

FIFA Integrity

Promoting integrity and preventing match manipulation

One of FIFA's core pillars is to promote the integrity of the game. As mandated in its Statutes, FIFA's objectives include preventing any method, such as match manipulation or corruption, that might jeopardise the integrity of matches, competitions, players, officials or member associations (MAs) or give rise to abuse of association football.

Protecting competitions from the threat of match manipulation is paramount to FIFA, and to ensure that the integrity of tournaments is not compromised in any way, FIFA has taken the following steps:

1. Creation of a dedicated confidential reporting mechanism

FIFA has created a dedicated online platform for the confidential reporting of potential wrongdoing that allows anyone with a suspicion of match manipulation, among other potential infringements, to report it. Reports can be submitted anonymously and the user also has the option to attach supporting documentation as well as to create an anonymous post box. This reporting mechanism is a specially secured communication platform and is administered by an external provider that specialises in secure and confidential handling of sensitive information. Furthermore, FIFA offers additional ways to confidentially report potential match manipulation and/or corruption-related activity.

2. Monitoring of all matches at FIFA competitions

FIFA monitors all matches in its tournaments as part of its standard preventive measures to protect its sporting competitions from any potential integrity alert, incident and/or suspicion. Through its integrity network, FIFA counts on specialised services in order to identify and analyse any suspicious betting behaviours or patterns across a number of international and domestic competitions around the world.

3. Relationships with players, coaches, referees and officials at FIFA competitions

Throughout its competitions, FIFA works closely with players, coaches, referees and other officials in a preventative capacity. This means that FIFA has established strong relationships and can speak directly to those at risk about the threat of match manipulation and provide them with informative material on the issue, such as how to react to and report a match-fixing approach.

4. Workshops on integrity risks in football with referees and MAs

Ahead of specific FIFA competitions, referees and MAs are invited to take part in separate workshops and sessions on integrity matters so that FIFA can provide them with practical information, relevant integrity-related tasks and key updates.

5. Implementation of FIFA's standard integrity measures initiative to protect its competitions

FIFA's standard integrity measures initiative is implemented at the FIFA World Cup™ and FIFA Women's World Cup™. It focuses on the following key areas:

A. Team engagement: Each MA participating in the FIFA World Cup or the FIFA Women's World Cup is invited to include its Integrity Officer in all integrity-specific training sessions.

B. National Integrity Officer presents to national team: Before the start of the final competition of the FIFA World Cup or the FIFA Women's World Cup, the Integrity Officer from each participating MA gives a tailored presentation (integrity briefing) to his national team in coordination with FIFA.

C. Specific workshops: Before the start of the final competition of the FIFA World Cup and the FIFA Women's World Cup, briefings for all relevant stakeholders including the Local Organising Committee (LOC) Officers, assigned to the respective participating MAs are conducted by FIFA on integrity matters.

D. Youth competitions: Before the start of the final competitions of the FIFA U-20 and U-17 World Cup (male and female), FIFA delivers onsite integrity sessions to both refereeing and team delegations on awareness raising, handling of situations or risk and appropriate reporting of any potential integrity alert, incident and/or suspicion.

6. Empowering and supporting confederations and MAs

FIFA understands that enabling and supporting confederations and MAs to create and implement integrity initiatives is vital in promoting integrity and preventing match manipulation. Therefore, FIFA actively works with the confederations and MAs to support them in tailoring their integrity approach to their own specific needs. This allows confederations and MAs to consolidate their authority and capacity in order to strengthen their responses to match manipulation and potential match corruption scenarios.

The FIFA Forward Programme was created as part of FIFA's support and capacity building initiatives for MAs. The application process for FIFA Forward includes best practice recommendations for MAs to safeguard the integrity of football including:

A. Appointment and training of Integrity Officers: Each MA has to appoint an Integrity Officer to establish a point of contact for communications and actively participate in regional integrity workshops and lead the integrity action programme.

B. Implementation of appropriate national reporting mechanisms: Encouraging the implementation national reporting mechanisms for the MAs in order for them to receive reports related to potential alerts, incidents and/or suspicions.

C. Local integrity workshops and integrity events: MAs can request support from FIFA to organise integrity workshops, seminars and similar events to build, follow-up or strengthened their national integrity action plan, programme or strategy.

7. Enforcing sanctions

FIFA maintains a zero-tolerance policy towards match manipulation and works closely with confederations and MAs to impose or extend sanctions when it occurs. Examples of some of the decisions reflecting this approach taken by the FIFA Disciplinary and/or Ethics Committee are:

[Coach banned due to involvement in an attempt to manipulate matches and failure to report](#)

[Match official banned for life due to match manipulation](#)

[FIFA extends match manipulation sanction against Estonian player](#)

[FIFA extends sanctions relating to match manipulation and betting activity](#)

[FIFA extends match-manipulation sanction against Croatian player](#)