



INTERPOL

# INTEGRITY IN SPORT

## Bi-weekly Bulletin

26 November 2019 - 16 December 2019



Photos International Olympic Committee

## INVESTIGATIONS

### Cricket

#### India International Abhimanyu Mithun to be Questioned in Karnataka Premier League Fixing Scandal

India international Abhimanyu Mithun will be questioned by the Central Crime Branch (CCB) in relation to the Karnataka Premier League (KPL) match-fixing scandal. Mithun has played for three different KPL teams including Malnad Gladiators, Bijapur Bills and Shuivamogga Lions, a team he captains as well.

“Yes. We have directed Abhimanyu Mithun to appear before the CCB police for questioning,” Joint Commissioner of Police Sandeep Patil was quoted saying by The Times of India.

Mithun has played four Tests and five ODIs for India between July 2010 and December 2011 in which he took 12 wickets. “We have readied some questions for Mithun about his play during the last KPL season,” a senior CCB officer as quoted a saying by the English daily.

Since July, CCB has arrested eight people in connection with the scandal that includes cricketers CM Gautam and Abrar Kazi along with Belagavi Panthers owner Ali Asfak Thara among others. Gautam has represented Royal Challengers Bangalore, Mumbai Indians and Delhi Daredevils in the Indian Premier League. Gautam led Goa after switching side from Karnataka in the Vijay Harare Trophy 2019-20 while Kazi moved away from Karnataka last season and played for Nagaland in the 2018-19 domestic season.

Earlier, CCB had sent a list of 18 points to Karnataka State Cricket Association and the KPL team managers. One of those questions was related to the all the matches played in the city in the last two years including those of IPL.

Source: 28 November 2019, Cricket Country

Cricket

<https://www.cricketcountry.com/news/india-international-abhimanyu-mithun-to-be-questioned-in-karnataka-premier-league-fixing-scandal-907615>

### India

#### KPL match fixing: CM Gautam, Abrar Kazi get bail

Two top state-level cricketers — CM Gautam, Abrar Kazi — arrested in the KPL match-fixing scandal obtained regular bail from the Karnataka high court on Wednesday.

The owner of the Ballari Tuskers KPL team, Aravind Reddy, had also secured anticipatory bail. A single-judge bench of Justice K N Phaneendra that heard the criminal petitions filed by the accused players imposed several conditions before granting them bail. The conditions included depositing a bond surety of Rs 2 lakh each. The advocate for the petitioners argued that the police have arrested them without proper evidence and registered an FIR on the assumption of offence. The court granted anticipatory bail to Reddy with conditions, including restrictions to travel abroad, for which Reddy must obtain permission from the jurisdictional court.

On November 7, the Central Crime Branch (CCB) police arrested cricketers Gautam and Kazi for fixing KPL matches. They were specifically accused of receiving Rs 20 lakh each for slow batting to fix the outcome of the finals between the Ballari Tuskers and Hubli Tigers.

Source: 12 December 2019, Deccan Herald

Cricket

<https://www.deccanherald.com/city/top-bengaluru-stories/kpl-match-fixing-cm-gautam-abrar-kazi-get-bail-784754.html>

## India

### KSCA managing committee official Sudhindra Shinde arrested for alleged match-fixing in KPL

Just a day after Karnataka State Cricket Association president Roger Binny said his administration was striving to keep cricket "clean", a senior official of the state's managing committee has been arrested as part of the ongoing investigation into corruption in the Karnataka Premier League (KPL).

Sudhindra Shinde, a former Karnataka player, was arrested by the Central Crime Branch (CCB) of Karnataka Police on Wednesday for allegedly being involved in "match-fixing".

The 39-year-old Shinde, who played 19 matches for Karnataka between 2002-03 and 2007-08, has performed various roles at KSCA as part of the management and in a coaching capacity as well. He was the Karnataka Under-19 coach, a position he had to step down from after being elected to the KSCA managing committee this August.

According to Sandeep Patil, joint commissioner of police (crime), Shinde "fixed" a few matches in the 2019 KPL along with Belagavi Panthers' team owner Ali Asfaq Thara. Both Thara and his team have been suspended by the KSCA, which also recently put the KPL on hold till the police wrap up the ongoing investigation.

Patil said Thara had approached Shinde - who later became head of cricket at Panthers - in 2017 to sponsor the Social Cricketers club, which the latter ran in Bengaluru.

"Shinde was running a cricket club in Bangalore from many years," Patil said. "Around 2017, Ali came and joined the club and started to sponsor it. That is when Ali and Shinde came in contact and started this whole network of match-fixing. He along with Ali has fixed few matches."

The KSCA has spoken of its intention to keep cricket in the state clean Getty Images

On Tuesday, Binny had reacted for the first time after being elected KSCA president recently. Binny called the KPL corruption scandal as an "unfortunate turn of events", and that the KSCA would sanction the guilty appropriately.

"With the unfortunate turn of events with regard to the Karnataka Premier League, we would like to reaffirm that we are fully cooperating with the authorities to ensure that those who have wronged the sport will be subject to due process of law," Binny said. "Any player/official/franchise, who has brought disrepute to the sport/association due to their involvement in betting/match-fixing or any other illegal activity, will be suspended immediately, if there is a prima facie evidence."

Shinde's arrest came on the back of several other people, including cricketers, being interrogated and even apprehended by the police in the past few months. Apart than Thara and Bhavesh Bafna, who played the drums at the grounds during KPL matches, the police recently took into custody former Karnataka captain CM Gautam and spinner Abrar Kazi. Both had represented Bellary Tuskars in the last season of the KPL.

Among other players who have been called for questioning are fast bowler Abhimanyu Mithun and spinner KC Cariappa.

The KPL corruption scandal followed the alleged approaches made to players during the last edition of Tamil Nadu Premier League (TNPL).

The BCCI's anti-corruption unit launched an investigation into the TNPL controversy, too, and recently anti-corruption head Ajit Singh said that the KSCA had been "amply warned" about some of the KPL matches being possibly "compromised" if adequate safeguards were not put in place.

On Sunday, Sourav Ganguly, the BCCI president, said that anti-corruption in domestic T20 leagues within India was a concern and the board was keeping a close eye on the developments.

Source: 4 December 2019, ESPN Cricketinfo

Cricket

[https://www.espnricinfo.com/story/\\_/id/28222977/ksc-managing-committee-official-sudhindra-shinde-arrested-alleged-match-fixing-kpl](https://www.espnricinfo.com/story/_/id/28222977/ksc-managing-committee-official-sudhindra-shinde-arrested-alleged-match-fixing-kpl)

**Indonesia****Anti-Football Mafia Task Force Arrests Suspects of Match Fixing**

Indonesian football anti-mafia task force arrested six people in the case involving match-fixing in the Liga 3 series between Persikasi Bekasi and Perses Sumedang on November 6, 2019. The match was won by Persikasi Bekasi 3-2.

"From our investigation based on public information and the investigation team on the field, we concluded that there was an attempt to fix the match between the football clubs, referee, and the PSSI," said the task force's chief Brig. Gen. Hendro Pandowo at the Metro Jaya police headquarters on Thursday, November 28, 2019.

Based on the information, the task force then organized an operation on November 22, 2019 and arrested on eight people suspected to be involved in the match-fixing.

The suspects include DS (main referee), three Persikasi managements, a broker, and West Java PSSI's referee task commission.

The anti-mafia task force reported that the two members of West Java PSSI managed to escape during the arrests.

*Source: 28 November 2019, Tempo.co*

*Football*

<https://en.tempo.co/read/1277862/anti-football-mafia-task-force-arrests-suspects-of-match-fixing>



## Peru

### Cajamarca: Denuncian amaño de partido del UTC para favorecer a apostadores

La Federación Peruana de Fútbol investiga una denuncia por presunto amaño de partido del UTC de Cajamarca contra el Pirata FC, por la última fecha de la Liga 1 de fútbol profesional.

Las suspicacias iniciaron cuando un buen número de personas abarrotó las casas de apuestas en Cajamarca y apostó a que el UTC perdía el encuentro. La apuesta fue en el mismo sentido: los cajamarquinos ganaban en el primer tiempo y en el segundo, los lambayecanos volteaban.

Y así ocurrió. La fecha que ambos equipos jugaron no tenía algún puesto o posibilidad de clasificación en disputa.

Para tener una idea, en una casa de apuestas, por 10 soles invertidos a un resultado en especial se puede llegar a recibir unos 350 soles. Con 100 soles apostados, este monto se puede multiplicar a los 3500.

Para este encuentro hubo personas que apostaron incluso hasta 5 mil soles a que Pirata ganaba. Algo raro para un partido intrascendente de dos equipos que no tenían nada que discutir en el campeonato.

Lo que ocurrió en la cancha fue algo similar. Jugadores con extraños comportamientos, pérdida de pelota de manera inocente y sospechosa.

"Cuando nos enteramos de este arreglo de partido inmediatamente la batería de información caminó. La FPF nos informó de los indicios y pasamos toda la información", dijo Alberto D'Angelo, presidente de la Asociación de Apuestas Deportivas.

Luego del encuentro, varios clientes se acercaron a la casa de apuestas para cobrar sus premios. Los montos a pagar por este partido llegaban casi a los 100 000 soles.

Lo curioso es que, el 27 de noviembre, a 3 días del partido, un grupo de jugadores del UTC de Cajamarca se acercaron a la casa de apuestas para hacer un cobro de apuesta.

"Pedían que les cancelemos, son jugadores, no los conozco. Confirmando que ellos exigían el pago del premio, pedían para pagarles porque tenían ticket de 2800 soles", ha dicho Mili Alvarado, una trabajadora de la casa de apuestas.

Sin embargo, a los jugadores no se les volvió a ver luego de que se les dijo que todo este presunto amaño de partido estaba en investigación. Entre los jugadores a los que se pudo reconocer estaban Jarlín Quintero, David Díaz, entre otros. Ellos jugaron contra Pirata.

El colombiano Quintero no está en el país, salió el 29 de noviembre, pero el defensa Díaz sí contestó a Cuarto Poder y aseguró que estaban en la casa porque querían apostarle al Barcelona.

"Estábamos ahí por el tema de que jugaba el Barcelona. Y nosotros nos acercamos a apostar ese partido. Justo fue por el partido de Barcelona", dijo el futbolista.

La Federación Peruana de Fútbol continúa con las investigaciones del caso.

Source: 8 December 2019, America TV

Football

<https://www.americatv.com.pe/noticias/actualidad/cajamarca-denuncian-amano-partido-utc-favorecer-apostadores-n398918>

## Spain

### Football 'match fixing' in Spain: Players paid premium by rival team to WIN game

Nine people have been arrested for alleged match-fixing in Spain. National Police and Europol, in a joint investigation, made the arrests this morning (November 26) during the second phase of operation OIKOS.

The detained people are accused of "private corruption", unfair administration and money laundering linked to the payment of bribes linked to the promotion play-offs to the Spanish first division.

During the first phase of the operation, carried out last May, the police found several handwritten sheets that contained details of the collection, distribution, return and delivery of funds to fix a match in the second division.

Police said in a statement that "after analysing the documentation, investigators found that a football club handed over cash to the staff of another team after their victory in a game held in June 2017."

This is thought to be a reference to Catalan club Reus Deportiu who beat Real Valladolid 2-0 on the penultimate day of the 2016-2017 season.

It is alleged that players from the winning team were then paid a 'premium' by SD Huesca as it ensured the latter team a spot in the play offs.

This is the first time that so-called 'third party premiums' have been judicially investigated. Reus, who allegedly received it, did not have anything to play for in that game, while Real Valladolid and SAD Huesca both had a chance of the play offs.

Reus won 2-0 when the odds for that match were 5-1 against them. Huesca finished the league in sixth position on goal difference over Valladolid, so they played the promotion phase.

Huesca lost in the semifinals against Getafe.

Among those arrested are active players who played for Reus and directors of Huesca, some of them already arrested in the first phase of Operation Oikos.

One of the first to be arrested was Francisco Javier Pichu Atienza, who currently plays for Real Zaragoza and in 2017 was a player of Reus.

Iñigo López, former player of Deportivo de La Coruña, Huesca and Granada, among others, has also been arrested.

Source: 27 November 2019, Euro Weekly News

Football

<https://www.euroweeklynews.com/2019/11/26/football-match-fixing-in-spain-players-paid-premium-by-rival-team-to-win-game/#.Xd-rgRR7las>



## Spain

### Spanish match-fixing case falls apart as judge clears convict 41 players and officials

A Spanish court has cleared 36 players and five others of match-fixing relating to a top-flight survival decider between Levante and Real Zaragoza in the final round of the 2010-11 season.

The judge who issued the not guilty verdict said there was not enough evidence to convict the players and others on trial, including former Mexico coach Javier Aguirre.

Zaragoza had been accused of paying Levante players €965,000 to lose so Zaragoza could avoid relegation.

The judge did convict two former Zaragoza officials of fraud – then-president Agapito Iglesias and club director Javier Porquera. They were found guilty of using €1.73 million from Zaragoza's accounts to pay players relegation bonuses.

They were each given a 15-month prison sentence, although they are not likely to face jail time because sentences of less than two years for first-time offenders are often suspended in Spain.

Those accused were all facing two years in prison and a six-year ban from football.

Among the players on trial were Ander Herrera, the former Manchester United player now with Paris Saint-Germain; former Leicester City midfielder Vicente Iborra; former Atletico Madrid captain Gabi Fernandez; River Plate midfielder Leonardo Ponzio, Serbian defender Ivan Obradovic, Lazio forward Felipe Caicedo, Italian defender Maurizio Lanzaro and Uruguay and former Middlesbrough striker Cristhian Stuani.

Aguirre was Zaragoza's coach at the time. He was among those who appeared in court to give evidence. "I'm very happy for myself and for my family," he said in a statement released by Leganes, his current club in Spain. "I always had faith in justice."

*Source: 8 December 2019, Inside World Football*

*Football*

<http://www.insideworldfootball.com/2019/12/10/spanish-match-fixing-case-falls-apart-judge-clears-convict-41-players-officials/>



## United Kingdom

### Hayes man worked with ex Pakistan cricketer to spot-fix international cricket matches

A man from Hayes coordinated with Pakistani cricketers to fix elements of international cricket matches.

Yousaf Anwar, 35, was arrested at Heathrow Airport after returning from Dubai where he arranged for a match to be fixed in the Pakistan Super League (PSL).

Anwar, of Marine Approach in Yeading, and co-conspirator Mohammad Ijaz, 33, from Sheffield, took money from bookies to get players to carry out spot-fixing, allowing big money to be made on the black market.

They were helped by ex-professional Pakistani cricketer Nasir Jamshaid, who gave the pair access to a roster of players. Jamshaid, 32, admitted bribing players to carry out the fixes at international matches, at Manchester Crown Court on Monday (December 9).

The trio were caught during a covert operation by the National Crime Agency. An undercover officer found the group had been plotting to fix elements of matches in the 2016 Bangladesh Premier League T20 tournament Jamshaid played in.

Anwar and Ijaz had developed a system using different coloured grips for batsmen, so they could signal to the bookies that the fix was on. They charged £30,000 for the privilege, half of which would go to the player.

The following year they made plans to target the PSL. Anwar was caught on CCTV buying 28 bat handle grips from a shop in St Albans and giving co-conspirator Ijaz's name and address.

Shortly afterwards he flew out in February to meet more professional players including Khalid Latif and Sharjeel Khan, who played for Islamabad United. Latif and Khan agreed to fix parts of the matches for them.

The PSL fixture between Islamabad United and Peshawar Zalmi was played in Dubai on February 9, 2017. Latif had agreed the fix, but it was Khan who came the crease almost five hours into the game and gave the pre-agreed signal.

Anwar was arrested at Heathrow as he flew back to his home in Yeading (Image: STEVE ALLEN)

Khan then carried out the fix, playing two dot balls in the first two balls of the second over, before getting out leg before wicket for 0 in the third ball of the over.

Just four days later, Jamshaid was arrested at his home in Walsall, near Birmingham, while Anwar was arrested at Heathrow. Ijaz was arrested 10 days later at his home in Sheffield. They have all pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit bribery and will be sentenced in February.

Source: 10 December 2019, My London

<https://www.mylondon.news/news/west-london-news/hayes-man-worked-ex-pakistan-17394582>



## SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

### Australia

#### 'Penalty exceeded crime': Speed calls for review of Smith penalty

The man who fronted world cricket's battle against match fixing after the Hansie Cronje affair says Cricket's Australia's punishment of Emily Smith for a breach of its anti-corruption code did not fit the crime and should be reviewed.

Malcolm Speed, the former Australian Cricket Board and International Cricket Council chief executive, argues the 12-month ban handed to Smith, nine months of which was suspended, was excessive and did not show enough compassion to the player given the circumstances surrounding the social media post that landed the Hobart Hurricanes wicketkeeper in hot water.

The treatment of Smith has angered the Australian Cricketers' Association, which after convening for a special meeting of directors this week is urging the CA board to reconsider the severity of the sanction.

Smith was effectively banned for the rest of the season including from club cricket after releasing the Hurricanes team on Instagram an hour before a Women's Big Bash League game.

CA accepted there was no intent by Smith to breach its anti-corruption code – she told its head of integrity and security, Sean Carroll, the post was intended as a joke about her lowly spot in the batting order in a game in Burnie, which was ultimately washed out. The governing body also fined the Hurricanes for breaches of the players and match officials area rules, having allowed players to keep their phones in a restricted area.

Speed, a sports lawyer who led what was then called the ACB from 1997 until 2001 before leaving to become CEO of the ICC until 2008, was running Australian cricket when explosive revelations emerged in 1998 that Shane Warne and Mark Waugh had been fined three years earlier for giving information to an Indian bookmaker.

He also led the ICC in the years after Cronje, the disgraced ex-South Africa captain who was banned for life for match fixing, and as then executive director of the Coalition of Major Professional and Participation Sports led the push for 10-year jail terms for people who corrupted sport, a maximum penalty that was enacted in legislation when Australian states began to roll out match fixing laws in 2012.

"I respect the motivation to have zero tolerance [on breaches of the anti-corruption code] but I think from time to time there has to be an element of compassion so that the penalty fits the crime," Speed told The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age. "And I think the penalty here exceeded the severity of the crime."

"If there is a way to review it so that the penalty more accurately fits the crime, I think that would be well received."

Smith agreed to the sanction this month – according to the ACA she did not contest it because the disciplinary process had already been traumatising for her and she was concerned she risked a higher suspension – and as a result there can't be an appeal under Section 7.3 of the CA anti-corruption code.

However, the Shane Watson-led ACA wants the CA board to review the penalty itself, arguing the governing body has the power to lighten the sentence under its own code. The ACA is lobbying for the ban to be fully suspended.

Senior CA officials say the sanction is unlikely to be revisited but there was an indication on Thursday that the governing body would take lessons out of the suspension of Smith and the fall out from it.

"CA reviews its policies every year and takes into consideration incidents that have occurred and changes to industry practices to inform its thinking," CA executive general manager of public affairs Karina Keisler said.

"While the integrity of the game is of utmost importance, so too is the health, safety and wellbeing of our players - sometimes there's a fine line between managing integrity and the impact on players but we work hard to find the balance."

Source: 28 November 2019, Brisbane Times

Cricket

<https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/sport/cricket/penalty-exceeded-crime-speed-calls-for-review-of-smith-penalty-20191128-p53f6w.html>

**Lithuania****Lažyb skandalai gržo: „Atlantas“ ir „Palanga“ šalinami iš A lygos**

Lietuvos futbolas anksiau ne kart buvo siejamas su sutart rungtyni ir lažyb skandalais. Manyta, kad pastaraisiais metais dl aktyvios lažyb prevencijos programos ir stebsenos situacija pagerjo. Tiau šias iliuzijas išskleid Lietuvos futbolo federacijos (LFF) vadovai.

„Deja, gržtame 2015 m., kai ši problema buvo labai opi. Šiomet A lygos ir I lygos pirmenybi metu gavome 24 pranešimus apie galimai sutartas rungtynes. Taip pat esame gav 200 spjim, kurie nurodo apie keistus koeficient pokyius rungtyni metu“, – ketvirtadien spaudos konferencijoje skandalingus skaiius atskleid LFF generalinis sekretorius Edgaras Stankevičius.

reklama

Pasak jo, net 17 pranešim susij su dviem klubais – Klaipdos „Atlantu“ ir „Palanga“, kurie pelnsi iš nelegalaus lažyb verslo.

Prajušiam A lygos sezone „Atlantas“ užm 6 viet, „Palanga“ liko 7-a.

LFF sankcijos buvo negailastingos – „Atlantas“ ir „Palanga“ diskvalifikuojami iš A lygos ir 2020 m. gals rungtyniauti nebent trejame šalies divizione – LFF II lygoje. Klaipdos klubui skirta 30 tkst. eur bauda, Palangos klubui - 42 tkst. eur.

reklama

LFF praneša, kad taip pat nubausti ir ši klub futbolininkai – 5 žaidjai iš „Atlanto“ bei 10 žaidj iš „Palangos“ komand. Mažiausia žaidjui skirta diskvalifikacija siekia 6 mnesius, tuo tarpu didžiausia – 12 mnesi bei 2 tkstani eur bauda. LFF taip pat kreipsis FIFA su prašymu suspenduoti žaidjus ne tik lokaliu, bet ir pasauliniu mastu.

„LFF, kartu su UEFA yra pasiruošusi kovoti su manipuliacijomis siekiant paveikti rungtyni rezultat. Mes laikoms nulins tolerancijos ribos ir esame pasiruoš užkirst keli sutartoms varžyboms. Ms tikslas yra išsaugoti sžiningo žaidimo esm bei užtikrinti futbolo gerbj bei suinteresuot šali pasitikjim“, - teig federacijos prezidentas Tomas Danilevičius.

Konferencijoje dalyvavo T. Danilevičius, E. Stankevičius, Lietuvos policijos generalinio komisaro pavaduotojas Edvardas Šileris ir UEFA kovos su sutartomis rungtynmis skyriaus pareignas Massimiliano Michenzi.

LFF Drausms komiteto sprendimas gali bti skundžiamas ne vliau kaip per septynias dienas nuo teikimo dienos. Lietuvos futbolo federacijos atstov teigimu, tik suvienij jgas su teissaugos institucijomis galima užkirst keli šiai problemai.

Source: 4 December 2019, Alfa

Football

<https://www.alfa.lt/straipsnis/50407660/lazybu-skandalai-grizo-atlantas-ir-palanga-salinami-is-a-lygos>

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## LEGISLATION

### Honduras

#### Nuevo Código Penal de Honduras tipifica delitos de corrupción en el deporte

El nuevo Código Penal de Honduras trae una novedad en torno a este delito en el deporte y es que se castigará a quienes incurran en ello como en casos de amaño de partidos, por ejemplo.

Fenafuth y Liga Nacional tiene su propio Código de Disciplina, en ese sentido habría que determinar qué normativa prevalecería y tener cuidado en que no haya intromisión dentro del fútbol y así la FIFA castigue a Honduras como sucedió con Guatemala. Lo que se ha hecho es agotar los procedimientos administrativos pautados en dicho Código que tiene la Federación. Liga y Fenafuth multan de forma económica e inhabilitan a quien caiga en corrupción, pero en cuestión de responsabilidades civiles, administrativas o penales, se abocan ante el Tribunal Superior de Cuentas u otras entidades.

“Lo dispuesto en el artículo anterior es aplicable, en sus respectivos casos, a los directivos, administradores, empleados o colaboradores de una entidad deportiva, cualquiera que sea la forma jurídica de esta, así como a los deportistas, árbitros o jueces, respecto de aquellas conductas que tengan por finalidad predeterminar o alterar de manera deliberada y fraudulenta el resultado de una competición, prueba o encuentros deportivos profesionales”, cita el artículo 419 del nuevo Código Penal.

En tanto, en el 418 se lee: “Pena de prisión de dos (2) a seis (6) años, inhabilitación especial para el ejercicio por el doble de tiempo que dure la pena de prisión y multa por cantidad igual o hasta el triple del valor del beneficio o ventaja”.

Cabe decir que el Código también castigará a quienes conspiren, propongan o provoquen para cometer los delitos previstos en este capítulo y la persona deberá ser sancionada con las penas reducidas en dos tercios.

Lo mencionado se aplicará a eventos profesionales en Honduras que incluya cualquier deporte. En el tema del fútbol es, quizás, lo más importante pues siempre ha sido un secreto a voces. Se tiene previsto que en mayo del 2020 entre en vigencia el nuevo Código.

Source: 29 November 2019, La Gente

<http://www.radiolaprimerisima.com/noticias/resumen/274097/nuevo-codigo-penal-de-honduras-tipifica-delitos-de-corrupcion-en-el-deporte/>

## GOOD PRACTICES

### Malta

#### MGA and Malta FA sign Data Sharing Agreement

Earlier today, at the Malta Football Association headquarters in Ta' Qali, Malta, the Malta Gaming Authority (MGA) and the Malta Football Association signed a Data Sharing Agreement which will allow both parties to share data and exchange relevant information in relation to the prevention and investigation of match-fixing and corruption incidents in sports.

This agreement is necessary for the data sharing process between the MGA and the Malta FA to ensue, as established by law.

Whilst enhancing the existing collaboration between the two entities, this Agreement ensures that areas of mutual regulatory interest are thoroughly and promptly investigated and that both parties are in possession of all necessary data to efficiently carry out their regulatory obligations.

Whilst praising the mutual efforts in the build-up to this initiative, Malta FA President Bjorn Vassallo said: "The Malta FA has a very good relationship with the MGA as strategic partners in the fight against corruption in sports. The Malta FA was the catalyst behind the Anti-Corruption Task Force in 2015 which eventually led to the introduction of the Prevention of Corruption in Sport Bill and the formation of a national Sports Integrity Unit.

"This Data Sharing Agreement represents another important step to further strengthen the Malta FA's efforts to tackle match-fixing within its regulatory limits at sporting level. It enables the MGA and the Malta FA to share not only crucial data but also expertise."

The MGA's Chief Executive Officer, Heathcliff Farrugia, emphasised the importance of this agreement, stating: "This Data Sharing Agreement follows a number of MoUs signed by the MGA with other regulatory bodies throughout 2019, and also ties in perfectly with MGA's recent establishment of a dedicated Sports Integrity Unit. The Authority is committed to ensuring that this agreement is not limited to data sharing, but also sharing of ideas and best practices for the benefit of both entities."

The Data Sharing Agreement comes into force as of 5 December, 2019.

Source: 5 December 2019, Malta Independent

<https://www.independent.com.mt/articles/2019-12-05/football/MGA-and-Malta-FA-sign-Data-Sharing-Agreement-6736217141>

## ODDS AND ENDS

### IOC

#### IOC EMPHASISES QUEST FOR SPORTS INTEGRITY ON INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY

ON THE OCCASION OF INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY, CELEBRATED WORLDWIDE ON 9 DECEMBER, THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC) HAS REITERATED ITS DETERMINATION TO PROTECT SPORT'S INTEGRITY AT ALL LEVELS.

In line with this year's theme of "United Against Corruption - Take action - Lead the change - Be the change" proclaimed by the United Nations, the IOC fights corruption at organisational level as well on the field of play. As this is a complex undertaking which often goes beyond sporting jurisdiction, the IOC is working with a range of stakeholders in order to maximise the efficiency and impact of its activities.

#### INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGAINST CORRUPTION IN SPORT

One important initiative exemplifying the IOC's commitment to fight corruption is the International Partnership against Corruption in Sport (IPACS), which was launched at the IOC's International Forum for Sports Integrity (IFSI) in February 2017. This multi-stakeholder platform brings together international sports organisations, governments, inter-governmental organisations and other stakeholders to eliminate corruption and promote a culture of good governance in sport.

Dedicated expert taskforces have worked on a number of issues, ranging from reducing the risk of corruption in procurement relating to sporting events and infrastructure and ensuring integrity in the selection of major sporting events to enhancing cooperation between criminal justice authorities and sports organisations. The latest progress in these specific fields will be presented at the IPACS General Conference on 15 December in Abu Dhabi, in the presence of IOC President Thomas Bach.

#### PREVENTION OF COMPETITION MANIPULATION

In addition, the IOC strives to prevent competition manipulation and related corruption at sports events through a fully-fledged strategy developed in close collaboration with several partners, including the Olympic Movement stakeholders, sports betting operators, national regulatory authorities, intergovernmental agencies and academics.

#### BELIEVE IN SPORT CAMPAIGN TO RAISE AWARENESS

As prevention is key, the IOC has put in place the Believe in Sport campaign, which aims to raise awareness of the issue of competition manipulation among athletes, entourage members and officials. It is activated at major sports events, including the upcoming Lausanne 2020 Winter Youth Olympic Games and the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020. Athlete role models have supported the campaign to undertake peer-to-peer communication, which has proved to be very effective. The Believe in Sport Toolbox includes almost 30 different educational tools in various formats (videos, presentation templates, leaflets, etc.) and languages, targeting athletes, coaches and officials.

Through these various initiatives, the IOC is demonstrating its willingness to fight corruption in the most efficient and integrated way. The integrity hotline that has been created to allow everyone to report suspicious activities, including those related to competition manipulation, and any other infringements of the IOC Code of Ethics, is another concrete example of this strong commitment.

Source: 9 December 2019, IOC News

<https://www.olympic.org/news/ioc-emphasises-quest-for-sports-integrity-on-international-anti-corruption-day>

## INTEGRITY IN SPORT EVENTS

### Colombia

#### INTERPOL and IOC regional workshop on sports integrity

MEDELLIN, Colombia – INTERPOL and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) have jointly organized a regional workshop to prevent and effectively address competition manipulation in sport.

The event was the first such initiative to bring together law enforcement, National Olympic Committees, national sports federations and public authorities at regional level. Participants from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay reviewed strategies, policies and legislation.

The workshop was organized in close collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and experts from Sportradar.

In his opening remarks, Baltazar Medina, President of the Colombian Olympic Committee said that multi-stakeholder partnerships were essential to implementing Olympic Agenda 2020, the strategic roadmap for the future of the Olympic Movement.

Colonel Jorge Wilson Serna Lopez of the INTERPOL National Central Bureau for Colombia stressed the timeliness of this workshop, as Colombia is currently finalizing new legislation to incriminate competition manipulation and protect sports from corruption and organized crime.

Pierre Lapaque, UNODC Representative in Colombia, said: “I would also like to voice my strong appreciation for the excellent partnership that UNODC has with INTERPOL and IOC. Joint activities such as this workshop add significant value to international efforts to strengthen integrity in sport.”

The event addressed current threats to the integrity of sport, sports betting developments and global crime trends in competition manipulation and related corruption.

It aimed to identify ways of preventing and responding to breaches jeopardizing the integrity of sports, in addition to identifying and aligning the efforts of key stakeholders in order to develop a coordinated approach via national platforms.

The workshop agenda included a review of INTERPOL’s global policing capabilities that assist member countries fight corruption in sport.

In this respect, the INTERPOL Match-Fixing Task Force (IMFTF) brings together law enforcement agencies from around the world to tackle match fixing and corruption in sport.



It supports member countries in match-fixing investigations and operations in all sports, and maintains a global network of match-fixing investigators so they can share information, intelligence and best practices.

The event concluded with participants recommending the creation of partnerships to address competition manipulation at national as well as regional levels, supported by INTERPOL, IOC and UNODC.

Organized under the framework of a 2014 cooperation agreement between INTERPOL and the IOC to build capacity to protect the integrity of sports, the workshop was held in parallel with the INTERPOL Global Anti-Corruption and Asset Recovery Global Conference in Medellin.

Source: 26 November 2019, INTERPOL

<https://www.interpol.int/News-and-Events/News/2019/INTERPOL-and-IOC-regional-workshop-on-sports-integrity>

## Hungary

### Integrisport Erasmus+ Awareness Raising Session Organized in Hungary

The Rapid Response and Special Police Services, National Bureau of Investigation, the National Tax and Customs Administration together with CSCF-Foundation for Sport Integrity co-organized an awareness raising session on combating sport manipulation and match fixing in the framework of Integrisport Erasmus+ from 12th to 14th of November in Budapest.

During the 3-day training organized specially for members of the Hungarian Police, as well as the National Tax and Customs Administration, the Hungarian Prosecution Service and judges of the Hungarian Criminal Court, within the EU co-funded project, participants had an open discussion on sport manipulation and match fixing and how this phenomenon has been affecting Hungary. International experts including the Vice Federal Prosecutor of the Belgian Federal Prosecution Service and representatives from the EU Athletes and Global Lottery Monitoring System (GLMS) and from the coordinator of Integrisport Erasmus+, CSCF-Foundation for Sport Integrity, animated the exchange. Their contributions were accompanied by national expertise from the Hungarian Football Federation, the Hungarian Football Player's Union, the Hungarian Lottery, Szerencsejáték Zrt, the National Bureau of Investigation and the Hungarian Prosecution Service.

The Hungarian Police and CSCF-Foundation for Sport Integrity also informed the participants of the activities of the Hungarian National Platform related to the Council of Europe Convention on Manipulations of Sports Competitions including international co-operation.

As Lt. Colonel Zita Zmolnik, Deputy Director of the National Investigation Bureau, said in her opening speech: "National and international law enforcement and judicial co-operation, and the common thought of relevant public stakeholders and the private sector, are vital in order to successfully fight against this special type of crime phenomenon." In order to combat sport manipulation, law enforcement and judicial authorities need to be prepared. This is where Integrisport Erasmus+ has an important role: by providing awareness raising to law enforcement agencies, which is crucial to achieve this aim.

Norbert Rubicsek, director of CSCF and Integrisport Erasmus+ project manager added, "Law enforcement agencies and judicial authorities are the primary stakeholders involved in the investigative and court phases of criminal law cases of manipulations of sports competitions. It is therefore extremely important that on the one hand they are well prepared and informed and on the other hand, that other stakeholders fully understand the role of these key stakeholders. Law enforcement and judiciary are the link to completing the chain in a sports manipulation criminal case and are also a vital link in identifying legislation that needs to be in place to effectively combat manipulations of sports competitions.

The Integrisport Erasmus+ awareness raising sessions in each partner country give law enforcement officers and judicial authorities the possibility to better understand and tackle the dangers of sport manipulation to sport and the society. Project partners include Cyprus Police, Finnish Center for Integrity in Sports (FINCIS), Rapid Response and Special Police Force – Hungary, National Tax and Customs Administration – Hungary, Ministry of Security and Justice – the Netherlands, The Department of Physical Education and Sports – Lithuania, Ministry of Justice – Judicial Police – Portugal, Presidium of the Police Force, Ministry of Interior – Slovak Republic, GLMS – The Global Lottery Monitoring System, EU Athletes, Aix-Marseille University – Centre of Sport and the coordinator, Stichting CSCF – Foundation for Sport Integrity and the Council of Europe (CoE) as a supporting organisation. Integrisport is also a partner project of the KCOOS+ project of the CoE.

*Source: 26 November 2019, IntegriSport*

<https://www.integrisport.org/awareness-raising-session-organized-in-hungary/>

## Lithuania

### 'Combating Sport Manipulation' Awareness Raising Session for the Lithuanian Law Enforcement and Judiciary – Integrisport Erasmus+

The third awareness raising session of Integrisport Erasmus+ on combating sport manipulation and match fixing took place between 2-4 December in Vilnius, and was co-organized by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport and the Lithuanian Sport Centre, together with CSCF-Foundation for Sport Integrity.

During this 3-day event, which was organized in the framework of the EU-financed Project Integrisport Erasmus+, the representatives of Lithuanian Law Enforcement and Judiciary had in-depth conversations and were provided with a comprehensive approach on how to combat sport manipulation and how to co-operate with domestic and international stakeholders to tackle this very serious phenomenon.

The issue of sport manipulation was introduced by representatives of Lithuanian competent authorities, such as the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, the Lithuanian Football Federation and the Gambling Supervisory Authority, and also by international organizations, including EU Athletes, Global Lottery Monitoring System and CSCF Foundation for Sport Integrity, the coordinator of Integrisport Erasmus+.

The Council of Europe, as supporting partner of Integrisport Erasmus+, presented the Convention on Manipulation of Sports Competition and the international aspect of the co-operation in this domain.

Mrs. Kornelija Tiesnesyt, Deputy Minister of Education, Science and Sport expressed in her opening speech that "it is very important unite forces in fight against sport integrity threats. Sport is crosssectoral phenomena and I hope this seminar will help Lithuanian law enforcement officers and prosecutors to recognize patterns of match-fixing while investigating other crimes. The seminar is also a chance to strengthen cooperation at national and international level and exchange good practice."

Norbert Rubicsek, director of CSCF and Integrisport Erasmus+ project manager added, "Criminal procedures in sport manipulation- related cases are unique: they are frequently committed in two or more countries and involve, in some way or another, the competencies of the private sector, of which sport is one. This is why national and trans-national co-operation amongst law enforcement and judiciary and other governmental organizations on the one hand and the private sector on the other hand, is a vital step in the fight against this phenomenon."

The Integrisport Erasmus+ awareness raising sessions in each partner country give law enforcement officers and judicial authorities the chance to better understand and tackle the dangers of sport manipulation to sport and to society. Project partners include Cyprus Police, Finnish Center for Integrity in Sports (FINCIS), Rapid Response and Special Police Force – Hungary, National Tax and Customs Administration – Hungary, Ministry of Security and Justice – the Netherlands, The Lithuanian Sport Centre– Lithuania, Ministry of Justice – Judicial Police – Portugal, Presidium of the Police Force, Ministry of Interior – Slovak Republic, GLMS – The Global Lottery Monitoring System, EU Athletes, Aix-Marseille University – Centre of Sport and the coordinator, Stichting CSCF – Foundation for Sport Integrity, and the Council of Europe (CoE) as a supporting organisation. Integrisport is also a partner project of the KCOOS+ project of the CoE.

Source: 5 December 2019, Integrisport

<https://www.integrisport.org/awareness-raising-session-organized-in-lithuania/>

## CORRUPTION

### Qatar

#### France opens formal inquiry into awarding of 2022 World Cup to Qatar

A formal judicial inquiry has been opened in France into the awarding of the 2022 World Cup to Qatar.

It follows three years of preliminary investigations by French authorities over whether a private dinner between leading officials and Qatari bid backers influenced the bidding process.

The World Cup 2022 vote was held nine days after the dinner at the Elysee Palace, hosted by then French president Nicolas Sarkozy, and included Qatar's then crown prince Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad al Thani, now the Emir as the country undertakes preparations for the tournament.

Former Uefa boss Michel Platini has been accused of switching his vote in favour of the Qatar bid following the meal where it is alleged potential lucrative trade deals between France and the country were discussed.

The former French footballer was interviewed by officials in June. Mr Platini has denied the claims and said that he voted in the interests of football development.

Sepp Blatter, the disgraced former head of Fifa, is currently suspended from football for six years over an alleged secret \$2 million payment to Platini, just months after the award of the tournament.

He has said he is "at the disposal" of officials to discuss it.

On Monday France's National Public Prosecutor's Office officially opened a judicial inquiry into the vote.

It will look at suspected corruption surrounding the vote, which was held in December 2010.

The result saw Qatar triumph over the long-favoured US 14-8 in a final round of voting.

A month after the ballot, Qatar announced that it had begun testing French Dassault Rafale fighter jets for a fleet upgrade. It later agreed a \$7 billion deal to buy 24 of the jets.

Fifa has said it will not be reopening its own investigation.

This is despite the sport's global governing body publishing allegations of bribery against three people on its website linked to the 2022 World Cup.



As part of supporting evidence in a disciplinary report posted last month, Fifa published that three former top soccer officials - Brazil's Ricardo Teixeira, Paraguay's Nicolas Leoz and Argentina's Julio Grondona - were allegedly due to receive payments for votes over the selection of Qatar.

It was part of evidence by Fifa's ethic's committee to justify a lifetime ban on Teixeira over taking bribes for TV and marketing deals.

Source: 9 December 2019, The National

Football

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/france-opens-formal-inquiry-into-awarding-of-2022-world-cup-to-qatar-1.949060>