Managing The Fight Against The Manipulation Of Sport Competitions

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In a sporting environment characterised by globalisation, commercialisation and new technologies, sport organisations are dealing with an expanding number of complex issues. The growth of the (illegal) sports-book industry and the resulting possibilities of immediate and significant profit have led to the development of a match-fixing system. Match fixers and their networks try to alter the glorious uncertainty of sport by convincing players, referees or other stakeholders to alter the run and the outcome of the game for their personal benefits.

International and national sport organisations are committed to protect the integrity of the game and to fight against the manipulation of sport competitions. In recent years, an encouraging number of sport organisations have developed specific rules, procedures, tools, or mechanisms towards this aim (see, for example, UEFA's Betting Fraud Detection System). Intergovernmental organisations, state-authorised lotteries or national governments (see KEA Report, 2012) have also participated in this effort by providing conceptual clarity and homogeneity, detecting cases, implementing prevention programmes or initiating disciplinary actions. Drawing from the positive signs, this symposium aims to present different initiatives which have been taken over the past years at international and national levels and to consider them as useful resources for a sport organisation willing to carry out its strategy. In particular, it will focus on institutional resources (e.g. the legal framework) and knowledge (e.g. education). In order to meet these objectives, the following questions will be addressed: How is manipulation of sport competitions defined? Which responses have been provided to tackle the issue and which have yet to be explored? What can we learn from concrete cases and situations?

After a short introduction by the chair, the first part of the symposium will present an institutional approach to the fight against the manipulation of sport competitions. Stanislas Frossard, Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), will highlight the role of the Council of Europe, in particular in the light of the implementation of the Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions (Council of Europe, 2014). His presentation will be followed by an input by Jean-Luc Moner-Banet, President of the World Lotteries Association (WLA). He will describe the latest initiatives undertaken by state-authorised lotteries, in particular the Global Lottery Monitoring System (GLMS). Wilhelm Rauch, Head of Legal Services at the Swiss Federal Office of Sport (FOSPO), will conclude the first part with of an overview of the initiatives that have been undertaken in Switzerland, in particular under a legal perspective.

The second part of the symposium begins with an analysis of the phenomenon by Denis Oswald, IOC Member and CAS Judge. He will present the main challenges related to the manipulation of sport competitions and insist on the main trends sport organisations and other stakeholders should be aware of. He will be followed by a presentation by Daniela Giuffre, expert in anti-corruption investigation and author of a book on manipulation of sport competitions in Italy ("Game Over"). She will focus on the role of organised crime as well as education initiatives that target key stakeholders such as players or coaches. Kevin Carpenter, Director and Principal at Captivate Legal and Sports Solutions, closes the second part with a contribution on the lessons that can be learned from concrete and most recent cases. The symposium ends with a conclusion by the chair.

References

KEA Report. (2012). Match-fixing in sport — A mapping of criminal law provisions in EU 27.