

WHETHER TO WIN AT ALL COSTS? - THE ATHLETES' ATTITUDES TOWARDS FAIR PLAY

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SUMMARY

The aim of this paper was to determine the athletes' attitudes about fair play in sports, ie to determine whether there are differences in the athletes' attitudes towards fair play in sports concerning gender, professional or amateur sports status, and length of participation in sport. Also, the research aimed to formulate an adequate questionnaire to assess athletes' attitudes towards fair play. The sample of subjects consisted of 150 respondents. The results showed that there is a statistically significant difference in the intensity of athletes' attitudes towards fair play concerning the gender of the respondents in all three subscales of the questionnaire (aggressiveness in the game, orientation towards victory, and orientation towards enjoying the game). It was found that there is a statistically significant difference in the intensity of athletes' attitudes in relation to professional or amateur sports status (sig. =.001). It was also found that there is no statistically significant difference in the intensity of athletes' attitudes about fair play in sports in relation to the length of participation in sports (sig. =.698). A questionnaire with a high degree of internal consistency was constructed (Cronbach alpha =.821).

Keywords: fair play, aggressiveness, rules, victory, attitudes.

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INTRODUCTION

Sport is characterized by values such as striving for exceptional achievements, dedication, teamwork, respect for rules and laws, respect for oneself and other

participants, respect for diversity, tolerance, integration, cooperation, honesty, courage, solidarity and fair play. Fair play is a moral category, one of the most important ethical issues in sports. In addition to respecting written rules, fair play also refers to respecting unwritten rules, which fall into the domain of morality. General moral principles also include sports principles, where it depends on the morality of the athlete whether fair play will be manifested in sports. Etymologically, the term fair play has been used for several centuries, and it comes from an English-speaking area. As an expression, it entered everyday communication only in the second half of the 19th century, although both *fair* and *play* individually are much older. The term *fair* has long been used in English literature and means nice/good/pleasant, initially as nice/good/pleasant weather, then moving on to the field of customs and morals (clean, untainted)¹. The term *play* stands for *physical activity, joy, play, fun*. Historically, fair play has been considered as an ideal of ethical behavior in sports, based on the glorification of values that presuppose beauty as an aesthetic and moral category. Fair play, which is acquired through sports competitions, is later projected on other areas of life. From the very beginning, it was associated with the ideals of medieval chivalry. To date, the term fair play has spread to many segments of society (financial fair play, fair play in the judiciary, politics, etc.). The authors Popescu and Masari² emphasize that fair play does not only mean respecting the rules of the game but also implies, in a broader sense, respect for the opponent and the approval of his physical and mental integrity. Moral values (altruism, sincerity, faith, dignity, responsibility) and psychosocial values (love, openness, social recognition, independence) are mainly related to individual networking with peers and socially and morally desirable behavior.

Fair play also stands for an honorable and chivalrous fight. It consists of respecting the rules, respecting the referee, and respecting the opponent. A true and honorable athlete never uses dishonorable means in a fight and always treats his opponent with full respect. According to a dictionary published by the University of Cambridge, fair play in sports implies respect for the rules of the game and the absence of an advantage over an opponent that has been acquired unfairly. According to the Declaration of the International Fair Play Committee, this social phenomenon does not only mean respecting the agreed rules of the game but in a broader sense includes respecting the opponent and preserving mental and physical dignity.

¹ T. F. Hoad, The concise Oxford Dictionary of Etymology (Oxford University Press, Oxford 2003).

²Popescu, Veronica, and Gianina-Ana Masari. "Comparative analysis of athletes' fair play attitude according to specific variables conditioned by sports training and competition." *Procedia-Social and Behavioral Sciences* 12 (2011): 24-29.

With the changes in society, the sport changed, and with it, the fair play. We are witnessing phenomena such as doping, aggressiveness of the players on the sport field, breaking the rules of the game, cheating, disrespecting opponents, referees, teammates, coaches, journalists, audiences, which violate the basic idea of sports that is to have fun with respect for all participants^{3 4 5}. Today, this notion of sport can be considered an archaic and romantic view of the world⁶. Money has an egocentric and destructive effect on the humane and noble core of sports. The immorality that has permeated sports in recent times has produced hooliganism and vandalism, as the core of violence⁶.

Sport can be defined as "an organized system of physical exercise, with an agonistic character, which strives to improve the personality in order to achieve maximum sports results"⁷. In the narrowest sense, it is related to competitive activity aimed at achieving the best possible result, as well as the development of psycho-physical abilities of the athlete. It can be divided into high-performance sports, competitive or professional and recreational sports⁸. Professional sports are defined as "the type of registered sport in which the athlete is professionally engaged and for such sports engagement he receives certain material resources that are sufficient (and even more than that) for the normal life of him and his family. Such participation in sports implies contracts, for which he receives a certain amount of money, a permanent monthly income, employment (and work experience) and usually very little rights of the athlete himself"⁷.

Attitudes are relatively permanently acquired predispositions that behave consistently towards a group of objects. The complex psychological structure of attitude consists of knowledge about the object of attitude (the cognitive component), feelings (emotional component), and readiness to act towards the object of attitude (conative or action component). Knowledge is not just perceptions and concepts about the object of attitude, but contains evaluation, includes positive or negative evaluation, assessment, and judgment about the

³ Morgan, William John. Ethics in sport. Human Kinetics, 2007.

⁴ Ignjatović, Aleksandar, Živorad Marković, Slađana Stanković, and Boban Janković. "Anti-Doping through the Pedagogical Approach." *Physical Education and Sport Through the Centuries* 4, no. 1 (2017): 24-37.

⁵ Conroy, David E., John M. Silva, R. Renee Newcomer, Brent W. Walker, and Matthew S. Johnson. "Personal and participatory socializers of the perceived legitimacy of aggressive behavior in sport." *Aggressive Behavior: Official Journal of the International Society for Research on Aggression* 27, no. 6 (2001): 405-418.

⁶ Рајко Куљић и Драган Коковић (2012). Социологија и социологија спорта. Нови Сад: Факултет спорта и физичког васпитања, 246-247.

⁷ Živanović, N., Randelović, N., Stanković, V., & Pavlović, P. (2010). *Teorija fizičke kulture*. Niš: Fakultet sporta i fizičkog vaspitanja.

⁸ Матић, М., и Бокан, Б. (2005). Општа теорија физичке културе. Београд: Факултет спорта и физичког васпитања.

characteristics of the object. The emotional component contains a sensitive attitude towards the object of the attitude, the experience that it is pleasant and attractive or unpleasant and repulsive⁹. The important determinants of attitudes are their relative durability, but also their acquisition. In practical terms, this means that once an attitude is formed, it lasts a relatively long time, but their acquisition indicates that they can change. Attitudes have a powerful effect on people because they act as motives, influencing perception, memory, and thinking.

Aggressive behavior, according to Rot, means "behavior that manifests itself in an attack on other people with the intention of harming another person"¹⁰. It represents the use of increased force, illegal moves, disrespect of the rules of the game. In the research conducted by Bredemeier and colleagues, it is stated that boys' participation in high-contact sports such as football or wrestling, as well as girls' participation in middle-level sports such as football and basketball, is associated with less mature moral judgment and greater tendencies toward aggression¹¹. These results are provided by two more studies that confirmed that participation of young people in sports with a medium level of contact and in sports with a high level of contact among the boys in the summer camp¹² corresponded to a greater tendency towards aggressive behavior in sports and the consideration of such behavior as legitimate.

Cruz and associates¹³ state that the organizers of the competitions, coaches, competitors, and parents of competitors overemphasize the importance of winning, which can transform what was originally a fun game into something very similar to work, and can also contribute to aggressive behavior of young athletes. These authors constructed a questionnaire used to measure the degree of fair play, which consists of three factors: the focus on winning, the importance attached to enjoyment (as opposed to working in sports), and aggressive behavior during participation in sport-related competitive activities. The results of the mentioned research indicate that excessive emphasis on winning negatively

⁹ Hrvatska enciklopedija, mrežno izdanje. Leksikografski zavod Miroslav Krleža, 2020.

¹⁰ Rot, Nikola. Osnovi socijalne psihologije: socijalizacija. Zavod za udžbenike i nastavna sredstva, 1994.

¹¹ Bredemeier, Brenda Jo, David L. Shields, Maureen R. Weiss, and Bruce AB Cooper. "The relationship of sport involvement with children's moral reasoning and aggression tendencies." *Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology* 8, no. 4 (1986): 304-318.

¹² Bredemeier, Brenda Jo, Maureen R. Weiss, David L. Shields, and Bruce AB Cooper. "The relationship between children's legitimacy judgments and their moral reasoning, aggression tendencies, and sport involvement." *Sociology of Sport Journal* 4, no. 1 (1987): 48-60.

¹³ Cruz, J., Capdevila, L., Boixados, M., Pintanel, M., Alonso, C., Mimbrero, J., et al. "Identificación de conductas, actitudes y valores relacionados con el fairplay en deportistas jóvenes. Investigaciones en Ciencias del Deporte, 9, (1996):37-87.

correlates with enjoying sports and positively with aggressive behavior on the sport field. Similar results have been reported in other studies^{14 15}.

The aim of this paper was to determine the athletes' attitudes about fair play in sports and to determine whether there are differences in the athletes' attitudes towards fair play in sports concerning gender, professional or amateur sports status, and length of participation in sport. Also, the research aimed to formulate an adequate questionnaire to assess attitudes towards fair play in sports.

METHOD

The sample of subjects consist of 150 respondents, registered athletes from South-east Serbia. Approximately half of the respondents (77 respondents or 51.3%) were male, and half were female (73 respondents or 48.7%). The only condition for participation in the research was that the respondents participate in sports, more specifically, team sports. The most common sports were volleyball, handball, basketball and football. Playing sports in the sense of this research means that the respondents train at least three times a week, as well as to represent their clubs in competitions.

The questionnaire consisted of 23 statements was constructed for the purposes of this research, in order to examine attitudes towards fair play in sports. The answers were recorded on a five-point Likert-type scale. Values that are higher (closer to grade 5) indicate that the respondents more agree with the statements that are in the spirit of fair play (higher level of fair play among respondents). The survey is constructed based on similar questionnaires and it contains three subscales. The first subscale contains 12 items related to aggressive behavior on the sports field (inappropriate use of force, rough play), the second subscale refers to the degree of player orientation towards victory (6 items), and the third subscale refers to the enjoying in sports (5 items). In addition to these statements, the questionnaire identified the following research variables: respondents' gender, professional or amateur sports status, and length of sport engagement.

The subscale that includes a set of questions about aggressive play consists of the following statements:

¹⁴ Cecchini, José A., Javier Montero, and José V. Peña. "Repercusiones del programa de intervención para desarrollar la responsabilidad personal y social de Hellison sobre los comportamientos de fair-play y el auto-control." *Psicothema* 15, no. 4 (2003): 631-637.

¹⁵ Cecchini, José A., Carmen González, Jaime López Prado, and Robert J. Brustad. "Relación del clima motivacional percibido con la orientación de meta, la motivación intrínseca y las opiniones y conductas de fair play." *Revista Mexicana de Psicología* 22, no. 2 (2005): 469-479.

1. *It is acceptable for an athlete to react violently if a foul is committed against him.*
2. *Rough play is justified if the rival team also uses rough play.*
3. *It is justified to foul an opponent if he verbally provokes.*
4. *Fair play implies an honorable and chivalrous fight.*
5. *It is allowed to commit minor offenses if the judge does not see them.*
6. *Unnecessarily large force should not be used over a visibly weaker opponent.*
7. *It is necessary to publicly acknowledge and raise your hand when a foul is committed on a match.*
8. *If a player accidentally pushes or hits an opposing player, it is common to apologize.*
9. *It is important to respect the rules of the game, especially those related to not committing a foul.*
10. *The respect for the decisions of the judge is in the spirit of fair play.*
11. *Aggressive behavior towards opposing players is not in the spirit of fair play.*
12. *Entering verbal discussions with an opponent is not in the spirit of fair play.*

The subscale, which includes a set of questions about winning orientation, consists of the following statements:

13. *The most important thing in sports is to win.*
14. *The most important thing is to be at the top of the ranking table.*
15. *The important thing in life is not to triumph but to compete.*
16. *Winning the Olympic Games is the culmination of any sports career.*
17. *You should strive to win at all costs.*
18. *He who loses on the sports field becomes a loser in life as well.*

The subscale, which includes a set of questions about the focus on enjoying the game, consists of the following statements:

19. *The most important thing (in sports) is to enjoy sports.*
20. *In team sports, it is more important to win than to enjoy the game.*

21. Professional sport has no elements of fun in the game /competition.
22. I love workouts dominated by play and fun.
23. I would recommend everyone to do the sport in which they have the most fun and enjoyment, regardless of the financial component of doing that sport.

Based on the set goals, statistical methods were determined, which were used to obtain results and test the set hypotheses. The SPSS 20 statistical package (IBM Corp. Released 2011. IBM SPSS Statistics for Windows, Version 20.0. Armonk, NY: IBM Corp.) was used for data processing. In addition to the parameters of descriptive statistics, to estimate the internal consistency of the questionnaire, the Cronbach's α coefficient was calculated, and to determine the differences between the groups, Mann Whitney U test and Kruskal Wallis Test for nonparametric data were conducted.

RESULTS

The largest number of respondents have been involved in sports for more than seven years (40%), followed by a category from 3 to 5 years (19.3%), and a group from 5 to 7 years of involvement in sports (19.3%). Approximately 12% of all participants have been involved in sports for one to three years, while 9.3% of respondents have been involved in sports for less than one year. More than one-third of participants (36%) earn money from sports, while 64% do not earn money by participating in sports activities. Respondents who earn money from sports are marked as "professional athletes" for the purpose of this research.

A total of 86.7% of respondents learned about fair play principles in the family, while 13.3% acquired knowledge about this sporting phenomenon elsewhere. A total of 48% of respondents claimed to have no problem with aggressive behavior, while 52% of respondents confirmed that they occasionally had a problem with their aggressive behavior. Respondents often resolve conflicts between teammates or friends (65.3%).

Table 1. Descriptive statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Mean/group	SD
Q1	150	1	5	4.05		1.241
Q2	150	1	5	3.43		1.495
Q3	150	1	5	4.05		1.287
Q4	150	1	5	4.71		.840
Q5	150	1	5	3.51		1.394
Q6	150	1	5	3.73	4.18	1.413
Q7	150	1	5	4.30		1.079
Q8	150	1	5	4.61		.911
Q9	150	1	5	4.57		.854
Q10	150	1	5	4.42		.985
Q11	150	1	5	4.52		1.028
Q12	150	1	5	4.23		1.171
Q13	150	1	5	2.89		1.324
Q14	150	1	5	2.93		1.396
Q15	150	1	5	3.99	3.15	1.366
Q16	150	1	5	1.83		1.085
Q17	150	1	5	2.93		1.459
Q18	150	1	5	4.31		1.094
Q19	150	2	5	4.61		.802
Q20	150	1	5	3.11		1.480
Q21	150	1	5	3.53	4.03	1.487
Q22	150	1	5	4.36		1.025
Q23	150	1	5	4.55		.784

Legend: Q = question, Minimum = lowest value, Maximum = highest value, Mean = arithmetic mean, Mean / group = arithmetic mean for subscale, SD = standard deviation

Table 1 shows the minimum, maximum, and average values, as well as standard deviations. Values that are higher (closer to grade 5) indicate that the largest number of respondents agree with the statements that are in the spirit of fair play (higher level of fair play among respondents). The highest average score (4.71) is given to the statement that says "Fair play implies an honorable and chivalrous fight". Highly rated statements also were: "The most important thing (in sports) is to enjoy sports" (4.61) and "If a player accidentally pushes or hits an opposing player, it is common to apologize" (4.61). On the other hand, statements: "Winning the Olympic Games is the peak of every sports career" (1.83), "The most important thing in sports is to win" (2.89) and "The most important thing is to be at the top of the ranking table" (2.93) were rated with the lowest grades.

Table 2. Reliability of the questionnaire for measuring attitudes towards fair play in sports

Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized items	N of items
.821	.828	23

The reliability of the questionnaire for measuring attitudes towards fair play in sports is .821 (Table 2), ie it can be argued that there is a high reliability of the questionnaire that was constructed for the purposes of this research.

Table 3. Difference in the intensity of attitudes towards fair play in relation to gender.

	FAIR PLAY
Mann-Whitney U	1484.000
Wilcoxon W	5139.000
Z	-4.
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.000

Table 3 shows the results of the Mann-Whitney U test. There is a statistically significant difference concerning gender (Sig. = .000).

Table 4. The difference in the intensity of attitudes towards fair play in sports concerning the gender of the respondents in the subscale that measures attitudes about the aggressive behavior of athletes.

	SUBSCALE AGGRESSIVENESS
Mann-Whitney U	1932.000
Wilcoxon W	5587.000
Z	-3.155
Asymp. Sig.(2-tailed)	.002

Table 4 shows the results of the Mann-Whitney U test. There is a statistically significant difference in the intensity of attitudes about fair play in relation to the gender of the respondents in the subscale that measures attitudes about aggressive behavior of athletes (Sig. = .002).

Table 5. The difference in the intensity of attitudes towards fair play in sports concerning the gender of the respondents in the subscale that measures the orientation of the respondents towards winning in sports.

	SUBSCALE VICTORY
Mann-Whitney U	1743.000
Wilcoxon W	5398.000
Z	-3.882
Asymp. Sig.(2-tailed)	.000

Table 5 shows the results of the Mann-Whitney U test. There is a statistically significant difference in the intensity of attitudes about fair play in sports concerning the gender of the respondents in the subscale that measures the attitudes towards winning in sports (Sig. = .000).

Table 6. The difference in the intensity of attitudes towards fair play in sports concerning the gender of the respondents in the subscale that measures attitudes about enjoying sports.

	SUBSCALE ENJOYMENT
Mann-Whitney U	1520.500
Wilcoxon W	5175.500
Z	-4.736
Asymp. Sig.(2-tailed)	.000

Table 6 shows the results of the Mann-Whitney U test. There is a statistically significant difference in the intensity of attitudes about fair play in sports concerning the gender of examinees in the subscale regarding enjoying sports (Sig. = .000).

Table 7. The difference in the intensity of attitudes towards fair play in sports concerning the professional or amateur sports status.

	PROFESSIONAL STATUS
Mann-Whitney U	1754.000
Wilcoxon W	3239.000
Z	-3.283
Asymp. Sig.(2-tailed)	.001

Table 7 shows the results of the Mann-Whitney U test. There is a statistically significant difference in the intensity of attitudes about fair play in sports in

relation to the professional or amateur sports status of the respondents (Sig. = .001).

Table 8. The difference in the intensity of attitudes about fair play in sports concerning the length of engagement in sports - Ranks

Length of engagement in sports		N	Mean Rank
Fair Play	1	16	62.28
	2	18	82.36
	3	28	73.54
	4	29	79.12
	5	59	76.14
Total		150	

Table 9. The difference in the intensity of attitudes about fair play in sports concerning the length of engagement in sports - Kruskal Wallis Test

FAIR PLAY	
Chi-Square	2.205
df	4
Asymp. Sig.	.698

a. Kruskal Wallis Test

b. Grouping Variable: Length of engagement in sports

Tables 8 and 9 shows the results of the Kruskal Wallis Test. There is no statistically significant difference in the intensity of attitudes about fair play in sports in relation to the length of playing sports (Sig. = .698).

DISCUSSION

The test results for determining the reliability of the questionnaire indicate that the questionnaire has a high level of internal consistency (Table 2). The highest average grade (4.71) made a statement: "Fair play implies an honorable and chivalrous fight". The claims "The most important thing (in sports) is to enjoy the sport" (4.61) and "If a player accidentally pushes or hits an opposing player, it is usual to apologize" (4.61) were also highly rated. On the other hand, the following statements made the lowest scores: "Winning the Olympic Games is the peak of every sports career" (1.83), "The most important thing is to be at the top of the ranking table" (2.90) and "The most important thing in sports is winning"

(2.95). It can be noticed that the lowest marks were given to the claims related to the orientation towards victory subscale. The average value of the answers in the specified subscale is 3.15. The average value in the subscale about aggressiveness in sports is 4.18, and in the subscale that refers to the orientation of athletes towards enjoying the game, the average value is 4.03. In a study conducted by Bermejo et al.¹⁶, it is stated that the average answer is 2.39 on a similar scale measuring attitudes towards aggression in the sports (in three team sports: football, basketball and handball). It can be concluded that the desire to win puts sports ethics and moral limitations of athletes to the test, which is in line with other research^{17 18 19 20 21 22}. The average value in the total sample for the respondents (male) is 3.84, while the average value for the female respondents is 3.93. Female respondents showed a slightly greater orientation towards fair play.

Tables 3-9 show the differences in the intensity of athletes' attitudes about fair play for the entire questionnaire, as well as for all three subscales. There is a statistically significant difference in the intensity of attitudes in relation to the gender of the respondents (sig. = .000 -.002). Also, there is a statistically significant difference in the intensity of attitudes about fair play in sports in relation to the professional or amateur sports status of the respondents (sig. = .001). It can be assumed that the differences stem from the focus of the respondents on achieving victory, which can also be related to the sports salary (34.4% of respondents earn from sports), that often depends on the outcome of the match. On the other hand, it can be assumed that amateur athletes are more oriented to enjoy the game, which is in line with the results obtained by Summers and associates²³. The results of the research show that there is no statistically significant difference in the intensity of attitudes about fair play in sports in relation to the length of playing sports (sig. = .698).

¹⁶ Bermejo, Manuel, Pere Antoni Borrás, M. Victoria Haces-Soutullo, and Francisco Javier Ponseti. "Is fair play losing value in grassroots sport?." *Revista de psicología del deporte* 27, no. 3 (2017): 1-5.

¹⁷ Sheridan, Heather. "Conceptualizing Fair Play: A Review of the Literature." *European Physical Education Review* 9, no. 2 (2003): 163-184.

¹⁸ Loland, Sigmund. "Justice in sport: An ideal and its interpretations." *Sport, Ethics and Philosophy* 1, no. 1 (2007): 78-95.

¹⁹ Allen, Justine, and Lorcan Donal Cronin. "A review of the academic research relevant to future developments of Positive Coaching Scotland." (2016).

²⁰ Clark, Amanda. "Coaching abuse experiences in young elite female artistic gymnasts: An ethical appraisal." (2017).

²¹ Joubert, Pierre. "Accountability under the coach-athlete relationship in sport." PhD diss., University of Pretoria, 2018.

²² Serrano-Durá, José, Pere Molina, and Alejandro Martínez-Baena. "Systematic review of research on fair play and sporting competition." *Sport, Education and Society* (2020): 1-15.

²³ Summers, Jeffery J., Victoria J. Machin, and Gregory I. Sargent. "Psychosocial factors related to marathon running." *Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology* 5, no. 3 (1983): 314-331.

Respondents to the questions related to aggression in the game mostly gave answers that are in the spirit of fair play. A smaller percentage of respondents support aggressive play, which can be associated with a higher orientation towards victory²⁴. More than half (52.7%) of respondents completely disagree with the statement that it is acceptable for an athlete to react violently if a violation has been committed against him. A total of 4.7% of respondents fully agree with this statement, ie they justify aggressive play, and accordingly, there is a probability they apply in the game it in the stated circumstances. Still, the highest percentage (39.3%) of the respondents do not support rough play, even in circumstances where opposing players do so. The largest percentage of respondents (54%) also do not support rough play in the case of the verbal provocation of opposing players. As many as 84.7% of respondents believe that fair play implies an honorable and chivalrous fight. On the other hand, 22% of respondents partially agree with the statement "It is allowed to commit minor offenses if the judge does not see them", although the largest number of respondents (34%) completely disagree with that statement. The largest percentage of respondents (44%) believe that excessive force should not be used against a weaker opponent. Nevertheless, 11.3% of the respondents believe that it is acceptable to apply excessive force over a visibly weaker opponent. Approximately 60% of respondents (59.3%) fully agree with the statement that it is necessary to publicly admit a foul on a match. A total of 78.7% of respondents agree with the statement that it is common for a player to apologize to an opposing player if he accidentally pushes or hits him. 73.3% of respondents fully agree with the statement "It is important to respect the rules of the game, especially those related to not committing a foul". The largest number of respondents (66.7%) fully agree with the statement that respect for the judge's decisions is in the spirit of fair play. The largest number of respondents (76%) fully agree with the statement that aggressive behavior towards opposing players is not in the spirit of fair play. The largest number of respondents (60%) fully agree with the statement "Entering verbal discussions with an opponent is not in the spirit of fair play". The obtained results indicate that the respondents believe that the manifestation of respect for fair play in sports is more pronounced if there is a possibility of public condemnation for non-compliance with the principle of fair play.

When it comes to the orientation of athletes towards victory, it can be noticed that for a smaller number of respondents it is an imperative. The largest number of respondents (36.7%) partially agree with the statement "In sports, the most

²⁴ Cecchini, José A., Javier Montero, Alicia Alonso, Mikel Izquierdo, and Onofre Contreras. "Effects of personal and social responsibility on fair play in sports and self-control in school-aged youths." *European Journal of sport science* 7, no. 4 (2007): 203-211.

important thing is to win", while 20.7% completely disagree. The largest number of respondents (37.3%) partially agree with the statement that the most important thing is to be at the top of the ranking table, while 22.7% completely disagree with this statement. Half of the respondents (50.7%) fully agree with the Olympic maxim "The important thing in life is not to triumph but to compete". Also, half of the respondents (50%) completely agree with the statement that winning the Olympic Games is the culmination of any sports career. Another 28.7% of respondents partially agree with this statement, while 13.3% of respondents do not have an established position on this issue. 16% completely agree with the statement "We should strive to win at all costs", while 22.3% of respondents completely disagree. 63.3% completely disagree with the statement "He who loses on the field becomes a loser in life", while 18% of respondents partially disagree.

The results related to the orientation towards enjoying the game indicate that the respondents are largely oriented towards enjoying the game. 74.7% of respondents completely agree with the statement "The most important thing (in sports) is to enjoy sports". Another 15.3% of respondents partially agree. 18% of respondents completely agree with the statement "In team sports it is more important to win than to enjoy the game", while 26% of respondents completely disagree. A total of 43.3% of respondents completely disagree with the statement "Professional sport has no elements of fun in the game/competition", while 11.3% of respondents completely agree. A total of 83.4% of respondents fully and partially agree with the statement "I like trainings dominated by play and fun". A total of 89.3% of respondents fully and partially agree with the statement "I would recommend everyone to do the sport in which they have the most fun and enjoy, regardless of the financial component of doing the sport".

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research, it can be concluded that registered athletes who engage in collective sports are familiar with the principles of fair play and that they generally respect them on the field. However, the results regarding the importance of winning in sports indicate that it is the primary goal of a large number of athletes, where winning at any cost can transform what was originally a fun game into something very similar to work and can contribute to athletes behaving aggressively. The research showed that there are statistically significant differences in the intensity of athletes' attitudes in relation to gender, as well as in relation to professional and amateur sports status, while the differences are not statistically significant when it comes to the length of the participation in sport. The obtained questionnaire can be used in future research in determining attitudes towards fair play in sports.

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ДА ЛИ ТРЕБА ПОБЕДИТИ ПО СВАКУ ЦЕНУ? - СТАВОВИ СПОРТИСТА О ФЕР ПЛЕЈУ

САЖЕТАК

Циљ овог рада био је утврђивање ставова регистрованих спортиста о фер-плеју у спорту, односно утврђивање да ли постоје разлике у ставовима спортиста о фер-плеју у спорту у односу на пол, професионални или аматерски спортски статус и дужину бављења спортом. Такође, истраживање је имало за циљ да формулише адекватан упитник за процену ставова о фер-плеју. У анкети је учествовало 150 испитаника. Резултати истраживања су показали да постоји статистички значајна разлика у интензитету ставова спортиста о фер-плеју у односу на пол испитаника и то у све три субскеале упитника (агресивност у игри, оријентисаност ка победи и оријентисаност ка уживању у игри). Утврђено је да постоји статистички значајна разлика у интензитету ставова спортиста у односу професионални, односно аматерски спортски статус ($\text{sig} = .001$). Утврђено је да не постоји статистички значајна разлика у интензитету ставова о фер-плеју у спорту у односу на дужину бављења спортом ($\text{sig} = .698$). Конструисан је упитник са високим степеном интерне конзистенције ($\text{Cronbach alpha} = .821$).

Кључне речи: фер-плеј, агресивност у спорту, правила, победа, ставови.

МОЖНО ЛИ ВЫИГРАТЬ ЛЮБОЙ ЦЕНОЙ? – ОТНОШЕНИЕ СПОРТСМЕНОВ К ЧЕСТНОЙ ИГРЕ

АННОТАЦИЯ

Целью данной статьи было определить отношение спортсменов к честной игре в спорте, то есть определить, существуют ли различия в отношении спортсменов к честной игре в спорте в зависимости от пола, профессионального или любительского спортивного статуса и продолжительности занятий спортом. Кроме того, исследование направлено на разработку соответствующей анкеты для оценки отношения спортсменов к игре по правилам. Выборка испытуемых составила 150 респондентов. Результаты показали, что существует статистически значимая разница в интенсивности отношения спортсменов к честной игре с учетом пола респондентов во всех трех подразделов анкеты (агрессивность в игре, ориентация на победу и ориентация на получение удовольствия от игры). Было установлено, что существует статистически значимая разница в интенсивности отношения спортсменов к профессиональному или любительскому спортивному статусу (сигн. = 0,001). Также было обнаружено, что нет статистически значимой разницы в интенсивности отношения спортсменов к честной игре в спорте в зависимости от продолжительности занятий спортом (сигн. = 0,698). Была разработана анкета с высокой степенью внутренней согласованности (альфа Кронбаха = 0,821).

Ключевые слова: честная игра, агрессивность, правила, победа, отношение.

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