

Clean Hits & Ego Trips: 10th Grade Ethics of Competition

Can a victory be a loss if won without honor? Analyze complex ethical dilemmas and real-world sporting conflicts through an evaluative lens.

1. During a high-stakes championship, an athlete notices the officiating crew has consistently favored their team due to a subconscious implicit bias. According to the principle of 'Integrity of the Game,' what is the most ethically sound course of action?

- A. Capitalize on the advantage as it is the official's responsibility, not the athlete's, to be objective.
- B. The athlete or coach should privately acknowledge the discrepancy to the official to restore competitive balance.
- C. Intentionally commit a foul to 'level the playing field' without informing anyone.
- D. Protest the match immediately to ensure the win is vacated for the sake of public relations.

2. In the context of 'Gamesmanship' vs. 'Sportsmanship,' using legal but psychologically manipulative tactics (e.g., 'icing' a kicker) is considered a promotion of long-term athletic respect.

- A. True
- B. False

3. In 10th-grade competitive theory, the concept of _____ occurs when an athlete views their opponent not as a fellow competitor, but as an obstacle to be eliminated, often leading to ethical breaches.

- A. Dehumanization
- B. Hyper-competitiveness
- C. Strategic Neutralization
- D. Agonistic Ritualism

4. Consider the 'Unwritten Rules' of baseball or cricket. When a player breaks an unwritten rule that results in an advantage, but does not break a literal rule, they are primarily violating:

- A. The Statutory Code
- B. The Social Contract of the Sport
- C. The Administrative Bylaws
- D. The Litigation Framework

5. Evaluating the ethical implications of 'Technological Doping' (e.g., high-tech swimsuits or advanced footwear): This creates an unfair advantage primarily because it violates the _____ of the sport.

- A. Financial accessibility
- B. Historical records
- C. Level playing field
- D. Sponsorship guidelines

Name: _____ Date: _____

6. If a rower stops their race to help a competitor whose boat has capsized, sacrificing their own podium finish, they are demonstrating 'Virtue Ethics' in a sports context.

- A. True
- B. False

7. When a professional athlete uses their platform to critique a referee's systemic bias in a post-game press conference, this is best analyzed as:

- A. A failure of respect for officials.
- B. An exercise in accountability and advocacy for justice.
- C. A breach of contract regarding league silence.
- D. Poor loser syndrome.

8. The 'Mercy Rule' in youth sports is often debated. High school athletes must evaluate if continuing to score at maximum effort against a clearly outmatched opponent is a sign of _____ or a lack of compassion.

- A. Professionalism
- B. Diligent practice
- C. Competitive cruelty
- D. Statistical padding

9. Which scenario requires the most complex ethical evaluation of 'Fair Play'?

- A. A runner taking a shortcut to win a local 5k race.
- B. A cyclist using a motor in their bike during a professional tour.
- C. A defender in soccer intentionally committing a 'tactical foul' to stop a breakaway goal, knowing they will receive a red card.
- D. An athlete lying about their age to compete in a lower division.

10. True sportsmanship requires that an athlete must always put the needs of the opponent above their own desire to win.

- A. True
- B. False