



**Bahri Gürpınar<sup>1</sup>, Özbay Güven<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Akdeniz University, School of Physical Education and Sport, Antalya-Turkey

<sup>2</sup>Gazi University School of Physical Education and Sport, Ankara-Turkey

[bahrigurpınar@akdeniz.edu.tr](mailto:bahrigurpınar@akdeniz.edu.tr)

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## **UNSPORTSMANLIKE BEHAVIORS IN THE TURKISH BASKETBALL AND SOCCER LEAGUES FROM THE VIEW OF REFEREES**

### *Abstract*

The purpose of this study is to analyze the unsportsmanlike behaviors, the basketball and soccer referees are subject to, and reveal the differences in unsportsmanlike behaviors between the leagues. There are 192 basketball and 129 soccer referees officiating in Turkey's league of basketball and soccer in the season of 2007-2008, participated in this study. "Personal Information and View Form" and "Unsportsmanlike Behaviors Questionnaire" were used as the data-collection tools. At the end of this research, the most encountered behaviors in basketball are successively psychological pressure, protest, complaining the competitor, complaining the referee and destroying concentration. In soccer the most encountered behaviors are successively psychological pressure, protest, complaining the competitor, complaining the referee and objection. Almost all of the parameters in soccer leagues, unsportsmanlike behaviors are more than basketball leagues.

**Key Words:** Sportsmanship, referee, basketball, soccer

## **HAKEMLERİN BAKIŞ AÇISINDAN TÜRKİYE BASKETBOL VE FUTBOL LİGLERİNDEKİ SPORTMENLİK DIŞI DAVRANIŞLAR**

### *Özet*

Bu çalışmanın amacı basketbol ve futbol hakemlerinin karşılaştıkları sportmenlik dışı davranışları incelemektir. Çalışmaya 2007-2008 sezonunda Türkiye Basketbol ve Futbol Liglerinde maç yöneten 192 basketbol ve 129 futbol hakemi katılmıştır. Veri toplama aracı olarak "Kişisel Bilgi ve Görüş Formu" ve "Sportmenlik Dışı Davranışlar Anketi" kullanılmıştır. Çalışmanın sonucunda, basketbolda en çok karşılaşılan sportmenlik dışı davranışların sırasıyla psikolojik baskı, protesto, rakibi şikayet, hakemi şikayet ve konsantrasyon bozma olduğu; futbolda en çok karşılaşılan sportmenlik dışı davranışların ise sırasıyla psikolojik baskı, protesto, rakibi şikayet, hakemi şikayet ve itiraz olduğu ortaya konmuştur. Tüm parametrelerde sportmenlik dışı davranışlar futbol liglerinde basketbol liglerinden daha fazadır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Sportmenlik, hakem, basketbol, futbol

## INTRODUCTION

Sport is a form of man's struggle against his rival, himself, the nature, distance and time by using his mind and body. There is struggle and competition in the base of sport. Sport is a means creating healthy relations between people and in society right along with integrating individuals who believe in respect for the rules and social peace (Güven, 1999). On the other hand, the harm of unsportsmanlike behaviors, excessive winning desire, degeneracy in sports and evading sport rules have been mentioned in many studies and written books (Balcıoğlu, 2003; Bussey, 2008; Erdemli, 2008; Johnson, 2004; Kampf, 2005; Powell, 1994; Rainey et al., 1998; Satcher, 2006 and Toohey et al., 2007). Bussey (2008) specified that the pressure of winning led to unethical behaviors in Dallas University Basketball Leagues. Johnson (2004), in his study applied to 75 soccer coaches, 35 referees and 68 administrators, denotes that mostly referees are subject to bad behaviors. Hughes (2001), in his study applied to 462 basketball, soccer, American football and baseball referees, specified that the main problem was the spectators' verbal and non-verbal bad behaviors against referees and denoted that mostly basketball referees were subject to verbal bad behaviors, soccer referees were subject to players' physical bad behaviors against each other and 279 referees had been subject to verbal abuse in their lives. He found out a significant relation between the experiences of basketball referees and their points of bad behaviors. Rainey and Duggan (1998) brought up with percentages the sorts of assault and bad behaviors the basketball referees were subject to. Ekmekçi (2008) stated that the most significant source of stress for basketball referees was the verbal abuse by the coaches and threat of assault by others. Var (2008), in his study applied to 481 soccer spectators, brought up that the spectators mostly took part in swearing, verbal abuse, and throwing foreign substances into the pitch in soccer matches. Aktaş et al. (2004) stated that top level professional basketball players had the tendency of aggressiveness for success in accordance with the rules. Keskin (1998) stated that mostly the rival team's fans urged the basketball spectators to aggressiveness. Ekmekçi (2004) brought up with percentages the sorts of aggressiveness and bad behaviors the basketball referees were subject to. Reviewing the literature, one can come upon with the sorts of aggressiveness, unethical behaviors, verbal abuse, and bad behaviors. However, we have not come upon a study arguing out unsportsmanlike behaviors in detail; defining these sorts of behaviors, explaining who did it against whom and how often it was done. This research is considered important in respect of explaining the unsportsmanlike behaviors with all dimensions. Moreover, it is the referees' responsibility to penalize the unsportsmanlike behaviors of the players, coaches and spectators.

Today, as the unsportsmanlike behaviors have considerably increased, the referees are hard pressed mentally and physically (Doğan, 2005). It is expressly stated in written books and studies that although the referees try to conduct the matches fairly; the players want to win by unethical behaviors (Barrow, 1977; Ryska, 2003; Satcher, 2006 and Sigauw et al., 1998). Sportsmanlike behaviors should be perpetuated and developed in order to keep the

sports atmosphere. To achieve this goal, firstly it is important to define how often unsportsmanlike behaviors occur from the view of the referees, who are supposed to conduct the matches objectively and fairly. Furthermore, the differences in unsportsmanlike behaviors between the leagues shall be determined and in this way, suggestions shall be presented according to the leagues. This study is significant as it shall draw attention to the types of unsportsmanlike behaviors, people who are exposed to these behaviors, people who conduct these behaviors and solutions for them. In the light of this information, the purpose of this study is to analyze the unsportsmanlike behaviors the basketball and soccer referees are subject to and reveal the differences in unsportsmanlike behaviors between the leagues.

## METHOD

### Research Group

The research group of this study is consisted of 293 basketball, 644 soccer, and total 937 referees. The developed data collection tool was applied to 235 basketball, 163 soccer, and total 398 referees reached for comparative analyses. In basketball, data of 192 referees was validly used in the study detailed as follows: 5 FIBA, 27 A Classification, 56 B Classification, 104 C Classification; in soccer, data of 129 referees was validly used in the study detailed as follows: 6 FIFA, 9 Assistant FIFA, 12 super league, 20 Assistant super league, 9 A Classification, 6 B Classification, 40 C Classification, 27 Assistant C Classification.

### Data collection Tool

While developing the data collection tool to be used in this research; after completing the literature review and reaching the theoretical information about the topic, two (2) data collection tools were used in the research; namely “Personal Information and View Form (KBGF)” developed for the referees and “Unsportsmanlike Behaviors Questionnaire (SDDA)” developed for the evaluation of the referees on the unsportsmanlike behaviors of the players, technical teams and spectators they are subject to. Data collection tools were developed and applied in the following order:

#### *Preparation of the “Personal Information and View Form”*

“Personal information and view form” was prepared to collect information on basketball and soccer referees conducting matches in the classification. The dependent variables of the research are composed of “unsportsmanlike behaviors questionnaire” and the independent variables are composed of basketball and soccer leagues.

#### *Preparation of the “Unsportsmanlike Behaviors Questionnaire” and Study of Validity*

In the preparation phase of the questionnaire, 24 referees were randomly selected among the active ones and were interviewed face to face. Then an open-ended questionnaire form was applied to these referees to get their views written on the unsportsmanlike behaviors they were subject to. While developing the questionnaire, 4 different validity indicators were

taken into account, namely; structure, content, surface, and criterion. In the light of these validity studies, resembling questionnaires in the literature and basketball - soccer books were referred to in the development phase of the questionnaire. Later on, the open-ended questionnaire forms collected from the referees were assorted, analyzed, and rough statements of the questionnaire were composed. As a result of these, 284 statements describing the unsportsmanlike behaviors were determined. The determined rough questionnaire statements had been sent both to the experts and referees previously and their views were taken on the apprehensibility of the statements and whether the statements measure the required behaviors. As a result of these validity studies, “unsportsmanlike behaviors questionnaire” consisted of 284 statements were reduced to 120 by merging similar statements. These 120 statements in hand were collected under sub-titles such as “attempt of assault, verbal abuse, etc”. They were assembled in one question as the behavior that all 4 different groups conducted or were subject to (player, spectator, technical team, referee), then it was reduced to 41 clauses and delivered to the referees in this way. Sample question can be seen in Table 1. Later on, in order to make a pilot study, a questionnaire was applied to 20 active referees. Their views on comprehensible/non-comprehensible clauses and clarity of the questions were taken and after the necessary corrections the questionnaire was terminated. The questionnaire on defining the frequency of unsportsmanlike behaviors basketball and soccer referees are subject to is the five-fold Likert type. The options for the positive statements were drawn up as “always”, “very frequently”, “sometimes”, “rarely”, and “never” and numbered as 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. As the “unsportsmanlike behaviors questionnaire” was a kind of questionnaire type information collection tool and as it included situation assessment itself, there was no need to carry out a reliability study (Erkuş, 2005).

While analyzing the statements related to the 120 clauses in the unsportsmanlike behaviors questionnaire, it was classified in 3 different groups taking into account the feedback from the experts. While forming these groups, the content of the clauses were considered. According to this, the ones who conduct unsportsmanlike behaviors were defined as players, technical team and spectators. As the unsportsmanlike behaviors handled in the first group were determined according to the group that conducts the behavior, this group handling the persons that conduct the unsportsmanlike behaviors was named as “based on the group conducting the behavior”. The groups which are subject to unsportsmanlike behaviors are determined as referees, players, technical team and spectators. As the unsportsmanlike behaviors handled in the second group were determined according to the group that is subject to the behavior, this group handling the people subject to the unsportsmanlike behaviors was named as “based on the group subject to the behavior”. Unsportsmanlike behaviors were assessed in 16 categories. These categories are named as; attempt of assault, assault, verbal abuse, disrespect, threat, incitement, non-gratitude, protest, psychological pressure, harm on equipment, destroying concentration, avoid assisting the referee, objection, complaining the referee, complaining the competitor, and behaving against the sporting virtue. As the unsportsmanlike behaviors handled in the third group were determined according to the type

of these behaviors, this factor was named as “based on the behavior conducted”. The term “player” in the questionnaire refers to the players competing on the pitch or the ground and the substitutes. The term technical team refers to the coach, assistant coach, administrators, masseur, health staff, statistician, etc. the spectators are the ones watching the match at the tribunes.

**Table 1: Sample Questionnaire Questions**

	1 = Never					2 = Rarely					3 = Sometimes					4 = Very Frequently					5 = Always				
<b>7</b>	Players, use verbal abuse (bad language, cursing, etc.)																								
	To Referee					To Rival Player					To Rival Technical Team					To Rival Spectator									
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5					
<b>8</b>	Technical team, use verbal abuse (bad language, cursing, etc.)																								
	To Referee					To Rival Player					To Rival Technical Team					To Rival Spectator									
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5					
<b>9</b>	Spectators, use verbal abuse (bad language, cursing, etc.)																								
	To Referee					To Rival Player					To Rival Technical Team					To Rival Spectator									
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5					
<b>22</b>	Protest referee after a critical decision																								
	Players					Technical Team					Spectators														
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5										

### Data Analysis

All the statistical analysis in the research was done using the SPSS 14 packet program. In the assessment of the data, the following were used as the statistical method: frequency, percentage distribution, ANOVA and T-Test for independent groups (Büyüköztürk, 2002). Following are the arithmetic averages reached using the grades and numerical values defined to study the clauses in the referee form in accordance with the referee detections: never:1.0-1.8; rarely:1.8-2.6; sometimes:2.6-3.4; very frequently:3.4-4.2; always:4.2-5.0 (Özdamar, 2004).

### RESULTS

In table 2 and 3, distribution of the personal information of basketball and soccer referees and average of the personal information of the referees based on the leagues they conduct matches were presented.

**Table 2: Distribution of the personal information of basketball and soccer referees.**

Variables		f		(%)	
		Basketball	Soccer	Basketball	Soccer
Sex	Male	174	124	90,6	96,1
	Female	18	5	9,4	3,9
	<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Classification of Basketball Referees	Basketball FIBA		5		2,6
	Basketball A Classification		27		14,1
	Basketball B Classification		56		29,2
	Basketball C Classification		104		54,2
	<b>Total</b>		<b>192</b>		<b>100,0</b>
Classification of Soccer Referees	Soccer FIFA		6		4,6
	Soccer Assistant FIFA		9		7,0
	Soccer Super League		12		9,3
	Soccer Assistant Super League		20		15,5
	Soccer A Classification		9		7,0
	Soccer B Classification		6		4,6
	Soccer C Classification		40		31,0
	Soccer Assistant C Classification		27		21,0
	<b>Total</b>		<b>129</b>		<b>100,0</b>
Directed League of Basketball Referee's	Basketball 1st Leagues		32		16,7
	Basketball 2nd League		56		29,2
	Basketball Regional League		104		54,2
	<b>Total</b>		<b>192</b>		<b>100,0</b>
Directed League of Soccer Referee's	Soccer Super/1st League		47		36,5
	Soccer 2nd League		15		11,6
	Soccer 3rd League		67		51,9
	<b>Total</b>		<b>129</b>		<b>100,0</b>

**Table 3: Average of the personal information of the basketball and soccer referees based on the leagues they conduct matches.**

Variables		f	X̄	Minimum	Maximum
Age Average Based On The Conducted League	Basketball 1st Leagues	32	32,65	25	42
	Basketball 2nd League	56	30,85	22	45
	Basketball Regional League	104	25,15	20	37
	<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>29,55</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>45</b>
	Soccer Super/1st League	47	32,63	26	40
	Soccer 2nd League	15	30,93	26	41
	Soccer 3rd League	67	27,91	22	34
	<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>30,49</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>41</b>
Referee Experience Based On The Conducted League	Basketball 1st Leagues	32	12,21	7	23
	Basketball 2nd League	56	10,19	4	26
	Basketball Regional League	104	5,39	2	14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>9,26</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>26</b>
	Soccer Super/1st League	47	12,76	7	20
	Soccer 2nd League	15	12,13	8	18
	Soccer 3rd League	67	8,46	3	14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>11,11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>
Number of Matches Conducted Based On The League	Basketball 1st Leagues	32	25,06	17	40
	Basketball 2nd League	56	15,14	8	25
	Basketball Regional League	104	10,31	2	28
	<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>16,84</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>40</b>
	Soccer Super/1st League	47	17,65	4	23
	Soccer 2nd League	15	10,66	7	16
	Soccer 3rd League	67	9,83	1	20
	<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>12,71</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>23</b>

According to table 4,5,6,7, there was no significance difference in all parameters between the leagues of basketball and soccer separately.

**Table 4: Comparing the differences in unsportsmanlike behaviors between basketball leagues based on the group conducting the behavior.**

Based On The Group Conducting The Behavior	Basketball 1st League (n=32)		Basketball 2nd League (n=56)		Basketball 3rd League (n=104)		df	(B-W)	Diff	Sig.	Sig. F.
	X̄	SS	X̄	SS	X̄	SS					
Player	2.68	.35	2.73	.49	2.77	.49	(2-189)	.577	.563		
Technical Team	2.50	.37	2.55	.49	2.53	.53	(2-189)	.094	.911		
Spectator	3.37	.53	3.31	.68	3.27	.67	(2-189)	.297	.743		

**Table 5: Comparing the differences in unsportsmanlike behaviors between soccer leagues based on the group conducting the behavior.**

Based On The Group Conducting The Behavior	Soccer Super/1st League (n=47)		Soccer 2nd League (n=15)		Soccer 3rd League (n=67)		df	(B-W)	Diff	Sig.	Sig. F.
	$\bar{X}$	SS	$\bar{X}$	SS	$\bar{X}$	SS					
Player	3.08	.39	2.84	.33	3.02	.45	(2-126)	1.825	.165		
Technical Team	2.85	.44	2.66	.37	2.77	.52	(2-126)	.915	.403		
Spectator	3.77	.61	3.63	.58	3.56	.65	(2-126)	1.552	.216		

**Table 6: Comparing the differences in unsportsmanlike behaviors between basketball leagues based on the group subject to the behavior.**

Based On The Group Subject To The Behavior	Basketball 1st League (n=32)		Basketball 2nd League (n=56)		Basketball 3rd League (n=104)		df	(B-W)	Diff	Sig.	Sig. F.
	$\bar{X}$	SS	$\bar{X}$	SS	$\bar{X}$	SS					
To Referee	3,03	.47	3,03	.62	3,00	.62	(2-189)	.086	.917		
To Rival Player	2,86	.36	2,92	.49	2,92	.51	(2-189)	.188	.829		
To Rival Technical Team	2,28	.34	2,34	.49	2,33	.53	(2-189)	.160	.852		
To Rival Spectator	2,61	.48	2,61	.58	2,64	.59	(2-189)	.064	.938		

**Table 7: Comparing the differences in unsportsmanlike behaviors between soccer leagues based on the group subject to the behavior.**

Based On The Group Subject To The Behavior	Soccer Super/1st League(n=47)		Soccer 2nd League (n=15)		Soccer 3rd League (n=67)		df	(B-W)	Diff	Sig.	Sig. F.
	$\bar{X}$	SS	$\bar{X}$	SS	$\bar{X}$	SS					
To Referee	3.43	.49	3.16	.49	3.32	.63	(2-126)	1.309	.274		
To Rival Player	3.26	.41	3.08	.43	3.17	.46	(2-126)	1.242	.292		
To Rival Technical Team	2.66	.55	2.55	.41	2.56	.55	(2-126)	.577	.563		
To Rival Spectator	2.93	.55	2.79	.52	2.77	.68	(2-126)	.942	.393		



According to table 8, there was no significant difference between the leagues of basketball in terms of the types of behavior.

**Table 8: Comparing the differences in unsportsmanlike behaviors between basketball leagues based on the type of behavior.**

Based On The Behavior Conducted	Basketball 1st League (n=32)		Basketball 2nd League (n=56)		Basketball 3rd League (n=104)		df		
	X̄	SS	X̄	SS	X̄	SS	(B-W)	Diff	Sig.
Attempt of Assault	2.26	.37	2.37	.53	2.47	.56	(2-189)	2.009	.137
Assault	2.21	.36	2.22	.55	2.32	.60	(2-189)	.766	.466
Verbal Abuse	2.84	.48	2.91	.61	2.86	.65	(2-189)	.143	.866
Disrespect	2.88	.49	2.88	.64	2.80	.59	(2-189)	.382	.683
Threat	2.53	.44	2.56	.67	2.61	.70	(2-189)	.193	.824
Incitement	2.91	.60	2.91	.69	2.84	.70	(2-189)	.209	.812
Non-Gratitude	2.79	.72	2.90	.69	2.80	.74	(2-189)	.436	.647
Protest	3.60	.73	3.54	.89	3.38	.94	(2-189)	1.057	.349
Psychological Pressure	3.61	.80	3.65	.92	3.52	.91	(2-189)	.435	.648
Harm On Sports Equipment	2.56	.60	2.57	.82	2.64	.79	(2-189)	.235	.791
Destroy Concentration	3.24	.63	3.31	.77	3.32	.78	(2-189)	.143	.867
Avoid Assisting The Referee	3.16	.84	3.17	1.01	3.09	1.19	(2-189)	.110	.896
Objection	3.14	.69	3.26	.90	3.29	.90	(2-189)	.355	.701
Complaining The Referee	3.51	.73	3.38	.97	3.33	1	(2-189)	.383	.682
Complaining The Competitor	3.58	.75	3.45	.88	3.31	.88	(2-189)	1.354	.261
Behaving Against The Sporting Virtue	2.81	.45	2.76	.50	2.86	.60	(2-189)	.618	.540

According to table 9, in soccer leagues, it is seen that the behavior of “protest” is more in the first league than the third league and “complaining the referee” is more in the first league than the second and third leagues.

**Table 9: Comparing the differences in unsportsmanlike behaviors between soccer leagues based on the type of behavior.**

Based On The Behavior Conducted	Soccer Super/1st League(n=47)		Soccer 2nd League (n=15)		Soccer 3rd League (n=67)		df			
	X̄	SS	X̄	SS	X̄	SS	(B-W)	Diff	Sig.	Sig.D.
Attempt of Assault	2.59	.54	2.63	.55	2.61	.62	(2-126)	.036	.965	
Assault	2.55	.67	2.54	.57	2.61	.66	(2-126)	.151	.860	
Verbal Abuse	3.19	.64	3.01	.41	3.16	.66	(2-126)	.472	.625	
Disrespect	3.29	.51	3.04	.57	3.13	.61	(2-126)	1.521	.222	
Threat	2.99	.61	2.80	.48	2.94	.60	(2-126)	.561	.572	
Incitement	3.35	.58	3.10	.50	3.09	.61	(2-126)	3.007	.053	
Non-Gratitude	3.15	.69	2.98	.64	2.99	.74	(2-126)	.785	.459	
Protest	4.09	.69	3.64	.56	3.75	.77	(2-126)	3.729	.027*	1>3
Psychological Pressure	4.14	.80	3.87	.60	3.97	.87	(2-126)	.912	.404	
Harm On Sports Equipment	3.04	.59	2.84	.69	2.85	.74	(2-126)	1.164	.315	
Destroy Concentration	3.36	.69	3.09	.72	3.08	.79	(2-126)	2.056	.132	
Avoid Assisting The Referee	3.56	1.41	3.40	1.54	3.40	1.21	(2-126)	.239	.788	
Objection	3.73	.71	3.33	.70	3.53	.90	(2-126)	1.663	.194	
Complaining The Referee	3.86	.76	3.20	1.00	3.46	.87	(2-126)	4.777	.010*	1>2,3
Complaining The Competitor	3.83	.69	3.37	.85	3.50	.90	(2-126)	2.893	.059	
Behaving Against The Sporting Vir.	3.07	.40	2.83	.39	3.04	.44	(2-126)	1.885	.156	

According to table 10, the points of unsportsmanlike behaviors of the players, spectators, and technical team are significantly higher in soccer than basketball. Moreover, in accordance with these results, in basketball and soccer successively, spectators, players and technical team conduct the utmost unsportsmanlike behaviors.

**Table 10: Comparative T-Test results between the disciplines based on the group conducting the behavior.**

Based On The Group Conducting The Behavior	Basketball		Soccer		Difference	T Test	P
	$\bar{X}$	SS	$\bar{X}$	SS			
<b>Player</b>	2.74	0.47	3.02	0.42	.28	5.38	<b>0.000**</b>
<b>Technical Team</b>	2.53	0.49	2.79	0.48	.26	4.58	<b>0.000**</b>
<b>Spectator</b>	3.30	0.65	3.64	0.63	.34	4.72	<b>0.000**</b>

When table 11 is examined, the points of unsportsmanlike behaviors to the referees, players, technical team and spectators are significantly more in soccer than basketball. Moreover, in accordance with these results, we can say that in both basketball and soccer, unsportsmanlike behaviors are conducted successively to referees, players, spectators and technical team.

**Table 11: Comparative T-Test results between the disciplines based on the group subject to the behavior.**

Based On The Group Subject To The Behavior	Basketball		Soccer		Difference	T Test	P
	$\bar{X}$	SS	$\bar{X}$	SS			
<b>To Referee</b>	3.01	0.59	3.34	0.57	.33	4.90	<b>0.000**</b>
<b>To Rival Player</b>	2.91	0.48	3.19	0.44	.28	5.32	<b>0.000**</b>
<b>To Rival Tech. Team</b>	2.32	0.49	2.59	0.53	.27	4.67	<b>0.000**</b>
<b>To Rival Spectator</b>	2.63	0.57	2.83	0.62	.20	3.08	<b>0.002**</b>

According to table 12, except destroying concentration, the points of all behaviors are significantly higher in soccer than basketball. The point of “destroying concentration” in basketball, though not significant, is higher than soccer. Considering these results, the most encountered behaviors in basketball are successively psychological pressure, protest, complaining the competitor, complaining the referee, destroying concentration, objection, avoid assisting the referee, incitement, verbal abuse, disrespect, non-gratitude, behaving against the sporting virtue, harm on sports equipment, threat, attempt of assault, and assault. In soccer the most encountered behaviors are successively, psychological pressure, protest, complaining the competitor, complaining the referee, objection, avoid assisting the referee, destroy concentration, incitement, disrespect, verbal abuse, non-gratitude, behaving against the sporting virtue, threat, harm on sports equipment, attempt of assault, and assault.

**Table 12: Comparative T-Test results between disciplines based on the type of behavior**

Based On The Behavior Conducted	Basketball		Soccer		Difference	T Test	P
	X̄	SS	X̄	SS			
Attempt of Assault	2.41	0.53	2.60	0.58	.19	3.16	<b>0.002**</b>
Assault	2.27	0.55	2.58	0.65	.31	4.61	<b>0.000**</b>
Verbal Abuse	2.87	0.61	3.16	0.63	.29	4.03	<b>0.000**</b>
Disrespect	2.84	0.59	3.18	0.57	.34	5.13	<b>0.000**</b>
Threat	2.58	0.65	2.94	0.59	.36	5.07	<b>0.000**</b>
Incitement	2.87	0.68	3.18	0.60	.31	4.22	<b>0.000**</b>
Non-Gratitude	2.83	0.72	3.05	0.71	.22	2.73	<b>0.007**</b>
Protest	3.46	0.89	3.86	0.72	.40	4.21	<b>0.000**</b>
Psychological Pressure	3.58	0.89	4.02	0.82	.44	4.53	<b>0.000**</b>
Harm On Sports Equipment	2.61	0.77	2.91	0.68	.30	3.70	<b>0.000**</b>
Destroy Concentration	3.30	0.75	3.19	0.75	-.11	-1.38	0.170
Avoid Assisting The Referee	3.12	1.08	3.46	1.32	.34	2.47	<b>0.014*</b>
Objection	3.26	0.87	3.58	0.82	.32	3.39	<b>0.001**</b>
Complaining The Referee	3.37	0.95	3.58	0.87	.21	1.97	<b>0.050*</b>
Complaining The Competitor	3.39	0.86	3.60	0.84	.21	2.17	<b>0.030*</b>
Behaving Against The Sporting Virtue	2.82	0.55	3.02	0.42	.20	3.56	<b>0.000**</b>

## DISCUSSION

The purpose of this study is to analyze the unsportsmanlike behaviors the referees encounter based on the disciplines and display the differences in unsportsmanlike behaviors between basketball and soccer.

As a result of the ANOVA test applied, there was no significant difference in any parameter between basketball leagues based on “the group conducting the behavior”, “the group subject to the behavior”, and “type of behavior conducted” (Table 4, 6, 8). Still, as a result of the ANOVA test applied, there was no significant difference in any parameter between soccer leagues based on “the group conducting the behavior”, and “the group subject to the behavior” (Table 5, 7). According to these results, it is discovered that in basketball there is no significant difference in all parameters between the leagues, but in soccer, there is no significant difference in “the group conducting the behavior”, and “the group subject to the behavior”. However, in the dimension of “type of behavior conducted”, we can say that soccer referees in the first league are subject to “protesting the referee” more than the third league and soccer referees in the first league are subject to “complaining the referee” more than the second and the third league (Table 9). Wigley (2002) displayed that the averages of ethic value in NCAA part 3 are higher than part 1. “Protest” is described as the reaction when the decision of the referee is not favoured or found un-fair. “Complaining the referee” is described as when a decision of a referee is not favoured and somebody speaks of this as a complaint. Apart from these, the “protest” against a referee can be conducted even without his false decision, but just to influence him. Therefore, we can say that the decisions of the referees in the first league are less favoured than second and third leagues or in the first league referees are more desired to be put under pressure.

Significant difference was found between basketball and soccer disciplines as a result of T-Tests applied in the dimensions of “based on the group conducting the behavior” (Table 10), “based on the group subject to the behavior” (Table 11), and “based on the type of behavior conducted” (Table 12). According to this, we can say that except “destroying concentration”, in the dimension of “type of behavior conducted”, points of all unsportsmanlike behaviors for soccer referees are significantly higher than basketball. According to Yiğitbaşı (2002), the rates of soccer players’ destructive aggressiveness (46.31 %) are higher than the basketball players’ destructive aggressiveness (41.63 %). Hughes (2001) displayed that successively soccer referees, then American football referees, and then basketball referees experience bad behaviors of players against other players. Acet and Serarslan (2000) determined that the level of education, psychology, socio-economic and socio-cultural structures of soccer spectators were less than basketball and volleyball spectators, so soccer spectators were more liable to violence. Considering the findings of this research and studies in literature, we can say that more unsportsmanlike behaviors are encountered in soccer than in basketball. It is seen that as per its structure, soccer is harsher than basketball; moreover, the huge size of the soccer pitch raise difficulties to the referees while conducting the match. It is considered that conducting the match with one referee in soccer causes difficulties to control players, technical team and spectators all. In basketball, although the ground is smaller, the matches are conducted by two referees and this makes the control of the match easier. Apart from this, as soccer is more popular in media, it creates a market, soccer pools and lotteries are played and there are financial incomes such as transfer fee, premiums, and commercials which bring high level professionalism where desire for winning increases and this leads to the increase in unsportsmanlike behaviors. Sezen and Yıldırım (2003) in their studies on soccer players displayed that professionalism together with desire of success destroyed sporting virtue. Therefore, it is thought that professionalism, which is more in soccer than basketball, causes soccer to be more deteriorated than basketball. It is observed that media pays more attention to soccer than basketball. We can say the fact that media produces news in every aspect of soccer increases the interest of the spectators to soccer. It is considered that spectator leading, namely cheer-leading, exists in almost all spectator groups. It has been published many times in media that cheer-leaders, in their own initiative, lead the spectators to unsportsmanlike behaviors. On the other hand, when soccer and basketball disciplines compared, it is possible to say that in soccer, players score less and in basketball they score more. In disciplines like soccer, even one goal could affect the result so one goal in a match may cause one group’s joy but the rival group’s disappointment. According to Barkowitz’s (1993) hypothesis of “disappointment – aggressiveness”, disappointment experienced in sports or daily life causes the individuals to show unsportsmanlike behaviors like aggressiveness. In basketball the situation is different. The players score many times during the match and if it is not at the last moment, one score does not lead to disappointment or unsportsmanlike behaviors. Furthermore, it is clear that the rate of identification of the spectators with soccer clubs is very high in Turkey (Sözeri et al.,

2007). The high rate of identification with the team is strongly associated with the factors triggering unsportsmanlike behaviors such as anxiety, aggressiveness, positive or negative effect after the match (Wann et al., 2001). In this context, together with the low rate of scores and the importance of one red card or penalty, if we consider the high rate of identification of spectators, it is an expected finding that all parameters of unsportsmanlike behaviors in soccer are higher than basketball.

“Based on the group conducting the behavior”; in both basketball and soccer, the most encountered unsportsmanlike behaviors are conducted successively by spectators, players and technical team (Table 10). Supporting these findings, Kampf (2005) mentioned in his studies that spectators mostly conducted unsportsmanlike behaviors and the most popular of these behaviors was “verbal and physical gestures to the referee”. Ekmekçi (2004) stated that basketball referees were assaulted by players and coaches at a rate of 54.4%, by spectators 48.1% and by administrators 19.1%. Studies in literature bear resemblance with the research. In Bahadır’s (2006) study regarding the violent actions in soccer, 47.8% of the people participated in the research stated that violence was caused by the insufficient education of the spectators. It is believed that why spectators mostly conduct the unsportsmanlike behaviors is due to the fact that the education level of the spectators is low, the spectators conducting the behavior are not punished or the imposed penalties do not affect the spectators at all. It can be useful in the solution of this problem that the spectators conducting unsportsmanlike behaviors are prevented by other conscious spectators and if possible these spectators are reported to the security units. Furthermore, the spectators conducting unsportsmanlike behaviors could be determined and banned from going into the stadiums.

“Based on the group subject to the behavior”; in both basketball and soccer, unsportsmanlike behaviors are mostly conducted against referees then players, then spectators and finally technical teams (Table 11). Johnson (2004) stated that in youth sports, mostly the referees, and then coaches and then administrators were subject to unsportsmanlike behaviors. Kampf (2005) presented in the Middle America basketball Conference that the most encountered unsportsmanlike behavior was “verbal and physical gestures against the referees”. Ekmekçi (2004) stated that 41.3% of the referees were verbally or physically under assault. Rainey and Duggan (1998) stated that 13.6% of the 98 referees included in his study had been subject to assault at least once in their profession. According to the data, it is defined that assault against referees is very common and some of these assaults are serious and consequences of these assaults are inconsistent. Studies in literature bear resemblance with the research. In this context, while the decision of a referee, who is supposed to judge all the motions fairly, is favoured by one team, but not favoured by the rival team. Therefore, this decision may result with unsportsmanlike behaviors against the referee. While sometimes undesirable decisions lead to simple protests, sometimes they may result with harsh physical assault. While one player competes with the rival player and one spectator competes with other spectator; referees struggle with players, spectators and coaches at the same time. The

fact that referees are considered as indefensible people on the pitch causes the conduct of unsportsmanlike behaviors mostly against the referees.

“Based on the type of behavior conducted”; when checking table 12, in both disciplines, the most encountered unsportsmanlike behaviors are verbal ones and least encountered unsportsmanlike behaviors are physical ones. Parallel with the research, Kampf (2005) also stated in Middle America Basketball Conference that most encountered unsportsmanlike behaviors against the referees are verbal and physical gestures”. In his study McCoy (2004) explained that when comparing the frequency of verbal and physical unsportsmanlike behaviors, verbal behaviors were more than physical behaviors in girls softball and boys baseball against referees. Hughes (2001) stated in his study that mostly basketball and American football referees encountered with verbal behaviors. Rainey and Hardy (1999) stated in his study on assault against rugby referees that 42% of the assaults were little pushing, grasping or spitting and 47% of them were punching and throttling. Rainey and Duggan (1998) mentioned in their study on assault against basketball referees that 45% of the assault were little pushing, grasping or spitting and 51% of them were serious behaviors as punching, throttling and throwing objects to the referees. Clark (1996) in his study analyzing sportsmanlike and ethical perceptions of the coaches in judicial high school league, stated that the most encountered unethical behaviors were quarrelling and momentary speeches, the least encountered behavior was verbal comments and the most perceived problem was excessively fierce coaching in order to win. Studies in literature bare resemblance with the research. In this context, considering that penalties for verbal unsportsmanlike behaviors are insignificant and physical unsportsmanlike behaviors are serious, the reducing rate of unsportsmanlike behaviors from verbal to physical ones can be the result of these penalties.

Taking all these factors into account, it is natural that in all categories in soccer unsportsmanlike behaviors are more than basketball. It is considered beneficial that in order to control and supervise soccer better, the number of referees should be increased and unsportsmanlike behaviors should be placed under control. Moreover, it would be beneficial if penalties were more deterrent and sportsmanlike behaviors would be encouraged, highlighted and set as example by both the federation and media.

Consequently, unsportsmanlike behaviors bare variability between basketball and soccer disciplines and between the leagues.

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#### AUTHORS' NOTE

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