



# INTERPOL

## INTEGRITY IN SPORT

### Bi-weekly Bulletin

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Photos International Olympic Committee

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## INVESTIGATIONS

### Australia

#### Football Australia facing integrity probe amid match-fixing allegations

Football Australia is under investigation by the Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission for its integrity measures and the range of betting markets it permits, following the A-League's second match-fixing scandal in a year involving players allegedly manipulating yellow cards.

Source: 6 June 2025, ABC News

Football

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-06-07/football-australia-faces-integrity-probe/105387476>

### Ethiopia

#### Ethiopian Premier League probes ten matches amid match-fixing allegations

The Ethiopian Premier League Share Company has launched an investigation into potential match-fixing involving ten games amid tensions between top teams and relegation battles as the season nears its end. To combat manipulation, the league's technical committee will probe the final rounds and hopes new TV coverage by SuperSport will help deter corruption, warning that any club involved will face legal consequences.

Source: 31 May 2025, Pan African Football

<https://www.panafricafootball.com/post/ethiopian-premier-league-probes-ten-matches-amid-match-fixing-allegations>

### Nigeria

#### NLO to investigate match-fixing allegation against Cynosure FC chairman

In Nigeria, the Nationwide League One (NLO) has launched an investigation into allegations that the chairman of Cynosure FC attempted to fix a match by contacting the chairman of Liberty Lions FC to influence the outcome in Cynosure's favor. Despite the lobbying efforts, Liberty Lions FC refused to participate, and the NLO has vowed to ensure that anyone found guilty will face punishment.

Source: 3 June 2025, Daily Post

<https://dailypost.ng/2025/06/03/nlo-to-investigate-match-fixing-allegation-against-cynosure-fc-chairman/>

## SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

### Morocco

#### Casablanca club president suspended for three years over match-fixing scandal

The Royal Moroccan Football Federation's Ethics Committee suspended Abdellatif Naciri, player Mohamed Al-Aqal, and fined their club after confirming their involvement in an attempted match-fixing scheme during a National Amateur First Division Championship game.

Source: 29 May 2025, Yabiladi

<https://en.yabiladi.com/articles/details/167735/casablanca-club-president-suspended-three.html>

### Sri Lanka

#### Indian Franchise Owner Sentenced to Jail Over Match-Fixing Scandal

India's Prem Thakur, owner of the Lanka T10 League's Galle Marvels, was sentenced to two years in prison, fined, banned for 10 years, and ordered to leave Sri Lanka after pleading guilty to match-fixing charges.

Source: 1 June 2025, Lead Pakistan

<https://leadpakistan.com.pk/news/indian-franchise-owner-sentenced-to-jail-over-match-fixing-scandal/>

## BETTING

### Turkey

#### Papara founder arrested in \$330m illegal gambling swoop in Turkey

In Turkey, prosecutors arrested 13 suspects, including Papara founder Ahmed Faruk Karsl, for involvement in illegal gambling and money laundering operations that used Papara accounts to transfer illicit funds totaling TL12.9 billion, with authorities seizing assets worth TL5 billion.

Source: 27 May 2025, iGaming Business

<https://igamingbusiness.com/legal-compliance/legal/papara-founder-arrested-illegal-gambling-swoop-turkey/>

## DOPING

### Germany

#### Ermittler durchsuchen Fitnessstudios in Berlin – drei Verdächtige im Visier

In Germany, a large-scale police operation took place in Berlin following a tip from the French Anti-Doping Agency after a French bodybuilder admitted to purchasing the banned doping substance Ostarin at a Berlin gym. During searches of six locations, extensive doping substances, cash, and evidence were seized.

Source: 6 June 2025, BZ Berlin

[https://www.bz-berlin.de/polizei/fitnessstudio-berlin-drei-verdaechtige?utm\\_source=substack&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.bz-berlin.de/polizei/fitnessstudio-berlin-drei-verdaechtige?utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email)

## GOOD PRACTICES

### Canada

#### How IBIA is future-proofing Canadian sport integrity

As Canada's sports betting market grows, the International Betting Integrity Association (IBIA) is spearheading efforts to protect sports integrity through comprehensive education programs and a global betting surveillance system that monitors suspicious activity across hundreds of thousands of events.

Source: 6 June 2025, Insider Sport

<https://insidersport.com/2025/06/06/canada-match-fixing-integrity-ibia-jean-francois-reymond/>

## ODDS AND ENDS

### Global

#### FIFA reforms criticised 10 years on from corruption raid in statement from academics and human rights groups

A decade after the arrest of seven senior FIFA officials on corruption charges, an open letter from global football figures argues that FIFA is now "arguably more poorly governed" than before, citing ongoing governance flaws, lack of transparency, and controversial decisions like awarding the 2034 World Cup to Saudi Arabia. Despite FIFA's claims of reforms and increased investment in football development, critics say the organization's culture remains unchanged, hindering true ethical progress and effective internal reform.

Source: 27 May 2025, The Athletic

<https://www.nytimes.com/athletic/6384548/2025/05/27/fifa-reforms-zurich-raid-statement/>

### United States

#### Calls to Boycott 2026 World Cup Surge After Trump-FIFA Scandal and New Travel Ban

In the U.S., the Trump administration's new travel ban and FIFA President Gianni Infantino's close ties with him have sparked widespread criticism and growing calls to boycott the 2026 World Cup, particularly due to concerns over discrimination, corruption, and political interference.

Source: 5 June 2025, Yahoo! Sports

Football

<https://sports.yahoo.com/article/calls-boycott-2026-world-cup-181730982.html>

## MATCH FIXING

### Australia

#### Betting Scandal: Japanese Footballer Arrested for Match-Fixing Allegations

In Australia, Japanese national and Western United footballer Riku Danzaki has been arrested and charged with intentionally receiving yellow cards to manipulate betting outcomes in four A-League matches, and is currently out on bail awaiting a court hearing on July 31.

Source: 2 June 2025, 777 Score

Football

<https://777score.com/news/football/2594700-betting-scandal-japanese-footballer-arrested-for-match-fixing-allegations>

### Brazil

#### Flamengo rocked as key forward faces fresh match-fixing probe

In Brazil, Bruno Henrique missed a crucial STJD hearing on match-fixing allegations due to a scheduling conflict with Flamengo training, while new digital evidence involving betting activities linked to his family has intensified the investigation.

Source: 27 May 2025, One Football

Football

<https://onefootball.com/de/news/flamengo-rocked-as-key-forward-faces-fresh-match-fixing-probe-41167543>

### Chile

#### Le dernier des Mohicans : l'emblématique Hardman chilien Arturo Vidal impliqué dans un scandale de matchs truqués

Chilean football star Arturo Vidal is embroiled in a match-fixing scandal linked to his promotion of an online betting platform, prompting an investigation by CONMEBOL and potential sanctions. The controversy has intensified calls for Chile to regulate its online gambling industry, as the scandal highlights risks of conflicts of interest and unregulated betting.

Source: 29 May 2025, iGaming Future

<https://igamingfuture.com/chiles-iconic-hardman-arturo-vidal-embroiled-in-football-match-fixing-scandal/>

### Sri Lanka

#### Ex-KKR Star Charged For Match-Fixing In Sri Lanka

Former Sri Lanka cricketer Sachithra Senanayake has been indicted under the country's new anti-corruption law for attempting to fix matches during the 2020 Lanka Premier League, marking the first such case against a national-level player.

Source: 5 June 2025, NDTV Sports

<https://sports.ndtv.com/cricket/ex-kr-star-sachithra-senanayake-charged-for-match-fixing-in-sri-lanka-8593056>

**United Kingdom****Revealed: English women's cricket becomes match-fixing target**

English women's cricket is facing increasing corruption risks, with large sums bet on matches, players being approached for inside information, and minimal security at venues prompting a crackdown including anti-corruption officers and stricter measures like phone confiscations. Although no matches are confirmed fixed, concerns over unusual match patterns and widespread betting, especially at lower-tier games, have led to intensified efforts by the ECB to protect the integrity of the women's game as it grows more professional.

Source: 28 May 2025, Yahoo! Sports

<https://sports.yahoo.com/article/revealed-english-women-cricket-becomes-090200063.html>

**CORRUPTION****Australia****Australian football rocked by alleged A-Leagues corruption scandal**

In Australia, two men face 26 charges connected to alleged gambling corruption during the A-League season, with police accusing them of manipulating player bookings in matches to influence betting outcomes.

Source: 1 June 2025, 7 News

Football

<https://7news.com.au/sport/soccer/australian-football-rocked-by-alleged-a-leagues-corruption-scandal-c-18885987>

**Brazil****Corinthians President Augusto Melo Ousted Amid Money Laundering Scandal**

In Brazil, Augusto Melo has been temporarily suspended as Corinthians president amid corruption allegations involving a suspicious sponsorship deal linked to criminal activity, with an interim president appointed and a club assembly set to decide his fate.

Source: 27 May 2025, MENAFN

Football

<https://menafn.com/1109599323/Corinthians-President-Augusto-Melo-Ousted-Amid-Money-Laundering-Scandal>

**Cyprus****Cyprus football chief Koumas resigns after corruption allegations**

In Cyprus, Giorgos Koumas resigned as President of the Cyprus Football Association after nearly two decades in administration and amid mounting controversy, including allegations of corruption, conflicts of interest, and unethical financial dealings tied to broadcasting rights and match-fixing concerns.

Source: 3 June 2025, Philenews

Football

<https://in-cyprus.philenews.com/sports/cyprus-football-association-president-koumas-resigns/>

