



INTERPOL

# INTEGRITY IN SPORT

## Bi-weekly Bulletin

23 June 2020 - 7 July 2020



Photos International Olympic Committee

## INVESTIGATIONS

### Australia

#### Victoria Police cracks alleged international tennis fixing syndicate

Victoria Police has charged two alleged members of the Australian wing of an international tennis match-fixing syndicate suspected of corrupting at least two tournaments in Brazil and Egypt in 2018.

The group allegedly responsible is headquartered in India, where operatives have worked to convince low-ranked players from Europe and South America to throw matches while associates placed bets with bookies on the other side of the world.

Two men faced the Melbourne Magistrates Court this week charged with attempting to corruptly win up to \$320,000 betting on fixed games.

It is also alleged some of the money was funnelled back to the tennis players via Western Union wire transfers.

*Source: 27 June 2020, The Sydney Morning Herald*

*Tennis*

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.smh.com.au/national/victoria-police-cracks-alleged-international-tennis-fixing-syndicate-20200627-p556sz.html>

### India

#### Police probe Dandiwal angle in fake Sri Lankan T20 league case

The investigation into the matches of the Uva T20 League, purportedly played in Sri Lanka but actually held at Sawara village near Mohali, is also delving into the possible involvement of Ravinder Dandiwal, the alleged kingpin of a major international tennis match-fixing syndicate, as named by Victoria Police in Australia.

Dandiwal has also been on the radar of the Board of Control for Cricket in India's (BCCI) anti-corruption unit. "Yes, we are also probing Ravinder Dandiwal's role. He could be behind this racket, since he is a local and his name had recently cropped up," Mohali Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kuldeep Singh Chahal told The Indian Express.

Dandiwal was recently named as the "central figure" in an alleged tennis match-fixing scandal related to at least two lower-level tournaments in Egypt and Brazil.

The interrogation of two accused Raju and Pankaj (7 have been named in the FIR) revealed that they booked the cricket ground of Stokers Cricket Association at Sawara village for Rs 33,000 through the complainant Parminder Singh, a resident of Kharar town.

The complainant told the police that he works for a soft drink manufacturing company and one Goldy, who was known to him, had contacted him and asked to book the ground for holding friendly T20 matches of children from June 29 to July 5. The complainant then contacted Rinku Nehra, an official of the Stokers Cricket Association and visited the ground to book it for the tournament. Parminder then deposited Rs 10,000 in Rinku Nehra's bank account on June 26.

"The accused (Goldy, Pankaj) had formed four teams of local players and held the matches at village Sawara and were also placing bets on the matches. I came to know about it and asked Goldy and Pankaj but they could not give me a satisfactory reply. They left after picking up all their equipment and kit from the ground on June 29," Parminder alleged in his complaint.

*Source: 6 July 2020, The Indian Express*

*Cricket*

<https://indianexpress.com/article/sports/cricket/police-probe-dandiwal-angle-in-fake-lankan-t20-league-case-6491669/>

## Sri Lanka

### No reason to doubt integrity of the 2011 World Cup final between India and Sri Lanka: ICC statement

On the day Sri Lankan police ended its investigation of the much-talked about 2011 World Cup final between the Indian team and the island nation, International Cricket Council said on Friday that claims of the match being fixed are unfounded.

The MS Dhoni-led Indian side had won the tournament by beating Sri Lanka in the final of the 2011 World Cup to end a 28-year wait.

On Friday, the ICC's Anti-Corruption Unit General Manager Alex Marshall said there is no evidence to back recent allegations of corruption with regards to that match at Wankhede Stadium.

"The ICC Integrity Unit has looked into the recent allegations regarding the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Final 2011. At this time, we have not been presented with any evidence that supports the claims made or which would merit launching an investigation under the ICC Anti-Corruption Code," Marshall said in a statement.

Sri Lankan police earlier said there was no evidence to support claims of match-fixing after recording statements of stalwarts Kumar Sangakkara and Mahela Jayawardene.

Former sports minister Mahindananda Aluthgamage had alleged that the final, which India won, was fixed by "certain parties" leading to an inquiry by the Special Investigation Division of the Police.

The minister's claim that the ICC was sent a letter alleging fixing was also rubbished by Marshall.

"There is no record of any letter regarding this matter sent by the then Sri Lanka Sports Minister to the ICC and senior ICC staff at the time have confirmed they have no recollection of receiving any such letter which would have led to an investigation. We have no reason to doubt the integrity of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Final 2011."

"We take all allegations of this nature extremely seriously and should we receive any evidence to corroborate the claims, we will review our current position," Marshall added.

"If anyone has any evidence that this match or any other has been subject to match-fixing, we would urge them to get in contact with the ICC Integrity team."

Jagath Fonseka, police superintendent in charge of the special investigation unit on prevention of offenses relating to sports, told reporters on Friday that the 14-point allegations levelled by Aluthgamage, could not be corroborated.

Source: 6 July 2020, Scrollin

Cricket

<https://scroll.in/field/966439/no-reason-to-doubt-integrity-of-the-2011-world-cup-final-between-india-and-sri-lanka-icc-statement>



## United Kingdom

### The bizarre dealings leading to extraordinary 'major global scandal' claim

English Championship club Wigan Athletic has been placed into administration in what local MP Lisa Nandy labelled a "major global scandal".

Barely a month after the club was sold to a mysterious owner, the 2013 FA Cup winners were thrown into administration out of the blue.

There are allegations of potential fraud, as well as staggering claims that the club's financial troubles are linked to a rumoured bet on the club being relegated.

The club is facing a 12-point deduction - almost certain to send it down to League One - while players and staff are going without pay.

#### THE OWNERS

In November 2018, beloved local businessman Dave Whelan finally sold the club after 23 successful years in charge.

Whelan had taken the club from fourth-tier minnows to the Premier League and even a remarkable FA Cup crown in 2013 — their most recent season in the top flight — but having reached his 80s Whelan decided it was time to pass the club on.

He sold the club to Hong Kong company International Entertainment Corporation (IEC), a gambling company fronted by professional poker player Stanley Choi. Choi owns 56 per cent of IEC and is the chairman of the company.

Choi never attended the club and was largely an absentee owner - which is not unusual by any means. The club registered a £9.2 million (\$A16.5m) loss in the 2018-19 financial year- again, not great but far from unusual.

But everything changed at the start of June.

IEC sold the club to another Hong Kong-based company, Next Leader Fund (NLF). NLF had only been set up in January 2020 - with Choi having a 51% stake.

NLF paid IEC £17.5m (\$A31.5m) - a profit on the £15.9m (\$A28.5m) paid for the club in 2018.

As well as that fee, there's a very strange £28.77m loan from IEC to the club.

The terms are remarkable - an annual interest rate of 8%, rising to 20% if the club did not meet its payment schedule. When NLF took over the club, they apparently paid off that loan in full - though this hasn't been confirmed.

That means that NLF paid £17.5m plus the £28.77m loan - a total of over £46 million (\$A83m) for a club that lost \$A16.5m in the previous financial year. Given the financial uncertainty of the current pandemic, the decision to purchase the club for such a cost is bizarre to say the least.

The new ownership structure is also highly out of the ordinary. As previously stated, both IEC and new owner NLF were part-owned by Choi. Choi had a 51% stake in NLF, while a Chinese man named Au Yeung Wai Kay was reported to own the other 49%. However, by June 24 Au Yeung's stake was reported to have increased to 75 per cent. It was on that same day that Au Yeung's lawyers instructed the club to go into administration.

Yeung had never visited the club before the purchase (or since). His extremely limited conversations with the board came via phone calls - not even video calls. Since the club has been placed into administration, it is reported that administrators haven't been able to contact Yeung, only his lawyers.

It gets murkier. Au Yeung is almost impossible to find on the internet. According to an investigation from The Athletic, journalists were only able to find two public traces of the owner. One was an application to the Republic of Philippines' Department of Labour and Employment for an "alien employment permit" to work for a company named Super! Group. The other is a clipping from the Philippine Daily Inquirer on September 25, 2019, in which Au Yeung is named as a member of the same company.

The Times reports the new owners are linked to a 2012 bankruptcy case in Hong Kong, which administrators are investigating.

#### THE BET

A rumour has widely circulated in recent days that the sale of the club and its subsequent placing into administration is linked to

a major bet that the club would be relegated this season.

The logic is this: by placing the club into administration, the owner almost guaranteed the club would be hit with a 12-point penalty - thus greatly increasing their chances of dropping out of the Championship.

Given Wigan's current league position, the expected penalty would place them just outside the relegation zone.

Furthermore, the previous owner - IEC and Choi - have strong gambling links. IEC operates a casino and hotel in the Philippines, where the bet was believed to have taken place.

In a recent video circulating on social media, EFL chairman Rick Parry discussed the matter with a fan, saying: "There's rumours that there is a bet in the Philippines on them being relegated, because the previous owner has got gambling interests in the Philippines."

The EFL released a statement about the clip, saying: "The private conversation focused around the events of the last 24-48 hours, how the EFL can assist and what happens next. The various rumours and reports that have been circulating throughout today were also discussed.

"While the chairman was unaware he was being filmed, he was happy to engage in the debate and appreciates this is a concerning and challenging time for all those associated with the club."

Challenging indeed.

#### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Administrators have taken charge of the club, after being approached by lawyers of the new owners. The owners, whoever they are, have said they won't provide a cent more in funding for the club.

They are now seeking to sell the club, with a dozen expressions of interest already submitted. The club is confident of playing out the season.

The administrators are investigating the bizarre sale of the club - and there's even the chance that the club or its players could sue the owners.

Gerald Krasner, one of the three experienced administrators overseeing the club, spoke about the situation, saying he expects 'incredible' findings from documents surrounding the sale and the owners.

"Every administration I have been involved in had its peculiarities," he said. "But this is a first. Four weeks (from sale to administration) is a record that will stand for some time.

"We are aware of concerns that have been raised. The investigation won't go away. It will be done. Once I know we have saved the club and got nondisclosure letters out [to prospective buyers] - we're talking about two weeks - we will sit down with our lawyers to see if there is any litigation there that will be for the benefit of the creditors."

"There will be a lot of incredible things that come out when we get into the paperwork," said Krasner.

#### EFL AT FAULT?

Meanwhile, questions are being asked of the EFL over its failure to properly scrutinise the new owner. Prospective owners must pass the owners' and directors' test, commonly known as the 'fit and proper test'.

But it has been revealed that the body was warned about the unusual loan and the strange ownership structure of the new owners months ago - by a fan.

According to The Athletic, a fan twice wrote letters to the EFL noting that both Hong Kong companies were owned by Choi, revealing doubts about the unusual loan, and noting that the 104-page sale document offered no evidence of future funding. The EFL dismissed those concerns and ticked off on the sale.

Local MP Lisa Nandy labelled the matter a "major global scandal".

"What has been allowed to happen in recent days is disgraceful," she wrote in a public letter.

"It shows the complete failure of governance safeguards to protect clubs like ours."

Nandy, the shadow foreign secretary, added: "Wigan Athletic FC has been a well-run, much-loved club at the heart of our community for almost 90 years.

"I am at a complete loss as to how the new ownership model could have been approved by the EFL. There must be a full inquiry."

Source: 4 July 2020, Fox Sports  
Football

<https://www.foxsports.com.au/football/efl-2020-football-news-championship-wigan-athletic-administration-scandal/news-story/99a33198446e3c3af2ce2b58a0300f10>

## SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

### Armenia

#### Five Armenian clubs disqualified, 45 get life bans for match-fixing

(Reuters) - The Armenian Football Federation (FFA) suspended the country's second tier with immediate effect and disqualified five teams after receiving "undeniable evidence" of their involvement in match-fixing.

About 45 people, including club owners, players and coaches, have been handed with life bans and another 13 were banned for different periods for being involved in manipulation of matches, the FFA said.

Local media reported that club owners with Russian passports, Russian players and coaches, as well as Ukrainian, Latvian and Belarusian footballers were among those banned.

Lokomotiv Yerevan, level on points with second division leaders FC Van, Aragats, Torpedo Yerevan and Masis were disqualified from the championship following suspicious results, including 12-0, 0-12, 1-8, 9-2, 0-7, 0-8 and 8-2.

FC Yerevan, who had withdrawn from the 2019-20 Premier League in February due to financial and technical problems, were also disqualified for match-fixing.

"The decisions were made after the FFA received undeniable evidence from international organizations and law enforcement agencies," FFA President Armen Melikbekyan said in a statement.

"The evidence that we received from our international colleagues will be transferred to the Armenian law enforcement agencies."

Melikbekyan promised transparent FFA leadership after his election victory in December.

There have been media reports of widespread match-fixing and corruption in the South Caucasus country for years. "Our goal is to eradicate corruption and the system of fixed games in the Armenian football," Melikbekyan said.

"This process, however, does not end. The Expert Group created by the FFA will continue to work to identify all possible adverse events."

Source: 4 July 2020, Reuters  
Football

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-soccer-armenia-match-fixing/five-armenian-clubs-disqualified-45-get-life-bans-for-match-fixing-idUKKBN2450DT>

### Belarus

#### Seven hockey players suspended in Belarus match-fixing case

ZURICH -- Seven ice hockey players have been suspended during an investigation into match-fixing in the Belarus league.

The players -- five from Belarus and two from Russia -- told a domestic investigation they were paid to help arrange the outcome of a game in November, the International Ice Hockey Federation said on Friday.

"During the investigation, each of the players also admitted that they had agreed to exert an unlawful influence on the outcome of the game in exchange for illegal remuneration," the governing body said in a statement.

The IIHF said its disciplinary board had taken over the case "for further review and sanctioning."

The case involves Dynamo Molodechno losing to Mogilyov 6-5 in a Belarus Extraliga game.

The players have been suspended from taking part in any competition organized by the IIHF or its member federations.

Source: 3 July 2020, ESPN  
Ice Hockey

[https://www.espn.com/olympics/hockey/story/\\_/id/29405108/seven-hockey-players-suspended-belarus-match-fixing-case](https://www.espn.com/olympics/hockey/story/_/id/29405108/seven-hockey-players-suspended-belarus-match-fixing-case)

## Beyond the Summit

### PlusOne 'Dota 2' Team Suspended From BTS Events For Match Fixing

Tournament organizer and casting studio Beyond the Summit has announced that the PlusOne Dota 2 team has been removed from the BTS Pro Series tournament and three players suspended from future Beyond the Summit competitions due to match-fixing.

A statement released by Beyond the Summit on Twitter revealed that the team had been caught match-fixing in multiple matches, resulting in the ban and removal from the competition. All of their results in the competition thus far have been voided.

While the entire team has been removed from the BTS Pro Series tournament, only three of the players have been banned from future competitions. xuan, Ched and Jano are the three players that have been banned, with their teammates dnm and Wij still able to compete in future competitions from Beyond the Summit.

However, Beyond the Summit has said that the investigation is still ongoing and further suspensions could be coming in the future. The organization has also passed all information onto Valve, who typically hand out lengthy or lifetime bans to players caught match-fixing in high-level Dota 2.

While the official statements from Beyond the Summit gave little information about the matches in question, co-founder of the company David "Godz" Parker revealed on Reddit that the matches in question include those against Evil Geniuses, Quincy Crew and Plasma.

While many assume match-fixing is specifically to do with winning or losing a match, Parker revealed that many of these fixed bets involved markets such as first blood, first team to 10 kills, total kills in a match, or the kill difference between teams. These markets would be much easier for a lower tier team such as PlusOne to control when facing higher tier teams such as Evil Geniuses.

While match-fixing in the top levels of Dota 2 is quite rare these days, this is the second notable case in as many months, with Chinese squad Newbee being banned by the Chinese Dota 2 Professional Association in May.

Despite the loss of one team from the competition the BTS Pro Series continues to roll on, with the group stage set to wrap up over the next couple of days. Business Associates are currently the only team guaranteed a spot in the upper bracket and currently top the group stage, with Evil Geniuses, Quincy Crew and Thunder Predator currently taking up the other upper-bracket spots. The \$50,000 tournament will crown a winner on June 29.

Source: 23 June 2020, Forbes

eSports

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/mikestubbs/2020/06/23/plusone-dota-2-team-suspended-from-bts-events-for-match-fixing/#5a2370d26c42>

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INTEGRITY IN SPORT

**Brazil****Brazil's Pertti Vesantera banned for five years and fined \$15,000 after conviction on betting, facilitating and non-reporting charges**

38-year old former player and current coach will serve a three year suspension on the basis that no further breaches of tennis anti-corruption rules are committed

Brazil's Pertti Vesantera has been banned for five years and fined \$15,000 after being found guilty of corruption offences including betting on tennis, facilitating betting and non-reporting, which are all breaches of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program (TACP).

Two years of the five year ban are suspended on condition that he commits no further breaches of the TACP. The \$15,000 fine must be paid by the end of the third year of suspension.

A Tennis Integrity Unit (TIU) investigation into allegations of corruption against the 38-year old revealed that he had:

- placed 184 online bets on tennis matches between 3 January 2019 and 6 March 2019
- failed to report knowledge or suspicion of the corrupt activity of a third party
- facilitated the betting of a third party by opening a bank account in his own name and depositing money on behalf of the third party
- failed to co-operate with a TIU investigation into his alleged corrupt activity

A disciplinary case against Mr Vesantera was adjudicated by independent Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer Prof Richard McLaren, at a disciplinary Hearing held by videoconference on 10 June 2020. Prof McLaren's findings of guilt and imposition of the sanction means that with effect from 30 June 2020 he is prohibited from playing in or attending any tennis event authorised or sanctioned by the governing bodies of tennis for three years.

In addition to being a former player, Mr Vesantera is a Level 2 tennis coach.

The relevant Sections of the TACP covering the offences are as follows:

Section D.1.a. - No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, wager, conspire to wager or attempt to wager on the outcome or any other aspect of any Event or any other tennis competition.

Section D.1.b. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, solicit, facilitate, or conspire to solicit or facilitate any other person to wager on the outcome or any other aspect of any Event or any other tennis competition. For the avoidance of doubt, to solicit or facilitate to wager shall include, but not be limited to: display of live tennis betting odds on a Covered Person's website; writing articles for a tennis betting publication or website; conducting personal appearances for, or otherwise participating in any event run by, a tennis betting company or any other company or entity directly affiliated with a tennis betting company; promoting a tennis betting company to the general public through posts on social media; and appearing in commercial advertisements that encourage others to bet on tennis.

Section D.2.b.ii. - In the event any Related Person or Tournament Support Person knows or suspects that any Covered Person or other individual has committed a Corruption Offense, it shall be the Related Person's or Tournament Support Person's obligation to report such knowledge or suspicion to the TIU as soon as possible.

Section F.2.b - All Covered Persons must co-operate fully with investigations conducted by the TIU including giving evidence at hearings, if requested. After a Covered Person receives a TIU request for an initial interview or otherwise becomes aware of any TIU investigation involving the Covered Person, the Covered Person shall (i) preserve and not tamper with, damage, disable, destroy or otherwise alter any evidence (including any personal devices described in Section F.2.c.i.) or other information related to any Corruption Offense and (ii) not solicit, facilitate or advise any other person to fail to preserve, tamper with, damage, disable, destroy or otherwise alter any evidence or other information related to any Corruption Offense.

Source: 30 June 2020, Tennis Integrity Unit

Tennis

<https://elinkeu.clickdimensions.com/m/1/84431288/p1-b20182-212a22c7ce6445f8b54810218fbc2af/1/643/5021173d-b015-44dc-b87e-78ea121a5409>

## Tennis Integrity Unit

### Tunisian tennis player Majed Kilani banned for seven years and fined \$7,000 after conviction on match-fixing and associated corruption charges

23-year old ranked 804 in ATP singles fixed matches and failed to co-operate with a TIU investigation

Tunisian tennis player Majed Kilani has been banned from all professional tennis for seven years and fined \$7,000 after being found guilty of match-fixing charges.

The fine must be repaid at the rate of \$1,000 per year over the seven years of the player's suspension.

A Tennis Integrity Unit investigation established that Mr Kilani conspired with a third party to manipulate the outcome of matches played at an ITF Futures tournament in Egypt in August 2016.

In addition to the match-fixing offences, Mr Kilani was also found to have failed to fully co-operate with a TIU investigation into the corruption allegations against him.

The case was adjudicated by independent Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer Prof Richard McLaren at a disciplinary Hearing held by videoconference on 21 May 2020.

His findings of guilt and subsequent sanction means that with effect from 25 June 2020 Mr Kilani is prohibited from playing in or attending any tennis event authorised or sanctioned by the governing bodies of tennis for a period of seven years.

The 23-year old is currently ranked 804 in ATP singles and 528 in doubles, both of which are career bests.

The relevant Sections of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program (TACP) covering the offences are as follows:

Section D.1.d of the 2016 TACP: "No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, contrive or attempt to contrive the outcome or any other aspect of any Event."

Section F.2.b of the 2018 TACP: "All Covered Persons must co-operate fully with investigations conducted by the TIU including giving evidence at hearings, if requested. No Covered Person shall (i) tamper with, damage, disable, destroy or otherwise alter any evidence or other information related to any Corruption Offense or (ii) solicit or facilitate any other person to tamper with, damage, disable, destroy or otherwise alter any evidence or other information related to any Corruption Offense."

Source: 26 June 2020, Tennis Integrity Unit

<https://elinkeu.clickdimensions.com/m/1/84431288/p1-b20178-056913098f75405faf54fcbaa42f50f9/1/50/fd4695fc-cb71-4193-9cd4-8defc2acea3d>



## LEGISLATION

### India

#### Match-fixing law will be a game-changer in India: Steve Richardson

The coordinator of investigations at the International Cricket Council's anti-corruption unit (ACU) Steve Richardson believes that 'match-fixing law would be a game-changer in India' and will be the 'single-most-effective thing' to protect the game from match-fixers.

In the span of three years from 2021 to 2023, India are scheduled to host two major ICC events -- T20 World Cup 2021 and ODI World Cup in 2023. These global tournaments are the most liked events by the match-fixers and protecting it from fraudsters is always a challenge for the ICC with the limited resources.

"India has got two ICC global events coming up: the T20 World Cup [in 2021] and the World Cup in 2023. At the moment with no legislation in place, we'll have good relations with Indian police, but they are operating with one hand tied behind their back. We will do everything we can to disrupt the corruptors. And we do, we make life very, very difficult for them as far and as much as we can to stop them from operating freely," ESPNcricinfo quoted Richardson as saying.

But the legislation would be a game-changer in India. We have currently just under 50 investigations. The majority of those have links back to corruptors in India. So it would be the single-most-effective thing to happen in terms of protecting sport if India introduces match-fixing legislation," he added.

In 2019 Sri Lanka became the first major cricket-playing country in South Asia to criminalise match-fixing with punishments including a 10-year prison sentence.

Richardson said during a panel discussion on the subject of 'Does India need match-fixing legislation?' as part of the Sports Law & Policy Symposium.

More than the players, Richardson stressed the law would deter the corruptors, who he said were right now freely moving around.

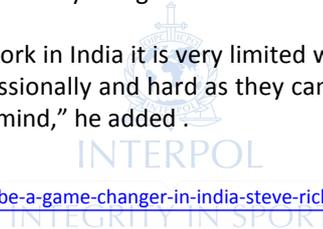
"I could actually deliver to the Indian police or the Indian government now at least eight names of people who are what I would term serial offenders, constantly approaching players to try and get them to fix matches," Richardson said.

"At the moment with the lack of legislative framework in India it is very limited what the police can do, and to that extent, they have my great sympathy because they try as professionally and hard as they can to make the existing legislation work, but the reality is it wasn't framed with sports corruption in mind," he added.

Source: 25 June 2020, Hindustan times

Cricket

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/cricket/match-fixing-law-will-be-a-game-changer-in-india-steve-richardson/story-Y9kxbvtXo7efMFyRqU2MM.html>



## United Kingdom

### Time to act to reduce gambling-related harm, says Lords report

The House of Lords Select Committee on the Social and Economic Impact of the Gambling Industry today warns that more needs to be done to prevent gambling-related harm. The liberalisation of gambling by the Gambling Act 2005, the universal adoption of smart phones, and the exploitation of soft-touch regulation by gambling operators has created a perfect storm of addictive 24/7 gambling. The Committee expects the Government and the regulator to make changes now. Many of the report's recommendations do not need legislation, and all of them are urgent if consumers are to be protected and lives saved.

#### Committee Chair

The Chair of the Committee, Lord Grade of Yarmouth said:

“Most people who gamble, enjoy it safely. However, gambling related-harm has made the lives of two million people miserable. It leads to hundreds of people each year taking their own lives, leaving families and friends devastated.

“The behaviour of some gambling operators, where vulnerable people were targeted with inducements to continue gambling when the operators knew they could not afford to, shocked the Committee.

“Urgent action by the Government is required. Lax regulation of the gambling industry must be replaced by a more robust and focussed regime which prioritises the welfare of gamblers ahead of industry profits.

“Addiction is a health problem which should be treated by the NHS and paid for by gambling industry profits. The Government must impose a mandatory levy on the industry. The more harmful a gambling product is, the higher the levy the operator should pay.

“Only time will tell if the harm caused by gambling has been exacerbated by the coronavirus lockdown.

“Our report makes some 66 recommendations which we believe will begin to address this huge problem.”

#### Key recommendations

The Committee sets out a range of recommendations across different areas to reduce gambling-related harm.

The gambling industry offers a variety of products to consumers, including some which can be highly addictive. The Gambling Commission should create a system for testing all new games against a series of harm indicators, including their addictiveness and whether they will appeal to children. A game which scores too highly on the harm indicators must not be approved.

The equalisation of speed of play and spin, so that no game can be played quicker online than in a casino, bookmaker or bingo hall.

The Gambling Commission must explain the minimum steps which operators should take when considering customer affordability, and make clear that it is for the operator to take the steps which will enable them to identify customers who are betting more than they can afford.

The creation of a statutory independent Gambling Ombudsman Service, modelled on the Financial Ombudsman Service, to settle disputes between gambling operators and gamblers.

The Government must act immediately to bring loot boxes within the remit of gambling legislation and regulation.

Gambling operators should no longer be allowed to advertise on the shirts of sports teams or any other visible part of their kit. There should also be no gambling advertising in or near any sports grounds or sports venues.

Problem gambling is a common mental health disorder, and the NHS has the same duty to treat it as to treat any other disorder. Last year the NHS promised to open 15 new clinics. It should do this before 2023 and establish a comparable number within the following few years.

Source: 2 July 2020, UK Parliament

All Sports

<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/406/gambling-industry-committee/news/147122/time-to-act-to-reduce-gamblingrelated-harm-says-lords-report/>

## GOOD PRACTICES

### Austria

#### Play Fair Code to point out and prevent potential risks of football-championship-restart

Austria's professional football leagues Tipico Bundesliga and HPYBET 2. Liga were among the first championships to return to the pitch after the Corona lockdown.

While there was still a thrilling fight for the championship, qualification for the UEFA competitions as well as relegation in the top flight division, the situation in the 2nd league was significantly different, as the season in the third leagues and lower had been canceled. Since there were consequently no potential promoters from the third leagues, the season of the 2nd league will end without relegations. The fight for promotion to the Bundesliga appears to be a competition between two clubs only. For the rest of this league, sporting incentives got rather low.

With just a few leagues playing at all, negative economic impacts of the Corona crisis for both clubs and players, and particularly in the light of the constellation mentioned above, the Play Fair Code, Austria's integrity-experts in the matters of match-fixing and betting fraud, recognized a dangerous potential for criminal approaches of match-fixers and manipulators.

To protect and educate both, players and clubs, the Play Fair Code and the Austrian Football League agreed to launch an awareness raising update for the 2nd League teams on very short notice.

At record speed and within a period of eleven days only all of the 16 teams in Austria were visited and trained with a newly developed workshop format, of course taking into account corona protective measures.

Severin Moritzer, CEO of the Play Fair Code: "In the context of our situation analysis and looking beyond the borders, it was immediately clear to us that we need to take refreshing, awareness-raising measures to protect our 2nd League teams. The workshop format joining the players directly on the pitch before or after their trainings is new, works really fine and was big fun!"

Günter Kaltenbrunner, President of the Play Fair Code: "Whenever the integrity of sports needs to be protected, the Play Fair Code is ready. I am very pleased that the cooperation with the Austrian League again worked perfectly."

Christian Ebenbauer, CEO of ÖFB: "Many thanks to the Play Fair Code team for doing a great job in cooperation with the clubs and players of the HPYBET 2nd League. The pace of implementation is remarkable as well. It was just two weeks between the announcement in our club-conference meeting and completing the training session."

Source: 24 June 2020, Play Fair Code

Football

<https://www.playfaircode.at/>



## ODDS AND ENDS

### Canada

#### GLMS LAUNCHES OPERATIONAL HUB ON THE AMERICAN CONTINENT

The President of the Global Lottery Monitoring System (GLMS), Ludovico Calvi, is pleased to announce the official opening of the new GLMS Operational Hub at the Loto Quebec premises in Montreal - Canada.

GLMS and Loto Quebec have consolidated their strong co-operation by setting up an operational hub at the Lottery's premises with the objective being to analyse detect, prevent, and report irregular and suspicious betting activities that could threaten the integrity of sport competitions. GLMS' main goal is to provide high quality information and intelligence through a peerless monitoring system supplemented by an extended human analysis targeting North American jurisdictions.

GLMS President, Ludovico Calvi states: "with the recent sport betting deregulation and legalisation process in North America and the official opening of the GLMS Operational Hub at Loto Quebec's premises in Montreal,, our association is completing its full globalisation process. Loto Quebec has been a very active GLMS member in recent years and we value the standards of their Corporate Social Responsibility, Environmental consciousness and awareness raising of issues including problem gambling and integrity for sports. GLMS is a stronger organisation today with a distinctive – glocal approach - leveraging on truly global operations and local intelligence and expertise".

Sports Betting Director at Loto-Quebec, Louis Beaudet, states: "The safeguard of sports integrity should be a priority for all sports betting operators. Loto-Quebec is proud to contribute to GLMS' mission as we share the same core values. It is truly an honour to host the third GLMS hub and be able to directly contribute to its success.

GLMS' Canadian operational hub will be targeting primarily North American jurisdictions and sports. GLMS thus becomes a true monitoring and intelligence alliance of global operations and local know how and capabilities, comprising sports betting operators from all parts of the globe.

This is the third in a series of hubs that were launched in other parts of the world (Denmark and Hong Kong) and will further contribute to the accomplishment of the key mission for GLMS, making it ever more credible and effective to all its stakeholders, including law enforcement authorities worldwide, the Council of Europe (& its Group of Copenhagen), the Olympic and sport movement, and last but not least, its members, counting over 30 lotteries and 5 associate members worldwide.

END

Source: 23 June 2020, GLMS

All Sports

<https://glms-sport.us17.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3dd17a9afdcf674100aa8954&id=b1fdb23685&e=ffe541224b>



INTERPOL  
INTEGRITY IN SPORT

## GLMS

### Welcome to our June 2020 Newsletter!

Dear all,

I am pleased to share with you our recent news in the GLMS June 2020 newsletter filled with updates, new members, reports and policy news.

First of all, I am delighted to share the success of GLMS' very first digital venture- a sports integrity webinar organised together with European Lotteries and World Lottery Association, which took place from 23 – 25 June 2020. We welcomed almost 300 speakers and participants from around the world, from China to the US and we gleaned some best practices, which will help our members, partners and key stakeholders in the COVID-19 recovery and post recovery phase.

We were also delighted to launch our third global operational hub- our first on the American continent- hosted by our member, Loto-Quebec with two full-time analysis monitoring coordinators, Benoit and Chris.

As in the last months, our Operations team continues to monitor sports competitions, tirelessly analysing suspicious trading patterns, and alerting cases to our partners and members while preparing for a busy summer as suspended competitions re-start. Meanwhile, we are building our legal services and continue to contribute to policy- making and standard-setting and enhance concrete actions through our projects with members, partners and stakeholders, all of whom have updates to share in this edition.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to continue to stay vigilant and strong despite the enlightening of measures, and to wish you a great summer.

Yours in Integrity,

Ludovico Calvi

GLMS President

Source: 2 July 2020, GLMS

All Sports

<https://mailchi.mp/glms-sport.org/glms-june-2020-newsletter>

## MATCH FIXING

### India

#### Top fixing suspect nabbed, BCCI to quiz

Mohali police on Monday arrested Ravinder Dandiwal to probe his involvement in a T20 competition that purportedly tried to pass off a place in Punjab as Sri Lanka. Already on the radar of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for the past four years, Dandiwal will be interrogated by the Anti-Corruption Unit on Tuesday, said SSP Kuldeep Singh Chahal.

The arrest comes three days after two bookies, Rajesh Garg and Pankaj Arora, were nabbed in connection with a competition in Punjab from June 29 to July 5. A local court remanded the three to police custody for five days.

Chahal said Dandiwal, also named by the Victoria Police in Australia as a suspect in a tennis fixing scandal, will be investigated in connection with Uva T20 league which tried to show it was being held in Sri Lanka when it was being conducted in a cricket academy in Sawara village, about 15km from Chandigarh. Uva is a province in Sri Lanka.

The players were wearing masks and footage accessed had mostly long shots of players in numbered shirts but with their backs to the camera.

The competition was aired on YouTube and on other social media platforms such as Fancode APP, Diamond, Sky, Lotus, Tenbet, Spin and Punjab Exchange and was part of a betting racket, said Chahal. The players involved were offered between Rs 5000 to Rs 10000, he said.

The role of some Ranji players in hosting the meet is also under investigation, said Chahal without naming anyone.

Source: 6 July 2020, Hindustan Times

Cricket

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/cricket/bcci-acu-team-to-travel-to-punjab-following-alleged-match-fixer-ravinder-dandiwal-s-arrest/story-gSWzxzjk1gUzNGgyrKASIJ.html>