Legal, Ethical and Administrative Considerations in Sports

Name

Institutional Affiliation

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**Introduction**

Sporting activities have been part of the human civilization for centuries and most documented since the start of the Olympics. Since then, sports have expanded from just forms of entertainment to incorporate economic and environmental facets. In this consideration, there are issues within sports that affect the participants as well as the environment that they use. Therefore, there is a need for the deployment of a regulatory framework that exists to protect the interests of the players, participants as well as the hosts and the environment. The birth of wilderness sports around the world has denoted the application of the natural environment as part of the playground. The implications to both the players and the environment are enormous and the need for their safeguard is under the regulatory framework of the sport. Therein, this paper will be categorical to underscore the various considerations in ethics, legal as well as administrative facets of the sports.

**Wilderness sports**

Wilderness sports reflect activities and adventures that are undertaken within the natural environment as sports. They involve the use of the physical landscape and resources as the playground. In recent years, these sports have taken awareness as they have been used to highlight the importance and beauty of the environment. They range from mountain climbing and hiking, skydiving, skiing, surfing, fishing, hunting, rock climbing, to all kinds of wilderness races. The composition of this sports recognize that the natural and physical environment is important to the ecology and the survival of humanity as well as dangerous and poses risks to the participants. Therefore, each sport has a range of considerations and regulations that must be adhered to for the protection of both the environment and the athletes.

**Ethical considerations**

Ethical consideration within the wilderness sports takes shape within two categorical stratifications, athlete-centric ethics, and environmental ethics to be considered. Athlete centric ethics refer to ethical considerations based on the interests and safety of the athletes. For instance, the right to participate is among the ethics that denote issues with equality, fairness, and justice in sports. Under this considerations, the participants are the center and the subject of the ethical discussion. Among the considerations is the safety and health of the athletes. Most of the wilderness sports such as rock climbing, skiing, skydiving, and surfing have a greater risk to the health and safety of the athletes (Young, et al. 2015). This consideration provides the necessary safety mechanism to allow for minimum risk during the sports. Secondly, what are the health conditions that allow the athletes to be considered optimal participants in the sports? Thirdly, these ethics further consider justice in the adjudication of the sports. This includes the placing of the control regulations in defining the rules of the sports and how to measure the progress of the participants.

On the other hand, environmental ethics provide the consideration of the state of the natural environment and the effect of the sports to it. As the sports take place within the physical environment, this consideration underscores the maintenance of the natural order despite the use by the sporting activities. For instance, hunting and fishing are extreme sports that have a direct impact on the environment. It has been numerously documented on the adverse effects of overfishing in rivers as well as hunting a particular animal from the natural food chain (Heywood, and Montgomery, 2008). The ethical consideration underscores how to regulate sports and maintain the natural ecosystem in the process of sports. Therefore, the ethics denote the extent of the sports and the number of participants as well as the frequency in one given area.

**Legal considerations**

Taking part within the natural environment there exist various legal issues that pertain environmental protection laws in particular areas. For instance, hunting of animals or fishing in protected and zoned areas of the environment have huge implications for the participants in the sports. Secondly, legal considerations underscore the participation of athletes in sports especially due to the subjected risks they face in the process. This implication undercuts the organizations and sponsors of the sports as the risks that athletes face have implications (Murdock, 2010). Other considerations include the legality of restriction of participants in the sports based on the regulations. These denote the freedom of participation in sports with equal opportunity. However, in consideration of the environmental regulations, the organizers have the legal obligations to restrict participation.

**Administrative considerations**

Administrative considerations underscore the evaluation of the sports as well as the entire process. These denote how all ethical and legal considerations are met within the process of the activity. For instance, rock climbing and mountain climbing are subject to extreme conditions. Therefore administration of the process requires the logistical planning to enhance, safety, health, and security of the participants. For instance, in case of emergencies, where, how and who will encompass the medical rescue (Shogan, 2007). Further, prior to the activity, the organization of medical and health screening to administer justice and equal opportunity in the sport. Consequently, the administrative process provides an overview of the process of an activity from the organization to adjudication and points awarding system.

References

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