



# INTERPOL

## INTEGRITY IN SPORT

### Bi-weekly Bulletin

21 January 2025 - 10 February 2025



Photos International Olympic Committee

The contents of the INTERPOL Integrity in Sports Bi-weekly Bulletin are for information purposes only. INTERPOL assumes no liability or responsibility for any inaccurate, delayed or incomplete information, nor for any actions taken in reliance thereon. The published material is distributed without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, and the responsibility for the interpretation and use of the material lies with the reader.

The views, thoughts and opinions expressed in the content of this publication belong solely to the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of INTERPOL, its member countries, its governing bodies, or contributory organizations.

INTERPOL takes no responsibility for the content of any external website referenced in this publication or for any defamatory, offensive or misleading information which might be contained on these third party websites. Any links to external websites or reference to any product, process or service do not constitute an endorsement or recommendation by INTERPOL, and are only provided as a convenience.

This publication must not be reproduced in whole or in part or in any form without special permission from the copyright holder. When the right to reproduce this publication is granted, INTERPOL would appreciate receiving a copy of any publication that uses it as a source.

The distinctive signs of INTERPOL, including its abbreviations and emblem are protected under Article 6ter of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. The abbreviation "INTERPOL" and the Organization's emblem are also registered as trademarks and service marks with the European Union Intellectual Property Office. Use and display of the INTERPOL's emblem is highly restricted and essentially limited to the Organization's activities. You may not use any trademark, official mark, official emblem, flag or logo of INTERPOL, or any of its other means of promotion or publicity, to represent or imply an association or affiliation with INTERPOL without INTERPOL's prior written consent.

## INVESTIGATIONS

### United Kingdom

#### Match Fixing Allegations Being Investigated, Arrests Made in West Midlands

In the UK, three people were arrested in Birmingham for allegedly violating the Gambling Act 2005 by engaging in match-fixing related to a boxing fight last year. The investigation, led by the Gambling Commission and supported by West Midlands Police, focuses on suspicious betting activity, but further details have not been disclosed.

Source: 28 January 2025, Ring Magazine

Boxing

<https://ringmagazine.com/en/news/match-fixing-allegations-arrests-made-in-west-midlands>

### United States

#### NFLPA Investigating Own Role in OneTeam Amid Corruption Allegations

The NFL Players Association (NFLPA) is investigating its involvement in OneTeam, a joint licensing venture, following allegations of corruption in the MLBPA's dealings with the company. This internal review coincides with staff reductions and leadership changes within the NFLPA, raising questions about the organization's financial and governance practices.

Source: 21 January 2025, Front Office Sports

Football

<https://frontofficesports.com/nflpa-corruption-investigation-oneteam-unions-licensing/>

### United States

#### Three Men's College Basketball Programs Identified in Alleged Game-Fixing Scheme

In the United States, a federal investigation into alleged game-fixing has expanded beyond the NBA to include multiple men's college basketball programs, with Eastern Michigan, North Carolina A&T, and Mississippi Valley State among the schools under scrutiny for suspicious wagering activity. The case is linked to former NBA player Jontay Porter's betting scheme.

Source: 3 February 2025, Sports Illustrated

Basketball

<https://www.si.com/college-basketball/three-mens-college-basketball-programs-identified-in-alleged-game-fixing-scheme>

## SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

### Belgium

#### Six tennis players sanctioned for historic corruption offenses

Six current and former tennis players have been sanctioned by the International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) for match-fixing violations linked to a Belgian criminal case, with suspensions ranging from two years to 15 years and fines imposed accordingly.

Source: 31 January 2025, ITIA

Tennis

<https://www.itia.tennis/news/sanctions/six-tennis-players-sanctioned-for-historic-corruption-offenses/>



INTERPOL

### France

#### French cyclist given 10-month suspended prison sentence for doping

A former French cyclist received a 10-month suspended prison sentence and a €5,000 fine for importing and possessing doping products after testing positive for EPO in 2019, which led to a four-year ban from the sport. Her trial revealed she used banned substances between 2016 and 2019, and two others—a former semi-pro cyclist and a doctor—were also convicted for their roles in the doping case.

Source: 21 January 2025, Cycling Weekly

[https://www.cyclingweekly.com/news/french-cyclist-given-10-month-suspended-prison-sentence-for-doping?fbclid=IwY2xjawIAPEhleHRuA2F1bQixMQABHXnZ0nITvszOCJVHa\\_wcBQoPhag4MzvSA9xTLEORBqobnsvsd\\_OeQyWMNw\\_aem\\_B-CG35jdQmGBcECoE5Z2MA](https://www.cyclingweekly.com/news/french-cyclist-given-10-month-suspended-prison-sentence-for-doping?fbclid=IwY2xjawIAPEhleHRuA2F1bQixMQABHXnZ0nITvszOCJVHa_wcBQoPhag4MzvSA9xTLEORBqobnsvsd_OeQyWMNw_aem_B-CG35jdQmGBcECoE5Z2MA)

### Japan

#### EDITORIAL: Dentsu held accountable for Tokyo Olympic bid-rigging

In Japan, a Tokyo court ruled that advertising giant Dentsu and other firms engaged in bid-rigging for contracts related to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, significantly harming fair competition, resulting in a 300 million yen fine for Dentsu and a suspended prison sentence for a former executive.

Source: 1 February 2025, The Asahi Shimbun

<https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/15608962>

## BETTING

### United States

#### Eastern Michigan Basketball Under Scrutiny Amid Suspicious Betting Patterns

In the United States, Integrity Compliance 360 flagged suspicious betting activity on a college basketball game between Central Michigan and Eastern Michigan, marking the second time this season an Eastern Michigan game has been investigated.

Source: 31 January 2025, Casino Beats

Basketball

<https://casinobeats.com/2025/01/31/eastern-michigan-basketball-under-scrutiny-amid-suspicious-betting-patterns/>

## DOPING

### Belgium

#### Équitation : il perd ses résultats aux JO à cause des gouttes ophtalmiques de son chien

Belgian equestrian Domien Michiels had his individual results from the Paris 2024 Olympics annulled after testing positive for dorzolamide, a banned substance he inadvertently absorbed while administering eye drops to his dog. Despite acknowledging his lack of intent to cheat, the International Testing Agency upheld the decision based on strict anti-doping rules, though Belgium's team ranking remains unaffected.

Source: 5 February 2025, Ouest France

<https://www.ouest-france.fr/jeux-olympiques/equitation-il-perd-ses-resultats-aux-jo-a-cause-des-gouttes-ophtalmiques-de-son-chien-20e4ac1a-e3af-11ef-8dfe-c27f38ce14f2>

### Switzerland

#### Swiss Sports Tribunal serves age group triathlete eight-year ban for repeated anti-doping violations

Swiss age-group triathlete Michele Caverzasio received an eight-year competition ban after being caught ordering banned substances while already serving a three-year suspension set to end in 2026. Despite never testing positive, Swiss authorities found evidence of repeated anti-doping violations, leading to a global ban across all sports and an additional fine.

Source: 30 January 2025, Triathlon Magazine

<https://triathlonmagazine.ca/news/swiss-sports-tribunal-serves-age-group-triathlete-eight-year-ban-for-repeated-anti-doping-violations/>

## ODDS AND ENDS

### China

#### S. Korean footballer banned in China cleared to play elsewhere following FIFA decision

FIFA has ruled that the lifetime match-fixing ban imposed on Son Jun-ho by the Chinese Football Association will not apply outside China, allowing him to continue his career elsewhere. Son, who maintains his innocence, was previously detained over bribery allegations but has since been cleared to play in leagues worldwide except in China.

Source: 24 January 2025, Yonhap News Agency

<https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20250124008800315>

### Spain

#### Spanish Football calling for sanctions on Real Madrid over referee complaints

Real Madrid's criticism of La Liga refereeing, including an official complaint after their loss to Espanyol, has led to backlash from league officials and club managers, who are calling for sanctions against them for pressuring referees. Despite their absence from a recent RFEF meeting, many coaches condemned Real Madrid's tactics, while the discussion also emphasized the need for greater refereeing transparency.

Source: 6 February 2025, Yahoo! Sports

Football

<https://sports.yahoo.com/spanish-football-calling-sanctions-real-142900881.html>

INTERPOL  
INTEGRITY IN SPORT

## MATCH FIXING

### Bangladesh

#### Match-Fixing Allegations Shake Bangladesh Premier League 2025

The Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) is under scrutiny again as allegations of match-fixing and spot-fixing have emerged, with at least eight matches and ten players—six of whom have represented Bangladesh—being investigated by the Anti-Corruption Unit. The Bangladesh Cricket Board has vowed strict action if wrongdoing is confirmed, but unresolved issues like unpaid player wages and competition from other leagues continue to threaten the tournament's credibility and future.

Source: 1 February 2025, THE PINNACLE GAZETTE

Cricket

<https://evrimagaci.org/tpg/matchfixing-allegations-shake-bangladesh-premier-league-2025-175739>

### Spain

#### Kike Salas awaits trial for alleged Sevilla match-fixing

In Spain, Sevilla player Kike Salas is facing trial for alleged match-fixing after being accused of deliberately receiving yellow cards in La Liga games for betting-related fraud.

Source: 23 January 2025, SBC News

Football

<https://sbcnews.co.uk/sportsbook/2025/01/23/kike-salas-awaits-trial-for-alleged-sevilla-match-fixing/>

**Turkey****Osimhen's Galatasaray accused of cheating again as match-fixing allegations rage on**

In Turkey, Galatasaray's 1-0 win over Konyaspor sparked accusations of favoritism and match-fixing due to controversial refereeing decisions, particularly a disputed penalty awarded to Victor Osimhen. Konyaspor officials, fans, and commentators criticized referee Halil Umut Meler, citing a pattern of biased officiating that has fueled speculation about Galatasaray receiving unfair advantages in the title race.

Source: 26 January 2025, Pulse Sports

Football

<https://www.pulsesports.ng/football/story/osimhens-galatasaray-accused-of-cheating-again-as-match-fixing-allegations-rage-on-2025012621585783636>



INTERPOL

INTEGRITY IN SPORT