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AN ESSAY FOR THE INTERNATIONAL FAIR PLAY CONTEST

«FAIR PLAY»

THROUGH THE EYES OF COACHES

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«I expect Fair Play from each of you!» – says the coach and the Quidditch judge in one of the world famous fantasy films. But how much does this statement reflect the attitude of coaches to the need for fair play in sports in the real world of the international sports movement with its current challenges and difficulties? What is «Fair Play» for a coach and is there a need to remind the athletes of the national teams that we expect «Fair Play» from them even to the detriment of their own achievements, awards and even health? This is what we decided to find out from the famous and reputed coaches of Russia, working at the Kuban State University of Physical Education, Sports and Tourism.

«Fair Play» – it is a fair and healthy competition – such a definition was given by the Associate Professor of the Theory and Methods of Swimming, Sailing and Rowing Department, Candidate of Pedagogical Sciences, head swimming coach of the Krasnodar region Andrey Arishin. He has experienced firsthand what Fair Play is and believes that any competition should be held in equal conditions for all participants and the holiday of competition will allow to unite, but not to push opponents in hating attacks.

Swimming itself is a sport with a fairly objective assessment, today an automatic timekeeping system is used, when an athlete swims the distance, a computer program immediately shows the result that he received. All this at the same time is printed and the result goes to the Internet for the media, for athletes, for spectators, for anyone. Fair refereeing, according to Andrei Arishin, does not interfere with encountering a violation of the principle «Fair Play» in swimming, for example, at the stage of selection for a competition. Now a lot is being done to objectify competitive events through the digitalization of the process. Andrey is a trainer, a teacher, a scientist, an educator and therefore he believes that it is necessary to prepare both athletes and coaches for the prevention of the violations of principles of «Fair Play», but one way or another, there will still be those who want to get the victory dishonestly and it is necessary to be ready for this.

Igor Ivanov is a senior coach of the Russian national Greco-Roman wrestling team, he has been working with the national team for several decades, Professor of the Theory and Methods of Combat Sports Department at the Kuban State University of Physical Education, Sports and Tourism and he shared his experience in a great sport: «Sport is painstaking honest work, not only strength helps in the fight, but also knowledge». Professor of the Greco-Roman wrestling, as colleagues and athletes call him, believes that it is important constantly to develop and to move forward in sports, to maintain achievements, to improve. Educational work is conducted constantly and the Olympic Movement stands for sport to be spectacular, therefore a golden mean is needed. It is necessary from childhood to instill respect for the opponent, for the judges, for the fans, for the

journalists. A coach teaches to observe self-control, sports regimen, weight regimen and Olympic principles. For Igor Ivanov wrestling is his life, life of a winner, in which he does everything to make sports competitions as fair as possible, where each wrestler contributes to a fair game so that athletes can test their strengths and will on equal terms and show their character as a winner.

For Alexey Ryzhkov – the head coach of the Russian national sports team in trampoline jumping, Associate Professor of the Theory and Methodology of Gymnastics Department at the Kuban State University of Physical Education, Sports and Tourism «Fair Play» is honesty to oneself and society. He gave an example of fair competition and honesty at the Olympic Games on the example of an athlete – this is the Olympic champion Irina Karavaeva, which was granted the International Fair Play Award (for the commitment to the principles of Fair Play), she received it for correcting a referee error at the World Championship, which took place in Denmark in 2001. Then the judges awarded the victory to Irina, although the German athlete Anna Dogonadze was objectively ahead of her. A little later after the tournament, Irina handed over the gold medal to Dogonadze. Such an act deserves great respect, that is why the judges awarded her this award. Using this example, we need to educate a sports reserve. Personal attitude of Alexey Ryzhkov to «Fair Play» - it is honesty and being in harmony with oneself. After all, by the example, we saw that it is better to take the second place than to be content with an unfair victory and live with this guilt. Unfortunately, not everyone wants to play fair and for someone to win is the main goal, and at what cost it does not matter anymore and this we often have to face in the international arena.

It turns out that each coach puts his understanding in the term of «Fair Play», however, they agree that it is honesty and fairness in sports, which ultimately help to make sports truly spectacular. While each of them also agrees that there have always been, are and will be athletes, coaches, functionaries for whom «victory at any cost» in sports is the norm. Experienced mentors emphasize that they do not want their trainees to make such a choice and in no way they set them up for it. However, the interviewed sports professionals see the need to convey to their «coachees» the principles of «Fair Play» still at the level of children's sports. In their opinion, seeing the example of a coach, senior athletes, they understand that sports competitions are honesty, openness, respectability and, of course, equality. Promotion of «Fair Play» principles and education of modern athletes will help to reduce the controversy of sports and «fair rules», to form a harmonious personality that does not accept a cynical approach to competition – «victory at any cost». Sport is not physical aggression, but the area of the highest spiritual values of a person.