



# INTERPOL

## INTEGRITY IN SPORT

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Photos International Olympic Committee

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## INVESTIGATIONS

### FIFA

#### Samuel Eto'o claims he is victim of Caf campaign before match-fixing hearing

Samuel Eto'o has accused the Confederation of African Football's general secretary of violating Fifa's code of ethics during an investigation into match-fixing allegations against him, with Eto'o's lawyers filing a complaint alleging the opening of the investigation was aimed at tarnishing his reputation. Despite attempts to arrange a hearing with Caf being ignored, Eto'o's hearing is now scheduled with Fifa, prompting questions about the timing and motives behind the investigation.

Source: 16 April 2024, *The Guardian*

Football

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2024/apr/16/samuel-etoo-claims-he-is-victim-of-caf-campaign-before-match-fixing-hearing-cameroon>

### Kosovo

#### The Ulpiana-Vllaznia match is being investigated by the prosecution

Kosovar football faces upheaval following suspicions of match-fixing in a First League match between Ulpiana and Vllaznia, leading to the match being canceled after review by the Competition Commission within the Kosovo Football Federation, with the case now under investigation by the Tehelore Prosecutor's Office in Pristina, despite denials of rigging from the President of Ulpiana Football Club.

Source: 12 April 2024, *KOSOVAPRESS*

Football

<https://kosovapress.com/en/ndeshja-ulpiana-vllaznia-po-hetohet-nga-prokuroria>

### United States

#### Shohei Ohtani's ex-interpreter charged with stealing \$16M from baseball star in sports betting case

In the United States, former Los Angeles Dodgers interpreter faces federal bank fraud charges for allegedly stealing over \$16 million from Shohei Ohtani to cover gambling debts, exploiting his position and Ohtani's trust to access the player's bank account.

Source: 11 April 2024, *6NEWS WOWT*

Baseball

<https://www.wowt.com/2024/04/11/former-interpreter-baseball-star-shohei-ohtani-faces-bank-fraud-charges-sports-betting-case/>

## SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

### Bulgaria

#### Bulgarian tennis official banned for life

A tennis umpire from Bulgaria was banned for life for breaking rules related to betting 21 times from 2019-23. The umpire admitted charges including manipulating match scores data for betting purposes, gambling on matches and failure to report corrupt approaches.

Source: 19 April 2024, *ITIA*

Tennis

<https://itia.tennis/news/sanctions/bulgarian-tennis-official-pavel-atanasov-banned-for-life/>



### Chile

#### Chilean tennis player suspended for six months

A Chilean tennis player received a 10000 USD fine for failure to co-operate with an ITIA investigation under its Anti-Corruption Programme.

Source: 17 April 2024, *ITIA*

Tennis

<https://www.itia.tennis/news/sanctions/chilean-tennis-player-fernanda-brito-suspended-for-six-months/>

### Malaysia

#### MPL Malaysia suspends player for match-fixing

In Malaysia, an esports player received a one year ban for attempting to bribe another player to lose a match on purpose.

Source: 21 April 2024, *E Sports Insider*

<https://esportsinsider.com/2024/04/mpl-malaysia-player-suspension-match-fixing>

### Norway

#### IBU corruption: Besseberg sentenced to three years

Former International Biathlon Union President Anders Besseberg has been sentenced to three years and one month in prison for aggravated corruption, found guilty of accepting bribes and other unlawful advantages during his tenure from 1993 to 2018, with Besseberg expressing disappointment and planning to appeal, while prosecutors hope the verdict will raise awareness about corruption in sports

Source: 13 April 2024, *Inside the Games*

Biathlon

[https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1144652/ibu-corruption-president-sentenced-three?utm\\_source=substack&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1144652/ibu-corruption-president-sentenced-three?utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email)

## Russia

### 2-year ban for CS2 pro gokushima

In e-sports new, professional player Gokushima, a member of the FORZE CS2 team, received a two-year ban from ESIC for match-fixing, rendering him ineligible for participation in ESIC-approved tournaments such as ESL and BLAST.

Source: 11 April 2024, Betus

eSports

<https://www.betus.com.pa/esports/news/2-year-ban-for-cs2-pro-gokushima04-11-2024/>

## Spain

### Spanish tennis player suspended for 15 years

Spanish tennis player Aaron Cortes has been suspended for 15 years by the International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) after admitting to 35 breaches of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program (TACP), including contriving match outcomes and accepting money for the same. Cortes cooperated fully with the investigation, accepted the sanction, and is prohibited from participating in any tennis events authorized by ITIA members during the period of ineligibility.

Source: 9 April 2024, ITIA

Tennis

<https://itia.tennis/news/sanctions/spanish-tennis-player-aaron-cortes-suspended-for-15-years/>

## United States

### Jontay Porter gambling investigation explained: NBA hands down lifetime ban after prop bet irregularities

In basketball, the NBA issued a lifetime ban to a Toronto Raptors player for betting on NBA, passing inside information to sports bettors, and manipulating his performance for betting purposes. The ongoing investigation started following suspicious betting reports on so called proposition or side bets.

Source: 17 April 2024, CBS Sports

<https://www.cbssports.com/nba/news/jontay-porter-gambling-investigation-explained-nba-hands-down-lifetime-ban-after-prop-bet-irregularities/>

## BETTING

### United States

#### A betting scandal rocked Iowa sports. Then the case went sideways.

Iowa State University athletes, including football players and wrestlers, were investigated and faced charges related to sports betting, leading to NCAA sanctions and legal consequences, amidst a broader examination of the expansion of online gambling and regulatory challenges. Despite concerns about the investigation's focus and methods, the case resulted in fines, plea deals, and disruptions to the athletes' careers, prompting questions about fairness and targeting within college athletics.

Source: 16 April 2024, The Washington Post

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/2024/04/16/iowa-college-sports-betting/>

## ODDS AND ENDS

### China

#### China Sports Regulator to Get Tough on Those Who Don't Play Fair

China's General Administration of Sports (GAS) announced stricter penalties, including lifetime bans, for offenses such as match-fixing and misconduct in sports competitions, aiming to uphold fair play and integrity, with the new rules set to take effect on July 1.

Source: 16 April 2024, Caixin Global

<https://www.caixinglobal.com/2024-04-16/china-sports-regulator-to-get-tough-on-those-who-dont-play-fair-102186899.html>

## INTEGRITY IN SPORT EVENTS

### Romania

#### Successful Integrisport 3.0 awareness raising practical session in Romania marks an important conclusion

Integrisport 3.0 recently wrapped up its series of awareness sessions in Romania, gathering key stakeholders from law enforcement, sports organizations, and ministries to combat sports manipulation effectively. The event highlighted the importance of collaboration, empowering stakeholders for sustained action, and paved the way for future initiatives under the leadership of CSCF Foundation for Sport Integrity and Agenia Naionala pentru Sport, with upcoming plans for a peer-to-peer webinar and a closing conference to further uphold integrity in sports.

Source: 15 April 2024, Sport Integrity Group

[https://cscfsport.com/2024/04/15/integrisport3\\_awareness-raising-practical-session\\_romania/](https://cscfsport.com/2024/04/15/integrisport3_awareness-raising-practical-session_romania/)



## MATCH FIXING

### Algeria

#### Match Fixing Scandal Rocks Algerian Football

The Algerian Football Federation has addressed a match-fixing scandal in the local league by filing a complaint with judicial authorities, emphasizing the importance of upholding justice and respecting regulations while reaffirming its commitment to preserving the integrity of football both domestically and internationally. The Federation is closely monitoring the situation and will take appropriate action based on the investigation's outcome, urging everyone involved to act responsibly and with restraint.

Source: 15 April 2024, BSN Sports

Football

<https://bsnsports.com.ng/post/Match-Fixing-Scandal-Rocks-Algerian-Football>

### Canada

#### Jontay Porter Could be Banned from NBA if Guilty of Match Fixing: Adam Silver

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver warns of a potential lifetime ban for Toronto Raptors' Jontay Porter if match-fixing allegations are confirmed, as the league investigates suspicious betting patterns surrounding games in which Porter underperformed, emphasizing the severity of compromising league integrity while reaffirming his support for regulated sports betting.

Source: 11 April 2024, Casino

Basketball

<https://www.casino.org/news/jontay-porter-could-be-banned-from-nba-if-guilty-adam-silver/>

### China

#### China runner allowed to win: Match-fixing claim hits Beijing Half Marathon

In China, allegations of match fixing at the Beijing half marathon surfaced and led the organisation of the event to open an inquiry.

Source: 16 April 2024, Business Standard

Athletics

[https://www.business-standard.com/sports/other-sports-news/china-runner-allowed-to-win-match-fixing-claim-hits-beijing-half-marathon-124041700382\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/sports/other-sports-news/china-runner-allowed-to-win-match-fixing-claim-hits-beijing-half-marathon-124041700382_1.html)

### Italy

#### Olympic wrestler Frank Chamizo says he rejected \$300,000 bribe to throw qualifier match

A professional wrestler representing Italy, alleges he was offered a \$300,000 bribe to throw a match during the European wrestling Olympic qualification tournament in Azerbaijan, where he eventually lost a crucial match due to a controversial decision, leading him to speak out against corruption in the tournament.

Source: 11 April 2024, CBS Olympics

Wrestling

<https://www.cbssports.com/olympics/news/olympic-wrestler-frank-chamizo-says-he-rejected-300000-bribe-to-throw-qualifier-match/>

INTEGRITY IN SPORT

## POLICY

### Greece

#### EPATHLA Greek National Platform Annual Report 2023

The Greek National Platform to address competition manipulation in Greek sports (EPATHLA), released its 2023 annual report highlighting key activities in relation to awareness raising and training, regulation and policy, as well as investigations.

Source: 17 April 2024, EPATHLA

<https://www.epathla.gov.gr/en/epathla/annual-report/>