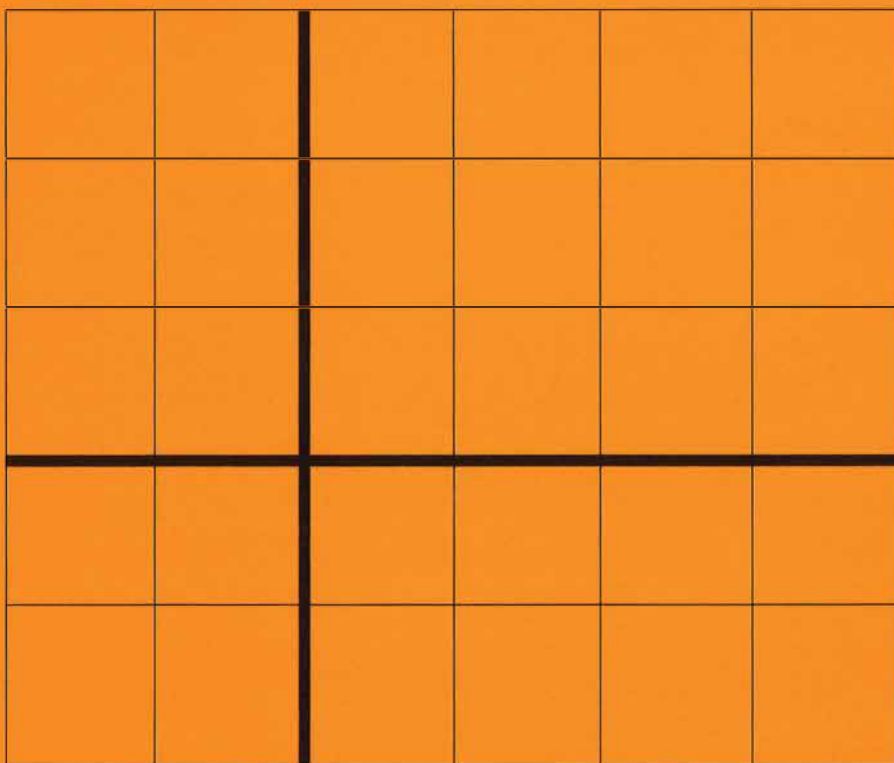


# ETHICS OF SPORT

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Junior football players as cross-  
national interpreters of the moral  
concepts of sport

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## Preface

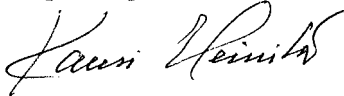
In competitive sport the expression "fair play" often stands as a very important symbol. M.J. Borotra has eloquently stated: "The defense of sport implies on the first place the defense of fair play". However, in the real world of modern sport, what is the valid meaning of fairness in terms of overt behavior? To what extent does it have any instrumental implication in the heat of the contest? What do athletes mean by fair, or right, behavior in sport? Are they unanimous in their notion about what is right or wrong in a contest?

The written and unwritten rules are of primary interest when considering a competitive sport as a system of regulation. The problem of regulation interested the author several years ago, resulting in some very preliminary investigations about the conceptions athletes and sport leaders have on accepted/non-accepted behavior in competitive sport. As a matter of coincidence Mr. Peter C. McIntosh, Senior Inspector of physical education of London, had been asking the same type of concerned questions relative to the problems of regulation clearly accentuated in contemporary sport. Through the initiative of Mr. McIntosh, and our mutual personal exchange, research into the conceptual reality of sport was encouraged. From these beginnings a study was developed and research design organized for the cross-cultural analysis of the ethical conceptions in sport.

I am very grateful to my friend Peter C. McIntosh and Mr. Allen Wade, the outstanding football coach and recognized expert, for the help and advice they gave me in the planning and later in taking care of the data collection from England, and with the valuable support of the Football Association in England. Despite their expert help, however, I certainly could not fulfill all the expectations which arose from what I had learned. Once again, a pilot study remains a pilot study and nothing else.

I thank also Mr. Per-Gunnar Holström who later became interested in joining the project and collecting the data from Sweden. And last but not least I am very grateful to Mr. Risto Tervo, M.A., who as my research assistant had the main responsibility for carrying out the research plans. As an active player and football coach he also contributed in a valuable way to the operationalization of the moral categories. The Finnish Football Association was once again very co-operative in giving without prejudice the help needed for the study. The research grant and the scholarship from the Ministry of Education made this study economically possible.

Jyväskylä Sept. 15th 1973

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lauri Heinik". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

C O N T E N T S

1. Sport as an intention system .....	1
1.1. Social intentions .....	2
1.2. The system-intentions .....	2
1.3. Personal intentions .....	3
2. Ethics of sport .....	3
3. The functions of ethics in sport .....	4
3.1. The frame ethics of sport .....	4
3.2. The humanizing of contests .....	6
3.3. Human relationship .....	7
3.4. Integration .....	8
3.5. Maintaining the identity .....	9
4. The variety of ethics .....	10
5. The purpose of the inquiry .....	14
6. The problems of definition and measurement .....	15
6.1. The definition of the moral concepts .....	15
6.2. The aspects of moral conceptions .....	17
6.3. The problems of measurement and the limits of inquiry .....	17
6.4. The sample .....	19
6.5. The analysis .....	19
7. The observations .....	20
7.1. The structure of ethics in football .....	20
7.2. The moral systems of sport .....	29
7.3. The ethics and the regulation of game behavior .....	36
7.4. The variety of the moral conceptions .....	42
8. The ethics of sport .....	46
 <u>Appendix</u>	
Some other observations .....	52
Questionnaire .....	54
Correlation matrix of the moral items .....	62
Correlations of scale items in the national samples .....	63
The moral items: means and standard deviations .	65
The cross-tabulation of scales .....	66

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A great number of spectators tends to regard a sport contest as a concrete and clear-cut happening. The simple structure of a contest is, however, only apparent and this is due to the limitation of human perception. In fact, a contest, especially in championship sport, stands for a complex phenomenon and this complexity seems to have increased lately. The sport event watched by spectators covers only a fraction of the total system of competitive sport, most of it being realized in an extensive and all-year-round programmed training. Championship sport resembles, more and more, an iceberg with only 1/7 of it visible and most of it submerged under the surface. In sport, part of its technology, communication, regulation and incentives is overtly observable but another part is covert. This invisible part, the latent face of sport, tends to be exposed to transformation and is of great significance for the future of sport. <sup>1)</sup>

1. Sport as an intention system

Sport can be regarded as a social action with many divergent intentions. Some of those intentions are official and stated in the rules and directives of the authorities, most of them representing, however, unofficial and unwritten principles, expectations of the public, or the personal pursuits of

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1) Although an international competition seems to test, on equal terms, the actual variation of achievements of national teams/athletes, it tests, in fact, more extensively those inequalities and differences found on geographical, technological and societal conditions and sport systems in various countries; Kalevi Heinilä, Kilpailun mieli ja mielettömyys, in print.

athletes etc. 1) Man and his society express and realize themselves in sport; no human intention, whatsoever, is absent from sport: sport can serve war or peace, nationalism or internationalism, egoism, or altruism, materialism or idealism etc. 2)

### 1.1. Social intentions

Social intentions refer to those objectives or expectations which are directed toward the sport system from the outer system of society. These might be official directives, pursuits of some group or the functional needs of social institutions as well as the expectations of the public.

Recent development tends to increase the dependence of sport on its societal conditions, while its social character and significance gets more recognition, at least as a mass entertainment and diversion. Along with spectators, visiting sports arenas there also enter tensions and norm pressures of modern life, a need for relaxation and diversion, desire for identification and belongingness but also for solitude. The official will of society in sport is well personified by the English bobby, a well known public figure in European TV.

### 1.2. The system-intentions

The system-intentions refer first of all to the realization of the basic idea of sport activities, be it "joy for

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- 1) Hans Lenk has explored the official intentions of the Olympic Games and their realization in practice; *Werte, Ziele, Wirklichkeit des modernen olympischen Spiele*, Schorndorf bei Stuttgart, 1964. Those latent intentions in sport, e.g. cheating and the legitimate misleadings, is explored by Günther Lüschen in his interesting paper "Cheating in Sport" presented at the Symposium "Sport and Deviancy"; Brockport 1971. Some scholars of sport even claim to find unconscious manifestations of sexual drives and libido; Adrian Stokes, *Psycho-Analytic Reflections on the Development of Ball Games*, Particularly Cricket; *The International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, vol. XXXVII, 2/3 1956, 185-192.
  - 2) Very comprehensive critical analysis on the functions and intentions of sport in society is made by Böhme et al., *Sport in Spätkapitalismus Frankfurt/M*, 1972 (2. enlarged ed.).



exertion", pursuit of victory, love of sport, playfulness or some other intrinsic value of sport itself. Secondly, it refers to the continuance of sport in terms of a further development of the sport event in question and to the improvement of its functional requirements as a system, like the maintenance of tension balance, integration and the sufficient reliability of the end result of the contests.

### 1.3. Personal intentions

Personal intentions refer to the motivating incentives of athletes and participants engaged in sport. These might partly be the same as the above-mentioned system-intentions, partly idiosyncratic intentions such as pursuits for fame and public recognition, search for material benefit and demonstrations of one's competence or muscularity or other aims of self-realization.

## 2. Ethics of sport

All these various intentions plausible in sport are regulated by norms which define the accepted and non-accepted intentions and means. Ethics of sport consist of these norms. There exists the distinction between the official and unofficial ethics of sport. The official ethics can be deduced from the official rules or be codifiable from the directives of the authorities in sport. These official ethics can, of course, be inconsistent with those norms and conceptions of right and wrong, accepted and non-accepted conduct regulating athletes' behavior in an actual competition. In that case there exists the so-called double morality in sport. The official ethics are common to all parties and universal, whereas the unofficial can be varied in different sport events and in different countries: the ethics of football is probably different in England, Brasil or Italy; further, the ethics in icehockey, football and basketball variate with regard to the permissiveness of violence in conduct.

Fair play conceptions are obviously an essential part of the ethics in sport but are distinct from the latter in respect that, while ethics in sport are supposed to varyiate by definition, the fair play conception designates the particular conception of the right conduct in sport.

### 3. The functions of ethics in sport

Some amount of regulation is necessary for any society. Ethics, moral norms, defining proper and improper behavior aim to regulate life in a society.

A moral regulation is needed in co-operation, but particularly in competition susceptible to conflicts: without common and equal rules, without the common consent of acceptable ways to pursue victory and without loyalty to the rules competition-co-operation would not be possible. The continuance and the proper function of any society depend, among other things, upon this moral regulation. Competitive sport cannot ensure its existence upon jungle morality, not even professional sport. The ethics of sport contribute to the integration and continuance of sport but, if transformed into the jungle morality, to the decay and fall of sport.

"Fair play thus represents the attitude of mind that not only gives nobility to sport but is also the condition of its survival in the face of the serious dangers that threaten it (FCFP--French Committee for Fair Play)<sup>1)</sup>

#### 3.1. The frame ethics of sport

The frame norms of society define those models and virtues of behavior which contribute to the continuance and welfare of society at large: "what is good in family life, in education,

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1) For the description of the proposed functions of ethics some citation of fair play concepts are exemplified.

or proper order and obedience, loyalties and duties of citizenship, or what promotes decency and responsibility, industriousness and thriftiness and effectiveness." 1)

The ethics of sport is related to the ethics of society; it is, in fact, part of its society and the notion: sport can be as good or as bad as a society of which it is a part, has some validity. If consistent with the ethics of society, sport very likely contributes to its own survival, but if deviant it might vitiate those conditions vital for its own prosperity. Eric Dunning has indicated that the transformation of football and changes in its rules run parallel with the changes of the level of tolerance of violence observed in the recent history of society. Thus the civilization process of society has its impact on football, too.<sup>2)</sup>

The variation of ethics in different societies, with varying tolerance of violence, is probably demonstrated in the popularity of combat sport like boxing and ice-hockey and in the degree of their social acceptance. The latent violence in a society might, perhaps, be reflected in its sport culture?

Moral norms in sport can be accepted in a society even if deviating from the frame norms. Within the permissiveness

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- 1) According to Edmund Dahlström, these ethical frames of society also include so-called "norms for orientation", which prescribe proper pursuits and interests in a society. Besides the ethical norms, also those official norms "which are directly, overtly and consistently sanctioned by a society" regulate the affairs of groups in a society; Normer, avvikelse och social kontrol, Joachim Israel (ed.), Sociala avvikelser och social kontrol, Stockholm, 1964, 20-26.
  - 2) Eric Dunning, The Development of Modern Football, Eric Dunning (ed.), The Sociology of Sport, London 1971, 133-141; In Finland Elina Haavio-Mannila has demonstrated that with this civilization process, the traditional village fight institution was substituted by modern sport movement; Elina Haavio-Mannila, Kylätappelut, Helsinki 1958 with the English Summary: Village Fights, A sociological study of the Finnish village fight institution.

of society , a fist-fight, which outside the sport arena certainly lands one in jail, can be tolerated as sport. In the permissiveness and in legitimating violence in sport, a society tends to regulate the latent aggressiveness in society and discharge it through sport in rather a harmless way, as Konrad Lorenz has proposed. But it is still only a proposition, and a society with permissiveness in sport might as well encourage violence in general.<sup>1)</sup>

### 3.2. The humanizing of contests

Even while accepting violence, ethical norms regulate its application and humanize a contest by prohibiting those actions and practices that are too risky for one's health. On the other hand the ethical norms, especially in professional and other profit-minded sport, tend to become more permissive in this respect.

A competition involves, sui generis, conflict of interests, however much regulated. A competition as such, and beating others in pursuit of victory are, rather poor and non-benevolent actions in ethical or human terms. Whether or not there are any moral or humanistic benefits involved, depends therefore upon the way these actions are carried out: fairness, loyalty to common rules, respect for justice and for one's opponent but also the way one faces success or failure in contest. In humanizing contests ethical norms provide social recognition for sport and contribute to its very survival.

"It will either be the path of humanism, for humanism is taming the savage in us and, even more, building character by training body and soul together; or it will be the path of chauvinism, if not racism, in which man destroys man in succession of degrading conflicts" (René Maheu)

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1) This important issue has been discussed by Philip Goodhart and Christopher Chataway: War without Weapons, London 1968, and Peter C. McIntosh in his review: Aggressive Sport, Sport & Recreation, Vol. 10, no. 1, 1969, 12-15.

"...fair play, which gives sport its human quality and is compounded of complete honesty towards one's opponent, even in the heat of the most strenuous contest, and exacting moral self-criticism ..." (René Maheu)

"...they must keep watch over this spirit of restraint, of truth, of friendship which gives sport its human quality and which explains its extraordinary radiance and development" (Declaration on Sport/ICSPE)

"If, for some unfortunate reason, fair play disappears from the world of sport, competitions would become occasions to cheat, lie and be brutal; they would no longer create but destroy human relationship and sport would lose its main justification" (Declaration on Sport/ICSPE)

### 3.3. Human relationship

A competition yields winners and losers, it rewards some and frustrates others. Stakes and stresses tend to be increased in championship sport and a contest approaching zero-sum-game probes the social bonds of athletes. While recognizing common friendship and self-restraint as moral values, the ethics of sport tend to mitigate the strict distinctions and the seriousness of human problems due to competition. If, on the contrary, those distinctions, are valued in ethics the problems of human relations are likely to be accentuated in sport.

"It is a form of self-respect shown by ... respect for the opponent, whether winning or losing ... modesty in victory, equanimity in defeat. It is a spirit of generosity towards the opponent creating a warm human relationship" (FCFP)

"Respect for the opponent is a fundamental feature of the rules, both written and unwritten. At no time and in no way should the opponent be considered an enemy, or even a threat. He should be recognized as an indispensable partner in the pleasure of playing, helping us, in friendly competition, to improve our own standards through sport" (FCFP)

"... acknowledge the merit of your opponent and congratulate the victor ... remain modest when you are victorious and acknowledge the efforts of the defeated" (Otto Szymiczed, The International Olympic Academy)

"... he must believe that the loser is no less worthy than the winner that the result is less important than giving the best effort and sticking to the rules. He demonstrates humility in victory and pride in defeat ..." (Beisser)

#### 3.4. Integration

Common rules and honest adherence to them are vital conditions for the integration and continuance of competition as a system. The ethics of sport contribute to that integration when and if the loyalty to rules, the necessity of control and self-discipline and the authority of umpires are duly recognized. With official rules it is not possible to regulate completely those divergent situations of the actual contest, even less those of training, but the unwritten norms of "sportmanship" define the proper behavior in those unpredicted situations. Apart from giving the very identity to a particular sport event the rules purport to guarantee the proper meaning of the competition: the valid comparison of sporting achievements and efforts. To the same end contributes also the demand for equality in the conditions of the competition in rules and equipment. Likewise, the principle of "on equal terms" concerns the conditions of training but not so strictly and successfully. Honesty and loyalty to rules and to the principles of "on equal terms" are basic elements in ethics, contributing to the integration of competition.

"The sportman must obey the spirit and the letter of the rules in complete loyalty" (Declaration on Sport/ICSPE)

"The basic characteristic of the moral principles of competitive sport is the application of the rule "to compete on equal terms" (Otto Szymiczek, The International Olympic Academy)

"Anybody who breaks the fair play, disrespect also the informal norms of sport, Contrarily, the athlete who obeys the rules, may, however, act against the norms of sportmanship" (transl.) (Hans Lenk)

"Fair play implies:

1. The sincere desire for one's opponent to be on equal terms with oneself ... refusing wherever possible, to benefit from special circumstances which unjustly handicap one's opponent...
2. being extremely scrupulous regard to the means of winning refusing to use means which, even if not against the rules, are not specifically provided by the rules, and give oneself an obvious advantage ... accepting any decisions by the umpire or referee that are not in one's favour..." (FCFP)

"Fair play is thus the resolute and persistent refusal of victory at any price. It is an attitude imposing an exacting moral standard for oneself, since it stems from the inward conviction that to win by cheating, by an umpire's error, or by an unfair stroke of fate is not really to win. Fair play is therefore not only the strict observance of the written rule, but also of the unwritten one." (FCFP)

### 3.5. Maintaining the identity

The ethics of sport also tend to regulate the identity of sport. This function can be called, in Parsonsian terms, maintaining the value pattern of sport. This maintenance involves attempts to preserve the very idea of sport and to protect it against, let us say, commercial and political interventions or, contrarywise, just their encouragement in sport. Although the very purpose of sport can be different, its very essence as a competition proper presupposes everywhere real effort and sufficiently matched partners. The pattern maintenance is also concerned with the supervision of the validity of a competition as a test for superiority.

"...We must avoid excesses in training, in participation to competition, in the importance given to the results. These excesses can be a threat to the health and mental balance of the young athletes..." (Declaration on Sport/ICSPE)

"You must always compete to the best of your abilities and do not give up the contest even if the outcome is likely to be unfavourable (Otto Szymiczek, The International Olympic Academy)"

"Any attempt to restrict access to sport for racial, political or religious reasons, or to establish a discrimination of any kind, is incompatible with the spirit of sport" (Declaration on Sport/ICSPE)

"The contestants should be of comparable strength. It is when the chances of victory or defeat for each competitor are approximately even that fair play has its fullest significance." (FCFP)

"Exploited as it is for political, ideological or commercial purposes, owing to its great popularity, sport is in danger of losing its true character. Instead of being a chivalrous contest, of formative value, it becomes a merciless struggle in which question of prestige, popularity and money override all other considerations... Chauvinism, nationalism, racialism and commercial interests then spoil the whole spirit of the game" (FCFP)

"... we practise it (fair play) in sport ... for the good and for the preservation of sport itself... Like all man's activities, sport is threatened by the undue importance that contemporary society attaches increasingly to success, regardless of the means used to attain it." (FCFP)

#### 4. The variety of ethics

The official ethics can deviate from the existing moral norms of reality. Different teams and individual athletes can have a different notion on ethical norms. The moral conceptions can be, to a great extent, consistent with the frame norms of a society, e.g. in the socialist countries this is likely to happen and common morality penetrates sports, whereas in the western democracies the more pluralistic framework also produces more varieties in ethical conceptions in sport.

Despite relatively structured and stable moral conceptions the situation factors can cause fluctuations. Thus the undertakings and the actions of one's opponent might result in some temporary revision of one's moral conception; likewise the strictness or looseness of the umpire's control or the behavior or expectations of the audience might give sufficient



reason for changes in the moral orientation of teams/players.<sup>1)</sup>

With the expansion of sport and with the upgrading of the level of achievement the very nature and purpose of sport undergoes some transformation enforcing respective transformation of its ethics too. The changes in the very nature of sport are reflected sooner in its ethics than in its easily lagged rules.<sup>2)</sup>

Philosopher James W. Keating regards also the differences in intentions of sport as a primary cause for distinctions in moral conceptions.<sup>3)</sup> Keating makes the clear distinction between athletics and sport as to their purpose and moral conceptualization.

#### Purpose and nature

##### Athletics

Athletics is essentially a competitive activity, which has for its end victory in the contest and which is characterized by a spirit of dedication, sacrifice and intensity.

Honorable victory and the objective, accurate determination of superior performance.

The objective of the athlete demands exclusive or predominant possession of the victory at the expense of his competitor; two cannot share in the same victory.

#### Morality

Fairness, the pivotal virtue in athletics, emphasizes the need for an impartial and equal application of the rules if the victory has any validity and is to signify athletic excellence.

While an athlete is, in essence, a prizefighter, he seeks to demonstrate his excellence in a contest governed by rules which acknowledge human worth and dignity. He mistakes his purpose and insults his opponent if he views the contest as an occasion to display generosity and magnanimity.

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- 1) Gerhard Vinnai proposes that e.g. in football the teams test the permissiveness of umpires; the toughness of game are adjusted accordingly; Fussballsport als Ideologie. Frankfurt am Main 1970, 87.
  - 2) Kalevi Heinilä, Football at a cross-roads, The regulative lag of rules in sport is well explored by James A.R. Nafziger, The Regulation of Transnational Sport Competition: Down from Mount Olympus, Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law, Vol. 5, no 19, 1971.
  - 3) James W. Keating, Sportmanship as a Moral Category, Ethics, Vol. LXXV, no. 1, 1964, 25-35.

### Sport

The primary pursuit in sport is the derivation of immediate pleasure for oneself and all participants.

In sport the simulated competitive atmosphere camouflages what is at bottom a highly co-operative endeavour to maximize pleasure or joy to be found in the activity itself.

The pivotal or essential virtue in sportmanship is generosity. The sportman prefers to be generous whenever generosity will contribute to the fun of the occasion. As a result of this spirit, a determined effort is made to avoid all unpleasantness and conflict and to cultivate, in their stead, an unselfish and co-operative effort to maximize the joy of the moment.

According to Keating's proposition the ethic is determined by the very purpose of sporting activity and the moral conceptions in athletics are thus incompatible with those in sport. This proposition comes close to the more general postulate of the functionalists according to which each system tends toward the balanced state in which the components fit consistently with each other. It is obvious that the upgrading process observed in amateur sport and the concomitant transformation of the very nature of sport have contributed to the alienation of the actual practice from the official intentions and morality. For that reason it is likely that ethics in amateur sport differ from ethics in professional sport. The more exclusively a victory and success become valued as a goal the more amateur sport tends to resemble, also in ethics, prizefighting and the professional sport:

"While the sacred ideology of amateurism is superseding the new secular morality, effectiveness, is emerging advocating the compatible justification of the efforts imposed by the upgrading demands for success. According to this new technocratic kind of morality, the issues in sport which really count are the very success and the complete devotion

to the pursuits for this goal and for records...<sup>1)</sup>

Stakes are increasing in championship sport, a victory gets revalued and the stress of the competition harder while obstacles to success have to be overcome. There are few exceptions and even the ethical considerations have to be adjusted to the main efforts for success.

Gresham's law might also emerge in sport: bad morality tends to defeat the good one; unfairness tends to encourage unfairness. Melvin Tumin argues consistently when he writes about the principle of least significant morality and most immoral member in business life:

"In any social group, the moral behavior of the group as an average will tend to sink to that of the least moral participant, and the least moral participant will, in that sense, control the group unless he is otherwise restrained and/or expelled.... Bad money may not always drive out good money, though it almost always does. But "bad" conduct surely drives out<sup>2)</sup> "good" conduct with predictable vigor and speed"

In the competition for victory the leading team and the most successful athletes and record holders stand for "the significant others" with whom the performances and achievements are compared, evaluated and modelled. In this respect champions are probably imitated even in the moral matters of sport. In the world championships of weight-lifting in 1970 it was revealed that among the best lifters doping was almost the rule rather than an exception. The use of drugs such as anabolic steroids

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- 1) Kalevi Heinilä, Citius-Altius-Fortius, The Olympic Contribution to the Professionalization of Sport; paper presented in the World Congress 1972 in Munich; Harry Webb has proposed that achievement criteria and success as desired goal characterizing the industrial society favour the emphasis on skills but undermine the value of equity; he found that the attitudes of children tend to get more "professionalized" toward plays and games as their age increased e.g. the diminishing importance of fairness and the concomitant increase in importance of skills and training; Professionalization of Attitude Toward Play Among Adolescents, Aspects of Contemporary Sport Sociology, Gerald Kenyon (ed.) Proceedings of C.I.C. Symposium on the Sociology of Sport, Chicago 1969, 161-178.
  - 2) Melvin Tumin, Business as a Social System, Behavioral Science Vol. 9. no. 2, 1964, 127.

amongst the most successful athletes in the events demanding explosive strength has enhanced their popularity; toughness as a game morality has, with the famous Canadian ice-hockey teams, become the common practice amongst the leading European teams. Since ethics of champions has 'proved' its validity it tends to become the prevailing ethic in sport.

##### 5. The purpose of the inquiry

The official morality of sport has not kept up with the recent development of sport technology: know-how technology yields continuously new inventions to maximize performances while the resolutions of their acceptance are delayed. Thus the control of development by ethical norms lags behind as usual. At the same time, with the upgrading of the level of performance the problems of regulation tend to be increased. The integration of the competition depends partly on the extrinsic control of authorities proper - e.g. on umpires in games - partly on the self-regulation of teams and athletes themselves.

In sport secularized by the demands for effectiveness, the integration decreasingly tends to depend on the self-regulation by the shared norms of ethics and increasingly on the extrinsic control and the sufficiency of the sportive sanctions available but these remain insufficient and depend upon the coercive power of police and army!

It is evident that "the law and order" in sport cannot be maintained mainly by means of the extrinsic control; the contribution of self-regulation is also needed. The outcome of this self-regulation depends, in turn, on ethics itself and its capacity for a regulation. The deficiencies in this respect can be traced to many sources:

- 1) the internalization of ethical norms, the moral socialization, can remain deficient;
- 2) there might be no consensus amongst athletes and teams on the moral considerations in sport;

- 3) the moral conceptions might include norms which make a competition vulnerable to conflicts (e.g. "toughness");
- 4) the ethics of sport might be so permissive that it comes close to "the jungle morality" justifying almost anything in pursuit for success; and
- 5) the preference of the moral norms can variate amongst athletes and teams.

After that normative speculation about the role and functions of ethics in sport we at last turn to explore the very reality of moral norms in sport. Though there are a great number of codes for right behavior and fair conduct in sport, the actual realization of these concepts have remained largely unapproved by the empirical research. For that reason the endeavour now made is highly explorative and aims to probe tentatively the possibilities of empirical approach in this field. The scope of the inquiry is confined to these aspects:

- to explore athletes' moral conceptions and the basic dimensions of these conceptions,
- to explore cross-culturally and tentatively the degree of consensus on these conceptions,
- to explore tentatively the structural tendencies of ethical conceptions, and
- to provoke impulses for further studies.

## 6. The problems of definition and measurement

### 6.1. The definition of the moral concepts

In this kind of undertaking an explorer faces the curious paradox: in order to find out what moral conceptions are valid in actual reality one has to know a priori what they could be: the better one knows the ethic of sport, the better chance one has to know more of them.

For the compilation of the moral conceptions with some validity consultations with the literature, coaches and athletes were of primary help. After analysing their content it was possible to define, preliminarily, those objects of behavior with which the moral choice between right and wrong, accepted

or non-accepted, has to be made by athletes. Finally, the following list of moral concepts was at hand:

### Object of behavior

<u>I The very nature of sport</u>		<u>Items in questionnaire</u>
1. Play/work	The basic idea of sport: play vs. work	(See appendix) 12-24-57
2. Victory/good game	The most important matter: the victory vs. good game	10-22-33-34-38-49
3. Public/athlete orientation	Sport is first of all for public vs. for athlete	16-50-56
<u>II The nature of competition</u>		
4. Equality/inequality on terms	The conditions of competition: on equal vs. unequal terms	9-21-32-48-52-55
5. Normlessness/loyalty to rules	The jungle morality vs. loyalty to rules	6-19-30-39
6. Emotional control	Controlled vs. uncontrolled emotional outburst	3-15-27-37
<u>III Humanism in sport</u>		
7. Safety/risk for health	Acceptance vs. denial of risky play	20-38-40-49 (overlapping items)
8. Honesty/dishonesty	Honest obedience of rules vs. dishonest play	2-14-26-43-54
9. Eye for eye	The moral conduct of opponent determines one's moral conduct	7-20-31-40-47-51
<u>IV Democratic human rights</u>		
10. Personal justice/authoritarian resignation	Recognition of just treatment vs. authoritarian resignation	4-17-28-44-46
11. Right to influence on decisions	Athlete's right to influence on decisions of one's team	5-18-29-45
12. Loyalty to one's team	The team as a priority of one's loyalty	1-13-25-36-42
13. Priority of interests: team/individual	Precedence of team's interests over individual's	8-11-23-35-41-53

The procedure used in a priori definition of the moral categories does not guarantee the completeness of the list. Only further studies can prove the inclusiveness of the chosen categories and reveal the possible omissions.

## 6.2. The aspects of moral conceptions

Apart from the content, moral concepts have other aspects relevant from the standpoint of the behavior regulation:

- 1) the moral statement as personal vs. social concept;
- 2) the imperativeness of moral concept as a norm;
- 3) the structural configuration of moral concepts, that is, to what extent the single moral concepts tend to be clustered into the systems of the morality;
- 4) the preferential order of moral categories;
- 5) the degree of consensus in moral conceptions, and
- 6) the degree of polarization of moral conceptions, that is, the contradictions in moral evaluations.

In the survey we attempt, first of all, to explore the various contents of moral evaluations, their structural configurations and the degree of consensus on these matters. The inquiry was directed to probe explicitly personal conceptions as stated in the instructions for the questionnaire:

"Below you will find a number of statements connected with football. Players may hold very different opinions about these statements. It is your task to decide whether the idea presented in the statement is right or wrong. It is a question of your own personal opinion. What others may think, or what the Laws of the Game say about the situation, plays no part at all."

## 6.3. The problems of measurement and the limits of inquiry

When the moral categories were preliminarily chosen for the inquiry the whole coverage of competitive sport was regarded as the frame of reference. For practical reasons, however, the inquiry was limited to football. Football was considered appropriate for the explorative purpose of the study mainly

because of its international popularity and social character with a situation relevant to the moral evaluation and for the choice of behavior.

For catching those moral conceptions with the questionnaire-technics relevant in the actual game, the items in the questionnaire were defined in terms of actual events in game. In this way it was hoped to avoid those merely expressive attitudes and the lip-service to sport idealism alien to the very game. The choice of the game situations was guided by the listed objects of the game behavior and the content of moral categories. Thus they represent the critical situations in a game rather than the true representative sample of them. As a result, the picture of game morality reduced from this inquiry demonstrates first of all those moral evaluations valid in a particular critical situation of the game rather than the common ethics of football. On the other hand, it can also be argued that in the normal course of the game moral evaluations and choices are not appropriate at all but in fact the ethic of the game reveals itself and can be demonstrated just in those specific critical situations; without the real alternatives for moral choices in an actual game no moral conceptions are necessary at all. In this respect many single events e.g. in track and field, like jumping and throwing events, are rather poor in their moral content.

For the reliable evaluation of various moral categories a large number of items are usually necessary. It was not, however, possible in this inquiry, particularly because of the wide scope of the task. Too many categories were explored with too few items, leaving serious defects into the reliability of the measurement. Even in this respect the inquiry attempts rather to provoke interest in further studies than to give any final answers. The questionnaire was pretested in England and in Finland in 1969.



#### 6.4. The sample

Because of the probing character of the inquiry, non-expensive and simple solutions were favoured even when the sample of the survey was chosen. Junior football players from England, Sweden and Finland were most easily available for the study. In England 42 clubs were selected from which 33 were willing to participate: 17 professional and 16 amateur clubs. In Sweden 50 clubs of I - IV division were selected, but actually 38 participated in the inquiry and finally from Finland those 45 teams taking part in Finn-Cup 1969 were chosen but 38 returned the questionnaires. In England the delivery of the questionnaires was carried out in summer 1970 with return of 60 %: in Sweden in spring and summer 1970 with return of 57 % and in Finland in fall 1969 with return of 80 %. From the returned but deficient questionnaires, altogether 17 were disqualified. The age distribution of the national samples was fairly evenly varied between 15 and 18: the average age of English juniors was 16.8, Swedish 17.5 and the Finns 17.0.

#### 6.5. The analysis

Simplicity and sufficiency were regarded as relevant criteria for the conduct of the analysis of data. Accordingly, accuracy and sophistication - perhaps, even at the some expense of carefulness - were ignored if the purpose of inquiry and the data were not sufficient. Statistical tests were neglected mainly because the errors are due more to defects in measurement than to the sampling. We do not intend to verify any hypotheses but simulate and discover them instead.

## 7. The observations

## 7.1. The structure of ethics in football

Table 1. Rotated factors

Item n:o	I	II	III	IV	V	$h^2$
1	.02	-.11	.32	-.01	.04	.11
2	.47	-.06	.08	-.05	.04	.23
3	.21	.24	.31	-.14	.19	.25
4	-.01	-.11	-.18	.18	-.18	.11
5	.09	.58	.11	.15	-.08	.38
6	.58	.09	.14	.19	.01	.40
7	.16	-.20	.07	-.01	.39	.22
8	.49	.09	.19	-.05	.08	.29
10	.17	-.12	.01	.00	.57	.36
11	.51	-.01	.07	.08	.18	.30
12	-.05	-.26	-.02	.50	-.08	.33
13	.01	-.16	.27	.02	-.07	.11
14	.34	.01	-.08	-.06	.22	.17
15	.38	.23	.22	-.11	.18	.29
16	.23	.07	.28	.24	.01	.19
17	.18	.15	.10	.08	-.03	.07
20	.29	-.16	.23	-.12	-.02	.18
21	.03	.36	-.02	-.01	-.02	.13
22	.66	-.11	-.02	-.03	.04	.45
23	.44	-.34	-.05	-.04	.09	.32
24	.05	.13	.00	.64	.03	.42
25	.04	-.35	.06	-.24	.03	.19
26	.60	.10	.22	.06	.08	.42
27	.04	.02	.56	.02	-.03	.31
28	.06	.26	.01	.14	-.02	.09
30	.62	.11	.19	.17	.05	.46
31	.25	-.08	.50	.00	-.01	.32
32	.04	-.07	.06	.07	.00	.01
33	.62	.04	.12	.08	.00	.40
34	.07	-.38	.09	.17	.05	.19
35	.61	.04	-.02	-.02	.27	.45
36	.01	-.10	.23	.00	-.06	.07
37	.18	.14	.52	.03	.17	.35
38	.54	.04	-.09	-.01	.13	.32
39	.31	-.03	.11	.23	-.01	.16
40	.21	.22	.30	.05	.04	.18
41	.45	.10	.15	.05	.23	.29
42	.15	.03	.03	.07	.47	.25
43	.34	.08	-.13	-.07	.23	.19
44	.03	-.04	.63	.06	.13	.42
46	.08	.37	-.08	.07	-.20	.19
47	.17	-.07	-.07	.00	.61	.40
48	.21	.09	.25	.11	.12	.14
49	.52	.21	.09	.00	.10	.33
50	.11	.25	.15	-.06	.28	.18
52	.07	.43	-.12	-.05	.11	.22
53	.45	-.04	.09	.01	.02	.21
54	.51	.22	.16	-.01	.12	.35
55	.09	.36	-.11	-.16	.14	.19
57	.07	.26	.05	.66	.10	.52
% of total variance	10.85	4.19	4.56	3.14	3.48	26.22
% of common variance	41.37	15.99	17.41	11.97	13.26	100.0

By the aid of factor analysis it is possible to test how well the chosen moral categories correspond to the players' notion of the accepted/non-accepted behavior in critical game situations. The factorization was accomplished by the principal-axis method with squared multiple correlations as communality estimates and the rotation was carried out by the varimax method. The various criteria applied favoured the extraction of 5 factors as an appropriate solution. These factors could, however, explain only moderate 26 % of the total variance.<sup>1)</sup>

Factor I explains 41 % of the common variance. The factor is mostly composed of the three items belonging to the original category of "toughness":

<u>Toughness</u>		<u>Percentage of Acceptance</u>			
Item no:	Factor loading	E-pro (N 125) %	E-amat (N 111) %	Swe (N 283) %	Finn (N 406) %
22	.66	A fast opponent must be stopped by any means, lawful or otherwise.			
33	.62	An opponent who is in an obvious position to score must be brought down unmercifully.			
6	.58	In major games all means are permissible to win the game.			
38	.58	The coach urges a player to knock out of the game the most dangerous player of the opposing team.			
49	.52	A player plays a tough game because his opponent is more skillful			

1) Harman, Harry H., Modern Factor Analysis, Chicago, 1960, 154-91, 301-308. Because of the upper limit of the available computer (50 variables) 7 items were excluded from the factor analysis mainly due to their poor discrimination power. The correlation matrix consists of Pearson's r-coefficients. The Finnish data predominates by mistake the factor analysis because the size of samples favours the Finns: Finland 406, England 236 and Sweden 283. Since the factor analysis intends only to testify the existing moral categories, the distortion was not regarded too serious and the correction by matching the samples was ignored. (The correlation matrix in the appendix).

The dimension of the toughness was clearly distinguished in each national group separately, the correlations varying between .18 and .56 (see appendix); the intercorrelation matrixes for each national groups). The expected category of the "normlessness" was broken up in the factor analysis and scattered into the different factors. One item of this category, namely n:o 6, joined in a meaningful way to toughness.

<u>Dishonesty</u>		<u>Percentage of Acceptance</u>			
Item no:	Factor loading	E-pro %	E-amat %	Swe %	Finn %
30	.62				
		In a match a player may attempt anything provided he is not caught.			
26	.60	69	42	25	27
		A player handles the ball when the referee does not see it.			
54	.51	83	63	37	50
		A player attempts to gain a throw-in for himself even if he knows it belongs to the opposing team.			
2	.47	70	64	40	32
		The coach should strictly forbid foul play in matches.			
43	.34	51	66	60	52
		A player stops play after getting a pass in an offside position although the referee does not notice the offside.			
		6	13	4	8

Also the items of dishonesty/honesty distinguished as a clear category in each national group, as expected (see appendix). The item no. 30 of the predefined normlessness was placed to the apex of this factor.



<u>Equality on terms</u>		<u>Percentage of Acceptance</u>			
Item no:	Factor loading	E-pro %	E-amat %	Swe %	Finn %
52	.43				
		A player sent off from the field should be replaced by a substitute so that superiority in numbers may not decide a game			
		12	16	17	46
55	.36				
		Amateurs should not play against professionals as they have very little chance of winning.			
		4	3	4	12
21	.36				
		Injured players should always be replaced by substitutes.			
		58	59	68	82

This weak configuration is rather peculiar, in view of the significance that equality as a principle owns in the official rules, it stands for the very meaning of competition. The observations indicate that the conditions for equality are virtually not commonly acknowledged or that other matters are considered more important in actual game, preventing the demands for equality to be differentiated in a manifest way.

Factor III is clearly composed of the norm categories of the emotional outburst and eye for eye:

<u>The emotional outburst</u>		<u>Percentage of Acceptance</u>			
Item no:	Factor loading	E-pro %	E-amat %	Swe %	Finn %
44	.63				
		A player is entitled to criticize the referee's decision if he thinks it incorrect.			
		34	33	8	21
27	.56				
		A player must always accept the referee's decision without protest.			
		24	22	4	15
37	.52				
		The player expresses anger at being unfairly charged.			
		72	65	26	38
3	.31				
		The player is within his rights if his temper becomes aroused occasionally during the game.			
		74	60	52	28

The apex item, no. 44, does not belong to the original sample but refers obviously in its content to the freedom of emotional expression if justified, let us say, because of the umpire's error. Football as a team- and contact-sport encourages by nature the emotional reactions and probes the players' self-restraint.

<u>Eye for eye</u>		<u>Percentage of Acceptance</u>			
Item no:	Factor loading	E-pro %	E-amat %	Swe %	Finn %
31	.50				
		The team begins to retaliate because of the foul play of the opponents.			
40	.30	22	28	12	19
		Hard playing is acceptable if the other team plays hard.			
20	.23	94	91	66	72
		A player retaliates when he has been fouled.			
		4	4	17	12

This category is most clearly distinguished in the Swedish and Finnish samples (see appendix). Eye for eye - moral norms denotes the other-directedness and, at the same time, the dependence of one's behavior on the situational determinants created by adverse parties. Thus the toughness of one team might totally "toughnize" the game as well as the fairness of one team might "fairnize" the game as a whole.

The two, by definition, distinct categories: the emotional outburst and the eye for eye, are in the factor analysis bound to the same factor which signifies their relationships and the fact that they have something in common. That unifying link behind these moral categories might be the common emotional involvement in the game that the moral orientations in question connote.

Factor IV is composed of those items signifying the play vs. work-like nature of the game:

<u>Spirit of play</u>			<u>Percentage of Acceptance</u>			
Item no:	Factor loading		E-pro %	E-amat %	Swe %	Finn %
57	.66	Football must be more fun than work.	27	56	75	55
24	.64	In every level of league football, fun must play an important part.	54	72	76	65
12	.50	In football, training has to be regarded as hard work, in which fun has no part.	23	27	14	49

This category is best differentiated in the Finnish sample.

Factor V actually yields an unexpected "new" category, that of commercialism vs. non-commercialism:

<u>Commercialism</u>			<u>Percentage of Acceptance</u>			
Item no:	Factor loading		E-pro %	E-amat %	Swe %	Finn %
47	.61	Getting money for a win is acceptable because this is universally done.	89	47	85	74
10	.57	If the teams are evenly matched the club management promises the players a considerable sum to win the game.	61	46	64	54
42	.47	A player changes clubs, because another club offers better terms and conditions.	86	73	76	66
7	.39	"Sham" Amateuism is acceptable because it occurs everywhere.	36	31	52	56

This factor gathers rather nicely all those items which concern the acceptance vs. non-acceptance of commercialism as a proper interest in sport. This category is most differentiated in the Finnish and Swedish samples. The viewpoints tend to be more diffuse and ambivalent amongst the British juniors



standing for the home of amateurism as well as the stronghold of pro-football!

All in all, the factor analysis of the juniors' moral evaluations in football partly proved, partly disproved, the expectations we had of moral categories. The analysis indicated that predefined categories like safety, justice, democratic participation in the decision making and loyalty to rules were not so significant for junior players or well recognized by them to be distinguished as factors or factor components in the analysis. The observations seem to denote that in an actual contest some moral considerations like the inviolability of opponents remain of secondary importance and are superseded by more acute considerations like that of effectiveness and success. Also the demands for personal justice and participation in decision making tend to remain diffuse and secondary in the authoritarian, success-directed competitive sport or are considered altogether irrelevant. Despite the fact that the championship sport today is highly publicoriented, the expectations of the public, as a source of norms, are not acknowledged by juniors; the public as a group of reference has not yet managed to intrude into the consciousness of juniors. However, the noticed recognition of the commercial interests in sport might designate, that this acknowledgement of the public will sooner or later be actualized and its expectations might gain some imperative-ness in determining norms.

Those items differentiated by the factor analysis into the distinctive moral categories were scaled in a simple way.<sup>1)</sup>

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1) In scaling the responses denoting the consent with the moral conception indicated by the headings of categories were given 1 point, others 0 point and the final point in scales were determined by mere addition of the points.

When comparing the moral conceptions defined by these scales in different samples we get the following condensed picture.

Table 2. The cross-national moral conceptions and the degree of the moral consensus of junior football players

Moral category (scales)	The moral conception (the mean of scale points)				The moral consensus (the standard deviations)			
	E-pro	E-ama	Swe	Finn	E-pro	E-ama	Swe	Finn
Toughness	2.9	2.4	2.7	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.7
Honesty	1.2	1.8	2.3	2.2	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.4
Team-interest	3.9	3.3	3.1	3.0	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.6
Inequality on terms	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9
Emotional outburst	2.0	1.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.9	1.1
Eye for eye	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.9
Spirit of play	1.5	2.0	2.3	1.6	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.1
Commercialism	2.7	2.0	2.7	2.5	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.3

The bigger the mean, the more commonly is the moral category in question accepted, e.g. the English juniors of pro-clubs are, on an average, more toughness-minded and less honest-minded in game than the others. The lesser the standard deviation the higher is the degree of consensus.

As a matter of fact, it is not justifiable to draw any final conclusions or any generalizations about these observations. The distributions of responses to the individual items (see percentages p.22-26 and appendix) and the means of scales indicate, however, tentatively that

1. there are rather significant variations in the moral evaluations between the different national samples; part of this variation is, of course, due to errors and difficulties of the conceptualization when the items were translated into three different languages;
2. the English juniors are closer to each other than to other samples;
3. the moral conceptions of English juniors in the professional clubs are clearly distinguished from others in their moral evaluations:

4. the majority of juniors in pro-clubs seem to accept the toughness, dishonesty, the priority of team-interest and commercialism in football, but these conceptions also have a large number of advocates in other groups;
5. there exists a rather low consensus within the national samples on the moral considerations, that is, with regard to the accepted/non-accepted behavior in game.

It is, however, worth noting that the lack of consensus might be accentuated in this particular inquiry, simply because the items and the descriptions of game events were deliberately chosen with regard to their power of moral discrimination; accordingly those items with poor qualities in this respect were dropped out and some others were revised. Due to their more polarized conceptions, the English juniors in pro-clubs are relatively more unanimous (the lowest coefficients of the standard deviations).

## 7.2. The moral systems of sport

As expected, the moral categories are not independent but tend to be clustered. For example, it was already noticed that especially the categories of toughness, dishonesty and team-interest as individual items were bound to cluster in the same factor. The intercorrelations of the moral categories, as scales, designate coherently and undisputably the same tendency:

Table 3. The intercorrelations of the scaled moral categories (N 925)

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
1. Team-interest	-						
2. Honesty	-.57	-					
3. Toughness	.54	-.50	-				
4. Eye for eye	.23	-.24	.28	-			
5. Emotional outburst	.24	-.24	.17	.28	-		
6. Commercialism	.29	-.22	.24	.12	.17	-	
7. Inequality on terms	.08	-.08	.17	-.03	.06	.04	-
8. Spirit of play	-.03	.11	-.06	-.02	.00	.01	.09

The moral categories (scales) 1-6 comprise the distinct cluster with the nucleus of the three first scales: team-interest, honesty or rather dishonesty (neg. correlations) and toughness. This cluster - might be called success morality - has some resemblance to those values of professional football like masculinity and the importance of victory which, according to Ian Taylor's "speculations", are cherished within the subculture of the working class.<sup>1)</sup> Only the last categories in the list: inequality on terms and spirit of non-play tend to be independent and alien to the emerging moral configurations.

The moral categories or scales have been characterized by the contents of the major items in scales. If one disapproves of some item content, it is not a matter of inference to tell what he or she accepts as a proper moral conduct in spite of the fact that there are quite a number of items with rather evident interpretations. For instance if the player disapproves of dishonesty in a game he very likely approves honest play with loyalty to rules. After all, it is obvious that the matrix of intercorrelations also implies another polar system of moral categories akin to soft human values and amateurism with the absolute denial of team-interest as any justification of misconduct in game, regarding football as an honest gameplayed with proper respect to the written and unwritten rules and controlled emotional andconstrained violent impulses.

The previously mentioned distinction of Keatings between the moral categories of athletics and sport comes so close to that polarized dichotomy which, however, differs from Keating's theoretical construction significantly in one

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1) Ian Taylor notices, that the victory is considered the most important thing and not the way it is achieved; "Football Mad": A Speculative Sociology of Football Hooliganism, Dunning Eric (ed), The Sociology of Sport, London 1971, 359

respect: the importance of victory tends to be accentuated even amongst junior players to the extent that its pursuit seems to be justified almost "by all means" whereas Keating accepts victory as the goal proper in athletics within the absolute commitment to the common rules and submission to the equal terms "if the test is to have any validity, if the victory is to have any meaning".

The general picture does not change if the intercorrelations of categories are calculated separately for each sample (see appendix). The traced moral polarities seem to possess some cross-cultural invariance. There exists, however, the difference in the composition of nuclear categories amongst juniors in pro-clubs: the most salient categories for their moral evaluation tend to be the priority of team-interest, commercialism and eye for eye.

The discovered relationships of the moral categories indicate, in other words, that the moral conceptions of players are inclined to be structured as moral systems. In order to study these structures of moral conceptions, their relationships and implications, one again faces the problem of operational definition.

The construction of the moral typologies or that of the cumulative scales might be the most useful approach to that dilemma. The scaling technique was chosen in this particular study since the scale typifies very well the tendency to polarization of moral considerations in sport and a Guttman-type of the cumulative scale also fits well with the hierarchical nature of the moral evaluations. The model of the Guttman-scale postulates that the components of the scale correlate sufficiently with each other and that they can be organized into the rank order on the same common dimension. The latter postulate was applied in rather a particular way, signifying the preference of moral categories as the common dimension; for instance, if toughness were

considered as the most important norm in a game, anybody who accepts toughness tends to accept all other less important moral norms as well.

In the scaling of the central moral categories, most criteria of the Guttman-scale were well fulfilled and the moral categories were organized into their cumulative order, as indicated in table 4. Since the cutting points of the component scales remained arbitrary in their very content it is not possible to make any inference, alas, about the hierarchical order of the specific moral categories. <sup>1)</sup>

After all, the moral considerations of junior football players about the accepted/non-accepted conduct in a game have thus been condensed into just one master scale of cumulative type, which can be named, after the two extreme classes, as Effectiveness-Idealism. Instead of those c. 50 preliminary items, we have now no more than one scale left, and after that - nothing left to be analysed!

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1) The components of the scale were composed of the moral categories (already scaled separately see p. 28 scales J-6) correlating with each other. These scale-component were dichotomized according to Stouffer's criteria for the cutting points; Riley M.W.-Riley, Jr. J.W.-Toby, J., Sociological Studies in Scale Analysis, New Jersey 1954, 339-335. Only the category of "emotional outburst" was excluded from the combined scale though it passed other criteria but failed in the discrimination power! The coefficient of the reproducibility turned out to be sufficient: 0.93. The cutting points and the error types are documented in the appendix. The 'inevitable' error types were transformed to the pure types by the criterium of minimizing the errors; Riley et al., op cit., 290-291.

Table 4. The distribution of the samples on the scale Effectiveness-Idealism

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.		E-pro (N 125) %	E-ama (N 111) %	Swe (N 283) %	Finn (N 403) %
-	-	-	-	-					
+	-	-	-	-	Idealism	6	24	26	27
+	+	-	-	-	Idealism +				
+	+	+	-	-	Effectiveness	35	34	34	43
+	+	+	+	-					
+	+	+	+	+	Effectiveness	<u>59</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>30</u>
						100	100	100	100
The mean of scale						4.5	3.9	3.8	3.6
The standard deviation						1.1	1.7	1.5	1.6

1. = commercialism + = more positive view  
 2. = priority of team-interest  
 3. = dishonesty (reverse-scale) - = more negative view  
 4. = toughness  
 5. = eye for eye

As expected from the previous analysis based on the separate categories, juniors in the pro-clubs favour more effectiveness and less idealism than the juniors in other samples. It is most typical of juniors in pro-clubs that they favour commercialism, team-interest, dishonesty, toughness and eye for eye as the co-existing master morality of effectiveness. They are also more unanimous in their moral considerations than the others. The distribution of the moral beliefs of other English juniors and Swedish players have obvious similarities but Finns are distinguished from others mainly with regard to their favouring effectiveness less.

Referring to the observations in table n:o 4 it is also noteworthy that the two extreme positions in the master scale stand for the most consistent moral considerations, whereas the intermediate positions - idealism mixed with effectiveness - represent more or less the inconsistent and even incongruent

moral patterns. These contradictory conceptions tend to be most typical of Finnish players. Finns' relatively low consensus on moral conceptions (s. the standard deviations in p. 33) coexists with their inclinations to the contradictory evaluations.

The scale of Effectiveness-Idealism behaves as a matter of course, in the same way as the components; consequently the master scale does not correlate with the spirit of play nor with the equality on terms but only with the emotional outburst as stated below:

E-juniors in pro-clubs	.14
E-juniors in ama-clubs	.37
Swedish juniors	.13
Finnish juniors	.28

Thus there is a tendency for Idealism to be tied with control of emotions and Effectiveness with emotionality respectively.

All in all, it is evident in the analysis that the players' moral considerations are not haphazard or accidental but tend to be related to each other in a consistent way.

In an earlier study the author has attempted to describe differences between professional and amateur football in terms of ParsonS' functional system-requirements.<sup>1)</sup> Now it seems plausible that even the moral categories under study while fulfilling the various intentions of game, fit together rather well and in a meaningful way with the model used for the description of football as a social system:

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1) Football at the Crossroads, International Review of Sport Sociology, Vol. 4, 1969, 22.



	<u>Amateur football</u> and conception of game	<u>Professional football</u> and conception of game
1. The primary goal of game	"Good game" and diversion - the denial of the priority of team-interest (and recognition of common interest)	The pursuit for victory - the priority of team-interest
2. The facilitating means	The recognition of equality on terms and denial of toughness and eye for eye conduct	The acceptance of inequalities on terms, toughness and eye for eye conduct
3. The maintenance of value patterns	The denial of commercialism and cultivation of spirit of play	The acceptance of commercialism and spirit of work-like
4. Integration	Honesty in games and control of emotions	(Authoritarian control of umpires and authorities)

The observations of this inquiry support the previously constructed di-polar model of football', and the moral categories regulating the functional conditions of football as a system tend actually to be linked consistently with each other except the categories of 'spirit of play' vs. 'work-like' and 'equality' vs. 'inequality' which in the model are supposed to be related with other categories but virtually turned out to be rather independent and at the same time - diffuse. These exceptions might be spurious and simply due to the defects in the measurement instrument already noticed but this remains only wishful thinking without any solid proof.

The fact that the moral categories fit with the Parsonian conceptual model on the functional prerequisites of social systems, as already noticed, indicates that the model offers some obvious advantages for the definition of the total population of moral concepts relevant in the actual game - a dilemma which was well recognized in the design of this inquiry. It is evident that the realization of the intentions and functional requirements of any social system is a matter of moral regulation, too. After the descriptions of the moral structures of the two

models it seems, by the way, rather obvious that the professional model is more vulnerable to conflicts than the amateur model; in fact, all moral components of the pro-model are subject to conflicts and difficulties of a regulative kind, provided of course, that the moral conceptions studied have any relevance for guiding behavior in the actual game. But have they that relevance?

### 7.3. The ethics and the regulation of game behavior

The factual relevance of the moral conceptions expressed in questionnaires is very difficult to probe and remains largely out of the scope of this preliminary endeavour. The expectations of the close correspondence between the expressed moral evaluations and the respective overt behavior in the actual game are unjustified unless all aspects of moral evaluations, besides the content, are taken into account, including even those norms imposed upon players from outside.<sup>1)</sup>

The primary impetus to explore the moral evaluations in sport came first of all, from the accentuation of problems of regulation in competitive sport and from ignorance of the significance of moral norms in this respect. The moral conceptions were supposed to have some norm character and to possess some regulative power. On the other hand, it was quite obvious that certain norms of fair play have lost their regulative capacity with the upgrading of demands from championship sport, and have been alienated from the very reality. Those mere expressions of ideals of fair play were not, however, the proper object of this endeavour.

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1)

William A. Scott proposes that the relation between an individual's moral concepts and his actual behavior at any given time might be problematical, but that over the long run there would be a tendency toward convergence; Values and organizations, Chicago 1965, 36-38.

The relevance of the moral considerations in the actual game represents a research problem of its own and can be explored indirectly in this kind of survey. For that purpose the juniors were asked whether they had been punished or cautioned during the last season, furthermore their inclination to deviant and illegitimate behavior in a certain game situation was queried. The number of cautioned or punished deviants was, however, too low amongst the juniors and only the question about the juniors' past behavior in game or their inclination to behave in a certain way could be submitted to analysis.

Table 5. The behavior of the junior football players and their respective moral evaluation

	1. Yes -response %	2. Right as norm %	3. 1./2. $r_{pb}$	4. I-E scale/1. $r_{pb}$
Will you change clubs, if you are offered a good job by some other club?				
The respective moral item no 42				
E-juniors in pro-clubs	77	86	.46	.01
E-juniors in ama-clubs	76	73	.19	.02
Swedish juniors	79	76	.03	.06
Finnish juniors	77	66	.38	.20
If there is a chance for it, will you handle the ball, if the referee cannot see it?				
The respective moral item no 26				
E-juniors in pro-clubs	93	83	.39	.34
E-juniors in ama-clubs	83	63	.39	.34
Swedish juniors	85	39	.15	.20
Finnish juniors	78	50	.47	.43
The opposing team offers to sell you the points in an insignificant league match. Will you accept the offer for your part?				
The respective moral item no 34				
E-juniors in pro-clubs	3	0	X	X
E-juniors in ama-clubs	2	0	X	X
Swedish juniors	4	4	X	X
Finnish juniors	37	15	.51	.22
Do you sometimes attempt to influence the referee's decision by calling out or gesticulating?				
The respective moral item no 15				
E-juniors in pro-clubs	83	48	.38	.28
E-juniors in ama-clubs	90	43	.21	.27
Swedish juniors	78	38	.12	.10
Finnish juniors	65	12	.28	.26
Will you trip an opponent who is in a scoring position, if you otherwise cannot stop a goal from being scored?				
The respective moral item no 33				
E-juniors in pro-clubs	94	69	.37	X
E-juniors in ama-clubs	93	54	.42	X
Swedish juniors	89	40	.04	X
Finnish juniors	77	44	.56	.38

X = incalculable

When comparing the percentages in columns 1 and 2 it is evident that the juniors tend to be more puritan in their moral evaluations than in their overt behavior. This is no exception since generally people are more virtuous in principle than in action. However, it can be noted in column 3 that in all samples, except the Swedish one, there exists an evident relationship between the expressed moral notion and the actual behavior-inclination. This correlation indicates that the moral conceptions of players seem to possess some regulative power in game behavior. The correlations noticed between the idealism-effectiveness scale and the behavior-variables in column 4 also give support to the primary proposition of this study about the significance of moral evaluations in view of the regulation and integration of the game/contest.

There are different source of norms, and their priority in the regulation of behavior can variate. The managers or/and coaches of the team/club, variate. The managers or/and coaches of the team/club, the jury/umpire of the game or the anonymous conceptions of fair play represent these different sources of norms in game. If, and when the priority of sources of norms are different in a certain game, there prevail, probably, also different and, perhaps, controversial norms for behavior, and a latent threat to conflicts or some other problems of regulation. To probe these possible variations of priorities and especially the role of the fair play conception as a self-regulation system, the players were asked which of three given sources of norms were the most important to be taken into account.

Table 6. The priority of norms amongst the juniors

On the field of play a player has to behave	E-pro (N 125) %	E-ama (N 111) %	Swe (N 283) %	Finn (N 404) %	Total (N 925) %
trying to again advantage for one's own team as much as possible	54	33	41	23	34
according to the spirit of fair play	16	20	22	44	31
according to demands of the referee	24	40	33	26	29
no answer	6	7	4	7	6
	100	100	100	100	100

The most remarkable observation derived from table 6 is the fairly even support which the various sources of norms get from the juniors in the different national samples. The priority of one's team-interests seems to be emphasized especially amongst the juniors in pro-clubs, which is consistent with those observations already noted in the connection of the scale analysis (p.28). Junior football tends toward other-directedness, that is, its regulation seems to depend more upon the team-interests and the authority of umpires than upon the self-regulation of "gentlemanly conduct". Consistently with the observations made by Harry Webb the priority of the team-interest tends to become more accentuated with the increase of age while the role of the fair play gets mitigated respectively; thus the success of one's team supersedes fair play as a source of norms in game behavior. <sup>1)</sup>

1) J.G. Albinson (Canada) has noticed that the volunteer coaches of organized sport do have a professional orientation toward the game as measured by Webb's Professionalism Scale and the majority of them (72 %) regards skill - "to play as well as you can"- and only 1 % equity "most important in playing a game". According to Albinson persons, playing for the coaches would be exposed to a professional, success-oriented attitude toward the game even though the coach may be a volunteer one; Professionalized Attitudes of Volunteer Coaches Toward Playing a Game, International Review of Sport Sociology, Vol.2(9), 1973, 77-87.



In all national samples effectiveness-minded juniors (====±) also prefer the priority of their team-interest as a source of norms, whereas the idealists (++++±) prefer a spirit of fair play especially amongst Finnish juniors. The idealists, with the exception of Finns, also acknowledge, more often than the effectiveness-minded juniors, the authority of the referees as the most important source of norms in game.

#### 7.4. The variety of the moral conceptions

Concept of sport. The moral conceptions of sport variate considerably, as noted above. One source of the variance might be the different conception of sport as an intentional activity. James W. Keating's proposition on the different moral categories is based on the distinction between sport and athletics as intentionally different activities. It has been noticed that the juniors' moral conceptions vary a great deal in pro-clubs and amateur clubs, which can plausibly be explained by the different conceptions of sport prevailing in these clubs. Accordingly, it was hypothesized that the two polar types of sport conceptions, the amateuristic and professional conceptions, are also related to the different moral evaluation of sport. According to Keating

"athletics naturally tend toward professionalism... The athlete seeks to excel, but excellence demands complete dedication which is only possible to those free from the demands of earning a living... Excellence, he will find, is a jealous mistress whose favours are granted only after evidence of complete dedication" 1)

The amateur vs. professional conception of sport was explored in this inquiry by means of the following items (see Questionnaire).

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1) James W. Keating, The Heart of the Problem of Amateur Athletics, The Journal of General Education, Vol. XVI, no. 4, 1965, 265



	Percentage of the acceptance			
	E-pro (N 125) %	E-ama (N 111) %	Swe (N 283) %	Finn (N 406) %
Sport is not the main thing in life	63	74	85	75
In sport one has to develop one's talents as far as possible	98	94	64	85
In the army a sportsman should have periods of exemption from ordinary service for training	56	62	83	85
Nowadays all competitive sport is such hard work that payment should be allowed even to amateurs	42	63	88	80
In schools a good athlete should get relief from study requirements for training or competition	46	47	26	35
The work an athlete does should not prevent him from training and competing	79	72	47	66

In general the majority of juniors favour the professional conception of sport and the adjustment of life to the demands of sport. However, the demands of schooling have priority over sport and no majority asks relief from school requirements for sport. Curiously enough, Finns tend to be the most and the Swedes the least professionally-minded. When the items of professionalism are combined into the scale in the same simple way as the moral items were previously, we get the following mean values for each national sample (the larger the mean, the more professional-minded):

Finnish juniors	3.7
E-juniors in professional clubs	3.5
E-juniors in amateur clubs	3.4.
Swedish juniors	3.1

Table 9. The correlations of the professionalism - scale with the moral scales

	E-pro	E-ama	Swe	Finn	Total
Toughness	.20	.24	.24	.20	.17
Honesty	-.04	-.24	-.15	-.13	-.22
Team-interest	.26	.11	.20	.07	.13
Inequality on terms	-.12	-.13	-.02	.02	-.08
Emotional outburst	-.12	.07	-.03	.05	.02
Eye for eye	.08	.17	.10	.12	.12
Spirit of play	.05	-.08	.18	-.01	-.12
Commercialism	.11	.25	.20	.29	.22
Effectiveness-Idealism	.14	.30	.16	.20	.19

The professional conception of sport tends to be related, as hypothesized, to effectiveness as a moral domain with its core contents: toughness, dishonesty, the priority of team-interest, commercialism and eye for eye. The correlations are not very high but consistent. The different conception of sport seems to be related, in a congruent way, to the different moral evaluation: the notion of sport as a central life-interest is related to the moral justification of victory as the most important matter in sport and to the acceptance of commercialism in sport.<sup>1)</sup> It is plausible to suggest that with the increase of age the differentiation of conceptions on sport and ethics in sport will become further accentuated and their relationship will get more cristallized.

Schooling. In schools young people are exposed to moral education with values and virtues common in society at large. It was expected, therefore, that the conceptions of sport and moral acceptance of the student-juniors would differ from those conceptions of non-student-juniors and that the former

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1) William A. Scott proposes similarly while studying the social sources of morality that the contents of values are intimately related to the group's performance functions; op. cit., 61.

would favour the amateuristic conception of sport with the moral evaluations of the middle class-like humanism-idealism. The expectations were not fulfilled except in the English groups since in the Swedish and Finnish samples only 1 out of the 18th correlations scarcely reached .10 level thus even remaining accidental.

Table 10. The schooling and English juniors' conception of sport and ethics in sport (point-biserial correlations c.)

	Juniors in amateur clubs	Juniors in pro-clubs
Toughness	-.20	-.27
Honesty	.17	.14
Team-interest	-.10	-.32
Inequality on terms	.05	.29
Emotional outburst	-.12	-.02
Eye for eye	-.07	.05
Spirit of play	.06	.15
Commercialism	-.11	-.33
Effectiveness-Idealism	-.25	-.29
Professionalism	-.14	-.15

In the English sample the student-juniors favour the amateuristic conception of sport and at the same time humanistic morality and idealism in sport more than non-students. Since the correlations in the English sample were so consistent, their absence in the Swedish and Finnish samples is rather peculiar. One can ask whether the conceptions of sport and ethics in sport in the English schools deviate more from those prevailing in society and sport clubs? There is some indirect evidence which supports that proposition: it may be noticed from table 10 that in general the correlations are stronger in the professional clubs and since professional football with regard to its very purpose and ethics, is likely to differ from those conceptions cultivated in schools, this symbolic environment of pro-clubs tends to accentuate these conceptual distinctions between the student- and non-student juniors.

## 8. The ethics of sport

The juniors expressed their notions about the accepted/non-accepted behavior in football. The author has attempted to elaborate these notions leading into two polar types of moral systems in football: on the one hand there is the secular conception of effectiveness with pursuit for victory as an exclusive goal, and on the other hand there is the conception of humanistic idealism with the core of fair play. The former tends to be related to the professional and the latter to the amateuristic conception of sport. The valuation and the purpose of sport as a life-interest variate respectively: if sport is considered or evaluated as a primary interest of life the moral conceptions tend to be modified consistently in favour of victory and success in sport whereas, if sport is considered as a mere hobby and play-like activity, the moral conceptions tend to get humanized and correspond with the fair play. Modern sport, while undergoing processes of differentiation and polarization as an intentional activity also contributes to the differentiation and polarization of the moral domain of sport.

Accordingly, the ethics of sport not only reflect but also promote the divergent intentions of sport. It is also evident that the ethics of sport regulate those functional demands which sport/football are exposed to for their continuance as a system. Thus the system of amateur sport with concern for sport as a mere pastime and play-like activity tends, while promoting means for the maintenance of the values pattern and integration of the system, to favour the consistent moral norms which deny the exclusive consideration of the team interest, toughness and eye for eye-conduct and commercialism in sport but which emphasize honesty, restraint in emotions, the spirit of play and equality in terms of

contest. On the other hand, a system of sport with professional interests tends to promote, as well as to be regulated by, moral conceptions consistent with these particular interests and with the distinctive system-demands of professional sport. The differentiating of football as an intentional system also differentiates itself with regard to the functional requirements of the system and the moral evaluations regulating their realization. Due to the obvious defects in the operational definitions the moral categories: spirit of play vs. work-like activity and equality vs. inequality in terms of contest, remained diffuse in the survey and the proposed relationships unproved.

The athletes have spoken. Whatever the purpose of sport is, it will be realized or remain unrealized, in the very performance of athletes. An athlete is the core and focus of sport. If the purpose of sport is sport itself, as an intrinsic value like a game or contest as such, the moral evaluations tend to correspond to this purpose and optimize the satisfaction derived from sport by all participants. If, however, the purpose of sport is rather defined in terms of public expectations and show-business, the moral pattern of sport tends to be modified consistently with this purpose.

The realization of the purpose of the system is, always, also a matter of regulation, and regulation, in turn, also concerns the promotion of the integration and continuance of the system. The problem of regulation seems to get accentuated, especially in public-oriented sport. Ian Taylor's analysis of the English football indicates how strongly vested-interests of working class are involved in pro-football and how the post-war changes in football like bureaucratization and "bourgeoisification" have been impeding the realization of these traditional class-interests and inducing frustrations and problems of regulation in football, even hooliganism.

Public-oriented sport and especially professional sport live for mere victory, and the consistent morality with the exclusive priority of one's team-interest - "my team, right or wrong"- and with the concomitant characteristics of the jungle morality tend to make sport more vulnerable to conflicts. There is some evidence in the survey for the proposition that the regulation and the maintenance of integration depend in the public-oriented football more, and perhaps in a decisive way, upon the extrinsic control and sufficiency of the sanctions than upon self-regulation by the internalized common norms and shared notions about fair conduct in the game. The regulation of the public-oriented sport is to a great extent other-directed by the public, managers, coaches and one's team-interest; by so is the very integration of sport as a system, whereas the regulation of the athlete-centered sport is more conditioned by athletes themselves and likewise the integration also depends upon self-regulation and the shared conception of fair conduct in game.

The political interference with sport and the increasing commercialism and public-concern enhance the importance of success as a goal and the stakes invested in sport but contribute also to the prevalence of effectiveness as the primary moral consideration in sport making it thus more vulnerable to conflicts and the problems of regulation. As a result, the ethics in sport is alienated more and more from the official ideals of amateurism with a losing capacity for regulation. The sport authorities and leaders in different countries are, first of all, interested in national success and in increasing efforts and effectiveness in this pursuit. At least partly because of this trend, the problems of regulation tend to be accentuated. It is not a matter of pure chance that the issues of ethics and the problems of regulation are so far ignored as subject matters

for politics but even in the undertakings of sport scientists. Competitive sport lives for victory but not only for that. For its very continuance it has to be able to solve the growing problems of integration and regulation. The moral issues in sport deal with the very matter of regulation as well noticed by René Maheu, director general of the UNESCO:

"but just as no sports contest can be without desire for victory, so none can be without rules and ethics. It is these rules by which it is governed, these ethics by which it is informed, that distinguish sport from the savage struggle for life whose name is war" 1)

Public-oriented sport and especially the pro-sport, which lives more or less solely for victory, cannot survive only by extrinsic control; some integrating ethics enabling the self-regulation of athletes are also needed. Surely these ethics have to be consistent with the very purpose of sport be it, mere victory, for otherwise the American slogan: "good losers are losers", might come true. James W. Keating points out, in the same way:

"The strange paradox of sportmanship as applied to athletics is that it asks the athlete, locked in a deadly serious and emotionally charged situation, to act outwardly as if he were engaged in some pleasant diversion. After an athlete has trained and sacrificed for weeks (for years ! K.H.), after he has dreamed of victory and its fruits and literally exhausted himself physically and emotionally in its pursuits - after all this - to ask him to act with fairness in the contest, with modesty in victory, and an admirable composure in defeat is to demand a great deal." 2)

However, the moral norms are needed even in the regulation of championship sport. Without common rules and justice competition loses its very meaning. In view of the latent

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1) René Maheu, Baron Pierre de Coubertin and the sports movement of modern times, ICSPE-publication 1963, p. 8.

2) James W. Keating, op.cit. 1964,32

differentiation of sport it seems inappropriate to claim uniform moral standards without any specifications according to the various purposes of sport. This is self-evident in amateur sport today with its idealized norms and estranged reality.<sup>1)</sup>

It is evidenced in the survey that the moral conceptions of athletes variate a great deal; there are also many contradictory views in the official definitions about the accepted behavior in sport. Furthermore, this variation is rather obvious even on the international level: teams and athletes from different countries have different notions about right/wrong behavior in the contest. If this is true, then the moral norms are also likely to lose their integrative power and the vulnerability of the competition to conflicts tends to be enhanced.

On the other hand, the inquiry was of an explorative kind and as such, it attempted to probe and provoke rather than to test and clarify the problems concerned. Because of the limitations of the inquiry the main concern was, first of all, to elaborate the actual moral evaluations and to probe the degree of consensus. The inquiry provided many suggestions and ideas for further studies. The preferences of the norms and their sources remained unexplored despite their relevance from the standpoint of regulation. Because of the limitations of the questionnaire-technique used only the personal view of players were probed.

Sport today is exposed to transformation: sport is just a subsystem of the changing society. Sport in transition faces many problems that must be solved. It is contaminated by notorious double-morality with the ideals and norms

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1) Edmund Dahlström argues that the conflicting norms tend to mitigate the legitimacy of norms and the motivation to obey them, op.cit., 30-31.



alienated from the upgrading demands of actual competition. After all sport is nothing else than human undertaking and as such, submitted to good or evil: violence or peace, honesty or dishonesty, fairness or cheating, dignity or disrespect etc. Sport as a subsystem of society also reflects the moral orientation of society at large. If true, sport might also reflect even those moral problems which are common to all western civilization, as foreseen by Pitirim A. Sorokin over thirty years ago:

"The distinction between true and false, right and wrong, beautiful and ugly, positive and negative value will be more and more obliterated. Since no socio-cultural norms - universally accepted and recognized - exist any more in the culture itself, no such norms can be present in the mentality of the individuals and groups. Mental and moral atomism will grow and with it, mental and moral anarchy. Its consequence must be an increase and a sharpening of antagonism and conflicts.." 1)

It is evident that in sport today many similarities with "the crisis of our age" depicted by Sorokin can be identified. They might just be passing characteristics for sport in transition, they might be symptoms for the penetrating decay of sport or perhaps a promise for the new prosperity of sport?

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1) Pitirim A. Sorokin, The Crisis of our Age, New York, 1941, 304

Some other observations.

The behavior of players is regulated in an actual game not only by their own personal conceptions of right or wrong conduct but also by others' norms. For example, it was noticed that the advantage of one's own team and the demands of referees supersede in priority the norms of fair play as a source of norms and that this other-directedness seems to be accentuated with age and, plausibly, with the upgrading demands of game.

This other-directedness of the behavior might be typical, especially of championship sport, and those "significant others" - coaches, managers, captains - might determine one's sport and perhaps one's own and the team's moral conduct more than the athlete himself. The players' views on their democratic right to affect the decision making variate to a great extent and English juniors especially seem to be satisfied with lesser "voting power" than the juniors from Sweden and Finland:

	% accepting the statement			
	E-pro (N 125)	E-ama (N 111)	Swe (N 283)	Finn (N 406)
The players should be allowed to choose the Captain of the team	44	40	52	90
Club boards or committees should include some active players	56	68	78	89
The coach alone decides on methods of training	46	60	61	29
Players should have a say in team selection	6	22	76	85
The players should be allowed to send the National Association their assessment of the referee's work	51	51	72	81

These consistent and rather distinctive differences might reflect the variations of norms in these countries as to defining one's proper role in the decision making in football, or perhaps in society at large? Only the two last items were qualified to the analysis ( $r = .31$ ), alas, since there are recent indications that the athletes' democratic right seems to get accentuated and recognized with the upgrading demands of sport.

The series of questions probing the players' knowledge of the official rules of football were also entered into the questionnaire. It was supposed that the command of the rules would be related to the moral evaluation as well as to the self-regulation in game but it proved to be untrue.

# THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

WINNERS: WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP, JULES RIMET CUP, 1966

Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

President: THE EARL OF HAREWOOD

Chairman: Mr. A. STEPHEN

Secretary:  
DENIS FOLLOWS, C.B.E., B.A.



Telegraphic Address:  
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, LONDON, W.2

22 LANCASTER GATE, LONDON, W.2

Ref: 619.PAS/PS

26th February, 1970.

To Football Club Secretaries

Dear Sir,

The Written and Unwritten Rules of Football

The Football Association has agreed to assist a research group, led by Professor Kalevi Heinilä in Finland and Mr. Peter C. McIntosh, a Senior Inspector of Physical Education in England, in a study of young players' attitudes to the above.

The study, which is part of a wider European project, is intended to collate the views of footballers in the 15-18 age group. A questionnaire has been produced by the researchers for this purpose and as you will see from the instructions attached to each questionnaire, the information will be treated in strict confidence.

I would be grateful if you could offer your assistance in the project and would ask you to distribute a copy of the questionnaire to players, of the appropriate age, in your Club. On completion by the player, each questionnaire should be returned to The Football Association in the envelope provided.

I hope you will be able to co-operate in this interesting research project.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary

THE WRITTEN AND UNWRITTEN RULES OF FOOTBALLTo Footballers

Dear Sir,

An international research group, headed by Professor Kalevi Heinilä in Finland and Mr. Peter C. McIntosh, a Senior Inspector of Physical Education, in England, is carrying out a research project dealing with the written and unwritten rules of football. The purpose of the investigation is to discover the different attitudes which are taken by footballers (under 18 years of age) in certain countries towards accepted behaviour both on and off the playing-field.

You are one of the footballers who have been chosen, by statistical selection method, to be a subject in this investigation. We would ask for your kind co-operation in the work. Your contribution to the investigation is vital, since your absence may lessen its representativeness. Will you please complete the questionnaire carefully and return it within one week to The Football Association in the envelope enclosed? The analysis of the investigation will take place at the University of Jyväskylä, Finland.

In filling up the form would you note the following instructions:

1. Do not write your name on the form. The information that you forward is to be kept strictly confidential so that the player's identity is not revealed.
2. The questions chiefly call for your personal view. In choosing your alternatives you should as much as possible use all the response categories.
3. With the questions dealing with rules, do not consult the rule book.

Thanking you for your trouble, we wish you success in the sport of football.

Peter C. McIntosh  
Senior Inspector of  
Physical Education

Kalevi Heinilä  
Prof. Ph.D.

General Information

Age .....years

Occupation or profession: .....

Your present club or team: .....

How many years have you played football regularly in a senior amateur or professional club team since leaving school: .....years

How many times were you cautioned last season: .....

How many times were you sent off last season: .....

Below you will find a number of statements connected with football. Players may hold very different opinions about these statements. It is your task to decide whether the idea presented in the statement is right or wrong. It is a question of your own personal opinion. What others may think, or what the Laws of the Game say about the situation, plays no part at all.

Answering the questions is very simple. Each statement has five alternative answers (absolutely right, right, do not know, wrong, absolutely wrong). Answer the questions by marking with an X the alternative which you consider to be most correct.

<u>Absolutely</u>	<u>Right</u>	<u>Do not</u>	<u>Wrong</u>	<u>Absolutely</u>
<u>right</u>	<u>Right</u>	<u>know</u>	<u>Wrong</u>	<u>wrong</u>

(no repetition)

1. A player has to follow closely the tactics given by his coach, even if he thinks they will fail.
2. The coach should strictly forbid foul play in matches.
3. A player is within his rights if his temper becomes aroused occasionally during the game.
4. A player in danger of suspension should be allowed to present his own case.
5. Players should have a say in team selection.
6. In major games all means are permissible to win the game.
7. "Sham" Amateurism is acceptable because it occurs everywhere.

Contd...-

8. A player stops the ball with his hand if the interest of his team demands it.
9. Practice in working-hours should not be allowed unless all teams in a league can engage in such practice.
10. If the teams are evenly matched the club management promises the players a considerable sum to win the game.
11. The team attempts to upset a temperamental member of the opposing team.
12. In football, training has to be regarded as hard work, in which fun has no part.
13. A skilled player should be selected whether or not he has trained.
14. A player who takes the ball over the touch-line should play on if the referee has not seen the incident.
15. A player should attempt to influence the referee's judgement with protests when he hesitates in his decisions.
16. Rough tackling is justified if the public expects it.
17. Because of a slight cold a player refuses to play an important game.
18. The players should be allowed to choose the Captain of the team.
19. Both the official rules and the unwritten laws of fair play should be observed in a game.
20. A player retaliates when he has been fouled.
21. Injured players should always be replaced by substitutes.
22. A fast opponent must be stopped by any means, lawful or otherwise.
23. A player pretends to be injured when his team tires.
24. In every level of league football, fun must play an important part.
25. A player can neglect practice sessions on the pretext that training does not interest him at the time.
26. A player handles the ball when the referee does not see it.

27. A player must always accept the referee's decision without protest.
28. Clubs should not be allowed to set restrictions on postseason player transfers.
29. Club boards or committees should include some active players.
30. In a match a player may attempt anything provided he is not caught.
31. The team begins to retaliate because of the foul play of the opponents.
32. The spectators should not try to upset the visiting team by shouting at them.
33. An opponent who is in an obvious position to score must be brought down unmercifully.
34. The team uses bribery to secure points in a league match in order not to go down.
35. A player gains a penalty kick for his team by acting as if he had been badly fouled.
36. The interests of the footballer comes before that of the team.
37. The player expresses anger at being unfairly charged.
38. The coach urges a player to knock out of the game the most dangerous player of the opposing team.
39. In a match only the official rules are to be observed, everthing else is permitted.
40. Hard playing is acceptable if the other team plays hard.
41. The team begins to play for time to secure victory.
42. A player changes clubs, because another club offers better terms and conditions.
43. A player stops play after getting a pass in an offside position although the referee does not notice the offside.
44. A player is entitled to criticize the referee's decision if he thinks it incorrect.

Contd...-



45. The coach alone decides on methods of training.
46. The players should be allowed to send the National Association their assessment of the referee's work.
47. Getting money for a win is acceptable because this is universally done.
48. It is permissible to make use of the advantages that a poor playing-field offers.
49. A player plays a tough game because his opponent is more skilful.
50. A skilful player entertains the spectator at the expense of weaker opponents.
51. At the present time one is not successful in football unless one plays unfairly.
52. A player sent off from the field should be replaced by a substitute so that superiority in numbers may not decide a game.
53. A player prevents an opponent from taking a quick free-kick by standing in front of the ball.
54. A player attempts to gain a throw-in for himself even if he knows it belongs to the opposing team.
55. Amateurs should not play against professionals as they have very little chance of winning.
56. It is all right for a player to play for applause from the spectators provided he is skilful enough to do so.
57. Football must be more fun than work.

Next there will be a number of general statements about sport. It is your task, again, to decide whether the idea presented in statement is right or wrong. Answer just as you did before.

<u>Absolutely</u> <u>right</u>	<u>Right</u>	<u>Do not</u> <u>know</u>	<u>Wrong</u>	<u>Absolutely</u> <u>wrong</u>
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( no repetition )

1. Sport is not the main thing in life.
2. In sport one has to develop one's talents as far as possible.

Contd...-



Certain requirements are always demanded as to the behaviour of the players in a football match. Three such requirements are mentioned below. It is your task to decide, which of these requirements is the most important or the one by which a player should behave on the field of play, which is the second most important and which the least important. Mark the most important with Number 1, the second most important with Number 2 and the least important with 3.

On the field of play a player has to behave:

- ( ) according to the demands of the referee
- ( ) according to the spirit of fair play
- ( ) trying to gain advantage for one's own team as much as possible

And finally you should still be able to decide how you would act in situations given below. This time there are two alternatives to answer. Put a mark on the alternative by which you would be most likely to act.

- |  | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--|------------|-----------|
| 1. Will you change clubs, if you are offered a good job by some other club?  |            |           |
| 2. If there is a chance for it will you handle the ball if the referee cannot see it?  |            |           |
| 3. The opposing team offers to sell you the points in an insignificant league match. Will you accept the offer for you part? |            |           |
| 4. Do you sometimes attempt to influence the referee's decisions by calling out or gesticulating?                            |            |           |
| 5. Will you trip an opponent who is in a scoring position, if you other-wise cannot stop a goal from being scored.           |            |           |



Correlations of scale items  
in the national samples

## 1. Toughness

Item	<u>English juniors</u>				<u>Swedish juniors</u>				<u>Finnish juniors</u>			
	6	22	33	38	6	22	33	38	6	22	33	38
22	.56				.31				.47			
33	.28	.49			.36	.45			.46	.55		
38	.40	.38	.36		.21	.28	.30		.39	.43	.29	
49	.26	.33	.32	.27	.18	.27	.20	.28	.39	.47	.44	.50

## 2. Honesty

Item	<u>English juniors</u>				<u>Swedish juniors</u>				<u>Finnish juniors</u>			
	2	26	30	43	2	26	30	43	2	26	30	43
26	.29				.25				.43			
30	.34	.43			.22	.44			.35	.48		
43	.09	.25	.23		.15	.21	.20		.25	.36	.25	
54	.18	.43	.27	.23	.30	.36	.38	.16	.25	.34	.30	.30

## 3. Priority of team-interest

Item	<u>English juniors</u>				<u>Swedish juniors</u>				<u>Finnish juniors</u>			
	8	11	35	41	8	11	35	41	8	11	35	41
11	.13				.24				.29			
35	.29	.30			.35	.30			.36	.44		
41	.19	.29	.46		.27	.21	.35		.32	.32	.40	
53	.32	.15	.32	.24	.33	.26	.27	.36	.37	.34	.35	.23

## 4. Equality on terms

Item	<u>English juniors</u>		<u>Swedish juniors</u>		<u>Finnish juniors</u>	
	21	52	21	52	21	52
52	.18		.15		.31	
55	.07	.14	.04	.07	.13	.10

## 5. Emotional outburst

Item	<u>English juniors</u>			<u>Swedish juniors</u>			<u>Finnish juniors</u>		
	3	27	37	3	27	37	3	27	37
27	.02			.08			.37		
37	.20	.15		.21	.27		.33	.31	
44	.25	.34	.35	.13	.39	.26	.30	.41	.25

## 6. Eye for eye

	<u>English juniors</u>		<u>Swedish juniors</u>		<u>Finnish juniors</u>	
Item	20	31	20	31	20	31
31	.38		.30		.50	
40	.01	.09	.17	.10	.21	.32

## 7. Spirit of play

	<u>English juniors</u>		<u>Swedish juniors</u>		<u>Finnish juniors</u>	
Item	12	24	12	24	12	24
24	.15		.29		.27	
57	.15	.48	.35	.54	.35	.54

## 8. Commercialism

	<u>English juniors</u>			<u>Swedish juniors</u>			<u>Finnish juniors</u>		
Item	7	10	42	7	10	42	7	10	42
10	.13			.24			.37		
42	.04	.07		.15	.39		.27	.36	
47	.20	.47	.24	.21	.26	.23	.51	.53	.39

## 9. Professionalism

	<u>English juniors in pro-clubs</u>					<u>English juniors in ama-clubs</u>				
Item	1	2	4	5	6	1	2	4	5	6
2	-.03					.16				
4	.14					-.17				
5	.05	-.05	.01			-.01	-.11	.16		
6	-.03	.04	.33	.18		.19	.19	.47	-.07	
7	-.01	.13	.10	-.01	.14	.10	.24	.20	-.07	.33

	<u>Swedish juniors</u>					<u>Finnish juniors</u>				
Item	1	2	4	5	6	1	2	4	5	6
2	.06					.00				
4	-.01	.14				-.15	.28			
5	-.01	.12	.35			-.27	.34	.26		
6	.12	.06	.34	.21		-.23	.24	.31	.39	
7	.10	.08	.26	.22	.41	-.15	.11	.18	.20	.32

The moral items:

Means and standard deviations.

Item no	E-pro		E-ama		Swe		Finn		Item no
	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD	
<u>1</u>	3.71	1.10	3.62	1.11	4.16	0.91	3.75	1.03	<u>1</u>
<u>2</u>	3.23	1.26	3.68	1.36	3.47	1.24	3.42	1.21	<u>2</u>
<u>3</u>	2.31	1.21	2.60	1.23	2.93	1.31	3.49	1.21	<u>3</u>
<u>4</u>	4.38	0.79	4.39	0.90	4.15	1.05	3.83	1.18	<u>4</u>
<u>5</u>	1.56	0.88	2.07	1.25	3.87	1.26	4.15	1.09	<u>5</u>
<u>6</u>	2.73	1.41	3.24	1.36	3.52	1.37	3.51	1.25	<u>6</u>
<u>7</u>	3.02	1.11	3.16	1.12	2.58	1.21	2.60	1.21	<u>7</u>
<u>8</u>	1.76	0.81	1.96	0.91	2.46	1.21	2.17	1.12	<u>8</u>
<u>10</u>	2.70	1.28	3.02	1.32	2.48	1.22	2.68	1.12	<u>10</u>
<u>11</u>	2.67	1.23	3.01	1.28	3.01	1.30	2.98	1.21	<u>11</u>
<u>12</u>	3.78	1.20	3.60	1.40	4.11	1.19	2.74	1.43	<u>12</u>
<u>13</u>	4.21	0.97	3.81	1.12	4.34	0.93	3.86	1.08	<u>13</u>
<u>14</u>	1.60	0.68	1.94	1.06	1.60	0.95	1.73	0.87	<u>14</u>
<u>15</u>	3.01	1.30	3.01	1.50	3.30	1.26	4.04	1.01	<u>15</u>
<u>16</u>	3.58	1.16	3.88	1.18	4.63	0.66	4.19	0.99	<u>16</u>
<u>17</u>	2.26	1.16	2.72	1.36	3.03	1.27	2.78	1.10	<u>17</u>
<u>20</u>	4.26	0.71	4.23	0.73	3.88	1.03	4.03	1.01	<u>20</u>
<u>21</u>	3.32	1.29	3.50	1.21	3.72	1.18	4.13	1.05	<u>21</u>
<u>22</u>	2.90	1.29	3.46	1.37	2.69	1.17	3.17	1.25	<u>22</u>
<u>23</u>	3.70	1.22	3.89	1.16	3.07	1.21	2.86	1.05	<u>23</u>
<u>24</u>	3.26	1.25	3.81	1.15	3.88	1.09	3.70	1.07	<u>24</u>
<u>25</u>	4.56	0.70	4.35	0.89	3.59	1.23	3.85	1.12	<u>25</u>
<u>26</u>	2.11	0.85	2.48	1.07	3.12	1.15	2.85	1.18	<u>26</u>
<u>27</u>	3.83	1.31	3.88	1.31	4.61	0.77	3.99	1.12	<u>27</u>
<u>28</u>	3.14	1.00	3.47	1.00	3.77	1.22	3.81	1.19	<u>28</u>
<u>30</u>	2.40	1.10	3.11	1.34	3.55	1.19	3.44	1.21	<u>30</u>
<u>31</u>	3.73	1.05	3.61	1.15	4.09	0.92	3.71	1.06	<u>31</u>
<u>32</u>	3.64	1.13	3.35	1.26	3.47	1.29	3.36	1.27	<u>32</u>
<u>33</u>	2.42	1.18	2.72	1.26	3.13	1.25	2.95	1.30	<u>33</u>
<u>34</u>	4.83	0.47	4.75	0.50	4.72	0.77	3.90	1.13	<u>34</u>
<u>35</u>	2.14	1.10	2.61	1.15	2.33	1.15	2.64	1.11	<u>35</u>
<u>36</u>	4.02	1.00	4.01	0.84	4.17	0.95	4.13	0.93	<u>36</u>
<u>37</u>	2.43	1.00	2.51	1.07	3.49	1.05	3.09	1.13	<u>37</u>
<u>38</u>	2.84	1.25	3.35	1.32	2.55	1.13	3.50	1.18	<u>38</u>
<u>39</u>	3.13	1.22	3.26	1.15	3.37	1.05	3.27	0.99	<u>39</u>
<u>40</u>	1.61	0.81	1.69	0.93	2.52	1.14	2.32	1.07	<u>40</u>
<u>41</u>	1.91	0.96	2.33	1.19	2.48	1.12	2.45	1.11	<u>41</u>
<u>42</u>	1.92	0.89	2.21	0.96	2.15	0.96	2.28	1.01	<u>42</u>
<u>43</u>	1.66	0.79	1.97	1.01	1.58	0.78	1.84	0.92	<u>43</u>
<u>44</u>	3.48	1.28	3.44	1.35	4.25	0.96	3.70	1.17	<u>44</u>
<u>46</u>	3.14	1.26	3.23	1.24	3.78	1.04	4.02	0.89	<u>46</u>
<u>47</u>	1.78	0.87	2.83	1.17	1.90	0.89	2.16	1.00	<u>47</u>
<u>48</u>	2.00	0.84	1.88	0.83	3.00	1.31	2.32	1.03	<u>48</u>
<u>49</u>	2.09	0.90	2.27	1.01	2.48	1.10	2.88	1.16	<u>49</u>
<u>50</u>	2.18	1.12	2.23	1.12	2.61	1.19	2.96	1.16	<u>50</u>
<u>52</u>	1.86	1.08	1.91	1.15	1.97	1.19	3.02	1.47	<u>52</u>
<u>53</u>	2.56	1.25	2.51	1.23	2.69	1.20	2.53	1.14	<u>53</u>
<u>54</u>	2.43	1.12	2.57	1.11	3.17	1.18	3.33	1.11	<u>54</u>
<u>55</u>	1.72	0.79	1.50	0.67	1.60	0.75	2.14	1.03	<u>55</u>
<u>57</u>	2.44	1.30	3.41	1.25	3.83	1.12	3.50	1.15	<u>57</u>

- Reverse-scored items  
(underlined)

The cross-tabulation of the moral categories (scales) with the cutting points, (N 922)

PRIORITY OF  
TEAM-INTEREST

		0-2	3-5								
HONESTY	3-5	201	145	HONESTY							
	0-2	77	499	3-5	0-2						
TOUGHNESS	0-2	237	276	275	237	TOUGHNESS					
	3-5	41	368	71	339	0-2	3-5				
COMMERCIALISM	0-1	100	98	108	90	145	53	COMMERCIALISM			
	2-4	178	546	238	486	367	357	0-1	2-4		
EYE FOR EYE	0-1	243	470	296	417	444	269	161	552	713	
	2-3	35	174	50	159	68	141	37	172	209	
		278	644	346	576	512	410	198	724	<u>922</u>	