



INTERPOL

INTEGRITY IN SPORT

Bi-weekly Bulletin

29 September 2020 - 12 October 2020



Photos International Olympic Committee

INVESTIGATIONS

Australia

Six international tennis players implicated in allegedly fixed matches

Six international tennis players have been named as participating in suspected fixed matches at tournaments in Brazil and Egypt in 2018, as part of a Victoria Police investigation that has allegedly uncovered a corrupt global betting syndicate.

The sensational allegations, which are also under investigation by the sport's UK-based anti-corruption agency, the Tennis Integrity Unit, centre around a series of matches played in late April 2018 at the Brazil F1 Futures tournament and the International Tennis Federation's Egypt F15 Futures tournament.

Documents released by the Melbourne Magistrates Court identify the players involved in suspicious matches as Sweden's Christian Lindell; Brazilians Thales Turini, Carlos Severino and Caio Silva; Egyptian Issam Taweel; and France's Maxence Broville.

The documents refer to interviews with the TIU, in which Mr Lindell, Mr Severino and Mr Turini deny they have ever been involved in or aware of match fixing. The documents do not refer to interviews with the other players.

The Age does not suggest any of the players did anything inappropriate or illegal, either individually or collectively, only that they are named by police as participating in matches under investigation.

TIU investigators interviewed Mr Lindell, Mr Severino and Mr Turini in Brazil in May 2018, according to the court documents. The agency has previously refused to comment on its investigation, but none of the players are known to have been the subject of any kind of action.

The allegations of match fixing came to light during an investigation by Victoria Police's sporting integrity intelligence unit into reports of suspicious betting patterns by two Indian nationals living in Melbourne, Harsimrat Singh and Rajesh Kumar.

On Friday, Singh pleaded guilty to placing bets using "corrupt conduct information" on two allegedly fixed matches in Brazil, receiving a two-year good behaviour undertaking from the court but no conviction.

Mr Kumar has pleaded not guilty and will contest his charges at committal later this month. Mr Kumar's charges involve different allegations and issues to Mr Singh's charges.

The court was told Singh was a "pawn" for an India-based syndicate run by his cousin, Ravinder Dandiwal, who is now the subject of a global-reaching sports integrity investigation.



Mr Dandiwal, who runs a sports management business and promotes international tennis and cricket tournaments, was arrested by Indian authorities in July 2020 over separate sports corruption allegations. The Age does not suggest Mr Dandiwal has committed any crime in Australia or elsewhere.

"Dandiwal is the organiser of the match fixing. He ... instructed them how to bet and how much; directed where to send payment to corrupted players," the agreed statement of alleged facts released by the court said.

The court heard that Singh admitted to placing wagers worth \$1121, but said he was unaware the matches had allegedly been fixed or that money he transferred overseas could have gone to potentially corrupt participants.

"There is no evidence and it is not alleged Mr Singh had any involvement in the actual fixing on the matches, nor is there any evidence, significantly, of him having had any communications with any tennis players in Brazil where the matches took place," defence barrister Michael Allen said.

Mr Allen said Singh was an unsophisticated "pawn" in the wider scheme, placing bets in his own name and demurely accepting the explanation, "Don't worry about it, kid", when he queried Mr Kumar about why most of the profits were being wired out of the country.

The assistant manager of a Hungry Jack's kept only \$199 to \$399 of the \$1199 in profits generated for his participation in the activities.

The materials released by the court do not expressly accuse individual players of misconduct but allege Singh was instructed to bet on particular outcomes in sets and matches.

"One or more of the players had arranged with Ravinder Dandiwal to manipulate the result of the match so that Thales Turini would win the first set and Carlos Severino would win the match, and ... [Singh] used that information to bet on the event by placing a \$100 bet with licensed bookmaker Crownbet at odds of 8.75, winning a profit of \$775," according to one charge he

pleaded guilty to.

Another charge said: "The accused possessed information in connection with a tennis match between Egyptian player Issam Taweel and French player Maxence Broville ... namely, one or more of the players, had arranged with Ravinder Dandiwal to manipulate the result of the match so that Broville would win the match two sets to love".

The court was told that Singh had since turned on both Mr Kumar and Mr Dandiwal, providing information to Victoria Police's sporting integrity intelligence unit and the Tennis Integrity Unit.

Singh received a two-year good behaviour undertaking. No conviction was recorded.

"It is plain this is an industry that relies on people having faith on the legitimacy of the competitions on which they chose to bet, and offending of this nature simply flies into the face of that and brings into question the integrity of the entire industry," the magistrate, Hayley Bate, said.

Source: 2 October 2020, Brisbane times

Tennis

https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/national/victoria/six-international-tennis-players-implicated-in-allegedly-fixed-matches-20201002-p561hw.html?ref=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_source=rss_feed

France

French Open match involving Russian player 'under suspicion of manipulation' after dubious betting patterns emerge – reports

A women's doubles match at the French Open is reportedly suspected of alleged match fixing after multiple bookmakers flagged unusual betting patterns during one of the games.

Per German outlet WELT, the match in question was the opening-round clash between Andreea Mitu and Patricia Maria Tig of Romania against the United States' Madison Brengle and Russia's Yana Sizikova on September 30, and it's alleged one of the players is suspected of being involved in the fraud.

It's estimated several hundred thousand euros in bets were placed with multiple providers for Sizikova's serve to be broken in the fifth game of the second set.

The 25-year-old was broken to love in the game, serving double-faults in the first and final points. She also slipped at 15-0 before failing to reach a return.

Neither the Tennis Integrity Unit nor Sportradar – a sports data analysis company which monitors betting – were prepared to comment on the matter, but investigations are said to be ongoing.

The Romanian pair won 7-6 (8), 6-4 before making short work of Russia's Varvara Gracheva and Italy's Jasmine Paolini in the second round.

In January, Brazilian player Joao Souza was handed a lifetime ban from the sport and a \$200,000 fine by the TIU after he was found guilty of match-fixing and corruption.

Source: 4 October 2020, RT

Tennis

<https://www.rt.com/sport/502516-french-open-match-fixing-suspicious/>

France**Un match truqué à Roland-Garros? Une enquête ouverte par le parquet de Paris**

TENNIS - Une enquête pour "escroquerie en bande organisée" et pour "corruption sportive active et passive" a été ouverte le 1er octobre en raison de soupçons de match truqué à Roland-Garros, a-t-on appris ce mardi 6 auprès du parquet de Paris.

Selon le journal allemand Die Welt et le quotidien sportif L'Équipe, ces soupçons portent sur un double féminin ayant opposé le 30 septembre les Roumaines Andreea Mitu et Patricia Maria Tig et les joueuses russe Yana Sizikova et américaine Madison Brengle, lors du premier tour.

Un jeu de service particulièrement douteux

Cela concerne plus particulièrement le cinquième jeu du deuxième set, un jeu blanc remporté par le duo roumain après deux doubles fautes de la russe Sizikova, 25 ans et 89e mondiale, au service.

Selon L'Équipe, "d'importantes sommes ont été mises sur le gain de ce jeu par les Roumaines auprès de plusieurs opérateurs de Paris, dans différents pays".

Les investigations ont été confiées au Service central des courses et des jeux (SCCJ), a précisé le parquet.

Source: 6 October 2020, huffpost

Tennis

https://www.huffingtonpost.fr/entry/match-truque-roland-garros-enquete_fr_5f7c477ec5b60c6bcc61d81d



Germany

German Football Association offices searched in tax fraud investigation

Frankfurt prosecutors said on Wednesday that the headquarters of the German Football Association (DFB) — the world's biggest sports federation — and the homes of DFB officials have been searched on suspicion of tax evasion.

The searches were conducted in five states across Germany: Hesse, Bavaria, North-Rhine Westphalia, Lower Saxony and Rhineland-Palatinate.

Around 200 officers took part in the searches, including tax officers and federal police.

Investigations are largely directed against six former or current executives of the DFB. They are accused of having deliberately falsely declared advertising income in 2014 and 2015 on national team home games.

The amount of tax evaded may exceed €4.7 million (\$5.52 million).

'Major tax advantage'

The DFB is suspected of "knowingly" falsely classing revenues as stemming from asset management to reduce their tax burden, according to a statement from senior public prosecutor Nadja Niesen.

This is the latest in a series of legal cases with which the world's biggest football association has been entangled in recent years. The six people have not been named though.

President at the time was Wolfgang Niersbach, who stepped down from the role due to the unresolved scandal involving a high-profile investigation that queried the awarding of the 2006 World Cup to Germany and the way some money was spent in the run-up to the tournament.

Parting ways with Infront

The accusations in question are specifically to do with perimeter advertising at sports stadia. The DFB recently "amicably" ended its cooperation with its marketing agency Infront after almost 40 years after reports emerged of possible financial irregularities.

Those reports stemmed from an investigation conducted by consulting firm Esecon. Infront had been commissioned to procure perimeter advertising partners for national team games until 2018. According to Esecon's report, the company was awarded the contract in 2013, even though a competitor had bid up to €18 million (\$21.19 million). That alone seemed strange.

Wednesday's statement from the public prosecutor's office implies that the DFB leased the business to Infront in order to avoid tax payments. The prosecution explains: "By a contract dated 11 December 2013, the DFB is said to have leased the right to allocate the advertising space in the venues of international matches of the national soccer team to a Swiss company for the period 2014 to 2018. However, this company are said to have had no room to maneuver pertaining to the selection of advertising partners."

"Rather, it is said to have undertaken to take into account the exclusivity of the general sponsor and the general supplier of the national team and not to grant any rights to their competitors. Instead, the DFB is said to have played an active role in the allocation of perimeter advertising space despite the fact that it leased the rights via its sponsorship contracts". Even then, the general supplier was the company Adidas.

Consequences of Germany's 'Sommermärchen'

The latest accusations come while the DFB is still trying to clean up its act and image after the World Cup 2006 scandal. Proceedings for tax evasion are still pending with the Frankfurt public prosecutor's office. The legal aftershocks of the 2006 World Cup revolve around a dubious and still unresolved payment of 6.7 million euros.

The then head of the World Cup Organizing Committee, Franz Beckenbauer, received the payment in 2002 as a loan from the now deceased entrepreneur Robert Louis-Dreyfus. In April 2005, the DFB transferred the sum to the world association FIFA as a contribution to a gala that later never took place.

The proceedings against, among others, three former top DFB functionaries in Switzerland were discontinued at the end of April because of the statute of limitations. At the request of the current DFB boss Fritz Keller, however, the association intends to have the events of that time thoroughly investigated again.

In response to the new allegations, Keller said he wanted to "cooperate fully". At the federal press conference on an initiative "My Voice against Hatred", Keller declared on Wednesday: "[The DFB] will support everything comprehensively. I am in favor of full transparency, and I am in favor of education, simply to have a clean future for football. Football has not deserved this.

Source: 7 October 2020, DW

Football

<https://www.dw.com/en/german-football-association-offices-searched-in-tax-fraud-investigation/a-55182705>

India

IPL info leak attempt sparks corruption probe

DUBAI: A player taking part in the ongoing Indian Premier League tournament said he was asked to leak information about his team, the country's cricket anti-corruption chief told AFP Sunday.

The world's richest cricket league, long plagued by corruption, is in its third week and is being played behind closed doors in the United Arab Emirates because of the coronavirus pandemic.

All eight teams are confined to separate "bio-bubbles".

"A player has been approached. He himself immediately reported it," anti-corruption chief of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Ajit Singh told AFP.

"We know who has approached... We are on the case."

Singh said the "relatively unknown" player, whose identity was not released, was asked to leak some information about his team.

He did not release further details about the incident.

Singh told AFP before the tournament started that the bio-bubbles would make it easy for any illicit approaches to be noticed.

The BCCI last month struck a deal with Sportradar, a technology company that tracks online betting.

The money-spinning IPL has a long history of corruption and match-fixing since it started in 2008.

Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan was suspended last year for failing to report corrupt approaches, one of them involving the IPL.

A 2013 scandal caused the Chennai Super Kings and Rajasthan Royals to be suspended in 2015 for two seasons.

The matches are being played in Sharjah, Abu Dhabi and Dubai, with the 53-day league ending on November 10.

Source: 5 October 2020, The News

Cricket

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/724741-ipl-info-leak-attempt-sparks-corruption-probe>



SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

Paraguay

Paraguayan club president gets lifetime ban for match manipulation

The president of Paraguayan club Olimpia, one of the most successful in South America, has been banned for life from football after being found guilty of match manipulation, FIFA said on Monday.

In an announcement which stunned Paraguay, FIFA said that Marco Trovato, who has held the position since 2014, also failed to collaborate during disciplinary proceedings. FIFA said the decision was related to “a series of matches that took place between 2018 and 2019.” It did not say which matches were involved or which competitions they were played in but said it would give further details at a later date.

Trovato was also fined 100,000 Swiss francs (USD 107,921), FIFA said.

‘Political judgment’

Olimpia has won the South American Copa Libertadores three times and the Paraguayan championship on a record 44 occasions.

ALSO READ | FIFA suspends T&T over High Court claim

Trovato said in a video conference that it was a “political judgement” with no legal basis. “They didn’t take into account any of the evidence that we presented,” he said.

Trovato added that the club would not be affected on the pitch. “Olimpia will go on playing and winning as it has done throughout the club’s history,” he said.

‘A very big blow’

His lawyer told reporters that Trovato would appeal the decision and take his case to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, sport’s highest court, if necessary.

The president of the Paraguayan Football Association (APF), Robert Harrison, described the announcement as a “very big blow for us,” while an APF lawyer said the case affected Trovato rather than the club, but did not give further details.

Two championships per season - the Apertura and Clausura - are played in Paraguay. Olimpia won both in 2018 and again in 2019 although that run ended on Saturday when its arch-rival Cerro Porteno won this season’s Apertura championship.

Source: 29 September 2020, Sportsradar

Football

<https://sportstar.thehindu.com/football/paraguayan-club-president-lifetime-ban-olimpia-marco-trovato-fifa/article32721605.ece>

Tennis Integrity Unit

Gerard Joseph Platero Rodriguez suspended and fined for courtsiding, betting and non-co-operation offences

Unranked Spanish tennis player Gerard Joseph Platero Rodriguez has been suspended for four years and fined \$15,000 after being convicted of courtsiding, betting and non-co-operation offences. Six months of the ban are suspended on condition that no further breaches of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program (TACP) are committed.

A Tennis Integrity Unit investigation established that Mr Rodriguez had acted as a courtsider at an ITF M15 tournament held in Pittsburgh, USA in July 2019. Courtsiding is a prohibited practice which involves transmission of live scoring data from a match to a third party for betting purposes. He is the first tennis player to be charged with and convicted of the practice.

In addition, he was found to have placed 75 online bets on tennis matches during June 2019, in breach of the explicit prohibition on any form of betting on tennis.

During the course of the investigation and subsequent disciplinary process, Mr Rodriguez failed to engage or provide any form of co-operation, as required by the TACP.

The disciplinary case was adjudicated by independent Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer Ian Mill QC. His findings of guilt and subsequent sanction means that with effect from today, 30 September 2020, the player is prohibited from playing in or attending any tennis event authorised or sanctioned by the governing bodies of tennis for a period of three years and six months.

The breaches of the TACP Mr Rodriguez has been found guilty of are as follows:

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.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 F.2.b. – All Covered Persons must cooperate 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.

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

Source: 30 September 2020, Tennis Integrity Unit

Tennis

<https://elinku.clickdimensions.com/m/1/84431288/p1-b20274-b8fd77b3ece5462083a9ee1961851e7d/2/70/1129fb19-de89-4149-b4fd-6040c9329702>

GOOD PRACTICES

Australia

Sport Integrity Matters - Issue 05 – September 2020

Please find attached the latest edition of Sport Integrity Matters. This edition, as well as all past editions, is also available on our website.

Since our last edition there have been some significant developments in relation to sport integrity in Australia. The most significant has been the official commencement of Sport Integrity Australia on 1 July with Mr David Sharpe APM OAM as the inaugural CEO. The new agency brings together the existing capabilities of the National Integrity of Sport Unit, ASADA and relevant areas of Sport Australia under one roof.

This issue delves into the operational areas of Sport Integrity Australia to provide you with a sense of the work the agency is carrying out to help protect Australian sports and their athletes. We see this as a challenging but exciting time and we look forward to working with you and our other partners to make this a success for the betterment of sport in Australia. The issue also covers a range of other topics in the integrity space including, the approach for lower level athletes caught doping, the development of Commonwealth match-fixing offences, the work on the National Integrity Framework and much more.

At Sport Integrity Australia we are fully aware of the difficulties faced by sports as they continue to adapt to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. We welcome and encourage sports to reach out to us for assistance in integrity matters. Together we can work through the challenges of the current environment.

We want to ensure that the information we provide in Sport Integrity Matters is timely, informative, and useful for you to consider when developing and improving capability to tackle the variety of sport integrity threats we all face. Your feedback and input to improve this publication, and other initiatives, is always welcomed. Please don't hesitate to email us at <communications@sportintegrity.gov.au> if you have any suggestions for improvement, or if you have topics or issues you would like to see covered in future editions.

Source: 5 October 2020, Sport Integrity Matters newsletter

All Sports

<https://www.sportintegrity.gov.au/sites/default/files/Sport%20Integrity%20Matters%20-%20Issue%2005%20%E2%80%93%20September%202020.pdf>

GLMS

GLMS MONITORING AND INTELLIGENCE 2020 Q3 REPORT

GLMS is pleased to share the 2020 Q3 Monitoring & Intelligence Report, in which you will find key facts and figures from GLMS' monitoring and intelligence work over the summer months in the service of its members.

The report also includes our main highlights from the last few months, namely the updated GLMS Statutes that accommodate more membership categories in an effort to enhance secure exchange of information and related services including education, prevention and other activities as well as the GLMS-produced Study of Betting operators and their sponsorship of sport. Our associate member suppliers, Intralot, Scientific Games Digital, IGT and Sporting Solutions, answered the question of the quarter: How have they dealt with the unexpected acceleration in the digital transformation following the pandemic outbreak?

Finally, read about how our member Loto Quebec has been handling the current world situation and hosting the latest GLMS Hub in an interview with Louis Beaudet, Director for Sports Betting and Entertainment.

Enjoy and wishing you a safe and healthy last quarter of 2020!

-The GLMS Team-

Source: 9 October 2020, GLMS

<https://mailchi.mp/glms-sport.org/glms-q3-monitoring-and-intelligence-report>

GLMS**Welcome to our September 2020 Newsletter!**

Message from the President

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

First of all, I am delighted to share the update of the GLMS Statutes, approved by our General Assembly, which is evidence of our growth from a pure monitoring platform in 2015 to a fully-fledged global sport integrity association, endeavoring to represent the needs of the lotteries and collaborating effectively with stakeholders in programs, research, education and alert analyses for the protection of sporting integrity. Now, relevant stakeholders within the global Sports Integrity community, can become associate members of GLMS and benefit from its wide range of services in a concrete way. I encourage any organizations, who is active in the sports integrity community, to consider becoming part of the GLMS family.

During the month of September, GLMS team members participated, together with many of our member lotteries in various webinar panels, organized by our strategic partner, SBC, as well in the Interpol Match-Fixing task force and in the SIGA Sport Integrity Week, discussing the impact of COVID19 on the lotteries, related sport integrity implications in general and how we are all bouncing back.

Our Operations team continues to monitor sports competitions, analysing suspicious trading patterns, and alerting cases to our partners and members. Our GLMS team is working hard to engage with lottery members and provide key contributions to projects, sharing trends, updates, and doing our best to accompany our members and valued partners over the uncertainty of the next months.

As we reflect on a potential second wave of the pandemic, I remind you to stay vigilant and wish you all and your loved ones good health and continued safety during these challenging times.

Yours in Integrity,

Ludovico Calvi

GLMS President

Source: 1 October 2020, GLMS

All Sports

<https://mailchi.mp/glms-sport.org/enjoy-the-glms-september-2020-newsletter>



INTERPOL

INTEGRITY IN SPORT

INTEGRITY IN SPORT EVENTS

Le Comité International des Jeux Méditerranéens, IOC

Le CIJM au séminaire du CIO sur la prévention de la manipulation des compétitions sportives

Le Comité International des Jeux Méditerranéens a été invité et a participé au séminaire en ligne organisé par le CIO, en collaboration avec INTERPOL et UNODC au sujet de « Intégrité dans le Sport : Traitement de la manipulation des compétitions sportives » avec aussi la participation de représentants des Comités Nationaux Olympiques de l'Italie, de la Grèce, de Malte, de Chypre et de la Turquie.

Des représentants gouvernementaux, des cadres de Comités Nationaux Olympiques et de Fédérations Internationales Sportives, des représentants d'organes juridiques et d'autorités contre la corruption, des ministres chargés des Sports et des ministres de la Justice, ainsi que d'autres représentants du mouvement sportif ont également participé au séminaire.

Le Secrétaire Général du CIJM Iakovos Filippousis a souligné pendant son discours: « Le Comité International Olympique a été très sensible et actif depuis le premier moment que le CIO a approuvé cette stratégie internationale organisée et coordonnée contre la manipulation des compétitions, le trucage de matchs et les paris sportifs illégaux et c'était la première parmi les organisations sportives internationales multisports qui en 2011 a harmonisé son Statut, afin d'assurer et de protéger l'intégrité et la transparence de nos Jeux, mais aussi de bloquer toute tentative de viol de l'esprit des Jeux.

Nous sommes heureux de participer à cette campagne du CIO et bien plus parce que maintenant nous pouvons traiter un programme éducatif que nous avons, qui va être mis en œuvre aux athlètes du Village Méditerranéen qui vont participer à la 19ème édition des Jeux Méditerranéens d'Oran en 2022, évidemment en pleine collaboration avec le CIO et d'autres organismes internationaux.»

En plus des représentants des Comités Nationaux Olympiques, Mme Pâquerette Girard Zappelli, Chef de l'Éthique et de la Conformité, CIO, M. Friedrich Martens, Chef du Mouvement Olympique, Service sur la Prévention de la Manipulation des Compétitions, M. Claudio Marinelli, Agent de Renseignements Criminels, Service Anticorruption, INTERPOL, M. Giovanni Gallo, Chef, Section de Soutien Opérationnel, Corruption et Criminalité Economique ont également présenté leurs positions au séminaire.

Source: 6 October 2020, CIJM

All Sports

<https://cijm.org.gr/le-cijm-au-seminaire-du-cio-sur-la-prevention-de-la-manipulation-des-competitions-sportives/?lang=fr>

