skills that are needed in order to create a safe environment are improved (Solberg & Preuss, 2007). Studies have also found that resident support is higher when residents perceive tourism development as creating facilities or

opportunities for recreational activities for the community at-large (Allen, Hafer, Long, & Perdue, 1993; Kendall & Var, 1984).

If residents perceive there are negative economic, ecological and socio-cultural impacts, then opposition to sport event hosting may occur (Witt, 1988). Jones (2001) argues that economic benefits are often overstated in order to justify the use of public funds. Hosting an event can cause tremendous debt as was experienced by Montreal 1976 as a result of hosting the Olympic Games. Hosting the Olympics cost the city and its residents over CAD$2 billion in capital and interest costs (Whitson & Horne, 2006). Some other economic costs include price inflation for products and services as resources become increasingly scarce, and an increase in taxes to pay for costs of hosting the event (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Solberg & Preuss, 2007). When the host city cannot raise enough funds in order to pay for the Olympic Games, then the government is forced to make cut backs, causing opportunity costs to occur. Money that would have gone towards hospitals, education, less taxes for the residents become evident and may cause civil unrest (Owen, 2005; Toohey, 2008). Although public awareness and tourism do see an increase during the year of the Olympics, it was found that this impact declines drastically two years after the event (Ritchie & Smith, 1991; Whitson & Horne, 2006). Other things that can negatively impact the image and tourist industry of a host city, including war, economic crises, pandemics, terrorist attacks, and other similar types of events (Hiller, 2006; Solberg & Preuss, 2007).

Hosting a mega-event can also generate negative social impacts such as anti-social behavior, crime, congestion, crowding, disruption of community life, community alienation and displacement, administrative problems, security breaches and over-commercialization (Bull & Lovell, 2007; Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Jones, 2001; Owen, 2005). Other negative impacts

include capacity constraints, financial costs, the displacement and physical removal of host residents and political activism (Higham, 1999). Higham (1999) found that crowding and congestion are linked to staging events that make it difficult for residents to get involved. Displacements, evictions, increased cost of rent and property, and the disruption of residents' daily lives are caused by crowding, security issues and construction (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Higham, 1999; Jones, 2001). Other negative impacts include a negative influence on traditional family values (Kousis, 1989), cultural commercialization (Cohen, 1988), and conflicts between residents and tourists because of different standards of living, economic welfare and purchasing power gaps (Tosun, 2002). Furthermore, Kim, Gursoy, and Lee (2006) found that hosting a mega-event may be perceived by residents as having a negative impact on the physical and natural environment, causing problems such as pollution and the deterioration of natural, cultural and historical property. Refer to the research by Solberg and Preuss (2007) for a summary of the potential positive and negative impacts of hosting a mega-event.

Overall the literature indicates that the residents' perceptions of the impacts associated with hosting a mega-event vary. Some residents may perceive the impacts they experience as being both positive and negative; others feel that impacts are strictly negative; also others may perceive that impacts are only positive (Kim et al., 2006). The reason for these varying perceptions is because individuals interpret impacts differently. Regardless of how residents perceive the impacts of hosting an event, their support is essential for the success of the event, and as Deccio and Baloglu (2002) suggested, residents who experience positive impacts tend to support the event as well as hosting future events.

Review of the literature indicates that local communities tend to either be doubtful or hostile towards sport tourism developments (Getz, 2005). However, some research (Bull &

Lovell, 2007) suggests that local communities either experience little to no inconvenience or tolerate the inconvenience of hosting an event because of the expected benefits. Fredline (2005), utilizing social exchange theory, suggested that if positive impacts are accurately communicated to residents and a perceived positive impact is experienced, the event will be considered a success and support for future events will be provided. Event impact studies have focused mainly on the economic and social benefits, however there is a need to examine how impacts influence residents personal and community quality of life. Depending on a person's experience, impacts might be interpreted as positive or negative. The need for studying impacts as it relates to quality of life increases the likelihood of identifying factors that predict resident support for hosting an event, tourism development and helping policymakers improve the quality of life for the host community (Chen, 2001). Not examining residents' perceptions and opinions or disregarding them can have economic and social ramifications according to Pearce (1998). These include delayed construction of tourism development from resident protests, loss of support for tourism development officials, an unwillingness to work in the industry or volunteer for the event, and a lack of enthusiasm affecting the atmosphere of the event (Pearce, 1998).

Studies Examining Residents' Attitudes Using SEM

Studies that examine factors that have an influence on residents' attitudes with regards to tourism development should be integrated into models in order to explain the interrelationships between factors (Faulkner & Tideswell, 1997; Lankford & Howard, 1994). Social exchange theory has been used by researchers in order to examine residents' attitudes towards tourism development utilizing structural equation modeling (Vargas-Sanchez, Porras-Bueno, & Plaza-Mejıa, 2011). There have been fourteen published research studies reviewed by Vargas-Sanchez et al., (2011) that examine resident attitudes through structural equation modeling. This is important as it shows the relationship between impacts and support for tourism development or

support for events. As it can be identified, the quality of life construct has not been included in these models and impacts examined mainly focus on the triple bottom line approach (economic, socio-cultural and environmental impacts).

Research has identified that residents experience a personal benefit from tourism development when benefits are perceived to exceed costs (Ko & Stewart, 2002; McGehee & Andereck, 2004; Perdue et al., 1990; Vargas-Sanchez, Plaza-Mejia, & Porras-Bueno, 2009; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2011). These studies found that residents who experienced personal benefits from tourism development perceived more strongly the positive impacts of tourism instead of negative impacts. Furthermore, residents that experienced positive impacts from tourism development were more supportive of further tourism development (Harill 2004; Ko & Stewart 2002; McGehee & Andereck 2004; Perdue et al., 1990; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2009; 2011). Vargas-Sanchez et al., (2011) also found that the personal benefits also led to residents having a positive perception towards tourists (in terms of respect).

Residents who perceive that "in general, the benefits derived from tourism exceed the costs" (Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2011, p. 470) have been found to positively correlate with "overall satisfaction with the community" (Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2011, p. 470) (overall satisfaction with community was derived from seven dimensions: public services, economic, environment, medical services, citizen involvement, formal education and recreation services and opportunities) (Ko & Stewart, 2002; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2009; 2011). Ko and Stewart (2002) found a positive link between perceived resident benefits from tourism and residents' community satisfaction, and the opposite was found in relation to perceptions of costs. Other studies have found that resident attitude supporting additional tourism is influenced by the perception that there are more tourism related benefits than costs (Dyer, Gursoy, Sharma, & Carter, 2007;

Gursoy et al., 2002; Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004; Ko & Stewart, 2002; Perdue et al., 1990; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2009; Yoon, Gursoy, & Chen, 2001). Also, residents' perceptions of tourist behavior (in terms of respect) were found to have a positive relationship with the perception of benefits exceeding the costs from tourism (Vargas-Sanchez, 2011), and resident attitudes towards additional tourism development (Sirakaya, Teye, & So"nmez, 2002; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2011).

Recently, some studies have focused on how the density (the amount of tourists in an area) affects resident attitudes towards additional tourism development. Faulkner and Tideswell (1997) found a negative relationship, while Bujosa-Bestard and Rosello-Nadal (2007) and Vargas-Sanchez et al., (2011) found that residents held a more supportive attitude towards tourism development when there was a greater density of tourists. However, there have been studies that have suggested residents' community satisfaction is negatively influenced by the density of tourists (Gursoy et al., 2002; Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004; Jurowski & Gursoy, 2004).

Vargas-Sanchez et al., (2011), examining residents' perceived level of tourism development found that there was a negative relationship with tourism development and perception of tourist behavior. They also found a negative relationship between perceived tourism development and resident attitude toward additional tourism development. They suggested that these results can be explained by Doxey's Irridex model. The model suggested that as a community is developed by tourism objectives, resident perceptions towards the community changes from a supportive euphoria to a negative or non-supportive attitude towards tourism (Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2011). Vargas-Sanchez et al., (2011) also found that residents' community satisfaction was correlated with resident attitudes towards additional tourism development, but Ko and Stewart (2002) found a negative relationship.

Research examining resident support for mega-events suggested that residents provide support because of the positive impacts such as tax revenues and employment opportunities, enhanced regional and international awareness, opportunities to attract investors and increased commercial activity (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006). Research has also shown that residents show concern for changes in quality of life (Deccio & Baloglu, 2002), the city's image, and social impacts such as pride (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006). However, political leaders and organizers ignore or minimize negative impacts (e.g., pollution and traffic congestion) and glorify benefits in pursuit of hosting a mega-event (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006).

Quality of Life

As Jurowski (1994) suggested, once a community becomes a tourist destination, tourism impacts will have an effect on the residents' lives and therefore resident support is important for the development, planning, successful operation and sustainability of tourism. Hence, studying resident quality of life is important to ensure that the impacts derived from hosting an event do not decrease quality of life otherwise support will not be provided by the residents.

Quality of life (QOL) has been shown to include both objective (i.e., conditions of life) and subjective (i.e. experiences of life) aspects (Osborne, 1992). Definitions of QOL suggest that it is a multidimensional concept comprised of socially and culturally related factors (e.g., life satisfaction, happiness) (Schalock et al., 2002). A definition is provided by the World Health Organization (1997) as "individuals' perception of their position in life in the context of culture and value system and in relation to their goals, expectations, standards and concerns. It is a broad ranging concept affected in a complex way by a person's physical health, psychological state, level of independence, social relationships, and their relationships of salient features or their environment" (p. 1). Quality of life, subjective well-being and personal well-being are terms utilized in the literature interchangeably (Keyes, Shmotkin, & Ryff, 2002; Ring, Ho¨ fer, McGee,

Hickey, & O'Boyle, 2007) with the term Quality of life often used to operationalize in different ways depending on the research agenda (Renn *et al.,* 2009). The Social Indicator Approach utilizes social statistics and its impacts on quality of life, and originates from Plato's "good life" idea for the use of public policy (Hagerty *et al.*, 2001). Subjective well-being evaluates quality of life by asking individuals to rate their happiness and/or satisfaction with life (Diener, 2000). Personal well-being measures quality of life through self realization, and thus well-being is defined as an individual's ability to fully function (Ryan & Deci, 2001).

The main idea behind researching the quality of life of an individual lies in the importance of measuring their cognitive and affective response to their life, and to specific domains of life (Diener, 2000). Usually this can be done by asking a single question such as "how satisfied are you with your life as a whole?" Recent research, however, indicates multiple-item indices exist that are more appropriate (Diener, 2000). In terms of domains, research indicates there are a number of different life domains with scholars agreeing on a minimum set including health, personal relationships, employment, wealth and a sense of community (Cummins, 2005).

In the current study, the quality of life construct was deconstructed to be measured using the International Well-being Index (IWI) which is comprised of the personal and national well-being scales which are subjective measures. This approach was appropriate as suggested by Hagerty et al. (2001) who created fourteen criteria in order to review twenty-two of the most popular quality of life indexes. There are two criteria that are important with regards to the domains of quality of life. First the domains in aggregate must encompass life as a whole (Hagerty et al., 2001, p. 7). For instance the domains all together represent the quality of life construct. Furthermore, the domains must cover a significant but distinct fraction of the quality of life construct (Hagerty et al., 2001, p. 7) which can be determined by examining each

domain's unique variance in the total quality of life score. Since the present study examined perceptions of how impacts from a sport event can affect community and personal quality of life, IWI created by Cummins (2006) was employed, which meets the criteria put forth by Hagerty et al., (2001) to measure quality of life. The domains are as follows: standard of living, health, achieving in life, relationships, safety, community-connectedness, future security, and spirituality/religion.

The tourism industry can serve as a catalyst in order to build infrastructure that improves a community's quality of life (Andereck, Valentine, Vogt, & Knopf, 2007). In order for residents to experience an improvement to their quality of life, improvements to community services and social opportunities need to be present (Perdue et al., 1999). As the literature above suggests, defining quality of life is difficult, although there is agreement that quality of life consists of multiple dimensions comprised of an individual's life and environment (Andereck et al., 2007).

According to Mattson (1990), in order to improve a community's quality of life, the community needs to ensure that their economic development strategies are in line with community's central character. This can be achieved through conserving their landmarks, heritage sites and the unique destination characteristics that attract tourists and businesses in the first place (Andereck et al., 2007). This strategy has been linked with tourism development initiatives for which these developments and the tourism industry have increasingly been credited with improving the quality of life for residents. This is achieved by developing and attracting festivals, restaurants, natural and cultural attractions, outdoor recreation opportunities and sporting events for which residents, the community and tourists can participate and enjoy (Andereck et al., 2007). Andereck et al., (2007, p. 485) suggested that quality of life "is improved through tourism development if a community and the residents experience an increase

in the standard of living, increased tax revenues, increased employment opportunities and economic diversity, all of which may create a positive impact on a resident's perception of quality of life". However negative impacts to quality of life must be considered, and studies suggested that negative impacts can include crowding, traffic congestion, an increase in crime, cost of living, tension between residents and tourists and a disruption in residents' everyday life (Andereck et al., 2007; Ap & Crompton, 1993; McCool & Martin, 1994).

Studying the impacts of tourism with regards to quality of life is important because it assists in examining resident attitudes and perceptions of tourism and helps identify which factors lead to resident support for tourism development (Perdue et al., 1990). Studies have found that the factors influencing quality of life are associated with tourism impacts and development are often categorized as: (1) economic, such as tax burdens, inflation and job availability; (2) socio-cultural, such as community image, the availability of festivals and museums and awareness of cultural heritage; and (3) environmental, such as crowding, air, water and noise pollution, wildlife destruction and littering (Andereck et al., 2007; Andereck & Vogt, 2000; McGehee & Andereck, 2004). Other tourism studies that have measured perceptions of quality of life impacts have looked at the net economic gain, minimal impacts to everyday life, having recreation infrastructures in place, beautiful environments, positive interactions between residents and tourists, an understanding and tolerance for community/culture and inclusion of local residents in the decision making process (Andereck et al., 2007; Lindberg & Johnson, 1997). Furthermore, Liu and Var's (1986) study found that residents' perceived impacts were associated with economic, socio-cultural and environmental impacts, with residents indicating that it was economic and cultural impacts which provided benefits to the community, while the social and environmental costs were not seen as negative impacts of tourism. Andereck et al.,

(2007) found that residents rated importance of tourism impacts in relation to quality of life higher than satisfaction evaluations, in which residents were not satisfied with negative tourism impacts such as 'tax revenues' and 'enough good jobs for residents', and the socio-cultural variable of 'public transportation'. Overall, residents believed that tourism impacts on the community were modest. Andereck et al., (2007, p. 498) study indicated that residents felt that tourism should increase their quality of life, and confirms the notion that quality of life is "essential for residents satisfaction with their community, personal lives, activities and environment." Furthermore, the study found that residents attribute tourism impacts on quality of life in supporting tourism development and that these developments have both positive and negative impacts on quality of life (Andereck et al., 2007, p. 498).

In a recent study, Karadakis and Kaplanidou (2012) examined what legacies are important for host and non-host residents' quality of life and whether they perform up to expectations at the Vancouver Olympic Games. Results from the importance of legacies, as they relate to quality of life indicated that there was no significant difference between host and non-host residents. Respondents indicated that environmental/infrastructure legacies were the most important aspect, as they pertain to quality of life. Andereck et al., (2007) findings support these results in which the environmental category was reported to be very important for quality of life. It is important to note that for Vancouver (host residents), economic legacies were the second most important legacy and socio-cultural legacies were the second most important legacy for non-host residents (Ottawa). Post-event, non-host city participants indicated that psychological legacies were the second most important legacy. The economic aspects were deemed important for the residents' quality of life and these results are in line with the research of Andereck et al., (2007) who found that economic variables were rated most important, followed by socio-cultural variables. In the

Karadakis & Kaplanidou (2012) study and with respect to the importance characteristics (as they relate to overall quality of life), the residents indicated that economic, environmental/infrastructure, and socio-cultural legacies were the most important, however Ottawa residents also indicated the importance of psychological legacies. With regards to performance evaluations related to quality of life, residents indicated that tourism legacies met expectations, a finding supported also by McGehee and Andereck (2004), who suggested tourism improved quality of life. As for the performance of the economic legacies, results from this study were similar to Andereck et al., (2007), where residents felt that the performance of the economic legacies was below expectations. Karadakis and Kaplanidou (2012) reported that during, and post-event, the socio-cultural and psychological legacies met expectations. Furthermore, residents indicated that psychological legacies met expectations, and that performance scores for the psychological legacies increased from the during to post-event stages, which is in line with results from Kim et al., (2006) who found an increase in psychological impacts post-World Cup. With regards to tourism, this study corroborates findings of previous research that suggested hosting the Olympic Games provides the host city an opportunity to showcase its tourist attractions and infrastructure generated, alluding to the improvement in residents' quality of life because of such changes (Chalip, 2002; McGehee & Andereck, 2004; Owen, 2005; Whitson & Horne, 2006).

Andereck and Nyaupane (2011) developed a QOL measure based on the subjective approach in order to measure how tourism impacts affect residents' life satisfaction. The idea behind this measure is that if a resident feels that an impact from tourism is important to them, then the resident will attribute a meaning of whether or not the impact is positive or negative. For example, an individual may attribute tourism as being the cause for more festivals and fairs in

the community. Having more festivals and fairs will positively impact that person's QOL only if they feel that having such events is important, and that there are not enough of them in the community (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011). Some of the results from this study are supported by similar studies, focusing on positive and negative impacts that included items such as more jobs, better shopping, more recreation opportunities, and more crime and traffic (Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Dyer et al., 2007; Perdue et al., 1990). However, some of the quality of life related factors included items such as cultural exchange, better public services, and more parks (Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Liu, Sheldon, Var, 1987; Sirakaya et al., 2002). The difference in the Andereck and Nyaupane (2011) study from others was the domains they developed such as urban issues, community well-being, economic strength, and community pride differed with respect to specificity (using focused items related to variables instead of variables that are general in nature with more items) (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011). According to the authors, the domains allow for a better understanding of how tourism impacts affect residents' quality of life. Andereck and Nyaupane (2011) found that residents had a more positive attitude towards tourism with respect to the availability of recreation amenities and feelings of community pride. Residents also indicated that tourism had a positive impact on the economy, preserving facilities of natural and cultural resources, enhanced community well-being and had an overall beneficial impact on the community's way of life (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011, p. 258). However the residents did identify some negative impacts to their quality of life as a result of tourism, and this was an increase in crime and urban issues. This study also found that personal benefit from tourism mediated the effect of the economic aspects of quality of life, contact with tourists and employment in tourism on the perceptions of the role of tourism in the local economy (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011).

Kim (2002) examined the relationship between tourism impacts (economic, social, cultural, and environmental) and quality of life using quality of life domains such as: material well-being, community well-being, emotional well-being, and health and safety well-being. The stage of tourism development was also examined as a moderating variable between the impacts and quality of life domains, although there was no moderating effect found. Kim (2002) did find that economic impacts had a positive effect on material well-being; social impacts had a positive effect on community well-being; cultural impacts had a positive effect on emotional well-being; and environmental impacts had a positive effect on emotional well-being.

Emptaz-Collomb (2009) examined the relationship between tourism, human well-being and conservation in rural Africa by creating a multidimensional quality of life index that included both subjective and objective measures of health, wealth, education, economic, social, infrastructural and political life. It is important to note that the index was developed specifically for the study site and therefore, the results should be interpreted accordingly. Emptaz-Collomb (2009) did not find any difference in perceived quality of life between communities that had tourism and those that did not. However, findings did show that for tourism communities, quality of life was affected differently by tourism impacts at the community and personal level, and therefore should be explored.

In a study examining resident perceptions of tourism impacts, quality of life and support for tourism, Meyer (2011) found that there was a positive relationship between perceived impacts and tourism support. Meyer (2011) also examined how impacts affect community quality of life and personal quality of life and if quality of life mediates the relationship between impacts and support. Specifically, Meyer (2011) reported that community and personal quality of life were affected by different tourism impacts. Community quality of life was found to be

influenced by institutional structure and socio-cultural impacts, while personal quality of life was influenced by economic and environmental impacts. Furthermore, quality of life did not mediate the relationship between the impacts and support.

As can be seen by the literature review, there are few studies that measured how tourism and hosting a sport event impacts residents' community and personal quality of life. Andereck and Nyaupane (2011) examined how tourism influences a community's quality of life and, Karadakis and Kaplanidou (2012) identified which legacy impacts are important for residents' quality of life and whether they performed up to expectations. Kim (2002) and Emptaz-Collomb (2009) both examined the relationship between tourism impacts on quality of life domains, while Meyer (2011) examined the mediating role of quality of life and sustainable tourism impacts on resident support. There is still a lack of literature that examines how hosting a sport event impacts both resident personal quality of life and the community's quality of life and furthermore, the relationship between impacts and quality of life and residents support for hosting a sporting event.

Measurement of Quality of Life

Measuring quality of life within domains as mentioned earlier can be achieved through subjective or objective indicators (Samli, 1995). Objective indicators are 'hard' measured free from subjective evaluations such as standard of living, physical health status, and personal income (Diener & Suh, 1997). The advantage of using objective indicators is that they can be easily defined and quantified and do not rely heavily on individual perceptions (Diener & Suh, 1997). Another advantage of the objective approach is that you can use various life domains to measure quality of life that are not reflected in economic terms (Diener & Suh, 1997). The problem with relying on objective indicators is that when a person is asked to evaluate their quality of life, there is a subjective component that comes into their evaluation. Their assessment

uses personal feelings and perceptions about their environment (Dissart & Deller, 2000). The subjective indicators are mainly based on psychological responses, such as life satisfaction, job satisfaction, and personal happiness (Davidson & Cotter, 1991; Diener & Suh, 1997). Using a subjective indicator provides researchers with the advantage of examining experiences and perceptions that are important to the individual. Furthermore, by measuring an individual's perception of quality of life on common dimensions and scales such as degree of satisfaction, comparisons across domains such as impacts of an event can be objectively measured (Kim, 2002). In arguing for the use of domains, Cummins et al., (2003, p. 164) suggested that

> While the classic life as a whole question is useful as an estimate of the homeostatic set point, due to its high level of abstraction it cannot provide information about the components of life that also contribute, positively or negatively, to this sense of wellbeing. In order to approach such information, questions need to be directed at satisfaction with life domains.

The International Well-being Index (IWI) is an instrument that uses the domain approach and consists of two scales: the Personal Well-being Index and the National Well-being Index (NWI) (Cummins, 2006). In researching life satisfaction domains to be measured, Cummins (1997) reviewed 32 studies and found 173 terms that were used to illustrate domains of life satisfaction. Cummins further synthesized the results within seven domains: material well-being, health, productivity, intimacy, safety, community well-being, and emotional well-being. Cummins used these domains to create the Comprehensive Quality of life scale; however in 2001 it was abandoned (Cummins, 2006). Problems that were identified in the scale were as follows: 'spiritual or religious well-being' was not included as a domain; the domain of 'happiness' did not act in the same manner as other domains. That is, it could not be objectively and subjectively operationalized because it is referred to as an affective state not a domain of life satisfaction (Cummins, 2002). From this scale the Personal Wellbeing Index (PWI) was developed, which was made up of the six original domains (Cummins, 2006). The PWI scale is comprised of the

following domains: standard of living, health, achieving in life, relationships, safety, community-connectedness, future security and spirituality/religion. The International Wellbeing Group suggested that these eight domains represent the holistic question of 'How satisfied are you with your life as a whole?'. Other changes to the scale were the replacement of the 7-point Likert scale with an 11-point (0-10) End-Defined Response Scale (Jones & Thurstone, 1955). The reason behind this change in scales was to avoid "the psychometric confusion caused by applying adjectival descriptors to a numerically interval scale. Such descriptors are not separated by equal psychometric intervals and therefore provide misleading and redundant information. Additionally, the 11-point (0-10) choice is preferred as this optimizes respondent discriminative capacity and is simple to understand" (Cummins, 2006, p. 7).

The current study measured quality of life from the community and personal perspectives. As mentioned above, the IWI uses two scales to measure quality of life, the PWI for personal quality of life and the NWI for community quality of life. Furthermore, since the IWI scale was developed to measure satisfaction with domains representing quality of life as a whole from an individual's subjective view, for the purposes of this study a subjective approach was utilized. Using a subjective approach was appropriate for this study because respondents are being asked to evaluate their levels of satisfaction with regards to impacts of a sport event on their quality of life. As Dissart and Deller (2000) indicated when examining perceptions and asking people to rate their satisfaction levels there is a subjective component that is present during the evaluation of the individuals' experiences. Since respondents will be asked to evaluate their satisfaction and importance of various impacts as they relate to their quality of life of hosting a small-scale sport event, it is the experience of the event that they are evaluating, and thus a subjective approach will be utilized by the respondents.

Summary

In summary, the results from several of the studies mentioned above indicate that if residents perceive an overall positive impact, then they will have a positive attitude towards tourism development (Dyer et al., 2007; Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Gursoy et al., 2002; Ko & Stewart, 2002) and that a negative attitude will develop if residents experience an overall negative impact (Dyer et al., 2007; Ko & Stewart 2002; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2009; Yoon et al., 2001). These results coincide with social exchange theory that has as its main premise that as long as residents feel that they are benefiting throughout the exchange of resident-tourist interactions, then they will continue to support and engage in that behavior. The studies mentioned above indicate that if residents perceive overall personal benefits resulting from hosting an event in the community and are satisfied with the community, they will have a favorable attitude towards additional tourism development and the hosting of future events. Therefore the model in this study proposed that support for hosting an event is predicted by the perceived impacts experienced by residents, individual and community quality of life. The items used to operationalize the constructs include economic, tourism, environmental, socio-cultural, psychological, knowledge development, infrastructure and political impacts. Based on findings from previous studies, and in support of social exchange theory, residents are inclined to support the hosting of a sport event if they perceive to experience more benefits than costs (Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004).

Review of the literature shows that there are few studies that have considered the impact of a small-scale sport event on quality of life; instead they have examined resident attitudes and perceptions towards expected impacts. The difference between quality of life and attitudes/impact studies is mainly measurement as stated in the words of Andereck et al., (2007, p. 485)

> attitude/impact studies largely focus on the way in which tourism is perceived to effect the communities and the environment, whereas quality of life studies are typically concerned with the way these impacts affect individual or family life satisfaction, including satisfaction with community, neighborhoods and personal satisfaction.

Review of the literature showed that attitude/impact studies, tend to ask respondents to indicate their level of agreement or disagreement with statements dealing with impacts on their community "without specific questions linking these impacts with influences on individual's quality of life" (Andereck et al., 2007, p. 485).

The purpose of this study was to identify the relative weight and influence of the impacts that are identified in the literature within the small-scale sport event context on community quality of life, personal quality of life and resident support towards hosting sport tourism events. This study examined the relationship between quality of life and the effect impacts have on resident support for the hosting of a small-scale sport event. The IWI scale which is considered a subjective measurement of quality of life was utilized. The IWI scale is subjective since evaluations are "based on an individual's perceptions; relative in that respondents compare the existing circumstance to their ideal standard; and specific because respondents evaluate specific characteristics of their communities" (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011, p. 250). In keeping with the ideas of social exchange theory this study utilized the idea of value (importance) and evaluation/satisfaction in asking residents to evaluate the importance and satisfaction of impacts residents perceive to experience from hosting a small-scale sport event. Furthermore, this study tested the relationship between quality of life and resident support for hosting future events in the community. As social exchange theory suggests, if individuals feel that quality of life as a whole is improved as a result of the impacts from hosting a small-scale sport event, then support for hosting future events will be provided.

The following hypotheses and model were proposed and tested in this study:

- H1 (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h). There is a direct positive relationship between perceived (economic, environmental, psychological, infrastructure, knowledge development, socio-cultural, political, tourism) impacts and resident support for hosting a sport event.

- H2 (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h). There is a direct positive relationship between perceived (economic, environmental, psychological, infrastructure, knowledge development, socio-cultural, political, tourism) impacts and community quality of life.

- H3(a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h). There is a direct positive relationship between perceived (economic, environmental, psychological, infrastructure, knowledge development, socio-cultural, political, tourism) impacts and personal quality of life.

- H4. There is a direct positive relationship between community quality of life and resident support for hosting a sport event.

- H5. There is a direct positive relationship between personal quality of life and resident support for hosting a sport event

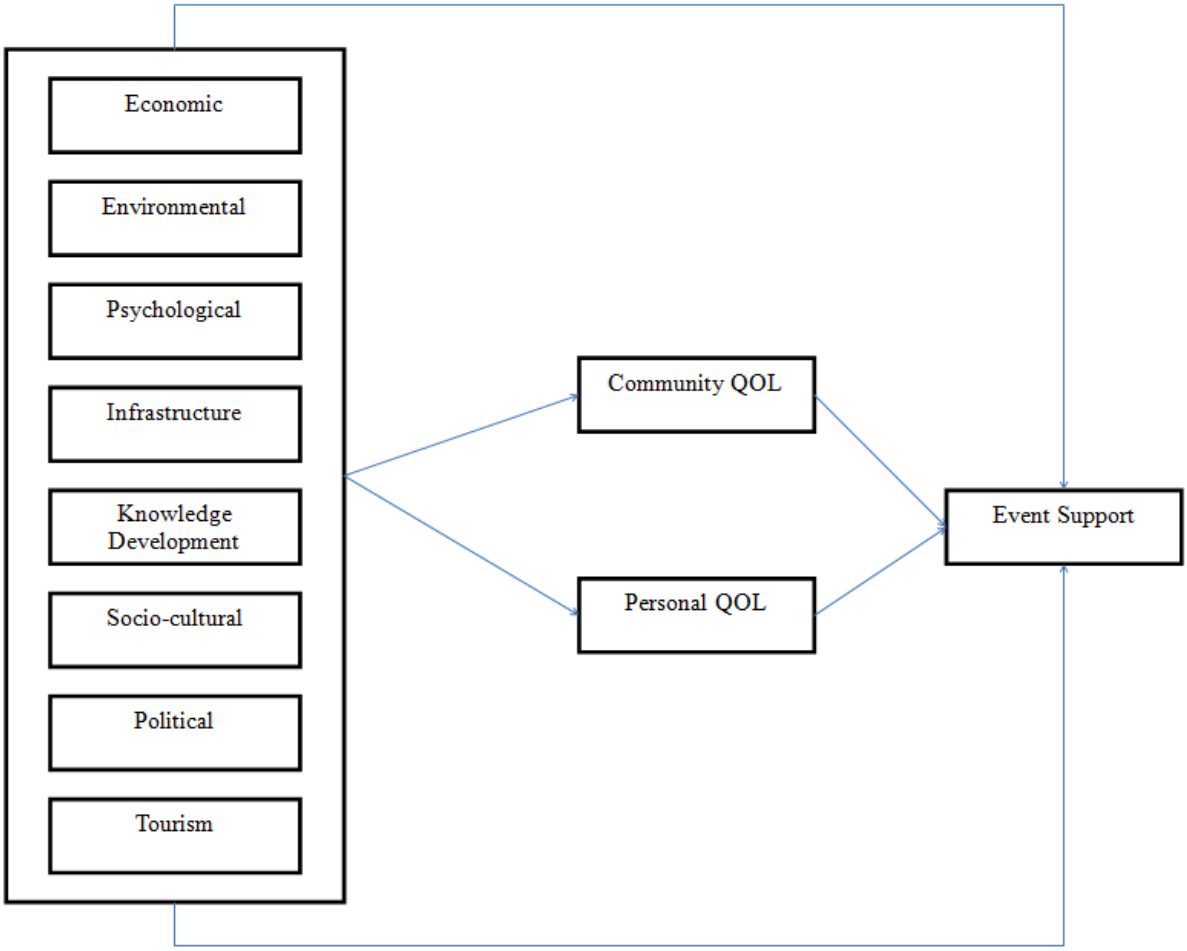


Figure 2-1. Proposed model for resident support for hosting a small-scale sport event

CHAPTER 3
METHOD

The purpose of this study was to identify the relative weight and influence of the impacts that are identified in the literature within the small-scale sport event context on community quality of life, personal quality of life and resident support towards hosting sport tourism events. This study examined the relationship between quality of life and the effect impacts have on resident support for the hosting of a small-scale sport event. The method section will discuss the pilot study and changes made to the instrument; an overview of the study participants; measures used in the study; how the data was collected and analyzed; how the measurement model was tested; and how the structural model was tested.

Pilot Study

Since the items for the current study were adapted from previous studies in order to develop the final survey instrument, it was necessary to conduct a pilot study to determine the validity of the items. A convenience sample was used as it has been suggested by Bernard (2000, p. 178) that "it is useful for exploratory research, to get a feel for what's going on out there, and for pretesting questionnaires to make sure that the items are unambiguous and not to threatening." Participants for the pilot study were intercepted at two small-scale events held in Gainesville, FL (an archery tournament and a marathon race). Spectators at each site were intercepted and requested to complete the survey. Spectators were given a brief explanation of the purpose of the study and were assured that responses would be completely anonymous and confidential. The survey took an average of 20 to 25 minutes with a total of 20 completed questionnaires collected. Data from the surveys were inputted and analyzed using SPSS.

A professor from the department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport Management (TRSM) at the University of Florida and I reviewed the results from the pilot study and assessed the

content adequacy of the items. The initial structure of the items used in the study were adapted by the work of Ko and Stewart (2002); McGehee and Andereck (2004); Oviedo-Garcia et al (2008); Yoon, Gursoy and Chen (2001); and Solberg and Preuss (2007). Edits and improvements were made in order to ensure that the items were clear, readable and were adequate for the content. Items were modified or dropped based on suggestions from the professor to ensure face validity and due to poor inter-item correlations. Specific changes made to the instrument include classifying Environmental and Infrastructure impacts separately as well as classifying Political and Knowledge Development impacts separately. Before these changes were made Environmental and Infrastructure impacts were classified together, as well as Political and Knowledge development impacts (based on the work by Solberg and Preuss, 2007). Table 3-1 below indicates which items were dropped, modified and added from the original instrument. The original instrument consisted of 48 items to measure Economic, Environmental, Psychological, Socio-cultural, Political and Tourism impacts. The final instrument consisted of 32 items to measure Economic, Environmental, Psychological, Infrastructure, Knowledge Development, Socio-cultural, Political and Tourism Impacts. The final instrument for the impact items can be found in table 3-2.

Study Participants

Participants for this study included spectators of two youth soccer events in Florida. The Florida Youth Soccer association (FYSA) has more than 100,000 registered players and is regarded as one of the leaders in youth sports organizations in the state of Florida (FYSA, 2012). Furthermore, the FYSA hosted approximately 50 soccer events in Florida during 2011. I travelled with a research team consisting of graduate students in TRSM to two events (Auburndale and Palm Bay, Florida) the weekends of October 15th and November 20th, 2011 to collect data. These two events were selected because of the size of the events in terms of

spectators, participants and teams attending. Specifically, parents, family and friends of players attended these events and the teams registered for the tournaments were comprised of U9-U19 boys and girls. The two soccer tournaments had 21 and 93 registered teams respectively, and both tournaments were in their 4th year of operation. It was determined that these events would be attended to ensure enough surveys could be collected. Spectators were asked to answer the questionnaire with regards to having hosted a small-scale sport event in their community. Targeting spectators at these events was the appropriate theoretical population because as the literature suggests, spectators attending an event in person have the opportunity to become 'vicarious' participants (Weed, 2007). Furthermore, Weed (2007) goes on to suggest that being present at the sport event provides spectators "the immediate pleasure and excitement of witnessing live events, a further motivation for live presence is the retrospective recall of the event" (p. 406). By being present and experiencing the sport event, spectators can recount to peers stories and experiences. These stories and experiences have been suggested to being a key part of the sport spectator experience and related to the importance of retelling of the event experiences and enhancing the event experience (Urry, 2002; Weed, 2007). Therefore, spectators were deemed the appropriate theoretical population as Weed (2007, p. 407) indicated

> It would appear, therefore, that the two key features of the sport spectating experience are, firstly, a desire to experience physical proximity to the live event, and secondly, a desire to have an experience that can be re-told to others after the event.

Furthermore, spectators at the two small-scale events were appropriate for this study as they are the individuals that would be most affected and be aware of small-scale sports events being hosted in their community. Therefore, for this purpose, the theoretical population for the study was the spectators attending a small-scale sport event. These individuals are the ones most interested in the event and are the consumers of the event (and related impacts such as developed

infrastructure). Other residents may not be consumers and although they may be affected by the hosting and sport related developments for a small-scale sport event they may not be aware of them since they do not attend these events. Mailing out surveys to residents for the study was not used because of the potential for response bias which is prevalent in mail/internet surveys, non-response due to length/complexity of the survey or participants' interest in the topic, and there is no way of knowing who or how many people answer the survey or the order in which questions are answered (Czaja & Blair, 2005). Furthermore, since the study was exploratory in nature, and aimed to examine the perceptions of those having attended an event in their community, ensuring the quality of responses was necessary. To ensure the quality of responses, intercept surveys were used since an interviewer was present to explain any questions so that respondents did not misinterpret or skip questions (Czaja & Blair, 2005).

Measures

Participants were given a questionnaire in which they were asked to provide their perceptions about the impact of these types of events for their community. Participants provided demographic data and responded to items used to measure economic, tourism, environmental, socio-cultural, psychological, political, infrastructure, knowledge development impacts, community quality of life, personal quality of life and support for hosting future events in their community. The development of all measures were heavily influenced and at times adapted by the work of Ko and Stewart (2002); McGehee and Andereck (2004); Oviedo-Garcia et al (2008); Yoon, Gursoy and Chen (2001); and Solberg and Preuss (2007). Community and personal quality of life were measured using the IWI scale developed by Cummins (2006). This scale was appropriate for the current study based on Cummins' (2003) argument that domains are appropriate as they allow for the examination of the factors that positively or negatively influence perceived quality of life. The subjective indicators are mainly based on psychological

responses, such as life satisfaction, job satisfaction, and personal happiness (Davidson & Cotter, 1991; Diener & Suh, 1997). Using a subjective indicator provides researchers with the advantage of examining experiences and perceptions that are important to the individual. Furthermore, by measuring an individual's perception of quality of life on common dimensions and scales such as degree of satisfaction, comparisons across domains such as impacts of an event can be measured (Kim, 2002). Refer to Appendix A for detailed description of the constructs and items used in the instrument.

For economic, socio-cultural, environmental, tourism, psychological, political, infrastructure, knowledge development impacts participants were asked to rate the level of importance and their level of satisfaction with impact outcomes as they relate to hosting a sport event in their home community. Importance and Satisfaction levels were measured on a five point Likert-scale. Importance questions were anchored from 1= unimportant to 5= very important. Satisfaction questions were anchored 1= very dissatisfied to 5= very satisfied. A box for respondents to check N/A (not related/applicable to the event) was included for respondents that felt the item being asked to evaluate in terms of satisfaction did not relate or was applicable to them.

Taking the results of the pilot test into consideration, Economic impacts were measured using six items adapted by Ko and Stewart (2002); McGehee and Andereck (2004); Yoon, Gursoy and Chen (2001).

Socio-cultural Impacts. Socio-cultural impacts were measured using four items adapted by Ko and Stewart (2002); Yoon, Gursoy and Chen (2001).

Environmental Impacts. Environmental impacts were measured using three items adapted by Ko and Stewart (2002) and Oveido-Garcia et al (2008).

Tourism Impacts. Tourism impacts were measured using five items created from Preuss and Solberg (2006).

Psychological Impacts. Psychological impacts were measured using four items created from Preuss and Solberg (2006).

Political Impacts. Political impacts were measured using three items created from Preuss and Solberg (2006).

Infrastructure Impacts. Infrastructure impacts were measured using four items adapted from Ko and Stewart (2002); Oviedo-Garcia et al (2008) and created by Preuss and Solberg (2006). These items (creation of parks and leisure areas for local residents; quality of police and fire department services; improvement of sport infrastructures; and improvement of public infrastructure) were separated from environmental impacts as a result of the pilot study and discussions by a professor in TRSM and me.

Knowledge Development Impacts. Knowledge Development impacts were measured using three items created from Preuss and Solberg (2006). These items (acquirement of experience in hosting sport events as a person; volunteering opportunities for these sport events; and acquirement of experience in hosting sport events as a community) were separated from political impacts as a result of the pilot study and discussions by a professor in TRSM and me.

For community and personal quality of life participants were asked to indicate how satisfied they are with statements dealing with community quality of life on an 11- point scale anchored with 0=completely dissatisfied and 10=completely satisfied.

Community Quality of Life. Community quality of life was measured using six items adapted by Cummins (2006).

Personal Quality of Life. Personal quality of life was measured using eight items adapted by Cummins (2006).

Support for hosting future events. Support for hosting future events was measured using ten items, the first eight were adapted by McGehee and Andereck (2004) and two items asking overall support. Participants were asked to indicate whether they strongly disagree or strongly agree on a five point Likert-scale.

Data Collection

Spectators at two youth soccer tournaments held in Auburndale and Palm Bay, Florida were intercepted and asked to complete a self-administered survey questionnaire. Spectators were given a brief explanation of the purpose of the study and were assured that responses would be completely anonymous and confidential. The survey took an average of 15 to 20 minutes to complete. A total of 670 individuals were approached, with 482 surveys collected, of which 414 were completed yielding a 76.4% response rate.

Sample

This study aimed to test the perceptions of spectators hosting a sport event in their community. The population for this study were spectators from two youth soccer events who were at least 18 years of age or older and were aware that their community had hosted a sport event in the last 24 months. Respondents were asked how many miles they had travelled to attend the event? And, how many events such as the one they were attending today had they been to in the past 24 months. It was explained to the respondents as well as in the directions for the questionnaire that respondents should answer questions with regards to their experiences of having hosted an event in their home community. A total of 482 surveys were collected (245 from Palm Bay, Florida and 237 from Auburndale, Florida).

Sample Size

When it comes to utilizing SEM, a sufficient sample size is always an area of discussion (Kline, 2011). Generally, there is agreement that 10 participants are needed for every parameter estimated (Hoe, 2008), while other research suggests an acceptable ratio can be 5 participants per variable (Bentler, 1985). However, there is no consensus on how large a sample size should be when using SEM (Kline, 2011), Garver and Mentzer (1999), Hoelter (1983) and Kline (2011) suggested that a 'critical sample size' of 200. Therefore the understanding is that samples above 200 will provide acceptable statistical power for data analysis (Hoe, 2008). This sample size aids in ensuring that there would not be an inflated goodness of fit indices calculated because of a small sample size (Anderson & Gerbing, 1988). The target usable sample size for this study was 386 and a maximum sample size of 540 (10 x 54 = 540). A total of 482 surveys were collected, 414 which were completed. Since the purpose of the study was to test the proposed model, respondents indicating that an impact was not applicable or not related to the event were excluded. Consequently, 362 surveys were used in the analysis, satisfying the critical sample size of 200, and the acceptable ratio of 5 participants per variable (5 x 54 = 270).

Data Analysis

Prior to conducting any analysis, an independent sample t-test for all the variables to ensure no significant differences were found with regards to participants' responses was conducted. No differences were found between the two samples with regards to their responses. For the proposed model being tested a new variable was calculated for each of the impact categories for the importance and satisfaction evaluations. Prior to creating the new variable a factor analysis was conducted for the impact factors (economic, socio-cultural, environmental, tourism, psychological, political, infrastructure and knowledge development), and then the mean score for each factor for importance and satisfaction ratings was calculated. Then the new

variable was created for each impact category by adding the mean score for the importance and the mean score for the satisfaction category items. The new variable was created in order to account for variability in the importance and satisfaction measures and to provide an overall score of respondents' perceptions. Importance and satisfaction evaluations were chosen because social exchange theory posits that for an individual to evaluate the satisfaction of an interaction the item being evaluated must have some importance to both parties involved in the interaction (Andriotis & Vaughan, 2003; Sutton, 1967). The score for these items ranged from 2 to 10 as they were derived from both importance and evaluation scores. Overall scores from 2-4 indicate low importance and satisfaction levels; 5-7 medium importance and satisfaction levels; and, 8-10 high importance and satisfaction levels.

Measurement Model Test

The proposed model and the hypothesized paths were analyzed using structural equation modeling (SEM). The fit of the measurement model and the structural model was analyzed using Mplus 6 analysis package. "SEM requires you to provide a lot of information about things such as which variables are assumed to affect other variables and the directionalities of these effects. These a priori specifications reflect your hypotheses, and in total they make up the model to be analyzed. In this sense, SEM can be viewed as confirmatory. That is your model is a given at the start of the analysis, and one of the main questions to be answered is whether it is supported by the data" (Kline, 2011, p. 8). The structural equation modeling process was carried out using a two-step process recommended by Anderson and Gerbing (1988). In the first step, the proposed structural model was evaluated using confirmatory factor analysis. The second step involved evaluating the structural model by examining the hypothesized paths between the constructs.

Since the instrument used in the study classified the impact items a priori based on the literature into eight impact categories it was necessary to examine their internal consistency and

reliability. Coefficient alpha was estimated in order to provide evidence of internal consistency and reliability for each of the Impact categories (Economic, Environment, Infrastructure, Psychological, Socio-cultural, Knowledge development, Political, and Tourism), Community quality of life, Personal quality of life and Support categories. Evidence of internal consistency and reliability is provided by Cronbach's alpha [Nunnally's (1978) recommended level of .70]. Cronbach's alpha values met this cutoff value for the majority of the categories, as can be seen in Table 3-3 with the exception of the Socio-cultural importance category (a=.60), and Knowledge Development satisfaction category (a=.68) which did not meet the alpha value cutoff. The Socio-cultural and Knowledge Development categories were kept because they are conceptually consistent, their respective alpha scores for Socio-cultural satisfaction (a=.73) Knowledge Development importance (a=.77) were above the acceptable cut-off and due to the exploratory nature for the study, which deems this alpha value acceptable (Nunnally, 1978).

Furthermore, the proposed model was tested using a new variable that was calculated for each of the impact categories for the importance and satisfaction evaluations. As mentioned above, the new variable was created for each impact category by adding the mean score for the importance and the mean score for the satisfaction category items. Again, internal consistency and reliability were estimated for the new variable for each impact which showed to be internally consistent and reliable with all impact categories scoring above the recommended cut-off score ranging from .75 to .93 respectively. Table 3-4 below shows the results in more detail.

Normality of distribution of the data was conducted by examining the skewness and kurtosis of the data. According to Hair et al., (1998) data with skewness values ± 2.58 indicate rejecting the normality assumption at the 0.01 probability level, and ± 1.96 at the 0.05 level. None of the values were above or below these cut-off values suggesting the variables of the

study are free from skewness. For kurtosis the cut-off values are in ±2.56 range. Again none of the variables exceeded or fell below these values suggesting that kurtosis was not an issue with the data.

As suggested by Anderson and Gerbing's (1988) two-step modeling, the proposed measurement model was tested with confirmatory factor analysis. Before testing the model, the unidimensionality of each construct was examined (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006). This is done in order to confirm that alternate indicators had only one construct in common (Sethi & King, 1994). All constructs were found to be unidimensional. Table 3-4 below represents the results in more detail.

The results from the CFA indicated that the measurement model met the recommended thresholds thus indicating reasonable model fit. The value of the χ^2/df ratio (2949.53/1270=2.32) was lower than the recommended threshold (< 3.0)(Bollen, 1989; Kline, 2005). The root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA) was .06 which meets the minimum criteria of acceptable fit (i.e., equal to, or below .06) (Hu & Bentler, 1999). The comparative fit index (CFI; .91) and the Tucker-Lewis index (TLI; .90) exceeded or met the minimum recommended threshold of .90 (see table 3-5).

The item loadings from the model ranged from .62 to .76 for Economic impacts; .78 to .81 for Environmental impacts; .62 to .83 for Psychological impacts; .70 to .79 for Infrastructure impacts; .66 to .85 for Knowledge impacts; .67 to .71 for Socio-cultural impacts; .79 to .83 for Political impacts; .78 to .83 for Tourism impacts; .68 to .86 for Community Quality of Life; .60 to .91 for Personal Quality of life; and, .83 to .90 for Support. Table 3-6 presents the results of the measurement model, including the standardized factor loadings, construct reliabilities (CR) and the average of variance extracted (AVE) for each of the constructs. The loading factors for

the indicators for the constructs were significant at the .05 significance level and either met or exceeded the suggested value of .60 (Kline, 2005). Model reliability was examined by computing construct reliability and Cronbach's alpha. For the factors, values of CR and Cronbach's alpha ranged from .78 to .96 and .75 to .93, respectively, which were all above the .70 threshold (Fornell & Larcker, 1981; Nunnally & Bernstein, 1994). As for the AVE for each of the latent variables estimates were above the .50 threshold with the exception of the "economic" and "socio-cultural" impacts (Hair et al., 1998).

Discriminant validity was determined by computing the correlations among the 11 constructs and comparing the squared correlations among the 11 constructs against the AVE (see table 3-7 for the correlation matrix). All of the inter-factor relationships were lower than the threshold of $r < .85$ (Kline, 2005). In addition, examination revealed that the AVEs were all above the squared correlations of constructs with the exception of socio-cultural and economic impacts, and socio-cultural and infrastructure impacts. Therefore, all other impacts confirmed discriminant validity of the factors (Fornell & Larcker, 1981). Based on the results from the data analyses, validity and reliability of the overall scale were established with the exception of several factors having high correlations. In order to solve this problem, the factors were examined for internal consistency and unidimensionality as recommended by Landis, Edwards and Cortina (2009) and are discussed below.

It is important to note that scale development was not the purpose of the study, but rather examining the relationships between residents' perceptions of sport event impacts, the effect these impacts have on community and personal quality of life, and whether these influence resident support. With this in mind, the current study was exploratory in nature and therefore the constructs utilized in the study were adopted a priori from previous literature and were examined

individually in order to determine unidimensionality and reliability. The results of the CFA model indicated adequate goodness of fit statistics when considered in combination with the factor loadings and reliability analyses. Furthermore, the indicators used in the study to measure a common underlying factor showed to have higher standardized loadings indicating convergent validity. In order to test the model the decision to utilize path analysis was made as a result of the low AVE for the "economic" and "socio-cultural" impacts and because of several factors having high correlations. With these results it was deemed appropriate to proceed with the second step and test the path model.

Structural Model Testing

To analyze the hypothesized relationships of the structural model, a structural model estimation was attempted. However, the socio-cultural impacts were found to be highly correlated with the other impacts, specifically economic and infrastructure impacts, and thus the structural model could not be estimated. In dealing with highly correlated factors, Landis, Edwards and Cortina (2009, p. 210) discussed in order to "salvage the measurement model and/or theory testing" recommend:

> to omit the measurement model altogether and simply create scale scores and estimate a path analysis with manifest variables. This suggestion, however, is predicated on the assumption that the psychometric characteristics for each measure are sufficient to warrant calculating scale scores for the variables (e.g., sufficient internal consistency).

As the results above indicate, each factor proved to be unidimensional and met the recommended thresholds for internal consistency. Consequently, the grand means for all the factors was calculated and a path analysis using Mplus was conducted. Results of the specific hypotheses and path analyses are presented in the results, chapter 4.

Table 3-1. Disposition of items taken from Solberg and Preuss (2007) created for use in a study of perceived effects of small-scale sport events in Florida, 2012

		Action Taken	Justification
Economic			
	The economic situation of your town/city	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	The buying power of your community	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	The creation of jobs in your community	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	The attraction of investments to your community	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	The economic benefits for the local residents	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	The life quality of the community	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	The cost of real estate and the taxes related to it	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	The low cost of living	Modified (deleted low from the sentence)	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me
	The stability in the prices of goods and services	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	The minimization of public expenses in your community	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
Socio-cultural			
	The restoration of historical buildings	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	The improvement of quality of public services	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	The availability of leisure opportunities	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	A variety of cultural performances	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	The quality of police and fire department services	Moved to Infrastructure	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me
	The cultural exchange between tourists and residents	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	The cultural identity development of your community	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation

Table 3-1. Continued

		Action Taken	Justification
Socio Cultural (continued)			
	The construction of modern buildings	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	The minimization of the number of traffic accidents	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	The minimization of crime/theft/vandalism	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	The minimization of alcoholism and prostitution	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	The minimization of illegal activities	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	Minimization of the exploitation of local residents	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	Tourists with high buying power	Moved to Economic	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me
Environmental			
	The improvement of infrastructure (water supply, electricity, etc.)	Moved to Infrastructure and modified (the improvement of sport infrastructure)	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me
	The improvement of public facilities (road network, civic centers, etc.)	Moved to Infrastructure and modified (the improvement of public infrastructure	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me
	The creation of parks and leisure areas for local residents	Moved to Infrastructure	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me
	The minimization of the damage in the natural environment and landscape	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	The minimization of the damage to the local ecosystem	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	Minimization of environmental pollution (trash, water, air, and noise)	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation

Table 3-1. Continued

		Action Taken	Justification
	Minimization of damage from the construction of hotels and tourism facilities to the natural environment	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	Minimization of the crowding of beaches, paths, parks, and other leisure places in your community	Moved to Socio-cultural and modified (the crowding of public spaces)	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me
Tourism			
	Improvement of the community's destination image	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	Tourism development	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	Tourism infrastructure improvements	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	Awareness of the community as a tourism destination	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	The reputation of your community as a sport hosting destination	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
Psychological			
	Community spirit and pride	Modified (deleted and pride)	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me
	Feel good about yourself	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	Feel good about the community	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	Feelings of a renewed community	Modified (changed to Community pride)	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me
Political			
	Communication between residents and community leaders	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	Transparency of government decision-making processes in your community	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation

Table 3-1. Continued

		Action Taken	Justification
Political (Continued)	Community voices are respected by decision makers	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	Residents being a part of community decisions	Kept	Good Inter-item correlation
	Accessibility of government officers and leaders	Dropped	Poor Inter-item correlation
	Acquirement of experience in hosting sports events as a person	Moved to Knowledge development	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me
	Acquirement of experience in hosting sports events as a community	Moved to Knowledge Development	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me
		Added Volunteering opportunities for these sport events to Knowledge development	Discussed and agreed between advisor and me

Table 3-2. Final instrument for impact items created from Solberg and Preuss (2007) used in a study of perceived effects of small-scale sport events in Florida, 2012

Economic Impacts
Economic situation of your town/city
Tourists with high buying power
Creation of jobs in your community
Economic benefits for the local residents
Cost of living
Buying power of your community
Environmental Impacts
Minimization of damage to the local ecosystem
Minimization of environmental pollution
Minimization of damage in the natural environment and landscape
Psychological Impacts
Community Pride
Feeling good about yourself
Community Spirit
Feeling good about your community
Infrastructure Impacts
Creation of parks and leisure areas for local residents
Quality of police and fire department services
Improvement of sport infrastructures
Improvement of public infrastructure
Knowledge Development Impacts
Acquirement of experience in hosting sport events as a person
Volunteering opportunities for these sport events
Acquirement of experience in hosting sport events as a community
Socio-Cultural Impacts
Availability of leisure opportunities
Minimization of crime/theft/vandalism
Crowding of public spaces
Cultural exchange between tourists and residents
Political Impacts
Communication between residents and community leaders
Residents being a part of community decisions
Transparency of government decision-making processes in your community
Tourism Impacts
Reputation of your community as a sport event destination
Tourism infrastructure improvements
Improvement of community's destination image
Awareness of the community as a tourism destination
Tourism development

Table 3-3. Cronbach's Alpha for constructs used to measure perceptions of small-scale event impacts, community quality of life, personal quality of life and resident support

Categories	Importance	Satisfaction	Importance + Satisfaction
Economic	.77	.80	.81
Environmental	.81	.78	.81
Psychological	.77	.72	.79
Infrastructure	.72	.79	.80
Knowledge Development	.77	.68	.78
Socio-cultural	.60	.73	.75
Political	.73	.87	.81
Tourism	.85	.83	.88
Community Quality of Life			.91
Personal Quality of Life			.93
Support			.88

Table 3-4. Unidimensionality and Variance Explained for constructs used to measure perceptions of small-scale event impacts, community quality of life, personal quality of life and resident support

	Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin MSA	Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Eigen value	Variance Explained %
Economic	.79	.00	3.11	51.82
Environment	.71	.00	2.18	72.67
Psychological	.77	.00	2.43	60.82
Infrastructure	.77	.00	2.52	63.03
Knowledge	.70	.00	2.11	79.20
Socio-Cultural	.77	.00	2.30	57.55
Political	.70	.00	2.19	72.83
Tourism	.86	.00	3.35	66.99
Community QOL	.88	.00	4.10	68.28
Personal QOL	.92	.00	5.36	66.99
Support	.84	.00	3.38	67.57

Table 3-5. Goodness of Fit Indices of proposed measurement model predicting support for hosting small-scale events in Florida, 2012

	N	X2	df	X2/df	CFI	TLI	RMSEA
Measurement Model	362	2949.534	1270	2.32	0.91	0.90	0.06

Table 3-6. Factor Loadings, Construct Reliability, Average Variance Extracted and Cronbach's α of the perceptions of small-scale event impacts, CQOL, PQOL and resident support

	Loadings	CR	AVE	α
Economic		0.84	0.47	.81
Economic situation of your town/city	0.62			
Tourists with high buying power	0.63			
Creation of jobs in your community	0.75			
Economic benefits for the local residents	0.76			
Cost of living	0.65			
Buying power of your community	0.69			
Environment		0.84	0.64	.81
Minimization of damage to the local ecosystem	0.78			
Minimization of environmental pollution	0.81			
Minimization of damage in the natural environment and landscape	0.80			
Psychological		0.82	0.54	.79
Community Pride	0.74			
Feeling good about yourself	0.62			
Community Spirit	0.83			
Feeling good about your community	0.74			
Infrastructure		0.84	0.56	.80
Creation of parks and leisure areas for local residents	0.70			
Quality of police and fire department services	0.73			
Improvement of sport infrastructures	0.79			
Improvement of public infrastructure	0.78			
Knowledge Development		0.81	0.59	.78
Acquirement of experience in hosting sport events as a person	0.66			
Volunteering opportunities for these sport events	0.78			
Acquirement of experience in hosting sport events as a community	0.85			
Socio-cultural		0.78	0.47	.75
Availability of leisure opportunities	0.70			
Minimization of crime/theft/vandalism	0.67			
Crowding of public spaces	0.71			
Cultural exchange between tourists and residents	0.67			
Political		0.85	0.65	.81
Communication between residents and community leaders	0.80			
Residents being a part of community decisions	0.79			
Transparency of government decision-making processes in your community	0.83			

Table3-6. Continued

	Loadings	CR	AVE	α
Tourism		0.90	0.65	.88
Reputation of your community as a sport event destination	0.78			
Tourism infrastructure improvements	0.83			
Improvement of community's destination image	0.82			
Awareness of the community as a tourism destination	0.81			
Tourism development	0.78			
Community Quality of Life		0.90	0.61	.91
The government in the community	0.82			
The economic situation in the community	0.68			
The state of the natural environment in the community	0.86			
The business in the community	0.69			
The social conditions in the community	0.81			
The local security in the community	0.82			
Personal Quality of Life		0.96	0.62	.93
Your future security	0.77			
Feeling part of your community	0.88			
Your standard of living	0.82			
What you are achieving in life	0.84			
How safe you feel	0.91			
Your health	0.77			
Your personal relationships	0.68			
Your spirituality or religion	0.60			
Support		0.96	0.76	.88
Hosting sport events can be one of the most important industries for a community	0.90			
The hosting of additional sport events would help my home community's social growth	0.84			
The hosting of sport events play a major economic role in my home community	0.85			
I am proud to see tourists experience what my community has to offer when sport events are hosted there	0.86			
I favor building new tourism facilities which will attract more tourists	0.83			

Table 3-7. Correlations among measurement constructs/factors of the perceptions of small-scale event impacts, community quality of life, personal quality of life and resident support

	Economic	Environmental	Psychological	Infrastructure	Knowledge	Socio-Cultural	Political	Tourism	Community QOL	Personal QOL	Support
Economic	1.00										
Environmental	0.58*	1.00									
Psychological	0.63*	0.57*	1.00								
Infrastructure	0.68*	0.62*	0.66*	1.00							
Knowledge	0.69*	0.46*	0.59*	0.58*	1.00						
Socio-Cultural	0.75*	0.64*	0.65*	0.76*	0.61*	1.00					
Political	0.70*	0.60*	0.62*	0.71*	0.61*	0.75*	1.00				
Tourism	0.78*	0.53*	0.62*	0.71*	0.67*	0.76*	0.70*	1.00			
Community QOL	0.41*	0.33*	0.41*	0.48*	0.30*	0.46*	0.44*	0.36*	1.00		
Personal QOL	0.34*	0.27*	0.40*	0.41*	0.26*	0.35*	0.35*	0.37*	0.66*	1.00	
Support	0.49*	0.35*	0.37*	0.45*	0.52*	0.47*	0.41*	0.50*	0.32*	0.33*	1.00
Mean	7.62	7.93	8.38	8.25	7.40	7.77	7.63	7.74	6.01	7.37	4.02
S.D.	0.94	1.07	1.05	0.96	1.16	0.98	1.12	1.07	1.73	1.60	0.69

*Correlations significant at p<.001.

CHAPTER 4
RESULTS

The results section will discuss the demographics of the participants; descriptives; the results from the proposed measurement model; and the hypotheses tested (event impacts, quality of life).

Demographics

Respondents were comprised by mostly females (55.6%) and males making up 44.4%. The mean for how many years respondents had lived in their respective cities was 18.9 years, with 37.2% indicating they had lived in their city for 1 to 10 years. The average age of respondents was 43 years old, with 40.6% indicating they were between the ages of 36-45 years. The highest level of education attained by respondents was a College Degree (38%) followed by Some College (no degree; 18%), Advanced Degree (18%), High School Graduate (15.8%), Technical College (7.2%), and Less than High School Graduate (3.0%). The majority of respondents (40.6%) earned more than $80,000 in 2010, followed by those earning $60,000-$79,999 (21.6%) and those earning $40,000-$59,999 (21.6%). The ethnic background of the respondents was mainly White (79.8%), followed by Hispanic or Latino (12.2%), and African American (5%). Respondents travelled on average 45.1 miles to attend the event, with 75.1% traveling between 0 to 50 miles. The largest percentage of respondents lived in Polk County (40.2%) and Brevard County (30.6%); these were the counties hosting the sport events. Ninety-five percent of respondents indicated that they did not receive any immediate financial benefit from the event being hosted in their community. Respondents indicated that they had attended on average 26.8 events in their community in the past 24 months, with 37% indicating they attended between 16 to 30 events. Respondents' interest in sport was high with a mean score of 7.6

(measured on a 10-point scale). Appendix B has a detailed breakdown of respondents' demographics.

Descriptive Statistics

In order to explore the respondents' perceptions with regards to what impacts are important and whether respondents were satisfied with the impacts related to hosting a small-scale sport event in their community, one sample t-tests were conducted with a critical value set at 3 (mid-point on the 5 point scale). The one sample t-tests showed that respondents scored significantly higher ($p<.00$) above the neutral point (3 was the mid-point of the 5 point scale) for all the impacts suggesting their importance for their quality of life and support for hosting future events in their community. Infrastructure (*M=4.43, S.D=0.52*) ranked the highest in terms of importance followed closely by Psychological impacts (*M=4.40, S.D=0.60*). Knowledge Development impacts had the lowest importance mean score, scoring a mean of 3.84 (*S.D=.76*) indicating it was the least important impact. With regards to respondents' satisfaction of the impacts, all impacts were slightly higher than the neutral point (3 was the mid-point on the 5 point scale), suggesting the respondents were satisfied with the overall impacts of the event. Psychological impacts (*M=3.99, S.D=.61*) was ranked the highest, followed by Infrastructure impacts (*M=3.83, S.D=.67*). The one sample t-test showed that for the new variable (importance + satisfaction mean scores), all impacts were significantly higher than the mid-point (6 was the mid-point on the 9 point scale). Psychological (*M=8.38, S.D=1.05*) and Infrastructure (*M=8.25, S.D=.96*) scored the highest, suggesting that these impacts were the most important and performed to the respondents' satisfaction. All impact scores for the new variable were slightly above 7.0 suggesting that the impacts of the event were highly important and respondents' were satisfied with their performance.

Results from the one sample t-test for community quality of life indicated that respondents' were moderately satisfied with their communities' quality of life (*M=6.01, S.D=1.73*). As for personal quality of life the results were significantly higher (*M=7.47, S.D=1.60*) than the mid-point (5 was the mid-point on the 11 point scale) suggesting that respondents were satisfied with their personal quality of life. Support toward events was found to be significantly high (3 was the mid-point on the 5 point scale) by the respondents (*M=4.08, S.D=.69*) suggesting that respondents would support the hosting of future events in their community. Table 4-1 below presents the respondents' means in more detail.

Results of The Proposed Model

Twenty-six hypotheses examining the relationship between the perceived small-scale sport event impacts on resident's community and personal quality of life, and the resulting support for hosting additional sport events in their community were empirically tested. As mentioned above, a conceptual model was proposed and analyzed using path analysis. The model proposed to include direct effects between the exogenous variables (perceived small-scale sport event impacts: economic, environment, psychological, infrastructure, knowledge, socio-cultural, political, tourism) and the endogenous variables (community quality of life, personal quality of life, and support for hosting additional sport events). The results of the path analysis indicated that the model met the recommended thresholds for the CFI (.99) and the TLI (.92). Figure 4-1, Table 4-2 and Table 4-3 provide detailed information and a visual representation of the resulting path analyses with standardized coefficients.

Hypotheses Tested

The hypotheses tested were formulated based on the sport-event and tourism development literature and are discussed in the subsequent section. Support for the hypotheses was explored

by examining the significance of individual path coefficients between the variables of interest based on the results of the path analyses.

Perceived Sport Event Impact Hypotheses Tested on Event Support and QOL Dimensions

H1a. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived economic impacts and resident support for hosting a sport event.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived economic impacts on resident support for hosting a sport event ($\beta = .08$; $p > .05$). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H1b. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived environmental impacts and resident support for hosting a sport event.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived environmental impacts on resident support for hosting a sport event ($\beta = .04$; $p > .05$). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H1c. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived psychological impacts and resident support for hosting a sport event.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived psychological impacts on resident support for hosting a sport event ($\beta = -.10$; $p > .05$). There was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H1d. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived infrastructure impacts and resident support for hosting a sport event.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived infrastructure impacts on resident support for hosting a sport event ($\beta = .07$; $p > .05$). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H1e. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived knowledge development impacts and resident support for hosting a sport event.

The results of the path analysis revealed that perceived knowledge development impacts had a significant direct, positive effect on resident support for hosting a sport event ($\beta = .31$, $p < .01$). Therefore, the hypothesis was supported. Residents that perceived positive knowledge development impacts were more likely to report support hosting sport events in the community.

H1f. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived socio-cultural impacts and resident support for hosting a sport event.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived socio-cultural impacts on resident support for hosting a sport event ($\beta = .08$; $p > .05$). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H1g. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived political impacts and resident support for hosting a sport event.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived political impacts on resident support for hosting a sport event ($\beta = -.09$; $p > .05$). There was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H1h. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived tourism impacts and resident support for hosting a sport event.

The results of the path analysis revealed that perceived tourism impacts had a significant direct, positive effect on resident support for hosting a sport event ($\beta = .31$, $p < .05$). Therefore, the hypothesis was supported. Residents that perceived positive tourism impacts were more likely to report support hosting sport events in the community.

Community and Personal Quality of Life Hypotheses Tested

H2a. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived economic impacts and community quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived economic impacts on community quality of life ($\beta = .13$; $p > .05$). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H2b. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived environmental impacts and community quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived environmental impacts on community quality of life ($\beta = -.06$; $p > .05$). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H2c. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived psychological impacts and community quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that perceived psychological impacts had a significant direct, positive effect on community quality of life ($\beta = .13$, $p < .05$). Therefore, the hypothesis was supported. Residents felt that psychological impacts positively affected their community quality of life.

H2d. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived infrastructure impacts and community quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that perceived infrastructure impacts had a significant direct, positive effect on community quality of life ($\beta = .27$, $p < .01$). Therefore, the hypothesis was supported. Residents felt that infrastructure impacts had a positive effect on their community quality of life.

H2e. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived knowledge development impacts and community quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived knowledge development impacts on community quality of life (β= -.08; p >.05). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H2f. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived socio-cultural impacts and community quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that perceived socio-cultural impacts had a significant direct, positive effect on community quality of life (β= .16, p < .05). Therefore, the hypothesis was supported. Residents felt that socio-cultural impacts positively affected their community quality of life.

H2g. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived political impacts and community quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that perceived political impacts had a significant direct, positive effect on community quality of life (β= .16, p < .05). Therefore, the hypothesis was supported. Residents felt that political impacts positively affected their community quality of life.

H2h. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived tourism impacts and community quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that perceived tourism impacts had a significant direct, negative effect on community quality of life (β= -.16, p < .05). Therefore, the hypothesis was not supported. Residents felt that tourism impacts negatively affected their community quality of

life. Residents perceived that tourism impacts had a negative effect on their community quality of life.

H3a. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived economic impacts and personal quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived economic impacts on personal quality of life ($\beta = .02$; $p > .05$). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H3b. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived environmental impacts and personal quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived environmental impacts on personal quality of life ($\beta = -.04$; $p > .05$). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H3c. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived psychological impacts and personal quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that perceived psychological impacts had a significant direct, positive effect on personal quality of life ($\beta = .24$, $p < .01$). Therefore, the hypothesis was supported. Residents felt that psychological impacts positively affected their personal quality of life.

H3d. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived infrastructure impacts and personal quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that perceived infrastructure impacts had a significant direct, positive effect on personal quality of life ($\beta = .23$, $p < .01$). Therefore, the hypothesis was

supported. Residents felt that infrastructure impacts had a positive effect on their personal quality of life.

H3e. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived knowledge development impacts and personal quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived knowledge development impacts on personal quality of life (β= -.11; p >.05). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H3f. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived socio-cultural impacts and personal quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived socio-cultural impacts on personal quality of life (β= -.06; p >.05). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H3g. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived political impacts and personal quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect of the perceived political impacts on personal quality of life (β= .06; p >.05). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H3h. There is a direct positive relationship between perceived tourism impacts and personal quality of life.

The results of the path analysis revealed that perceived tourism impacts had a significant direct, positive effect on personal quality of life (β= .14, p < .05). Therefore, the hypothesis was supported. Residents felt that tourism impacts positively affected their personal quality of life.

H4. There is a direct positive relationship between community quality of life and resident support for hosting a sport event.

The results of the path analysis revealed that there was not a significant direct effect between community quality of life and resident support for hosting a sport event ($\beta = .04$; $p > .05$). Therefore there was a lack of support for this hypothesis.

H5. There is a direct positive relationship between personal quality of life and resident support for hosting a sport event.

The results of the path analysis revealed that a significant direct, positive effect between personal quality of life and resident support for hosting a sport event ($\beta = .14$, $p < .05$). Therefore, the hypothesis was supported. Residents felt that as their personal quality of life improved they were more likely to report support hosting sport events in the community.

Table 4-1. Respondents' mean scores for Importance, Satisfaction, Importance + Satisfaction, Quality of life and Support for hosting small-scale sport events in Florida, 2012

	N	Mean	S.D.	S.E.
Importance				
Economic	362	4.17*	.57	.03
Environmental	362	4.26*	.73	.04
Psychological	362	4.40*	.60	.03
Infrastructure	362	4.43*	.52	.03
Knowledge Development	362	3.84*	.76	.04
Socio-Cultural	362	4.21*	.53	.03
Political	362	4.24*	.65	.03
Tourism	362	4.10*	.67	.04
Satisfaction				
Economic	362	3.46*	.64	.03
Environmental	362	3.67*	.68	.04
Psychological	362	3.99*	.61	.03
Infrastructure	362	3.83*	.67	.04
Knowledge Development	362	3.57*	.61	.03
Socio-Cultural	362	3.57*	.65	.03
Political	362	3.40*	.83	.04
Tourism	362	3.65*	.64	.03
Importance + Satisfaction				
Economic	362	7.62**	.94	.05
Environmental	362	7.93**	1.07	.06
Psychological	362	8.38**	1.05	.06
Infrastructure	362	8.25**	.96	.05
Knowledge Development	362	7.40**	1.16	.06
Socio-Cultural	362	7.77**	.98	.05
Political	362	7.63**	1.12	.06
Tourism	362	7.74**	1.07	.06
Quality of Life				
Community Quality of Life	362	6.01	1.73	.09
Personal Quality of Life	362	7.37***	1.60	.08
Support				
Support	362	4.02*	.69	.04

One sample t-test results: *sig. p<.001 (5 point scale; 3 mid-point); **sig. p<.001 (9 point scale; 6 mid-point); *** sig. p<.001 (11 point scale measured from 0 to 10; 5 mid-point).

Table 4-2. Path Analysis results of proposed model of the relationship between small-scale sport event impacts, quality of life and resident support

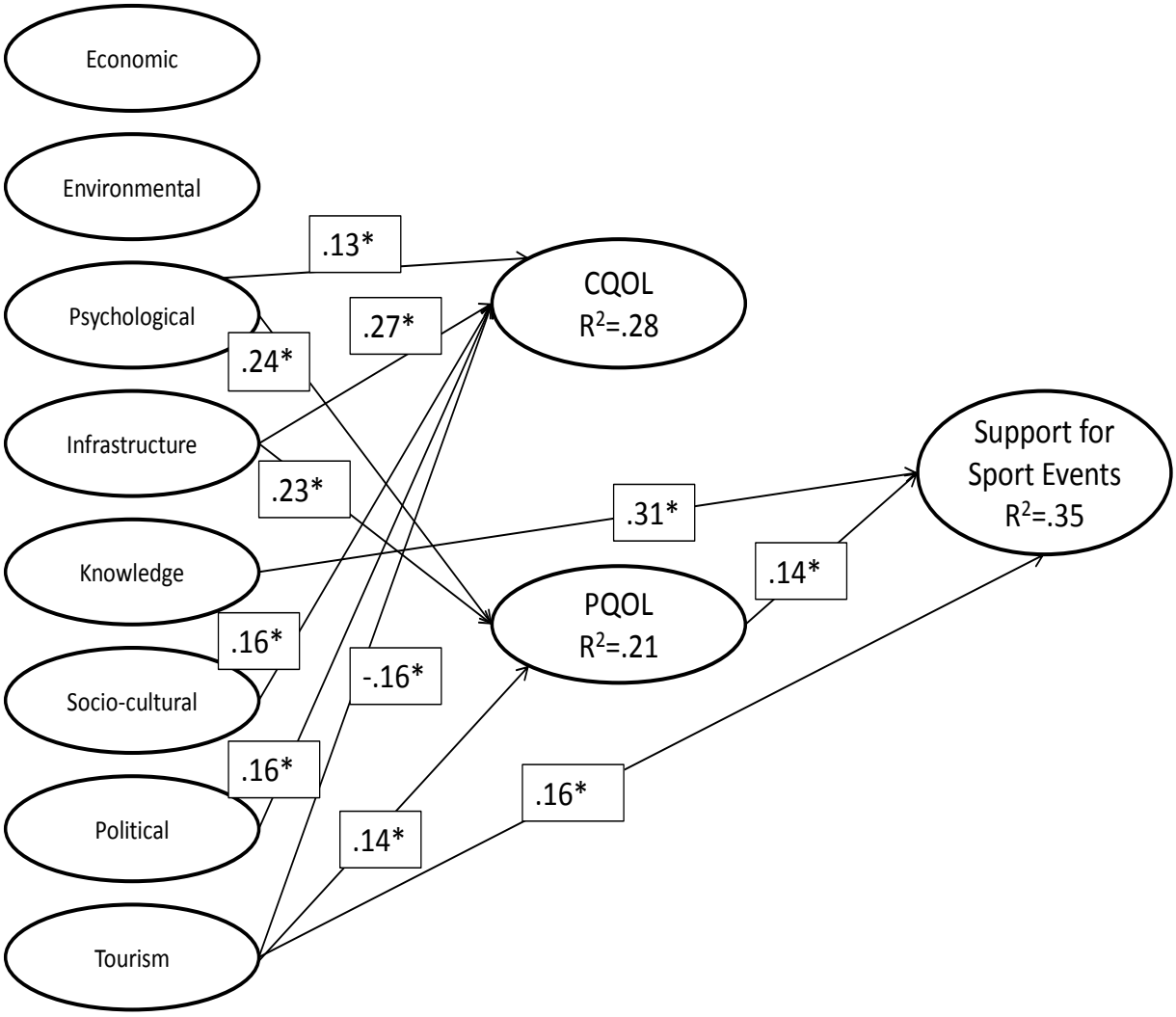
Hypothesis	Variables	Path Model Coefficients	p-value
H1a	Economic → Support	.08	.31
H1b	Environment → Support	.04	.50
H1c	Psychological → Support	-.10	.12
H1d	Infrastructure → Support	.07	.36
H1e	Knowledge → Support	.31*	.00
H1f	Socio-Cultural → Support	.08	.36
H1g	Political → Support	-.09	.24
H1h	Tourism → Support	.16*	.04
H2a	Economic → Community Quality of Life	.13	.13
H2b	Environment → Community Quality of Life	-.06	.33
H2c	Psychological → Community Quality of Life	.13*	.04
H2d	Infrastructure → Community Quality of Life	.27*	.00
H2e	Knowledge → Community Quality of Life	-.08	.25
H2f	Socio-Cultural → Community Quality of Life	.16*	.03
H2g	Political → Community Quality of Life	.16*	.04
H2h	Tourism → Community Quality of Life	-.16*	.03
H3a	Economic → Personal Quality of Life	.02	.83
H3b	Environment → Personal Quality of Life	-.04	.50
H3c	Psychological → Personal Quality of Life	.24*	.00
H3d	Infrastructure → Personal Quality of Life	.23*	.00
H3e	Knowledge → Personal Quality of Life	-.11	.12
H3f	Socio-Cultural → Personal Quality of Life	-.06	.54
H3g	Political → Personal Quality of Life	.06	.44
H3h	Tourism → Personal Quality of Life	.14*	.05
H4	Community Quality of Life → Support	.04	.47
H5	Personal Quality of Life → Support	.14*	.02

*denotes significant at $p < .05$

Note: R^2=.345 for Support; R^2=.210 for personal quality of life; and, R^2=.275 for community quality of life.

Table 4-3. Goodness of Fit Indices of the path analysis model predicting support for hosting small-scale sport events in Florida, 2012

	N	X2	df	X2/df	CFI	TLI	RMSEA	SRMR
Path Analysis model	362	3.74	1	3.74	.99	.92	.09	.008



Note: * p. < .05. For clarity purposes only significant paths were included in the figure.

Figure 4-1. Path analysis model of sport event impacts, quality of life, and support with standardized coefficients

CHAPTER 5
DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The discussion and conclusion section will present the summary of the findings and connect to the literature. Then theoretical and practical implications along with limitations and future research will be presented.

Summary of Findings

Respondents were asked to rate the level of importance and evaluate their level of satisfaction with small-scale sport event impacts hosted in their community. It was hypothesized that respondents' perceptions of sport event impacts influence residents' personal and community quality of life, as well as their support for hosting sport events in their community. Findings from the current study are supported by previous research which found that residents who perceived positive impacts from tourism or hosting sport events supported additional tourism development or hosting sport events in their community (Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Andriotis, 2005; Andriotis & Vaughan, 2003; Ap, 1992; Bull & Lovell, 2007; Chen, 2001; Deccio & Baloglu, 2002; Dyer, Gursoy, Sharma, & Carter, 2007; Gursoy et al., 2002; Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004; Harrill, 2004; Kim et al., 2006; Ko & Stewart 2002; McGehee & Andereck 2004; Nunkoo & Ramkissoon, 2010; Perdue, Long, & Kang, 1999; Perdue et al., 1990; Preuss & Solberg, 2006; Wang & Pfister, 2008; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2009; 2011; Yoon, Gursoy, & Chen, 2001).

Previous research (Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Andereck et al., 2005, 2007; Deccio & Baloglu, 2000; Jurowski, 1994; Ko & Stewart, 2002; Wang & Pfister, 2008) that examined residents' perceptions of impacts and resident support implied that the perceived impacts were similar to impacts on resident quality of life; this study empirically tested the impacts' influence

on quality of life by incorporating an actual quality of life measure in order to examine and gain an understanding between sport event impacts and their effect on quality of life.

By including the personal and community quality of life constructs, the results indicated that even though there is a positive perception of sport event impacts that may predict support for hosting sport events in a community, the relationship between perceived impacts and quality of life may not be as direct as previously proposed. Specifically, psychological, infrastructure, socio-cultural and political sport event impacts had a direct effect on resident community quality of life, while tourism had negative relationship with resident community quality of life. Furthermore, psychological, infrastructure and tourism had a significant direct effect on personal quality of life. As for support for hosting a sport event, knowledge development and tourism impacts had a direct effect, as well as residents' personal quality of life. Below a more detailed discussion regarding the importance and satisfaction of the perceived event impacts, followed by the effects of the perceived sport event impacts on quality of life and support for hosting sport events is presented.

Community Quality of Life

This study hypothesized that community quality of life is positively affected by perceptions of economic, environmental, psychological, infrastructure, knowledge development, socio-cultural, political and tourism impacts. The results showed that only psychological, infrastructure, socio-cultural, and political impacts had a significant positive effect on community quality of life. However, it is important to note that tourism had a significant negative effect.

Specifically, community quality of life was most affected by infrastructure impacts, suggesting that the more respondents felt it was important and they were satisfied with the creation of parks and leisure areas, the quality of police and fire department services and the

improvement of sport and public infrastructure, the more positively they perceived their community quality of life. These results are corroborated by previous research that found residents felt that tourism and tourism development provided the community and its residents with more leisure and park opportunities resulting in an improvement to quality of life (Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Andereck, Valentine, Knopf &Vogt, 2005). Research also showed that the tourism industry and the hosting of a mega-event can serve as a catalyst in order to build or improve infrastructure resulting in an increase in a community's quality of life (Andereck et al., 2007; Kaplanidou & Karadakis, 2010; Lorde et al., 2011). This study corroborates findings of previous research indicating that hosting a sport event provides residents the opportunity to showcase infrastructure generated, alluding to the improvement in residents' quality of life because of infrastructure changes such as better public services and the availability of more parks and outdoor spaces for recreation (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011; Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Chalip, 2002; Liu, Sheldon & Var, 1987; McGehee & Andereck, 2004; Owen, 2005; Sirakaya et al., 2002; Whitson & Horne, 2006). The current study corroborated findings of previous research that indicate residents experience the development and improvement of infrastructure (Jones, 2001; Chappelet, 2008; Hiller, 2006; Solberg & Preuss, 2007) and these developments will lead to an improvement in overall quality of life (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Terret, 2008; Whitson & Horne, 2006).

Results also indicated that community quality of life was affected by psychological impacts, suggesting that the more respondents felt they were important and they were satisfied with community pride, community spirit, feeling good about themselves and the community, the more positively they perceived their community quality of life. These results are in line with the findings from Kaplanidou, Gibson, Karadakis, Walker, Thapa, Geldenhuys, and Coetzee (2011)

that found perceived psychological impacts created by the World Cup had a significant positive effect on the quality of life of the South African residents. Research further corroborates the findings of this study where residents hosting a small-scale event have experienced positive psychological impacts such as an increase in local and community pride, spirit, morale, (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011; Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Garnham, 1996; Walo, et al., 1996; Lorde et al., 2011; Solberg & Preuss, 2007; Bull & Lovell, 2007) and a psychological boost (Gibson et al., 2003). These psychological impacts can explain an improvement to quality of life (Chabra & Gursoy, 2009) as has been reported in previous studies examining small-scale sport events (Horne, 2000; Veltri et al., 2009; Ziakas, 2010). Similar results were found by Karadakis and Kaplanidou (2012) where participants indicated that psychological legacies were important as it relates to their quality of life and that during and post event, participants were satisfied with the psychological legacies. Lastly, Kim et al., (2006) also found an increase in perceptions of psychological impacts post-World Cup. Therefore the results indicate the importance of examining the psychological impacts as it relates to perceived quality of life, as Gursoy and Kendall (2006) found that psychological impacts are just as important as the economic impacts of a sport event such as the Olympic Games.

Socio-cultural perceptions of sport event impacts were also found to have a significant positive effect on community quality of life. Residents felt that the availability of leisure opportunities, cultural exchange, and the minimization of crime, theft, vandalism and crowding of public spaces contributed to a positive perception of community quality of life.

Results support previous research that has indicated that social benefits from hosting small-scale events have contributed to quality of life (Kaplanidou et al., 2011; Meyer, 2011; Walo et al., 1996). For example, positive impacts such as social interaction with tourists can

explain an improvement to quality of life (Chhabra & Gursoy, 2009). Hritz and Ross (2010) found that support for hosting future sport events were predicted by social and economic benefits. Previous research supporting the current study suggested an increase in quality of life is a result of improved socio-economic benefits (Nichols et al., 2002). There is the benefit of social interaction, increasing cultural understanding, strengthening values and traditions, self esteem, quality of life and the image of the city (Ko & Stewart, 2002; McGehee & Andereck, 2004; Oviedo-Garcia et al., 2008; Preuss & Solberg, 2006). The findings in this study are also supported by the quality of life literature, in which social life and relationships are related to community well-being (Cummins, 1997). This was evident with the respondents from the study who were positive and supportive of hosting a small-scale sport event with regards to having leisure opportunities and interactions with other tourists or residents. Kim (2002) also found that residents' indicated that community quality of life was affected by the availability of services and facilities which could be used for leisure and recreation. The results of this study also support previous studies that found factors influencing quality of life was related to items such as cultural exchange, better public services, and more parks (Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Liu, Sheldon, Var, 1987; Sirakaya et al., 2002).

Lastly, political impacts had a significant positive effect on community quality of life, indicating that the more respondents felt they were being communicated to by leaders, being part of community decisions and transparency of government decisions, the more positive they perceived their community quality of life. There is some theoretical literature that examined reasons why political participation, rights and democracy have a positive impact on quality of life, however little empirical research exists in the area (Weitz-Shapiro & Winters, 2008). Results from the current study support similar results found by Meyer (2011), where residents

who perceived they were informed, consulted and respected had a positive perception of their community quality of life. Ott (2010) found a relationship between democratic and technical quality of governance and residents' average of happiness. Similarly, an empirical study by Pacheco & Lange (2010) found a significant relationship between political participation and satisfaction with life. In the sustainable tourism literature, researchers (Cottrell & Vaske, 2006; Huayhuaca, Cottrell, Gradl, & Mateev, 2010; Shen & Cottrell, 2008) have found that local participation in political governance leads to resident satisfaction with sustainable tourism. Furthermore, research in tourism development has found a positive correlation between residents' perceived personal influence on the decision-making process and tourism development (Ap, 1992; Lankford & Howard, 1994). Other studies have looked at how the inclusion of local residents in the decision making process impacts quality of life (Andereck et al., 2007; Lindberg & Johnson, 1997). Therefore, the current study and as previous studies suggest, perceptions of positive political impacts can lead to enhanced community quality of life. This is based on acknowledging the importance of communication and involvement of residents in the decision-making process for support of hosting events in a community or additional tourism/sport development (Andereck et al., 2007; Byrd, 2007; Choi & Sirakaya, 2005; Lindberg & Johnson, 1997; Meyer, 2011; Yoon et al., 2001).

Although the tourism hypothesis was not supported, there was a significant negative relationship between perceived tourism impacts and community quality of life. A possible explanation for this result could be the increased traffic or density of tourists coming to the host community. Research has found conflicting results with residents experiencing both positive and negative impacts to the community affecting their support. Specifically, it has been found that residents who perceive that "in general, the benefits derived from tourism exceed the costs"

(Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2011, p. 470) have been found to positively correlate with "overall satisfaction with the community" (Ko & Stewart, 2002; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2009; 2011). Ko and Stewart (2002) found a positive link between perceived resident benefits from tourism and residents' community satisfaction, and the opposite was found in relation to perceptions of costs.

Recently, some studies have focused on how the amount of tourists in an area affects resident attitudes towards additional tourism development. Faulkner and Tideswell (1997) found a negative relationship, while Bujosa-Bestard and Rosello-Nadal (2007) and Vargas-Sanchez et al., (2011) found that residents held a more supportive attitude towards tourism development when there was a greater amount of tourists. Other studies reporting similar results have suggested residents' community satisfaction is negatively influenced by the amount of tourists in a given area (Gursoy et al., 2002; Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004; Jurowski & Gursoy, 2004). Andereck et al., (2007, p. 498) study indicated that residents felt that tourism should increase their quality of life, and confirms the notion that quality of life is "essential for residents satisfaction with their community, personal lives, activities and environment." Furthermore, the study found that residents attribute tourism impacts on quality of life in supporting tourism development and that these developments have both positive and negative impacts on quality of life (Andereck et al., 2007, p. 498).

Other possible explanations as to why there was a negative association between perceived tourism impacts and quality of life can be attributed to residents experiencing negative impacts such as capacity constraints, the displacement and physical removal of host residents, crowding that causes local residents difficulty accessing resources or the event itself, disagreements between residents and visitors, and the disruption of residents' daily lives (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Higham, 1999; Jones, 2001; Tosun, 2002).

Finally, these results can be explained by Doxey's Irridex model. The model suggested that as a community is developed by tourism objectives, resident perceptions towards the community changes from a supportive euphoria to a negative or non-supportive attitude towards tourism (Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2011). Vargas-Sanchez et al., (2011) also found that residents' community satisfaction was correlated with resident attitudes towards additional tourism development, but Ko and Stewart (2002) found a negative relationship. Furthermore, the tourism results could be explained by social exchange theory. That is respondents felt that the tourism benefits that they perceived the community was gaining did not exceed the costs, and therefore did not feel that the quality of life in the community was being improved for the community at large. However, when it came to the impacts tourism had on personal quality of life a positive relationship was found, and is discussed in detail below.

Personal Quality of Life

This study hypothesized that personal quality of life is positively affected by perceptions of economic, environmental, psychological, infrastructure, knowledge development, socio-cultural, political and tourism impacts. The results showed that only psychological, infrastructure, and tourism impacts had a significant positive effect on quality of life.

Results indicated that personal quality of life was most affected by psychological impacts, suggesting that the more respondents perceived community pride, community spirit, feeling good about themselves and the community, the more positively they perceived their personal quality of life. As mentioned in the above section these results are in line with the results from previous studies that found by hosting a sport event, residents and those attending the event experienced positive psychological impacts such as increased spirit, morale and pride (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011; Bull & Lovell, 2007; Gibson et al., 2003;Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Garnham, 1996; Kaplanidou et al., 2011; Lorde et al, 2011; Solberg & Preuss, 2007; Walo, et al., 1996) and

as a result of hosting the event experienced an improvement to their quality of life (Chabra & Gursoy, 2009; Horne, 2000; Veltri et al., 2009; Ziakas, 2010). These results corroborate the findings of Karadakis and Kaplanidou (2012) where participants indicated that psychological legacies were important for their quality of life and that during and post event, participants were satisfied with the psychological legacies they experienced. Furthermore, with parents feeling they are responsible for the well-being of their children (Gibson et al., 2012), seeing their children participate and enjoy these soccer tournaments could cause them to feel proud and feel good about themselves, thus resulting in more satisfaction with their personal quality of life.

Personal quality of life was also affected by infrastructure impacts, suggesting the more respondents felt there was a positive relationship with the creation of parks and leisure areas, the quality of police and fire department services and the improvement of sport and public infrastructure, the more positively they perceived their quality of life. The results of the current study are supported by previous research that found residents experienced an improvement to their quality of life as a result of infrastructure developments such as more leisure and park opportunities for them to use (Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Andereck, Valentine, Knopf & Vogt, 2005). Similar results were reported in previous studies that alluded to enhanced quality of life for residents because of infrastructure generated for the event, providing residents the opportunity to showcase these developments, as well as improving public services and creating more parks and outdoor spaces for recreation (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011; Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Chalip, 2002; Liu, Sheldon, Var, 1987; McGehee & Andereck, 2004; Owen, 2005; Sirakaya et al., 2002; Whitson & Horne, 2006). Research from the sport event literature suggests that improvement to overall quality of life is a result of the development and improvement of infrastructure generated from the event (Chappelet, 2008; Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Hiller, 2006;

Jones, 2001; Solberg & Preuss, 2007; Terret, 2008; Whitson & Horne, 2006). Conversations with some of the respondents indicated that they were happy and extremely satisfied with the construction of the facilities that hosted the soccer tournaments. They further indicated that before these facilities were constructed, there was nowhere for them to host events (Personal Communication). With the construction of these infrastructures, residents felt they could host events, thus providing the opportunity for them and their families to enjoy the infrastructure, leading to an improvement in their personal quality of life. These results support Schumacher's (2007) suggestion of ensuring that infrastructures developed for small-scale events are tied to the host community's needs.

Personal quality of life was also affected by tourism impacts, suggesting that the more respondents felt there was a positive relationship with the reputation of the community as a sport destination, tourism infrastructure improvements, improvements to the community's destination image, awareness of the community as a tourism destination and tourism development, the more positively they perceived their quality of life. The current study's findings are supported by previous research that found residents experience a positive impact such as enhanced regional and international awareness, improvement to the city's image (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006) increased awareness of the host community, attracting tourists to the community as a result of hosting the event (Higham & Hinch, 2001; Walo, et al., 1996; Gibson et al., 2003; Daniels & Norman, 2003; Kaplanidou & Gibson, 2010), and exposure of the community through the media (Mason & Duquette, 2008; Chalip, 2007; Hall, 1997). Previous studies support the current study that examined resident attitudes towards tourism and the impacts of tourism and sporting events (Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Andereck et al., 2005; Deccio & Baloglu, 2002; Dyer et al., 2007; Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Kim et al., 2006; Perdue et al., 1990; Wang & Pfister, 2008). The

studies mentioned above imply that tourism and hosting a sport event can impact residents' quality of life.

With regards to tourism impacts on perceptions of quality of life, this study corroborates findings of previous research that suggested hosting the Olympic Games provides the host city an opportunity to showcase its tourist attractions and infrastructure generated, alluding to the improvement in residents' quality of life because of such changes (Chalip, 2002; McGehee & Andereck, 2004; Owen, 2005; Whitson & Horne, 2006). Similar results were reported by Avgoustis, Cecil, Fu, and Wang (2005) who reported quality of life for residents was improved by the city's tourism attractions and tourism developments. Perhaps another reason for the tourism results can be attributed to the fact that small-scale events occur on a regular basis (Higham, 1999) and therefore may be included in some of the respondents' annual travel plans. It could be a family trip to look forward to, so that families can socialize and travel together near their hometown and even in their hometown enjoying the tourist attractions and interacting with visitors (Kaplanidou & Gibson, 2012). These small-scale events can also serve as a place for people to meet up once a year if they are not in the same hometown furthering their relationships and their children's relationships.

Finally, although not a significant result, the socio-cultural impacts had a negative impact on personal quality of life, even though socio-cultural impacts were significant and positive for community quality of life. Although the findings from this study contradict previous studies that found residents' perceived positive socio-cultural impacts such as increased leisure opportunities, cultural exchanges, interactions and relationships (Liu & Var, 1986; McCool & Martin; 1994; Perdue et al., 1990); findings of socio-cultural impacts have also produced inconsistent results (Andereck et al., 2005; Dyer et al., 2007). For example, hosting a mega-event

can generate negative social impacts such as anti-social behavior, crime, congestion, crowding, disruption of community life, community alienation and displacement, administrative problems, security breaches and over-commercialization (Bull & Lovell, 2007; Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Jones, 2001; Owen, 2005). Hritz and Ross (2010) revealed that respondents believed residents' quality of life is negatively impacted by convention and sport tourism; specifically they said that it was due to the social costs. These negative socio-cultural impacts are probably experienced in communities that have conflicting socio-cultural perceptions between residents and tourists. While the two communities from this study more than likely experienced negative impacts such as crime, pollution or crowding of public areas, it could be that friendly encounters with tourists or establishing relationships with other residents' or spectators provided more positive attitudes and experiences contributing to the positive perception of socio-cultural impacts on community quality of life.

Resident Support

It was hypothesized that resident support for hosting a small-scale sport event was directly affected by the perceived economic, environmental, psychological, infrastructure, knowledge development, socio-cultural, political and tourism impacts, community quality of life and personal quality of life. Results show that only personal quality of life, knowledge development and tourism impacts have a direct positive relationship with resident support. Thus, as personal quality of life, knowledge development and tourism perceived impacts increased so did support for hosting sport events.

Specifically, the results of this study support previous research which identified that residents provide support when they perceived to experience a personal benefit (i.e., improved quality of life) from tourism development or when benefits are perceived to exceed the costs (Ko & Stewart, 2002; McGehee & Andereck, 2004; Perdue et al., 1990; Vargas-Sanchez, Plaza-

Mejia, & Porras-Bueno, 2009; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2011). In the instance of the current study, positive knowledge development, tourism, and personal quality of life predicted support for hosting a sport event. As suggested by Solberg and Preuss (2007), the current study showed that hosting a sport event leads to knowledge development.

The tourism findings in the current study corroborate previous research in which residents who experienced positive impacts from tourism development were more supportive of further tourism development (Harill 2004; Ko & Stewart 2002; McGehee & Andereck 2004; Perdue et al., 1990; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2009; 2011). Other studies that support the findings have found that resident attitude supporting additional tourism is influenced by the perception that there are more tourism related benefits than costs (Dyer et al., 2007; Gursoy et al., 2002; Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004; Ko & Stewart, 2002; Perdue et al., 1990; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2009; Yoon et al., 2001).

Overall, the literature corroborates the findings from the current study in that the residents' perceptions of the impacts associated with hosting an event vary. Some residents may perceive the impacts they experience as being both positive and negative; others feel that impacts are strictly negative; also others may perceive that impacts are only positive (Kim et al., 2006). Regardless of how residents perceive the impacts of hosting an event, their support is essential for the success of the event. As Deccio and Baloglu (2002) suggested, residents who experience positive impacts tend to support the event and hosting future events. The results from the current study indicate that overall, respondents felt perceived impacts provided more benefits than costs, and therefore supported the hosting of future sport events in their community.

Non-significant Hypothesis Findings

The findings with regards to the perceived impacts of hosting a sport event were surprising in the sense that for perceived quality of life and support for hosting a sport event, economic and

environmental impacts did not have a significant effect. Although the relationship was positive for the economic impacts and its influence on quality of life and support, environmental impacts were negative. Although, socio-cultural and political impacts had a significant positive effect on community quality of life, they did not have a significant effect on personal quality of life nor support for hosting a sport event. These particular findings are surprising because previous research has found that factors influencing quality of life which are associated with tourism impacts and development are often categorized as economic, socio-cultural, and environmental (Andereck et al., 2007; Andereck & Vogt, 2000; McGehee & Andereck, 2004).

Respondents of the current study perceived that the economic impacts of hosting a sport event had a positive effect on quality of life, therefore as respondents experienced a positive economic impact, their quality of life also increased. Although not significant in the current study, the positive relationship between perceived economic impacts on quality of life is consistent with previous literature (Haralambopoulos & Pizam, 1996; Kaplanidou et al., 2011; Liu & Var, 1986; Meyer, 2011; Perdue et al., 1990). In the quality of life literature, economic impact has been found to have a significant influence on overall quality of life (Cummins, 1997; Diener & Suh, 1997), and thus it is surprising that in the current study, although a positive relationship exists, it is not significant.

The respondents' results suggest that the environmental impacts from hosting a sport event did not affect their personal and their community quality of life. In a similar study examining community satisfaction, McCrea, Stimson, and Western (2005) found that environmental impacts were the least significant feature in predicting community satisfaction. Although in the current study, respondents indicated that they were satisfied with the overall performance of the environmental impacts, there was still a negative association between environment, quality of

life and support for hosting sport events in the community. These results support previous studies in which the perceived environmental impacts were found to affect resident support (Chen, 2001; Yoon et al., 2001). Specifically, a negative relationship was found between environmental impacts and resident support, indicating that residents are quite concerned about the negative impacts associated with tourism development, and in the context of the current study, sport development on the environment. As predicted in these previous studies, and in the current study, the perceived negative impacts are likely to decrease resident support, as resident are concerned about the negative social and environmental impacts due to tourism development (Chen, 2001; Meyer, 2011; Yoon et al., 2001).

Although in the current study, respondents evaluated their satisfaction with environmental impacts favorably, a negative relationship was found between environmental impacts and quality of life. A reason for this could be concerns for the environment have become embedded in people's personal quality of life evaluations (Meyer, 2011). Thus, even though respondents had a favorable evaluation of environmental impacts in terms of minimal environmental damage and pollution, respondents still felt there was room for improvement and a negative relationship between environmental impacts, quality of life and support existed. On the other hand, it is possible that the respondents do not think these events can have a real environmental impact as research suggests that "small-scale events may have a lower carbon footprint" (Gibson et al, 2012, p. 162).

There exists some literature from the community quality of life context in which the environmental factor has been examined in relation to economic, social, physical, and security characteristics instead of just the natural environment (Vemuri, Grove, Wilson, & Burch Jr., 2011). Contrary to the findings of the current study, Vemuri et al., (2011) found a positive

relationship between environmental indicators of environmental quality on community and personal life satisfaction. Cummins et al., (2003) reported the same results, but their study focused on overall quality of life and community quality of life questions that included environmental indicators determining satisfaction with environmental quality. Furthermore, research has also found residents have indicated that environmental impacts are considered the most important aspect as it pertains to their quality of life (Karadakis & Kaplanidou, 2012; Andereck et al., 2007), and the findings of the current study support the call for more research examining the relationship between the environment and quality of life (Vemuri & Costanza, 2006; Vemuri et al., 2011).

Another interesting finding from the current study was the lack of a significant effect regarding perceptions of the socio-cultural and political event impacts on personal quality of life. Vemuri et al., (2011) examined the relationship between social capital, income and the natural environment with regards to personal and community life satisfaction. Their study found that income was a significant predictor of personal satisfaction (higher personal satisfaction was found with more income), but no relationship was found with community life satisfaction. Vemuri et al., (2011) go on to suggest that individuals focus on their individual psychological well-being when it comes to their personal life satisfaction, while social interactions are the focus for community life satisfaction. Vemuri et al., (2011) findings could explain why in the current study socio-cultural and political impacts did not have a significant effect on personal quality of life, but did for community quality of life. Specifically, respondents could have attributed socio-cultural and political impacts with social interactions and only for the community's quality of life. Furthermore, as mentioned above this could also explain the findings of the economic and environmental impacts with quality of life. Respondents'

associated economic and environmental impacts with their personal quality of life. Based on the results, it could be suggested that respondents believe the opportunity to engage in social interactions (socio-cultural impacts) and be included in community decisions (political impacts) are considered more important for their community quality of life than for their personal quality of life. Perhaps, hosting a sport event provided respondents with the opportunity to experience socio-cultural impacts in the community, and without the event personal benefits are not experienced or considered.

Finally, as the literature suggests (Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Andriotis, 2005; Andriotis & Vaughan, 2003; Ap, 1992; Bull & Lovell, 2007; Chen, 2001; Deccio & Baloglu, 2002; Gursoy et al., 2002; Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004; Harrill, 2004; Nunkoo & Ramkissoon, 2010; Perdue, Long, & Kang, 1999; Perdue et al., 1990; Preuss & Solberg, 2006; Wang & Pfister, 2008), support for hosting sporting events in a community can be predicted by benefits that residents perceive to experience. Specifically, in this study knowledge development, tourism, and personal quality of life were found to have a positive effect on respondents' support for hosting a sport event in the community. These results are in line with Wang and Pfister (2008) who argued it is not just the economic impacts that may influence residents' attitudes towards tourism and hosting an event but also non-economic impacts. As is the case of the current study, economic impacts did not predict support it was the non-economic impacts. What is surprising about the results was the lack of significant relationships between the other impacts such as economic, environmental, socio-cultural, political impacts and community quality of life. These results can be explained by social exchange theory.

As social exchange theory suggests, once an interaction occurs the individual conducts a cost-benefit analysis to determine if they are benefiting more than they are giving up (Emerson,

1976). If residents feel that benefits experienced from hosting the event outweigh the costs, then they will have a positive attitude towards hosting future events and exhibit supportive behaviors (Fredline, 2005). As the results of this study indicate, respondents evaluated that the knowledge development, tourism, and the benefits to their personal quality of life exceeded the costs of the other impacts resulting in support for hosting sport events in their community. However, on the other hand, respondents also indicated through the exchange process that they did not experience more benefits in terms of economic, environmental, socio-cultural, political impacts and community quality of life and thus these impacts did not affect their support for hosting a sport event. The results also support social exchange theory in the sense that the exchange process in which support is determined is based on an individual's subjective cost-benefit analysis (Cropanzano & Mitchell, 2005; Gouldner, 1960). Although respondents do consider the impacts of hosting an event on their community quality of life, it is only the impacts on their personal quality of life that lead to resident support.

Another possible explanation for the lack of significant relationships between impacts and support can be a lack of media attention or event publicity. Findings from Chien, Ritchie, Shipway and Henderson (2012) found that having an event covered by the media can be a useful method of promotion; however, a negative representation of the event can decrease and even reverse this effect. Specifically, Shipway and Henderson (2011) found that greater support for the event was provided by residents when the event was portrayed positively. With the events of the current study generating little attention by tourists and being mainly attended by friends and family members, there may be little incentive for the media to get involved and cover the event. This could lead to a lack of awareness of the impacts the event has on the community. Also, for those individuals that are not aware of the impacts associated with the event, this could explain

the lack of impacts on their personal quality of life and support for hosting events in the community.

Furthermore, looking at the results, and explaining the lack of significant relationship between economic, socio-cultural, environmental and political impacts can be attributed to the size of the event itself. As Higham (1999) suggested, small-scale events are held within existing infrastructure, they need little financial investment from the public, and there is less crowding or congestion. Therefore, the impacts from these events may seem minimal, or may not be significant predictors of support because these impacts are not as drastic or apparent compared to mega-events which produce more economic, socio-cultural, environmental and political benefits and costs (Fredline, 2005). It can be suggested that these impacts may become significant over time as they persist, and residents are likely to perceive impacts favorably if the event is in harmony with community values and the residents experience benefits through participation (Fredline, 2005).

The economic recession could also be a reason explaining the results of the current study, which is in line with Liu (2003) who found that the economic recession had a negative impact on the sustainability of tourism. This can also explain why psychological and infrastructure impacts had a positive effect on support, because parents and participants were more concerned about their personal happiness of their children (Gibson et al., 2012). The pride and joy of watching their children participate and have fun can cause individuals psychological impacts to increase, while the local infrastructure that was developed to host these events explains why infrastructure had a positive effect on support. Furthermore, the socio-cultural impacts can be explained by the fact that small-scale events heavily rely on local volunteers to be successfully executed. Therefore, although respondents did not feel they were personally benefiting from attending the

event, overall the community was being brought together. This was accomplished through the volunteers and children being given an opportunity to socialize and engage in cultural exchanges, develop knowledge and skills, which may explain the significant effects of the socio-cultural, knowledge development and tourism impacts on community quality of life.

Overall, respondents' perceptions with regards to the importance and satisfaction of impacts, satisfaction with their community and personal quality of life and support for hosting sport events in the community was positive (means were all above the mid-point of their respective scales). Moreover, in line with previous studies respondents specifically recognized the importance of, and being satisfied with the positive impacts of having infrastructure present in the community, as well as the importance and satisfaction of the psychological impacts of hosting a sport event in the community (Karadakis & Kaplanidou, 2012). The results of the path analysis are in line with previous research where support for hosting sport events in a community are influenced by the perceived positive impacts (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Kim et al., 2006; Deccio & Baloglu, 2002; Fredline, 2005).

As with previous impact studies, this study utilized social exchange theory as the theoretical framework (Ap, 1990; Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Andereck et al., 2005; Karadakis & Kaplanidou, 2012; Fredline, 2005), in which perceived impacts have been evaluated using a cost-benefit frame of mind and are therefore interpreted as having a positive or negative impacts on the community (McGehee & Andereck, 2004; Hritz & Ross, 2010; Gursoy et al., 2002 & 2009; Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Vargas-Sanchez et al., 2009 & 2011). It is also important to note that studies using scales to measure impacts have been through numerous factor analysis and the results show that it is difficult to construct consistent dimensions (Meyer, 2011). Furthermore, with the limited amount of impact studies focusing on small-scale sport events and the lack of

consistent scales, possible comparisons to previous studies is limited, and therefore tourism studies and mega-event literature was consulted. However, there are comparable findings with the impacts from the current study that are presented briefly.

In summary the current study found that residents' perceptions of positive infrastructure impacts have been found to improve or enhance quality of life (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011; Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Chalip, 2002; Liu, Sheldon, Var, 1987; McGehee & Andereck, 2004; Owen, 2005; Sirakaya et al., 2002; Whitson & Horne, 2006). Moreover, perceptions of positive psychological impacts such as an increased sense of pride can explain an improvement to quality of life as a result of hosting a small-scale sport event (Chabra & Gursoy, 2009; Horne, 2000; Veltri et al., 2009; Ziakas, 2010). Furthermore, socio-cultural impacts have been found to contribute to quality of life as a result of hosting small-scale events and tourism development (Kaplanidou et al., 2011; Meyer 2011; Walo et al., 1996). In the sustainable tourism literature it has been found that perceptions associated with political structure lead to resident satisfaction with tourism (Cottrell & Vaske, 2006; Cottrell, Vaske, Shen, & Ritter, 2007; Meyer, 2011). Tourism impacts associated with hosting a sport event in the community have been found to be perceived favorably by residents with regards to the attention generated from the event, attracting tourists because of the event and improving the city's image (Gursoy & Kendall, 2006; Higham & Hinch, 2001; Walo, et al., 1996; Gibson et al., 2003; Daniels & Norman, 2003; Kaplanidou & Gibson, 2010). As in previous studies that have utilized social exchange theory to determine support for hosting an event or tourism development, support is provided when residents perceive to experience more positive impacts such as improved quality of life, knowledge development, and tourism impacts than negative impacts (Andereck & Vogt, 2000; Andriotis, 2005; Andriotis & Vaughan, 2003; Ap, 1992; Bull & Lovell, 2007; Chen, 2001; Deccio &

Baloglu, 2002; Gursoy et al., 2002; Gursoy & Rutherford, 2004; Harrill, 2004; Ko & Stewart, 2002; McGehee & Andereck, 2004; Nunkoo & Ramkissoon, 2010; Perdue, Long, & Kang, 1999; Perdue et al., 1990; Preuss & Solberg, 2006; Vargas-Sanchez, Plaza-Mejia, & Porras-Bueno, 2009; Vargas-Sanchez *et al.*, 2011; Wang & Pfister, 2008).

Thus, the big picture of the current study is the importance that intangible impacts such as the psychological benefits have on quality of life and support. These intangible impacts of hosting a small-scale sport event need to be considered and examined. As suggested by Weed (2007), there is a need to be able to re-tell the experience of being at the event that contributes to the longevity of the experience, which could help maintain the perception of a positive event hosting in the community. Sports in general have an incredible ability to influence people's lives during hard times. The joy of watching their children play can serve as a means for parents to live vicariously through their children and unite the community. Seeing their children play and succeed can have an impact on quality of life for years to come. I am reminded of the Disney movie "Invincible" where the main character (played by Marc Wahlberg) is talking to his father before a game. The father tells the main character how during the recession, watching the Philadelphia Eagles score a touchdown helped him get through the recession. This is why studying the intangible impacts of sport events and the relationship they have on quality of life is important. With the amount of resources and money that goes towards developing sport related infrastructures (in the case of the current study, the Lake Myrtle Soccer Complex) positive intangible impacts to individual and community quality of life helps justify the use of resources and spending.

Theoretical Implications

This study contributes to the sport tourism literature, specifically examining perceptions of event impacts and their relationship with quality of life and support for hosting sport events. The

theoretical implications of this study include identifying the differential weight of impacts on residents' support for hosting future sport tourism events, and on community quality of life and personal quality of life. Knowledge development impacts were found to have the strongest relationship to support for hosting future sport tourism events. Community quality of life was affected mostly by infrastructure impacts, while personal quality of life was influenced by psychological impacts. This study also shows that the quality of life construct is multidimensional and should be considered as two separate constructs (community quality of life and personal quality of life) as event impacts can influence each differently.

This study extends the use of social exchange theory in the sport tourism studies with regards to small-scale events and resident attitudes. It also extends social exchange theory to understanding how importance and satisfaction can influence resident attitudes towards a small-scale sport event. As suggested by social exchange theory, respondents identified impacts that were important to them and evaluated their satisfaction with those impacts as it relates to their quality of life. It was also found that the evaluation process although it can occur on an individual and community level, overall support is predicted by an individual's cost-benefit analysis. As mentioned earlier social exchange theory is a social interaction theory that suggests an individual or group will be more agreeable to take part in an exchange with others if they feel that they benefit from the exchange. The results of this study support social exchange theory as we saw that it is not just the tangible but intangible impacts that lead to resident support. Therefore, this study adds to the literature by going beyond examining just the economic impacts of an event and considering the intangible impacts addressing a gap in the literature (Wang & Pfister, 2008). Furthermore, the study adds to social exchange theory by identifying that quality of life can serve as the perceived exchanged benefit in the exchange process showing that both

tangible and intangible impacts can predict resident support. As social exchange theory suggests, respondents felt that hosting the event increased their quality of life, and therefore this increase in quality of life lead to support for hosting a sport event.

However it is important to note a limitation for using social exchange theory in the current study was that it was used from an econometric perspective. The theory is limited to the fact that individuals are sensory machines and therefore perceptions in the current study are based on structures developed from multiple cost benefit analysis (the basis for which exchanges are evaluated in social exchange theory). From this perspective we know that individuals that experience benefits are more likely to be supportive of an event, especially if it is an economic benefit. However, there is a lack of understanding examining how the intangible impacts and exchanges that are difficult to measure in econometric terms affect support. Social exchange theory was useful in exploring the perceptions in the current study but it may not be adequate for examining perceptions of other stakeholders such as minority groups, different classes and races. Therefore, a broader theoretical base is needed to further the sport event impact and resident support discourse by making use of different theories such as class and race theories.

The model proposed and tested in this study provides a theoretical foundation for studying support for hosting a small-scale sport event in a variety of settings. The model can be applied and used to compare communities that host different types of small-scale sport events or that have different social structures. Furthermore, new factors can be added such as the economic state of the community and the dependency on the event; and overall attitudes toward the event may further explain support for hosting a sport event and improve the variance explained. Finally, the model contributes a theoretical basis for empirically testing and examining the

relationship between small-scale sport event impacts on quality of life and ultimately resident support for hosting future events.

Practical Implications

By gaining an understanding of how sport event impacts are evaluated, event organizers, the local government and the host communities can utilize their resources into improving programs related to the impacts residents feel contribute to the community's quality of life and their personal quality of life. The results from the current study are important for sport managers and event planners for several reasons. First, this study examined quality of life aspects within the context of small-scale sport events an area with scarce literature. Furthermore, this study measured the perceived importance and satisfaction of sport event impacts as they relate to quality of life, a relationship which in the sport-tourism and sport management literature has not been explored, to the author's knowledge.

Identifying the impacts of small-scale sport event hosting are important as it provides sport managers and event planners with useful information to leverage these events to enhance community and personal quality of life for residents and the host communities. These consequences should be considered during the planning period for future events as small-scale sport events tend to occur on an annual basis. Although all impacts were considered important in the current study, psychological and infrastructure were rated the highest and therefore the most important for quality of life. Furthermore, psychological and infrastructure impacts were found to positively increase perceptions of community and personal quality of life. Therefore organizers need to create programs and communication campaigns that promote the positive effects of hosting a small-scale sport event in the community. This can be done through the use of social media, community bulletin boards and the local newspaper.

For another small-scale sport event, similar or different perceptions of impacts may be experienced by the residents. The findings of this study suggest that not all impacts are equally important to residents, but there are certainly some more important than others which may satisfy the residents' expectations with regards to their quality of life and support for hosting sport events in the community. Thus, event organizers and planners can identify the areas that need support or improvement. Identification of problem areas should alert the event organizers and the local governments to direct more attention and resources towards these projects. This in turn, can lead to improving residents' support and help overturn any perceived dissatisfaction or negative attitudes. As the current study found, if residents perceive that impacts they believe to be important to enhance the community's and their personal quality of life and satisfy their expectations, support for future events can be achieved. With respondents indicating the importance and their satisfaction with the knowledge development, psychological and infrastructure impacts, organizers should ensure that they are maximizing opportunities for residents and participants to learn and gain new skills from the event. As mentioned above, use media outlets and create communications campaigns focusing on the psychological benefits that are experienced by hosting the event such as increased sense of personal and community pride, and feeling good about the community and themselves. This can be achieved by having organizers, the local government, community leaders, the local business bureau and any tourism agencies cooperate with each other in order to establish and promote a festive atmosphere and celebrate the event as a community increasing the sense of pride and community coming together. Furthermore, these initiatives as well as creating volunteer opportunities can lead to community engagement further increasing the positive experiences and provide residents with a feeling of inclusion and community or unity adding to the positive perceptions of the impacts on

quality of life and more specifically, the socio-cultural impacts. Finally, organizers and event planners need to ensure that the development or improvement to venues and facilities created for the event are converted to meet community needs and fit into the long-term profile of the community, so that residents can utilize and benefit from their use throughout the year (sustainable use of facilities).

Organizers and planners should further communicate accurate impacts that consider both the potential positive and negative impacts that residents may experience as tourism impacts were found to have a negative impact on the community's quality of life, but overall had a positive relationship with personal quality of life and support for hosting future events. Therefore, as Fredline (2005) suggests, if positive impacts are accurately communicated to residents and a perceived positive impact is experienced, the event will be considered a success and support for future events will be provided. In the current study it was identified that the tourism impacts had a negative impact on community quality of life. Therefore, event planners and organizers can be proactive in the planning efforts in dealing with these issues before hosting the event in the future. Specifically, organizers need to focus resources towards addressing the community's reputation, awareness and image as a tourism and sport event destination and improvements to the tourism infrastructure and development. If major tourism initiatives or any other initiatives relating to the event are undertaken by the community and the event organizers, then media communications (i.e., social media outlets, local newspapers and television stations) need to be consulted in order to inform residents of these initiatives and they can properly asses these impacts.

By utilizing the model to examine the type of impacts influencing resident support, event organizers and planners are in a position to maximize positive impacts and minimize negative

impacts experienced by the host community. This can lead to the event organizers and anyone that is associated with the event to avoid being criticized and instead be supported for hosting the event; it can also lead to validating the use of public resources for developing event related infrastructure; and, it could stimulate more interest in the event by the local community which will lead to the continuation of the event itself (Gratton & Preuss, 2008).

Conclusion

There are few studies that have directly explored residents' perceptions of the impacts hosting a sport event has on their quality of life, and relationships between quality of life perceptions and support for hosting additional events in the community (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011; Perdue et al., 1999). Furthermore, there is limited research examining perceptions of impacts of hosting a small-scale sport event in a community. As a result, and the contribution of this study was to address these gaps in the literature by examining the relationship between quality of life and the effect impacts have on resident support for the hosting of a small-scale sport event. Finally, this study also aimed to improve the understanding of resident support for hosting an event by extending the application of social exchange theory in the context of small-scale sports events.

By empirically testing quality of life (including both community and personal quality of life constructs) significant differences were found with regards to small-scale sport event impacts and quality of life. Community quality of life was significantly affected by psychological, infrastructure, socio-cultural, political and tourism impacts. Personal quality of life was significantly affected by psychological and infrastructure impacts. As social exchange theory suggested, individuals felt that their personal quality of life improved as a result of the impacts from hosting a small-scale sport event, and therefore support for hosting events was provided. Explanations for the difference between perceived impacts on community quality of life and

personal quality of life could be in the evaluation that respondents conducted. Specifically, respondents evaluated impacts on a personal level focusing on their personal quality of life while community quality of life is perceived to be affected by social interactions.

The need for studying impacts as it relates to quality of life increases the likelihood of identifying factors that predict resident support for hosting an event and helping policymakers improve the quality of life for the host community (Chen, 2001) and is another important factor of successful sport event management. As recent studies show, scholars have become more interested in the relationship between perceived impacts and resident quality of life (Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011; Cecil, Fu, Wang, & Avgoustis, 2010; Chancellor, Yu, & Cole, 2011; Karadakis & Kaplanidou, 2012; Schofield, 2011) and have been beneficial in developing measures for quality of life. Nevertheless, none have empirically tested quality of life by differentiating between community and personal quality of life. As we have seen through the literature review of small-scale sport events, impacts of tourism and mega-events tend to focus on the economic impacts and is largely the focus for justifying hosting an event and spending public money to pay for these events. However, recent research has found that positive intangible impacts such as psychological benefits, community benefits and improvement to quality of life can help justify hosting events and developing infrastructure for these events (Grieve & Sherry, 2012). Therefore, understanding how hosting a small-scale sport event impacts quality of life for individuals and the community is important as it can help organizers and policymakers justify the hosting of small-scale sport events in a community and using the community's resources for the event.

Future Studies

With small-scale sport events occurring on an annual basis, future studies examining quality of life could benefit by using longitudinal data. As Fredline (2005) suggested, impacts

from small-scale events may become more significant as time and the event continue. Furthermore, longitudinal data is useful because they help identify how importance and satisfaction of impacts may change over time and contribute to community and personal quality of life. For instance, with infrastructure being developed and established within a community, the importance or need for it may not be as high as it was in the current study. Therefore, future studies may find that the predictive power may not be the same, or even significant. Also, as the event attracts more participants, future studies may find that the tourism and economic impacts may contribute more to the community for which these impacts may begin to show a positive and significant relationship on quality of life and support. Also, respondents were asked about their perceptions during the event, and therefore future studies may want to focus on perceptions between the pre- and post-event stages. By utilizing longitudinal data organizers can examine resident perceptions before the event, which can help organizers address any concerns or problem areas early and be proactive in their planning efforts. During the event, organizers and event planners can focus on successfully delivering the event. Post-event organizers can evaluate their initiatives and determine what was successful, what areas still need additional improvement and then plan for the following year or for other similar events that the community may host.

As identified in the literature, there was no established scale to measure sport event impacts in the context of small-scale sport events, and therefore tourism and mega-event impact studies were consulted. Therefore, future studies need to refine and develop small-scale sport event impact scales, which will make it easier for direct and comparative analyses. This lack of a scale could also act as motivation or support for more qualitative studies in order to establish more reliable and accurate impacts. While the current study aimed to address the gap in the literature of examining the impacts of small-scale sport events on quality of life and predicting

support for hosting events in a community, future studies should duplicate the current study in similar contexts in order to gain a better understanding of the relationships between event impacts, quality of life and support.

The model in the current study examined the relationships between sport event impacts on quality of life and support for hosting an event. Previous research has used different impacts such as economic dependency on the tourism industry, involvement, community attachment, proximity to the event, and the state of the economy, and thus the model should be expanded to include some of these factors. Although community quality of life was not a significant predictor of support, the findings from this study showed that there are differences as to which impacts affect community and personal quality of life and therefore future research should make the distinction between community and personal quality of life.

Through the literature review of small-scale sport events, it was found that no small-scale event measurement scale existed. Therefore, future research should aim to create a measurement scale specifically for small-scale sport events, through the use of qualitative interviews with residents and other stakeholders. This may provide additional insight in understanding the relationship between perceived impacts and quality of life.

Future studies should also be conducted in the mega-event context in order to examine how perceived impacts affect quality of life and support, as research has reported that mega-events tend to be catalysts for developing infrastructure and have more impacts than small-scale events (Kaplanidou & Karadakis, 2010; Fredline, 2005). Future research should also include an evaluation of residents' event experience as an antecedent. Research by Kaplanidou and Vogt (2010) suggested that the meaning derived from an event experience is developed around satisfaction with the organizational, environmental, social and emotional characteristics. Since it

was found that active participants use a holistic assessment method when evaluating their event experience, it is important to understand and include how residents evaluate their satisfaction with the event experience when examining residents' perceptions of impacts from a sport event.

The current study only surveyed individuals that were present at one of the two soccer events, and therefore perceptions are based on these individuals' perceptions and experiences. Future studies should aim to include the general population as their perceptions may have provided a more comprehensive representation of how impacts affect personal and community quality of life and overall support for the broader community (Grieve & Sherry, 2012). The context of the current study was created so that respondents having attended a sport event in their community would evaluate the importance and satisfaction of their experiences in terms of impacts, quality of life and support for hosting additional events in their community, instead of the general population. While the current study was exploratory and provided insight into examining the relationship between small-scale sport events on quality of life from the perspective of those having attended these types of sport events, future studies could benefit from examining residents' perspectives in general to determine if the results would be similar to those found in the current study (Grieve & Sherry, 2012).

Limitations

The sample of the study only included respondents' that traveled or were present at the soccer tournaments, and therefore the findings may be limited in generalizability to similar communities that host soccer tournaments. However, generalizability of the findings was not the goal of this study, as the aim of the study was to test a theoretical model that has not been tested in the sport tourism literature, to the author's knowledge. The results however should be interpreted with caution as the nature of the study was exploratory and may not have included all possible factors.

No established scale for small-scale sport events was available and therefore impacts and items used in the study were based on an extensive literature review. This could explain why the items used in the study were highly correlated and limited the analysis to using path analysis. Scale development was not the goal of the study due to time and resource constraints. Responses tended to be more favorable, which implies that respondents may have been biased with their responses. Additionally, the results are limited to studies conducted during the event. Finally, impacts in this study were evaluated based on residents' perceptions and not on objective indicators which could present a different picture.

APPENDIX A
IRB CONSENT FORM AND SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

CONSENT FORM
Your Quality of Life and Sport

My name is Kostas Karadakis and I am a Graduate Student from the Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport Management at the University of Florida.

I am conducting a study for my Ph.D dissertation about the impacts of small-scale sporting events on a host community and its impacts on residents' quality of life. As a resident of a small-scale sports events host community, your participation is extremely important and appreciated and will provide us with a greater understanding of the residents' perceptions on this matter. The results of this study are expected to guide future sporting events and to address public concern regarding issues related to the hosting of sporting events. The study will help to better understand how to gain community support for hosting a sport event.

Your participation in completing this questionnaire is appreciated and should take about 10 minutes to complete. Your participation is completely voluntary and you may choose to discontinue participation at any time. There are no known physical or psychological risks associated with completing this survey. Choosing not to participate, or to discontinue participation will not result in any penalty. Your responses will remain completely anonymous and any provided personal information will be removed from the surveys for the data analysis. Once analysis of the data is complete, all interviews will be destroyed. You may ask for contact information regarding your rights as a participant and may request a copy of that information when you have completed the interview.

The survey is confidential; your confidentiality will be protected to the extent provided by law. There are no direct benefits or risks to you for participating in the study. There is no compensation to you for participating in the study. You are encouraged to ask any questions that you have throughout the research process. Completing this questionnaire will suggest your agreement to this consent form.

Investigators Signature:_____ Date:_____

If you have any further questions concerning this study, please contact: Kostas Karadakis, Graduate Student, Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport Management, 206F Florida Gym, P.O. Box 118208, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611-8208, Email: kkaradakis@hhp.ufl.edu, Phone: (352)327-5742. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant in this study please contact: UFIRB Office, Box 112250, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fl 32611-2250, Phone: (352) 392-0433.

Sincerely,

Kostas Karadakis, PhD Student
Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport Management
University of Florida

Approved by
University of Florida
Institutional Review Board 02
Protocol # 2011-U-0755
For Use Through 07-21-2012

Location:_____ Date:_____ Survey I.D._____ UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

QUALITY OF LIFE AND SPORT EVENTS SURVEY

1. Approximately how many miles did you travel to attend this event today? _____

2. How many sport events have you attended in YOUR HOME COMMUNITY in the past 24 months?_____ (If 0, is it because your community did not host any of these types of events during the past 24 months? 1☐ Yes 2☐ No, it is for other reasons (describe)_____

3. Read the statements in the middle. To the LEFT state HOW IMPORTANT these characteristics are to YOU in general. Then, thinking about sport events like the one you are attending today, evaluate HOW SATISFIED you are with the items in the middle describing certain aspects related to having these sport events in YOUR HOME COMMUNITY. If you feel the item we are asking you to evaluate in terms of satisfaction does not relate or is applicable to your community's small scale sport event then check the N/A box (not related/applicable to the event).

GENERAL IMPORTANCE						SATISFACTION WITH SMALL SCALE EVENT ASPECTS					
Unimportant	Somewhat unimportant	Neutral	Important	Very Important	Indicate IMPORTANCE to the LEFT and SATISFACTION to the RIGHT for the following…	N/A	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
1	2	3	4	5	Economic situation of your town/city	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Minimization of damage to the local ecosystem	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Community pride	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Creation of parks and leisure areas for local residents	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Acquirement of experience in hosting sport events as a person	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Tourists with high buying power	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Availability of leisure opportunities	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Communication between residents and community leaders	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Minimization of crime/theft/vandalism	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Feeling good about yourself	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Quality of police and fire department services	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Reputation of your community as a sport event destination	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Creation of jobs in your community	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Tourism infrastructure improvements (attractions, restaurants, etc)	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Volunteering opportunities for these sport events	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Residents being a part of community decisions	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Minimization of environmental pollution (trash, water, air, and noise)	☐	1	2	3	4	5

Please turn page

1	2	3	4	5	Improvement of the community's destination image	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Transparency of government decision-making processes in your community	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Economic benefits for the local residents	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Awareness of the community as a tourism destination	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Improvement of sport infrastructures (sport facilities, programs, etc)	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Community spirit	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Crowding of public spaces	☐	1	2	3	4	5
Unimportant	**Somewhat unimportant**	**Neutral**	**Important**	**Very Important**	**Indicate IMPORTANCE to the LEFT and SATISFACTION to the RIGHT for the following…**	**N/R**	**Very Dissatisfied**	**Dissatisfied**	**Neutral**	**Satisfied**	**Very Satisfied**
1	2	3	4	5	Improvement of public infrastructure (road network, civic centers, etc.)	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Cultural exchange between tourists and residents	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Cost of living	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Acquirement of experience in hosting sport events as a community	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Tourism development	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Buying power of your community	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Minimization of damage in the natural environment and landscape	☐	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Feeling good about your community	☐	1	2	3	4	5

4. What factors do you think make a small scale sport event a success for YOU and YOUR HOME community?

5. Do you have any other comments you would like to add about how these small scale sport events (like the one you attend today) impact YOU and YOUR HOME community?

Please turn page

6. Do you have any friends or family participating in the event you are attending today? 1☐ Yes 2☐ No

7. The following questions ask how satisfied you feel, on a scale from 0 to 10. 0 means you feel completely dissatisfied. 10 means you feel completely satisfied. And the middle of the scale is 5, which means you feel neutral, neither satisfied nor dissatisfied.

Thinking about YOUR COMMUNITY, how satisfied are you with…	Completely Dissatisfied					Neutral					Completely Satisfied
The government in the community	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The economic situation in the community	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The state of the natural environment in the community	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The business in the community	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The social conditions in the community	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The local security in the community	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Thinking about YOUR OWN LIFE, how satisfied are you with…	Completely Dissatisfied					Neutral					Completely Satisfied
Your future security	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Feeling part of your community	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Your standard of living	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
What you are achieving in life	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
How safe you feel	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Your health	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Your personal relationships	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Your spirituality or religion	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Your life as a whole	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

8. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements as they relate to your support for hosting future sport events in your community on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 = Totally Disagree and 5 = Totally Agree

	Totally Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Totally Agree
Hosting sport events can be one of the most important industries for a community	1	2	3	4	5
The hosting of additional sport events would help my home community's social growth	1	2	3	4	5
The hosting of sport events play a major economic role in my home community	1	2	3	4	5
I am proud to see tourists experience what my community has to offer when sport events are hosted there	1	2	3	4	5

I favor building new tourism facilities which will attract more tourists	1	2	3	4	5
Overall, I support the idea of hosting more sport events in my home community	1	2	3	4	5
Overall, I support tourism development through the hosting of sport events	1	2	3	4	5

9. Do you receive any immediate financial benefits from the small scale sport events being hosted in your HOME COMMUNITY?
1☐ Yes 2☐ No

10. On a scale from 1-10, with 1= not at all interested and 10 = completely interested

How interested are you…	**Not at all interested**									**Completely interested**
In sport spectating	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
In active sport participation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
In watching sport events	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
In volunteering for sport events	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

11. What are the 3 words that come to mind when you think of this event you are attending today?
1._____ 2._____ 3._____

12. Are you … 1☐ Male 2☐ Female **13. How many years have you lived in your city?** _____ **14. What year were you born?** _____

15. What is the highest level of education you have completed? Please ✓ one answer.
1☐ Less than High School Graduate 2☐ High School Graduate 3☐ Technical College 4☐ Some College (no degree) 5☐ College Degree 6☐ Advanced Degree

16.Which statement best describes your total 2010 annual household income (from all sources and before taxes)? Please ✓ one answer.
☐ Less than $20,000 2☐ $20,000 - $39,999 3☐ $40,000 - $59,999 4☐ $60,000 - $79,999 5☐ $80,000 or more

17. What is your ethnic background? Please ✓ one answer.
☐ White 2☐ African American 3☐ Asian 4☐ Hispanic or Latino 5☐ Pacific Islander 6☐ Other _____

18. What is your U.S. Zip Code:_____ -9☐ I do not live in the US

19. Would you be interested in participating in follow up interviews related to this topic?

Please turn page

1☐ No
2☐ Yes, **please provide your e-mail address or a phone number where you can be reached**_____

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire!

APPENDIX B
DEMOGRAPHICS

Table B-1. Participant demographics

Demographics	Frequency	Valid Percent
Gender		
Male	160	44.4
Female	200	55.6
Total	360	100.0
Highest level of education		
Less than High School Graduate	11	3.0
High School Graduate	57	15.8
Technical College	26	7.2
Some College (no degree)	65	18.0
College Degree	137	38.0
Advanced Degree	65	18.0
Total	361	100.0
2010 annual income		
Less than $20,000	26	7.4
20,000 - $39,999	31	8.8
$40,000 - $59,999	76	21.6
$60,000 - $79,999	76	21.6
$80,000 or more	143	40.6
Total	352	100.0
Ethnic background		
White	288	79.8
African American	18	5.0
Asian	7	1.9
Hispanic or Latino	44	12.2
Other	4	1.1
Total	361	100.0
Immediate financial benefits		
Yes	17	4.7
No	345	95.3
Total	362	100.0
County		
Polk County	143	40.2
Brevard	109	30.6
Orange/Seminole	15	4.2
Hillsborough	10	2.8
Clay	5	1.4
Martin	1	.3
Duval/Jacksonville	16	4.5
Broward	2	.6
Miami-Dade	12	3.4
Osceola	6	1.7
St.Lucie	8	2.2
Indian River	18	5.1
Alachua	11	3.1
Total	356	100.0

Table B-2. Miles traveled, events attended, years lived in city, sport interest

Categories	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Miles Traveled	361	45.1468	61.39216
Sports events attended past 24 months	362	26.8674	21.14753
Years lived in city	352	18.8920	13.54295
Sports interest	362	7.5967	1.92303

Table B-3. Miles travelled frequency

Miles Travelled to Attend the Event		
	Frequency	Valid Percent
1-50	271	75.1
51 or more	90	24.9
Total	361	100.0

Table B-4. Events attended in past 24 months

Events Attended in past 24 months		
	Frequency	Valid Percent
0-15	120	33.1
16-30	134	37.0
31-45	54	14.9
46-60	24	6.6
61 or more	30	8.3
Total	362	100.0

Table B-5. Years lived in current city

Years lived in City		
	Frequency	Valid Percent
1-10	131	37.2
11-20	77	21.9
21-30	73	20.7
31 or more	71	20.2
Total	352	100.0

Table B-6. Participants' age

Age		
	Frequency	Valid Percent
18-25	34	9.9
26-35	73	21.3
36-45	139	40.6
46-55	64	18.7
56 and above	32	9.4
Total	342	100.0

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Kostas Karadakis was born in Canada to Greek parents, George and Athena Karadakis. He earned his Baccalaureate in Social Sciences in 2004 from the University of Ottawa. Kostas continued his education at Liverpool John Moore's University and completed his Master in Business Studies in 2008. During this time he came into contact with his now advisor Dr. Kaplanidou who helped him pursue his Ph.D in Sport Management. At the annual Sport Marketing Association Conference Kostas and two fellow doctoral students won the graduate level case study competition for students. Also, Kostas was awarded with the 2010 Outstanding Student Award, from the University of Florida International Center presented at the 16th Annual International Student Academic Awards Ceremony. Kostas has also been involved in a number of international research projects dealing with the Vancouver Olympic Games and the 2010 World Cup where he assisted with the preparation and writing of a technical report related to spectator behaviors of the 2010 FIFA WORLD CUP™. This report was submitted to city of Pretoria in South Africa. The third international project Kostas has worked on involves the examination of legacy aspects among the residents of the four latest Olympic Summer cities: Atlanta, Sydney, Athens, and Beijing. For this project, Kostas has been assisting his advisor Dr. Kaplanidou with data analysis and report writing and the final report was submitted to the International Olympic Committee (I.O.C) in December, 2010. Together, Dr. Kaplanidou and Kostas have published three manuscripts and continue to work closely together on research focusing on sport tourism, mega-event impacts and legacies.