

Bachelor's Thesis Judgement - Advisor

Name of student: Jakub Pospíšil

Thesis title: Values perceived by players in Czech rugby compared to the stated values of the sport

Thesis goal: This bachelor's thesis aims to determine how rugby players perceive rugby values in themselves and their surroundings. Another objective was to identify trends in the responses using statistical tools. The third objective was to look for deviations from rugby values and their sources.

Overall thesis difficulty:

Below average Average Above average (Highlight)

Practical or theoretical usability of the thesis:

Below average Average Above average (Highlight)

Thesis evaluation criteria – evaluation scale:

Excellent - Very good - Good - Unsatisfactory (specify)

Thesis goal fulfillment	Excellent
Independence in processing the thesis	Very good
Logical construction of the thesis	Very good
Work with literature – citations, personal commentary	Good
Adequacy of chosen methodology	Excellent
Depth of thematic analysis, personal interpretation by the student	Very good
Thesis appearance: text, graphs, tables	Very good
Spelling, grammar, language style	Very good

Originality check of the text of the thesis:

Status of checking for plagiarism (SIS)	9%
Turnitin check status (SIS)	10%
Additional commentary	No plagerism. All citations are properly credited.

Thesis evaluation:

This is a thesis which is very well conceived in terms of its methodology, and this methodology sets the thesis up well to fulfill the thesis goal. Rugby is unique as a sport in that it has a historical record of declaring a clear set of values at the global level. The author does a good job in illustrating the connection between the emphasis on values at a national level and a coaching level, to the perceived values of those playing the game. I believe the results of this thesis provide valuable feedback for the Czech Rugby Union even with a relatively small sample size. Additionally, the author does a good job striving to interpret his results both through his own ideas and through the use of quotes from the three coaches interviewed.

Comments:

a) Thesis goal fulfillment

The goal of the thesis is stated differently in the thesis abstract and in Section 4, Goals and tasks of the work, research questions. The thesis goal is stated more concisely in the thesis than in the abstract. This more concise thesis goal should have been maintained in the abstract as well. Nonetheless, the author does a good job fulfilling both stated thesis goals.

b) Independence in processing the thesis

The author consulted with the advisor in the conception of the thesis and the writing up of the results. The author relied on the thesis advisor heavily for providing sources for the literature review. The author contacted teams and players independently, conducting the survey and interviews based on a schema agreed upon with the advisor.

c) Logical construction of the thesis

The theoretical background section is constructed logically and properly establishes a foundation for the study. The logic of the methodology is excellent.

d) Work with literature – citations, personal commentary

The theoretical background section is constructed properly and contains all the necessary sections for a bachelor's thesis. It is evident that the author relied primarily on the previous work of the supervisor. There is some lack of clarity in the use of value categories, inherent, intrinsic, and instrumental. As well these categories are not returned to in analyzing or interpreting the results. Nonetheless, the author displays a good understanding of the topic and previous research.

I personally like the personal feel of this thesis, though at times his efforts at interpretation should be more reserved. But his own passion for, and understanding of, the sport of rugby is apparent and that is valuable.

A significant error in this thesis is in the area of citations. The author does not cite sources often enough, and in several instances cites improperly. Additionally, several sources cited are not included in the reference list. A few examples follow:

P.15 – the information about the origins of the Slavia Bratislava team and about Ondřej Sekora needs more citations.

P.16 – the repeated citation of Crossan (2022) is incorrect. I do not have a 2022 values article and on none of my values articles am I the sole author. Further this citation is not listed in your references.

P. 19 – Cameron et al. 2014 is cited improperly. You have listed Hess and Cameron 2006 in your references, but not Cameron et al. 2014

P. 20 – the rugby value definitions in section 3.4.1 are missing a citation

P. 23 – the example from Georgia rugby lacks a citation

P. 25 – the first paragraph of section 3.6 on VBL lacks a citation

e) Adequacy of chosen methodology

The methodology of this thesis is excellent. The chosen methodology tests the goal of the thesis very well. 56 survey respondents could be interpreted as small but is both sufficient for a bachelor's thesis and sufficient given the full sample of extraleague rugby players.

However, the methods section lacks adequate detail: when were the surveys and interviews conducted? How were survey participants selected and asked to complete the survey? How were the interviews recorded and transcribed? Was there a pilot study? We are not told how

many survey participants were solicited, nor are we told the full number of respondents. Lastly, we are not presented with the operational diagram for the survey used.

f) Depth of thematic analysis, personal interpretation by the student

The depth of analysis is very good for a bachelor's thesis. Again, I value the students attempt to personally interpret the results. He also compares his own results with the literature cited in the theoretical background.

g) Thesis appearance: text, graphs, tables

All graphs and tables are clear and adequately express the data.

There is a frequent use of inconsistent spacing in the thesis. For example p.32, 34

h) Spelling, grammar, language style

The author should be praised for writing the thesis in English. There are mistakes, and the language used is often too informal for academic writing, but the thesis is clear. This should be praised and by no means counted against the student.

Questions for the thesis defense:

1. Explain the logic for your methodological approach of asking the players to evaluate themselves, their team, their coach, and then other teams on each of the values. What general conclusions can be drawn based on the statistical comparison of these results? How do you interpret these results?
2. Can you explain the results in section 6.7 based on the teams' respondents are from? Or is there any correlation with the team's final ranking from the season?
3. How does the demographic breakdown of respondents by age influence your statistical finding that the longer players play, the more emphasis they place on values? How might this be compensated for?

Proposed classification level: Very good

I declare that I do not have a familial or other private relationship with the student.

In Prague on:

Signature

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