

Malaysian rugby referees perception on the athletes, coaches, and spectators misconduct: A case study

Abstract

This study was to investigate Malaysian Rugby Referee perceptions of athlete, coach and spectator misconduct in the sports of rugby. Five (5) research question specifically addressed. The survey instrument (Sports Officials Survey, Hughes, 2001) was distributed to all rugby referees' in attendance at Malaysian Society of Rugby Union Referee (MSRUR) Annual General Meeting. A total of 35 officials (100.% male) completed usable questionnaires. This represented a response rate of 87.5% of the population (n=40). Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, t-tests, and logistic regression. The results of the study indicate that verbal misconduct by coaches and spectators in rugby are at least a problem as perceived by Malaysian Rugby Union Referee. Many of the referees participating in this study claimed to have experienced verbal and/or physical misconduct after or away from the actual competition site. The fact that no significant relationship was found between officials' ratings of verbal and physical misconduct and their reported likelihood to quit referee warrants further investigation.