

The Business of sports: v.1: Perspectives on the sports industry; v.2: Economic perspectives on sport; v.3: Bridging research and practice, ed. by Brad R. Humphreys and Dennis R. Howard. Praeger, 2008. 3v index afp ISBN 9780275993405, \$300.00

Humphreys (economics, Univ. of Alberta, Edmonton) and Howard (business, Univ. of Oregon) have amassed and organized more than 30 commissioned papers that examine and explain many facets of this "n-dimensional" industry. Looking at the business of sports from a variety of academic and hands-on viewpoints--economics, marketing and management, health and physical education, policy and planning--the volumes in this set include chapters on profitability and financial aspects of leagues and mega-events, expansion and relocation, sports labor markets, facilities, and many other topics related to North American professional and college athletics and to international sports. These volumes have some recent competitors, notably, *The Economics of Sport*, ed. by Andrew Zimbalist (2v., 2001), a collection of more than 70 "classic" sports-economics articles from professional journals, and *Handbook on the Economics of Sport*, ed. by Wladimir Andreff and Stefan Szymanski (CH, Sep'07, 45-0386), which includes 86 stand-alone essays that range much farther afield than those in the Humphrey/Howard volumes. This said, these three resources complement each other nicely and together offer the interested reader or serious researcher virtually everything that he or she would want to know about the business side of sports. Summing Up: Recommended. All readers, all levels. -- A.R. Sanderson, University of Chicago