



INTERPOL

INTEGRITY IN SPORT

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Photos International Olympic Committee

INVESTIGATIONS

Fiji

Investigation Committee appointed by Fiji FA to interview players and officials in Tavua for match fixing allegation

The Independent Investigation Committee appointed by the Fiji Football Association will be interviewing some players and officials in Tavua this Saturday in relation to match fixing allegations against Labasa and Tavua in the Inkk Mobile BOG. This is the last round of interviews which will be taking place at Tavua Hotel. Other players and officials have already been interviewed.

Fiji FA's CEO Mohammed Yusuf says the committee will compile a report after this Saturday's interviews and if there is an indication that individuals were involved in match fixing, then they will take severe action. Labasa had thumped Tavua 50 in their last group match of the BOG and qualified to the semifinals as they had a better goal difference in comparison to Lautoka and Ba. On the same day and in the last group match, Lautoka defeated Ba 20 however the Blues did not have sufficient goal difference to take them through to the semis.

Source: 28 August 2018, Fiji Village

<http://fijivillage.com/sport/Investigation-Committee-appointed-by-Fiji-FA-to-interview-players-and-officials-in-Tavua-for-match-fixing-allegation-rs29k5/>

India

Justice RM Lodha urges CoA to probe bookie-player link

It has been reported that an Indian player, part of the 2011 World-Cup winning team, was in contact with a bookie during the 2008-09 season.

Mumbai: Justice RM Lodha on Friday urged the Committee of Administrators (CoA) to launch a probe on the reported player-bookie controversy which took place during the 2008-09 season.

On Thursday, The Indian Express had reported that an Indian cricketer, part of the 2011 World Cup-winning squad was in contact with a bookie just before an international cricket match.

"The best thing now is for the Committee of Administrators, which is in charge of BCCI affairs, to immediately order an investigation into it. The CoA should now take initiative and take this issue to the logical conclusion. They already have an Anti-Corruption Unit. They have the power to probe this," Justice Lodha was quoted saying by The Indian Express on Friday.

If for any reason they don't do it, they should apply to the Supreme Court and get somebody appointed by the court to look into this. The CoA, by way of application or report, should bring this to the notice of the Supreme Court. The CoA regularly submits compliance reports (updates on the implementation of the Lodha reforms) to the Supreme Court and so they should inform the SC," he continued.

"I have observed in my report also that match-fixing is not possible but spot-fixing is possible and it does happen. And there is a nexus between players and bookies and those who play these kinds of mischief," he went on to say.

India had lifted their second World Cup trophy in 2011 after beat Sri Lanka in the final here at the Wankhede Stadium.

Source: DECCAN CHRONICLE, 24 August 2018, Deccan Chronicle

Cricket

<https://www.deccanchronicle.com/sports/cricket/240818/icc-world-cup-2011-india-cricket-player-bookie-justice-rm-lodha.html>

Malaysia

Another betting scandal rocks national badminton scene

KUALA LUMPUR: In a shocking revelation, a national badminton coach alleged that several top shuttlers have been involved in betting activities during training.

Not only does it happen almost daily at the Academy Badminton Malaysia (ABM) in Bukit Kiara, but he is upset that such an unhealthy activity is said to be encouraged by the coaches.

In an email to a BA of Malaysia (BAM) official, the national coach questioned the national body's stand on gambling and match-fixing.

The coach also took the Coaching and Training (C&T) committee to task for having failed to deal with the coaches involved.

The official, who wished to remain anonymous, in an exclusive with NSTP Sport, said: "This is something that has been going on for a long time, but certain people in the C&T have got their own agenda, so the issue has never been addressed.

"Personally, I know of national players, who were visiting the casinos even during the 2012 London Olympics, but nothing was done.

"Why? Because these players are their friends and they want to protect them."

Despite being reminded over and over again of the severe punishment that awaits those caught betting, gambling or match-fixing, players are still under the radar, neither worried nor bothered.

In fact in previous reports, it was pointed out that those caught involved, would be dismissed immediately.

BAM, through their Rules and Disciplinary committee, have also set up a whistle blowing system to combat the disgraceful act.

This latest scandal is indeed another huge blow to Malaysian badminton, after two independent players - Zulfadli Zulkiffli and Tan Chun Seang - were handed 20- and 15-year bans, apart from fines by the Badminton World Federation for match-fixing earlier this year.

Last year, a Bukit Jalil Sports School student was also slapped with a three-month suspension after he admitted to his coach that he was in a difficult financial situation due to online gambling.

Source: Fabian Peter, 27 August 2018, New Straits Times
Badminton

<https://www.nst.com.my/sports/badminton/2018/08/405491/another-betting-scandal-rocks-national-badminton-scene>



Sri Lanka

Sri Lankan cricket's anti-corruption unit detains two Indians on suspicion of match-fixing during domestic Twenty20 game

Sri Lankan cricket's anti-corruption unit detained two Indian spectators on suspicion of match-fixing during a domestic Twenty20 league game, officials said on Wednesday.

The men were apprehended after officials spotted them behaving suspiciously and making repeated calls on their mobile phones during the match between Galle and Dambulla at Pallekele, in the island's central hills.

"We saw suspicious behaviour of the two Indians and ACU (anti-corruption unit) officials handed them over to the police for further investigations," a Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) official told AFP.

The arrest comes a day after SLC issued a new match-fixing alert after a group of spectators were asked to leave another venue after officials suspected them of involvement in attempted match-fixing.

The ongoing T20 tournament features solely Sri Lankan cricketers after plans to emulate the massively lucrative Indian Premier League and attract foreign stars to Sri Lanka fell through.

Authorities say the scaled-down competition is still attracting match-fixers, and have increased the deployment of officials at games and team hotels, while players have been warned to inform the authorities of any attempt to approach them to fix matches.

Sri Lanka has also announced plans for tougher laws against sports corruption and a special police unit to deal with match-fixing following an Al-Jazeera documentary exposing corruption in global cricket in which three Sri Lanka officials were filmed agreeing to sway matches.

Source: 29 August 2018, First Post

<https://www.firstpost.com/firstcricket/sports-news/sri-lankan-cricket-anti-corruption-unit-detains-two-indians-on-suspicion-of-match-fixing-during-domestic-twenty20-game-5073881.html>

SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

Brazil

Fifa corruption: Brazil's Jose Maria Marin jailed for four years

A former head of Brazil's football association has been jailed for four years for corruption.

Jose Maria Marin, 86, was one of seven Fifa officials arrested at a hotel in Zurich in May 2015.

He was convicted of accepting bribes from sports marketing companies in exchange for contracts to broadcast tournaments such as the Copa America.

In addition, Marin was fined \$1.2m (£920,000) and ordered to forfeit \$3.34m (£2.59m).

He was sentenced in a Brooklyn federal court by judge Pamela Chen and he is the first official to be sentenced as part of an American investigation into corruption at Fifa.

Marin, a former governor of Sao Paulo, was last year found guilty of six of the seven counts against him, relating to money laundering and wire fraud conspiracy.

He was convicted alongside Juan Angel Napout, who led South America's football governing body Conmebol. He will be sentenced at a later date.

Peru's Manuel Burga was cleared of taking bribes by a jury in the USA.

Marin's lawyers say he will appeal against the sentence.

Source: 23 August 2018, BBC

Football

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/45277581>

E-Sports Entertainment Association League (ESEA); Esports Integrity Coalition (ESIC)**ESEA Bans Two MTN DEW CSGO League Players for Match Fixing**

Counter-Strike: Global Offensive players Loic 'effys' Sauvageau and Victor "cardiac" Kwan, who compete in ESEA's MTN Dew League, have both received one year bans for violating ESEA's gambling laws.

Alongside Sauvageau and Kwan, caster Roy "Stronglegs" Andul-Ahad was also found in violation of the gambling regulations, has had his account banned for a year, and has been removed from his casting position for the league.

The players, cardiac and effys, had been representing Really Old People in the 28th season of the MDL, were found to have been using family members to place bets on games that they were playing.

During an ESEA investigation, it was found that while a family member, or possibly Sauvageau himself would place a wager, the same bet would be placed by Kwan, or a relative of his.

In the statement, ESEA also confirmed that caster Andul-Ahad had, on multiple occasions, placed the same bet as Sauvageau's family member, including one match that Really Old People went on to lose.

Really Old People, who narrowly avoided relegation from the MDL this season, have been removed from the league entirely, although no current evidence suggests their teammates were involved, and none of them have been banned as a result. Their spot will be made available to teams competing in the MDL Relegation Tournament in September.

Stronglegs has taken to Twitter to apologize for this actions, stating the incident was a "giant misunderstanding" that he hopes is cleared up soon.

ESEA have referred the case to the Esports Integrity Coalition, and have confirmed they would be open to altering the ban length based on their recommendation. You can read ESEA's statement in full here.

Source: Matt Porter, 24 August 2018, Dexerto

eSports

<https://www.dexerto.com/csgo/esea-bans-two-mtn-dew-csgo-league-players-for-match-fixing-147231>



Kenya

IAAF Council Member Okeyo Banned for Life in Nike Money Case

IAAF Council member David Okeyo of Kenya was banned from track and field for life Thursday for his role in diverting hundreds of thousands of dollars of sponsorship money from Nike for his and others' personal use. It was another case pointing to deep-rooted graft in the sport in Kenya, which has been the most successful distance-running nation in the world for decades but is seeing that reputation eroded by a series of doping and corruption scandals.

Those scandals have swept across the Kenyan terrain over the last few years, implicating in various cases athletes, coaches and agents right up to the most senior officials.

Okeyo, the former secretary general and a vice president of the Kenyan track federation, is also facing charges of extorting money from athletes in a separate IAAF ethics case that has links to the East African country's doping crisis. In the Nike money case, evidence indicated that two other high-ranking officials at the Kenyan federation were also involved in funneling off cash. They were former Athletics Kenya president Isaiah Kiplagat, once a long-serving IAAF Council member himself, and former AK treasurer Joseph Kinyua. Kiplagat died in 2016 before he could face charges and Kinyua, although investigators found he was also involved, escaped punishment because he wasn't bound by the IAAF's code of ethics at the time of the offenses.

Okeyo was, however, guilty of breaching the IAAF's ethics code on 10 occasions and "over a long period of time," a three-member IAAF ethics panel said in its written decision. Okeyo's wrongdoing started as far back as 2004, the panel found. As well as his life ban, Okeyo was fined \$50,000, which he was ordered to pay to AK. He was ordered to pay another \$100,000 in legal costs to the IAAF. He was also formally expelled as an IAAF Council member. He had been suspended from his roles since 2015.

The decision was announced by the IAAF ethics board following a three-year investigation and a hearing in Nairobi in January and February.

"My lawyers will appeal the decision," Okeyo said.

He can appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Switzerland within 21 days. Kinyua claimed the case had "vindicated" him. But that wasn't how the ethics panel saw it. The panel said he was "found to have engaged in similar conduct" to Okeyo but couldn't be sanctioned under an old version of the IAAF ethics code, which has since been updated.

The panel said evidence indicated that 16 payments totaling a little over \$1.2 million between 2004 and 2012 were made from AK's bank accounts to a separate account, which Okeyo and the two other men had access to and withdrew cash sums from.

Okeyo wasn't found guilty of siphoning off all of that Nike money, with investigators unable to get compelling evidence of wrongdoing on some. But large sums of the money were taken "for his own direct or indirect personal benefit" and not for AK business, the panel concluded.

"The effect of his conduct was to deprive Athletics Kenya of income from its sponsor that could have been better directed to support the development of the sport of athletics in Kenya," the ethics panel said. "In the view of the panel the pattern of conduct warrants serious sanction to establish the firm principle that federation officials must act scrupulously and transparently in managing the finances of their federations in order to protect the name and reputation of the sport of athletics."

The IAAF hasn't yet released any findings in Okeyo's extortion case, which also involves yet another top AK official, former CEO Isaac Mwangi. Okeyo and Mwangi were charged with subverting the anti-doping process after an Associated Press report in 2016 detailed allegations made by two Kenyan athletes who competed at the 2015 world championships and failed doping tests.

Source: 30 August 2018, NY Times

Athletics

<https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2018/08/30/sports/ap-ath-iaaf-kenya-investigation.html>

Malta

FIFPro statement: Samir Arab

The following is a FIFPro statement about Maltese footballer Samir Arab.

FIFPro has taken note of UEFA's statement welcoming the decision by the Court of Arbitration for Sport to uphold a two-year ban for Maltese football player Samir Arab for not reporting a match-fixing approach. FIFPro did not plan to comment on the case until the reasoning of the CAS decision has been communicated. However, FIFPro feels obliged to raise some important points following UEFA's statement earlier this week.

The ban follows a UEFA investigation into two European Championship Under-21 qualifying matches in March 2016, which eventually were not manipulated because several Maltese players who were approached – including Samir Arab – refused to take part in match-fixing.

FIFPro believes that a two-year ban in Samir Arab's case is completely disproportionate and unfair. Indeed, FIFPro does not understand UEFA's decision to start disciplinary proceedings against the player in the first place.

Although Samir Arab admits he did not immediately report the match-fixing approach to UEFA or the Malta Football Association, only three weeks after the incidents occurred he cooperated fully with a police investigation in Malta and testified in court against the instigator of the match-fixing plot, an individual with a criminal record who had already been banned from football for previous match-fixing attempts.

The Maltese court which sentenced the plot instigator to prison described Samir Arab as a "very important witness". Both the police investigation and Samir Arab's testimony in court preceded UEFA's disciplinary charges by approximately one year. FIFPro finds it extraordinary that a fully cooperative witness in criminal procedures can more than one year later be punished by UEFA with a two-year ban from all football-related activities, preventing him from even training with his club.

Furthermore, FIFPro has constantly raised concerns about the proper education of young players and has advocated for witness-protection for players who report match-fixing approaches – two prerequisites fundamental in the fight against match-fixing. FIFPro believes that these prerequisites were missing at the time of the events giving rise to these sanctions.

While FIFPro supports vigorous measures by football authorities to stamp out match-fixing, we are calling for a more measured and reasonable approach so players like Samir Arab are not unfairly and disproportionately punished as part of these efforts, especially not when they are providing substantial assistance in convicting the real criminals.

Source: 22 August 2018, FIFPro

<https://www.fifpro.org/news/fifpro-statement-samir-arab/en/>



Paraguay

Fifa corruption: Paraguay's Juan Angel Napout jailed for nine years

Juan Angel Napout, the former president of South America's football governing body Conmebol, has been jailed for nine years for his part in the Fifa bribery scandal. He was found guilty in December last year at a trial in Brooklyn, New York.

The Paraguayan was convicted of racketeering conspiracy and two wire fraud charges.

The former Fifa vice-president will also have to forfeit \$3.37m (£2.6m) and pay a fine of \$1m (£767,000).

The 60-year-old was found guilty along with the former head of the Brazil Football Confederation Jose Maria Marin.

Marin, 86, was jailed earlier this month for four years and fined \$1.2m (£920,000) and ordered to forfeit \$3.34m (£2.59m).

Napout was arrested at the Baur Au Lac hotel in Zurich in December 2015, seven months after an initial dawn raid at the same hotel in which seven Fifa officials were detained.

The crimes related to Napout's participation in schemes to accept millions of dollars in bribes in exchange for the media and marketing rights to various football tournaments.

Source: 29 August 2018, BBC Sport

Football

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/45347241>

GOOD PRACTICES

Austria

Austrian Handball Leagues and Sportradar agree on long-term data partnership

Austrian Handball Leagues and Sportradar agree on long-term data partnership

The two highest Austrian Handball Leagues, the spusu LIGA and spusu CHALLENGE, are proud to announce a landmark partnership with Sportradar today. Sportradar will become the leagues' official data partner ahead of the upcoming 2018/19 season.

Under the agreement, Sportradar will be granted the right to exclusively collect, archive and distribute "Official spusu LIGA and spusu CHALLENGE Data" to both the media and betting industry, and to the spusu LIGA and spusu CHALLENGE and its teams. The partnership is a multi-year deal that will see the two parties work together across the next decade.

The spusu LIGA is the premier men's handball division in Austria. Under the agreement, Sportradar will collect the data generated by both the first and second division, as well as the Super Cup and annual All-Star Game competitions. Sportradar will also provide and implement a tailor-made live scouting system for all events and will ensure the highest data quality through its data processing control.

Furthermore, Sportradar will also provide the spusu LIGA and spusu CHALLENGE with its "Live Sports Centre" solution. The "Live Sports Centre" is a content visualisation tool with extensive live statistics that can be easily customised and implemented across all team websites. Additionally, Sportradar will also develop a digital media match-report for further data visualisation specifically aimed at media audiences.

Managing Director spusu LIGA & spusu CHALLENGE, Thomas Berger said: "Over 300 games are scouted by this partnership each season. For us, this is a huge structural milestone, but also a great challenge. This step and this partnership will enable us to offer our stakeholders an unprecedented breadth and depth of data in the future and will bring more attention to the leagues."

Sportradar Handball Product Manager, Tobias Jürgens added: "Handball is the most exciting upcoming sport in Austria and we are very excited about the collaboration between Sportradar and the spusu LIGA and spusu CHALLENGE for these coming years. It will be a great opportunity to develop cutting-edge data products and services and help to increase the awareness of the leagues and handball in Austria, across Europe and the world".

Throughout the partnership, both sides will continue to work on further innovative technologies and business models to improve the data collection and distribution processes.

Source: 22 August 2018, Austrian Handball Leagues

Handball

<https://www.sportradar.com/news-archive/austrian-handball-leagues-and-sportradar-agree-on-long-term-data-partnership/>



Moldova

Sportradar and Moldova's General Police Inspectorate sign agreement

Sportradar has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the General Police Inspectorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova in the fight to combat match-fixing in global sport.

The purpose of the MoU is to protect and maintain the integrity of sports within the Republic of Moldova and establish a framework for mutual cooperation. This partnership is years in the making, with Sportradar assisting the General Police Inspectorate on previous occasions in conjunction with Europol.

After the official MoU signing, the General Police Inspectorate's Head, Alexandru Pinzari, said: "We have a very strong interest in protecting the integrity of sport in the Republic of Moldova. This MoU creates an additional and important channel of information to assist in our investigations."

Sportradar Integrity Services Managing Director, Andreas Krannich, added: "The General Police Inspectorate are one of the most active law enforcement institutions dedicated to the topic of match-fixing and it is an honour to enter into official cooperation. Moldovan sport is now stronger and we are ready to be called upon whenever needed."

For more information about the General Police Inspectorate, please visit: <http://www.politia.md/>

For more information about Sportradar's Integrity Services please visit: <https://integrity.sportradar.com/>

Source: 21 August 2018, Sportradar

<https://www.sportradar.com/news-archive/sportradar-and-moldovas-general-police-inspectorate-sign-memorandum-of-understanding/>

United Kingdom

GLMS and the Gambling Commission of Great Britain formalise their partnership

The Global Lottery Monitoring System (GLMS) and the Gambling Commission of Great Britain (the Commission) share a commitment to protect the integrity of sports and sports betting. This agreement formalises the informal partnership that has been in place for some time. Under the agreement, GLMS and the Commission will exchange information on suspicious betting to help safeguard the interests of British consumers.

The Commission leads Britain's national platform, as per article 13 of the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sport Competitions. They also play an active role within the Group of Copenhagen (GoC), the network set up by the Council of Europe, bringing together the national platforms of several Member States. Working together with a number of regulatory authorities and national platforms – as well as the GoC – GLMS is looking forward to supporting the Commission and notably its Sports Betting Intelligence Unit (SBIU) in its role in gathering intelligence related to potentially corrupt betting activities.

GLMS President, Ludovico Calvi states: "We are very excited to formalise our partnership with one of the most responsible and active regulatory authorities in the world. The Gambling Commission of Great Britain has played a significant role in recent years in the fight against sport competitions manipulations in Britain and beyond and we always valued their pioneering attitude and investigative approach. I am convinced that this partnership will further enhance our mutual efforts to address the phenomenon of sport competition manipulations globally and effectively".

Richard Watson, Executive Director of Enforcement and Intelligence of the Gambling Commission adds "We are pleased to be signing this MOU, GLMS have shown they have considerable experience in monitoring betting data and access to information from Lotteries all over the world. This will help continue to build our sources of information to tackle the issue of betting integrity and prevent match fixing"

Source: 30 August 2018, GLMS

<http://glms-sport.org/news/glms-and-the-gambling-commission-of-great-britain-formalise-their-partnership/>

ODDS AND ENDS

United Kingdom

This footballer lost over £200,000 to gambling. Now he helps others who are struggling

Scott Davies was, at one point, training with Reading's first team in the Premier League. By his late twenties, he had lost over £200,000 to gambling, was left without a club contract, and was having suicidal thoughts. Over that period, he dropped down the through the Championship, League Two into the Southern League Premier Division. Now 30, he hasn't put a bet on since 2015, and he is using his experience of addiction to help other athletes who may be struggling with gambling-related issues. He says it's the most rewarding thing he's been involved in. Scott shared his story with us. [...]

Source: Ciaran Varley, 23 August 2018, BBC

Football

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bbcthree/article/a35b72fb-6035-4ccc-90bc-f2a93c4d3671>

POLICY

Ghana

FIFA appoints football normalisation committee for Ghana

The International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) has appointed a normalisation committee to run the daily affairs of the Ghana Football Association until March 31, 2019. This follows the decision of government to discontinue the liquidation of the Ghana Football Association (GFA) as well as FIFA's decision to discontinue the suspension of GFA.

The mandate of the normalisation committee, according to a statement issued by FIFA on Wednesday will include running the GFA's daily affairs and cooperate with a special task force to be set up by FIFA, Confederation of African Football (CAF) and the Government of Ghana.

"The suspension of the GFA will consequently not take effect," the statement said.

The statement said the normalisation committee shall be composed of an adequate number of members to be identified by a joint FIFA/CAF mission to be deployed to Ghana as soon as possible.

"All members of the normalisation committee must pass an eligibility check to be carried out by the FIFA Review Committee. The normalisation committee will act as an electoral committee and none of its members will be eligible for any of the open positions in the elections," the FIFA statement added.

It said the specified period of time during which the normalisation committee shall perform its functions shall expire when all of the above-mentioned tasks have been properly fulfilled, but by no later than 31 March 2019.

Source: 30 August 2018, GhanaWeb

<https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/FIFA-appoints-football-normalisation-committee-for-Ghana-680758#>