

BE WARNED: HOW DO THE CRIMINALS APPROACH YOU

Match fixing has become a field of operation for organized crime. The criminals approach players, referees or other officials and offer money or other benefits in exchange for manipulating matches. They are pretending they are your friends: spending some time with you, buying you a drink at the bar. They will try to get to know your weaknesses. After they make friends with you, they will ask you for 'little favors' like causing a yellow card or corner. They will tell you that this wouldn't affect the result of the match and nobody will recognize it. They will offer you money or other benefits for the manipulation. Note: Players, referees or other officials of the football family are NOT allowed to solicit or accept any gifts in exchange for an action or omission in relation with your activity in football.

Once you have manipulated one match or just a small part of a match, you are caught by the criminals! It's a vicious circle: From that moment on, they will force you to fix more matches. They will not pay you for the next manipulation. They will blackmail you to do it again even if you do not want to do it again. They will threaten you with telling your Club or Football Association that you manipulated a match as they would ban you immediately. Or they will use violence in order to achieve their goals. These are criminal people nobody wants to know.

NEVER BET ON FOOTBALL

As a professional football player, referee or other official of the football family you must not bet on football matches. The criminals often approach persons who bet on their own matches. Being in a betting shop makes you an easy target for criminals. They will use the knowledge that you bet on your own sport to blackmail you and make you do what they want.

CONSEQUENCES IN CASE OF BREAKING THE RULES

You must stick to the rules in your own interest: Don't risk your career, your reputation, your life! CONCACAF will sanction every prohibition of the rules with zero tolerance in order to keep football clean.

The applicable CONSEQUENCES may be

- Ban from taking part in any football related activity for LIFE: your career is over
- Fine of the club or association to which you belong
- Destroying your reputation: traitor of your team, your fans, football and your country
- Prosecution under criminal law: fixing a match is committing fraud
- Loss of sponsoring contracts
- Withdrawal of medals you won
- Embarrassment for your family and friends

Always keep in mind what you could lose. Once you have broken the rules, you are at the criminals' mercy as they will blackmail you to make you do everything they want. Getting involved in match manipulation and making arrangements with organized crime have destroyed the lives and careers of many professional athletes. In fact, there are often no consequences for the criminals as they are difficult to catch and often do not have much to lose.

**PROTECT YOURSELF AND
KEEP YOUR SPORT CLEAN!**

If you have any questions contact
Integrity@concacaf.org

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Our beautiful sport is built upon certain values such as fair play, commitment, loyalty, sportsmanship and integrity. These principles allow only for the best team to succeed on the field! Every player and every official is part of the football family and has the responsibility to help keep football clean from any negative impact, which could affect these values.

One of the greatest threats to our sport is match fixing. If the result of a match is fixed before the match even started, football loses its meaning, its credibility, its soul. Nobody will watch it anymore. Thus, the entire football family has to stick together in order to protect the sport we live for.

But furthermore, match fixing is not only 'cheating' in sports. It has become a field of operation for organized crime and therefore a huge danger for all people involved. This brochure will provide you with the most important information regarding the dangers of match manipulation in order to give you a guidance on how to react in case you should be confronted with match fixing, so that you will not only be able to keep football clean, but also to protect yourself from destroying your career, your reputation and your life.

WHAT IS MATCH FIXING?

Match fixing is any act of influencing the course or result of a match contrary to sporting ethics. Every arrangement about the course or result of the match is strictly prohibited. Every player has to perform with full capacity, the best he or she can. Intentionally throwing a match is illegal as well as fixing just details of a football match even if the overall result is not affected, like agreeing to deliberately cause a yellow card or a corner in a specific time of a match. Also performing not with full capacity for example play on draw in order to provide another team or player with a sporting advantage is match fixing and prohibited. Every referee has to make any decisions only on fair and founded sporting reasons.

NEVER DISCLOSE OR USE INSIDER INFORMATION

You must not inform anyone outside of your club or coaching staff about any sensitive information, no matter if you receive a reward for it or not. The criminals will try to receive information from you, which they could use on the betting market in order to have an advantage, like the injury of the best player. Once you break the rules and provide them with such information, you will be at the mercy of them. They will blackmail you in order to have you provide them with more information or to fix a match.

YOUR OBLIGATION TO REPORT

You have the obligation to report immediately, if you are aware of any matches being fixed by any person(s). Also, if you have been approached to manipulate a match, no matter if you accepted or denied the offer, you have to directly and immediately report to Integrity@concacaf.org



STAY CLEAN!

Refrain from any behavior that damages or could damage the integrity of football matches. Follow these rules in order to protect yourself.

The rules are clear:

- **NEVER** fix any event during a match or the result of a match
- **NEVER** lose a match intentionally
- **NEVER** arrange the outcome of a match, e.g. playing on draw
- **NEVER** solicit, promise, offer, accept or grant an advantage to or from someone else in exchange for any action or omission in relation to your sporting activity
- **NEVER** accept any kinds of gifts no matter if the person wants any reward or not
- **NEVER** place, directly or indirectly, bets on football matches
- **NEVER** disclose to anyone information which is not publicly available and which you obtained through your position in football
- **NEVER** fail to report. You have to report immediately to **CONCACAF** via Integrity@concacaf.org if you get approached to manipulate a match no period at end of sentence/phrase since other bullets do not have them.