



INTERPOL

INTEGRITY IN SPORT

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Photos International Olympic Committee

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INVESTIGATIONS

Australia

Police arrest four people re investigation into illegal betting on Brownlow Medal

In Australia, detectives from the Sporting Integrity Intelligence Unit have arrested 4 people in relation to an investigation into suspicious betting activity linked to the Australian Football League (AFL) Brownlow Medal. The investigation relates to the release of the Brownlow Medal voting tallies from matches in the AFL 2022 season. It's alleged that a person with knowledge of the voting tally of these matches distributed the information to a group of people known to them.

Source: 14 November 2022, Victoria Police

Football

<https://www.police.vic.gov.au/police-arrest-four-people-re-investigation-illegal-betting-brownlow-medal>

United States

UFC fight under investigation after suspicious betting detected

In the United States, a betting integrity company is looking into a UFC fight, a mixed martial arts competition, that ended abruptly in the first round after several sportsbooks in several states reported suspicious wagering on the featherweight contest. U.S. Integrity conducted a thorough analysis of the situation and alerted state gaming regulators and other sportsbook clients to the irregular betting. The analysis found that even after the odds changed to much less appealing prices, betting continued. The persistent wagering against the worse odds did nothing but fuel doubts among some bookmakers and U.S. Integrity.

Source: 7 November 2022, ABC News

<https://abcnews.go.com/Sports/ufc-fight-investigation-suspicious-betting-detected/story?id=92780965>

SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

China

Chinese tennis player provisionally suspended

The International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) has provisionally suspended a Chinese player from the sport, pending the full consideration of Tennis Anti-Corruption Programme (TACP) charges.

Source: 11 November 2022, International Tennis Integrity Agency

Tennis

<https://www.itia.tennis/news/sanctions/baoluo-zheng-provisionally-suspended/>

Nigeria

NFF suspends football chief over alleged match-fixing

Following the release of a video, the Nigerian Football Federation (NFF) has banned a football 'fixer.' This member of the Nigeria Professional Football League's newly formed Interim Management Committee was captured in a video that went viral on various social media platforms, boasting about helping clubs fix NPFL games.

Source: 2 November 2022, Premium Times

Football

United Kingdom

Ivan Toney: Brentford striker 'assisting FA with enquiries' after betting allegations

After national newspaper reports in the UK claimed he was being investigated for football gambling, a Brentford striker says he is "assisting the Football Association with their enquiries." The FA forbids players from betting on sports, and it is claimed that the 26-year-old is being investigated for previous bets placed before joining the Premier League club. He was named to England manager 's final squad for September's Nations League games, but he did not play.

Source: 6 November 2022, BBC Sport

LEGISLATION

European Commission

EU ups money laundering risk from online gambling to highest level

The European Commission has raised the threat level for money laundering in online gambling to the highest level possible, and has called for lower due diligence check thresholds to prevent criminal activity. The sports industry is included in the risk assessment as well. The European Commission conducts periodic supranational risk assessments to determine the risk of money laundering and terrorist financing in various sectors across the European Union. The 2022 edition is the third of its kind, following versions in 2017 and 2019.

Source: 2 November 2022, igamingbusiness

<https://igamingbusiness.com/legal-compliance/compliance/eu-ups-money-laundering-risk-in-online-gambling-to-highest-level/>



Spain

Spain's Senate approves amendments to Gaming Law

In Spain, the Senate plenary session on Wednesday approved an amendment to the Gaming Law that strengthens control over sports competition manipulation and betting fraud through the Global Investigation Service of the Gambling Market (SIGMA) and expands the protection of vulnerable gamblers.

Source: 8 November 2022, Yogonet

<https://www.yogonet.com/international/news/2022/10/31/64824-spain-39s-senate-approves-amendments-to-gaming-law>

BETTING

Australia

Austrac to probe Sportsbet, Bet365 over money laundering concerns

Following an audit authorized by Australia's financial crime watchdog over money laundering concerns, two of Australia's largest bookkeepers may face multimillion-dollar fines and severe regulatory interventions. The Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre has appointed two independent auditors to investigate Sportsbet and Bet365's compliance with anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism legislation. The regulator announced a similar crackdown on Irish conglomerate Entain last month.

Source: 2 November 2022, MSN

<https://www.msn.com/en-au/news/australia/austrac-to-probe-sportsbet-bet365-over-money-laundering-concerns/ar-AA13Fed3>

ODDS AND ENDS

Council of Europe

Sports Competitions Manipulation in the digital era: better addressing it together

As part of Macolin Week, the Council of Europe and UEFA, with the support of INTERPOL, organized a conference on addressing competition manipulation in the digital area. Other outcomes of the Macolin Week include the organization of the Copenhagen Group Meeting, and the conclusion of the 5th meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the Macolin Convention.

Source: 7 November 2022, Council of Europe

<https://t.co/C59VmZisna>

Global

IPACS TAKES IMPORTANT DECISIONS FOR THE FUTURE

The International Partnership Against Corruption in Sport (IPACS) held its annual meeting on November 8, 2022, and discussed important topics such as the finalization of the Governance Guidelines, the outcomes of recent workshops on Games-related procurement, the launch of new initiatives and changes to the Steering Committee. More than 110 IPACS key stakeholders from governments, sports organizations, and intergovernmental organizations, including INTERPOL, took part in the meeting.

Source: 8 November 2022, International Partnership Against Corruption

<https://www.ipacs.sport/news/ipacs-takes-important-decisions-for-the-future>

Netherlands

Closing Conference of the Integrisport Next Project on Sports Manipulations and Criminal Activities behind Sport

The IntegriSport Next Erasmus+ project (2021-2022) concluded with an International Conference on "Sports Manipulation and Criminal Activities Behind Sports" in the Netherlands, to which INTERPOL participated and contributed.

Source: 8 November 2022, Sport Integrity Group

<https://cscfsport.com/2022/11/08/media-statement-on-the-closing-conference-of-the-integrisport-next-project-on-sports-manipulations-and-criminal-activities-behind-sport-co-ordinated-by-cscf-foundation-for-sport-integrity/>

INTEGRITY IN SPORT EVENTS

Sri Lanka

Integrity in Sports Webinar Sri Lanka, 10 November

On 10 November, INTERPOL and the International Olympic Committee organized an Integrity in Sports Webinar for stakeholders in Sri Lanka, including the national Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka, the Sports Police Investigation Unit in the Ministry of Sports and the INTERPOL National Central Bureau. The webinar focused on raising awareness and strengthening national cooperation to tackle competition manipulation.

Source: 10 November 2022, INTERPOL

<https://www.interpol.int/en/Crimes/Corruption/Corruption-in-sport>

CORRUPTION

France

Police raid French rugby World Cup HQ as legal probe into corruption opened

Police raided the offices of the 2023 Rugby World Cup organizers in France on Wednesday as part of a legal investigation into the competition's management under former chief executive. He was sacked as head of France-2023 last month after an internal investigation found "alarming managerial practices" and allegations of bullying and harassment from employees. For the first time, the national financial crimes prosecutor's office confirmed that an investigation into possible favoritism, corruption, and influence-peddling at France-2023, a public-interest group, had been launched.

Source: 9 November 2022, France24

Rugby

<https://www.france24.com/en/sport/20221109-police-raid-french-rugby-world-cup-hq-as-legal-probe-into-corruption-opened>



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