



INTERPOL

INTEGRITY IN SPORT

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Photos International Olympic Committee

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INVESTIGATIONS

Cambodia

FFC investigate match-fixing speculation over Cambodia's match in Singapore

Cambodia's Football Federation has launched an investigation into potential match-fixing following allegations against goalkeeper Vireak Dara, who made two costly errors during Cambodia's 2-1 loss to Singapore in the ASEAN Mitsubishi Electric Cup 2024. While some fans suspect Dara's mistakes were intentional, his teammates have defended him, asserting that errors are common in football.

Source: 16 December 2024, Khmer Times

Football

<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501608496/ffc-investigate-match-fixing-speculation-over-cambodias-match-in-singapore/>

Sri Lanka

Lanka T10 team owner arrested on match-fixing charges

In Sri Lanka, the owner of the Galle Marvels was arrested on match-fixing charges by Sri Lanka Police under the 2019 Prevention of Offences Relating to Sports Act, after a foreign player flagged his involvement in fixing. This arrest marks the second instance of a team owner being detained for match-fixing in Sri Lanka's franchise cricket leagues this year.

Source: 13 December 2024, ESPN Cricinfo

Cricket

<https://www.espnricinfo.com/story/prem-thakur-galle-marvels-owner-in-lanka-t10-arrested-on-match-fixing-charges-1464818>

Ukraine

Journalist on the searches in the match-fixing case: "The current referee of the first league is on the lists..."

Ukrainian journalist Volodymyr Zverov, reported that a current First League referee is among those suspected in a match-fixing investigation, with authorities confiscating phones and gadgets to uncover more information. The case, which also involves esports, traces connections to previous match-fixing investigations in 2018, including the involvement of a suspected organizer.

Source: 15 December 2024, Dynamo.Kiev

<https://dynamo.kiev.ua/en/news/633007-journalist-on-the-searches-in-the-match-fixing-case-the-current-referee-of-the-first-league-is-on-the-lists>

SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

China

Clean start needed for China football to score

Former Chinese football star Li Tie has been convicted of taking massive bribes, highlighting widespread corruption that has plagued Chinese football for decades, including at junior levels. Amid public disillusionment, a recent government crackdown offers a chance for reform, with officials calling for a fresh start to revitalize the sport and eliminate corruption as a first step.

Source: 30 December 2024, SCMP

Football

<https://www.scmp.com/opinion/comment/article/3292678/clean-start-needed-china-football-score>

DOPING

Global

Kyrgios says tennis integrity 'awful' after doping scandals

Nick Kyrgios has criticized the International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) for being lenient with world number one Jannik Sinner, who tested positive twice for the banned steroid clostebol, allowing him to avoid suspension despite the doping violation.

Source: 28 December 2024, France 24

Tennis

<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20241228-kyrgios-says-tennis-integrity-awful-after-doping-scandals>

Ukraine

Source: Mykhailo Mudryk Tests Positive for Doping

Ukrainian winger Mykhailo Mudryk, valued at €30 million, faces a potential doping ban after testing positive for a banned substance in October 2024, pending confirmation from his 'B' sample.

Source: 16 December 2024, Footboom

Football

<https://www.footboom1.com/en/news/football/2190169-source-mykhailo-mudryk-tests-positive-for-doping>

GOOD PRACTICES

Trinidad & Tobago

Sport Integrity Global Alliance marks Anti-Corruption Week

In Trinidad and Tobago, the SPORT Integrity Global Alliance (SIGA) chairman Brian Lewis emphasized the need for strict global anti-corruption policies in sports, highlighting the importance of financial transparency, accountability, and international collaboration to combat criminal infiltration and match-fixing.

Source: 13 December 2024, Newsday

<https://newsday.co.tt/2024/12/13/sport-integrity-global-alliance-marks-anti-corruption-week/>

ODDS AND ENDS

Global

Djokovic hints at corruption in Sinner, Swiatek doping cases; attacks ITIA in public call-out: 'More financial backing'

In 2024, tennis faced major doping scandals involving Jannik Sinner and Iga Swiatek, both citing unintentional contamination as the cause of their positive tests. The handling of these cases drew sharp criticism, with Novak Djokovic and Simona Halep questioning the transparency and fairness of the process, hinting at double standards and systemic biases within tennis governance.

Source: 29 December 2024, Hindustan Times

Tennis

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/sports/tennis/djokovic-hints-at-corruption-in-sinner-swiatek-doping-cases-attacks-itia-in-public-call-out-more-financial-backing-101735471222385.html>

Global

'Bad behaviour trickles down': exposing football's integrity problem

The article examines how football is plagued by a pervasive integrity problem, evident in behaviors such as unsporting conduct, abusive attitudes, and an excessive focus on winning at all costs, which permeates from professional levels to grassroots.

Source: 30 December 2024, The Guardian

Football

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2024/dec/30/football-integrity-problem-professor-dan-hough>

Sri Lanka

Ex-victimised Sri Lanka Olympic official ready to expose corruption

In an interview, former NOC Finance Committee Chairman Rohan Fernando exposed corruption, mismanagement, and lack of accountability within Sri Lanka's National Olympic Committee (NOC), calling for immediate reforms, forensic audits, and harsh penalties for those responsible.

Source: 22 December 2024, Sunday Observer

<https://www.sundayobserver.lk/2024/12/22/sport/40992/ex-victimised-sri-lanka-olympic-official-ready-to-expose-corruption/>

INTEGRITY IN SPORT EVENTS

Thailand

OCA outlines PMC plans for NOCs during Bangkok workshop

The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), the International Olympic Committee, INTERPOL, and FIBA, jointly organized a two-day PMC Workshop in Bangkok, bringing together representatives from 43 National Olympic Committees (NOCs), law enforcement agencies, and international partners, to address competition manipulation in sports. The event aimed to raise awareness, build capacity, and promote collaboration to safeguard sports integrity and ensure fair play across the region.

Source: 10 December 2024, Olympic Council of Asia

<https://oca.asia/news/5735-oca-outlines-pmc-plans-for-nocs-during-bangkok-workshop.html>

MATCH FIXING

Malaysia

Razif reveals he was approached by 'officials' to fix matches

Malaysian badminton legend Datuk Razif Sidek revealed he was approached to fix matches during his career but refused, prioritizing patriotism and integrity over monetary temptation. In light of recent BWF bans on Malaysians for betting-related offenses, Razif urged players to focus on performance and sponsors, emphasizing that modern prize money offers legitimate earning opportunities.

Source: 22 December 2024, New Straits Times

<https://www.nst.com.my/sports/badminton/2024/12/1151706/razif-reveals-he-was-approached-officials-fix-matches-watch>

Spain

La chaîne télé du Real Madrid dénonce la manipulation de la Liga après le nul contre le Rayo Vallecano

After Real Madrid's 3-3 draw with Rayo Vallecano, the club's TV channel accused the referee of biased decisions and alleged "manipulation of the competition." They criticized a yellow card given to Vinicius Jr., which will sideline him for the next match, and highlighted past controversies involving the same referee, including ignoring racist insults against Vinicius.

Source: 15 December 2024, L'Équipe

<https://www.lequipe.fr/Football/Actualites/La-chaine-tele-du-real-madrid-denonce-la-manipulation-de-la-liga-apres-le-nul-contre-le-rayo-vallecano/1526754>

Sri Lanka

Galle Marvels owner Thakkar gets bail in match-fixing case

Indian national Prem Thakkar, owner of the Galle Marvels team, was granted bail by a Colombo court after being remanded on allegations of match-fixing during the Lanka T10 Super League, with conditions including cash bail, sureties, weekly police reporting, and a travel ban while investigations continue.

Source: 23 December 2024, Daily FT

<https://www.ft.lk/sports/Galle-Marvels-owner-Thakkar-gets-bail-in-match-fixing-case/23-770889>

POLICY

Sweden

Sweden takes action to combat the manipulation of sports competitions and protect integrity in sports

Sweden ratified the Macolin Convention, strengthening its fight against match-fixing through enhanced international cooperation and becoming the 13th country to adopt this legally binding framework. Swedish officials emphasized the importance of this step in combating cross-border manipulation in sports and ensuring integrity in the gambling market.

Source: 16 December 2024, Council of Europe

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/sweden-takes-action-to-address-match-fixing-and-strengthen-integrity-in-sports>

CORRUPTION

China

China jails ex-football head coach for bribery

In China, the former coach of the national men's football team, was sentenced to 20 years in prison for bribery, having confessed to taking over \$16 million in bribes for match-fixing and selecting individuals for the national team. This sentencing is part of a broader anti-corruption crackdown in Chinese football.

Source: 13 December 2024, BBC

Football

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0kvxyj6y13o>

China

China sentences former sports body deputy head to 14 years in prison for bribery

Du Zhaocai, former deputy head of China's General Administration of Sport, was sentenced to 14 years in prison and fined 4 million yuan for bribery, following the ongoing crackdown on corruption in Chinese soccer.

Source: 13 December 2024, Reuters

<https://www.reuters.com/world/china/china-sentences-former-sports-body-deputy-head-14-years-prison-bribery-2024-12-13/>

