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“Athletes Counsellors Against Match Fixing”

Module 4: Athletes





Module 4: The effects of match-fixing on athletes

Unit 1	<i>The athletes and the match-fixing</i>
Topic 1	(Young) athletes are a specific target of the match-fixers
Topic 2	Athletes testimony about match-fixing
Unit 2	<i>How athletes can be affected by match-fixings?</i>
Topic 1	Consequences for the sporting careers
Topic 2	A move away from the world of sport

Modules: Learning Outcomes of the course

Modules : “The effects of match-fixing on athletes”

Introduction text: Having seen the importance of sports organizations in match-fixing and the fight against it, let's look at the athletes. Athletes are particularly targeted by match-fixers. Understanding the factors that can lead an athlete to compromise himself or herself can help to prevent it.

Knowledge

- Athletes are among the main intermediaries for criminal match-fixing organisations. Understanding the extent of their potential involvement and the reasons behind it can help combat the phenomenon.

Skills and competencies

- Recognise the elements that can be used by match-fixing organisations to involve athletes
- Raising awareness about the particularity of young athletes
- Understanding the impacts of match-fixing on athletes and their career.

Topic 1: (Young) athletes are a specific target for match-fixers

Match-fixers can use «**insiders**» : athletes or member of the team that are looking to corrupt other players/staff member to fix the matches.

Athletes could be push to fix a match through forms of **rewards** or resort to blackmail. Players that are **not paid for a long period** of time/or who find themselves in a **difficult financial situation** is more vulnerable to match-fixers too.

The research «Fix the FIXING» showed that, 35% of the 600 sportspeople surveyed believed games had been fixed while **20% were aware of manipulation** within the last 12 months.

Topic 1: Some examples of innovative approaches to fight against match-fixing : the case of the integrity unit

With school and family, sport is one of the main ways in which children/teenagers are educated.

Children and teenagers **are particularly vulnerable** to the dynamics of betting and match-fixing because of their lack of knowledge. They may have difficulties seeing the limits of legality in these practices.

Young athletes could be particularly vulnerable to the manipulation of the «insiders». They can easily be lured by «easy» winnings.

Topic 2: Athletes testimony about match-fixing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SivRvogatJM>

Topic 1: Consequences for the sporting careers

- ✓ The loss of titles
- ✓ Demotion to lower leagues
- ✓ The loss of scholarship
- ✓ End of sponsors contract
- ✓ To pay a penalty
- ✓ Jail

Topic 2: A move away from the world of sport

Athletes that are guilty for match-fixing are not the only victims.

All the team/sport club/staff/fan may suffer from the consequences of match-fixing. That includes :

- A loss a sport value
- A loss of credibility among fans
- A loss of sponsors for all the team
- Demotion to lower leagues