

## Sport Ethics Scenarios:

In the following scenarios decide whether it is: (a) unacceptable, (b) somewhat unacceptable, (c) acceptable, (d) somewhat acceptable, and why in each case. Also, give what moral value is involved and what non-moral value is driving the decision process.

### **Adam:**

Adam Stole \$10.00 from Betty's gymbag during lunch time workouts at the local gym.

### **Brent:**

Brent has dedicated his life to helping develop a sports arena for the local high school. As the gods would have it, after years of fund raising, the dream and budget to the dollar has come true. The highly expensive architecture plans for the arena have been submitted, but recently passed restrictions require twenty more handicapped parking spaces. He offers a friend in the planning department a year's fee sports pass if he'll make sure the plans are approved as submitted.

### **Carol:**

As athletic director of Largetown University, Carol is constantly barraged with NCAA paperwork...so much so that the job has become tedious. The latest forms which ask athletes to swear to the amount of time spent on practice appear to be more of the same. She decides to kill several birds with one stone...she has all the athletes sign all the season forms at one sitting, whereby she will fill in the appropriate practice times later.

### **Diane:**

Diane, who has a Ph.D. in sport philosophy, has been unemployed for some time. She has been turned down for several jobs because she is overqualified. When she applies for a job as computer programmer, she states on the application form, that she has had only two years of college. She is not required to sign the form. She gets the job.

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### **Adam:**

Adam is the athletic director of a small college in which he is in charge of all distribution of funds, including paychecks to part-time coaches. The budget has been tight all year, and every dollar counts. His secretary reports that a part time coach was shorted \$10.00 in the last pay period. She should have received \$120.00 but her paycheck was made out of \$110.000. Knowing that it will cost over \$20.00 to correct the error, Adam takes no action.

### **Brent:**

Brent is the principal of a high school. He accepts an expensive squash racquet at Christmas from the sales representative of a large school athletic supply company with which the school does business.

### **Carol:**

Carol collects the maximum amount of unemployment every two weeks. To do so, she is required to swear that she doesn't have a job and that she has been looking for full time employment. In fact, however, Carol earns about \$200 a month coaching youth sport teams in her local community. She is always paid in cash.

### **Diane:**

Diane has received "A's" on all her exams in athletic administration. A short research paper is due in a week. Diane believes that regardless of what kind of paper she turns in, she will get an "A". She is overloaded with school work and has no time to do the paper. She decided to hand in a paper written by her boyfriend for a business administration class.

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### **Adam:**

Adam is an assistant coach for a large Division I athletic department. All coaches have access to an unlimited amount of snack foods donated by area businesses. The department has decided that a few extra publicity dollars might be made by charging a minimal amount for the donated food - \$.25/bag of snacks which will be donated to the local children's hospital. Last week Adam ate about \$10.00 worth of snack foods while he was working without paying for them. He signed a statement when he began working there in which he promised to pay for everything he ate. All of the coaches at one time or another have eaten snacks without paying the money, including the athletic director.

### **Brent:**

Brent, the newly appointed athletic director at Smalltown U, takes the chairman of the local county supervisors on a hunting trip at athletic department expense. While there he tells the supervisor how important it is that environmental restrictions on air quality be enforced gradually at Smalltown gymnasium, to give him and the university time to comply to raise the needed funds for renovation. If Smalltown must comply as stated, the facility will have to be shutdown with loss of revenue and student participation.

### **Carol:**

Carol sends in one dollar and gets a mail order license as an ordained minister of an unorthodox religious group. To avoid payment of high property taxes, she claims her house as a church. She holds church each Saturday night with three of her friends. during the "service" they play records and talk.

### **Diane:**

Diane backpacks into the mountains during high fire risk season. Signs are posted everywhere not to build a camp fire. She makes a responsible camp fire, cooks a hot meal for herself and others, and then doses the fire appropriately, buries all the ashes, and leaves the mountains. No fire occurred and no damage issued.

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### **Adam:**

Adam is a recruiting coach for Smalltown University. His budget is somewhat limited but he does have access to unlimited phone usage. His elderly parents enjoy his phone calls and it makes them feel good that Adam is doing so well. His phone calls to mom and dad cost about \$10 a month. He does not report the personal calls, but adds them to this monthly bill.

### **Brent:**

Brent is the athletic director at Smalltown University where as part of his job, he is to glad hand all the important people who might donate funds to the department. Each year he gives 25 free season passes to individuals who he believes will donate greatly during the coming year. The passes are not reimbursed to the athletic department.

### **Carol:**

Carol is a highly successful coach at Largetown University, who is well known also for her community service. She donates about 5 hours a week to the Girls' and Boys' club working with handicapped children who like to play ball. At Christmas each year, she gives athletic passes to the local McDonald's owner so that he in return will give free Happy Meals to the handicapped children.

### **Diane:**

Diane is an athletic administrator at Smalltown University and is known as a "doer". Part of her ability to get things done is to bypass minute social as well as written rules. She recently was credited with getting a very large donation from a local eccentric because she "crashed" a wedding and met and wooed the eccentric during the wedding dinner.