

O. Petrenko

Doctor of Law Sciences,

*Senior Lecturer at the Department of Criminal Law and Criminology,
Donetsk Law Institute of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine*

CRIMINAL AND LEGAL DEFINITION OF “SPORT”

It is noted, that one of the priority missions of modern state is to form healthy nation. It is obvious that namely physical training and sport are intended to promote implementation of this mission. By inertia since Soviet period of Ukrainian statehood, the area of physical training and sport have been considered to be free from criminal interference, allegedly “untouchable”. The given approach of the national state institution causes the lack of proper attention of law enforcement agencies to the state of legal order in this area that has caused nowadays a great multitude of socially dangerous phenomena. The most serious concern is about widespread doping, high level of injury, death-rate and corruption in sport.

It is well known that legal regulation of the given area of social relations is unsystematic, and besides there is no

good and deep scientifically-based elaboration for basic definitions, particularly concerning “sport”, that impedes law enforcement agencies to timely respond to socially dangerous actions, taking place in sport.

The analysis of scientific literature demonstrates the presence of a great multitude of approaches to definition of this notion. However, according to the author’s point of view, the most extended and theoretically substantiated definition is one, which notes that “sport” is “educating, playing, contesting activity, based on physical exercises, that has socially important results”. It is also noted, that nowadays this notion has appeared to be independent, having converted in factor, creating system for a given area of social life, which has its own structure, content, subject and object.