

**ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES IN CURBING AGE-CHEATING
INCOMPETITIONS AMONG FOOTBALL PLAYERS IN
NIGERIA**

BY

**Ayotunde Oluwole AJALA
B.Ed.; M.Ed.; (Ibadan)
Matric. No. 67577**

**A PhD THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF DOCTORATE
DEGREE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN KINETICS AND
HEALTH EDUCATION, FACULTY OF EDUCATION,
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, IBADAN, NIGERIA**

November, 2018

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this research work was carried out under my supervision by **Ayotunde Oluwole AJALA** of the Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, Faculty of Education, University of Ibadan, Ibadan.

Supervisor

**Professor B. O. Asagba,
Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education,
University of Ibadan,
Ibadan.**

Date

DEDICATION

Everything about this work is dedicated to the Most High God, my Maker, the Author and Finisher of my faith, my Sustainer, and All-in-All. I also dedicate this thesis to my biological parents, Late Mr Festus Oyewole AJALA and Late Mrs Victoria Adewuni AJALA whose prayers while alive still work wonders in my life and bring luck to me. May their gentle souls continue to rest in the Bosom of the Lord in Jesus' Name.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A journey of one million kilometres starts with one step. To the glory of God, I took this step some years back, and here I am, singing the songs of success and giving great thanks to the Most High for seeing me through. I thank Him for everything. I have every reason to give Him glory for standing by me all through my journey in the programme. Serious challenges that could have scuttled my plans came right from the inception of the programme, but God in His infinite mercies ensured that I merely learnt from them. They were not strong enough to kill my dream. While not being boastful, but just appreciating His wonderful love for me, many people who started this programme like me and faced far less difficult challenges called it quits midway and so, were unable to finish it. I succeeded, not because I am better or wiser, but for His uncommon favour that I enjoyed from the beginning to the end. Indeed, nothing I say or do can ever match God's unfettered love for me.

After God Almighty, the next person that acted as the impetus for me throughout this study was no other person than my amiable easy-going, and approachable father cum supervisor, Professor B.O. Asagba, whose wealth of experience did magic and opened doors for me all through the course of the programme. When I first worked with him during my Master's degree programme, I thought I had enjoyed his best. But when I luckily fell into his hands as his supervisee again for my PhD study, I then realized that my experience of the past was a child's play. I now know how strong his passion for qualitative research work coupled with seeing a task to a conclusive and successful end is. His highly constructive and educative criticism where necessary, words of advice, corrections, calls and words of encouragement ensured that I stood firmly to word off the excruciating challenges that would have killed off my dream in the programme. May God continue to be with him and bless his family as well.

Special thanks also go to my good old friend, Dr. O.A. Omole, the current ASUU Chairman, U.I. chapter for his TOTAL support all through the duration of this programme. He stood solidly behind me like the rock of Gilbertra from start to finish. May God continue to spare and bless him for me. He is a friend indeed. My big thanks also go to my able 'oga', Late Professor K.O. Omolawon, the former seminar coordinator, who painstakingly went through my work on several occasions and made useful and expedient contributions and directions which further helped to improve the lot of this study and ensured its successful completion. Unfortunately, he is no more.

How I wish he could live to see the result of his efforts on the work. May his soul continue to find solace in the Bosom of his Lord in Jesus' Mighty Name. I am also highly appreciative of Professor Femi Adegbesan's immense contributions. Professor E.O. Morakinyo and Late Professor A.O. Abass's useful contributions and encouragement are also grossly acknowledged.

Also worthy of my special honour is Professor Andy Fadoju for his explicit instructions that helped in no small measure and led to the smooth construction and application of the in-depth interview (I.D.I.) in this study. I will forever be grateful to him. I appreciate the well wishes of the current Head of Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, Prof J.F. Babalola. I also thank Prof Moronkola, Prof O.O. Ogundele, Prof M.A. Ajayi, the immediate past Head of Department, and other lecturers in the department. Kudos also go to Dr O. Osisanya for his useful hints. I cannot forget the tutelage and exhortations of Prof A. B. Popoola, who painstakingly went through my work and assured me of its successful completion. Prof Lawal, my big brother is also highly appreciated. Special thanks go to Prof Seun Omotayo for his accommodation and audience, especially during the interview sessions. He gave me a completely different and useful insight which led to a more result-oriented approach to the work. May God continue to be with him. I also appreciate the full support of Dr A. O. Tella, the current Sub-Dean, Faculty of Education for his total support.

My profound gratitude also goes to my family friends, Dr. and Dr. Mrs. Falola. They stood like pillars and acted as the impetus that drove me through the rough and tough of the entire programme. They made sure that I was never deterred at any point all through the whole exercise. May God continue to bless and prosper this wonderful couple. Celebrations and things of joy will never cease from this family in the mighty Name of Jesus. Amen. Same goes for Dr. Omoniyi Moses. He too was of immense help. Worthy of mention are Dr. Lateef Kehinde, Dr. Airebamen Sade, Dr. Steve Olarinoye, and my friend, Kunle Abdul for their full support. I can never forget Dr Tunde Adebayo for his support and consistent encouragement all through. May the Good Lord appreciate them all. I specially appreciate Prof. Kehinde Kester for his genuine concern and ever-timely assistance. May God continue to immensely bless him, his ways and his family. Kudos also go to Dr Ladipo Dele for his useful hints and words of encouragement. I appreciate the support given by Dr Balogun Iresanmi, especially during the dying period of the programme. May God continue to be with him.

My bundle of appreciation cannot be full without the mention of my worthy friends; Tunde Rasheed and his wife, Nike Anifowoshe, Remi Adesina, Odesola Ademola, Hassan Olamilekan, Ogunnowo Godwin and his wife, Adejobi Omolara, Fowora Olusegun, Mr and Mrs Adebajo, Solanke Motolani, Oderinu Ademola, Tolu 'Kanu', Popoola Sunday 'Eruku so!', Fatai Adeosun 'Smokey', Late Bola Adedeji, Adedoyin Joshua, Sister Ike, Pastor Adebajo and his able wife, Dr Mrs Adebajo, O.F., Isokhare Nwhuokhorie and his wife, Mr Osokoya, O., Mr Ajilogba, S.I., Oladimeji Olumide, Odunoku Kayode, Mrs Oduselu, O., the Head Mistress, TASCE Staff School, Ijebu-Ode for their genuine concern. Special regards go to my friend and brother indeed, Pastor Gbenga Oladimeji and his wife for their all-round support. May God continue to be their Source and sustain them and their interests in Jesus' mighty Name. Their physical, moral and financial support really took me far. It is quite impossible for me not to remember Remi and Olayinka Oke together with their blessed children, Tosin, Tomiwa and 'Prof.' Tolu Oke for their love and care. I also appreciate Kehinde Oke and his friend, Musiliu, AKA 'Paparazzi'. Kudos go to Prayer Michael for his prayers and well wishes. I thank Mr Odumosu for his moral and spiritual support. Great thanks to Dr Adebayo of the University of Ilorin for his witty and useful tips, while I also appreciate the words of encouragement from Dr Mrs Ogunyemi.

Special thanks go to Tubosun Opatola who showed me genuine concern all through and linked me up with Chief Segun Odegbami (M.O.N), who received me with open arms. The former footballer and a great sports analyst of repute bore his mind fully on the issue on ground during the in-depth interview. He opened my eyes to other areas of interest that could help to curb the menace of cheating in our sports meets. May he continue to soar higher and higher in his chosen career in Jesus' Name. I appreciate the moral support given to me by Mr. Banjo Olatunji 'The Bishop' and his wife, Mrs. Banjo Olatunji Abiodun. They really showed genuine concern and supported me in the spirit all through. The grace of God will continue to abide by this family. I thank Mayowa Shekoni and Ogunleye Moses for standing by me. I can never forget late Mr A.M. Odewumi, my ever reliable analyst of repute, who did everything possible for me to make sure that all the challenges I encountered, all the pressures I went through, and all the forces against me were faced and brushed aside via spiritual reinforcement and strong words of encouragement, rooted in the Holy Bible so that in the end, I might have cause to glorify God for His mercies after a successful

completion of the programme. He did the analysis for me almost free of charge! May his soul continue to rest in perfect peace.

Unfathomable thanks go to my elder blood sister like mother, Mrs Oluyemisi Ajiboye (Nee Ajala) and her great children, Tayo Ajiboye and Bukola Ajiboye. They were the fantastic people that added colour to the whole exercise. They never for once kept their hearts away from me all through. Great thanks to my immediate elder brother, Mr Ajala Olufemi and his children, Olusegun and OreOluwa Ajala for standing by me. May God never leave or forsake them. Finally, I thank my loving wife, Mrs Abiola Oseyemi Ajala and our megastars, our joy, our future and our loving children, Esther Oluwadarasimi MofiyinfOluwa Ajala and Elizabeth Oluwadamisi Eriayo Ajala for their prayers, concern, care, and endurance all through the duration of the programme. May God grant us all long life and opportunities to enjoy the fruits of the feat in Jesus' mighty Name.

ABSTRACT

Age-cheating in football has become a perennial problem, especially in the various categories of age-group competitions held by the Federation of International Football Association (FIFA). This irregularity contributed to the poor development of football in Nigeria as well as her performance in FIFA competitions. Previous studies focused on the causes of cheating in sports, without adequate consideration for administrative measures to curb cheating. This study, therefore, was designed to investigate some administrative measures (biometric data registration at birth and at first competition, medical examination, identity card issuance and punitive measures) in curbing cheating in age-group competitions among footballers in Nigeria.

Theory of Planned Behaviour and the descriptive survey design were adopted. Purposive sampling technique was used to select five out of the six existing sports development zones in Nigeria, while four states were randomly selected from each zone. Two football clubs, duly registered with the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) were purposively selected from each state, while 30 footballers were randomly selected from each club. Twenty football coaches in each of the 20 States' Football Associations (SFAs) were randomly selected, while 245 sports administrators across the 20 SFAs, state and federal ministries of sports were consulted. Twenty sportswriters were randomly selected from each of the states' Sports Writers Association. Data were obtained from clubs' diaries, footballers' biodata, footballers' birthday certificates, while the verifications of their birthdays were confirmed from the National Population Commission. These were complemented with: five sessions of Focus Group Discussions with footballers; In-depth interviews with two each of sportswriters, administrators and coaches from each of the sports development zones. Simple percentages were used to analyse quantitative data, while qualitative data were content analysed.

Signatures (90.0%) Iris (3.0%), fingerprints (3.0%), voices (2.0%) and gaits (2.0%) (biometric tests), were the administrative measures instituted by the SFAs and NFF. However, these were only instituted at the points of players' registration for age-group competitions. The hurried approach in the application of the measures at the beginning of competitions allowed for foul-plays. The clubs relied solely (100.0%) on the information provided by the players without proper verifications (100.0%) which made the instituted administrative measures to be full of flaws. Data registration at birth and at first competitions were rarely recognised and used by the clubs, SFAs and NFF. Magnetic Resonance Imaging tests conducted by the NFF and the SFAs often contradicted that of FIFA and resulted in ill-preparations for international competitions. Identity card issuance (85.5%), which was the major measure put in place by the clubs, was not properly regulated by the SFAs and NFF. Disqualification (100.0%) from competitions was the highest punitive measure ever instituted by the NFF. Offenders comprising the players, clubs, as well as the SFAs were not

adequately reprimanded for age-cheating. Consequently, this allowed for continuous age falsifications by the players and their clubs.

The administrative measures put in place against age-cheating among football players in Nigeria are ineffective. Sanctions by the regulatory bodies have not curbed the menace.

Keywords: FIFA age-group competitions, Age-cheating in football, Nigeria Football Federation, Nigerian footballers, Nigerian football clubs

Word count: 490

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Title Page	i
Certification	ii
Dedication	iii
Acknowledgements	iv
Abstract	vii
Table of Contents	viii
List of Figures	ix
List of Tables	x
List of Appendices	xi
CHAPTER ONE: Introduction	
Background to the Study	1
Statement of the Problem	7
Objectives of the Study	10
Research Questions	10
Hypotheses	11
Delimitations of the Study	12
Limitations of the Study	12
Significance of the Study	13
Operational Definitions of Terms	14
CHAPTER TWO: Literature Review	
Conceptual Framework	17
Theoretical Framework	18
Cheating in Relation to Sports	19
Theory of Planned Behaviour	21
Determinants of cheating Behaviour	24
What is Age Cheating?	25
Sports Competitions- its Concept	28
Sports Administration	30
Ethical Concepts in Sports	35
Ethics in Relation to Sports Competitions	37

History of FIFA Age-Group Competitions	40
Age Cheating in Association Football	42
Medical Examination; Magnetic Resonance Imaging (M.R.I. tests)	45
Biometrics	51
Appraisal of the Reviewed Literature	59
CHAPTER THREE: Methodology	
Research Design	62
Population	62
Sample and Sampling Techniques	63
An Overview of the Sampled Population	64
An Overview of the Selected Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones	65
Research Instruments	66
In-Depth Interview Guide	67
Validity of the Instruments	67
Reliability of the Instruments	68
Field Testing of the Instruments	68
Procedure for Data Collection	69
Procedure for Data Analysis	69
CHAPTER FOUR: Results, Analysis and Discussion of Findings	
Demographic Characteristics of Participants	70
Research Questions	72
Test of Hypotheses	77
Discussion of Findings	81
Thematic Content Analysis	88
CHAPTER FIVE: Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations	
Summary	96
Conclusion	97
Recommendations	98
Contributions to Knowledge	100
Suggestions for Further Studies	100
References	102

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix		Page
A:	Questionnaire	113
B:	Research Questions	118
C:	Informed Consent Form Specimen	119
D:	Names of the Football Clubs Involved in the Study	120
E:	Sports Federations in Nigeria	122
F:	FIFA Senior World Cup Records	123
G:	FIFA U-17 World Cup Records	126
H:	FIFA U-20 World Cup Records	128
I:	African nations in the FIFA World Cup	130
J:	Some Pictures of the Field Work	131

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
1.1	Conceptual framework of the study	17
1.2	Theoretical framework of the study	18
1.3	Bar chart showing the distribution of participants	70

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
1	An overview of the selected participants	64
2	An overview of the selected Federal Ministry of Youths and Sports Development zones and states	65
3	Distribution of the participants	71
4	Correlation matrix showing the relationship between age-cheating And the administrative measures	72
5	Responses on some administrative measures against age-cheating.	74
6	Statistics of the biometric tests conducted and the use of identity Cards by the clubs and the State Football Associations (SFAs) and TheNigeria Football Federation (NFF)	76
7	Joint contributions of the administrative measures on age-cheating	77
8	Relative contributions of the administrative measures on age-cheating	78

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Background to the Study

The role of sports in any society cannot be overemphasized. It is believed that sports build character and develops certain positive qualities such as self-discipline, dedication, honesty, leadership qualities together with spirit of fair-play among others in participants. Participation in sports competitions by the youth socializes them into adulthood. Barez (2008) opined that involvement in sports is seen as a key to social interaction, a means for a country to bid for excellence, and a way to improve social conditions among other virtues. Today, sport is believed to have been turned to a cruel field of fight, full of aggression and exploitation, when everything is all about winning at all costs, consequently turning the sports people into victory-producing machines. Victories are often strived to achieve at the expense of sportsman's reputation, health, security or even life (Eccles, 2005).

Competition, according to Asagba (2003) is an attempt to gain something which someone else or other people are also trying to gain at the same time. Sports competitions are designed to promote development through a true test of ability. Competition in sports is a necessity for improvement in performance. Winning is a key factor in any sports competition. The joy, fame, money, satisfaction, ego boosting among others, which victories in competitions bring, tend to make some participants in sports competitions to explore all possible (including crooked) means in achieving their 'ultimate' aim- winning. Schwieren and Weichselbaumer (2008) established that there is a link between competition and cheating. The urge to win often leads competitors to engaging in various forms of tricks outside normal legitimate means like doping, aggression, circumventing the rules, fixing of results etc to achieve victory over others. Barez (2008) asserted that all these vices, among others, put a big question mark on the claim that sports build character.

Any fraudulent or deceitful attempt to circumvent rules, standards, practices, customs, mores and norms so as to gain unfair advantage over others or to protect someone who has done so is known as cheating. Salomeja (2012) opined that cheating is an offense against the principles of justice as well as against the norms of good behaviour, and through studies, established a connection between cheating and competition. In his own definition of cheating, it is a criminal, but 'rational' action which a person chooses, depending on the costs and benefits attached to it. Cheating

is an offence as far as sports competitions are concerned. According to Eitzen (2001), people see cheating in sports today as 'being strategic' and at the same time, illegal acts are accepted as part of competition. Acts which are permitted and forbidden are governed both by customs and explicit rules in sports and games. The use of anabolic steroids, (also known as "doping"), equipment that gives undue advantage to the user and is against the rules or to alter the condition of equipment during play, together with deliberate harassment of opponents and injury to competitors and age cheating are all unacceptable attitudes.

There are numerous serious examples of cheating. Ben Johnson was disqualified after his victory in the 100 metres final at the 1988 Summer Olympics for the use of anabolic steroids, confessions of steroid use by former professional baseball players after retirement among others (usatoday.com, 2005). Green(2006) reported that Diego Maradona used his hand to punch the ball into the goalposts of England goalkeeper during the 1986 edition of the Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) World Cup quarter-final, whereas it is a forbidden act for any player other than the goalkeeper to use the hand or arm within the goal area according to the rules of association football (Green, 2006). This is regarded as one of the most open cases of cheating.

In the same vein, Tobie Mimboe, a Cameroonian footballer, was found to have possessed various fake documents to alter his age during the course of his career and later confessed that his age kept decreasing as time passed all through his career and got younger as time went by as reported by Hawkey and Ian(2009). It is an offence to alter the condition of playing equipment in sports like baseball and cricket. Doping cases of various kinds have marred and as such taken the shine out of several competitions. Once there is a manipulation of the rules governing conduct and procedures of a sport then cheating has taken place according to Amok(2006).

Age-cheating is the use of false documentation to prove that one is either younger or older than his/her real age with the aim of gaining undue advantage over others. On paper, age cheats may appear younger. In most African countries and especially in Nigeria today, age-cheating has become a culture. The practice of age-cheating has become so common that some people find nothing ethically wrong with it, and, even if others find it morally wrong, they consider it a necessary evil—a means of survival in a situation of total deprivation and poverty. Cheating in age-group competitions is one of the problems that have posted a big challenge to sports

development. Mostly, cheating occurs in age group sports competitions as players falsify documents to reduce their ages in order to be allowed to participate.

Age-cheating is prevalent in age-group sports increasingly, and is causing problems even bigger than doping and other types of cheating (Silverman, 2011). Age falsification is said to have taken place immediately a person intentionally alters his/her authentic age. The person in question does this intentionally to get undue advantages or status that they do not deserve, and eventually deny the rightful owner of such privileges. Age is sometimes increased so as to be considered for a job which requires attaining certain age for one to be able to undertake. It could also be the other way round. In sports, most especially football and athletics etc, older athletes alter their ages to look younger, so that they may be able to compete in junior events.

As a result of the fact that these age falsifications always have an effect on a person's level of performance, either by performing better in older ages, or having the flexibility that follows youthfulness. This practice is known as age cheating in the field of sports. Reducing one's age is called 'shaving' while increasing one's age is called 'padding' (Tang, 2010). Some clubs, coaches and even parents, have been discovered to be collaborators in this act. However, this study focused on 'age shaving'. Cheating in age-group competitions is real, and sports administrators need to map out strategies to identify athletes who are older than the prescribed age, together with some officials who condone this behaviour, reported Brande, Henning and Lambert(2007).

Cheating has become a common feature in age-group football competitions be it local, national or international opined (Fagbenle, 2009). This may be owing to the fact that football has become one of the world's most lucrative sports and games. According to Uduak (2004), Football is undoubtedly one of the most loved games the world over. Its followership is universal, and just like religion, it indoctrinates its followers. Individuals, groups, clubs, races nations could go to any length to get their wills done, and achieve their aims in the game. Cheating has long been suspected among African football nations whose records in age-group competitions are better than they are at the senior level of the World Cup, (African on-line PM News, 2012). It has been an almost insurmountable problem for many sports organizers to find out the perpetrators of age-cheating in age-related football tournaments. This is a form of cheating that has to do with the alteration of information vis-à-vis documents of the

age of a football player to enjoy undue advantage in sports at the expense of others. This is absolutely not in conformity with the ethics of sport and fair-play.

There are many cases that point to the reality of the incidence of cheating in age-group football in Africa. At one time or the other, countries in Africa have been accused of fielding over-aged players in competitions involving age limit. The South African Under-14 national football team captain was discovered to have used a fake name. He was also found out to be a 17-year-old undergraduate student from Pretoria!Kwenaite (2008) reported that almost all the players in this South African squad that eventually won the International Four-Nation Tournament for the under-privileged children in 1998 were well over the age limit, he concluded. Also in Zimbabwe, during her preparation for the U-17 world cup which was played in Nigeria in 2009, many players were disqualified and various punishments meted out on them for various forms of age falsifications.

Cheating, especially in age-group competitions is a problem to football development in Africa. It makes a mockery of true spirit of sportsmanship and competitiveness, thereby rendering tournaments useless where players who do not qualify to play are taking the centre stage in such competitions. Pannenberg (2009) asserted that, almost all African countries engage in cheating when it comes to youth football, and that the fact is too glaring to be ignored. He alleged that many top officials within the various associations and ministries have spoken to confirm the allegation that there exist 'football ages' deliberately created to allow older player to qualify to participate in the various age-group competitions.

Uzundu (2012) recorded that FIFA as a body has acknowledged the seriousness of the problem and are working seriously to stop the menace. Niger was disqualified from the 2011 African Under-17 championship qualifier after fielding a 22-year-old player. The Nigerien caught was just a mere scapegoat, Age-grade football competitions in Africa is characterized by age falsifications carefully manipulated by federations that are keen on winning trophies. In another Africa Youth Championship qualifier match, the Gambian U-20 football team was disqualified from the tournament slated for Senegal in 2015. The reason was that Gambia fielded five ineligible players in her match against Liberia (www.goal.com. 2014).

Age falsification has become a recurrent issue in Nigeria where footballers can go to any length to make sure they are selected to represent the country in major

competitions. Nigeria football has indeed been saddled with various challenges of cheating over the years. The country was banned from all age-group competitions by the world's football governing body, the Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) in 1991 and denied the hosting right of that year's edition of the World Youth Championship due to the discrepancies in the registration forms of two players who featured at the 1985 edition of the Under-20 world cup in Moscow (allafrica.com). The 2009 Junior FIFA U-17 tournament hosted by Nigeria was dented by the controversy surrounding the true ages of players featured by the host country, Nigeria. The captain of the Nigerian team was at the centre of the controversy. He was alleged to have reduced his true age by at least eight years. Earlier before, about seventy-five percent of the entire team prepared by the country for the tournament was disqualified when a device, known as the Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) was used to discover that they were over-aged (Andrew, 2009).

Biometrics and data registration have been recommended by Fagbenle (2009) to be one of the best ways out of the menace of age cheating in sports. Physiological or behavioral characteristics used to recognize a person in a technical and automated method refer to biometrics. Any measurable, physical or physiological features or behavioural traits that can be applied to recognize a person or to confirm the identity of a person is referred to as biometrics. Also, fingerprints, hand geometry, the face, the iris, the retina, the hand venous networks, body odour etc are all parts of physiological biometrics while the voice, signature, keystroke dynamics (the way and manner a person types on a keyboard) and gait (the manner of walking of a person) are behavioural biometric features. The development of biometric devices has turned out to be the foundation of extensive reliable and fool-proof methods of identifying and personal verification solutions to identity problems.

The international community has accepted biometrics as one of the most reliable methods of identifying journeying strangers. It is important that reliable methods of positively identifying people are put in place to ensure national security and ward off the possibility of harm to innocent souls and loss of lives and property, reported Wayman (2000). Introduction of a well-packaged identity card system for members of a particular group is a good means of identification (David, 2004). It encourages a proper and accurate verification of a person's identity. With the ability to properly identify people with their true identity is central to the provision of adequate security, there will be wider implications for successful measures against

crime and terrorism. If a formidable system of issuing identity cards is properly put in place, there will be a tremendous improvement in forestalling and reduction of all manner of crimes that stem from identity fraud. The menace of cheating in age-group football competitions can be grossly reduced via this system. A well-packaged identity cards issuing system would put a lasting stop to the use of different types of identities by individual people, and make the fight against organized crime and terrorism a success according to David(2004).

Medical examination, in form of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI test) was first used by FIFA in any age-group sports competition in the 2009 edition of the U-17 world cup held in Nigeria. MRI test is done to find out the bone age of people, using the hand and wrist bones. The wrist bones stop growing when a person is around sixteen and seventeen years of age. Any player tested whose wrist bones had closed and stopped growing was adjudged to be ineligible to play in the tournament. Majority of the players presented by Nigeria were disqualified through this test. In 2009 FIFA introduced the compulsory use of MRI tests for the FIFA Under-17 World Cup to help to verify the ages claimed by players in order to confirm whether they are over-aged or not.

A person's age becomes extremely difficult for qualified medical personnel to calculate because MRI tests are only considered to be 99% accurate before 17 years of age. According to a FIFA official, Dvorak (2011), the device becomes unreliable when a person attains seventeen years of age which is the benchmark FIFA made for the under-17 event. Each of the bones in the arm and leg has an endplate from which it usually grows. Around age 17 or 18 years, the growth is completed and the MRI scans can no longer find the endplates according to Carr (2004).For biometrics tests and medical examination to be effectively used by sports organizers the tests should be conducted in selected hospitals approved for such an exercise to ensure authenticity. The empanelled hospitals or medical centres should be given licenses to legalize their activities. Only documents given by these approved hospitals and medical centres should be recognized by sports organizers.

Data registration of players is a device whereby all information about the identity of players are collected, recorded and stored in a database system which can be easily accessed anywhere when needed at any point in time. For it to work effectively, it should be done in a way that any data stored, most especially the unchangeable human natural traits like genotype, blood group, fingerprints and so

onremains so on records. The database system should be centralized in a manner that it can be accessed anytime, anywhere and any while for verification purposes. Once centralized, players will find it difficult to present falsified documents to sports organizers as they will be easily detected (Czek, 1999). There are rules and regulations that always guide and guard various sports and games. Sport is a microcosm of the society in which participants' actions are guided by rules, and punishments are issued out to breakers of these rules (Asagba, 2004).

Punitive measures can go a long way in discouraging people from getting themselves involved in criminal acts. Instituting serious policy measures against age cheats can, to a great extent, make athletes think twice before getting involved in such acts as age falsification of any kind. There is a link indeed between competition and cheating as opined by Salomeja (2012). As athletes are driven by the urge to achieve their ultimate aim-winning, they tend to resort to having their ways via illegal means-cheating. A theory of achievement motivation was used in 2006 by two renowned researchers in Psychology, Murdock and Andermanto formulate the model of academic cheating in an academic cheating literature. The proposed model can also be applied to other life situations including sports. Corcoran, Kevin and Rotter's (1987) study showed the connection between situational variable and personality variable. Individuals with high moral stands were discovered to consider the risk of getting caught than people of low morality status.

Surely, if there is any reduction in the risk of getting caught for a crime, cheating behaviour of highly moralistic people reduces more than that of the people with low level of morality who cheat more, and are less influenced by the risk of getting caught. Cheating in sports, especially in age-group football competitions has become a perennial problem. It has turned sports to a shadow of what it used to be. Various researches have been conducted to seek an end to cheating in sports, although most of them were directed towards the drivers of cheating behaviour. Ford and Richardson (1994) corroborating Trevino (1986) study agreed that cheating behaviour is affected by personality and situational variables. This was also confirmed by Murdock and Anderman's (2006) motivational framework on cheating. Numerous measures have been recommended by researchers to reduce or possibly eradicate the incidence of cheating in age-group sports, especially football competitions.

Kevin and Rotter (1987) discovered that high risk of detection can reduce the incidence of cheating. Kerkuliet, Joe and Sigmund (1999) illustrated the fact that

high cost of being caught with cheating can discourage and consequently reduce cheating. Franzoini (2000) however pointed out that punishment appears to have negative effects on cheating, although there is no conclusive empirical research to confirm this claim. Fagbenle (2009) and Fashikun (2011) were of the opinion that cheating in age-group sports has become a serious moral challenge. Despite the efforts of FIFA to ensure that there is fair-play spirit and equal treatment in terms of officiating and adherence to rules, cases still abound of cheating in age-group competitions which make people to start losing confidence in the credibility of these tournaments. Therefore, this study focused on some administrative measures in curbing cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones in Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

Football is acknowledged to be a crowd-pulling game any day (Uduak, 2004). Since the game was introduced it has undergone series of developmental processes which have helped to improve its quality. Football is embraced globally by all ages and has generated a lot of fun among others for both direct and indirect participants. This has encouraged the Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) to continually seek to improve the quality of the game. Part of the plan to further develop the game was the introduction of age-group competitions of various kinds so that nations and football clubs may be able to have a successful transition of talented players from junior cadre to the senior national team level. By this also, FIFA expected that nations, most especially the ones that are just coming up in the game, should be able to raise formidable senior national teams to successfully compete against ‘giant’ football playing nations like Brazil, Spain, England, Italy, Portugal, Argentina, Germany etc. Talented young players are also expected to, through these age-group championships, start their football career earlier in life and last longer in it (www.fifa.com2012).

Although, these objectives are being achieved in other parts of the world, the same cannot be said of many countries in Africa and Asia, Nigeria inclusive. Many age-group competitions that could have helped in achieving these objectives have always been marred by various cases of fielding over-aged players for such championships by participating teams. The researcher observed that over-aged players who feature in these competitions are increasing by the day. Players have cultivated

the habit of creating football ages that are far lower than their real ages to give them undue advantage to play in age-limit competitions so that they may attract the attention of scouts from Europe and other continents for lucrative contracts.

Administrators, coaches, football associations and even parents are said to be collaborators in deliberately creating ‘football age’ so that their wards may win laurels and attract foreign scouts for a brighter future (Roberts, 2008). This has indeed worked against the objectives set by FIFA to develop the game globally at all levels. While it hinders the development of football in general, it also prevents younger and fitter players from being discovered on time for them to start their career earlier in life. Most African players, according to Fagbenle (2009) do not last long in top-flight football and are forced to retire shortly after gaining limelight. Looking at the records of Africa in the FIFA age-group competitions, one will discover that the huge success recorded by the continent has not translated to success at the senior level. Up till now, Africa is still looking for her first semi-final berth in the senior world cup (see appendix F).

Various researches have been carried out on cheating but most of them are on the drivers of cheating in sports competitions. Meanwhile, various approaches have been made by researchers to find a lasting solution to this problem but all seem to be failing. Frankand Cook (1995) noted that reduction of competitive pressure via moderate reward for successful athletes may reduce prevalence of cheating during sports competitions. This view was also shared by Hollingshead, Andrea, Gwen, Jacobson and Samuel (2005) who indicated that high incentives could engender the urge to cheat. Nagin, Daniel, James, Seth and Lowel (2002) established that proper monitoring will increase the likelihood of being caught and reduce the propensity to cheat. Although studies abound on the prevalence of cheating in sports, not much has been done on the use of biometrics to tackle this menace, especially in age-group football competitions.

Research has also shown that some athletes emit certain immoral and unethical behaviours such as inflicting injury on an opponent, retaliation, simulation, distraction of the opponent etc. It has been repeatedly discussed that sports is fast losing its integrity, and that this is capable of making people lose interest in sport, including football. This issue has not received much interest from academics, coupled with the fact that the discussion on the issue is often characterized by opinions based on peculiar events, feelings or political passion instead of giving data and facts a huge

consideration. Therefore, this research examined and gave an overview of cheating in age-group football competitions and measures of curbing the menace. This study was therefore designed to examine some administrative measures that could be used to curb cheating in age-group competitions among football players in Nigeria.

Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this study was to investigate some of the administrative measures that could be used to significantly curb cheating in age-group football competitions in Nigeria. However, the specific objectives were as follow: To find out if;

1. biometric and data registration both at birth and at first competition could help in curbing to the barest minimum, the menace of cheating in age-group football competitions in Nigeria
2. medical examination-MRI tests could help in curbing cheating in age-group football competitions in Nigeria
3. the use of a formidable system of identity card issuance with full data and validity period (centralized database) to screen athletes could help in curbing cheating in age-group football competitions in Nigeria
4. the imposition of punitive measures on those caught in the web of cheating in age-group football competitions could help in curbing cheating in age-group football competitions in Nigeria
5. the relative and joint effects of some administrative measures on the menace of age cheating in football competitions in Nigeria
6. these measures could reduce the menace of age cheating in sports generally and give room for a level playground in age-group competitions so that true champions may always emerge

Research Questions

The following questions were answered in this study:

1. What are the administrative measures, and what is the relationship between each of these administrative measures and cheating in age-group football competitions in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones in Nigeria?

2. Can these perceived administrative measures like (biometric and data registration) at birth and at first competition, medical examination, use of empanelled hospitals, punitive measures and others curb cheating among players in age-group football competitions in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones in Nigeria?

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were tested:

1. Administrative strategies of curbing age cheating, when combined together, will not significantly have a joint positive effect on curbing cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones, Nigeria.
2. Biometric test and data registration at birth will not significantly contribute relatively to curbing cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones, Nigeria.
3. Biometric test and data registration at first competition will not significantly contribute relatively to curbing cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones, Nigeria.
4. Use of medical examination (MRI tests) will not significantly contribute relatively to curbing cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones, Nigeria.
5. Restriction of biometric test and medical examinations on age-related matters to empanelled hospitals on the basis of highest standard and credibility will not significantly contribute relatively to curbing cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones, Nigeria.
6. The use of a formidable system of issuing identity card with full data and validity period and centralized database to national athletes will not significantly contribute relatively to curbing cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones, Nigeria.

7. Imposition of punitive measures on culprits will not significantly contribute relatively to curbing cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones, Nigeria.

Delimitation of the study

The study was delimited to the following:

1. Age-cheating in age-group football competitions.
2. Descriptive survey research design.
3. States within five (5) of the six (6) Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones in Nigeria selected for the study.
4. All registered football clubs, coaches and players with the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) playing in the various categories of league competitions that fall within the sampled zones, sports administrators and sports journalists (Sports Writers Association of Nigeria, [SWAN] members) in the states within the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones in Nigeria.
5. The dependent variable of cheating in age-group football competitions and the independent variables of biometric data registration, medical examination, use of reliable identity cards and the imposition of stiff policy measures.
6. Self-developed, structured and validated questionnaires and an in-depth interview guide, club diaries, footballers' biodata and birthday certificates, as the instruments for data collection.
7. Multi-stage sampling processes for the selection of participants from the entire population.
8. Descriptive statistics of frequency counts, percentages, standard deviation, and inferential statistics of Pearson Product Moment Correlation and multiple regression analysis were used to analyze the set hypotheses at 0.05 alpha level.
9. Twenty-five (25) trained research assistants.
10. Male youth football players only.

Limitations of the study

The following limitations were encountered in the study:

Security was the first major challenge encountered by the research team as a result of the Boko Haram activities which prevented us from covering the North-Eastern part of Nigeria. This brought down the initially proposed sample size.

Besides, the participants were a bit constrained in giving full attention to the research team owing to their tight schedule when asked to give immediate response to the questionnaire items, hence, we were asked to come back later. Some of them were reluctant to give honest response for fear of being exposed and consequently prosecuted. Organizing the interview sessions too were not easy as we had to schedule and reschedule meetings with most of the targeted interviewees. It took time and a lot of appeals to get some notable interviewees to participate in the interview sessions.

However, efforts were made by the research team to ensure that participants saw the importance of this study by assuring them of absolute confidentiality. The researcher exercised patience and sought assistance from all necessary quarters to ensure that all other challenges faced apart from the ones envisaged in the study were adequately taken care of through perseverance.

Significance of the Study

Many qualified youths within the age bracket of age-group football competitions have been denied and their slots usurped by older and ineligible players. Nigeria's socio-economic and industrial development as a nation needs a sound identity management and formidable national security technologies. The findings of this study may help to give an insight to how to tackle the menace of cheating and identity fraud in our sports meets. The deployment of a solid biometric registration system will ensure a reliable identity management and database system for the country.

Nigeria is indeed ripe for a solid and reliable national identification programme. The device will be blended with the biometric passport platform. If everybody is aware of the fact that all his/her data are easily accessible from birth in a database system, nobody will try any tricks in terms of identity. The efficient management of biometric enrolment system may help to bring solutions to all our identity management problems. It can also be used to control the fraud associated with electronic voters' registration and illegal immigrants. It may serve as an intervention to misrepresentation and eventual occurrence of fake victories and undeserved honour being accorded cheats in age-group sports competitions, most especially football. It is also hoped that through the lifeline provided by the findings of this study, the country would be able to take giant strides towards achieving an all-round sports development, most especially in the area of football.

It is also hoped that through the outcome of this study eligible players will be able to come out to represent the country in age-group competitions so that they may be able to start their career early enough for them to last longer in it. It would also make it easier for our youth football squads to transit effectively and successfully to the senior national teams. This study may also serve as a reference point for future researchers or stimulate further researches on the vices that hinder sports development in Nigeria.

Thus, this work is expected to benefit sports administrators by helping them to identify the various tricks used by sportsmen to circumvent the rules of competitions in order to have their way. It may also help young players whose places are being usurped by these age fraudsters to be discovered on time for them to start their football career early in order to last longer in it. Through the results of this study, countries that are yet to fully develop in the game of football are also expected to be able to develop a sound football system which will help them build formidable teams that will successfully compete with 'superpower' football nations in the world. The result of this study may help in achieving overall sports, especially football development, in Nigeria and Africa as a whole.

Operational Definition of Terms

Age-group: sportsmen who are under or at-par with a certain age limit e.g. 14 years, 16 years, 20 years etc.

Age padding: adding to one's true age to give an impression that one is older than his/her real age.

Age shaving: reducing one's true age to give an impression that one is younger than his/her real age.

Biometrics: means any physical or physiological characteristics or behavioural traits (e.g. signature, fingerprints, voice, gait etc) that can be measured and used to identify an individual or to verify any data that has to do with the identity of any person.

Cheating: This is either reducing or adding to one's age in order to gain undue advantage over other competitors.

Curbing: means reducing to a considerable level (barest minimum), the occurrence of age cheating in our sports meets, especially youth football.

Identity management: measures put in place to curb cheating among football players in age-group competitions (biometric tests and data registration at birth, and at first competition, system of identity card issuance and policy measures for curbing age cheating)

‘Minnows’: Countries and teams who are just trying to catch up with the highly developed ‘super-power’ football-playing nations.

MRI: Magnetic Resonance Imaging-a medical examination conducted on people to find out their bone age, using the hand and wrist bones.

‘Super-power nations’: Countries known to be playing top-flight football, and which have made a great mark in the game.

Top-flight football: high-quality artistic display by football teams in well-organized leagues coupled with winning of laurels.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

The study was out to examine some administrative strategies in curbing age cheating in age-limit competitions among football players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports zones of Nigeria. This chapter thus extensively discussed the related literature that was relevant to the study under the following sub-headings:

1. Conceptual framework of the study
2. Theoretical framework of the study
3. Cheating as a concept in relation to sports
 - (i) Drivers of cheating behaviours
 - (ii) Age cheating in association football
 - (iii) Various forms of cheating in sports: Cheating in age-group football; aiders and collaborators of cheating in age-group football, effects of cheating on performance. Sports competition

Sports administration: Meaning and modes of operation.

Ethical concepts in sports

4. History of FIFA age-grade competitions
5. Medical examination; Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and age cheating in football.
 - (i) Method of discovering bone age through x-ray to check age cheating.
 - (ii) Height prediction and Age cheating in football
 - (iii) Application of bone age reading to curbing age cheating in sports.
6. Biometrics in relation to age cheating in football
 - (i) Meaning of biometrics and its relevance to age fraud detection
 - (ii) Use of biometrics in relation to age cheating
 - (iii) Architecture, And Design of Biometric Recognition Systems
 - (iv) Mode of biometric systems
 - (v) Data storage and age cheating in sports
 - (vi) Biometric System Accuracy and Error Rate
 - (vii) Biometric System Security Vulnerabilities and Counter Measures
7. Appraisal of related literature.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY

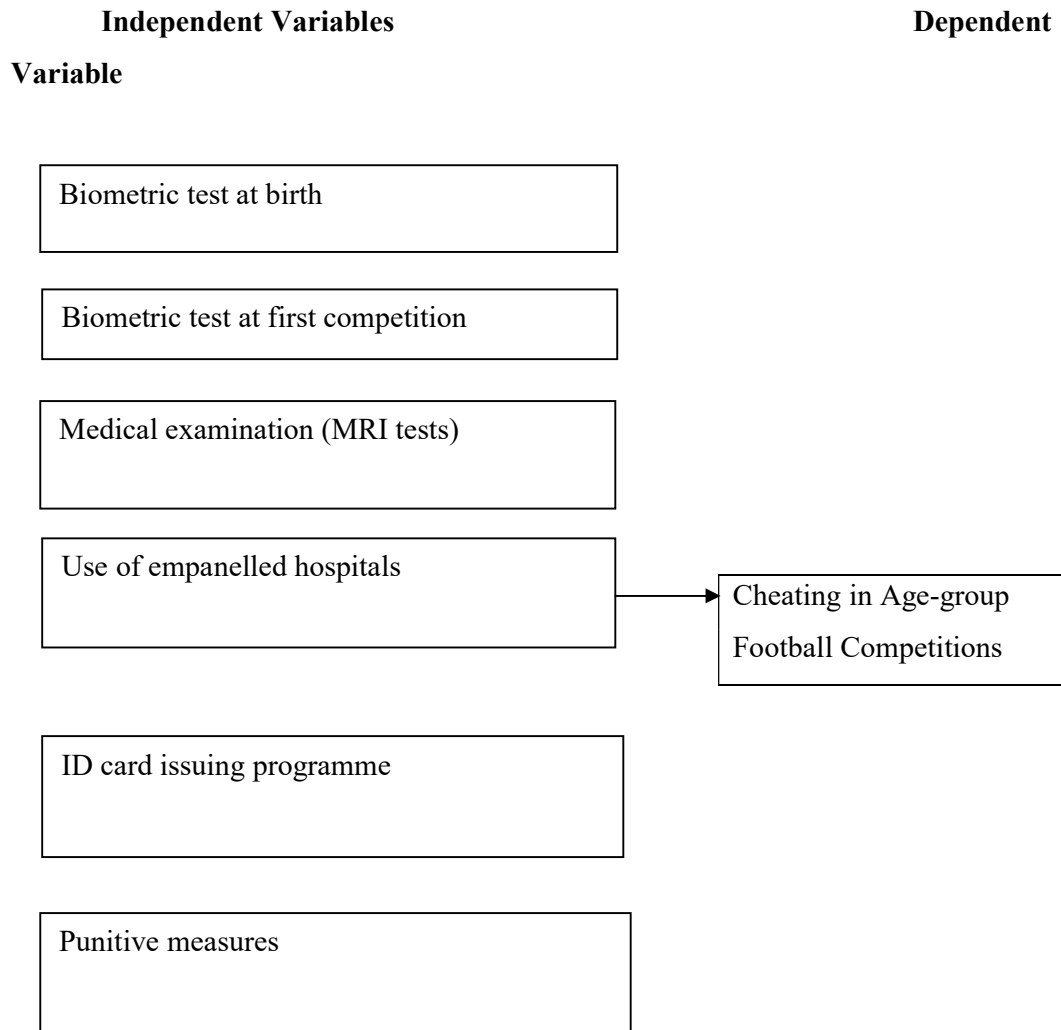


Fig. 1.1 Conceptual framework of the study

Source: Researcher's Concept

The conceptual framework above simply shows the interaction of the dependent variable; age cheating in football competitions, and the independent variables; biometric and data registration at birth, biometric and data registration at first competition, medical examination (MRI test), use of empanelled hospitals, system of identity cards issuance and punitive measures. The dependent variable is expected to be positively affected by the independent variables.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK OF CHEATING IN FOOTBALL

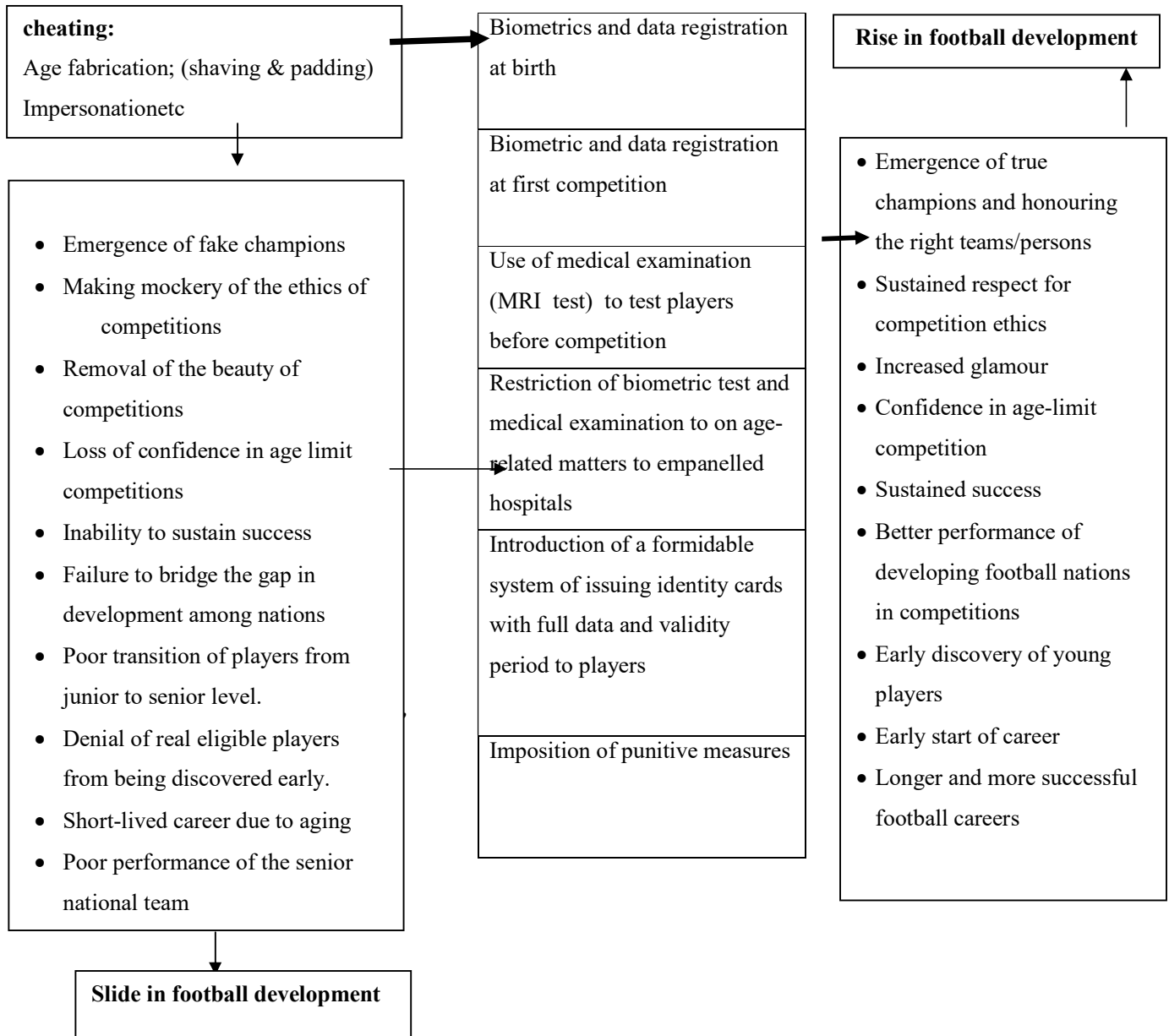


Fig. 1.2 Theoretical framework of the study
Researcher's Concept

Figure 1.2 above shows the theoretical framework of this study as designed by the researcher. It describes age cheating i.e. age fabrication which includes shaving and padding and impersonation etc. age shaving simply means scraping off some years from one's age in order to claim to be younger. This is usually common in sports competitions where being older will give one an undue advantage over the

opponent(s). For instance, in age-group football competitions, fielding some over-aged players will give such a team the opportunity of utilizing the physical advantage and ample experience of the older players to subdue their opponents. Many age-group football competitions organized by FIFA that would have helped to further develop the game have been turned to mockery as countries consistently field over-aged players in these competitions. The above framework is directed towards a lasting solution to the problem of age cheating in football. The theory has identified some debilitating effects that the problem has brought to football development in Nigeria.

Cheating in Relation to Sports

Cheating is any or illegitimate or deceitful attempt to circumvent rules, standards, practices, customs, mores etc in order to gain undue edge, or aid and abet a culprit. Salomeja (2012) opined that cheating is an offense against the principles of justice and it is also against the norms of good behaviour, and so, established a connection between cheating and competition. To him, cheating is a criminal, but ‘rational’ action perpetrated by a person with due consideration for the costs and benefits he stands to gain from it. Cheating is an offence as far as sports competitions are concerned. According to Eitzen (2001), cheating in sports today has become ‘being strategic’ and at the same time, illegal acts are accepted as part of competition. Sports are governed by both the clear-cut rules and customs spelling out acts which are allowed and the ones forbidden within and outside the competition.

Unacceptable behaviour in sports include the use of anabolic steroids (doping), use of induced equipment that does not conform with the rules or altering the condition of equipment during play, and deliberately meting out harassment or injury to opponents and age falsifications among. Cheating behaviour in academics has culminated into heated debates among academia in the determination of what exactly are considered to be cheating. This concept has been found difficult to define only a few authors agree on its definition. Some students have the extrinsic goal orientation and thus engage in academic pursuits for the desire get higher grades or because of a desire to shine. Motivationally based theoretical models of cheating were postulated by Arjen (1991, 2002) Whitley (1998), Harding et al (2007). The theory of planned behaviour is a model that explains the factors that students (and many people alike) consider in weighing the costs associated with cheating. It was clearly explained in the theory that students (and many people alike) consider some factors as

they weigh the costs associated with cheating. In the theory, the three questions that the potential cheats are likely to ask themselves are:

- (i) **What is my purpose?** Murdock and Anderman (2006) discovered that purpose is determined by goals. Meanwhile, while motivation and goals drive academic attitudes and behaviour, purpose in turn influences students' decision to cheat. Some people who are conscious of performance or have the desire to achieve higher grades, are more likely to cheat than those who are interested in the mastery of skills and the desire to learn.
- (ii) **Can I do this?** Murdock and Anderman (2006) also believe that, students who are confident of achieving success are less likely to engage in cheating behaviour than the ones that are academically weak and are afraid of failure. Students with low self-esteem are most likely to engage in cheating.
- (iii) **What are the costs?** Before they finally embark on cheating, students consider the costs associated with cheating. The expectancy value framework of Eccles (1983) was used by Murdock and Anderman (2006) to explain that students weigh the costs associated with cheating against the expected academic gains. This also applies to all forms of cheating, including sports especially football competitions. (a) The costs associated with having to view themselves negatively, and (b) the shame that goes with it will be the two costs mostly considered. When students are able to reduce the costs, they are more likely to engage in cheating. But if conversely, cheating is less likely to occur, they further explained.

Harding (2007) used the work of Whitley (1998) and Aijzen's (1991, 2002) in the theory of planned behaviour to explain students' resolve to cheat. The theory of planned behaviour explains that human beings have the ability to reason, and so decide to take certain actions after weighing the costs implications and consequences of such behaviour against the expected gains after taking that action. According to this model there are 4 factors that control the way students consider the implications of cheating. Three of these factors are in Aijzen's theory of planned behaviour model. They are; attitude towards cheating, subjective norms, and perceived behavioural control. The fourth factor that emerged from Harding et al's model was moral obligations (not to cheat).

(i) **Attitude towards behaviour:** According to Aijzen (1991, 2002); Francis, Eccles and Johnson(2004); Harding et al.(2007), this is a person's overall judgement about certain behaviour or a person's possible response either positively or negatively toward a behaviour. Students who do not see anything bad or odd in cheating are more likely to cheat than those who hate cheating, Harding et al. (2007) discovered.

(ii) **Subjective norm:**According to Francis et al. (2004), if a person is of the opinion that people around him/her are supportive of the negative behaviour he is about to emit, there is high tendency for him to engage in such behaviour. This is the belief of students that family members and loved ones approve of such negative behaviour, probably as a result of the gains associated with it especially when they perceive that norms permit of cheating.

(iii) **Perceived behavioural control:** This is the extent to which a person believes he is able to successfully engage in a negative behaviour reported Francis et al. (2004). Greater perceptions of behavioural control are a strong predictor that an individual will engage in a particular behaviour. Harding et al. (2007) were of the opinion that perceptions of behavioural control are determined by past experience with the behavior and anticipated internal and external barriers to engaging in the act. Therefore, an individual who is attempting to cheat for the first time and grossly considers whether he or she would be caught cheating is less likely to engage in cheating than a student who has successfully cheated repeatedly and who hardly considers whether he or she would be caught or not.

(iv) **Moral obligation:** This is a modified Ajzen's (1991, 2002) original theory of planned behaviour model by Harding et al. (2007). It refers to an individual's personal feelings of responsibility to either perform, or refuse to perform certain behaviour (Ajzen, 1991). Moral norms differ from subjective norms in that they represent the personal pressures (shame and guilt) an individual placed on himself or herself as opposed to the social pressures that he or she feels from others (Harding et al., 2007). They concluded that moral obligation not to cheat was found to be with less cheating.

Theory of Planned Behaviour

The theory of planned behaviour (TPB) actually originated from the theory of reasoned action (TRA), which was a brainchild of Martin and Icek in 1980. The theory of reasoned action (TRA) states that if a certain behaviour is evaluated as positive (attitude), and if it is also thought that significant others want the behaviour

to be performed (subjective norm), it usually results in a favourable disposition towards the performance of such behaviour. The TPB is an extension of the TRA. It was proposed by Icek Ajzen in 1988 in his article 'from intention to action'. It was basically developed from the TRA principles. The author only tried to improve upon, and explain further the TRA by introducing a new component; perceived behavioural control.

Theories of attitude which include learning theories, expectancy-value theories, consistency theories, attribution theories etc were the foundations of the TRA. The TRA has two main factors namely; (i) attitude and (ii) subjective norm, and another one, which is the third was added by Ajzen who called it perceived behavioural control which hails from the theory of self efficacy (SET) brought by Bandura in 1977. The theory of planned behaviour (TPB) states that people are much more likely to plan to engage in certain behaviour when they feel that they can perform it successfully, be it positive or negative.

Self-efficacy and controllability are the two ingredients combined together to form increased perceived behavioural control. Self-efficacy is the level of difficulty needed to perform the behaviour coupled with the confidence the person has in his own ability to succeed in performing the behaviour. The combination of the outside factors and one's belief that he personally has control over the performance of the behaviour, if it is controlled by externally uncontrollable factors is called controllability. A high level of perceived behavioural control of a person indicates that he is capable of performing the specific behaviour successfully.

Self-efficacy is the most important determinant of behavioral change, since it determines the building of the ability to cope. The confidence in the ability to perform certain behaviour is a strong determinant of many people's behaviour according to some studies. The concept is used as perceived behavioural control, which means the perception of the ease or difficulty of the performance of the particular behaviour. The TPB is the strong predictor of a person's intent to engage in certain behaviour at any specific time and space. It explains that individual's behaviour is driven by behaviour intentions which are a function of three determinants namely an individual's attitude towards a behaviour, subjective norms and perceived behavioural control (Ajzen, 1991).

Generally, the stronger the motive is, the more likely the person will act and achieve his aim. Attitude towards behaviour is the degree to which a person has

positive or negative feelings of the behaviour of interest. It has to do with the consideration of the consequences of performing the act. if the behaviour is perceived to be profitable, there is a high likelihood for it to be performed. The third aspect of the TPB is the perceived behavioural control which refers to the individual's perception of the extent to which the performance of the behaviour is easy or difficult (Ajzen, 1991). It increases when individuals perceive they have more resources and confidence to perform the behaviour.

Social Goals

These refer to the social encouraging experiences that determine students' behaviors. Ryan and Shim(2006) were of the opinion that students who are driven by social development endeavors undertake tasks with the view to improving their social competence and develop invariably improve their social relationships. They also believed that students who are encouraged by social recognition execute tasks with the view to demonstrating social competence or to gain popularity. According to them, students who are encouraged by social demonstration avoid going after goals that will expose their social incompetence and consequently be disliked by others reported Ryan and Shim (2016). Academic outcome expectations refer to the beliefs that they are capable of performing excellently in their academic pursuits through their own personal efforts. Expectations are based on a person's past experiences and the expected possible stumbling blocks against achieving one's set targets.

Moral Obligation

Ajzen (1991) reported that moral obligation is the "personal feelings of responsibility to perform, or refusal to perform certain behaviour".

Attitudes Toward Cheating: Attitude is a person's overall impression and judgment of a specific behavior as reported by Francis et al. (2004). Students' beliefs about cheating are based on the consequences of such act, and their feelings about such results (i.e., acceptable or unacceptable, good or bad).

Subjective Norms: in relation to cheating are a person's perceptions of the social pressures to either perform or not perform a specified behavior explained Francis et al. (2004). Subjective norms are based on students' impression of what people will feel about their socially unacceptable and unapproved cheating behaviour.

Perceived Behavioural Control: talks about how much a person feels that he or she can exercise control over certain behaviour as reported by Francis et al. (2004).

The past experiences of students concerning the issue of cheating and their beliefs about the pros and cons that either slow down or encourage cheating go a long way in influencing their behavioural control over cheating.

Neutralization: This is a technique that is applied by erring people to prove that their negative attitudes are right, knowing well that they are morally wrong, which consequently encourages them to continue to engage in such negative acts reported Sykes and Matza(1957).

Intention: Behavioral intention is a summary of what encourages people to perform a particular behaviour, either positive or negative, which reflects a person's decision to take a step, and how much people try to emit such behaviour in question reported Armitage and Christian (2004).

Determinants of Cheating Behaviour

Cheating has now become part and parcel of sports. Athletes now strive to achieve victories and win medals via cheating, either by using ego boosting substances or use other tricks to circumvent the rules to have their way. Rules are no longer respected in sports and games because cheating has become a competition within the competitions. The Canadian professional sprinter, named Ben Johnson was disgraced after he had beaten others to win the gold medal in the men's event of the 100m race and was stripped of the medal and later banned. Cheating of this nature does not give room for a level playground and also constitutes danger to the health of the perpetrators of the act. It has negative effects on self and national pride, and disappoints as well as discourages children and teenagers who adore victorious athletes. Athletes who resort to cheating are 'compensated' with monetary gain and popularity.

These are preferred by most of the cheats more than the punitive measures associated with the crime if detected like fines and dent on their reputation: Ben Johnson had cheated many times before he was discovered, and he later confessed to using the banned substances all through his career. There are many other ways through which people cheat in sports. A marathoner can easily win a competition by simply taking a 'short cut' to the finishing line. Many athletes have been brought down by acts of unfairness. Cheating is a common feature in sports among sportsmen who win laurels during competitions. Fortunately for cheats, most of these cases were handled with kid gloves as they escape punishments. The symbolic credence offered

to values of fair play includes the facts that athletes are stripped of their medals; banning of managers from the Hall of Fame and so on.

What is Age-Cheating?

It would be useful to understand what is meant by cheating before we can fully understand what is meant by age-cheating, to cheat is to trick, deceive, swindle, or simply violate the rules of a game. We cheat someone of or out of something if we trick or deceive them so as to gain undue advantage over them. To cheat is to act dishonestly or to take advantage of the other's trust. In this sense, there is a close link between cheating and corruption. Both cheating and corruption involve the deliberate use of dishonest means for self-interest such as lying, falsifying, distorting, and defrauding. There are various forms of cheating which include tax evasion, lack of respect for the rules of a game, adultery, intentional overbilling of customers etc Allen (2002), secretly receiving undeserved advantages or allowances, receiving remuneration for a job not done, and falsification of documents. Age-cheating also involves the falsification of documents to claim a younger or older age than one's real age with the intention of gaining advantage over competitors. Age-cheats may appear younger or older on paper than their real ages (for the most part they appear younger).

The practice of age-cheating has now become so rampant that people no longer see it as a vice and, even if some people find anything wrong with it, they see it as a necessary evil—a means of survival in a situation of total deprivation and poverty. Many names have been used to refer to age-cheating and false documentation in Cameroon. Most of these names are associated with the localities, neighborhoods, and/or towns that champion the fabrication of false documents. These include “Bonas”, the abridged name for Bonamousadi, the overcrowded, squalid, and crime-infested student residential area in Yaoundé, the home of many dropouts and unemployed graduates who make a living out of false documentation. There, if you want any document/certificate, a B.A., M.A. or a PhD, or even a document from the Presidency of the Republic of Cameroon, you may have it. (http://www.africanindependent.com/cam_corruption_ntemfa_c01.html)

Sometimes, they refer to a false document as “docky” while age cheats themselves are referred to as “born again.” Of the four names commonly used to denote false documentation, “Kumba” is the most popular. In Africa, the culture of age cheating was unknown to many, probably because people did not care to think

about it. But during the last two decades or so, and with the ever-growing unemployment rate, underdevelopment, and poverty, the menace has not only changed, but has become more drastic and pervasive. Today, most people reduce their ages to appear younger with some appearing 10 or 20 years younger on paper than their biological ages.

In Nigeria, it is also the order of the day. Many people who have been screened out of several job opportunities have resorted to doing 'surgical operations' for their ages so as to be able to 'meet up' with the excruciating challenges of fighting tooth and nail to get any job, no matter the nature, either legitimate or otherwise, as long as it guarantees getting them 'good' money. For example, a person who had had to sponsor himself/herself through school and could not finish school at the normal age will definitely resort to cutting his age if age barrier will be a problem for him to get a good job. In sports, it has become a 'normal practice' as almost everybody has football ages apart from their real ages. They feel it is necessary to do so if they want to stand any chance of being selected for age-group sports.

Cheating nowadays has become a 'normal' occurrence as those who engage in it see it as another way of showcasing one's talent in an entirely new game. Your ability to outwit your opponents in this 'game' will determine how much 'benefits' that accrue to you in it. It is no longer frowned at since it has become a recurrent phenomenon which has defied all efforts to stop it. Some even see it as a means of survival. It is a way of fighting economic deprivation and disenfranchisement of the people caused by several decades of political exclusion, squandering, and stagnation in most post-independent African countries. It continues to take its toll on the development of the game, especially in Africa and Asia. Africa can only boast of two quarterfinal appearances in the senior world cup with a few advancements into the second round of the competition Mbih (2015).

To specifically and indirectly assess the relationship that exists between motivation and cheating itself, one can ask students to state their level of satisfaction or interest in a specified undertaking or activity, or a topic, reported Ryan and Deci (2000). This conclusion was explained in relation to Social Learning Theory Framework which explains that people behave normally in conformity with set rules when they are conscious of the fact that they are being watched by others, and are encouraged to do the wrong thing when they know that nobody is there to notice their

immoral acts. This finding confirms that immoral behaviour is engendered by the interaction with the two major effects of personality and situational variables.

However, young people, especially students perceive such behaviour to be normal reported Cizek (1999) and Schab (1991). Also, despite the fact that athletes swear oath before the Olympic Games not to engage in immoral acts that are against the spirit of the competitions like disregard for rules, lack of spirit of sportsmanship, doping and use of anabolic steroids etc, deliberate circumvention of rules are still common among competitors with the report of various cases of law breaking in sports year in year out. As a result, Jacques Rogge, an Olympic Chief stated that the expectation for a drug-free Olympic Games is naïve simply because cheating is part and parcel of human nature. Pressures from others to perform above par, the resolve to beat the deadline, the urge to record excellence, the agitation to avoid failure and a state of no personal integrity are part of the reasons given by many as excuses for cheating.

On the other hand, some do cheat to get acceptance from people, to stay abreast with their mates, for improvement in their ranking career wise, in order to please some people and to protect their means of livelihood etc according to Diekoff and Labeff (2007), MacCabe, Trevino and Butterfield (2001), Jordan (2001), Cizek (1999), Vandechey and Whitley (1998), and Newstead, Franklin-Stokes and Armstead (1996). In addition to this, unrepentant cynics, people with low morale and believers in the notion that destiny controls human behaviour are highly prone to cheating, reported Vohs and Schooler (2008). Murdock and Anderman (2006) made it clear in their review that not much has been done in literature on cheating in interpreting the outcomes of research using a theoretical approach, and this works against the development and progress of theoretical research. Generally, cheating is precipitated by the deliberate decision to circumvent the rules of a particular setting with the view to gaining undue advantage over others and thus increase the likelihood of achieving success.

Encouragement to cheat flow through an affluence network like, a disease which shortly infect students who cheat as they pass through. Becker (1968) believes cheating is a criminal action. To a criminal who gains from it, crime is seen as a rational behaviour which a person emits with due consideration for the gains and consequences attached to it. Also in addition to this, attempts to cheat will be grossly reduced if punitive measures are made harder than they used to be when cheats are

caught, opined Kerkvliet and Sigmund (1999). Nagin, Daniel, James, Seth and Lowell (2002) also established that improper monitoring can reduce the chances of catching culprits and consequently increase the propensity to cheat.

Competition emphasizes how important success is to athletes. To this end, athletes who are not so competent, and feel they are unable to compete successfully against their opponents have a strong tendency to cheat in order to pretend to be good. Moreover, competition changes people's orientation towards a social group from having interest in the common good of the group to personal and selfish interests. As a result, people may lose interest in observing the rules of competition and opt for crooked means of achieving victories at the expense of fairness and equity. Competition also encourages (pushes) people to stylishly pass wrong information to others in a group which may be likened to encouragement of fraud. For example, Hollingshead, Andrea, Gwen, Jacobson and Samuel (2005) have found out that some individuals apply tricks to lure people to make use of their own dishonest approach to solving a problem in a collective task by way of misinforming other members of the group for them to dance to their tunes.

Age is a factor in high level sports. The types of sport in question determines how seriously it affects them and why. In soccer for example, in football for instance, players want to be seen as younger than their real ages in order to be able to take part in age-group competitions. Baseball players want to be seen as younger players so that they may appear to MLB teams as valuable prospects in their career. This is not so in some sports. For instance gymnastics, the reverse is the case. Young girls are more proficient in gymnastics and so, have a competitive advantage over adult and older women. So, it is more beneficial in this case to lie in claiming to be older than his/her real age. Whichever way one looks at it, the fact still remains that claiming a false age is done to gain undue advantage over others and claim fake glories.

SPORT COMPETITION- THE CONCEPT

Generally, sport is loved by all and is a unifying factor for every human being globally. The rich, the poor, the young and the old, regardless of sex play and watch sports with total zeal. Oyenyi (2002) reported that sports have become a tool for the promotion of peace, understanding and unity all over the world. People of diverse religious backgrounds, age and ideologies are brought under the same umbrella by

sports either as producers or consumers, for them to make good use of their leisure time. In ancient and modern societies, sport has been used to maintain social harmony by keeping economically depressed people or politically suppressed people proud and happy through vicarious identification with the success of their representatives in sport competitions. In this manner, the attention of the masses is diverted from evaluating the causes and consequences of inflation, economic stress, food shortage, unemployment, political oppression etc.

According to Verderway (1988) sport is competitive in nature. It involves the activities that have to do with the exertion of muscles either with or without the use of sophisticated facilities and equipment, and these include the struggle to create record. Competition in sport is a true test of ability. It brings the best out of participants. Competition in sport makes those involved to want to show to their opponents that they are better in certain areas than the rest. This is egoistic in nature. This could push competitors to want to go to any length in ensuring victory against their opponents, most especially when the target reward has to do with money or other valuables.

Children love playing competitive sports. This love for competition is precipitated by their reservoir of energy which enables them to run around to dissipate the abundant energy in them. What they may not know is that competition can help them in many ways. Soccer, athletics, swimming, basketball, volleyball etc are all competed in by children and teenagers and in turn have positive effects on their lives both inside and outside sports. According to the University of Florida, taking part in competitive sports is a way of teaching children and teenagers skills in various sports and games and thus prepares them for competition in the outside world. This prepares them for the multifarious life competitions they are sure to encounter as they grow older. They are surely going to encounter competition in schools, getting admissions into colleges, securing a job etc. So, the values of competition cannot be overemphasized.

Lofty as competition is it has its own demerits, one of which is cheating and its tendencies. Schwierien and Welchseibaumer (2008) reported in their findings that competitive pressures are attributable to the various cheating scandals ranging from doping to circumvention of the rules guarding competitions to gain undue advantage. Poor performers also find a way of escape by resorting to cheating. Franzoni (2000) opined that empirical research has not taken a full stand on the issue of cheating but that punishment has a negative effect on cheating. As regards competition,

considering the “rational cheater model” as competition hot up or gets tougher, the agitation to succeed rises, and thus, the higher the likelihood of cheating. And indeed, various cases of plagiarism as well as forged research results in the academic world and doping scandals in sports have been revealed recently, which point towards the fact that competitions, especially ‘spiced’ with various compensations for outstanding performance engender the occurrence of cheating.

Competition is used for recording success. As a result, people who are not able to achieve the desired result may feel the urge to practice this negative act of cheating. Frank and Cook (1995) argued that increasingly, there is no fairness in the manner in which people of different statuses are rewarded, which increases competition among them, and resultantly brings about a “winner-takes-all society” where many people vie for positions that are realistically too high and difficult for them to get. But also behavioural-psychological motives may lead people towards increased cheating under competitive pressure. Cheating is a problem that happens everywhere and is not without its own notable consequences yet, in spite of numerous researches on the issue, researchers are yet to really understand its antecedents.

SPORTS ADMINISTRATION

Sports in Nigeria according to Onifade (1995), is an ample avenue for people to be brought together as one entity as a nation. Factually, and of course, arguably, sport has become a social phenomenon whose influence is felt in all facets of life. Sporting interest and awareness of Nigerians have been positively influenced through the incredible popularity growth of international sports. Sports have now become world-wide social issue with implications for the adult youths. Sports also touches almost all the institutions and sectors of the society. Governments of many countries now use sports as instruments for achieving their goals either to gain people’s confidence or divert the attention of people from hostility to calmness and fun that are associated with sports.

Sports administration, according to Fasan (2004) is the combination of efforts geared towards general sports development which are undertaken by specialists in the trade. It can also be defined as the formulation of plans and programmes to serve as guidelines in the execution of programmes that are sports oriented. It is an art of managing programmes, and making a judicious use of both the available minimum human and material resources available in sports organizations to bring out the best

results in an effort to satisfy the demands and expectations of public as well as the management. It is a vital component of sport development in any country. In order to have a steady and sustained sports development, proper sport administration must be ensured right from the grassroots level, focusing particularly on the inclusion of the rural schools.

There are numerous disadvantaged children with raw talents in most rural areas who eventually lose these innate qualities as a result of lack of sports personnel to tap them. Fasan (2004) contends that sport administration plays an important part in the discovery, nurturing and development of talents. The various definitions sports administration above point to the fact that it is of utmost importance to sports development in any given society. It is part of the duties administrators to ensure equality and fair-play in the implementation of policies formulated for the sake of sports development, part of which is cheating of any kind.

According to Parkhouse (1996), policy is an important course of action taken from many options and used as a tool for guiding and determining the present and the future decisions. Since mission statements are what bring about policies, they should determine the establishment of the operational procedures of the organization. The policies should guide the organization. Bucher and Krotee (2002) were of the opinion that for sports management to be efficient, sound policies must be in place in order that the set goals of sports organizations would be achieved. Policies are the main plan that guides administrators on how the activities of an organization will be carried out. Policies help to give shape to procedures, rules and regulations of a group. If policies are not in place, there will be nothing to rightly lead an organization to their set goals. Well-reasoned will help the organization and its members to better understand what is expected of them and consequently prevent the encouragement of unwholesome behaviours and legal problems.

The promulgation of Decree 34 of 1971 formalized and legalized the establishment of the National Sports Commission (NSC) as the apex Federal Government agency to organize, regulate and control sports in Nigeria. In 1975, National Sports Commission (NSC) was elevated to the status of a ministry with a cabinet minister. According to the provisions of the Decree 7 that was promulgated in 1991 the National Sports Commission was considered to be a unit under the Ministry of Youths and Sports. The old Federal Ministry of Sports and Social Development (FMSSD) has now metamorphosed to the National Sports Commission in December

2006. The present National Sports Commission has various zones spread over the 36 states of the federation. Under each zone, there are at least three states which control the administration of sports in their individual states. It is the duty of sports administrators to ensure the planning and execution of hitch-free sporting programmes that will encourage the spirit of equity and fair-play in competitions. Where there is formidable administrative machinery in place there will be a steady sports development. Sports administration sets the foundation for sports development everywhere in the world.

It is a fact that tangible and intangible rewards alike in sports competitions can engender cheating. Also, when there is an easy way of escape for cheats there is every tendency for such culprits to do it again and again. It is the duty of sports administrators to put in place fool-proof measures against the circumvention of rules by overzealous participants who want to win at all costs without any regard to the laid-down rules of such competitions. Administrators have a big challenge in devising strong measures to forestall any attempt by dishonest participants to have undue advantage over others. It is sports administration that ensures that competitions are organized without a hitch, while the organization itself functions as it should. Bookkeeping, making fixtures, security planning, entry handling arrangement of meetings staging international events among others are some of the essence of sports administration. arranging fixtures, handling entries, organizing meetings, applying for grants, organizing international events, liaising with the media, preparing development plans, selling programmes, preparing jerseys, keeping records etc are parts of the duties of sports administration opined Watts (2003).

It must be stated here that management with more than mere basic principles of sports administration is quite different from co-ordination of sporting events which is the main crux of sports administration. But it can be argued that sound administration which is most important for top performing organizations are handled by good sport administrators. And when one considers the general benefits of sport, it can be confidently said that football has become integrated into the lives of the majority of people globally, especially those from the third world countries. No wonder an instructor from the Dutch National Football Association (KNVB) who visited Zambia and South Africa laid credence to this when he said: "I learned that what is important in Africa: absolutely first is football, then eating and then sleeping

and last of all work. Football is inconceivably important there; unbelievable!" reported Van Eekeren (1997).

However, this remark is not objective and could be seen as somehow racial, even though it is a fact indisputable that football is a source of survival economically for most families in Africa. This is so because youth sports are hugely invested in by governments all over the continent. There is a big role for sports administrators to play in the promotion of sports and so, have three main goals in the development of sports. Public health goals; educational goals and elite development goals are the three main goals targeted by sports administrators. But then, an inevitable tension exists in between these goals, argued Siedentop (2002).

The degree to which the elite development goals of a junior sport system can be catered for as part of a comprehensive system and still direct sufficient resources to implement targeted educative and public health goals that are more germane to the system as a whole is questionable. In spite of the tension between these goals, one needs to take note that the survival of the economies of most underdeveloped countries have consistently been sustained and improved via sports as rightly reported by Siedentop (2002). Sport has done a lot as well to help in the battle against some world pandemic ailments like hepatitis B, swine fever, HIV/AIDS etc. The money made from sport is been used to sponsor the fight against HIV/AIDS via donations and sponsorship of sports programmes to support the victims.

Ziriro (2003) observed that age cheating is common among sportsmen in zonal and district competitions where coaches and sports masters attempt to outwit one another with the view to getting financially compensated for being the zonal or district champions in any sport, be it football, athletics basketball etc. The best teams, players, coaches etc are given various cash rewards by NAPH/NASH. This pushes the competing schools to resort to all possible means to outwit one another, especially through illegal ways so as to claim the prized jewel and eventually and most importantly the financial reward. The organizing bodies which could have helped to put a stop to this act decide to look the other way and sweep any case that comes up under the carpet. There are two reasons for this; one, if the accused schools fall into the district of some of the officials that matter in the case, and if the official that matters in the case has a vested interest in the case, then there can never be any justice. By so doing the menace will go unpunished and this will increase the prevalence of such socially unacceptable acts.

Through direct observations and personal experiences, some people have noticed many cases of age cheating in secondary school competitions, even though there are hardly any empirical evidences to back up this claim Ziri (2003). For example, in age cheating case, a 20-year old student may forge his birth certificate to reduce it to 16 years so that he may take part in under-16 tournament. Also, a 20-year old student may present the birth certificate of a 16-year old fellow student or blood brother in order to be able to take part in an under-16 football competition. In a case reported by Ziri (2003), almost all the players registered by a secondary school were rejected by the organizers. Most of them were discovered to have registered with their younger brothers' birth certificates. This made the affected school to arrange for a make-shift team which lost scandalously to other teams! Cases like this confirm the fear of some pundits that rewards may on the long run prove negative to sports development.

This development has surely led to poor results in the efforts of the government to search for talents for further sports development. Huge sums of tax payers' money and resources are being wasted on those who do not merit them. It has as a result proven significantly that age also is a factor in the level of athletes' performance as a result of experience, exposure and mastery of skills and better conditioning. Without doubt, a 20-year old athlete will perform better than a 12-year old athlete when it comes to mental ability, endurance, skill mastery and application, experience etc. Age cheating is a trend that has continued from the lowest to the national level. Numerous over-aged players have always attempted (and most times successfully) to take part in age-group competitions involving junior national teams. This problem has not done any good to sports, especially football development in Nigeria and Africa as a whole.

The build-up to the world Under-17 football tournament hosted by Nigeria was characterized by various cases of age cheating claims and counter-claims. Niger, a West African country was disqualified for fielding over-aged players during the qualifying series of the competition. Gambia too was caught in the web of age cheating and had to tender an unreserved apology to the Confederation of African Football and FIFA for their action. Nigeria, the hosting nation of the tournament was not left out in the dastardly act. More than half of the team she prepared for the competition was dropped from the Nigerian squad for being far above the age limit. This problem also affected Zimbabwe in the same manner when more than twenty

players voluntarily left their Under-17 camp as they were about to be taken to the laboratory for MRI tests, reported Limukani Ncube, a Senior Zimbabwean Sports Journalist in *The Chronicle*, (Monday, 28 September, 2009).

ETHICAL CONCEPTS IN SPORTS

Sport is embedded in the Nigerian and other countries' cultures all over the world. The world can be likened to be a web of different sport cultures in which myriads of people, old and young from many countries of the world are connected. Millions of individuals in Spain, India, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Columbia, China and many other countries all over the world watch and participate in sports each year. Learning valuable life lessons, as well as bringing about new challenges are parts of the benefits derived from participating in sports. Many moral developing games like Golf, Basketball, Cycling, Handball, Tennis, Soccer, Hockey etc are fully engaged in by Nigerians. In America, children are enrolled by their parents in youth sports at an encouraging rate for them to develop good character and qualities like spirit of sport, diligence, dedication, team spirit, competitive spirit, honesty, etc which are expected to reflect in their personal life situations. All these values are character building and will go a long way in helping the youth.

Youth sports are beneficial to people in the following areas among others; building of confidence, improved level of fitness, reduction in the time wasted on video games by the youths, improved level of awareness in the society, improved moral upbringing, better approach to problem-solving and improved skills, good spirit of sportsmanship etc. To be honest, organized sports has removed some of these basic tasks from the participating youths recently. The study of sports ethics in combination with a study of management and law is clearly advantageous, opined McNamee (2007). Sports executives are expected to master ethical decision making process so as to be able to perform their duties honestly, professionally and ethically. For success to be achieved in the administration of sports, coaches, general managers, business owners, directors of athletics, sports executives and significant others need to deal with legal and ethical concepts that relate to sports.

The issues concerning ethics have become part and parcel of our daily life. Ethical judgement is how an individual evaluates the degree of an action or behaviour to be considered as ethical or unethical (Sparks and Pan, 2010). Among the issues that generated controversies and debate as long as the early part of the 20th century were

the ones that concern ethics and morality in sports. Most of the authors then concluded that all over the world, the attitudes of professional athletes are grossly not exemplary on and off the field, and this has not done any good to sports development and image. Social issues in sports are dominated by ethnicity and race. Cheating of any kind, doping, athletic eligibility, gender equality, sports violence, intellectual property rights are all subjects of serious issues for an intellectual discourse in sports.. Ethical issues such as student athletes' refusal to pay to the right quarters, agent regulation, low graduation rate of student athletes, violence characterize collegiate sports.

Administrators are often faced with an ethical or moral decision based on certain guiding principles. They must ensure that during sports, the environment that emphasizes the importance of sports in the society like character building, excellence, fair-play spirit among others is created. This is so because much emphasis is placed on rules and regulations in sports as it is in other endeavours. The fact that ethics is concerned with what is morally right or wrong makes it to be considered as an important branch in philosophy. The problem now is; how do we find the standard to be used to determine what is right or wrong. Metaphysics, specifically, ontology, or the study of being is connected to the philosophy of ethics. Meta-ethics, normative ethics and applied ethics are the three general subject areas of ethical theories.

Meta-ethics

This talks about the meaning of theoretical concepts and notions and their origins. It tries to give answers to the questions of whether ethics are just a social invention, or jut the mere expression of our emotions individually. Defining ethical terms themselves, God's will, and issues of universal truth are what meta-ethics is all about.

Normative Ethics

This is more practical in nature. The question here is how to determine what moral standards to use in regulating the right and wrong conduct and behaviour, reported Smith (2006). Looking for the normal and ideal measure of human conduct must involve the duties and rules that people should obey or the effects such attitude or behaviour has on other people. The Golden Rule is a succinct example of this type

of ethics. : What are the things put in place to guide a person in his effort to differentiate what is right from what is wrong?

Applied Ethics

Applied ethics examines specific. Unresolved, controversial issues such as social inequalities, capital punishment, environmental concerns, racial discrimination and abortion are the areas of focus for applied ethics.

To differentiate among these concepts may be a difficult task. In meta-ethics, God, as the Supreme Being, is the Provider of the foundation of all ethical decision making or right attitude. However, normative ethics posits that the foundation for decision making and the resolve to do right or wrong are borne out of agreements between individuals while considering the end results of various actions on individuals or groups. Controversial issues such as stem cell research, gun ownership license, capital punishment, and personal control over end-of-life are clearly addressed in applied ethics.

Normative principles that are not too narrowly focused, and can be applied in various life situations include the following among others:

Benevolence; helping the poor and donating to charity.

Honesty; being truthful and displaying probity at all times.

Autonomy; independence of the body and the mind.

Justice; the right living in fair and just society and due process.

Paternalism; offering a hand of help to incapacitated people in achieving their life aspirations.

Harm; avoid injuring or causing pains to others.

Social benefit; accepting and being ready to undertake actions that are of great benefits to people and the society as a whole.

Lawfulness; the society and individuals benefit from the rule of law.

Ethics in Relation to Sports

Mcnamee (2007) described sports ethics as a phenomenon that teaches what is normal and acceptable in sports. How people as well as teams behave during competitions or when preparing for competitions is an important aspect of sports ethics which are solely concerned with high level of competition whereby everyone follows the proper and legitimate channel. The main goal of staging age-group sports is to develop good character in participants. It emphasizes working hard, teamwork

promotion, diligence, self discipline and courage according to Crouch (2009). Professional sportsmen and amateurs alike are expected to participate in sports with utmost honesty and shun cheating while striving to attain victories during competitions. Doing this is a function of a person's personal principles. However, this can be influenced by peers, coaches, teammates, friends, family and fans etc.

Both the youth league organizations and professionals are involved in the business aspect of sports. The questions now are how sports programmes and events are managed by various organizations, whether sports organizations follow the laid down ethical guidelines and make ethical decisions etc. This explains the connection between business ethics and sports ethics. Competitions among corporations in a rapidly changing global economy, has increased and these changes increase the pressure and consequently, the propensity to cheat. The notion leads the persons to see cheating as business in all their undertakings, sports inclusive, reported Laura (2004).

The radical changes and competitions faced by individuals are unfathomable. The problems that push one to cheat for example, in businesses as well as in sports emanated from governments, sports bodies, agents, coaches, fans, parents etc. This line of thought can only be changed by making sports organizations to understand the future gains of ethics to all, be it government, team, individual or the society as a whole. Thinking that cutting corners to achieve success is the right thing to do amounts to ignorance about the values of ethics as whatever success one acquires via fraud is often short-lived and eventually brings long-term shame and humiliation. It sports people must bear it in mind that lofty ethical principles are beneficial to both sports and participants.

Competition should be the basis to ascertain an athlete's proficiency. However, athletes and fans must be one in their acceptance of the facts and values of ethics. The difference between collaborative model and adversarial model is clearly noticeable. The collaborative model represents fair-play, sportsmanship spirit, and enthusiasm and great respect for fans opponents, and officiating officials by athletes. It is a model where professional athletes show concern by paying visits to hospitals to sympathize with patients. Fans in return respect athletes and do not and do not infringe on their privacy while at the same time avoiding using disrespectful, rude and abusive words on them. They respect the time and energy the athletes spend in pursuing goodwill. So, they (the fans) will not demand too much from the athletes that

will lead them to trying to satisfy their fans at all costs or by all possible (even dishonest) means.

On the other hand, the reverse is the case in the adversarial model. The model presents an athlete without discipline and an unruly fan. The athlete is always hostile to the fans and do not relate freely with them. He is selfish as he thinks only about himself. All he thinks about is how to have his way at all costs to achieve his goals either by honest or crooked means (e.g. via age cheating in age-limit competitions). He or she looks for all possible means to beat the rules in order to run away with undue victory. Fans in the adversarial model are unruly and yell at athletes at will. They drink strong liquor, which pushes them into other unacceptable behaviours like intruding into athletes' private lives, mounting undue pressures on athletes etc.

Competitions should produce positive changes in both the athletes and the fans. Collaborative ethics standards should be embraced by athletes and fans. The importance of sport has made different stakeholders to come together to maintain its (sport's) integrity and greater glory, pride self-esteem and those of the athletes teams and countries. To say cheating is immoral is an understatement. It is clearly against the ethics of sports. Cheating is not acceptable to any culture all over the world. Some people may disagree that cheating is not morally wrong. They believe that cheating is seen as wrong merely because it involves going against certain rules. They see cheating as part of competition and derive fun from it! Hence, cheating is wrong simply because it is cheating. To reason this way is to take the moral wrongness of cheating for granted. The issue here, therefore, is, even if age-cheating, or cheating as a whole, is fundamentally wrong, what makes it morally wrong?

Age-cheating is unfair to honest citizens. The painful part of it all is that age cheaters receive undue accolades, rewards and respect which others sweat for by dishonest means. Generally, when you cheat, you deprive those who are qualified of their legitimate rights. Allen avers: "Cheaters force us to work harder or consume less for their benefit" (Allen, 2004:28-57). For example, age cheaters, when they become tired and weak, continue to 'work' and earn their full salaries, even if they just 'appear' at work and do little or nothing. Another thing is that cheaters circumvent rules and deviate from standards which all competitors are expected to act within, thereby infringing on the legitimate interests of others such as money, fame, glory etc as reported by Allen (2004).

Cheating affects efficiency in the quality of service. The prevalence of age-cheating may result in an aging public service, inertia and an unproductive civil service. The phenomenon of age-cheating like corruption as a whole may be one of the misdemeanors which may hamper Cameroon's vision of becoming an emerging economy by 2035. According to Kantian ethics, an act is morally right if it is done out of duty, that is, by not flouting the law. "Duty is the necessity of action to be done out of respect for the law". Cheating is against the law. It does not suffice to cheat because everybody or most people cheat. In his categorical imperative Kant states that "you should act only according to the maxim whereby you can at the same time will that it should become a universal law". Would everyone follow your action of age-cheating?(Kant, 1992)

Agecheating is not an act done out of duty, in respect of the law and cannot be a universal law. Also, one needs to look at the intention for which people cheat in the first place. Kant says that "There is no possible of thinking of anything at all in the world, or even out of it, which can be regarded as good without qualification, except a good will" (Kant, First Sect., p. 995). However, even if our intention is to secure a job in a system characterized by high level of unemployment, injustice, nepotism, two wrongs cannot make a right. "While such a will may not indeed be the sole and complete good, it must nevertheless be the highest good and the condition of all the rest, even of the desire for happiness...." (Kant, 1992)

HISTORY OF FIFA AGE-GROUP COMPETITIONS-U-17 AND U-20

In an attempt to improve the quality and standard of football, the world soccer-ruling body, FIFA introduced age-limit competitions. It all started in 1977 when the body introduced a tournament that involved players of twenty years of age and below called Under-20 World Cup, otherwise known as the Junior World Cup. The first edition of the tournament took place ironically in Africa, precisely Tunisia. The FIFA tournament was later changed to the FIFA World Youth Championship in 2005. The competition is held among world nations initially for male players only (later, the female edition was introduced) every two years among players under the age of twenty years.

The competition has been won by many countries like Argentina-six times, Brazil-five times, Portugal-two times, Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Ghana, Germany, Spain, England and Chile-once each. The best Nigeria could go in the tournament

was to play in the final twice (1989 and 2005). In 2002, the female edition of the competition was introduced under the name FIFA U-19 Women's World Championship with nineteen years set as the cut-off age for the competition. In 2006, the age limit was raised to twenty years and the name became FIFA U-20 Women's World Championship. In 1985, FIFA went on to introduce the FIFA U-17 World Cup, and was first named FIFA U-16 World Championship, and later changed to the FIFA U-17 World Championship and was known by its current name since 2007.

It is a tournament organized for male players from age seventeen and below. It was first hosted in the same year (1985) by China and was ironically won by Nigeria. It is also played every two years like the U-20 version. Initially, the age limit was 16 years before it was later changed to 17 years beginning from the year 1991 till date. Nigeria has won the tournament for a record five times and was runners up thrice. Ghana was the next successful African nation. The women edition of the competition was introduced in 2008 and named FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup. Korea DPR was the winner of the maiden edition. (www.fifa.com, 2014).

Looking at the records of all age-limit FIFA tournaments one will discover that Africa fared best in the overall performance of the various continents that have participated in these (U-17) competitions (see appendix B). The success recorded in these tournaments was expected by the controlling body to improve the performance of the various participating countries. The primary aim of FIFA in setting up these championships was to further develop the game and raise its standard. It was also hoped that the tournaments would help to improve the performance of the so-called minnows in the world of soccer. The dominance of countries like Brazil, Italy, Germany, Argentina etc in the senior edition of the world cup prompted the world body to start age-limit competitions in soccer.

The age-limit tournaments have helped to produce world champions from the hitherto minnows as some more countries too have tasted the glory of winning world cup trophies, not minding the level. This success was expected to translate into seeing an upcoming country winning the senior world cup for the first time in its history. Unfortunately, this aim is being defeated as the situation is yet to improve. The best performance of Africa in the Mundial for instance was a quarter-final berth by Ghana in the 2010 edition hosted in South Africa, equaling the records of Cameroon (1990) and Senegal (2002). This is owing to the fact that many of these countries have one way or the other been circumventing the rules of these age-limit tournaments by

fielding over-aged players. This has prevented real young and budding talents that abound in these countries from showcasing their talents and starting their soccer careers on a brighter note. Their positions have always been usurped by the over-aged cheats who deceive the world in every tournament (www.fifa.com 2010).

AGE CHEATING IN ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

Age cheating involves the use of fake documents to claim an incorrect age in order to be admitted to take part in age-limit competitions. It is a regular occurrence in which football players (in most cases) claim ages lower than their real age. It is so rampant in Africa because majority of African nations do not have reliable records of births which makes it easy for sportsmen, especially footballers to come up with different age claims at different levels of their football career. Those who engage in this act are called 'age cheats' by journalists. They do these mostly to be able to get 'lucrative' contracts from the football scouts from Europe. The scouts have found Africa a fertile ground for gathering young and budding talents to take to Europe for a possible good football career.

This act is said to have developed from the desperation of most players from poor countries of Africa who are hell bent on taking their football career beyond the shores of Africa for lucrative contracts. They know that these scouts are always out to recruit young players between the ages of 15-17 years. Since they are well above this age range, they resort to age falsifications of various kinds. It is on record that various age group competitions have been marred by cases of malpractices as grossly over-aged players are registered for such competitions. The act gives them undue advantage over their co-competitors. Without doubt, a player of 20 years of age cannot be compared with his counterpart who is just aged 15 years in terms of maturity, endurance, experience etc. This has become a problem to the entire globe. It is now a common feature in Africa, Asia, South America and Europe.

Cases of age fraud abound all over the world. In truth, most African children may not know their real age. Still, most of them will always choose a favourable age to suit their purpose and have their way. For example, an African player of Cameroon origin held several fake documents all through his football career which he used to change his age identity for many years reported Hawkey (2009). one of the best known examples of document falsification was that of a Cameroonian international player, a defender, who held several documents during the course of his career that

indicated that he became younger as time went by (Hawkey, 2009). Nigeria too was barred from age group competitions for some years when the ages of three of the country's players presented for the 1988 edition of the Olympics did not tally with the ones they used for some FIFA organized competitions which they had taken part in. FIFA, being a body that keeps records of events quickly found them out, and Nigeria the hammer as reported by Edwards (2007).

Also in 1999, when Nigeria featured in the year's edition of the FIFA Under-17 tournament in New Zealand, the coach of the Japanese National U-17 team, which Nigeria hammered 9-0 in the tournament taunted the Nigerian players that they were already married with children! South Africa also paraded a team constituted by over-age players in an Under-14 age group tournament held in France in 1998 (Kwenaite & Thomas, 2008). Kenya too was not left out in this scandal. Her U-17 national football team got disbanded when majority of their players slated to be used to prosecute the 2003 edition of the U-17 football tournament confessed that they were well above the cut-off age (many of them were above 18 years of age).

Ghanaian then Deputy Sports Minister acknowledged that there was age cheating in soccer and he wished he could stop it (Aggrey, Ghana-web 2003). In 2008, DPR Korea, Tajikstan and Iraq were disqualified from that year's edition of the The Confederation of Asian Football (AFC) AFC U-16 Championship after they had already qualified. In the year 2000 alone, AFC banned as many as seventeen players for various cases of age cheating. In the year 2010, another eight players received the same punishment. Cambodia, Macau, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Kyrgystan were also found to have fielded over-age players, while Yemen also were ejected from the tournament for the same offence. Sixteen players were banned by the AFC in 2000, and eight were banned in the 2010 edition of the AFC U-16 Championship. AFC introduced age detection methods in its age group competitions in 2000 (Wikipedia 2010).

In South America, which is believed to be one of the fastest growing football continents has her own fair share of the menace of age fraud and fake documentation. Age cheating is also not new to Europe, and could be traced to the days of the Spanish civil war which led to the utter destruction of Spanish citizens' birth documents and so paved way for many South Americans and others to claim Spanish citizenship in order to start a new life. Carlos Alberto de Oliveira Junior was also banned for a year for claiming to be younger than his real age after he was found out. Another player,

from Ecuador, Angel Cheme too was discovered to have used a fake name- Gonzalo Chila who actually existed, but happened to be a younger player from his country. He used the fake documents for three years before he was caught and punished with a two-year ban (BBC Sport, 2006).

In Europe, Englishman Alf Ramsey was alleged to have used fake documents to alter his date of birth. He was born in the year 1920 but he falsely claimed 1922 so as to be able to secure a professional contract after the Second World War when he would have been too old to get the job. (BBC Sport, 2006). Another person, Danny Almonte, a Baseball player, was also caught in the web of age cheating when he was discovered to have played in the Little World League Series for many years before he was found out to have been over-aged. It was discovered that his parents collaborated with him in doing this. This was another confirmation of the collaboration of parents with their wards in presenting fake documents to deceive sports organizers. Also, Tom Shaw who played Golf in America used a fake age claim to play for many years. He was born in 13th December, 1942 when in actual fact he was born precisely two years earlier. Below is the list of few cases of fraud in sports:

- Ben Johnson's use of steroids to achieve victory in the 1988 during the Olympic Games..
- Admission of the use of banned drugs by some U.S.A.-based Baseball players to using steroids throughout their sports career.
- Maradona's use of hand to score the deciding goal in a World Cup soccer match in 1986 in Mexico between Argentina and England.
- In 1991, Nigeria was banned from all FIFA organized age-limit competitions due to discrepancies in the ages of some players that played for the country in the 1985 U-20 World Cup in Moscow.
- More than half of the players that played for South Arica in a 4-Nation U-14 Soccer Tournament in 1998 were over-aged. The captain of the team was a 17-year-old undergraduate from Cape Town.
- In 2009 when Nigeria hosted the FIFA U-17 tournament, the captain of the Nigerian team was alleged to be at least eight years older than the age limit of the competition. Earlier on, more than half of the entire Nigerian team had been rejected by the Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) device used to find out age fraudsters (Olawale, 2012).

MEDICAL EXAMINATION: MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING (MRI) TESTS

Radiology has developed a solid medical device that can be used to see clearly the internal structures of the body to the smallest cell. The device is called Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), also known as nuclear magnetic resonance imaging (NMRI), or magnetic resonance tomography (MRT. This wonderful device images the nuclei of atoms in the body using the property of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR). Sheil (2012) reported that the device is the one in which the person to be examined is made to lie under a scanner within a large, powerful magnet where the alignment of the magnetization of some atomic nuclei of the body takes place together with radio frequency fields to systematically alter the alignment of this magnetization. Thus, a rotating magnetic field detectable by the scanner is produced by the nuclei. The result is then recorded and used to create an image of the area of the body that has been scanned. Nuclei rotate at various locations at different speeds, and this is brought about by the magnetic field gradients. The device differentiates the structures of the various soft body tissues and thus is essentially handy in calculating the structures of the brain, muscles, heart and diverse forms of cancer. However MRI does not apply ionizing radiation like the CT scans do.

The Workings of MRI Tests

The body tissue contains plenty of water, so it helps the MRI machines make use of it to make the protons (H^+ ions) to get aligned in a large magnetic field. The average magnetic moment of many protons becomes aligned with the direction of the field once the patient gets inside the powerful magnetic field of the scanner. This leads to the production of a varying electromagnetic field after a radio frequency current is briefly turned on. Just the right frequency called the resonance frequency is produced by the electromagnetic field which is absorbed and then it flips the spin of the protons in the magnetic field. The spins of the protons return to thermodynamic equilibrium immediately the electromagnetic field is turned off and the bulk magnetization becomes re-aligned with the static magnetic field. Then comes the generation of electromagnetic field in the RF range, also called radio frequency signal, and the receiver coils can be used to calculate it.

One can easily learn about the origin of the signal of 3D space if one applies more magnetic fields when the scan is going on. This is what K-space and 3d image

that were compiled from 2d images is all about, reported Wikipedia (2012). The 3d image is also capable of producing from within any plane of view, in terms of reliability. To be able to detect tiny changes in the body, the image can be rotated and manipulated by the doctor in charge. The magnetic field strength is made to vary by the fields generated by passing electric currents through gradient coils. As a result of the fact that the distribution of protons in the body can be mathematically recovered from the signal, typically by the use of the inverse Fourier transform, the frequency of the released radio signal is also dependent on its origin in a predictable manner. Images can thus be constructed using different tissue variables like spin density, T_1 and T_2 relaxation times, and flow and spectral shifts reported Hendee, William, Morgan and Christopher (1984). To ensure that there is a clearer presentation of the blood vessels appearance, tumor, or MRI contrast agents may be applied subcutaneously or injected straight into any joint.

MRI images of joints

MRI is considered safer than CT because it does not involve the use of ionizing radiation. Despite that, metal and cochlear implants and cardiac pacemakers can be affected by the strong magnetic fields and radio pulses. The US FDA, after much study, gave its nod to some implants for MRI compatibility, talking about cochlear implants. However, the outcomes can be dangerous for cardiac pacemakers as reported by Luechenger, Duru, Candinas and Boesiger (2004). As a result if a patient has such an implant, he is not qualified to undergo MRI tests. The noise that we hear during operation is as a result of the fact that there are large forces between the gradient coils and the main field coils. With strong fields, if this noise is not stopped, it could rise to as high as 130 decibels (DB) with strong fields Allen, Ake, Olofsson, Borg, Bjelke, Haggstrom and Grahn (2000) found out.

The MRI is capable of picturing every part of the body including those tissues that have numerous hydrogen nuclei, which have small differences in density like the connective tissues, muscles, and the brain and most tumors. There must be a uniform field density and strength in the magnetic field for the MRI scans to work effectively well Levy (2001).

Pre-polarized MRI also called PMRI created by a team of researchers concluded Venook, Matter, Ungersma, Gold, Gion, Macovski, Scott and Conolly (2006). These researchers experimented and showed that the magnets do not

necessarily have to be uniform and strong at the same time. Instead, one can combine two magnets in which one is strong and one is uniform (Carr and Herman, 2004). Having a closer look at the PMRI scanner, one will discover that the magnet is not uniform, though strong. A strong and potent magnetic field which is different in uniformity by forty percent is created by the magnet. It is thus called ‘pre-polarized’ component. The second magnet is weaker than the first and requires electric power to two hairdryers but is more apt and is capable of forming a uniform magnetic field which has the same characteristics. The cost of an MRI scanner can be lowered and made cheaper if they are magnets wound with copper.

How MRI Came Into Existence

A glimpse of what can be called an MRI was first reported by Herman Carr in the middle of the 20th century according to Filler (2010). This development was improved upon by Paul Lauterbur by developing how to form MRI images in 2D and 3D with gradients. The first nuclear Magnetic Resonance Imaging and the first cross-sectional living mouse image were published in 1973 and 1974 respectively reported Lauterbur, 1974; MacWilliams and Bryon (2003). Nuclear magnetic resonance imaging is a relatively new technology first developed at The University of Nottingham, England were the first to develop the nuclear MRI which is a new technology. Later, this technology was further improved upon by Peter Mansfield who was a physics professor at this same university when he made a mathematical device that makes scans to be able to produce images within few seconds compared with the one developed by Lauterbur which used to take hours to produce images.

It was reported in 1971 by Dr Raymond Damadian who happened to be a renowned scientist, a professor by status, and a physician who worked at the Downside Medical Centre State University in New York that normal tissues and tumors can be differentiated by the nuclear magnetic resonance imaging in vivo. The differences are useful in diagnosing cancer, and further research would lead to discovering that though they are real, they are not good for diagnostic purposes. The method initially brought by Damadian was not a reliable and effective indicator of cancerous tissues as it was a device that relied on a point-by-point scan of the entire body, and making use of relaxation rates as recorded by a Journal called *Science*.

The world's first MRI device was created in 1972 by Damadian as he was conducting a research on the analytical components of magnetic resonance. He was also the first person to file a patent for the MRI. "The patent included the idea of using NMR to 'scan' the human body to locate cancerous tissue." But then, the patent was silent on the method of generating pictures from the scan or how to produce it (the scan). Damadian along with Larry Minkoff and Michael Goldsmith subsequently went on to perform. The first MRI scan was conducted on a human body being, and the studies got published the same year, 1977, reported Damadian, Goldsmith and Minkoff (1977) and Hinshaw, Bottomley and Holland (1977).

Patent 4,307,343 was filed by Richard Lakes in 1979 while the GE Research Centre in Schenectady, New York, was joined by Paul Bottomley in 1980. The duo made a request for a large magnet which happened to be the biggest available magnet. It was a 1.5T system. They also built the first high-field MRI/MRS scanner that covers the whole body which permitted them to overcome the problems of signal noise, RF penetration and coil design. The successful 1.5T MRI product-line of more than 20,000 systems today was what the success led to. The first localized MRS in human heart and brain was brought about by Bottomley. He later went back to the university in 1994, remaining a Russell Morgan professor as well as the Director of the MR research division after he had begun a joint work on heart applications with Robert Weiss at John Hopkins. Due to the ever-increasing resolution and sensitivity, MRI is mostly performed using 1.5T, higher fields, e.g. 3T are still getting more and more popular. In research laboratories, however, studies on human beings have been conducted at up to 9.4T while that of animals was up to 21.1T.

CALCULATION OF THE AGE OF HUMAN BONE

The level of maturation of a child's bone is referred as bone age. A person's skeletal bones change both in shape and in size as he grows throughout the fetal stage of his life to puberty and finally finishing the growth as a young adult. One is able to see these changes clearly via the x-ray. The rate at which a child reaches the bone maturation level is known as bone age. To guess a child's age at adulthood, his height and bone age could be used. When a child is born, he has only the metaphyses of his "long bones" visible. The elongation of an epiphysis at the end of a growing bone indicates that it is a long bone. The humerus, femur, tibia, fibula, femur, radius, ulna phalanges etc are all referred to as long bones. The adult height is determined by the

length of the lower limbs. Meanwhile the spine and the skull are the other important determinants of the human height.

The epiphyses of a child's bone end start appearing under the x-ray when its calcification reaches a high level. The case is also the same with tarsal of the feet and carpals of the hands where the bone end is separated on the x-rays by a thin and invisible cartilage where growth always occurs. As puberty stage arises, there is a noticeable rise in sex steroid levels and bones begin to grow fast. As an adult human being reaches the end of physical growth and gets to the fullness of his height, the size and shape of the bones begin to appear and what is left of the cartilage of the epiphyses thins away and disappears. When this happens, it marks the closure of the epiphyses and the bones cannot be lengthened any longer. The growth in the adolescent stage is completed by a slight growth in the spine. A small amount of spinal growth concludes an adolescent's growth. Pediatric endocrinologists frequently order bone age x-rays to evaluate. Children are made to undergo bone age x-rays by pediatric endocrinologists to measure and find out if they have rapid or delayed physical development and growth. Medical imaging for diagnosing in pediatrics and therapy is used by the pediatric radiologists to interpret the diagnosis and therapy.

How to Use x-ray to Discover Bone Age

One can easily x-ray the hand using minimal radiation and it usually shows many bones at once. X-raying the wrist, fingers of the left hand is the most common technique used by people (Gertych, Zhang, Sayre, Pospiechkurkowska and Huang, 2007). The bones of a standard atlas are put side by side with the ones x-rayed for comparison (Buken, Safak, Yacici, Buken and Mayda (2007); Greuli, and Pyle (2007). The "TW2" method is considered to be a complex method according to Tanner, Whitehouse and Marshal (1975). It has also been discovered that in the first 365 days, a baby's hands do not undergo serious changes. To get a precise bone test, half of the whole skeleton is likely to be used so that the assessment will be able to extend to the pelvis, shoulders etc which undergo changes mostly during infant stages. Knee maturation, using the atlas has also been compiled.

Height Prediction

The percentage of height growth left at a particular bone age has been calculated via a compiled statistics to show the percentage of the growth in height. An

adult' height can thus be guessed by applying simple arithmetic using a child's bone age and his height. As a result of the difference in sex, boys and girls were give a table each in the calculation of bone age, and another one for some children who have unusually speedy or slow time for their bone to mature. The Greulich and Pyle atlas included these tables called the Bayley-Pinneau tables in their atlasappendix. Bone age and height predictors at times fail in their predictions when it comes to atypical growth.Children who have an extremely small stature at birth, and still maintain a small stature after birth is a good instance of the fact that the bone age could be an inaccurate predictor of a future height.

How Bone Age Reading is Applied

That the growth of a bone is too fast or too slow is not always as a result of morbidity. On the other hand, in some conditions of abnormal growth, there may be normalcy in bone age. The time different children reach maturity varies. In the same manner that there are always differences in the time when a young girl have her first menstruation or when a child loses or replaces teeth, a healthy child too may experience a speedy or slow bone age by either one or two years. As we have many children who experiences a precocious puberty or congenital hyperplasia has an elongated level of sex steroids, speedy bone age too is a common feature. When a child carries too much weight from infancy, or has lipodystrophy, their bone age is usually speedy with premature adrenarche. Constitutional growth delay, also known as bone maturation is slowed down and is coupled with failure in growth as a result of faulty or lack of growth hormone and hypothyroidism.

Much as the MRI scan looks perfect and fool-proof, it is not one hundred percent reliable. The device has its own weak points which have raised a lot of questions about its reliability. For instance, the device is only useable, dealing with players of seventeen years old and below. What about the other categories of age-group tournaments of above seventeen years? Even the device itself at times disappoints the users. There have been cases whereby the MRI gadget accepted one of a set of twins and rejected the other! This is just one of the various problems experienced by the users of this device(Ajzen, 1991).

BIOMETRICS

Meaning of Biometrics

Biometrics refers to the visible, behavioural and psychological characteristics that can be measured when verifying a person's identity at any point in time. These characteristics may either be physical, physiological and behavioural in nature. Hand geometry, face, iris, retina, body smell, the veins of the hand and fingerprints constitute the physiological while the gait how a person walks, how one types on a keyboard, voice, and signature are the behavioural characteristics. These can be used to identify a person at any given time, recorded Cavoukian and Stoianov(2007). This technology despite the fact that the innovation has been greatly improved upon over the years, it is yet to cover all the physiological and behavioural traits that can be used for recognition in biometrics. There are seven pillars of biometrics that can be used for identification in biometrics and which the trait of a person is usually compared with (Jain, Ross and Pankanti, 2006).

Universality; this says that the traits must be in every person.

Distinctiveness; there must be clear and easily noticeable features that can be used to differentiate between the two persons in question.

Permanence; these traits must be traceable in the life of the person till he/she dies.

Collectability; the traits or features must be the ones that are easy to present and measure in terms of quantity.

Performance; this says how accurately and speedily the system can work to show effectiveness. **Acceptability;** that the person in question must be willing to undergo the test and voluntarily agree to do it.

Resistance to circumvention; talks about how easy or difficult it will be for a person to beat this device reported Wayman, J. L. (2000), Jain, Ross and Pakanti (2004).

On record there is no biometric device that can cover all the seven pillars without error. However, some devices will satisfy more of the principles better than the others. For instance, iris and fingerprints will definitely fare better than any other one and will seem more reliable and stronger to use for identification.

The Use of Biometrics

Normally, in the modern-day identity management, for a person's identity to be confirmed he needs to produce his personal identification number known as the PIN, password, cryptographic key, identity card (ID card), smart card or token known

as something you have etc (Jain, Bolle and Pankanti, 1999). These security measures mentioned too have their own shortcomings. What could bring problem to these measures include the fact that it is possible to easily forget one's PIN or password they can be stolen lost or shared with people. A biometric characteristic is supposed to be part and parcel of a person and so is another useful material in proving one's identity or 'something you are'. As a result of this, there are some benefits of biometric characteristics which make them better than these security measures we mentioned earlier. One, it is not possible to forge them, two, they can neither get lost nor be forgotten, three, they are extremely hard to copy, four, these traits or characteristics are part and parcel of a person so, to use them, the real owner must be present at the scene and time of usage.

Biometric application has always made it impossible for a person to deny that he has not negotiated a particular spot or made use of a computer set or engaged in a certain business dealings. Truly, the one and only unbeatable form of identifying and confirming a person's identity is the use of biometrics as it is being widely used to raise the standard of security and is being seen as one of the major panaceas to problems of faked identity among others. Biometric system is expected to be more convenient in usage, faster, more secure, and cheaper to implement and manage than the than other traditional methods of identification and verification of people's identity. Despite all these advantages, biometrics is also with its own shortcomings. For instance, ID cards, passwords and PINs can be easily reissued to people if they have problem. This is not possible for a person's iris image, fingerprints or retina.

What the Architecture and Design of Biometric Recognition Systems Look Like

For a long time now, people have identified one another through the use of voice, face, shape or gait etc which are the simplest forms of identification. Recently, a more sophisticated approach brought by the application of biometrics has being a new development for some time now, reported Mordini and Ottolini (2007). The steps this device contains and its characteristics vary. The four main stages of biometrics include the following; (i) The Enrolment (ii) The Storage (iii) The Acquisition and (iv) Matching. To use the biometric system, one has to enroll first. A sensor is used to produce a computerized representation of the data collected (e.g. fingerprints) when it comes to using a biometric device. Then the important discriminatory characteristics from the computerized representation of the data collected. They are then used to

produce a template, that is, a characteristic data set which is then linked to the person's identity and stored in the system. When next this person presents his or her fingerprints to the sensor, the sample template that has been collected will be compared to the one that had earlier been enrolled with the use of a mathematical algorithm. The person's identity is thus confirmed and accepted by the device if they match each other. It is as simple as that in basic terms. (Woodward, Webb, Newton, Bradley, Rubenson, Larson, Lilly, Smythe Houghton, Pincus, Schachter and Steinberg, 2001).

A unique feature of the biometric system is the fact that the two templates in comparison need not be necessarily the same for a match to be provided. This is so because two samples of the same biometric from the same individual look totally alike or the same. This development is called intra-user variation brought about by variations in a number of reasons between both sample acquisition times. For example, if there are ambient conditions differences, variations in the person's biometric features etc, these conditions can be experienced. The statistical process with the algorithm that provides a score of the degree of similarity between these two templates presented and compared is called matching. The confirmation of the fact that the two templates are from the same person is improved as the margin score increases. A threshold which determines the margin of error the algorithm can permit regulates the final stage of the process. So, the margin scores must be more than the threshold that is put in place. The system operator is able to adjust and moderate the threshold to suit the purpose of a special application, that is, increasing the threshold makes it to be more and more fool-proof while decreasing it will make it to be prone to fraud.

Biometric Systems Modes

Identification and verifications are the two basic functions of sound and reliable biometric systems regardless of what they are used for. They may be used for security, healthcare, commercial financial or law enforcement purposes. A person's supposed identity is authenticated by the biometric system at the verification stage when the newly collected sample biometric data is compared with the biometric data with the corresponding enrolled template. One can store locally e.g. in a database system or a smart card, the template that had been initially registered for future confirmation in a system called one to one matching.

Confirming identity is a form of positive identification targeted at preventing more than one person from making use of the same identity (National Science and Technology Council (NSTC, 2006). Finding out who an individual is without the person trying to claim any identity is what is called identification. In a-one-to-many matching the biometric sample is hereby compared with every template in the database system. This is not a positive, but a negative identification because this time, it is applied to prevent a person from claiming many identities instead of one. It is also used for screening people inside a database system to forestall fraud.

Data Storage and Age cheating in Sports

A centralized database system can be used to store the registered templates or be stored in a decentralized system (locally) e.g. a smartcard that can be carried about, owing to the type of system being used. The biometric recognition mode can influence the storage technique of the registered templates recorded Most (2004). This is to show that a centralized database system is needed for screening based application and recognition process and prove that it is preferable and more advisable to use a verification based applications that can make use of either centralized or localized storage system. But then, the potential for disappointment whereby the system uses the data collected for another purpose instead of what it is meant to do is the main shortcoming noticed and talked about by critics. To solve this problem, a person's personal information concerning names and address and so on should be kept separately from his biometric data reported Cavoukian (1999). These separate database systems can then be linked, using a safe network.

The design of a database system can be made performance oriented. This implies that a big database can take a long time to find which influences system processing periods and general use all through. The processing speed can be slowed down by partitioning databases into tiny sections to cater for parallel searches. But then, this can affect the accuracy of the system. As a result, the user can maintain control over his or her own data and render it safe and unusable without the permission of the owner.

Once the card is inserted into the database system the template will be recognized and then copied and compared with the data stored on the system for recognition. Smartcards can also be said to be an improvement in the match-on-card device. The templates and all the nodules are all conducted and kept on the smartcard.

Once this is done the information will be indelible on the card for ever (Snijder, 2007, and Jain, Nandkumar and Nagar, 2008). The information on the smartcard should be duplicated in case the smartcard is lost or stolen to so as to prevent another person from having access to it. The information can also be kept as a backup device to forestall the application of fake cards According to Jain, Ross and Uludag(2005). Besides, the fear about the acquisition of more sensitive information, like that of health, from the acquired biometric data can be taken care of by using templates in place of raw images. The interoperability among and between different biometric devices is facilitated by storing raw images with the use of the same modality.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation (I.C.A.O.) proposed for the international standards for machine travel readable documents which require the storage of full images to improve comparisons and recognition of people with other databases. This measure is good and useful in protecting an application operator from being restricted to a particular device or vendor product as a result of feature extraction's honest nature, generation of templates and matching algorithms made use of. Consequently, one can feed pictures into another device without considering reenrolling the users. Stringent security steps measures to limit possible abuse of the biometric information are needed to ensure the safe storage of the raw images. In conclusion, policies for the maintenance and deleting biometric images and templates and related personal data the biometric devices should be included. The device is useful in the reduction of theft in the area of identity, and fraud among others.

The Accuracy and Error Rates of the Biometric Device

Identification in biometrics involves a statistical approach and is influenced by intra-class differences that exist between registration and subsequent reception. As a result of this no biometric identification device is free from manipulation hundred percent. That is they are all susceptible to errors of various kinds unlike PIN- based devices or passwords. Skipping registration and acquisition, mistaken accept-reject errors may be experienced. The failure to enroll rate (FTE) shows the inability of a person to register in the device for a start. The quality control feature of this device may cause this in a situation whereby unclear pictures are not accepted by the device. Without doubt, the registration process usually affects the preciseness efficiency and viability of the device and so, this error must be considered very important. The failure to acquire rate (FTA) is the failure to receive a person's biometric data when

the device is used over and over again. The importance of a fallback principle or a degree of softness preparing is to cope with whatever happens. An instance is when a person tries to register in a device with another finger or if the device has many modes, he could register his face in place of his fingerprints etc. The flexibility of the device can also be helped by human manipulations.

When a person who does not have any record in the biometric device is by error compared to a registered template from another person, the condition is referred to as false-accept-error. These types of blunders can bring problem to the reliability and impregnability of the device. A situation whereby a person's template that was collected fails to pass the matching test with the registered template of the same individual is called a false-reject-error. Cases like these put such victims of the error into frustrations since they are being erroneously rejected and eventually denied as a result of the avoidable negative human manipulation of the device. These errors are rated and are as such called false-reject-rate (FRR) and false-accept-rate (FRA). When the FAR decreases, the FRR increases which makes an inverse proportion to exist between the two.

The decision operating point of the biometric device which happens to be a product of a specific application affects the FAR and FRR themselves. As a result, there must be a relationship between these two error rates. For instance, a grossly reduced FAR is needed to achieve a high level security application. Depending on the method used coupled with the application most of these devices are with FRR ranges from 0.1 percent to 2 percent. To indicate system performance, at all thresholds, the two rates can be plotted against each other on a curve. The equal error rate ERR is the position at which FRR and FAR are the same in size. The adjudged best operating land for public biometric application is the equal error rate (ERR) reported the European Commission Joint Research Centre, Institute for Prospective Technology Studies(2005).

To ascertain the total level of performance and preciseness, the FAR and FRR error rates are examined. The outcomes are utilized in the promotion of algorithms and biometric devices. Wayman (2000) reported that these outcomes are initially handy most of them are conducted in the laboratory surroundings and so may not lead to a reliable outcome in the real world situations. If this device is to get the laboratory performance rating when acted upon in the real world fast tuning and post development becomes critical. Also, outcomes of examinations are usually good for a

specific application and may not lead to the use of the same application by other modalities recorded Cavoukian and Stoianov(2007).

The Fallibility and Counter-Measures of Biometric System Security

Vulnerabilities

The perceived fool-proof nature, security and preciseness of a biometric device are the major determinants of the acceptability and spread of the use of these devices. That biometric devices and technologies are prone to manipulation and circumvention from smart con men and fraudsters is basically on records. Disappointments and shortcomings of this nature are a big threat to security, and can allow for the intrusion into the private lives of a person and prevent eligible people from having access to certain services and opportunities they should have access to. Overall system identification performance is responsible for intrinsic failures also known as system errors and this can be capitalized on by the fraudsters who are the enemies of progress and unduly use it to their favour. They are called FFF, FTA and FRR. What is meant by adversary attacks is the deliberate attempts to penetrate and manipulate the device through the advantage gained as a result of the shortcomings of the device. The following are also regarded as adversary (enemy) attacks as reported by Acharya (2006):

- (a) **Spoofing;** the ‘enemy’ twists or manipulate biometric traits to brush aside the device (i.e. presenting an adulterated or fake facial image or fingerprints).
- (b) **Replay attacks;**in which the ‘enemy’ penetrates an enrolled template and replaces it with his own or alters it.
- (c) **Tampering;** here the ‘enemy’ distorts the characteristic sets in enrolled templates or during confirmation to make certain that he makes a high rating for his biometric.
- (d) **Trojan horse attacks;**here the ‘enemy’ substitutes part of the device like the algorithm used to match images with a Trojan horse computer device to achieve a high rating from the device when scored.
- (e) **Masquerade attacks;**here a digital artifact that is sufficient to make a favourable comparison is fabricated from the template by the ‘enemy’. It works because the fabricated artifact does not necessarily look exactly like the real picture for it to match the image.

- (f) **Overriding the yes/no response;**in which the ‘enemy’ is able to put a fake ‘yes’ reply to circumvent the device.

Countermeasures

As measures against beating the biometric device, different mechanisms have been brought about to assist in guarding against the threats to the device. The ample chance for spoofing can be limited by liveness discovery or human inspection. Checking if the biometric sample is being studied from a real and full-fledge individual instead of an adulterated body part or the carcass of a human being is the technique called liveness detection. Temperature, pulse rate, blood pressure, skin conductivity or respiration include part of the conditions they check in liveness detection as recorded by the International Biometrics Group(2007). One can also use encryption techniques and direct security approaches to send biometric data to reduce the probability of manipulating the device.

Also, Trojan horse invasion can be brought down to the barest minimum if one uses a secure computer code and software protocols. Another reliable, but expensive device that can be utilized to large-scale application is match-on-card. In the case of card loss or misplacement, an ‘enemy’ (also called adversary) could try to gain access to the data on the lost card. The vulnerability of a template has been considered a serious problem as evidence shows that biometric templates is capable of being reversed to make the original picture or a near perfect prototype of it. It is important that measures are put in place to protect the stored data on the templates, knowing well that biometric traits can neither be re-issued nor revoked.

As a result, investigation and study have been rife into revocable biometric templates so as to know the possibility of repackaging a compromised template by withdrawing it and producing another new template without bothering about the adulterated one since it can no longer be recognized by the device. Mathematical transformation function created by generating a password or PIN is applied by the device to improve the workings of the template, reported Teoh and Yuang (2007). Each sample template is given the same treatment before being matched with the registered template. For instance, an adulterated template may be wiped out and another one is created and used to the initial biometrics to make a new template. With this development, opportunities have been provided for administrators to use the system for different purposes as a person can apply the same biometric modality in

various capacities. There is another reliable preventive measure (countermeasure) against biometric device fraud and threats called biometric crypto system. In this development, cryptology is mixed with biometric to improve the efficiency of comparison in the world of encryption to further solidify the device's impregnability and reliability.

The encryption key would vary a little at every point a person using it attempts to penetrate the system and the person will not be able to gain access into it due to the fact that two biometric templates can never be the same. Interestingly, an algorithm that is capable of creating a cryptographic key from data curled out from fingerprint presentations has been developed by a company called Gen-Key, reported Thieme (2008). The device does a random generation of a digital key (which a system operator will not know that it exists) as a substitute device when a person registers his/her biometric samples like the signature or fingerprints. An encryption template is then created when the encryption algorithm binds this security to the biometric sample.

After this the key, together with the biometric are then disposed of and becomes irretrievable from the registered encryption template. The next time the person accesses the device, he/she gives a biometric sample which is compared with the biometric templates, and if they match, the encryption algorithm retrieves the key. Later, this key is capable of being used in a conventional cryptosystem. The system immediately discards the biometric again at the end of the identification process, and so, the device keeps only the biometrically encrypted key, and keeps the biometric itself which is expected to take care of privacy concerns. As a result of the fact that the key is free of the biometric, it can be withdrawn if the device is adulterated and a new key created which is expected to heighten its security and flexibility. Disappointingly, it is not easy to create such devices, and to confirm this, Philips priv-ID system is the only encryption in existence that can do this explained Cherry (2007).

Appraisal of the Reviewed Literature

Sport by all standards is supposed to build character since it is passionately loved, watched and played at every nook and cranny of the world by the young and the old, the rich and the poor, the able and the disable, male and female etc. It is an instrument of promoting unity, understanding, and fostering peace where politics and

religion have failed, opined Oyeniya (2001). Football is one of the most loved and popular sports in the world. Its followership is universal, and just like religion it indoctrinates its followers. Individuals, groups clubs, races and nations could go to any length to get their wills done and achieve their aims in the game called football. The pleasure, happiness, fame, honour, satisfaction, sense of fulfillment and fortune etc which successful football career brings, have added to people's desperate struggle to excel in it. This has brought about some complexities to the game in which cheating in age-group sports competitions belongs (Uduak, 2004).

The world football ruling body FIFA, noticing the high interest in the game by many people of the world decided to improve on the development of the game. They tried to bridge the gap between highly-developed football nations like Brazil, Spain, Germany England etc, and 'minnow' nations like Niger, Cape Verde, India, Pakistan, Tahiti and Kenya and so on. Also, part of the targets of FIFA is the early discovery of players from tender age for them to start their football career and last longer in it. Much as these aims are being achieved in many developed countries of the world, literature revealed that the same cannot be said of many African countries, Nigeria inclusive.

Cheating in age-group tournaments has been discovered to be the main problem hindering the achievement of their aims. Many countries Africa, Asia, and some other parts of the world have consistently fielded over-aged players to compete in age-group football competitions organized by FIFA. Many players have two different ages-real age and official age. This, according to Kwenaita (2008) is to be able meet the demands of FIFA in age-group competitions so as to attract the attention of scouts who want to 'catch them young'. Many young who are expected to take the centre stage in such competitions have been pushed aside and their positions taken by age fraudsters.

Africa is a force to reckon with in virtually all FIFA-organized age group competitions for men. Nigeria has won the U-17 version six times and lost in the final twice. She has also not done badly in the U-20 edition. Nigeria has won silver twice and bronze medal once. She has won the Olympic football gold and silver once each. Ghana, Cameroon and a host of others have not done badly too. Coming to the senior category, Africa as a continent is still searching for a semi-final record in the competition. Nigeria, a great force in African football is yet to go beyond the second round of the competition, despite her brilliant records in the junior categories. Much

as Africa can be said to have performed creditably well in all FIFA-organized age-group competitions, it has not reflected in her performance at the senior category.

Literature also made it known to the researcher that there are some administrative measures that can be taken to forestall the occurrence of the menace of age cheating in football competitions, Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is a medical imaging technique used in radiology to visualize internal structures of the body in detail. Through this MRI tests, the bone age of a child can be determined. There are some physiological characteristics of the body that can also be measured and recorded in a database system to put a stop to age fraud. Biometrics means any physical or physiological characteristics or behavioural traits that can be measured and used to identify an individual or to verify any data that has to do with the identity of any person (Cavoukian and Stoianov, 2007).

Fingerprints, hand geometry, the face, the iris, the retina, the networks of veins of the human hand, even the body odour, and some other behavioural biometrics that cannot be altered are all parts of the physiological biometrics. It was reviewed that if all the unchangeable traits of people are taken either from birth or first competition and kept in a database system, there will be a tremendous improvement in the battle to stop the menace of cheating. Other measures like a formidable system of issuing identity cards, punitive measures and the restriction of biometric tests to empanelled hospitals can boost the building of a formidable force against the menace of cheating in age-group football competitions.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter reveals the methods and procedures applied in the study. The methodology used in undergoing this study included the following:

1. Research Design
2. Population
3. Sample and Sampling Techniques
4. Research Instrument
5. Validity of the Instrument
6. Reliability of the Instrument
7. Field Testing of the Instrument
8. Procedure for Data Collection
9. Procedure for Data Analysis

Research Design

Descriptive survey research design, which is suitable for a large population was adopted in this study. This was considered appropriate as the study sought the relationship among variables of interest. It is useful in analyzing and interpreting measurable data gathered on peoples' beliefs, opinions, attitude, behaviour and records of events and relationship between variables. This design was considered best because it involves the collection of data through the use of questionnaire, interviews, as well as the assessment of attitudes, opinion, existing conditions on ground and so on (Ogunniyi, 2003; Jack and Norman, 2000; Kerlinger and Lee, 2000). The design is also in line with the opinion of Thomas and Nelson (2001) that descriptive survey research design is a useful weapon for gathering data so that one is able to describe the existing phenomenon and find out problems in order to compare and evaluate them systematically.

Population

All football players, coaches and administrative officials, members of the Sports Writers Association of Nigeria (SWAN) from all the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports development zones in Nigeria were involved in this study.

Sample and Sampling Technique

The total number of participants sampled in this study was two thousand two hundred and forty-five (2,245) using a multi-stage sampling technique. In the first stage, purposive sampling method was applied in the selection of five (5) out of the six (6) available sports development zones of the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports, Nigeria. The North East is a troubled zone because of the insurgency of the Boko Haram militant group, and so, was left out. In the second stage, simple random sampling procedure was applied in selecting four (4) states from each of the five (5) zones under study. The third stage involved the use of purposive sampling procedure to select two (2) football clubs to ensure that they were duly registered with the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) from each of the four (4) states under the five (5) zones selected for this study. This was so because only clubs duly registered with the Nigeria Football Federation, (NFF) were to be included in the study.

Simple random sampling technique was applied to select thirty (30) football players from each of the two (2) football clubs purposively picked from each state of the five (5) zones selected for this study making a total number of one thousand two hundred (1200) players. In the fourth stage, simple random sampling procedure was used to select twenty (20) coaches from each of the states under study making four hundred (400) coaches altogether. The same procedure was also used to select twenty (20) members of the Sports Writers Association of Nigeria (SWAN) from each of the sampled states that fall within the five (5) zones under study making a total of four hundred (400) sportswriters altogether.

Simple random sampling procedure was also used to select twenty (20) out of the available twenty-four (24) sports federations in Nigeria, from where twenty (20) Secretaries and twenty (20) Chairmen involved in this study were purposively selected. Purposive sampling procedure was also used to select five (5) Directors and twenty (20) from the states within the five (5) zones involved in the study making twenty-five (25) directors altogether. Simple random sampling procedure was used to select eighty (80) members of the state sports councils (i.e.4 from each state) involved in the study. Also, four (4) Sports Officers were randomly selected from each of the twenty (20) states and five (5) NSC zones under study making a total number of one hundred (100) sports officers altogether. The analyses of the participants selected as samples for this study, making a total number of two thousand two hundred and forty-five (2,245) are presented in the tables below:

**TABLE 1: AN OVERVIEW OF THE SELECTED PARTICIPANTS
(SAMPLED POPULATION)**

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE (%)
Players	1200	53.4
Secretaries, Sports Federations	20	0.9
Directors of Sports/Zonal Coordinators	25	1.1
Chairmen/President, Board	20	0.9
Members, State Sports Council	80	3.6
Sports officers	100	4.5
Coaches	400	17.8
Members, SWAN	400	17.8
Grand Total	2245	100

Table 1 above shows the distribution of the participants in the study. It tells us the frequency and percentages of the various categories of participants in the study. According to the table, football players (1,200) constituted 53.4% of the entire sample, Secretaries, sports federations (20) making 0.9%; Directors of sports (25) making 1.1%; Board Chairmen (20) making 0.9%; Members, states sports councils (80) making 3.6%; Sports Officers (100) making 4.5%; Coaches (400) making 17.8%, SWAN members (400) making 17.8% of the entire sample. The grand total is two thousand, two hundred and forty-five (2,245) participants drawn from five of the six federal ministry of youths and sports development zones in Nigeria.

TABLE 2: AN OVERVIEW OF THE SELECTED FEDERAL MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT ZONES AND STATES

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT ZONES	SELECTED SPORTS DEVELOPMENT ZONES	STATES WITHIN THE ZONES	SELECTED STATES IN EACH ZONE
South-West	South-West	Ibadan: Oyo, Ogun, Lagos, Ondo, Osun; and Ekiti states.	Oyo, Ogun, Ondo, Lagos
South-East	South-East	Enugu: Enugu, Abia, Ebonyi, Imo and Anambra states.	Enugu; Abia; Imo; Anambra
South-South	South-South	Benin: Edo, Delta, Akwa-Ibom, Rivers, C/River; Bayelsa states;	Edo, Delta, Akwa-Ibom and Bayelsa
North-West	North-West	Kaduna: Kano, Kaduna, Jigawa, Katsina.Zamfara, Sokoto and Kebbi states	Kaduna; Kano; Katsina; Sokoto
North-Central	North-Central	Jos: Nasarawa, Plateau and Benue, Kogi, Niger, Kwara states and FCT.	Plateau, Benue, Niger, Kwara
North-East	None	Bauchi: Bauchi, Gombe, and Borno, Taraba, Adamawa and Yobe. States	None ; Troubled zone

The above table shows the distribution of the states under the various federal ministry of youths and sports development zones and the areas covered in the study. It explains the geographical distributions of the participants. In Zone1; South-West (Headquarters-Ibadan), the four states involved were; Oyo, Ogun, Ondo and Lagos states, Zone 2; South-East (Headquarters-Enugu)-Enugu, Abia, Imo and Anambra

states, Zone 3; South-South (Headquarters-Benin)-Edo, Delta, Akwa-Ibom and Bayelsa states, Zone 4; North-West (Headquarters-Kaduna)-Kaduna, Kano, Katsina and Sokoto states, Zone 5 North-Central (Headquarters-Jos)-Plateau, Benue, Niger and Kwara states, and in the last one- Zone 6; North-East (Headquarters-Bauchi)- no state was involved as a result of the Boko Haram war that prevented the research team from covering the area.

Research Instruments

The researcher made use of two (2) research instruments for this study: The research instruments for this study were seven self-developed structured questionnaires, and an in-depth interview guide. The research instruments involved two sections A and B. Section A which has five items dealt with the demographic data of the participants while Section B was used to collect information on the variables of the study. The questionnaire adopted the four-point likert-type of summated rating of Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D) and Strongly Disagree (SD).

The first questionnaire- Biometric Tests and Data Registration at Birth Questionnaire (BTDRBQ) with fourteen items tried to elicit information about the use of biometric tests and data registration at birth as a potent weapon to stop cheating in age-group football. The second questionnaire, Biometric Tests and Data Registration at First Competition Questionnaire (BTDFCQ) with nine items tried to see whether biometric tests and data registration at first competition by players could put a check on cheating in age-group football. The third questionnaire, Use of Medical Examination Questionnaire (UMEQ) which has eight items tested whether the use of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) test could curb cheating.

The fourth questionnaire was the Biometric Tests and Medical Examination Agencies Questionnaire (BTMEAQ) with five items which was used to test whether the restriction of biometric tests and medical examination for data registration to empanelled special hospitals and medical centres could curb cheating in age-group football. The fifth questionnaire is the System of Identity Card Issuance Questionnaire, (SIDICQ) with ten items which tested the reliability of making use of a formidable system of issuing identity cards. The sixth questionnaire is the Age Cheats Punitive Measures Questionnaire (ACPMQ) has eleven items which checked if instituting serious punitive measures could stop age cheating in Football. The seventh

and final instrument- Cheating in Age-group Football Questionnaire (ACFQ) with eleven items was for cheating which is the dependent variable.

In-Depth Interview (IDI) Guide

The researcher also made use of a self-developed In-depth Interview Guide on age cheating in sports as a qualitative instrument. It consists of eleven questions such as: *“What is your opinion about cheating in sports, especially age-group football competitions?”* *“Do you agree that cheating actually exists in sports?”* *“What can you say about the use of biometric tests and data registration both at birth and at first appearance as a reliable measure against cheating in age-group football competitions?”* and some other questions. The instrument was used to gather more confirmatory information in relation to what the participants felt about cheating in collaboration with the questionnaire which served as the quantitative data collection tool for the main study.

Validity of the Instrument

To ensure the content and construct validity of the research instrument for the study, the researcher’s supervisor and other experts in the Human Kinetics and Health Education Department, University of Ibadan, were consulted for suggestions, comments and modification of the instrument. Also, experts in measurement and evaluation were consulted to be sure of the content and construct validity of the research instrument. The expert suggestions and modifications were effected and used to further improve the quality of the instrument. To ensure that the instrument possessed all the psychometric properties, it was subjected to explorative item-by-item (factor) analysis which brought down the items in the questionnaire to a meaningful and manageable size. All this was done to ensure that the instrument actually measured what it was supposed to measure, and also to acquire an appreciable coefficient values in order to make it further valid.

Reliability of the Instrument

Reliability refers to the level of consistency of an instrument in measuring what it is supposed to measure. It is the degree of accuracy of an instrument in relation to stability, consistency, repeatability and precision based on an appropriate measurement. This is to ensure that the instrument of the study is error-free regardless of the number of times it is administered at any given time and with a constant

environment. To be sure of the internal consistency of the instrument, the corrected version of the questionnaire was administered to 20 respondents drawn from Rivers state which was not one of the states sampled within the federal ministry of youths and sports development zones under study. The football team involved in this pilot study was Sharks football club of Port Harcourt from where twelve (12) players and three (3) coaches were selected, two (2) sports officers from the state's sports council, and three (3) sports journalists from the state, making a total number of twenty (20) participants. The data collected were collated and analyzed, using Cronbach Alpha to determine the internal consistency of the instrument. Initially, the total number of items on the entire instrument was seventy-two (72). Some items were reframed while eight got totally eliminated. At the end of the exercise, only sixty-four (64) items survived the test. The reliability coefficient for BTDRBS was .89, BDRFCS: .75, UMES: SIDCIS: .86, ACPMS; .97 and cheating in football scale ACFS: .94.

The second instrument, the In-Depth Interview (IDI) on age cheating was conducted to the various categories of participants involved in this study. They include ten (10) players, five (5) coaches, two (2) administrators and three (3) sports writers. The consistency of this instrument was established by using multiple perspectives to transcribe a single set of responses. Also, their responses were subjected to thematic content analysis in which the researcher and his assistants, taking notes, qualitatively analyzed the responses and compared the multiple sections of the In-depth interview (IDI). Most of the responses of the various sections were in agreement with one another. Hence, the items were considered to be reliable as supported by the norms of reliability of gathered information determined by Boyce and Neale (2006).

Field-Testing of the Instrument

A field-testing of the validated research instrument was conducted prior to the real study. The researcher made use of 20 respondents drawn from Rivers state, which is outside the sampled population of the study. The football team involved in this try out exercise was Sharks football club of Port Harcourt from where twelve (12) players and three (3) coaches were selected, two (2) sports officers from the state's sports council, and three (3) sports journalists from the state, making a total number of twenty (20) participants. Out of this number, five (5) players, one (1) sports officer, one (1) coach and three (3) journalists were involved in the interview session. The

pilot study enabled the researcher to be familiar with the procedures that might threaten and distort the internal validity of the instrument. Indeed, the experience actually helped the research team in preparing for the challenges ahead which might have posed as the limitations of the actual study. It is good for a researcher to carry out the field testing (test run) of the instruments to be used in a study so that he may be sure of their reliability, sensitivity and meaningfulness.

Procedure for Data Collection

A letter of introduction was obtained from the Head of Department of the Human Kinetics and Health Education, University of Ibadan, Ibadan for identification purpose. The researcher, together with the twenty-five (25) trained research assistants administered the questionnaire items to the participants and retrieved most of them immediately. This was to facilitate the smooth conduct of the exercise. However, efforts were made to ensure that those that could not be retrieved immediately were collected later on the research team's subsequent visits to the respondents in the course of the study.

The In-depth Interviews were conducted by the researcher together with two research assistants. The researcher, who was the chief interviewer introduced the team and other interviewers and explained their mission, informing them of the importance of the research work. The need for the use of audio recorder was also stressed, assuring them of absolute confidentiality. The interview was conducted in six of the states under study namely: Lagos (20 interviewees), Ogun (20 interviewees), Oyo (20 interviewees), Ondo (20 interviewees), Edo (20 interviewees) and Kwara states (20 interviewees, making a total of one hundred and twenty (120)

Procedure for Data Analysis

The completed questionnaire items were collected, coded and analyzed, using descriptive statistics of frequency counts, percentage (%), mean score, standard deviation, pie-chart for demographic data. Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) was used to answer the research question 1, while qualitative thematic content analysis was used for research question 2. The inferential statistics of multiple regression analysis was used to test the set hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

This study investigated the administrative strategies in curbing age-cheating in age-limit competitions among football players in the federal ministry of youth and sports development zones, Nigeria. This chapter therefore presents the results of data analysis and discussion of findings. The demographic characteristics of the participants was analyzed, two research questions were answered while seven hypotheses were tested in the study. Below are the results of the data analysis.

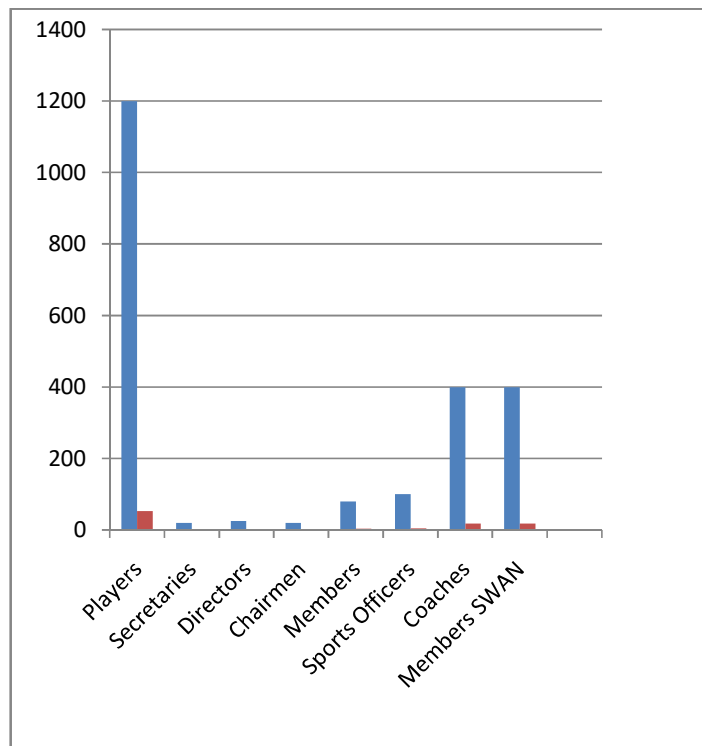


Fig. 1.3: Bar chart of the distribution of participants

The above chart shows that 1200 players (53.4%) were part of the sample for this study which also involved 400 SWAN members (17.8%), coaches (17.8%), 100 sports officers (4.5%), 80 board members (3.6%), 25 directors of sports (1.1%), 20 chairmen (0.9%) and 20 secretaries (0.9%)

TABLE 3: DISTRIBUTION OF THE PARTICIPANTS

Respondents	Frequencies	%
Players	1,200	53.4
Secretaries	20	0.9
Directors	25	1.1
Chairmen	20	0.9
Members	80	3.6
Sports Officers	100	4.5
Coaches	400	17.8
Members, SWAN	400	17.8
Grand Total	2,245	100

The above table also reveals the distribution of the participants in this study; 1200 players (53.4%) were part of the sample for this study which also involved 400 SWAN members (17.8), 400 coaches (17.8%), 100 sports officers (4.5%), 80 board members (3.6%), 25 directors of sports (1.1%), 20 chairmen (0.9%) and 20 secretaries (0.9%).

Research Questions

R.Q. 1: What is the relationship between each of the administrative measures and cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the federal ministry of youth and sports development zones in Nigeria?

Table 4: Correlation matrix showing the relationship between cheating in age-group football, Biometric test and data registration at birth, Biometric tests and data registration at first competition, Use of Respondents Frequency % medical examination, Biometric and medical examination agencies, System of identity card issuance and Age cheats punitive measures.

SN		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean	S.D.
1	Age-cheating	1							41.06	2.96
2	Biometric and data registration at birth	.464*	1						51.91	5.01
3	Biometric and data registration at first competition	.622*	.599*	1					33.34	2.68
4	Use of medical examination (MRI test)	.355*	.258*	.260*	1				27.80	3.30
5	Use of empanelled agencies	.574*	.412*	.645*	.212*	1			19.04	1.71
6	Use of ID cards	.577*	.440*	.557*	.296*	.578*	1		37.14	3.28
7	Use of punitive measures	.593*	.459*	.446*	.612*	.291*	.617*	1	41.23	3.56

*Sig. at 0.05 level

Table 4 above (page 74) shows that there is a positive significant relationship between cheating in age-group football and Biometric test & data registration at birth ($r = .464$, $P(.0001) < .01$), (mean=51.91, standard deviation=5.01), Biometric tests & data registration at first competition ($r = .622$, $P(.0001) < .01$), (mean=33.34, standard deviation=2.68), Use of medical examination ($r = .355$, $P(.0001) < .01$), (mean=27.80, standard deviation=3.30), Biometric and medical examination agencies ($r = .574$, $P(.0001) < .01$), (mean=19.04, standard deviation=1.71), System of identity card issuance ($r = .577$, $P(.0001) < .01$), (mean=37.14, standard deviation=3.28), and

Cheats punitive measures ($r = .593$, $P(.0001) < .01$), (mean=41.23, standard deviation=3.56), respectively. This indicates that there was a positive significant relationship between the dependent variable and the independent variables, and thus could bring a positive change to the problem of age cheating in our various age-group football competitions.

Key

1 = Cheating in age-group football

2 = Biometric test and data registration at birth

3 = Biometric tests and data registration at first competition

4 = Use of medical examination

5 = Biometric and medical examination agencies

6 = System of identity card issuance

7 = Cheats punitive measures

R.Q. 2: Can the administrative measures i.e. biometric and data registration at birth and at first competition, medical examination, use of empaneled hospitals, punitive measures etc curb cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the federal ministry of youths and sports development zones in Nigeria?

TABLE 5: Administrative Variables in Curbing Cheating in Age-Group Competitions

	Administrative Variables in Curbing Cheating in Age-group Football Competitions	Positive Response	%	Negative Response	%
1	Cheating in age-group football competitions is a fact and has affected football development generally.	118	98.3	2	1.7
2	Biometric and data registration at birth as a measure against cheating in age-group football competitions.	115	95.8	5	4.2
3	Biometric and data registration at first competition as a measure against cheating in age-group football competitions.	100	83.3	20	16.7
4	Use of medical examination as a measure against cheating in age-group football competitions.	98	81.7	22	18.3
5	Use of empaneled hospitals as a measure against cheating in age-group football competitions.	110	91.7	10	8.3
6	. Introduction of a formidable identity card issuance as a measure against cheating in age-group football competitions.	115	95.8	5	4.2
7	Use of punitive measures as a measure against cheating in age-group football competitions.	118	98.3	2	1.7

In the in-depth interview conducted on the administrative measures in curbing cheating in age-group football competitions among football players in the federal ministry of youths and sports development zones, the major responses of stakeholders in football (interviewees) in relation to the question which asked; ‘What is your opinion about the prevalence of cheating in age-group football competitions?’ was that the problem actually exists and is everywhere, especially in Africa. Out of the one hundred and twenty (120) interviewees the research team spoke with, one hundred and eighteen (118) of them (98.3%) confirmed that the problem actually exists and is negatively affecting football development in Nigeria. However, two (2) persons (1.7%) differed in their opinion. Although, they agreed that the problem is prevalent but it has nothing to do with football development.

On the use of biometric and data registration at birth as a measure against cheating in age-group football competitions, majority of those interviewed were of the opinion that it can help to reduce the prevalence of the problem. Out of the 120 interviewees 115 (95.8%) respondents were of the opinion that this measure would go a long way in reducing the menace while only 5 of them (4.2%) were of a contrary opinion. Also, among those interviewed on the introduction of biometric tests at first competition 100 interviewees (83.3%) believed that it could help to tackle the problem while 20 (16.7%) of them had no faith in its workability. As for the use of medical examination (MRI tests), 98 people (81.7%) believed in its potency, while 22 interviewees (18.3%) did not. Also, 110 (91.7%) of those interviewed supported the use of government-empanelled hospitals and medical centres to conduct biometric tests for athletes while 10 (8.3%) did not. The use of formidable identity card system was also supported believed to be able to put a stop to cheating in age-group football. as 115 (95.8%) of the interviewees supported its introduction while only 5 (4.2%) did not. Also, the use of punitive measures was supported by 118 interviewees (98.3%) to be capable of curbing the problem while only 2 persons (1.7%) were skeptical about its potency.

Biometric Tests Conducted by Clubs, State Football Associations and the Nigeria Football Association on Football Players

Table 6: Statistics of the Use of Biometrics and Identity Cards Issuance

	Clubs	% of Users	% of Non-users	No of Users	No of Un-users
Signatures	40	90	10	36	4
Iris	40	3	97	1	39
Fingerprints	40	3	97	1	39
Voices	40	2	98	1	39
Gaits	40	2	98	1	39
ID Card Issuance	40	85.5	14.5	34	6

Table 6 above shows the statistics of how football clubs made use of biometrics in the registration of players for competitions. The five biometric components considered were; signatures, iris, fingerprints, voices and gaits. The table revealed that signature was used by 36 clubs (90.0%), which makes it the most used while 4 clubs (10.0%) did not rely on it. Only one club made use of other biometric components like iris, fingerprints, voices and gaits respectively. This shows that majority of the clubs did not really rely on biometrics to verify the identities of their players. All they did was to get their signatures after identifying them by their pictures. They also considered the papers they brought without proper scrutiny. Also, majority of the clubs 34 (85%) relied on the use of ID cards as a major means of identification for footballers while some 6(14.5%) do not bank on it.

TEST OF HYPOTHESES

Ho 1: Administrative measures of curbing cheating, i.e. the independent variables (Biometric Tests and Data Registration at Birth, Biometric Tests and Data Registration at First Competition, Use of Medical Examination, Biometric and Medical Examination Agencies, System of Identity Card Issuance and Cheats Punitive Measures), when combined together will not significantly have a joint positive effect on Cheating in Age-Group Football Competitions in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria.

Table 7: Joint Contribution of the Six Independent Variables onthe Dependent Variable

R	R Square			Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	
.719	.517			.515	2.0626	
A N O V A						
Model	Sum of Squares	DF	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Remark
Regression	10172.668	6	1695.445	398.505	.000	Sig.
Residual	9521.593	2238	4.255			
Total	19694.261	2244				

Table 7 above explains the joint contribution of the six independent variables to the prediction of the dependent variable, that Cheating in age-group Football was positively predicted by the independent variables. The table also shows a coefficient of multiple correlation ($R = .719$ and a multiple R^2 of .517). This means that 51.7% of the variance is accounted for by the six predictor variables when taken together. The significance of the composite contribution was tested at $P < .05$. The table also shows that the analysis of variance for the regression yielded an F-ratio of 398.505 (significant at 0.05 level). This implies that the joint contribution of the independent variables to the dependent variable was significant and that other variables not included in this model may have accounted for the remaining variance. The null hypothesis was therefore rejected

Table 8; The Relative Contribution of the Independent Variables on the Dependent Variable

Model	Unstandardized Coefficient		Stand. Coefficient	T	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta Contribution		
(Constant)	10.149	.637		15.922	.000
Biometric Tests and Data Registration at Birth	3.821E-02	.010	.069	3.703	.000
Biometric Tests and Data Registration at First Competition	.287	.025	.260	11.404	.000
Examination	.132	.014	.147	9.379	.000
Biometric and Medical Examination Agencies	.296	.036	.171	8.131	.000
Identity Card Issuance	.142	.021	.157	6.872	.000
Cheats Punitive Measures	.115	.020	.138	5.741	.000

Ho 2: Biometric Test and Data Registration at Birth will not have a significant relative contribution to curbing Cheating in Age Group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria

Table 8 above reveals the relative positive contribution of the independent variable, biometric and data registration at birth to the dependent variable of age cheating, expressed as beta weight, viz: Biometric Tests and Data Registration at Birth ($\beta = 0.069$, $t = 3.70$) at 0.05 alpha level. This indicates that the independent variable has a significant positive contribution to the dependent variable. Thus, the null hypothesis was rejected.

Ho 3: Biometric Test and Data Registration at First Competition will not have a significant relative contribution to curbing Cheating in Age-group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria.

Table 8 above (page 78) also indicates that Biometric Test and Data Registration at First Competition has a positive relative contribution to the prediction of Cheating in Age-group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria. The table shows that the independent variable, Biometric Tests and Data Registration at First Competition is expressed as beta weight ($\beta = .260$, $t = 11.40$) at 0.05 alpha level. This is an expression of the fact that the independent variable has a significant relative positive contribution to the dependent variable. Thus, the null hypothesis was rejected.

Ho 4: Use of Medical Examination will not have a significant relative contribution to curbing Cheating in Age Group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal reveals Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria

Table 8 (page 78) reveals the positive relative effect of Use of Medical Examination to the prediction of cheating in age-group Football competitions among Players in the National Sports Commission Zones in Nigeria. The table also shows that the Use of Medical Examination is expressed as beta weight ($\beta = .147$, $t = 9.378$) at 0.05 alpha level. This is an expression of the fact that the independent variable- use of medical examination MRI scan, has a significant positive relative contribution to the dependent variable of cheating in age group football competitions. Thus, the null hypothesis was rejected.

Ho 5: Biometric and Medical Examination Agencies will not have a significant positive relative contribution to curbing Cheating in Age Group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria

Table 8(page 78)indicates the positive relative effect of Biometric and Medical Examination Agencies to the prediction of Cheating in Age-group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria. The table also shows that the Use of Medical Examination is expressed as beta weight ($\beta = .171$, $t=8.131$) at 0.05 alpha level. This implies that the use of empaneled Biometric and Medical Examination Agencies has a significant relative positive contribution to the dependent variable of cheating in age group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria. As a result of this, the null hypothesis was rejected.

Ho 6: System of Identity Card Issuance will not have a significant positive relative contribution to curbing Cheating in Age-Group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria

Table 8 (page 78) reveals the relative effect of System of Identity Card Issuance to the prediction of Cheating in Age-group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria. The table also shows that the Use of Medical Examination is expressed as a beta weight ($\beta = .157$, $t = 6.872$) at 0.05 alpha level. This implies that the independent variable- System of Identity Card Issuance has a positive relative contribution to the dependent variable of Cheating in Age-group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria. The null hypothesis was therefore rejected.

Ho 7: Age Cheats Punitive Measures will not have a significant relative contribution to curbing Cheating in Age-group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria

Table 8 (page 78) reveals the effect of meting out serious punitive measures to the relative prediction of cheating among Football Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria. The table also shows that the Use of Medical Examination is expressed as a beta weight ($\beta = .138$, $t = 5.741$) at 0.05 alpha level. This implies that the independent variable, Cheats Punitive Measures has a relative positive contribution to Cheating in Age-group Football Competitions among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria. The null hypothesis was thus rejected.

Discussion of findings

This study investigated the effectiveness of some administrative strategies in curbing cheating in age-group competitions among football players in the federal ministry of youths and sports development zones in Nigeria. The summary of the responses of the various categories of participants revealed that some administrative strategies are capable of curbing cheating in our sports competitions. The general response in the various sections of the In-Depth Interview (IDI) corroborated the general response of participants in the quantitative analysis. The overall responses of the participants in the study revealed that cheating actually exists in sports, especially in age-group football, and it hinders its development despite its acceptance and popularity across the world. This confirms the revelation of the study about the prevalence of the problem in our sports competitions. This is in agreement with the submission of Kwenaita (2008) that age cheating is a big challenge that needs urgent attention for steady football development.

The findings of this study confirmed the assertion of Salomeja (2012) which affirmed that the problem of cheating in age-group football has become a big source of concern for sports administrators and so should be given a serious attention. Eitzen, (2001), Whitley and Spiegel (2002), MacCabe (2005), Murdock and Anderman (2006), Schwierren and Weichselbaumer (2008) and Salomeja (2012) all agreed that cheating is an offense against the principles of justice and established a link between

competition and cheating. The study also confirmed the opinion of Eitzen (2000) that says cheating in sports today is seen as ‘being strategic’, while illegal acts are accepted as part of competition which explains why it is rampant these days. Ellen (2006) also observed that cheating in college and universities is on the rise. As emphasized by Murdock and Anderman (2006) in their review, little effort has been made in the cheating literature to interpret research findings within a theoretical framework, which impedes theoretical development and progress. Cheating, generally put is a motivated behaviour because it entails the intentional violation of pre-set rules in order to attain an advantage or credit, or to increase the chance of success (Murdock, Hale and Weber, 2001)

Various cases of cheating in age-group football as reported by A.P. News (2000), usa.com (2005), Kwenaita (2008) also confirmed the submission of the participants in the In-Depth Interview (IDI) in which the majority of the participants across the various sections attested to the fact that cheating has actually become part of competition in sports, especially age-group football. Most of their responses confirmed the opinion of Kwenaita (2008) that cheating brings about artificial success acquisition but kills off long-term results. Pannenbourg (2009) also confirmed that many, if not all African countries cheat in youth football as the evidences are too glaring to be ignored. This has led to the mistake of honouring the wrong countries or players by football competition organizers, and has made many countries and people to flourish in ‘fake glories’ via age falsification in age-group competitions. This has indeed made mockery of the rationale behind staging these competitions whereby truly young talented players would have been given the opportunity to showcase their talents.

Looking at biometric and data registration at birth as a tool for curbing cheating in age-group football the study revealed that it has the capacity of doing so as it makes it difficult for anybody to change his/her identity in the future. According to the results of the study, biometric and data registration at birth positively predicted cheating in age-group football competition among players in the federal ministry of youths and sports development zones, Nigeria. This result corroborates the submission of Wayman (2000) which pointed out that biometrics has been accepted by the international community as the most reliable method of positive identification of people. Methods of positive identification are crucial when it comes to supporting national security and countering threats of harm to people or the destruction of

property and infrastructure. This result is also in line with the submission of Mordini and Ottolini (2007) who recommended that biometrics is the best measure to be used to tackle the menace. Fagbenle (2009) also testified to the reliability of biometrics as a potent tool for identification. The result also validates the opinion of Dvorak and Junge (2009) that the use of biometrics in age limit tournaments will ensure a fair competition in youth tournaments.

According to the result of this study, biometric and data registration at first competition is a strong positive predictor variable of cheating in age-group competitions among football players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria. The study, via the results of the In-Depth Interview conducted among the various categories of participants revealed that collection and storage of the biometric data of athletes on their first experience in competitive sports will reduce considerably the incidence of cheating in age-group sports. The result of the quantitative analysis in which most of the participants agreed to introducing biometric tests to all first timers in football tournaments also supports this position.

This confirms the position of some participants in the In-Depth Interview where it was advised that all participants in youth competitions must be pupils of a formal school duly registered, and that anybody without such requirements should not be allowed to take part in such competitions. This is in line with the position of Fagbenle (2009) who opined that grass root youth sports should be channeled through the various levels of academic institutions. Most respondents to the quantitative analysis also confirmed this by agreeing to the statements that ‘there should be a data bank of information on all student athletes from all levels of educational institutions of learning’, and ‘only students duly registered through their schools, and who have participated in inter-school competitions should be allowed to represent a state in National Academics Football Championship’. Studies have also shown that most students entering college today have either cheated in high school or at the very least have known someone who has (David and Luduigson, 1995; Harding, Mayhew, Hendershort, Drinan and Cross, 2000; Finelli and Carpenter, 2007). Cheating is a serious issue that threatens the core values of education (likewise competition). When athletes escape being caught with cheating in their first experience in sports competitions they tend to lose the opportunity to engage in serious training process that improves performance.

Considering the use of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) as a tool for curbing the menace, the variable was as a result of the study proven to be a strong positive predictor of cheating in age-group football competitions. Most of the participants in the In-Depth Interview were of the opinion that the device will reduce cheating in youth football to a considerable level. They believe that if properly applied it will make youth tournaments, especially the U-17 competition more competitive, reliable and give those who are really eligible the opportunity to prove themselves. They all attested to the fact that the use of MRI test has now become a global phenomenon, and is seen as a major way out of fraud in age-group football competitions.

Also in the quantitative analysis, most of the respondents were of the opinion that the device would surely work as the majority of them agreed to the statements that ‘Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI test) is a reliable means of detecting age fraud in football competitions’, and ‘medical examination (MRI test) should be made compulsory for all participants in age-group football competitions’. The result of this study also corroborates the opinion of Dvorak (2009) that MRI is a reliable tool for tackling cheating as it is far more reliable than birth certificates. According to him, the device is 99% reliable and is unlikely to disappoint. The bone-end of the wrists of youth experiences a fusion at age 17 years. So, any player with fused bone-ends of his/her wrists is considered over-aged for under-17 football competition. However, this device is only suitable for U-17 football competitions, he concluded.

The result of this study revealed that for biometric tests and medical examinations to be effective and reliable they must be restricted to certain hospitals and medical centres and handled by experts to ensure their authenticity. Most respondents in both the In-Depth Interview (IDI) and quantitative analysis were of the opinion that only qualified medical practitioners recognized and licensed by the government of the land should be allowed to conduct biometric tests and medical examinations for players to ensure reliability and validity. Many participants were of the opinion that the specialized medical agencies should be easily accessible to players when need be. This result is in line with the opinion of Olawale (2012) that the only way to be sure of the efficacy and authenticity of both the biometric and MRI tests is to give the job to medical experts and establish agencies which will be licensed to do the job and make it as credible as possible. Akanji (2009) was also of the opinion that when the agencies are established and backed by law, their activities

will thus supersede that of any other unapproved medical bodies that dishonest athletes may go to for their nefarious activities. The quantitative analysis also revealed that most of the participants support that any test done outside these specialized agencies which are approved by the government should be instantly rejected.

On the issue of identity card usage as a weapon to fight the battle against age fraud in football the study revealed that the measure can considerably reduce cheating in age-group football. This measure, according to the result of the study, will bring about lasting and unchangeable identities to athletes and make them recognizable anywhere, anytime. Most of the respondents to the questionnaire in the quantitative analysis were of the opinion that a solid system of identity card issuance will ensure that identity falsification becomes a thing of the past. They agreed that if the identity cards are well packaged with fool-proof features which include blood group, genotype, validity period, iris etc to make it a real personal document. Majority of the participants in the In-Depth Interview also supported the idea of instituting reliable agencies that will effectively handle the issuance of the identity cards. They were of the opinion that special government agencies should be put in place to handle the issuance of the cards. They should be strictly monitored by people of proven integrity. This is in line with the opinion of Moss (2010) that biometric details should be included in the identity card. In this vein, nobody will be able to manipulate it to claim an identity that is not his own in order to have his way. It also supports the position of Fagbenle (2009) that the identity card for youth tournaments should be specially designed in a manner that it will be difficult to adulterate. The identity cards should be made in conjunction with biometric experts and the agencies conducting these types of tests to be able to confirm the data given to them by the athletes.

The study also established that meting out serious punishment on age cheats is a strong relative positive predictor variable of cheating in age-group competitions among football players in the national sports commission zones in Nigeria. It showed that meting out various categories of punishments on age cheats will help in reducing to a considerable level the prevalence of age cheating in football competitions. Most of the participants in the In-Depth Interview are in support of issuing out various categories of punishments to perpetrators of the act. They believe that if offenders are seriously dealt with it will surely act as deterrent to others who may be thinking of following suit. Also in the quantitative analysis, majority of the participants agreed to

stringent punishments for offenders. Eccles (1987) and Salomeja (2012) were of the opinion that sport has turned to a cruel field of fight full of aggression and exploitation when everything is reduced to winning at all costs, while treating the sportspeople as victory-producing machines. Victories are often strived to achieve at the expense of a sportsman's reputation, health, security or even life. As such, there should be punitive measures to checkmate this act

The result also corroborates a model put up by Murdock and Anderman (2006) in which the would-be cheat asks selves three questions: (i) 'What are my achievement goals?' (ii) 'Can I do this?' (iii) 'What are the costs associated with cheating?' Simply put, these questions are pointing to; (i) goals (ii) expectations (ii) costs. They explained that a student with strong performance goals, low self-efficacy, and low outcome expectations would be expected to be more motivated to cheat than the one with strong mastery goals, high self-efficacy and positive outcome expectations. Using this model as a yardstick, before deciding to cheat, an athlete will consider the third and final question- what are the costs associated with cheating? This is most likely when there are serious punitive measures put in place for offenders. Using an expectancy-value framework of Eccles (1987) athletes will most likely weigh the costs associated with cheating against the expected values of achieving their dastardly acts. Murdock and Anderman (2006) opined that two costs that athletes would think of when considering whether to cheat or not are: (i) The cost of getting caught and punished; and (ii) Having to view themselves negatively. If athletes are able to minimize these two types of costs cheating is more likely to occur. In contrast, if they perceive that the costs outweigh the perceived gains, cheating would be less likely to occur. What this means is that if athletes are aware of the stringent measures against fraud in age-group football competitions, they are most likely to think twice before venturing into it.

The findings of this study revealed that each of the independent variables are relative positive predictors of cheating in age-group competitions among football players in the national sports commission zones in Nigeria. It was discovered through the In-Depth Interview conducted across the various sections of participants that biometrics and data registration on every child right at birth may go a long way in reducing to the barest minimum, the prevalence of cheating in our sports meets. If this is done, and a well-packaged and centralized database system is put in place, it will be hard for anybody to give a contrary identity to himself to perpetrate the crime. The

same is also the case for those who had been born before the advent of biometrics taking part in a formally organized football competition for the first time. If all participants are made to go through the tests before they are allowed to compete, it will be difficult for them to lie about their identity. This supports the submissions of Wayman (2000) and Fagbenle (2009) that the application of biometrics is the way out of identity problems.

The results also revealed that conducting medical examinations (MRI tests) is a strong relative positive predictor variable of cheating in age-group sports. It was found out that if this device is used to screen players in U-17 competitions it may reduce considerably the prevalence of cheating in our age-group sports meet. This confirms the postulation of Amesiemaka (2012) that MRI tests will curb cheating to a large extent in competitions that involve age-group players. He had earlier been vindicated by the fact that more than seventy-five percent (75%) of the Nigerian players for the 2009 U-17 football tournament was rejected by the device. This study has thus confirmed the reliability of the device. It shows that the device, if properly handled will reduce cheating in our age-group football tournaments. It proved that the device will help coaches to make the right choice of players that will be useful in building our future senior teams. Also, the study revealed that conducting biometric and medical tests in empanelled hospitals, instituting a solid identity cards issuance system and the use of punitive measures are all relative positive predictors of cheating in age-group football competitions in the federal ministry of youth and sports development zones, Nigeria.

The results of the study also revealed that all the independent variables have positive joint effects on the dependent variable. According to the findings, 52% of the variance was accounted for by the six predictor variables when taken together. This shows that all the measures jointly predicted positively the dependent variable of cheating in sports. This implies that these measures can work effectively when combined together to tackle the menace of cheating in Nigeria as is the case in Europe and some other parts of the world. The implication of this is that these measures, if properly applied, could be the way out of the problem in question.

Also, the verification of ages of players done by the researcher from the National Population Commission (NPC) revealed that most of the footballers gave wrong information about themselves. Their looks and physiques gave them away. Most of the clubs rely heavily on the signatures of players as a means of identification

coupled with the use of identity cards which are grossly prone to falsifications. Only a few of these clubs make use of iris, fingerprints, voice and gait as means of identification. They do not bother to probe deeper in order to see if the claims of these players were genuine. This makes the football players to have a field day and claim any age that suits their purposes in order to have their way.

Qualitative Presentation of the Thematic Content Analysis on the Administrative Strategies in Curbing Cheating in Age-Group Football Competitions Among Players in the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development Zones in Nigeria

The major responses of stakeholders in football (interviewees) in relation to the question which asked; ‘What is your opinion about the prevalence of cheating in age-group football competitions?’ was that the problem actually exists and is everywhere, especially in Africa and Asia. Here are some excerpts from the In-Depth Interview (IDI) when probed further: *“cheating has actually become a ‘normal’ phenomenon in sports generally, especially in football all over the world and mostly in Africa and Asia. Players now possess two types of age; real age and football age. It’s really sickening.”* Another interviewee, corroborating the opinion of the earlier speaker: *“Cheating is so rampant in sports nowadays. Indeed, it is now considered as part of sports and game. The smarter you are the better.”*

Opinions are rife across the various sections of the interviewees that age cheating in sports is a reality, and is predominant mostly in Africa and Asia. Numerous cases which involved many African and Asian countries were cited by most of the respondents. When notes were compared across the various sections of the interviewee they were all of the opinion that the rationale behind age limit competitions is being made mockery of by the culprits. The opinions also confirm the positive responses of the majority of the respondents to the statements of the quantitative analysis which say; *“cheating in age-group football is real and it is a big problem to football development”*. Most of the respondents agreed to the statements.

On the damage the menace has caused to football development, most of the respondents were of the opinion that the problem has seriously hindered football growth in football most especially in Africa and Asia. When probed further, they were of the general opinion that wrong people have been honoured in the past by FIFA in age limit football competitions. *“Many have achieved fake glories at the expense of*

younger and fitter players who should have taken the centre stage but who have been relegated to the background and their positions have been usurped by the age cheats in fact this monster called cheating must be tackled with utmost seriousness.” One of the respondents retorted. Another respondent added: *“The ‘wounded’ youngsters whose positions have been high-jacked by these miscreants also resort to the same tricks used to edge them out by doing surgical operation to their ages as they get older so that they too may be relevant.”* In his own response, another interviewee stated: *“This menace has really done a big damage to our football and moral standard alike. People no longer think of what to do to develop the sport. Rather, they are merely interested in what and how to make fortunes out of it by every possible means. To fight them, administrators should be prepared for war.”* He declared.

On what the problem has done to the moral development of the youths, a respondent has this to say: *“Our young footballers are being wrongly orientated. Most of them now believe that for them to ‘fall in line’, (be relevant) they must operate with two different ages i.e. real age and official age. They are being made to believe that one cannot make any headway in life in any venture except by being dishonest. This is not doing any good to our moral values. It is a dangerous trend that must be given a high priority.”* He concluded. In agreement with this opinion on the effects of this problem on football development, an interviewee replied saying: *“Cheating in age-group competitions no doubt has drastically affected African and Asian countries’ resolve to ‘catch up’ with their counterparts from Europe and South America in global competitions. It is still the same old story when it comes to world cup tournaments at the senior level as ‘superpower’ nations like Brazil, Germany, Spain, Argentina etc always take the centre stage. Since the inception of the tournament Asia only played once in the semi-final (in 2002), while Africa is still searching for her first semi-final berth since 1930!”*

Another interviewee, in his own response frowned at the inability of the countries regarded as ‘minnows’ in the game to challenge the so-called ‘superpowers’ in high-level global competitive football tournaments: *“It is still the same old story when you pitch countries like Niger, Chad, Sudan, Oman, Liberia, Gabon etc against football giants like Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Spain, England etc. The outcomes are always predictable.”* he retorted. In another response, an interviewee frowned at the rate at which our ‘stars’ fizzle out so fast after shining so brilliantly in world age limit tournaments organized by FIFA and securing ‘lucrative’ contracts in Europe. In his

words: *'We have an inexhaustible list of 'fine' footballers who have done Nigeria proud in various FIFA organized age limit tournaments but who ended up in obscurity shortly after. This is so because most players that represent us in these tournaments always cut their ages by five to ten years. By the time they play for between three to five years, they are done. So, you cannot eat your cake and have it!'*

This particular response is in agreement with the quantitative data in which most of the participants agreed with the statement that: "Many players have 'football ages', apart from their real ages i.e. 'official ages' and 'real ages'. Another participant, a sports journalist, in his response, also attested to the fact that some players and nations had been wrongly honoured in the past. Here are some excerpts from his response: *"Many players have successfully tricked FIFA to honour them for feats they achieved through fraudulent means. They have indeed made mockery of the whole idea behind staging these competitions. This is a battle we must all join hands to fight to salvage our football from destruction"* he stated. This is a confirmation of the response of majority of the participants who agreed with the statement: "Many footballers and nations have won fake glories via age falsifications". When notes were compared across the various sections of the interviewees, there was no distinct difference in the respondents' opinion about the issue.

On the negative effect this trend has had on many young players, virtually all the respondents in the In-Depth Interview agreed that many younger players had been denied their chances of playing for the country at the global level via the activities of the age cheats. Here are some of the responses of the interviewees when probed further: *"Most of these youngsters, after being denied of the chance to play for their country at the right age also resort to doing surgical operations to their ages for them to be able to 'fall in' and play for their country."* In another response: *"I don't believe that these youngsters are alone in this business. Most of them are being urged on by parents, coaches and even some sports administrators. So, how do we stop the menace?"* All these confirm the positive responses of most of the participants to the statement in the quantitative analysis that: "Activities of the age fraudsters have made it difficult for our younger players to transit to the senior national team and *"Some coaches, parents and even so-called sports administrators do collaborate to encourage cheating in age-group football"*

On biometric and data registration at birth and at first competition, most of the participants in the In-Depth Interview opined that if there could be a solid database

system whereby all records of birth will be stored with full details of each child is biological traits. This will make it difficult for a person to alter any information about his/her identity in the future. Almost all the respondents in the In-Depth Interview agreed that the database system should be centralized and made easily accessible anywhere. An interviewee, a veteran sports administrator advised that biometric and data registration should be done from birth and the information of every born child kept in a reliable database system. He stressed further; *“The school system should be involved in this. All newly registered pupils should always ask for the bio-data of every child from birth before registration. Sports administrators should start their scouting for talents from the schools.”* In his response, another interviewee also believed that: *“If there is a well-organized database system whereby all the information about any sportsman will be easily accessed anywhere, anytime, then all problems relating to identity will be a thing of the past. The usual rigging via fake identities which is experienced during general elections will also be put to final rest.”* All this corroborates the positive responses of participants in the quantitative analysis where most of them agreed that biometric tests should start from birth.

Also confirming the potency of biometrics and an organized database system as a strong tool for fighting the battle against age fraud in sports, another interviewee said: *“Fingerprints, iris, gait, even voice are unchangeable traits that can be used to track down age cheats and other criminals if properly utilized., Those ‘aged’ footballers will be easily exposed in their mischief. They will not be able to deny having played in a competition several years earlier.* On those who claim not to have reliable records of their dates of birth and those that are taking part in a competition for the first time, most interviewees were in agreement with the fact that the bio-data information of pupils be taken on admission to nursery, primary and secondary schools to forestall any future claim of a different identity. A respondent also advised that: *“Records of competitions that a pupil has taken part in should be kept right from his/her first experience to keep track of the years and events such a child has been involved in sports competitions.*

A respondent, a sportswriter by profession, believes that: *“Education is a necessity that should be made compulsory from the formative years to at least the secondary school level where a child will learn more than merely being able to read and write, but to be able to think positively about how to make the best use of the talents that God has given him/her to better his/her life.”* The respondents generally

agreed that only pupils that are duly registered through their schools, and have taken part in school competitions should be allowed to represent a state in any national competition. These responses corroborate the quantitative data analysis in which most of the respondents agreed with a statement that ‘Only students duly registered through their schools, who have participated in inter-school competitions should be allowed to represent a state in National Academicals Championship.’ Opinions of the various respondents were the same on the issue across the various categories of participants in the In-depth Interview (IDI).

The prevalent reactions of most respondents across board to the In-Depth Interview question that asked: “Do you agree that medical examination (MRI tests) can help to reduce or even stop cheating in age-group football, and how?” was that the device is potent enough to track down age cheats. In his own response to the question, a young player who took part in the interview believed that the system would work out. In his words: *“This is a welcomed development in age limit football in Nigeria as it will at least pave way for we younger players to showcase our talents on a level playground, and not have to compete for shirts against grown up men disguising as kids.”* The device, according to respondents should be made available in every age-related sports meet, especially 0-16 years.

However, some of them believe that MRI test cannot be solely used to tackle the problem of fraud in age-group football. Since the MRI device has limitations, and cannot be used to detect fraudsters in competitions involving players of seventeen years and above, it will be advisable to limit its use to U-16 tournaments and below. This is so because its reliability level stops at age sixteen. In his own response, an interviewee believes that: *Any attempt to use the MRI device in any competition above 17 years will only lead to wrong rejection of players from important tournaments which will amount to a great denial. Besides, the device is not 100 percent reliable even in competitions involving players from 16 years and below.”* In all, most of the respondents agreed that if the device is combined with other measures, it will do a lot in the effort to prevent age cheats from having their way. This is in agreement with the responses in the quantitative data in which the majority agreed to a statement that ‘there should be a law to legitimize the conduct of medical examinations on football players below the age of seventeen before any age limit competition involving them. When notes were compared across the various sections of the interviewees, there was

no notable distinct difference in their responses to the questions asked during the In-Depth Interview.

On the question of who should handle the conduct of the biometric tests and medical examinations, most of the respondents agreed that the exercise should be conducted specialized agencies and experts that are specially and properly screened for the job. All the categories of participants in the In-Depth Interview were of the same opinion that the tests should be handled by a credible set of people and not just anybody who could turn out to be a quack. These tests are so sensitive and of great importance that only honest and experienced experts could handle them without compromising the rationale behind the whole exercise. When probed further on the question, an interviewee advised that the conduct of these tests should be centralized. In his words: *“if care is not taken in the way the tests are handled, just as age-group competitions are being made mockery of, corruption will spoil the show and the outcome will be laughable. The specialized hospitals and medical centres should be made easily accessible to players to avoid unnecessary delays”*

This confirms the quantitative data analysis in which most of the respondents agreed to the statement: ‘Only qualified medical practitioners (government recognized) should be licensed to conduct biometric tests and medical examinations for players to ensure validity and reliability.’ Majority of those interviewed advised that any test conducted outside these empanelled hospitals and medical centres should be regarded as invalid and summarily rejected. When notes were compared across the various sections of the interviewees, there was no distinct difference in their responses to the In-Depth Interview question: ‘who do you think should handle the biometric tests and medical examinations?’ most of them are of the opinion that the assignment should be given to well experienced experts form well screened and licensed medical centres and hospitals. The overall response of players, coaches, sportswriters and sports administrators alike on the In-Depth Interview question which sought their opinion about the workability of a well-organized system of identity card issuance as a reliable weapon in the battle against age fraud in sports was positive. Most of the respondents were confident that if a solid system of identity card issuance was put in place, it would be a strong weapon in forestalling the occurrence of age cheating in our sports meets. When probed further on how this could be achieved they all agreed that the identity cards should be made compulsory for all registered athletes who want to take part in any organized sports completion to be sure of their identity. An

interviewee, in his own response advised that: *“The ID cards should be made as fool-proof as possible so that there may not be room for fake identity.”* Another respondent, supporting this position said: *“There should be a device through which cards will be recognized and fake ones easily detected. To be sure of its reliability, the identity cards should contain date of birth, date of issuance, genotype, blood group, fingerprints validity period etc. This will make it a herculean task for anybody trying to produce its fake”.*

These responses correspond with the quantitative data in which the majority of the respondents agreed to the statement that: ‘Government should constitute a body issuing authentic identity cards to national athletes with fool-proof measures.’ This implies that a solid identity card issuance system will in no small measure help in the war against age fraud in sports. If properly applied, it will make it difficult for any athlete to use a fake identity card as a passage into a competition he/she does not qualify to take part in. When notes were compared across the various sections of the interviewees there was no distinct reaction to the issue of identity cards issuance. All agreed that it will work perfectly if well handled.

On the issue of punitive measures against age cheats, the prevalent reaction of participants in the In-Depth Interview to the question of how to punish any sportsman caught in the trade of cheating was that the culprits should not be allowed to go scot free. This is so because many young players who would have fared well in the age limit competitions and subsequently started brilliant careers have had their dreams shattered by the activities of the age fraudsters. The damage they cause to sports development is quite immeasurable. The respondents suggested various categories of punishments which they felt could discourage or scare away any would-be age cheat and his/her collaborators from our sports competitions. When asked in the In-Depth Interview about how punitive measures could be applied to deter others from venturing into such acts in the future, an interviewee opined that there should be a special body treating various cases of age fraud in sports. In his words: *“Government should setup a body that will see to it that all age cheats are brought to book. The body should consist of seasoned, tested, trusted and disciplined sports administrators with impeccable records.”*

In another response respondent recommended that any coach or sports administrator found to have aided and abetted cheating in age-group competitions should be given an outright ban. In his words: *“It is a shameful thing to find any*

coach or sports administrator to be a collaborator in a case of cheating in sport. Their actions will only encourage more people to cheat since they are sure of getting away with it at the expense of the honest ones. An interviewee, a young footballer was so furious that he recommended an outright ban without any option of fine for any coach or administrator found guilty of this crime. Quoting him: *“Any coach or sports administrator that is found out to be involved in this shameful act should be banned for life and his license revoked. Many young players have had their careers nipped in the bud via these dastardly acts,”* He retorted.

Some respondents also suggested that those guilty of cheating as a crime should be stripped of whatever laurels they may have won through these fraudulent means before being severely punished. In one of the responses an interviewee advised that if people are aware of the fact that any day their mischief is discovered, no matter how long ago the crime has been committed, the laurels they won will be withdrawn and their personalities disgraced. An interviewee, in his own response opined that: *“Any player caught should be made to pay a heavy fine that he/she will find extremely difficult to raise. All this and other severe measures will make any would-be age fraudster from perpetrating the act.”* When notes were compared across the various categories of respondents there was no distinct difference in their comments. All this and other similar positions tally with the positive responses recorded from the various statements in the quantitative data analysis where they mostly agreed to severe punishments recommended for cheats in age-group football.

The measures generally put in place by States Football Association (SFAs) as instructed by the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) for screening players in age-group competitions were biometric components like signatures, fingerprints, iris, voice, gait and identity card issuance. The medical examinations (MRI tests) are poorly conducted since they are not fully considered for screening. The NFF barely monitors the SFAs in the conduct of these tests, so the results are grossly unreliable most times.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study was out to investigate the administrative measures in curbing age cheating in age-limit football competitions among players in the federal ministry of youth and sports development zones in Nigeria. Thus, this chapter talks about the summary, the conclusion and the recommendations of the whole study.

Summary

Sport is a microcosm of the society. Its role in building character and developing positive qualities like self-discipline, honesty, dedication, fair-play spirit, leadership traits and so on cannot be overemphasized. Competition is an attempt to win or gain something which another person or other people are also trying to win at the time. Sports competitions are designed to promote all-round development via a true test of ability. Competition is a necessity for improvement in performance. Winning is a key factor in any competition. The joy, fame, money, satisfaction, fulfillment, ego boosting among others which victories in competition brings tend to make participants to explore all possible (including crooked) means to achieve their 'ultimate' aim-winning.

Cheating in sports has become a regular feature in every competition, and this has posed a big problem to administrators for many years. Indeed, cheating has become part of competition and is now regarded as another way of proving one's level of smartness. This is a serious problem as it hinders sports development in no small measure. Cheating in age-group football, which is the main focus of this study has become a global problem which has adversely affected football development, most especially in Africa and Asia. In spite of the efforts of the world football ruling body, FIFA to bridge the gap between the countries just coming up in the game of football (minnows), and highly developed football nations like Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Spain, England, and so on, the story is still the same. All the various categories of age-group competitions organized by FIFA to achieve its aims and objectives have met with brick-wall due to the activities of age fraudsters.

As a result, this study focused extremely on independent variables such as biometric and data registration both at birth and at first competition, use of medical examination (MRI test), use of formidable system of identity card issuance, imposition of punitive measures and examined if and how they can help in

curbingcheating in age-group football competitions among players in the federal ministry of youths and sports development zones in Nigeria. These measures worked remarkably well in Europe and some other continents. The researcher was out to see if it would equally do so in Nigeria and Africa as a whole.

Descriptive survey research design was adopted for this study. Multi-stage sampling procedure was used to select two thousand two hundred and forty-five (2,245) participants which spread across the sampled twenty (20) states that fall within five (5) of the six (6) federal ministry of youths and sports development zones in Nigeria. The participants included players, coaches, sports administrators and sportswriters within the sampled zones. Questionnaires of modified Likert-type summated rating and In-Depth Interview (IDI) on administrative strategies in curbing cheating in age-group football were used as the research instruments for this study.

The data analysis of the study was done using frequency counts, percentages, means and standard deviation for the demographic data while the Pearson Moment Correlation Coefficient (PPMC) was used to answer research question 1 and qualitative thematic content analysis for research question 2. Thematic content analysis was used to analyze the In-Depth Interview (IDI) and the inferential statistics of regression analysis was used to test the set hypotheses at a 0.05 level of significance. All the independent variables-biometric and data registration both at birth and at first competition, medical examination, solid identity card system, punitive measures had significant positive contributions to curbing cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the federal ministry of youths and sports development zones, Nigeria.

Conclusion

At the end of the study, it was found that cheating is a problem in age-group football competitions in Nigeria, and it plays a big role in hindering the game's, and sports development as a whole. It established the prevalence of identity problem in football competitions globally, most especially in Africa and Asia. It was discovered that the administrative measures put in place by both the State Football Associations (SFAs) and the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) were not enough to curb the menace of age cheating in football competitions in Nigeria due to the way the measures have been applied. The approach gave room for loopholes which both the clubs and the players alike have exploited to their advantage. The biometric and data

registration approach has not been properly applied and has been left in the hands of the clubs. The total reliance on the data submitted by the clubs has allowed for mass manipulations. It was also revealed that administrative strategies like biometric and data registration both at birth and at first competition can significantly reduce or put a stop to cheating in age-group football competitions among players in the national sports commission zones in Nigeria. Medical examination (MRI tests), solid identity card issuance system and punitive measures are all independently and jointly capable of significantly curbing cheating in age-group football competitions. The measures, if adequately and properly applied, according to the findings of this study, will go a long way in reducing considerably the prevalence of cheating in age-group football competitions among players. These measures have worked effectively well in Europe and some other continents of the world and so can equally help in Africa and Asia as well.

The result of this study also revealed that use of medical examination (MRI tests) will be a strong panacea to the problem of cheating in age-group football competitions involving young players in the zones under study. However, this can only be used for U-17 football tournaments only since its reliability stops there. Also based on the empirical data of this study, it was deduced that instituting a formidable system of identity card issuance will also help in the fight this problem. It was also found out that establishing well-equipped medical examination agencies to conduct tests will help in checking cheating in our age-group sports meets.

Recommendations

As a result of the findings of this study, and the conclusion drawn, the following recommendations were made:

1. Cheating is a stigma that takes out the shine and credibility from the real ideas behind competitive sports, and should be given a serious attention by sports administrators. There must be total participation by all in waging a total war against the menace of cheating in age-group sports.
2. Biometric and data registration should be done for every child and stored in a database system which can be easily accessed anytime, anywhere.
3. There should be a data bank of information on all student athletes at all levels of educational institutions of learning.

4. For all that were already born before the advent of biometric test and data registration and so have no reliable records of birth, the test should be conducted for them at their first appearance in any age-group competition and stored in a database system for future reference.
5. Medical examinations (MRI tests) should be conducted for all participants in U-17 football competitions. This should be restricted to this category as it will not work in other categories of age-group tournaments.
6. The medical examination should be conducted twice or more to be doubly sure and avoid undue rejection of legible participants in age-group football competitions.
7. Government should establish standard and well-equipped medical centres and hospitals for the purpose of conducting the biometric tests and medical examinations (MRI tests)
8. Government should enact a law which will make education a must for all children, and ensure that the biometric data of all school children are collected and stored in a reliable database system.
9. All age-group football (and other sports) competitions should be channeled through the school system. Only the children who are duly registered in a school should be considered for such competitions.
10. There should be a formidable system of issuing a fool-proof identity card with full data and validity period in place. All athletes should be well screened and present their authentic I.D. cards before they can take part in any competition whatsoever. The issuance of these cards should be centralized.
11. A special government agency should be set up to monitor and control the I.D. card issuance. The card should be made from materials that will be extremely difficult to fake.
12. There should be categories of punishments clearly spelt out for offenders in age limit competitions. Any player caught with falsified documents as first offender should be banned from taking part any organized competition for a period of two years. If caught again, he/she should be given a five-year ban. The punishment should increase as long as the culprit continues to commit the crime repeatedly.
13. The application of the measures should be properly handled and monitored to guard against any loophole that the culprits always exploit to perpetrate the act of cheating.

14. Identity cards issued by the various football clubs should be properly monitored and regulated by the necessary bodies.

Contribution to Knowledge

The issue of cheating in sports has become a global phenomenon, and is posing a serious threat to its development, especially football. Cheating has become a common feature in age-group football competitions among youths which has now made it a normal practice. As a result, the idea behind staging age-group football competitions is being made a mockery of. It has been able to show the amount of damage this fraudulent practice has done to sports development. Therefore, this study was embarked upon to provide solution to the problem, and see how far we can go in reducing the problem to the barest minimum.

This study has been able to identify the various tricks used by age fraudsters in pulling a fast one on unscrupulous sports organizers. It has given an insight on how this problem can be tackled and reduced to the barest minimum. Some administrative measures have been identified and recommended via the outcome of this study for a possible solution to the problem of age cheating in sports.

The study has also contributed to the body of existing knowledge and literature as it established that if there can be fool-proof measures adequately put in place against any act of mischief and cheating in our sports competitions, there will be a tremendous reduction in the number of cases and offenders alike. This will make all competing athletes to sit up and work hard to actually earn whatever laurels they win at sports competitions.

Suggestions for Further Studies

The following suggestions are made for further studies;

1. There is need to comprehensively expand the scope of this study to cover the whole continent of Africa. This could be achieved by various researchers working on the same topic in different countries of Africa.
2. Further studies should focus their investigation on other sports other than football and see the extent of damage the practice has done to sports development generally.

3. More independent variables, apart from the ones already investigated in this study should be generated and tested against age cheating to further help in tackling the problem.
4. This study focused purely on male footballers. It will be a welcome development if the research could be extended to female footballers too in order to see how much involved they too are in the issue.

REFERENCES

- Adeyanju, F. B. 1986. *Nigerian woman and sport participation; stereotypical misconceptions, reality and future projections*. In Adedoja, T. A. and Mschelia, B. S. (Eds.) *Psycho-social perspectives of sports*. Maiduguri: Fourth Dimension Publishers Limited. p27
- AFC propose MRI solution for age cheat issue. Retrieved from: www.footballasia.net. On: 13th April, 2011.
- Aggrey, J. 2003. "We cheated in the past"
Retrieved from: <http://www.ghanaweb.com>. On: 24th May, 2011
- Akanji, J. J. 2009. The league for the highest bidder. In *Weekend Soccer Star*, 14th March.
- Amesiemaka, A. 2009. "I have documentary evidence" *Supersport*
Retrieved from: http://www.supersport.com/football/article.African_online.PMNews. On: 13th April, 2011.
- Amok, I. 2006. "Age cheating as serious as doping, says IAAF. Retrieved from: www.espn.com. On: 4th April, 2011
- Andrew, G. 2009. Football age, real age, and the meaning of age in africa; world soccer culture. Retrieved from: www.fifa.com. On: August 11th, 2009
- Asagba, B.O. 1998. Physical education and the community. *Journal of the National Council for Exceptional Children*. 4.2: 52-55
- Asagba, B.O. 2004. "Modern olympics: a far cry from the ancient olympics"
multidisciplinary approach to human kinetics and health education. Ibadan. Codat Publications. pp29-34.
- Asagba, B. O. 2004. Athletic administration. Ibadan Educational Research and Study Group. Ibadan. Codat Publications. p23.
- Barez, A. 2008. Sport as a school of life: "The mental and physical characteristics, developmental objectives and coaching methods of youth sport." Copyright © *International Labour Organization*. 2nd March.
- BBC Sport. 2003. "Age cheat team disbanded" Retrieved from: www.bbc.com/sport. On: 13th April, 2011.
- Becker, G. 1957. The economics of discrimination. Chicago. University of Chicago Press. pp66-75.
- Becker, G. 1968. Crime and punishment: an economic approach. *Journal of Political Economy*. 76. 2:23-38
- Boston, M. A. and Houghton, M. 1976. American Heritage Dictionary. New College Edition. Michigan. Academic Press. p16.

- Brande, S.C.; Henning, L. M. and Lambert, M. I. 2007. *Accuracy of bone assessment for verifying age in adolescents-application in sport*. MRC/UCT. Research Unit for Exercise Science and Sports Medicine, Department of Human Biology. University of Cape Town.
- Bucher, C. A. and Krotee, A. J. 2002. *Management of physical education sports*. Boston. McGraw-Hill Companies. p211.
- Buken, B.; Safak, A. A.; Yacici, B.; Buken, E. and Mayda, A.S. 2007. "Is the assessment of bone age by the greulich-pyle method reliable at forensic age estimation for turkish children?" *Forensic Science International*. 173. 2-3: 146-153
- Bunn, D. N., Steven, B., Caudill and Daniel, M. G. 1992. Crime in the classroom: an economic analysis of undergraduate student cheating behaviour. *Journal of Economic Education*. 23. 3:45-57
- CAF-on-line.com 2011. "CAF ready to showcase success of mri to the rest of the world." 14 January, 2011. Retrieved from: www.caf-on-line.com. On: 13th April, 2011.
- Carr, H. Y. 2004. "Field gradients in early m.r.i." *Physics Today* (American Institute of Physics). 57.7:75
- Casper, J.M. 2006. *Social influence on norm-breaking behaviour in junior tennis players*. Unpublished manuscript. *The Qualitative Report*. 11. 1:22-28
- Cavoukian, A. and Stoianov, A. 2007. *Biometric encryption: a positive-sum technology that achieves strong authentication, security and privacy*. Information and Privacy Commissioner/Ontario, Toronto, p48. Retrieved from: <http://www.ipc.on.ca/image/Resources/bio-encryption>. On: 6th February, 2008.
- Cizek, G.J. 2003. *Detecting and preventing classroom cheating*. Thousand Oaks, C. A.: Corwin.
- Claudio, T. 2000. Values in sports; elitism, nationalism, gender equality and the scientific manufacturing of winners (ethics and sport). New York. Taylor and Francis Press. p52-53
- Clifford, K.O. 1996. College students' perceptions of academic integrity and campus climate at small colleges. (doctoral dissertation, university of Virginia, 1996). *Dissertation Abstracts International*. UMINo. 9708547.
- Corcoran, Kelvin, J. and Julian, B. R. 1987. 'Morality-conscience guilt scale as a predictor of ethical behaviour in a cheating situation among college females' *Journal of General Psychology*. 114.20: 117-123.

- Crouch, J. B. 2009. Gender, sports and the ethics of teammates. 'Towards an outline of a philosophy of sport in the american gain' *Journal of Speculative Philosophy*. New Series. 23. 2: 118-127.
- Damadian, R., Goldemth, M. and Minkoff, L. 1977. "NMR in cancer.xvi, fonar image of the live human body." *Physiological chemistry and physics*.24. 9:97-100.
- Data Protection Commissioner. 2008. *Annual report of the data protection commissioner 2007*.Dublin. Brunswick Press Ltd. p88
- Dvorak, J.; George, J. and Junge, A. 2008. Age determination by magnetic resonance imaging of wrist in adolescent male football players.*British Journal of Sports Medicine*. 25.4:45-52.
- Dvorak,J.; George, J.; Junge, A. 2009. Application of magnetic resonance imaging of the wrist for age determination in international u-17 soccer competitions.*British Journal of Sports Medicine*. 27. 43: 22-34.
- Dvorak, J. 2009. "Detecting overage players using wrist mri: science partnering with sport to ensure fairplay. *British Journal of Sports Medicine*. 27. 43: 56-62.
- Eccles, J.S. 1987 "Gender roles and achievement patterns: an expectancy-value perspective. In J.M. Reisch, L.A. Rossenblum, and S.A. Senders (Eds.), *Masculinity/femininity basic perspectives*.New York.Oxford University Press.p24-28.
- Eccles, J.S. 2005 "Subjective task-value and the eccles et al model of achievement-related choices.In A.J. Elliot and C.S. Dweck (Eds.).*Handbook of competence and motivation*.pp105-121.New York.Oxford University Press.
- Edwards, P. 2012. "An age or change?"
Retrieved from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/piepcward/2011age.htm>.BBC Sports. On:13th April, 2012.
- Eitzen, D. S. 2001. Ethical dilemmas in american sport: the dark side of competition: In D.S. Eitzen (Ed.) *Sport in contemporary society*.New York Watch.p169-179.
- Fagbenle, T. 2009. "Sports cheating and the national moral challenge" Retrieved from:<http://www.nigeriavillagesquare.com/articles/tundefagbenle/sports-cheating-and-the-national-moral-challenge.htm>. On: 11th June, 2013.
- Fasan, C.D. 2004. Guidelines to sports administration and management. Lagos.Beulah Publishers.
- Fashikun, O. 2011.Nigeria to face IAAF age-cheating charge.*National Accord*. 17th May.

- Feinstein, J. 2000. *The majors: in pursuit of golf's holy grail*. Boston: Little Brown and Company p199.
- Filler, A. G. 2010. "The history, development, and impact of computed imaging in neurological diagnosis and neurosurgery: C.T., M.R.I., D.T.I." *and-neurosurgery-ct-mri-and-dti.html* Internet. *Journal of neurosurgery*. 5.7: 55-62.
- Fish, J. and Magee, S. 2003. *101 ways to be a terrific sports parent*. Michigan. Fireside Publishers. p168.
- Ford, R. C. and Woodrow, D. R. 1994. 'Ethical decision making: a review of empiricalliterature' *Journal of Business Ethics*. 6.13: 205-221.
- Gambia disqualified from 2013ayc: three players removed for age fraud. Retrieved from: www.goal.com. On: 13th April, 2011.
- Green, S.P. 2006. *Lying, cheating and stealing: a moral theory of white collar crime*. Oxford. Oxford University Press.
- Greulich, W. W. and Pyle, S. I. 1959. *Radiographic atlas of skeletal development of the hand and wrist*, 2nd edition. Stanford. Stanford University Press.
- Harris, L. and Ogbonna, E 2002. "Exploring service sabotage: the antecedents, types and consequences of frontline deviant anti-service behaviours." *Journal of Service Research*. 4.3: 163-183.
- Hawkey, I. 2009. *Feet of the chameleon: the story of african football*. London. Politico Publishers. p5.
- Hendee, W. R.; Morgan, C.J. 1984. Magnetic resonance imaging part 1-"physical principles" *West, J. Med.* 141. 4: 491-500. Retrieved from: [//www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1021860](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1021860). On: 25th April, 2013.
- Hinshaw, D. S., Bottomley, P. A. and Holland, G. N. 1977. "Radiographic two-section: image of the human wrist by nuclear magnetic resonance. *Nature* 270(5639): 722-723. Retrieved from: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport2hi/football/africa/8223125.stm>. On: 20th January, 2014.
- Horrolicks, J. 2009. "Gambia admits to failed age tests" BBC Sport. Retrieved from: www.bbc.com/sport. On: 13 April, 2011.
- International Civil Aviation Organization Technical Advisory Group (I.C.A.O. T.A.G.) 2004. *biometrics deployment of machines readable travel documents*. M.R.T.D./N.T.W.G. Technical Report Version. 2: p60.
- International Biometrics Group. 2007. *Liveness detection in biometric systems*. International Biometric Group, New York. Retrieved from: <http://www.biometricgroup.com/reports/public/reports/liveness.htm>. On: 12th October, 2012.

- International Biometric Group. 2007. *Generating images from templates*. International Biometric Group, New York. Retrieved from: <http://www.biometricgroup.com/reports/public/reports/liveners.htm>. On: 23rd January, 2014.
- Jack, R. F. and Norman, E. W. 2000. *How to design and evaluate research in education*. 4th ed. Boston. McGraw Hill Publishers. p648
- Jain, A. K., Ross, A., and Prabhakar, S. 2004. An introduction to biometric recognition. I.E.E.E. *Transactions on circuits and systems for video technology*. 14. 1: 4-20
- Jain, A. K., Ross, A and Pakanti, S. 2006. Introduction to biometrics- a tool for information security. I.E.E.E. *Transactions on information forensics and security*. 1. 2: 125-143.
- Jain, A. K. Ross, A.; Uludag, U. 2005. Biometric template security Challenges and solutions. *Proceedings of the european signal processing conference (E.U.S.S.I.P.C.O. '05)* Antalya, Turkey. 4. 11: 24.
- Jain, A. K., Nandakumark and Nagar, A. 2008. Biometric template security. E.U.R.A.S.I.P. *Journal on Advances in Signal Processing. Special issue advanced signal processing and pattern recognition models for biometrics*. 2. 1: 17.
- Jeds, H. F. 2003. "No nobel price for whining" *New York Times*. 20¹⁰-2003. Pankanti (eds) *Biometric personal identification in networked society*. Dordrecht. Kluwer Press. p1-42.
- Joseph, D. 2006. Sports build character? *Journal of College and Character*. 7. 3: 66-70.
- Kant, I. 1992. Grounding for the Metaphysics of morals: in Michael L. Morgan (ed.) *Classics of moral and political theory*, Indianapolis. Hackett Publishing Company.
- Keddy, P. A. 2001. 'Competition' 2nd Ed. Kluwer Dordrecht. Dordrecht. Kluwer Academic Publishers. p552.
- Kerkvliet, J. J. and Charles, L. S. 1999. Can we control cheating in the classroom? *Research in economic education*. 30. 4: 22-31.
- Kerlinger, F. N. and Lee, H.B. 2000. *Foundation of behavioural research* 4th ed. New York. Holt, Rinochert and Winston Inc. p65
- Kohlberg, L. 1989. *Approach to moral education*. New York. Columbia University Press.
- Kohlberg, L. 1969. 'Stage and sequence: the cognitive development approach to

- socialization' In; the handbook of situation theory and research. Ed. D. A. Goslin. Chicago. Rand McNally.p347-480.
- Kum, D. and Wirtz, J. 2003. Consumer cheating on service guarantees. *Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science*. 32. 2: 159-175.
- Kum, D. and Wirtz, J. 2003. "Determinants of unethical and opportunistic behaviour of consumers" The NUS Business School Research Paper Series. 16. 42: 2003-2039.National University of Singapore.
- Kwenaite, T. 2008. Age cheating has come back to haunt us. Retrieved from: <http://www.supersport.com/football/blogs/themas-kwenaite/age-cheating-has-come-back-to-us>. On: 13th April, 2011.
- Lacey, D. 2007. It takes a bad loser to become a good winner. *The Guardian*. p15.
- Laura, H. 2004.Perspectives in business ethics. 3rded. New York : McGraw Hill.
- Lauterbur,P. C. 1973. "Image formation by induced local interactions: examples of employing nuclear magnetic resonance" *Nature*.242. 15394:190-191.
- Lauterbur, P. C. 1974. "Magnetic resonance zeumatography":*pure and applied chemistry*. 7. 40: 149-157.
- Levy, D. 2001. "Two magnetic cheaper one: Stanford engineers construct an inexpensive M.R.I. scanner" Stanford University. Retrieved from: <http://11news.stanford.edu/pr01mn321html> On: 26th April,2012.
- Lewis, C. S. 1952. Mere christianity. New York: Harper Collins p3-4.
- Little League investigating: si uncovers document that disputes almonte's agr. AP. 27 August, 2001.
- Loland, S. 2002. Fair play in sport: a moral norm system. London.Routeledge.
- Lovemore, D 2012.*ZIFA boss steps into age-cheating fray*. Chronicles. 19 September, 2012. Retrieved from:www.fifa.com. On: 7th January, 2013.
- Luechenger, R.; Duru, F.; Candinas, R.; Boesiger, P.; 2004. Safety considerations for magnetic resonance imaging of pacemaker and I.C.D. patients" *HerzschrittmachertherapieundElectro-physiologie*:15.73:1-5
- MacWilliams, B. 2003. "News and views: russian claims first in magnetic imaging" *Nature* 426(6965):375. "Best regards to alfred nobel."Retrieved from:http://www.inankairulenglish/article_36919.html. On: 16th October, 2016.
- Mangena, F. 2010. Confounding Forces in the eradication of moral poverty in higher learning institutions: the case of the university of zimbabwe students. *Zimbabwe Journal of Educational Resarch*.19. 2: 127-137.

- Mbih, J. T. 2015. The ethical and social implications of age-cheating in africa. *International Journal of Philosophy*. 3. 1: 1-11.
- McCabe, D. L. Trevino, L. K. and Butterfield, K. D. 2001. 'Cheating in academic institutions': a decade of research into academic dishonesty. 22.12: 122-135
- McCabe, D.L. and Bowers, W.J. 1996. "The relationship student cheating and college fraternity of sorority membership" *NASPA Journal* 6.33: 280-291.
- McIntosh, P. 1977. Fairplay: ethics in sports and education. London: Heinemann.
- McNamee, M. 2007. 'Sports, ethics and philosophy: context, history, prospects' 'sports ethics and philosophy 1. 1: 36-42.
- Most, C. M. 2004. Towards privacy enhancing applications of biometrics. *Digital i. d. world*. June/July 2004: p18-20.
- Nagin, Daniel, S.; James, B. Rebitzer; Seith S. and Lowell, J. T. 2002. Monitoring, motivation and management: the determinants of opportunistic behaviour in a field experiment; *An American Economic Review*. 92: 4.
- National Science and Technology Council (N.S.T.C.) Sub-committee on biometrics (2006). *The National Biometrics Challenge*. Washington. p19.
- Nigeria-u-17-captain-fortune-chukwudi-is-25-forever-in-nigeria. Retrieved from: www.goal.com/en/news/89/Africa/2009. On: 1st May, 2014.
- Okeleji, O. 2009. "Nigeria rejects fifa age scam. BBC Sport. Retrieved from: www.bbc.com/sport. On: 13th April, 2011.
- Olawale, A. 2012. "Fifteen golden eaglets fail fifa mri age test." *SoccerStar*. Friday, 20th July.
- Onifade, A. 1995. Developing sports in higher institution in Nigeria: problems and future directions. *Journal of National Institute of Sports*. 1. 11: 33-41.
- Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (O.E.C.D.) 2004. Working party on information security and privacy. Biometric based technologies. Paris. p66.
- Orum, J.P. 2001. Children and competitive sports. *Sociology of The Sport* 655.01: 3-15. Winter Quarter.
- Oyeniya, P.O. 2002. The role of disabled sports participation by the disabled in South-western nigeria. A doctoral thesis, University of Ibadan.
- Parkhouse, B.L. 1996. *The management of sports*. Boston. McGraw-Hill Companies Inc.

- Peacefm-on-line. 2011. Age cheating in Ghana-the bane of football academies trying to produce the next michael essien and kwedwo asamoah.Retrieved from: www.goal.com. On: 12th October, 2013.
- Piers, E. 2011. "An age of change"
Retrieved from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bligs/piersedwards/2011/01/age.htm>.
BBC Sports. On: 13th April, 2011.
- P.M. News. 2012. Deadly virus that shouldn't infect nigeria's female football. *Teamkickoff*. 17thFebruary.
- Raternoster, R. and Sally, S. 1996. "Sanctions , threats and appeal to morality. testing a rational choice model of coeporate crime"*Law and Society Review*. 30. 3: 549-583.
- Ricky, T. 1989. *The Hundred Yard Lie: The corruption of college football and what we can do to stop It*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press.
- Robert, L. S. 2003. *Fairplay: the ethics of sports*. London. Westview Press. p16.
- Roberts, S. 2007. 'The road to success is paved by cheating' *New York Times*.Retrieved from:www.nytimes.com. On: 8 April.
- Sadesh, B. 2009. Age cheating rampant in african football. Radio Netherlands Worldwide.Retrieved from: www.nytimes.com.9th April, 2011.
- Saraki, S. 2011. *Nigerian football: white lies in dark times*. Lagos. Think Africa Press.
- Schab, F. 1991. Schooling without learning; 30 years of cheating in high school; adolescence. 26. 15: 839-847.
- Salomeja, Z. 2012. *Cheating in sports: prevalence and prevention problem: an unpublished doctoral dissertation submitted to Vilnius University*.
- Schwieren, C. and Weichselbaumer, D. 2008. Does competition enhance performance or cheating? A laboratory experiment.*Journal of Economic Psychology*.3. 31: 241-253.
- Sheil, W. C. 2012. Magnetic resonance imaging (m.r.i.scan)". Retrieved from: http://www.medicinenet.com/mri_scan/article.htm. On: 27th April, 2012.
- Sidney Morning Herald. 2003. "The man who did not win" "Scanand Deliver"*Wall Street Journal*.Retrieved from:<http://opinionjournal.com/taste/?id=1100018>. On: 25th March, 2013.
- Siendentop, D. 2002. *Junior sport and the evolution of sport cultures*.*Journal of Teaching in Physical Education*.21.4: 392-401.
- Silverman, S. 2011. Cheating in youth sports.Reviewed by Craig Sanders.Retrieved from:www.livestrong.com. On: 14th June, 2011.

- Snijder, M. 2007. *Report on working security and privacy in large scale biometric systems*. European Biometric Forum, Dublin. p28.
- Spearman, A. 2007. "Fernando is just a cheat" Retrieved from: <http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/sport/article293761> London:thesun.co.uk On: 21st March, 2010.
- Steve, S. 2011. Cheating in youth sports. C.N.N.S.I.: almonte's team forfeits L.L.W.S. victories. *New York Times*. 17th April.
- Steven, L. and Stephen, J. D. 2005. *Freeconomics: a rogue economist explores the hidden side of everything*. William Morrow/Happer Collins. ISBN 0-06-073132-x.
- Stuart, P. G. 2006. 'Lying, cheating, and stealing': a moral theory of white collar crime. Oxford. Oxford University Press.
- Swank, N. and Van-Eekeren, F. 1998. "Sport and international development: a symposium report": in a. knoppers and a. anthonissen (eds) *The business of Sports*. Making sense of diversity in organizing sport. 17.2: 45-50.
- Tang, J. and Zuo, J. 1997. 'Profile of college examination cheaters' *College Student Journal*. 7. 31: 340-346.
- Tang, Y. 2010. Chinese athletics officials: no more age cheats. *China Daily*. Retrieved from: www.bbc.com. On: 11th April, 2011.
- Tanner, J. M.; Whitehouse, R. H. and Marshal, W. A. 1975. *Assessment of skeletal maturity and prediction of adult height (T.W.2Method)* New York: Academic Press.
- Tara, S and Ayn, R. 2006. Normative ethics: the virtuous egoist. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Teah A. B. J. and Yuang, C. T. 2007. Cancellable biometrics realization with multispace random projections. I.E.E.E. *Transactions on systems, man, and cybermatics* 37. 5: 1096-1106.
- Thieme, M. 2008. *Business potential for gen-key technology*. International Biometric Group, New York. <http://genkeycorp.com>.
- The Guardian. 2010. "Forever young": nigeria football's age-old problem. *The Guardian*. Retrieved from: www.guardiannewspapers.com. On: 12th June.
- The Nation. 2012. Banks and biometrics. Editorial. *The Nation*. Retrieved from: www.thenationnewspapers.com. On: 14th June.
- Thomas, J. R. and Nelson, J. K. 2000. *Research methods in physical activity*, 4th ed. Maryland. Academy Press.

- Tommy, B. 2009. Basic issues in sports ethics; the many ways of cheating. Lewiston, N. Y: Edwin Mellen Press.
- Trevino, L. 1986. Ethical decision making in organizations: 'a person-situation interactionist model' *Academy of Management Review*. 11. 13: 256.
- Uduak, I. 2004. Hooliganism: the achilles' heel of football administration in nigeria. *Multidisciplinary approach to human kinetics and health education*. Ibadan. Codat Publications.
- Uzundu, J. 2012. "Paying the price for age falsification" *Nigerian Newsworld*. Retrieved from: www.nigeriannewsworld.com. On: 8th July.
- Usatoday.com 2005. *Cancseco: steroids made my baseball career possible*: Retrieved from: <http://www.usatoday.com/sports/baseball>. On: 12th April, 2013.
- Van Eekerem, F. 2006.. Coach the coaches onderzoek naar een sportontwikkelings projects: in Venook, R. D., Matter, N. I., Ranmachandran Ungensma, S. E., Gold, G E., Gion, N. Macovski, A., Scott, G. C., and Conolly, S. M. 1957. "Pre-polarized magnetic resonance imaging around metal orthopaedic implants. *Magnetic resonance in medicine* (Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine) 56. 1:177-186. Retrieved from: <http://www.nlm.gov/pubmed>. On: 26th April, 2012.
- Various cases of fraud in sports: the way out. Retrieved from: <http://www.usatoday.com>. On: 4th April, 2011.
- Wayman, J.L. 2000. Fundamentals of biometric authentication technologies. In J. L. Wayman ed. *National Biometric Test Center Collected Works 1997-2000*. Version 1.2. San Jose
- Watt, D. C. 2003. *Sports management and administration*. New York. Routledge, Taylor and Francis Press.
- Whitley, B.E. and Keith-Spiegel, P. 2002. *Academic dishonesty: an educator's guide*. Mahwah. Frontliners Press.
- Wikipedia. 2001. Little league investigating: si uncovers document that disputes almonte's age. Retrieved from: www.goal.com. On: 27th August, 2011.
- Ziriro, M. 2003. "Unethical practices in rural school sports administration" question and answers session held in July 2003, at Tsakare secondary school, Zimbabwe.
- Zodidi, M. 2011. 'Turning back time' Age cheating in football. The Smart News Service. 14th September, 2011.
- Zuid-Afrikan. 2010. Coach the coaches: researching a sport project in south africa]. Utrecht. C.M.M: University of Utrecht.

APPENDIX A
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, IBADAN
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN KINETICS AND HEALTH EDUCATION
QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE STRATEGIES IN CURBING AGE
CHEATING IN AGE-GROUP COMPETITIONS AMONG FOOTBALL PLAYERS IN
THE NATIONAL SPORTS COMMISSION ZONES, NIGERIA

Dear Respondent,

This questionnaire is designed to examine the administrative strategies in curbing age cheating in age-group competitions among football players in the federal ministry of youth and spors development zones in Nigeria. This is being done in ana attempt to curb the menace of age-cheating in football competitions. It is put in place for purely research purposes. Kindly respond carefully to the items under each sub-heading. Your response will be treated with utmost confidentiality as the questionnaire is designed purely for research work.

Thank you in anticipation of your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Ajala Ayotunde

Section A

- 1 **Name of organization/Ministry:**
- 2 **Age:** 13-15yrs () 15-17yrs () 17-19yrs () 24yrs plus ()
- 3 **Status:**
- | | |
|---|-----|
| Player | () |
| Coach | () |
| Sports Officer | () |
| Secretary, Sports Federation | () |
| Director of Sports | () |
| Member, State Sports Council | () |
| Sports Writers Association of Nigeria (SWAN) member i.e. Journalist | () |
| Chairman, Board | () |

Please tick your choice among the following options:

Strongly Agree (SA) Agree (A) Disagree (D) Strongly Disagree (SD)

A	BIOMETRIC TESTS AND DATA REGISTRATION AT BIRTH QUESTIONNAIRE (BTDBQ)	SA	A	D	SD
1	Biometric tests on every child at birth can put a check on the incidence of age cheating in football.				
2	Fingerprints differ from person to person, regardless of age, and thus can be used to track down age cheats in football.				
3	Fingerprints cannot be changed throughout one's lifetime (are permanent), so, it is reliable in catching up with age cheats.				
4	Biometric traits are a true identity of a person and are unchangeable. They are a proof of the real you.				
5	The use of biometrics will make it difficult for an individual to deny having accessed a physical location or a computer system, or conducted a particular transaction.				
6	Biometric system is faster and more convenient to use, cheaper to implement and manage, and more secure than traditional identification and verification methods.				
7	Biometric tests should be conducted on every child at birth and the data stored for future reference.				
8	Keeping records of births and their biometric traits in a database system will discourage people from attempting to cheat in age-range football competitions.				
9	Records of births together with those of bone biometric tests should be centralized and made easily accessible to sports administrators in age-range football competitions.				
10	Participants in age-grade competitions should be made to bring documents to prove their true identity.				
11	Bio-data registration should be used right from the formative years to choose players in school football competitions.				
12	Outright registration of the bio-data information of a child at birth on the world-wide web will discourage age cheating in sports.				
13	Nobody should be allowed to change any vital information of a child at birth once captured.				
14	Obtaining birth certificate should be made compulsory, declaration of age and document should not be accepted as an alternative since it is prone to fraud.				
B	BIOMETRIC TESTS AND DATA REGISTRATION AT FIRST COMPETITION QUESTIONNAIRE (BDRFCQ)				
15	Participants in football competitions as first timers should be made to go through biometric test and the results properly kept for future reference.				
16	Biometric data of every child should be taken and kept on admission to nursery, primary and secondary schools to forestall any future claim of a different identity.				
17	Government should be furnished with the information about the admission of pupils into both private and public institutions with details.				

18	Records of competitions participated in by a pupil should be kept right from his/her first experience to keep track of the years and events that such a child has participated in.				
19	There should be a data bank of information on all student athletes from all levels of educational institutions of learning.				
20	Only students duly registered through their schools, who have participated in inter-schools competitions should be allowed to represent a state in National Academicals Football Championship.				
21	Education should be made compulsory from the formative to the secondary level so that some people may not claim ignorance and denial of the policy as a result of inability to go to school.				
22	At first competition, footballers should be given registration identity number which must be monitored throughout their career.				
23	There should be a national code guiding the registration of footballers at their first competitions with their records kept.				
	USE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION (MRI TEST) QUESTIONNAIRE (UMEQ)				
24	Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) test is a reliable means of detecting age fraud in football.				
25	Medical examination (MRI test) should be made compulsory for all participants in age-range football competitions.				
26	Human bones stop growing at a certain stage in life and so are reliable in detecting age fraud in age-range football competitions.				
27	DNA tests should be conducted for first-time participants in age-range football competitions since their outcomes are not subject to change.				
28	There should be a law to legitimize the conduct of medical examinations on football players before any age-range competition.				
29	Conducting medical examination for all participants in age-limit football competitions will help coaches in identifying the real budding talents among players.				
30	Medical examination should be conducted for players in all age-range football competitions.				
31	Use of MRI test has now become a global phenomenon and is seen as a major way out of age fraud in football competitions.				
	BIOMETRIC AND MEDICAL EXAMINATION AGENCIES QUESTIONNAIRE (BMEAQ)				
32	The conduct of biometric tests and medical examinations should be restricted to empanelled hospitals and government medical centres only.				
33	Only qualified medical practitioners (government recognized) should be licensed to conduct biometric tests and medical examinations for players to ensure validity and reliability.				
34	The empanelled hospitals and medical centres should be easily accessible and made known to all football players.				
35	Any test conducted in such hospitals and medical centres should always prevail over any other test conducted elsewhere and should be used as a				

	standard.				
36	Medical staff of the empanelled hospitals and medical centres should be specially screened for the assignment.				
E	SYSTEM OF IDENTITY CARD ISSUANCE QUESTIONNAIRE (SIDCIQ)				
37	Government should constitute a body issuing authentic identity cards to national athletes with fool-proof measures.				
38	The identity card issued should be given a stipulated validity period which should be renewed immediately after its expiry.				
39	The identity card issued should contain names, photograph, date of birth, date of issuance, blood group, genotype, validity period etc.				
40	The body issuing the identity cards to football players should work in conjunction with biometric experts in confirming the data supplied to them by football players.				
41	In the renewal of the identity cards for players, there should be no alteration of data which may change their real identity.				
42	In the event of ID card loss, players should be made to pay a nominal fee and get a police report for the issuance of a new copy.				
43	Government should bear fifty percent (50%) of the cost of the identity card production to encourage football players.				
44	Special government agencies should be established to monitor and control the identity card issuance.				
45	The identity card issued should serve as a proof of age for participation and training in age-range football competitions only, and not for any other purpose.				
46	There should be a routine check of the identity cards carried by athletes to ensure their authenticity.				
F	AGE CHEATS PUNITIVE MEASURES QUESTIONNAIRE (ACPMQ)				
47	Government should institute serious punitive measures on age cheats in football competitions.				
48	Any player caught with falsified age documents as first offenders should be banned from participating in organized football competitions for a minimum of two (2) years.				
49	Any football player caught for the second time for age cheating should be given a five-year ban.				
50	Persistent age cheats in football competitions should be permanently banned from representing the country in any category in the future if caught for the third time.				
51	Government should revoke the license of any coach caught aiding and abetting cheating in football competitions.				
52	Age cheating should be treated as a criminal case and those caught should be charged to court to face a possible jail term.				
53	Anybody whose real identity is discovered to be different from what he/she claimed to be should be stripped of any award or laurel won through this fraudulent means.				
54	Names of age cheats should be made a public document to serve as a				

	deterrent to others.				
55	Any team that parades an over-aged player in age-limit competitions should be disqualified instantly and suspended with a heavy fine attached.				
56	A heavy fine should be imposed on any team that parades over-aged players.				
57	Any punishment imposed on teams, players, coaches, administrators must not be challenged in the public court of law.				
G	AGE CHEATING IN FOOTBALL QUESTIONNAIRE (ACFQ)				
58	Age cheating in football is real.				
59	Age cheating is a big problem to football development.				
60	Many football players and nations have won 'fake' glories via age falsification in age-range competitions.				
61	A lot of kids who should represent the country in age-range football competitions have been denied their chances through the acts of age cheats.				
62	If age cheating is allowed to continue, it will spell a big doom to football development in the country.				
63	Age cheats in football usually do not last long even when they gain the limelight as their stardom is short-lived.				
64	Some coaches, parents and even so-called sports administrators do collaborate to encourage age cheating in football.				
65	Many football players have 'football ages' apart from their real ages i.e. 'official age' and 'real age'.				
66	Older players with falsified documents usually have undue physical advantage over the younger eligible ones.				
67	When it comes to obtaining official document, it is possible for football players who genuinely do not know their real age to make a favourable estimated guess.				
68	Activities of the age fraudsters have made it difficult for our younger players to transit to the senior national team.				

APPENDIX B

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, IBADAN
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN KINETICS AND HEALTH EDUCATION
IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW GUIDE

1. What is your opinion about the menace of age cheating in football competitions? Do you agree that it actually exists in football competitions?
2. How much damage has this menace of age cheating caused to sports, most especially football development?
3. What can you say about biometric tests and data registration as measures against age cheating in football competitions?
4. Do you agree that Medical Examination (MRI Tests) can help to reduce or even stop age cheating in football? How?
5. Who do you think should handle the MRI and biometric tests?
6. What about giving the assignment to some empaneled hospitals?
7. What about constituting a well-organized/solid system of ID card issuance?
8. How could this be achieved?
9. How do we apply policy measures to help the situation?
10. What type of policy measures would you recommend?

APPENDIX C
INFORMED CONSENT FORM

My name is..... I would like to hold a discussion with you about the menace of age cheating in our sports meets, especially football to see whether some identified administrative measures could help to put a stop to, or at least minimize the problem to the barest minimum. Other measures will also be welcomed in the discussion.

The problem has become perennial as most footballers now carry various identities in order to claim to be younger than their real ages. This has led to denial, disappointment and frustration of younger and fitter players whose positions have been usurped by the age cheats. This has generated a lot of hindrances to football development in Nigeria, Africa, and the world as a whole. This has necessitated the conduct of this study within the national sports development zones in Nigeria.

The interview is expected to last between twenty-five minutes and half an hour. I will be making use of a tape recorder so as to be able to capture every bit of the interview session. I will also be taking notes as the interview goes on to be doubly sure of covering every aspect of the interview session.

I promise to keep the discussion a hundred percent confidential as your comments are needed for purely research work. Feel free to express your feelings about the issue on ground. Whatever you say will only be limited to the members of the research team, and none of your comments will be traced back to you. You are also free to agree or disagree with our proposition. Feel free to ask any question about this explanation.

Do you wish to take part in the interview session?

.....

Interviewee

.....

Date

APPENDIX D

NAMES OF FOOTBALL CLUBS AND NUMBER OF PLAYERS FOR SAMPLING

ABIA STATE

ENYIMBA FC, ABA	30	“
ABIA WARRIORS FC, UMUAHIA	30	

AKWA IBOM

AKWA UNITED FC, AKWA	30	“
AKWA STARLETS, UYO	30	“

ANAMBRA STATE

GABROS FC, NNEWI	30	PLAYERS
AWKA UNITED FC, AWKA	30	“

BAYELSA STATE

BAYELSA UNITED, YENAGOA	30	PLAYERS
OCEAN BOYS	30	“

BENUE STATE

LOBI STARS FC, MAKURDI	30	“
BCC LIONS FC, GBOKO	30	“

DELTA STATE

WARRI WOLVES FC	30	PLAYERS
OKPE UNITED FC, SAPELE	30	“

EDO STATE

EDO INSURANCE FC, BENIN	30	PLAYERS
SAINT PAUL’S FC, BENIN	30	“

ENUGU STATE

RANGERS FC, ENUGU	30	“
INTER FC, ENUGU	30	“

IMO STATE

HEARTLAND FC, OWERRI	30	“
IMO UNITED FC, OWERRI	30	“

KADUNA STATE

KADUNA UNITED FC, KADUNA	30	“
RANCH BEES FC, KADUNA	30	“

KANO STATE

KANO PILLARS, KANO	30	“
DANKALAT FC, KANO	30	“

KATSINA STATE

KATSINA UNITED, KATSINA	30	“
SPOTLIGHT FC, KATSINA	30	“
KWARA STATE		
KWARA UNITED FC, ILORIN	30	“
ABUBAKAR BUKOLA SARAHI FC, ILORIN	30	“
LAGOS STATE		
FIRST BANK FC, LAGOS	30	“
BRIDGE BOYS FC, LAGOS	30	“
NIGER STATE		
NIGER TORNADOES FC, MINNA	30	PLAYERS
BIDA LIONS FC, BIDA	30	“
OGUN STATE		
GATEWAY FC, ABEOKUTA	30	“
REMO STARS F.C., IJEBU-ODE	30	“
ONDO STATE		
SUNSHINE STARS FC, AKURE	30	“
RISING STARS FC, AKURE	30	“
OYO STATE		
3SC, IBADAN	30	PLAYERS
CROWN FC, OGBOMOSO	30	“
PLATEAU STATE		
PLATEAU UNITED FC, JOS	30	“
MIGHTY JETS FC, JOS	30	“
SOKOTO STATE		
CUSTOMS FC, SOKOTO	30	“
WORKS RANGERS FC, SOKOTO	30	“

APPENDIX E
SPORTS FEDERATIONS IN NIGERIA

1. NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION (NFF)
2. NIGERIA HOCKEY FEDERATION (NHF)
3. NIGERIA TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION (NTTF)
4. NIGERIA TENNIS FEDERATION (NTF)
5. NIGERIA AMATEUR BASKETBALL FEDERATION (NBBF)
6. NIGERIA VOLLEYBALL FEDERATION (NVBF)
7. NIGERIA SWIMMING FEDERATION (NSF)
8. NIGERIA BOXING FEDERATION (NBF)
9. NIGERIA JUDO FEDERATION (NJF)
10. NIGERIA HANDBALL FEDERATION (NAHF)
11. NIGERIA WRESTLING FEDERATION (NWF)
12. NIGERIA GOLF FEDERATION (NGF)
13. AMATEUR ATHLETICS FEDERATION OF NIGERIA (NAAF)
14. NIGERIA AMATEUR BADMINTON FEDERATION
15. NIGERIA SQUASH FEDERATION (NSF)
16. NIGERIA CYCLING FEDERATION (NCF)
17. NIGERIA TAEKWONDO FEDERATION (NTF)
18. NIGERIA POLO FEDERATION (NPF)
19. NIGERIA KARATE FEDERATION (NKF)
20. GYMNASTICS FEDERATION OF NIGERIA (NGF)

APPENDIX F
World Cup History of Winners and Host Countries

Year	Winner	Score	RunnerUp	3rd Place	(score	4th
Place	Host	Country				
2014	Germany	1-0	Argentina	?		
2010	Spain	1-0	Netherlands	Germany	3-2	Uruguay
	South Africa					
2006	Italy	1-1	(5-3)*France	Germany	3-1	Portugal
	Germany					
2002	Brazil	2-0	Germany	Turkey	3-2	Korea Republic
1998	France	3-0	Brazil	Croatia	2-1	
	Netherlands					
	France					
1994	Brazil	3-2	Italy	Sweden	4-0	
	Bulgaria					
	USA					
1990	West Germany	1-0	Argentina	Italy	2-1	
	England					
	Italy					
1986	Argentina	3-2	West Germany	France	4-2	
	Belgium					
	Mexico					
1982	Italy	3-1	West Germany	Poland	3-2	France
	Spain					
1978	Argentina	3-1	Netherlands	Brazil	2-1	Italy
	Argentina					
1974	West Germany	2-1	Netherlands	Poland	1-0	Brazil
1970	Brazil	4-1	Italy	West Germany	1-0	
	Uruguay					
	Mexico					
1966	England	4-2	West Germany	Portugal	2-1	Soviet
	Union					
	England					
1962	Brazil	3-1	Czechoslovakia	Chile	1-0	

Yugoslavia Chile
 1958 Brazil 5-2 Sweden France 6-3 West
 Germany
 Sweden
 1954 West Germany 3-2 Hungary Austria 3-1
 Uruguay
 Switzerland
 1950 Uruguay 2-1 Brazil Sweden --* Spain
 Brazil
 1938 Italy 4-2 Hungary Brazil 4-2 Sweden
 1934 Italy 2-1 Czechoslovakia Germany 3-2
 Austria
 Italy
 1930 Uruguay 4-2 Argentine United States--
 *Yugoslavia,
 Uruguay.

* In 2006, Italy became the world champion for the 4th time after the game ended in a 1-1 draw and Italy outscored France 5 - 3 on penalty kicks.

* In 1950, there was no final match for the World Cup. The tournament winner was decided by a round robin format, where all four teams would play each other and the team with the most points would be crowned the winner. The final results, first through fourth, were determined by points.

* In 1930, there was no 3rd place match played. FIFA later ruled that USA was the third place champion, based on overall records of the tournament.

Championship History World Cup All-Time Rankings

Rankings are determined as: 4 points for 1st place finish, 3 points for 2nd place finish, 2 points for 3rd place finish, 1 point for 4th place finish


Team	Total Points	Notes
Brazil	31	
Germany Germany	30	Includes games as both West Germany and Germany
Italy	25	











Argentina	14	
France	12	
Uruguay	11	
Netherlands	10	
Sweden	8	
Czechoslovakia	6	Have since split into multiple countries
Hungary	6	
England	5	
Spain	5	
Poland	4	
Austria	3	
Portugal	3	
Chile	2	
Croatia	2	
Turkey	2	
USA	2	
Yugoslavia	2	Have since split into multiple countries
Belgium	1	
Bulgaria	1	
Korea Republic	1	
Soviet Union	1	Have since split into multiple countries

(Source: www.fifa.com 2014)

APPENDIX G

FIFA U-17 World Cup

Team	Titles	Runners-up	Third-place	Fourth-place	Medals
 Nigeria	3 (1985, 1993, 2007)	3 (1987, 2001, 2009)			6
 Brazil	3 (1997, 1999, 2003)	2 (1995, 2005)	1 (1985)	1 (2011)	6
 Ghana	2 (1991, 1995)	2 (1993, 1997)	1 (1999)	1 (2007)	5
 Mexico	2 (2005, 2011)				2
 Soviet Union	1 (1987)				1
 Saudi Arabia	1 (1989)				1
 France	1 (2001)				1
 Switzerland	1 (2009)				1
 Spain		3 (1991, 2003, 2007)	2 (1997, 2009)		5
 Germany		1 (1985)	2 (2007, 2011)	1 (1997)	3
 Scotland		1 (1989)			1
 Australia		1 (1999)			1
 Uruguay		1 (2011)			1
 Argentina			3 (1991, 1995, 2003)	1 (2001)	3
 Côte d'Ivoire			1 (1987)		1
 Portugal			1 (1989)		1
 Chile			1 (1993)		1
 Burkina Faso			1 (2001)		1

 Faso			
 Netherlands	1 (2005)		1
 Colombia		2 (2003, 2009)	0
 Guinea		1 (1985)	0
 Italy		1 (1987)	0
 Bahrain		1 (1989)	0
 Qatar		1 (1991)	0
 Poland		1 (1993)	0
 Oman		1 (1995)	0
 United States		1 (1999)	0

APPENDIX H

FIFA U-20 World Cup

Team	Titles	Runners-up	Third place	Fourth place
 Argentina	6 (1979, 1995, 1997, 2001, 2005, 2007)	1 (1983)		1 (2003)
 Brazil	5 (1983, 1985, 1993, 2003, 2011)	3 (1991, 1995, 2009)	3 (1977, 1989, 2005)	
 Portugal	2 (1989, 1991)	1 (2011)	1 (1995)	
 Spain	1 (1999)	2 (1985, 2003)		1 (1995)
 Ghana	1 (2009)	2 (1993, 2001)		1 (1997)
 Soviet Union	1 (1977)	1 (1979)	1 (1991)	1 (1985)
 Germany	1 (1981 ¹)	1 (1987 ¹)	1 (1987 ²)	
 Yugoslavia	1 (1987)			
 Nigeria		2 (1989, 2005)	1 (1985)	
 Uruguay		1 (1997)	1 (1979)	2 (1977, 1999)
 Mexico		1 (1977)	1 (2011)	
 Czech Republic		1 (2007)		
 Japan		1 (1999)		
 Qatar		1 (1981)		
 Chile			1 (2007)	1 (1987)
 England			1 (1993)	1 (1981)
 Poland			1 (1983)	1 (1979)
 Colombia			1 (2003)	
 Egypt			1 (2001)	
 Hungary			1 (2009)	
 Republic of			1 (1997)	

Ireland

 Mali

1 (1999)

 Romania

1 (1981)

 Australia

2 (1991,
1993)

 France

1 (2011)

 Austria

1 (2007)

 Costa Rica

1 (2009)

 South Korea

1 (1983)

 Morocco

1 (2005)

 Paraguay

1 (2001)

 United States

1 (1989)

1 = as West Germany

2 = as East Germany

APPENDIX I

African nations at the FIFA World Cup

Country	Participations	Years	Best result
<u>Cameroon</u>	7	1982 , 1990 , 1994 , 1998 , 2002 , 2010 , 2014	QF
<u>Nigeria</u>	6	1994 , 1998 , 2002 , 2010 , 2014 , 2018	R2
<u>Morocco</u>	5	1970 , 1986 , 1994 , 1998 , 2018	R2
<u>Tunisia</u>	5	1978 , 1998 , 2002 , 2006 , 2018	R1
<u>Algeria</u>	4	1982 , 1986 , 2010 , 2014	R2
<u>Ivory Coast</u>	3	2006 , 2010 , 2014	R1
<u>Egypt</u>	3	1934 , 1990 , 2018	R1
<u>Ghana</u>	3	2006 , 2010 , 2014	QF
<u>South Africa</u>	3	1998 , 2002 , 2010	R1
<u>Senegal</u>	2	2002 , 2018	QF
<u>Zaire</u>	1	1974	R1
 <u>Angola</u>	1	2006	R1
 <u>Togo</u>	1	2006	R1

Legend

1st — Champions

2nd — Runners-up

3rd — Third place

4th — Fourth place

QF — Quarterfinals (1934–1938, 1954–1970, and 1986–present: knockout round of 8)

R2 — Round 2 (1974–1978, second group stage, top 8; 1982: second group stage, top 12; 1986–present: knockout round of 16)

R1 — Round 1


The team ranking in each tournament is according to FIFA.^[1] The rankings, apart from the top four positions (top two in 1930), are not a result of direct competition between the teams; instead, teams eliminated in the same round are ranked by their full results in the tournament. In recent tournaments, FIFA has used the rankings for seedings for the final tournament draw.

Q — Qualified for upcoming tournament

•• — Qualified but withdrew

• — Did not qualify

× — Did not enter / Withdrew / Banned

 — Hosts

 — Not affiliated in FIFA

APPENDIX J



The Researcher with Segun Odegbami (MON)



The Researcher with a Remo Stars Player



Segun Odegbami (MON) Stressing some points during an Interview Session



A researcher with Prof. Seun Omotayo after an Interview Session



The Researcher with some Football Coaches



The researcher with some players after administering some questionnaire to participants