

DID YOU KNOW...



The sense of impunity decreases the act of reporting

More than 50% of sports actors believed that current penalties are not harsh enough. A third responded that penalties are “reasonable”. A minority of respondents declared that they “do not know” or “do not care” about penalties.



The code of silence exists and is common practice in sports

This practice exists in national sports and is practiced more by fear than to protect the interests of the group. Only a minority of respondents considered that this practice does not exist.



Sports actors recognize the importance of denouncing to save integrity, ethics, and fair play... but rarely report

The vast majority of respondents admit that love and respect for sport, the need to protect integrity, or defend ethics and fair play are the main reasons for whistle-blowing. However, fear of the consequences (psychological, physical, and professional) and lack of confidence in the sports system end up conditioning their decision.



Reporting match-fixing is dangerous and can harm sports careers

Almost half of the respondents believe that reporting match-fixing is dangerous and can harm the sports careers of those who do it. Punishments applied to athletes who have reported in the past, such as being marginalised or losing their job, affect new reports in the present.



The reporting systems must be improved

More than half of those interviewed believe that, to successfully combat the manipulation of results, it is necessary to ensure that there is a safer and more efficient system to protect whistle-blowers, that guarantees anonymity and confidentiality.



The police is considered the most appropriate institution to manage an integrated protected reporting system

The institution that sports actors trust the most to manage an effective and secure reporting system is the police, followed by sports federations and Olympic committees, and government and independent entities from civil society.

Data regarding interviews held in T-PREG project partner countries.

TAKE CRIMINALS OUT OF THE GAME: REPORT THEM!



www.tpreg-training.eu

www.pned.ipdj.gov.pt

Initiative:



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MANIPULATION OF SPORT COMPETITIONS

TO REPORT OR NOT TO REPORT?

THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION IN SPORT AND THE T-PREG PROJECT

The T-PREG project - Training on Protected Reporting for Professional and Grassroots Sport is a European project to fight against corruption in sport, financed by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Commission, which is intended to promote increased cooperation between sporting and governmental institutions, academic organisations and civil society. Olympic Committees, Universities, NGOs and public institutions are participating in T-PREG.

The T-PREG project's mission is to contribute to encouraging the use of protected reporting mechanisms in the anti-match fixing policies and actions of sport bodies and institutions. The T-PREG project collects evidence about the attitudes and perception of sports actors regarding this phenomenon, evaluates existing reporting systems in Europe and the respective protection offered to actors when they report irregularities. It aims to create educational and preventative tools to define good practice and develop training programmes directed at sports agents in the professional and amateur worlds.

T-PREG E.learning platform:

a commitment to train and build the capacity of sports agents, considering best practice for reporting irregularities and protecting whistle-blowers. Learn more at

tpreg-digitalclassroom.eu

MISSION

INTRODUCE THE USE OF PROTECTED REPORTING MECHANISMS IN THE ANTI-MATCH FIXING POLICIES AND ACTIONS OF SPORT BODIES AND INSTITUTIONS.



THE IMPORTANCE OF WHISTLE-BLOWING IN THE PREVENTION OF MATCH-FIXING

The majority of recent corruption scandals were based on whistle-blowing. Given the importance of protecting whistle-blowers in every sphere of social life, the European Union adopted, in 2019, the Whistle-blower Protection Directive. International sporting bodies all around Europe have been carrying out anti-match fixing educational campaigns to promote the 3 Rs - **Recognise** the problem, **Resist** the temptation to manipulate, and **Report** any attempted or successful manipulation of results. Thus, Codes of Conduct establishing the obligation of sports agents to report manipulation of results have been created. This suggestion is also included in the standards provided for the Council of Europe Convention on Manipulation of Sport Competitions, which came into force in September 2019. Sports agents who do not report an approach, attempt, or concrete case of manipulating results of which they are aware, may be liable to pay a fine, and be suspended from the competitions in which they participate.

#1 **RECOGNISE**
#2 **RESIST**
#3 **REPORT**



A SPORT PARTICIPANT WHO DOES NOT REPORT AN APPROACH, ATTEMPT, OR CONCRETE CASE OF MANIPULATION OF RESULTS OF WHICH THEY ARE AWARE, MAY BE SUSPENDED FROM THE COMPETITIONS IN WHICH THEY PARTICIPATE.



THE NEED FOR PROTECTED MECHANISMS

Although reporting is a powerful tool for preventing and punishing result manipulation, it carries a significant risk of retaliation - sporting, physical or psychological - for whistle-blowers. Thus, the existence of appropriate mechanisms to protect whistle-blowers, as well as the handling of complaints, is fundamental, to prevent the fear of reprisals from deterring whistle-blowing.

Sport bodies around the World, and also National Federations at European national levels, have been launching Reporting Platforms in order to promote the denouncing of wrongdoing in sport in an anonymous, confidential, or both ways.

Some examples include:

- Integrity and compliance hotline (IOC)
secure.registration.olympic.org/en/issue-reporter
- Integrityline (UEFA)
uefa.integrityline.org
- Tennis Integrity Unit (TIU)
tennisintegrityunit.com/education
- International Federation of Association Football (FIFA)
bkms-system.net/bkwebanon/report/clientInfo?cin=KfuHpu

Despite the proliferation of protected reporting platforms, sports actors remain reticent. The absence of scientific studies that present empirical evidence on the perception and practice of result manipulation, has hindered an understanding of the reasons for this reluctance, and the creation of conditions for sports actors to report safely. This was the basis on which the premise of the T-PREG project arose.