

When Sports Lose Their Style: The Fall of Fashioned Sportsmanship

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In every era, sports carried not just competition but also a sense of style — an unspoken code of grace, respect, and refinement. Yet, as columnist **Tushar Bhaduri** writes in *The Indian Express*, that elegance is slipping away.

From a chess grandmaster tossing a piece in arrogance, to golfers hurling insults, to cricketers refusing handshakes — the spectacle has replaced sportsmanship. The result? A world where fashion trends evolve faster than values, and decency on the field feels outdated.

Chess Drama: From Silent Moves

Chess once epitomized intellectual poise — the fashion of calm minds and strategic precision. But recently, **Hikaru Nakamura's** act of throwing **Gukesh's king** into the crowd after winning symbolized a new aesthetic — one of spectacle over subtlety.

Bhaduri notes that this wasn't a moment of frustration, but deliberate theater encouraged by event organizers chasing viewership. In that moment, chess — the “gentleman's game” of quiet power — adopted the tone of a wrestling ring.

Hence as if the elegance of tailored suits gave way to ripped jeans and brash slogans. The old “fashion” of respect is now out of style.

Golf's Fall from Grace

If any sport once embodied sophistication, it was golf. Perfect lawns, polite applause — everything about it was *styled* for civility. Yet, at the **Ryder Cup**, that polished image tore apart.

Crowds hurled slurs like “f**k you, Rory” at **Rory McIlroy**, and even his wife, **Erica**, was hit with a beer can. In response, McIlroy snapped, gesturing angrily and shouting back at spectators.

Bhaduri draws a powerful contrast to 1969's “**Concession Moment**,” when **Jack Nicklaus** conceded a putt to **Tony Jacklin**, ensuring the match ended in a tie — a decision that defined grace in sports. That moment was haute couture in sportsmanship: timeless, classic, effortlessly dignified

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