Abstract

Title:

Fair play as the Core of Sports Ethics in General Awareness and in Terms of the Gender Gap

Objectives

To look at the concept of fair play from various points of view, and not only that of sports. Analysing fair play not only as appropriate behaviour in sports but also as conduct to which we ascribe a certain moral value and towards which something motivates us. To interpret the actions rewarded with the top prize of the Czech Fair Play Club. To compare the view of fair play among active athletes and people who play sports recreationally or not at all. To discover whether there is a difference in the male and female understanding of fair play – whether in terms of sports or not.

Method

The theoretical section is based on relevant research and consists of a conceptual analysis and comparison of texts. The practical section includes an investigation by questionnaire among 65 respondents, from active athletes, to recreational sportsmen of greater or lesser intensity, to those who hardly play sports at all. Interpretation of the answers to 15 of the questions is focused on breaking down the target group according to age, gender and their attitude towards sports. The selection of the respondents was made entirely randomly, with questionnaires sent out to people from the region of Prague and their family members. In this way it was possible to obtain a non-homogeneous group. Only some of the questionnaires were completed, the aforementioned 65 from 104 questionnaires, i.e. 62,5 % returned.

Results

The result is a compilation of the themes that gives a more precise profile of the phenomenon of fair play (the issue of rules, doping, emotions, motivation) in the present day and in the recent past. The special contribution of the historical part of the work is the deeper analysis of the actions requarded with the top prize of the Czech Fair Play Club. The practical section revealed that respondents have a relatively clear idea of what fair play means. This differs however according to the extent to which they themselves are able to abide by it. The attitudes of men and women within our sample were not greatly discrepant.

Key words:

Fair play, sports ethics, conscience, women's sports, gallantry, rules, doping, sports history.