Let's enjoy Rugby from good to great

"sports ではなく business" という言葉が色々なところで使われています。勝利至上主義が勇ましく叫ばれてラグビーの本当の楽しさを語り合う機会が少なくなりました。

目指すべき楽しさ、あふれる 'good game' について RFU 発行の A Guide for Players は簡明に示しています。

Of course, there is no short cut to success-you do not announce for example, that you are going to play a free flowing game involving 15 players in some breath-taking spectacular, and "hey presto!" it happens. Unfortunately you have to work hard at your game to play it in an apparently relaxed and free flowing way.

The old idea that you were coached in school, and then your formal education in rugby football ceased, is long dead-we go on learning and being coached throughout our playing days.

RFU 発行"A Guide for Players"より

free (flair を活かして自由に)、flowing (オープン展開の流れが継続し)、15 players (全員が一丸となって)、breath-taking spectacular (息を飲むような光景)、hey presto (やった!」という歓声)。躍動的でまさに enjoyment そのものです。

good game をするための good ball 獲得については RFU 発行の A Guide for Coaches に次のようにまとめられています。

QUALITY POSSESSION FROM **SCRUM** RUCK MAUL LINE-OUT 1. Foot placing more 1. Commit apposition 1. Thrower must throw 1. Support man with important than shove. accura tely. over gain line ball forcefully. 2. Every forward has a Concentration on 2. First men over ball. 2. Drive hard forward. snap shove and lock. job to do. 3. Catcher must make 3. Bind hard and tight, Watch mechanics (not 3. Slip to dear or ground towards 3-2-3 with flankers up). form wedge and scan. ball to ground. opponents. 4. Hankers pack down at wide angle and stay 4. Variety essential. 4, 'Don't be a fairy,' 4. Ball not whistle. there. **GOOD BALL** THE USE OF QUALITY POSSESSION **AIM**: to play in the effective area, i.e., over gain line, 1. Move FORWARD - by running or kicking. 2. Attempt to run - but not at expense of losing or being ineffective. 3. Opposition most vulnerable when fatigued or out of position. 4. Carefully select attacking positions - then 100 per cent exploitation. 5. Therefore – play must be CONTINUOUS. Think of NEXT PHASE OF ATTACK Scan Switch BALANCED VARIETY extend opposition physically and mentally.

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good を '良い' と訳しただけでは言い尽せない内容を含んでいます。他の例として good man と言えば性格的善悪でなく経済的に信用のある人や家長のことを言います。bad man と bad woman では中味が違ってき

ます。嘘をつくことをとがめるには bad でなく wrong を使います。good ball は勝利へつながる展開可能性のある'生きたボール'の QUALITY POSSESSION (有効性所有) が要件です。それぞれのプレーにおけるボールであるために有効性を生む過程と努力が大きな要素となることが示されています。

次に good official に焦点を合わせましょう。Call It Like It Is: The Jonathan Kaplan Story の一節です。

I thought that you had a great game. Your calls were consistent, your management of the players was expert and your sense of judgement was great.

However, one thing that stood out for me was that last call. The difference between a good official and a great official is that a great official will always make the tough call at the crucial moment without thinking I about how it will affect the result of the game. That is exactly what you did. The fact that Australia won the game from that call does not detract from the quality of your officiating, but enhances it. A lesser man could easily have avoided the issue: you confronted it, and you should be congratulated for your strength of character.

始めに you had a great game とあります。レフリーに関わる文ですから had はレフリーをしたという意味であり call は笛を吹くことを言います。good を良い great を格上の偉大と訳すだけでは中味が理解出来ません。 a great man は偉人で通りますが great friend は good 以上の親しい友、大の仲良しです。 great game の理由として笛が consistent(一貫性)でプレーヤーの管理が expert(熟練している)であり、判断の感覚が great(すばらしい)であったからよかったと言うのです。そして勝敗を左右するゲーム終了間際の笛を取り上げて goodと great の相違は tough call(難しい決断)であると言い切っています。それもゲームの結果への影響の有無等を考えることなく笛を吹くことだと断言しています。tough(強固な)という言葉は人間の迷いを消除することで重要な要素です。

同書ではさらにレフリー指名に関わる問題として注目すべき一節が見られます。

For 16 years I was never quite sure why I had been denied this appointment.

James Sheriff, a provincial referee from the Lions who had served on the national panels in the mid-90s, told me that the Lions coaching staff (of which he was a part) had been doing a fair share of research on referees, analysing their personalities and refereeing styles. In that year, there had been a great deal of discussion around which referee would suit the Lions in their quest to win the premier domestic trophy.

Initial appointments made by Steve and his selectors had me down to ref the one semi involving the Lions. Apparently Louis Luyt, then president of SARU and the Lions, asked whether my appointment was in the best interests of Lions rugby. After some discussion, it was decided that Andre Watson "to favour the Lions based on stats and penalty counts". On the basis of those discussions and that information, I was yanked from the game and Watson replaced me. James told me that he could never have discussed this with me at the time; in his words, "this should never have happened".

当然のことながらレフリングの基準に沿った技術評価と個性やレフリングスタイルの分析は公平に期されなければなりません。さらに stats and penalty counts についても議論がなされるのです。レフリーの風格や話し方がプレーヤーに与える影響があることはいうまでもありませんがペナルティの総数はラグビーそのものと Laws についての認識が元になるものでレフリー評価の要件に一つです。

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RFU 発行"The Art of refereeing"より

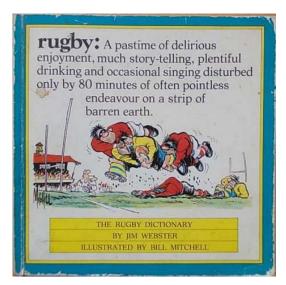
"III GENERAL PRINCIPLES 3.The Advantage Law" は結果的に penalty の総数が少ないよう考えることを説いているのです。penalty が多いプレーヤーが悪いのだと言ってはいけません。それはレフリー指名のための一つの資料となり good game から great game への key の一つなのです。referee style もあげられています。同署の Editor's Note に style について触れられています。 "refereeing is an art not a science." を心に留めて精進することです。

Since refereeing is an art not a science, this is not an exhaustive treatise. Its ,aim is to advise, to recommend rather than to dictate, to suggest certain methods of approach to this difficult but fascinating business, to lay a foundation on which the young referee can build his own individual "style." It is at once elementary and advanced; some of the finer points of refereeing will be found here as well as the basic principles, partly because it is hoped that referees of every standard will read the book, and partly because it is no bad thing for a beginner to realise he is undertaking a job of inexhaustible interest-and one that demands, if he is to be really good at it, a great deal of thought as well as practical experience.

RFU 発行 "The Art of refereeing" より

personalities という点では心身健在でスポーツ好きであれば問題なしでしょう。普通に moderate (中庸)、reasonable (常識的) といった心情があれば申し分なしということです。そして実際経験と同じぐらいによく考えることが good から great への道だと説いています。そして own individual "style." (自身の個人的スタイル) を築くのに役立つことが本書の目的だと告げています。

そのことについて参考になる辞書があります。



Rugby: The dictionary by Jim Webster

Rugby: The dictionary の Referee のページ以下の用に書かれています。



Rugby: The dictionary by Jim Webster

笛の数は少ない方がよいのです。高低強弱が目的にあったものでなくてはなりません。「ピーピー」笛を吹くのを楽しんでいるように見えてはいけません。Laws をしっかり覚え、colour sense(どちらかのゲームに応援をする感情)を持つことなくだれに何をおもわれようとも tough call です。Tough という用語は実は意味深長です。最後にゆっくり上の絵を味わってください。great referee をイメージしてください。'from good to great'に希望を持って refereeing を enjoy して下さい。