



INTERPOL

INTEGRITY IN SPORT

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Photos International Olympic Committee

INVESTIGATIONS

Belgium

Former Anderlecht boss held in corruption probe

Former Anderlecht general manager Herman Van Holsbeeck was held on Thursday as part of a corruption probe linked to the transfer of Serbian striker Aleksandar Mitrovic, a source close to the investigation told AFP.

The detention came a day after the arrest in Monaco of agent Christophe Henrotay -- whose clients include Belgium and Real Madrid goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois -- as part of the same probe.

The investigation centres on alleged illegal payments made as part of Mitrovic's moves from Partizan Belgrade to Anderlecht in 2013 and then from the Belgian side to Newcastle United, the source said.

The 24-year-old Serb, who has enjoyed a bright start to the season with five goals in six games for Championship side Fulham, moved from Anderlecht to St James' Park for 18.5 million euros (13 million pounds) in 2015.

Belgian daily Le Soir reported that Henrotay is suspected of making illegal payments to Anderlecht bosses including Van Holsbeeck at the time of Mitrovic's move from Partizan for around five million euros -- then a record for the 34-time Belgian champions.

Source: 12 September 2019, Daily Nation

Football

<https://www.nation.co.ke/sports/football/Former-Anderlecht-boss-held-in-corruption-probe/1102-5270280-p2qiknz/index.html>

Belgium

Six mois de prison requis contre Alexander Vinokourov pour corruption

Le tribunal correctionnel de Liège, en Belgique, a requis mardi une peine de six mois de prison pour corruption envers le Kazakh Alexander Vinokourov, dans le cadre de la course Liège-Bastogne-Liège en 2010. Ce dernier est accusé d'avoir payé un concurrent pour le laisser gagner.

Au tribunal correctionnel de Liège mardi, le ministère public a lu et expliqué son réquisitoire concernant le dossier de corruption passive et active dont sont suspectés le Kazakh Alexander Vinokourov (Astana) et le Russe Alexandr Kolobnev (ex-Katusha) dans le cadre de la course Liège-Bastogne-Liège en 2010, remportée par le premier.

Selon le ministère public, la corruption active et passive ne fait aucun doute. Le coureur kazakh a bien versé 150 000 euros à Kolobnev, pour qu'il ne dispute pas la victoire dans le final de Liège-Bastogne-Liège, le 25 avril 2010.

Le parquet a requis six mois de prison à l'encontre des deux coureurs, ainsi que des amendes de 100 000 euros (contre Vinokourov) et de 50 000 (à l'encontre de Kolobnev). Il a également demandé la confiscation des 150 000 euros saisis sur le compte en banque d'Alexandr Kolobnev, à Lugano, en Suisse, lors de l'enquête.

Les avocats des coureurs, après avoir discrédité l'enquête et le ministère public, ont, eux, plaidé, dans l'ordre : l'irrecevabilité des poursuites, l'acquittement et, à titre extrêmement subsidiaire, la suspension du prononcé. Le jugement sera délivré le 8 octobre prochain.

Source: 10 September 2019, L'Equipe

Cycling

<http://lequipe.fr/Cyclisme-sur-route/Actualites/Six-mois-de-prison-requis-contre-alexander-vinokourov-pour-corruption/1057593>

Belgium

Two arrested in transfer fraud raids in Belgium, Monaco, London

Police investigating suspected fraud linked to the transfer of Serbia striker Aleksandar Mitrovic to Newcastle United have made seven raids in Belgium, Monaco and London, arresting two people including an agent, officials said Wednesday.

Under the direction of a Belgian anti-corruption judge, police and tax officials made seven raids on Tuesday and Wednesday, detaining an agent in Monaco and his assistant in the Belgian city of Liege.

Eric Van Duyse, spokesman for the Belgian Federal Prosecutor's Office, told AFP that two men were being held after being indicted for "money laundering, forgery and the use of forgeries, private corruption and criminal conspiracy".

He refused to reveal their identities but a judicial source confirmed the agent was Belgian Christophe Henrotay, who is based in the Principality. He was indicted by a Belgian judge who had travelled down to Monaco.

The probe, which earlier this year saw the Belgian FA headquarters searched, is looking into suspected money-laundering related to transfers including Mitrovic's 18.5 million euro (13 million pound) move from Anderlecht to St James' Park in 2015.

Henrotay is one of the top football agents in Belgium. His clients include Belgian internationals Thibaut Courtois, the Real Madrid goalkeeper, and winger Yannick Carrasco.

A source close to the inquiry told AFP that Henrotay is suspected of taking illegal kickbacks in connection with another transfer.

- Cult following -

Four of this week's raids were in Monaco, two in Belgium and one in London, with the cooperation of the Metropolitan Police and British customs and revenue officers.

The inquiry is separate from Belgium's so-called "footballgate" scandal, which has resulted in 20 suspects being charged since October 2018, including agents, referees and club officials, in a vast investigation into fraud and match-fixing.

Mitrovic, whose committed, physical style of play won him something of a cult following among Newcastle fans, spent three seasons at the club before moving to Fulham in 2018.

His transfer from Anderlecht -- Belgium's most successful club -- involved the agents Pini Zahavi and Fali Ramadani, the *Derniere Heure* newspaper reported at the time of the initial raids in April.

Prosecutors have not publicly named anyone connected with the probe, but a judicial source confirmed to AFP in April the Mitrovic transfer was part of the investigation.

The earlier raids saw officers search the Anderlecht training centre as well as the Belgian FA headquarters and the offices of One Goal Management company which specialises in transfers.

The criminal probe adds to Anderlecht's woes on the pitch, where the 34-time Belgian champions are languishing a lowly 13th in the league with just a single win in their first six games this season.

Source: 11 September 2019, Yahoo Sports

Football

<https://sports.yahoo.com/two-arrested-transfer-fraud-raids-belgium-monaco-london-091719611--sow.html>

France

Trois personnes mises en examen à Nice pour des paris truqués sur un match de foot tunisien

Trois personnes ont été présentées à un juge d'instruction, ce samedi à Nice, dans une affaire de paris truqués portant sur une rencontre de première division du championnat tunisien. La Française des Jeux aurait donné l'alerte après avoir remarqué des montants anormalement élevés pour une telle rencontre.

Le parquet de Nice nous a confirmé, ce dimanche matin, l'information révélée samedi soir par L'Equipe.

"Trois personnes ont été mises en examen hier, remises en liberté sans mesure particulière de contrôle, soupçonnées en effet de paris truqués sur un match", indique le procureur adjoint de permanence.

Selon le quotidien sportif, les paris suspects portaient sur la rencontre opposant l'US Ben Guerdane à l'ES Metlaoui, le 7 avril dernier.

L'équipe de Ben Guerdane, régulièrement défaite par Metlaoui lors de leurs dernières confrontations, l'avait cette fois-ci emporté 1-0 sur son terrain, grâce à un pénalty inscrit à la 54e minute.

La Française des jeux aurait recensé pour ce match près de 33.000 euros de paris, misant exclusivement sur une victoire de Ben Guerdane. La plupart des paris auraient été enregistrés dans des points de vente de Nice et sa région, précise L'Equipe, qui cite un document interne de la FDJ.

L'opérateur a donné l'alerte auprès de la jeune Plateforme nationale de lutte contre la manipulation des compétitions sportives, créée en 2016. Le service central des courses et jeux de la police judiciaire a pris l'affaire en mains.

Selon nos informations, les enquêteurs parisiens ont mené les gardes à vue à la caserne Auvare, dans les locaux de l'antenne PJ de Nice.

D'après L'Equipe, l'un des suspects appartiendrait à la famille d'un dirigeant de la Direction nationale de l'arbitrage, au sein de la Fédération tunisienne de football. L'intéressé aurait, de son propre aveu, eu vent d'un match arrangé.

L'arbitre de la rencontre, Mokhtar Dabbous, s'était "illustré" le 2 avril 2016 lors d'un précédent match de l'US Ben Guerdane, sur la pelouse du Stade gabésien. Le club visiteur s'était incliné 2-1, après avoir encaissé deux cartons rouges et deux pénaltys.

Le second avait été tiré à la... 11e minute des arrêts de jeu. Cette prestation avait valu à l'arbitre une suspension jusqu'à la fin de la saison.

Source: 14 September 2019, Nice Matin

Football

<https://www.nicematin.com/football/trois-personnes-mises-en-examen-a-nice-pour-des-paris-truques-sur-un-match-de-foot-tunisien-413146>



India

Crime branch questions KPL team owner in fixing case

Bengaluru City Police has launched an investigation into the alleged match fixing in the Karnataka Premier League. The bad news for cricket and cricket lovers come close on the match-fixing suspicion and subsequent action in the Tamil Nadu Premier League.

The Central Crime Branch officials in Bengaluru have reportedly questioned a franchisee owner in the Karnataka State Cricket Association-owned league. The police has reportedly probed Belagavi Panthers owner Ali Asfak Thara yesterday. "We have taken up an investigation based on a tip-off that Mr. Thara was actively involved in betting on KPL matches," reports The Hindu, quoting a senior police officer.

"We have evidence to show that Mr. Thara, being the owner of a KPL team, was in constant touch with players from other teams even during matches that his team was playing, which is a clear breach of guidelines," the daily has reported sources as saying.

"A detailed investigation needs to be done in the matter, and we will seek the assistance of the KSCA and the anti-corruption unit of the BCCI also," said another police officer, adding that the players who were in touch with Thara would also be summoned for questioning in the case.

"The KSCA will assist the police and cooperate with them on this matter," said a KSCA official.

Joint Commissioner of Police, Crime, Sandeep Patil said that on information that there was betting in KPL by one team owner, the CCB on Friday questioned Ali. He was reportedly in touch with players of other teams and is alleged to have been involved in betting, states a report by the Bengaluru-based daily Deccan Herald.

"The inquiry is still in the initial stages and a detailed investigation needs to be done. We will seek assistance of the KSCA as well as the Anti-Corruption Unit of the Board of Control for Cricket in India."

India international Manish Pandey has led Belagavi Panthers this year. They finished at second place in the league stage but lost both their play-off matches — against Bellary Tuskers in Qualifier 1 and against eventual champions Hubli Tigers in Qualifier 2 — to crash out of the tournament.

A senior police officer said they suspected Ali had a good relationship with players in other teams and also has connections with bookies in Mumbai.

"We were monitoring one of the bookies and based on that we collected information about Ali and are investigating his connection with the bookie," said the officer.

KSCA, meanwhile, said they had no information regarding the questioning of one of the KPL team owners. "We've heard what you have heard. Unless the police tell us, we wouldn't know anything," said KSCA assistant secretary Santosh Menon who said there are no rumours about malpractices in the KPL.

"We are very clear, we had a fantastic education programme (regarding match-fixing). We have done the anti-corruption programme and have educated all the team owners and the players.

KSCA will never compromise on that. We have had anti-corruption officers as usual. We are pretty sure nothing has happened, unless of course the investigation (reveals something). The police have to investigate. There has been no communication from Board of Control for Cricket in India on this to us either," he remarked.

Source: 22 September 2019, Inside Sport

Cricket

<https://www.insidesport.co/crime-branch-questions-kpl-team-owner-in-fixing-case/>

India**India probe over women's cricket match-fixing claim**

Indian police have registered a case against two alleged bookies for approaching a cricketer from the women's national team to fix matches.

The alleged incident took place in February before the start of a limited-overs series against England.

Rakesh Bafna and Jitendra Kothari are accused of cheating and gambling, police told BBC Hindi's Imran Qureshi.

India's sports betting industry is among the world's largest, with estimates ranging from \$45bn to \$150bn.

The two men approached the female cricketer pretending to be sports managers. She is believed to have recorded the phone call she had with Mr Bafna, which she later reported to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

It's unclear when she reported the incident to the board but the board alerted the police on Monday.

"People involved in betting just need any cricket match. For them, it does not matter at what level it is being played," Ajit Singh Shekhawat, a BCCI official, told local media.

He said that the incident shows that women cricketers are just as exposed to bookmakers as their male counterparts, and should be equally cautious.

News reports suggest that more than \$190m worth of bets are placed on a single one-day international match involving the Indian national cricket team.

Indian cricket has been hit by match-fixing scandals in the past, which included the involvement of the former captain of the men's national team, Mohammad Azharuddin.

The lucrative Indian Premier League (IPL) too has been marred by similar allegations - and committees headed by Indian judges have found that several figures involved in the IPL were guilty of match-fixing and illegal betting.

Source: 17 September 2019, BBC Sport

Cricket

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-49717590>



India

Match-fixing: Four cricketers who participated in Karnataka Premier League summoned

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) has summoned four cricketers who participated in the Karnataka Premier League (KPL) in relation to the match-fixing scandal that has brought the state T20 league under scanner.

The four cricketers, whose names haven't been disclosed, were allegedly in touch with Belagavi Panthers owner Ali Asfak Thara who has already been questioned by the CCB.

According to Deccan Chronicle, Ali was in touch with the cricketers representing other teams even when his own team was playing.

However, what role the cricketers had to play in this scandal is yet to be established.

"The inquiry is still at its initial stages and a detailed investigation is required. We will seek the assistance of Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) and the anti-corruption unit of the BCCI too," Bengaluru Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime) Sandeep Patil was quoted as saying by the English daily.

The report further quoted an unnamed Karnataka State Cricket Association official as saying that the board will fully cooperate with the investigations.

The Indian cricket has been recently hit by multiple reports of suspicious approaches by India women cricketers and match-fixing allegations in the Tamil Nadu Premier League (TNPL).

Players have shared with BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit screenshots of WhatsApp conversations where unknown people, posing as fans asked for information related to match and team combinations.

The ACU last week filed a First Information Report (FIR) at the Ashok Nagar Police Station in Bengaluru against Rakesh Bafna and Jitendra Kothari for an alleged attempt to fix an India-England women's international match earlier this year.

Source: 22 September 2019, Cricket Country

Cricket

<https://www.cricketcountry.com/news/match-fixing-four-cricketers-who-participated-in-karnataka-premier-league-summoned-894351>



SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

Brazil

Lifetime ban for Diego Matos after conviction on multiple match-fixing and non-co-operation offences

Brazilian tennis player Diego Matos has been banned from professional tennis for life and fined \$125,000 after being convicted of multiple match-fixing offences.

In addition to the fine, he has also been ordered to repay \$12,000 received for match-fixing linked to tournaments played in Ecuador.

Independent Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer Prof Richard H McLaren found that Mr Matos had contrived the outcome of 10 tennis matches played during 2018 at ITF level tournaments in Brazil, Sri Lanka, Ecuador, Portugal and Spain.

In addition to the match-fixing charges, the player was also found guilty of not co-operating with a Tennis Integrity Unit investigation. Over the course of three separate interviews he refused to comply fully with requests to provide his mobile phone for forensic examination, and failed to supply financial records.

Mr Matos was provisionally suspended from tennis on 6 December 2018, pending completion of the TIU disciplinary case against him.

Today's decision from Prof McLaren means that he is now permanently prohibited from competing in, or attending, any sanctioned event organised or recognised by the governing bodies of the sport.

The 31-year old is currently ranked 373 in ATP doubles and has a career-best ranking of 241 in December 2018. As a singles player his highest ranking is 580 in April 2012.

The breaches of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program he has been convicted of are:

Section D.1.d: "No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, contrive or attempt to contrive the outcome or any other aspect of any Event."

Section D.2.c: "For the avoidance of doubt, a failure by any Covered Person to comply with (i) the reporting obligations set out in Section D.2; and/or (ii) the duty to cooperate under Section F.2 shall constitute a Corruption Offense for all purposes of the Program."

The Tennis Integrity Unit is an initiative of the Grand Slam Board, the International Tennis Federation, the ATP and the WTA, who are jointly committed to a zero tolerance approach to corruption in tennis.

Source: 10 September 2019, Tennis Integrity Unit

Tennis

<http://www.tennisintegrityunit.com/media-releases/lifetime-ban-diego-matos-after-conviction-multiple-match-fixing-and-non-co-operation-offences>



INTEGRITY IN SPORT

Russia**Russia's Irina Khromacheva suspended for 'technical' breach of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program**

Russian tennis player Irina Khromacheva has been suspended for three months and fined

\$3,000 after being found guilty of attempting to contrive the outcome of a first round qualifying match at the BNP Paribas Open at Indian Wells in March this year.

Two months of the ban and all of the \$3,000 fine are suspended on the basis that no further breaches of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program are committed by the player. She will therefore serve a one month suspension, effective from 19 September 2019.

The case against Ms Khromacheva was based on a Tennis Integrity Unit (TIU) investigation and considered at a disciplinary Hearing held in London on 9 September 2019.

Independent Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer Prof Richard H McLaren found that Ms Khromacheva had offered another player the opportunity to take her place in first round qualifying, in exchange for being paid the equivalent of the prize money she would have received if she had played the match.

The disciplinary decision from Prof McLaren found that the offence was 'more of a technical violation of the Program than a significant or substantive breach' and that it was at the 'lowest end of the scale'.

As a result, Ms Khromacheva is prohibited from competing in, or attending, any sanctioned event organised or recognised by the governing bodies of the sport for the duration of the one month suspension. Assuming no further offences take place during that period, she will be eligible to resume playing tennis from 18 October 2019.

The 24-year old is currently ranked 274 in WTA singles and has a career-best ranking of 89 in February 2017. As a doubles player she is ranked 108 with a highest ranking of 41 in April 2019.

The breach of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program she was found to have committed is the offence relating to contriving the outcome of a match, namely: Section D.1.d: "No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, contrive or attempt to contrive the outcome or any other aspect of any Event."

The Tennis Integrity Unit is an initiative of the Grand Slam Board, the International Tennis Federation, the ATP and the WTA, who are jointly committed to a zero tolerance approach to corruption in tennis.

Source: 20 September 2019, Tennis Integrity Unit

Tennis

<http://elinkeu.clickdimensions.com/m/1/84431288/p1-b19263-459eae088784d4aafcc99e5349a2265/1/50/7680e193-723b-4c7b-923d-6d7559fcd0af>



INTERPOL
INTEGRITY IN SPORT

United Kingdom

Wales's Rob Howley sent home from World Cup amid betting investigation

Wales's World Cup campaign has been thrown into disarray after their assistant coach, Rob Howley, was sent home from the tournament in Japan for suspected betting infringements.

The former Wales captain and scrum-half left Wales's training camp on Monday to return home to assist with an investigation into a possible breach of World Rugby's regulation six, which covers anti-corruption and betting. His departure from Kitakyushu comes just a week before Wales face Georgia in Toyota in their World Cup opener leaving Warren Gatland's preparations for that game on Monday in flux.

Wales, who briefly topped the world rankings in August, had been among the leading contenders for the Webb Ellis Cup but have now suffered the Howley distraction on top of the loss of key players to injury such as the fly-half Gareth Anscombe.

Howley landed back in the United Kingdom on Tuesday afternoon and a subsequent Welsh Rugby Union statement read: "The WRU can confirm that Rob Howley has returned to Wales to assist with an investigation in relation to a potential breach of World Rugby regulation six, specifically betting on rugby union.

"The decision was taken to act immediately in light of recent information passed to the WRU. No further details can be provided at this stage as this would prejudice the investigation. If required an independent panel will be appointed to hear the case.

"Rob has cooperated fully with our initial discussions and we would ask that the media appreciate this is a difficult and personal matter for Rob and that his privacy is respected before an outcome is reached.

"Warren Gatland has consulted with senior players and Stephen Jones will be arriving in Japan imminently to link up with the squad as attack coach."

Players at all levels as well as agents, match officials, disciplinary personnel, coaching and backroom staff, owners and directors involved at the highest level are banned from betting on any rugby match.

World Rugby's regulation 6.3.1 states: "No Connected Person shall, directly or indirectly, bet and/or attempt to bet on the outcome or any aspect of any Connected Event and/or receive and/or attempt to receive part or all of the proceeds of any such bet and/or any other benefit in relation to a bet."

The investigation means Howley has been provisionally suspended from all rugby matters. Should he be found to have committed a breach of the regulations the penalties he could face vary, with the most severe sanction a life suspension from rugby depending upon the nature of the offence.

Howley has worked alongside Gatland, the Wales head coach, since January 2008. The 48-year-old Howley was to leave his role in the Welsh setup after the World Cup and he had been linked with a role with the Italian national side but his future is now under scrutiny.

Howley won 59 caps for Wales and captained his country on 22 occasions in a glittering career that took in playing for Bridgend, Cardiff and Wasps. As a coach he was assistant with the British & Irish Lions on three straight tours in 2009, 2013 and 2017. He has coached Wales on an interim basis on 20 occasions and led the team to the 2013 Six Nations title.

Howley attended Wales's open training session in the Japanese city of Kitakyushu – where 15,000 locals turned out to watch – on Monday afternoon but he was not present at the team's official welcome and capping ceremony later that evening as the WRU removed him from the camp.

Gatland and the WRU chief executive, Martyn Phillips, will front a press conference in the early hours of Wednesday UK time to provide more detail on Howley's departure.

The former Wales and Scarlets fly-half Jones – who was set to succeed Howley as Wales attack coach after the World Cup under the incoming head coach, Wayne Pivac – is on his way to Japan to take over in an emergency role with the full support of Gatland's senior players.

Source: 17 September 2019, *The Guardian*
Rugby

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2019/sep/17/wales-rob-howley-sent-home-from-world-cup-amid-betting-allegations>

BETTING

Korea (Rep. of)

BI deports South Korean fugitive facing illegal online gambling charges in Seoul

The Bureau of Immigration (BI) has deported a South Korean fugitive wanted by authorities in Seoul for allegedly operating an illegal gambling web site.

Immigration Port Operations chief Grifton Medina identified the Korean national as 35-year-old Jung Hyeongwook, who left the country last September 3 aboard a Philippine Airlines flight to Pusan.

He said Jung was deported a few days after he surrendered to the Korean Embassy in Manila, which earlier canceled his passport.

The passenger was reportedly issued a temporary travel document by the embassy to facilitate his departure and was later arrested upon his arrival in South Korea.

"I've recommended to Commissioner [Jaime] Morente that Jung be included in our blacklist to prevent him from reentering the country," Medina said. It was learned that Jung, who is being prosecuted in Seoul for violating his country's National Sports Promotion Act, was subject of a red notice issued by the Interpol last July 16.

Citing information obtained from the Korean police, the BI-Interpol said that between October 2015 and March 2016, Jung allegedly operated an illegal gambling web site called pony-ber1.com which provided sports betting facility to members. Jung and his cohorts allegedly collected betting money from the members and pocketed nearly \$6 million from the online gambling racket.

The fugitive may be sentenced up to a maximum jail term of seven years if convicted, Medina said.

Source: 11 September 2019, Business Mirror

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2019/09/11/bi-deports-south-korean-fugitive-facing-illegal-online-gambling-charges-in-seoul/>



POLICY

United Kingdom

Liverpool suspend lucrative partnership with betting firm pending full investigation into illegal online content

Liverpool have suspended their partnership with betting firm 1xBET pending a full investigation into illegal content. 1XBET has had its UK license suspended last week after it emerged advertisements had been placed on websites that included the unlawful streaming of Premier League football.

The company have reportedly also allowed bets to be placed in some countries on cockfights and children's sports and were suspended by UK regulators earlier this year.

The Russian firm have since launched their own investigation into the matter after insisting they were unaware of how their company was being promoted on certain websites online.

The Reds could be hit with a multi-million pound fine if they are found to have knowingly promoted a gambling firm that had been outlawed, although it is likely that such a scenario would be a worst-case one for the European champions.

Liverpool only agreed a multi-year deal with 1xBet back in July after describing the firm as "one of the most rapidly developing companies" in the betting industry.

"We are delighted to welcome 1XBET to Liverpool FC as our newest partner," said managing director and chief commercial officer Billy Hogan at the time.

"I know that their games and special offers will appeal to our fans around the world and we look forward to seeing these as we go into the new 2019/20 season."

However, the ECHO understands that the allegations placed at the door of the Russians have now seen Liverpool put their partnership on hold pending a full inquiry from the online bookmakers and the relevant regulatory bodies.

All 1XBET imagery and advertisements have since been taken from the club's official website, while their name does not appear in the list of corporate sponsors on Liverpoolfc.com.

Tottenham and Chelsea also have similar deals in place with 1XBET and while the west Londoners have taken the same course of action as Liverpool, it is understood that Spurs have terminated their agreement entirely.

"We're of the view that the best way for sports bodies to protect themselves against this risk is to ensure that they only promote gambling operators licensed by us," a GB Gambling Commission spokesperson said.

"As a result of concerns regarding 1XBET we recently wrote to Liverpool FC, Chelsea FC and Tottenham Hotspur FC to remind them that organisations engaging in sponsorship, and associated advertising arrangements, with an unlicensed operator may be liable to prosecution under section 330 of the Act for the offence of advertising unlawful gambling."

After being made aware of the accusations, 1XBET said: "If any of these third-party networks or partners are found to advertise the 1xBet brand on prohibited sites or sites which break the law, 1XBET shall investigate immediately."

Liverpool have been in active discussions with the firm but have declined to comment on the situation until the issue has been resolved. As a result, it means both parties have agreed to mutually suspend the partnerships until further notice.

Source: 10 September 2019, Liverpool Echo

Football

<https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/sport/football/football-news/liverpool-suspend-lucrative-partnership-betting-16895241>

CORRUPTION

FIFA

FIFA bans Paraguay's Napout for life

Former South American football official Juan Angel Napout has received a life ban for corruption, FIFA said on Thursday.

Football's global governing body said its ethics committee had found the 61-year-old Paraguayan guilty of bribery from 2012 to 2015. He was barred from all football-related activities for life and also fined one million Swiss francs (around 1.01 million U.S. dollars).

"The investigation proceedings against Mr Napout referred to bribery schemes ... in relation to his role in awarding contracts to companies for the media and marketing rights to CONMEBOL competitions," FIFA said in a statement.

The announcement came almost two years after Napout was convicted in a Brooklyn court of racketeering and corruption charges as part of a wide-ranging corruption probe launched by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Napout, a former FIFA vice president, served as leader of South American football body CONMEBOL from August 2014 until his arrest in December 2015. In August 2018 he was sentenced to nine years in jail.

Source: 12 September 2019, Xinhua Net

Football

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-09/13/c_138388393.htm

IAAF

IAAF bans former adviser for life in corruption case

MONACO — Track and field's world governing body has banned a former adviser for life over alleged corruption in relation to doping cases. The IAAF ethics board says Habib Cisse, who was a legal adviser to former IAAF president Lamine Diack, broke rules on "corrupt conduct" and integrity, bringing the sport into disrepute.

The board's ruling on Monday doesn't give more details of Cisse's conduct but mentions the case of Russian marathon runner Liliya Shobukhova, who was allegedly extorted out of hundreds of thousands of dollars to avoid a doping ban before the 2012 London Olympics.

The IAAF also fined Cisse \$25,000. Cisse, Diack and Diack's son, Papa Massata Diack, are among a group of former track officials awaiting trial in France on corruption charges.

Source: 10 September 2019, Washington Post

Athletics

https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/iaaf-bans-former-adviser-for-life-in-corruption-case/2019/09/09/3fadd7d0-d30b-11e9-8924-1db7dac797fb_story.html?noredirect=on



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