

INTEGRITY IN SPORT

Bi-weekly Bulletin

23 July 2024 - 9 September 2024



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

Australia

Betting agencies roped into A-League corruption scandal

In Australia, law enforcement is investigating a case of match manipulation and deliberately taking yellow cards with relations to South America and Colombia. Police say the betting scheme led to hundreds of thousands of dollars being paid out in winnings and was headed by the Colombian contact. Police are now collecting and analyzing betting information from several international bookmakers.

Source: 22 August 2024, Neokosmos

Football

Finland

Miesten Kakkosen ja Kolmosen ottelumanipulaatioepäilyt Palloliiton kurinpitoon

Based on over 40 suspicious betting reports, the Finnish Center for Integrity in Sport and the Finnish Football Association, supported by UEFA, are conducting investigations for match manipulation in lower-level football teams and matches in view of disciplinary proceedings.

Source: 3 September 2024, Palloliitto

Football

<https://www.palloliitto.fi/ajankohtaista/miesten-kakkosen-ja-kolmosen-ottelumanipulaatioepailyt-palloliiton-kurinpitoon>

Germany

Germany: Football games under match-fixing investigation

In Germany, police are investigating at least 17 lower tier football games across the country for alleged match manipulation, involving the use of cryptocurrencies and manipulated match exchanges on the dark web.

Source: 7 September 2024, DW

<https://www.dw.com/en/germany-football-games-under-match-fixing-investigation/a-70164395>

Panama

Prosecutors Arrest Panamanian Soccer League Players – Match Fixing Scandal

In Panama, three Panamanian soccer players were arrested for alleged match manipulation involving the use of Bitcoin, in a coordinated effort by the National Police and the First Prosecutor against organized crime.

Source: 3 September 2024, News Room Panama

Football

<https://newsroompanama.com/2024/09/03/prosecutors-arrest-panamanian-soccer-league-players-match-fixing-scandal/>

SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

Afghanistan

Afghanistan cricketer Ihsanullah Jannat banned for 5 years for match-fixing

An Afghanistan international cricketer has been handed a five-year ban for match manipulation, following several breaches of the ICC Anti-Corruption Code. The sanction was confirmed by the Afghanistan Cricket Board, which is also investigating three other players for allegations of competition manipulation.

Source: 9 August 2024, AP News

Cricket

<https://apnews.com/article/cricket-afghanistan-ihsanullah-match-fixing-c7b72ce09000350e82ec806abae03cd9>

China

2 more top Chinese football officials netted in corruption crackdown

-As part of sustained efforts to clean up corruption in sports, a former vice-chairman of the Chinese Football Association was sentenced to 11 years in prison for taking bribes. The vice-chairman of the Wuhan Football Association was sentenced to 11 years for embezzlement and taking and giving bribes.

Source: 19 August 2024, South China Morning Post

Football

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/politics/article/3275038/2-more-top-chinese-football-officials-netted-corruption-crackdown>

China

Chinese FA imposes life bans on 43 people for gambling, match fixing

The Chinese Football Association (CFA) announced that 43 individuals have been banned for life from participating in football-related activities for gambling and match-fixing. Sanctioned individuals include former internationals as well as a South Korean professional player.

Source: 9 September 2024, Xinhua

Football

<https://english.news.cn/20240910/1b8c800bcc95490e9bf4be3201b71133/c.html>

Mexico**Five tennis players suspended under Tennis Anti-Corruption Program**

The International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) confirms that five tennis players have been sanctioned for breaches of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program (TACP). The sanctions are linked to a criminal case heard in 2023 involving a match-fixing syndicate in Belgium.

Source: 4 September 2024, ITIA

Tennis

<https://www.itia.tennis/news/sanctions/five-tennis-players-suspended-under-tennis-anti-corruption-program/>

Sri Lanka**2024 Legends Trophy fixing : Indian team manager sentenced**

In Sri Lanka, an Indian national has been sentenced to two years imprisonment, suspended for ten years, for attempting to manipulate cricket games during the 2024 Legends Cricket Trophy played in Sri Lanka.

Source: 27 August 2024, Newswire

Cricket

<https://www.newswire.lk/2024/08/27/2024-legends-trophy-fixing-indian-team-manager-sentenced/>

Uganda**Walujo faces five-year ban for match-fixing**

The Federation of Uganda Basketball Associations has sanctioned a player for five years for attempting to manipulate a FIBA 3x3 National League game. The player was arrested by police before being released and sanctioned.

Source: 19 August 2024, Kawowo

Basketball

<https://kawowo.com/2024/08/19/walujo-faces-five-year-ban-for-match-fixing/>

LEGISLATION**Brazil****Brazil committee endorses harsher penalties for match-fixing**

In Brazil, the Justice Committee of the Chamber of representatives has drafted and proposed more stringent criminal penalties for match manipulation in Brazil. The bill looks to amend the General Sports Law and proposes prison sentences up to six years. It will also need to be approved by the Senate before it's enacted in law.

Source: 19 August 2024, iGaming Business

<https://igamingbusiness.com/sustainable-gambling/sports-integrity/brazil-committee-match-fixing/>

DOPING**Australia****Chinese national charged with drug trafficking in connection with alleged steroid and controlled drug distribution network**

Police have seized an estimated \$5 million worth of steroids and prescription drugs from properties in Canberra. A Canberra-based syndicate is alleged to have used encrypted messaging apps and the postal network to supply drugs across Australia.

Source: 27 July 2024, ABC News

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-07-26/police-seize-steroids-and-other-drugs-worth-millions-in-canberra/104145116>

ODDS AND ENDS**Denmark****Badminton: Anders Antonsen terminates contract of his coach who he claims was betting on another match in the arena**

A highly ranked Danish Badminton Player is terminating the contract and relationship with his personal coach as he spotted his coach placing bets on ongoing badminton games. His coach had been previously sanctioned by the Badminton World Federation for betting breaches.

Source: 25 August 2024, Indian Express

Badminton

<https://indianexpress.com/article/sports/badminton/badminton-star-anders-antonson-sacks-coach-after-spotting-him-placing-bets-on-matches-during-tournament-9530807/>

Guatemala**Estupor en Guatemala por el asesinato de un DT a metros de sus jugadores: la inquietante hipótesis ligada al narcotráfico y el arreglo de partidos**

In Guatemala, several media reports link the murder of a football coach to drug trafficking as well as match manipulation.

Source: 20 August 2024, Infobae

Football

<https://www.infobae.com/deportes/2024/08/20/estupor-en-guatemala-por-el-asesinato-de-un-dt-a-metros-de-sus-jugadores-la-inquietante-hipotesis-ligada-al-narcotrafico-y-el-arreglo-de-partidos/>

UEFA

Kaizen's Betano scores hat-trick with new UEFA deals

UEFA has announced new partnerships with international betting operators for its flagship Champions League, the Europa League as well as the Conference League.

Source: 27 August 2024, SBC News

Football

<https://sbcnews.co.uk/sportsbook/2024/08/30/kaizens-betano-scores-hat-trick-with-new-uefa-deals/>

United Kingdom

Sports Strangest Crimes: Confessions of a Match Fixer - new Radio 5 Live podcast exposes how match-fixers target, groom and manipulate professional footballers

In the new BBC Podcast Confessions of a Match Fixer, former football Moses Swaibu unveils the raw, unfiltered truth of his journey from a promising football player to become a match fixer. The 8-episode podcast is exposes how syndicates target, groom and manipulate professional football players.

Source: 12 August 2024, BBC

Football

<https://www.bbc.com/mediacentre/2024/radio-5-live-confessions-of-a-match-fixer>

MATCH FIXING

Peru

Perú: La Liga 1 rechaza que haya habido manipulación en el resultado del partido entre Sport Boys y Carlos Mannucci

Peru's Professional Football League, rejected accusations of an online sports betting operator regarding an alleged manipulation in the result in recent league match, based on a review of the match and the betting on it.

Source: 28 August 2024, Yogonet

Football

<https://www.yogonet.com/latinoamerica/noticias/2024/08/28/100580-peru-la-liga-1-rechaza-que-haya-habido-manipulacion-en-el-resultado-del-partido-entre-sport-boys-y-carlos-mannucci>

POLICY

United States

NFL deploying Integrity Representative to oversee gambling policy

In the United States, the NFL has identified an integrity representative for every team in order to implement its gambling policy and support in reporting suspicious activity and collaborate with law enforcement and other stakeholders.

Source: 22 August 2024, Gaming America

<https://gamingamerica.com/news/11133/nfl-deploying-integrity-representative-to-oversee-gambling-policy>

