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Drug Testing in Professional Sports

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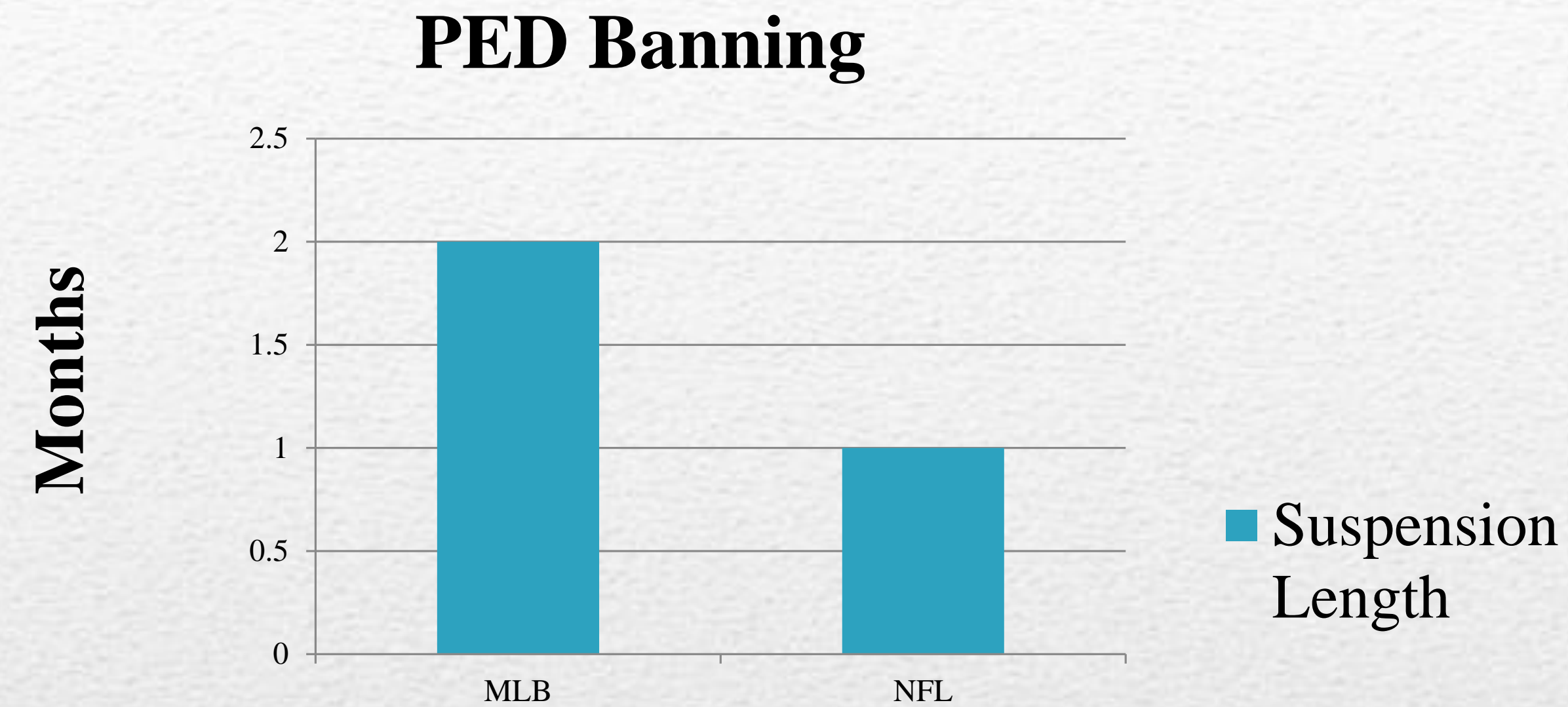
Drug Testing in Professional Sports

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Abstract

- Performance Enhancing Drugs (PEDs) are illegal substances that are prohibited for athletes to use to enhance their athletic ability.
- In the late 1990s, baseball players caught using steroids was a major trend in sports.
- Today, athletes from all sports are getting into trouble for PED usage in this new “Steroid Age”
- According to Richard Pound, Chairman of the World Anti-Doping Agency, PEDs are the biggest problem sports organizations are facing today.



American Sports Leagues

Facts

- Did you know that since 2010, eight players from the Seattle Seahawks alone have been suspended for the use of PEDs (Leads NFL)?
- Famous athletes caught using PEDs include Alex Rodriguez, Sammy Sosa, Barry Bonds, Lance Armstrong, Julius Peppers, and Dwayne Bowe.
- In 2013, 26 MLB players, including Alex Rodriguez, were suspended for PED usage from a biogenesis lab. Rodriguez initially appealed suspension, but later agreed to it.

Conclusion

- Drug usage in the NFL doesn't gain as much attention as it does in the MLB because football is a more physical sport than baseball. Suspensions in the NFL also aren't as severe.
- Along with suspensions, athletes caught using PEDs should be punished by having awards taken away from them, becoming illegible to compete for championship and all-star games, and having their names taken out of record books.
- There should be more attention towards athletes caught using PEDs in other sports besides baseball because cheating is cheating, regardless of the sport played.



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