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Ted Lasso's Ethics: College Sportsmanship & Applied Philosophy Quiz

Develop high-level ethical reasoning through 10 challenging scenarios exploring the intersection of gamesmanship, social contracts, and athletic integrity.

1. In the context of 'Deontology' in sport, how would a collegiate athlete evaluate the use of 'tactical fouls' in the final minutes of a championship game?

- A. Acceptable, as the primary duty is to the team's victory and the utility of the outcome.
- B. Unacceptable, as it violates the categorical imperative to uphold the intrinsic rules of the game regardless of the outcome.
- C. Acceptable, provided the official does not see the infraction and no physical harm occurs.
- D. Neutral, because rules are social constructs that serve the participants' entertainment.

2. The concept of 'Citius, Altius, Fortius' historically suggests that athletic excellence is intrinsically linked to the moral virtues of the participant, rather than just physical output.

- A. True
- B. False

3. The ethical tension between 'gamesmanship' (using the rules to gain an advantage) and 'sportsmanship' (honoring the spirit of the game) is best described by the _____ framework.

- A. Social Darwinist
- B. Lusory Attitude
- C. Formalist/Interpretivist
- D. Cognitive Dissonance

4. An elite cyclist notices their main rival has suffered a mechanical failure during a non-competitive neutral zone. If the cyclist chooses to slow the peloton, which ethical principle are they demonstrating?

- A. Utilitarianism
- B. Virtue Ethics
- C. Egoism
- D. Nihilism

5. According to the 'Broken Windows Theory' applied to sports, small acts of gamesmanship (like minor flopping) have no measurable impact on the overall integrity of a sport's culture.

- A. True
- B. False

6. Evaluate the 'Bloodgate' scandal in rugby. Beyond the immediate rule-breaking, why was this considered a supreme failure of sportsmanship at the institutional level?

- A. It involved a failure of equipment that the team did not report.

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- B. It demonstrated a premeditated conspiracy to manipulate medical substitution rules, undermining the social contract of the sport.
- C. It showed that the referee was incompetent at spotting physical injuries.
- D. It resulted in a financial loss for the opposing team's sponsors.

7. When a coach rewards a player for 'simulating' a foul to win a penalty, they are prioritizing performing _____ over moral agency.

- A. Instrumental Value
- B. Intrinsic Value
- C. Aesthetic Value
- D. Sentimental Value

8. In NCAA athletics, the 'compliance' culture often focuses on avoiding sanctions. How does this differ from the 'ethics' of sportsmanship?

- A. Compliance is proactive; ethics is reactive.
- B. Compliance is about following the minimum legal standard; ethics is about aspiring to the highest moral standard.
- C. Compliance only applies to coaches, while ethics only applies to student-athletes.
- D. There is no difference; they are synonymous in professionalized college sports.

9. The 'Ethical Egoism' theory argues that an athlete is behaving sportsmanship-like if they help an opponent, but only because it improves their own public brand and endorsement potential.

- A. True
- B. False

10. A situation where an athlete must choose between reporting their teammate's PED use (honesty) and remaining silent (loyalty) is known as a _____.

- A. Logical Fallacy
- B. Pareto Efficiency
- C. Right-vs-Right Dilemma
- D. Zero-Sum Game