**The Equipment Revolution**

The creation of new sports equipment is dramatically changing athletic performance including the cost of participating. As sports have grown more competitive, the need for better equipment has arose. Golf clubs, football helmets, baseball bats, soccer balls, hockey skates, and other equipment have all seen considerable changes when new technologies have been applied.

Equipment innovations and/or equipment rule changes may decrease the risk of injury. However, equipment and rules changes can alter the essence or style of play of a particular sport, thus possibly increasing the risk of injury.

Use your textbook (Chapter 12) and the internet to research the following changes. Complete the chart.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Equipment | Changes Made | Benefits | Any drawbacks/ criticisms |
| Protective Hockey Equipment |  |  |  |
| Protective Football Equipment |  |  |  |
| Protective Cycling Equipment |  |  |  |
| Protective Baseball Equipment |  |  |  |
| Protective Car Racing Equipment |  |  |  |
| Athletic Shoes |  |  |  |
| Speed Skates |  |  |  |
| Hockey Sticks |  |  |  |
| Full Body Swim Suits |  |  |  |
| Bicycles |  |  |  |
| Soccer Ball |  |  |  |
| Artificial Turf |  |  |  |

**Technology and Sport**

Sports organizations have often banned the use of technologically improved equipment, arguing that it erodes the particular skills and traditions of their sport.

Controversial Equipment Innovations:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Equipment | What is the changes/ what affect does it have? | What is the reason for controversy? |
| Polara Golf Ball |  |  |
| Full Body Swimsuits |  |  |
| Clap Skates |  |  |
| Inzer Lifting Shirt |  |  |
| Oversized Rackets |  |  |
| Hard Drivers |  |  |
| Video montoring |  |  |
| Soccer ball chip |  |  |
| Football software |  |  |
| Synthetic Basketball |  |  |
| Triathlon Shoe |  |  |
| i-Magic trainer |  |  |