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Ethics & Sports

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Abstract: Education should enable a person to give an upper hand not only in academics, but also in mental and moral sphere. Ethics is the study of moral or character. Morals pertain to an individual's motives, intentions and actions as right or wrong or good or bad. Social and moral are two different types of character values in sports where social character values includes loyalty, dedication, sacrifice, teamwork and good citizenship.(Lumpkin, Stoll & Beller,2002),while moral values include honesty, fairness, fair play, justice and responsibility. The arena of sports provides many opportunities to a student to learn honesty, integrity and ethical behavior and values in the different situation during play. Every sportsman should have very careful about use of drugs and obey the rules of game. Following sectors should have very careful during sports activities i.e Coaching, Staff & Management, Media, referees ,fans, environment, role model ,humanity ,relationship etc. This article deals with the ethically issues. To build the character in students and children sports arena is one of the most important platforms. During practice and competition trainer learn good moral habits. Players should aware towards the ill effects of drugs and doping because we can't overlook sloping & drugs issues. It can be concluded that sports have immense power to shape consciousness value and beliefs of athletes and have the power to pass on various aspect of dominant culture from one generation to another.

Key words : Education,Ethics,Morals,Character.

Introduction:

Education should enable a person to give an upper hand not only in academics, but also in mental and moral sphere. Ethics is the study of moral or character. Morals pertain to an individual's motives, intentions and actions as right or wrong or good or bad. Character is interrelated with three dimensions: knowing valuing and doing right thing. Ethics includes characteristics of good character i.e. trust- worthiness, respectfulness, responsibility and good citizenship.

Social and moral are two different types of character values in sports where social character values includes loyalty, dedication, sacrifice, teamwork and good citizenship.(Lumpkin, Stoll & Beller,2002),while moral values include honesty, fairness, fair play, justice and responsibility. If we violate any one of these, we violate people directly. Social values are positive assets but must be pampered by moral values. The arena of sports provides many opportunities to a student to learn honesty, integrity and ethical behavior and values in the different situation during play.

Ethics word derived from Greek word ethos or behavior is concerned with question about right versus wrong conduct and for good or bad life. Health ethics is the interdisciplinary field for each study. Player's health & use of drugs is one of the important ethically issue which need to be improved. The assumption is that player should take care of themselves and be healthy enough to participate in practices and games. No coach should force to player to participate in activity unless the player is healthy. The health of player is more important than any game or practice. We cannot overlook doping & drugs. Unfortunately there are number of players who use drugs. We should be careful about their images because many of them are role models for children around the world. As for doping now a day's international governing bodies of sports have a long list of forbidden materials that should not be taken before during and after the competition. Even then this is very criticality controversial issue. Everyone should have very careful about use of drugs and obey the rules of all bodies. Following sectors should have careful towards ethics.

Coaching Staff & Management:-

On the behalf of coaches & management staff they should abide by the rules of game and business life. Management actions should be unbiased & just Evaluation should be fair and depends on facts. Sometime the management or the coach feels that one player is indispensable or to make happy to the boss they often act more favorably towards the player. This kind of favoritism caused problem for the performance of whole team. Actually it is against the ethics, due these kinds of issues our country's sports performance detroit day to day.

Media: - Media discussed many issues of ethics. How true is media? Do media always tell the truth about player? These kinds of all questions come to the mind. T.V. channel give more publicity to those clubs & particular players who paid high salaries to the journalist and donation to the channels. Clubs buy the elite players with high amount of salaries to play for them. Media's role is to give the true analysis of sports. As media give more stress on cricket than other sports which is ethically wrong to promote one sports and ignore other ones. Each sport will get equally weight by media.

Referees: - On the other hand Referees are the most controversial group in the sports industry. Now a days where huge amounts of money/ or other valuable are at stake, ethical values are critical for this group. Referees should have educated properly. They should be treated respectfully. Referees use unethical means when they will not given proper respect. If a referee is underpaid he may be vulnerable to making decisions in favor of a team.

Fans:- This is the only group that does not directly earn anything, but on the contrary pays to watch sports event since they support the game in general or a specific team, some members of this group think that they deserve and have every right to act against the rules and regulations which is against the ethics. Fair play means playing as a good sport and following the moral values of honesty and justice. The player plays by the rules and is fair and honest to his/ her opponents. For development of ethics many factors influenced the individual. Good ethics makes a good personality.

Environment:- The informal process of moral character development is highly influenced by the environment. An individual learn from his family, traditions, friends and religious groups but when they enter into the world of sports they heavily influenced by their peers value & practices. On other hand television, newsprints, movies also influence the individual's behavior. Environment education also influences the athlete's thinking and behavior. The videos of good sportsman also influence the team. So sports environment also helps to develop the Ethics in individual. It provides many opportunities to the athletes, coaches and the community.

Role Model:- Role modeling is an informal process of character education that leaders take responsibility for their action and demonstrate good character. Any person can serve as a role model and teach through action and words. Athlete's life can be influenced by the coach's verbal and non verbal instruction including body language, gestures and facial expressions. These all values may however help to create a moral awareness among athletes which leads to the development of educational programs. Coaches are expected to conform to ethical standards in a number of areas humanity, relationship, commitment, cooperation, integrity, advertising, confidentiality, safety and competence.

Humanity:- Humanity is one of the most important and first factor of ethics coaches must treat everyone equitably and sensitively within the context of their activity and ability.

Relationship:-The good coach will be concerned primarily with the wellbeing, safety, protection and future of the individual performer. There must be balance between the development of performance and the social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs of athlete. Performers must be encouraged and guided to accept responsibility for their own behavior. Coaches are responsible for setting the boundaries between a working relationship and friendship with their performers. This is very important when athlete is a young person. The coach must realize that in different situations where he/she should be friendly words or vice versa. We should also careful about the outsiders. Physical contact between coach and trainee is a necessary part of the coaching but coach must ensure that no action on their part could be misconduct.

Commitment:- Coach should be clear with their trainees regarding number of sessions, fee and other commitment. Written contracts may be appropriate in some circumstances. He should expect a similar level of reciprocal commitment from their performers. Coach should receive appropriate acknowledgement, share of reward for their contribution to the performers achievements where money is earned from performances. It is necessary this type of contract should be agreed in advance to avoid any misunderstanding.

Co-operation:- Coach should communicate and cooperative with other sports and other profession in the best interests of their performance.

Integrity:- Coach must not encourage the athletes to violate the rules of sport and use of unfair means. Coach must ensure the activities and training of their trainees and must accept responsibility for the conduct of their performers and discourage the negative behavior.

Confidentiality:- Coach should not disclose any important matter of one athlete to any other athlete for ex.

- Recommendations for employment
- Evaluation for competitive selection purposes.
- Legal & medical requirements for disclose.
- Any other personal matters.

Abuse of Privilege:- A coach & Performers relationship is very close & real relationship. A coach must not attempt to exert under influence over the performer in order to obtain personal benefit or reward. Coach should never smoke or drink alcohol while coaching.

Safety :- It is duty of coach that all reasonable steps should be taken to protect children from harm and abuse, establish a safe working environment and arrange adequate insurance to cover all aspects of their coaching practice.

Competence:- Coaches shall confine themselves practice in those elements of sports for which their training and competence in recognized.

Responsibility:- coaches have a responsibility to themselves and their performers maintain their own effectiveness and abilities. Coach should welcome evaluation of their work by colleagues and others.

Conclusion:- To build the character in students and children sports arena is one of the most important platform. During practice and competition trainer learn good moral habits. Formal education can involve extensive study where athletes are challenged by peers, instructors and coaches. They must know the value of ethics because coaches are the guide of their trainees. Players should aware towards the ill effects of drugs and doping because we can't overlook sloping & drugs issues. It can be concluded that sports have immense power to shape consciousness value and beliefs of athletes and have the power to pass on various aspect of dominant culture from one generation to another.

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