Should College Athletes Be Paid

Andrew Goracke, Senior  
Sport and Recreation Leadership

Introduction
When given the opportunity in HNES 427 (Leisure and Society) to do a research project on leisure activities I knew that I wanted to investigate the current issue related to the payment of athletes to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

Research Questions
Should College Athletes be paid?

Are Scholarships not enough, are they unsatisfactory to the athletes of present day.

Do you feel like the true meaning of the Student Athlete is being forgotten with the idea of pay for play.

Method
I conducted a survey of six questions using Survey Monkey. My targeted audience were classmates from a variety of different classes giving me a mixed well rounded group of people. Other research was done with online articles and discussion.

Results
My data was collected from 50 participants that took my survey.

The breakdown of the results showed an overwhelming high number of students who feel athletes should not be paid. 76%.

However, when asked if athletes should be subsidized for their efforts and commitment with something besides money the data showed nearly 60% feel that they should.

Additional Research

Usnews.com – NCAA 6 billion dollar a year organization.

The Seattle Times – Athletes average 43 hours per week. “Core members of their university's marketing teams”

Amateurism. Tax consequences for scholarships. Title IX implications. Pay being equal to female athletes.

Conclusions

The idea of paying college athletes is drawing an enormous amount of attention that draws interest from all levels; the data collected from my survey suggests that athletes should not be paid along with receiving scholarship dollars. At the same time my research suggests that another form of compensation be put into place to make up the difference.