

Review of: "Uncelebrated Sports Officials in the Middle East & Africa"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I consider the current relevance of the article to be significant as it offers a vital perspective on a region of the world that is gaining increasing prominence in the global sports arena. It addresses critical issues of diversity and representation that are pivotal for modern sports governance and provides insights that can influence sports policy and education.

Furthermore, this article explores a relatively unexamined topic in sports management, specifically the role of sports officials in the Middle East and Africa. This perspective is a notable contribution as it broadens the thematic focus of existing research in the field, which often concentrates more on athletes, coaches, or the financial aspects of sports. By focusing on sports officials, the article enhances our understanding of their role and significance in the sports context, thereby adding a new dimension to the theory of sports management, which frequently centers on players and coaches while overlooking the critical role of officials. It is also noteworthy that by concentrating on specific regions like the Middle East and Africa, the article addresses a gap in the literature that generally focuses on Europe and North America. This regional perspective is essential for comprehending global sports dynamics.

However, while existing literature is mentioned, the article could be enriched with a more detailed discussion of how its findings relate to or differ from previous studies. Moreover, although the narrative and observational methodology is suitable for qualitative study, the article could benefit from greater clarity and detail in the description of the methods used, which would enhance the credibility and reproducibility of the study. In addition, the study could be enriched by incorporating other perspectives and voices, especially those of the sports officials themselves, adding depth and authenticity to the analysis. Indeed, this could provide a richer and more nuanced understanding of the experiences and perceptions of sports officials.

One of the main practical contributions of the article is raising awareness of the critical role played by sports officials in the Middle East and Africa. By highlighting their underrepresentation, the study prompts sports organizations and decision-makers to pay more attention to this group. Additionally, the article suggests the need for more robust and specific training and development programs for sports officials in these regions, which are essential for improving the quality and efficiency of officiating and game and competition administration.

Lastly, I believe the article could benefit from a broader discussion of the practical and theoretical implications of the findings. For instance, it could indicate how the results might influence sports policy, sports administration, and the training of officials in the Middle East and Africa. I also believe it is important to mention the ethical considerations and

how they were managed during the research.