

# The Winner takes it all



## UNDERSTANDING GLOBAL INEQUALITY THROUGH SPORT

**Duration:** 30-60 minutes

**Aim:** To understand the difference between fairness and injustice.

### PREPARATION

Set up any one of the following team games: football, hockey, netball or basketball or another team game of your choice. Print and cut out the cards below, shuffle them and place them face down.

Create mixed teams of boys and girls for each side. Each team appoints a team captain.

### HOW TO PLAY

Start the game normally, until someone scores the first goal/point. The team captain picks up a card, reads it out and implements the rule. The card is returned to the bottom of the pack and the game continues.

The team who gains more cards will have more a much stronger advantage throughout the game, making it almost impossible for the other side to win. Remind your winning side to be ruthless, after all, it's all about winning!

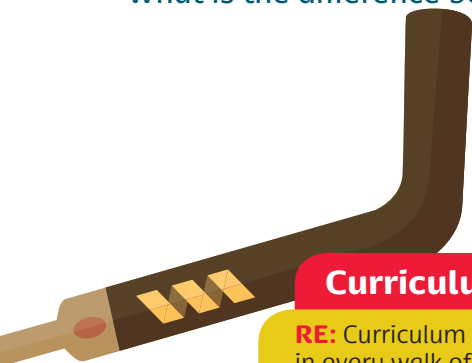
### DEBRIEF

How did the winning team feel? Was it a good victory? Or would they rather play with more equal rules? Remind both teams that at the start either one of them could have won - it was a fair game!

Speak to the losing side, how did they feel towards the end of the game, when all the rules were stacked against them? Did they feel like giving up? Not playing?

How does this relate to what we see in the world today, especially with rising inequality?

What is the difference between unfairness and injustice?



### Curriculum Links

**RE:** Curriculum Directory 4.6 Love of neighbour; Icons Bk1 2a Proclaim the good news; Bk3, 2/3e Witnesses in every walk of life; 3a Love in action.

**PE:** Use this activity to illustrate that physical activity contributes to the healthy functioning of body and mind, and is essential to a healthy lifestyle.



## Players down

Due to poor living environments two players have become ill. Select two players from the other team who can sit out of the game, until the next goal/point is scored.

A significant burden of death, disease and disability – particularly in developing countries - is due to poor living environments. This includes drinking unsafe water, indoor smoke and malaria, all of which can be overcome with simple preventative measures. But poorer countries lack the resources to be able to put these preventative measures into place.



## Conflict

Due to conflict breaking out, the other team will be out of action until peace is established. All team members from the other team have to play the game sitting on the floor until the next point is scored.

One of the main constraints to development is the conflict trap. Peaceful countries are managing to escape poverty, but countries riven by civil war, ethnic conflict and organised crime tend to remain in poverty. And because poverty is also a cause for conflict and civil war, it creates a vicious trap that is hard for countries to escape from.



## Girls stay home

All girls from the other team have to sit out of the game until the next point is scored, as they are needed to stay home to help with housework.

Life can be very challenging for girls around the world, especially when over 130 million girls are out of school and 15 million girls of primary school age will never enter a classroom. Lack of education is a big barrier to escaping poverty. Gender equality and working with women and girls is therefore very important to how CAFOD works, because equality is essential to tackling poverty where both women and men need to be part of the solution.



## Unjust trade rules

Due to unfair trade rules that are stacked against poorer countries, you can choose one of the following rules to apply to the other team for the remainder of the game (depending on which game you're playing).

- no goalie
- one hand only

Some global trade rules are simply unjust. They are stacked in favour of the rich and powerful who put profits before the needs of people and the planet. Many trade policies make it harder for poorer countries to lift themselves out of poverty.



## Talent migration

There are better paid jobs to be found elsewhere around the world. So talent and expertise migrates from poorer countries to richer ones. Select one of the best team members from the other side to join your team.

Better standards of living and quality of life, higher salaries, access to advanced technology and more stable political conditions in developed countries attract talent from less developed areas. The result is what is called a 'brain drain' where all the talent from a developing country moves elsewhere. This can impact on a country's ability to develop.



## Emergency

A disaster has hit the other team. They don't have enough resources to respond to the emergency. The other team are all to lie down for 10 seconds as they recover.

In all types of emergencies, the poorest and most vulnerable people suffer disproportionately. 25% of global emergencies occurred in less developed countries, but resulted in 44% of all deaths worldwide. Less developed countries have limited capacities to prepare for and respond effectively to emergencies and take much longer to pick themselves up to get back on their feet.



## Debt

Due to the country's debt and high interest rates, they have cut back on essential services such as education and healthcare. Choose 3 members of the other team who are to play on their knees until the next goal/point is scored.

International debt puts huge pressure on developing countries, due to high interest rates some developing countries are paying up to \$13 on debt repayment for every \$1 it receives in grants. This has a huge impact on basic services such as infrastructure, housing, health and education.



## Get to choose the rules

Since you scored a goal/point, you get to make up a rule of your choice. Choose from one of the following:

- choose a player from the other side - only they are allowed to score the next point
- other team can only move backwards until the next goal/point is scored
- other team are only allowed to walk - no running!

Developing countries have little influence over world trade rules. These are usually made by richer countries which make it almost impossible for developing countries to compete on an even and just basis.