

# Integrity of the Game vs. Economic Impact

Stakeholder Review & Peer Evaluation Package

## Stakeholder Review & Peer Evaluation Package

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Date: May 5, 2025

### 1. Doctoral Project Summary

Project Title: *Integrity of the Game vs. Economic Impact: The Oklahoma Model*

Objective:

To evaluate the governance, financial transparency, and ethical integrity of youth sports operations in Oklahoma from 2001 to 2025. This project focuses on USSSA-affiliated tournaments, examining public-private partnerships, tournament finances, and municipal oversight to propose scalable reform models rooted in structured datasets.

Dissertation Intent:

The work synthesizes two decades of tournament data, city meeting records, personal advocacy case studies, and financial modeling. It exposes systemic weaknesses and provides replicable solutions for municipalities, tribal governments, and nonprofit stakeholders nationwide.

### 2. Request for Peer Review

This package is distributed for the purpose of constructive, peer-driven feedback. You are invited to critique and comment on:

- Clarity of research methodology and data structure
- Usefulness and accuracy of financial assumptions
- Impact and readability for general vs. academic audiences
- Strength and balance of case studies presented
- Effectiveness of narrative framing (book and podcast)
- Suggestions for additional insights, gaps, or improvements

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### 3. Teaser Financial Insights (Hidden Valley Dataset)

Note: The figures below are derived from over 15,000 tournament records across Oklahoma (2001–2025). They are meant to raise public awareness and scholarly scrutiny of youth sports economics:

- \$24.8M+ in estimated tournament entry fees statewide (baseline analysis)
- \$0.00 reported in verifiable audits for the majority of city/tribal-operated facilities
- One tournament director averaged 47 sanctioned events per year for 8 years—without any transparent financial trail
- 600+ teams played at Firelake Ballfields in a single season, with no visible public ledger
- Gate Fee Math:  $40 \text{ teams} \times 2 \text{ spectators/player} \times \$10 \times 2 \text{ days} = \$16,000+$  in cash gate revenue per event
- Concession/Vendor Discrepancy: Many events list vendors, yet no city tax ID, license, or vendor record exists in public filings

These figures are consistent across locations and years, not outliers.

### 4. Hidden Valley Dataset Methodology Overview

A structured Excel-based dataset analyzing event finances, site oversight, and missing revenue pathways.

#### ◆ Field Logic Breakdown (Sample)

Column	Description
Entry Fee	From event listings or median if missing
Estimated Teams	Divisions $\times$ average teams (4–6)
Revenue	Entry Fee $\times$ Teams
Gate Revenue	2 spectators per player $\times$ \$10 $\times$ 2 days
Total Event Value	Entry Revenue + Gate Revenue
Oversight	Facility ownership (city, tribal, private)
Reported Revenue?	Yes/No based on city or tribal documentation

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### ♦ Example Case:

- Battle on the Dirt
  - 28 teams × \$325 = \$9,100 entry revenue
  - 2 adults/player × 2 days = \$11,200 in gate
  - Total Estimated Revenue: \$20,300

## 5. Book Summary – Integrity of the Game vs Economic Politics

This book chronicles a 25-year journey through Oklahoma's youth sports rise and reckoning. It traces the growth of the Oklahoma Braves, the fall of sanctioned leagues like Little League, the unchecked expansion of USSSA operations, and the public policy failures in local governance. It offers a corrective path—a blueprint for other states to replicate.

### Chapter Titles:

1. *Origins of the Oklahoma Braves (2001–2008)* – volunteer coaching era, formation of ethics lens
2. *The Decline of Little League (2009–2015)* – emergence of pay-to-play structure
3. *Behind the Fence (2001–2025)* – financial trail of entry fees, gate collections
4. *BCM, Bouse, and the Battle for Control (2021–2023)* – RFP conflicts, Choctaw, OK case
5. *BCM vs. Buck Thomas Complex (2021–2023)* – RFP politics in Moore, youth group displacement
6. *Baseball Heaven, Red Dirt Valley, and the Reform Vision (2024–2025)* – future-facing solutions, land use and transparency

Each chapter draws from real data, interviews, and case studies to map the transformation of youth sports into an economic engine—sometimes at the expense of integrity and access.

## 6. Podcast Preview – Inside the Diamond

A narrative podcast series designed to convert this research into emotional, accessible, and evidence-driven storytelling for families, city councils, and taxpayers.

### Season 1 – Working Episode Titles:

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- The Game We Thought We Knew
- Follow the Fees
- Two Cutoff Dates, One Broken System
- Public Pays, Private Profits
- Shootouts, Settlements, and Silos
- Protect Youth Sports

Includes real interviews, audio from city meetings, and whistleblower clips.

## 7. Reviewer Notes – Feedback Encouraged

- ☒ Is the methodology clear and transparent?
- ☒ Does the financial data raise valid and compelling concerns?
- ☒ Are the book/podcast components well integrated and impactful?
- ☒ Is the narrative accessible for non-academic readers?
- ☒ Are any key case studies or areas of concern missing?

With Respect,


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