CONTENTS

Preface vii
Contributors ix

Part I – Introducing Sports Economics

1 A brief history of the economics of sport 1
Robert Butler

2 Methods and theories in sports economics 7
Robert Simmons

3 Economics, analytics and decisions: insights from professional team sports on the importance of context 19
Bill Gerrard

Part II – Team Sports

4 Introduction to the economics of Major League Baseball 29
Rodney Fort

5 Understanding the National Basketball Association through the lens of economic research 51
Brad R. Humphreys and Alexander Cardazzi

6 The economics of association football 65
David Butler and Robert Butler

Part III – English "Bat and Ball" Sports

7 It's just not cricket: rules and the gentleman's game 85
Sarah Jewell, James Reade and Carl Singleton

8 Incentive effects: assessing effort and heterogeneity in professional tennis 109
Ferdi Botha and Byron Chadwick

9 From Lords to Bollywood: cricket economics, the rise of T20 and the Indian Premier League 125
Patrick Massey

Part IV – Horse Racing and Sports Betting

10 The peculiar economics of horse racing 143
David Forrest

11 Economic issues of horse racing in Ireland 165
Tracy Bradfield, Robert Butler and Thia Hennessy

12 All jockeys are equal, but some jockeys are more equal than others 181
Vanessa Cashmore

13 The economics of sports betting and sports betting in economics 197
Julio del Corral and Carlos Gomez-Gonzalez

Part V – Refereeing

14 On- and off-field behaviour of match officials in professional team sports 213
Peter Dawson, Patrick Massey and Paul Downward

15 Do umpires prefer blonds (and other noticeable types) to take Charlie home? 227
Liam J. A. Lenten

Part VI – Indigenous Football

16 Playing senior inter-county Gaelic games: the time commitments given and consequences 243
Elish Kelly

17 Comparing tie-breaker modes in an alternative Australian Football League draft pick allocation policy 261
Noel Boys and Liam J. A. Lenten

Part VII – Sports Funding

18 Public funding of sport: an example from Europe 279
John Considine

19 Spatial distribution and sports infrastructure 295
John Eakins

References 317
Index 339