

## IFA Code of Conduct on Sports Betting Integrity

### Preamble

On basis of the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions to strengthen the integrity and credibility of sport and for the successful protection of clean athletes this International Fistball Association (IFA) Code of Conduct sets out the guiding principles for all athletes, officials and other participants in Fistball competition on the issues surrounding the integrity of sport and betting.

The Code will be regularly reviewed to ensure it remains relevant and it complements rules provided by the IFA, national federations and national laws.

The Code was adopted in its original version by Board of Directors on 20 June 2015 at the meeting in Vienna. The revised Rules were adopted by the Board of Directors on 15 January 2016.

### Guiding Principles:

1. Be Smart: Know the rules
2. Be Safe: Never bet on your sport
3. Be Careful: Never share sensitive information
4. Be Clean: Never fix an event
5. Be Open: Tell someone if you are approached

### 1. Be Smart: Know the rules

Find out the betting integrity rules of the IFA, your national and your country's laws before the start of each season so that you are aware of your sport's current position regarding betting. The IFA's position is very simple: anyone involved in the IFA or any IFA competition must not bet on the outcome of any IFA competition or help or encourage anyone else to do so. If you break the rules, you will be caught and risk severe punishments including a potential lifetime ban from your sport and even being subject to a criminal investigation by public authorities.

### 2. Be Safe: Never bet on your sport

Never bet on yourself, your opponent or your sport. If you, or anyone in your entourage (coach, partner, family members etc.), bet on you, your opponent or your sport you risk being severely sanctioned. You must never bet on any events in your sport including:

- Never betting or gambling on your own competition or any competition in your sport (including betting on you or your team to win, lose or draw as well as any other side-bets);
- Never instructing, encouraging or facilitating any other person to bet on your sport;
- Never ensuring or trying to ensure the occurrence of a particular incident, which is or could be the subject of a bet, whether or not you expect to receive or have received any reward;
- Never giving or receiving any gift, payment or other benefit in circumstances that might reasonably be expected to bring you or your sport into disrepute.

### **3. Be Careful: Never share sensitive information**

As an athlete or other participant you may have access to information that is not available to the general public; such as knowing that an athlete is injured or that a weakened team has been put out. This is sensitive, privileged or inside information. This information could be sought by people who would then use it to secure an unfair advantage and to make a financial gain.

There is nothing wrong with you having sensitive information: it is what you do with it that matters.

Most athletes and participants know that they should not discuss important information with anyone outside of their team or organisation especially if they know or might reasonably be expected to know that it could be used in relation to betting.

### **4. Be Clean: never fix an event**

Play fairly, honestly and never fix an event or part of an event. Whatever the reason, never try to adversely influence the natural course of a sporting event or part of an event. Sporting competitions must always be an honest test of skill and ability and the results must remain uncertain. Fixing an event, or part of an event goes against the spirit, rules and ethics of sport and when caught, you may be subject to a criminal prosecution and receive a lifetime ban from your sport.

Do not put yourself at risk by following these simple principles:

- Always perform to the best of your abilities.
- Never agree to fix a match. Say no immediately. Do not let yourself be manipulated. Unscrupulous individuals might try to develop a relationship with you built on favours or fears that they will then try to exploit for their benefit, possibly by getting you to fix an event. This can include the offer of gifts, money and support.
- Avoid addictions or running up debts as this may be a trigger for unscrupulous individuals to target you to fix competitions. Get help before things get out of control.

### **5. Be Open: tell someone if you are approached**

If you hear something suspicious or if anyone approaches you to ask about fixing any part of a competition then you must tell the IFA and your national federation immediately. If someone offers you money or favours for sensitive information then you should also tell the IFA and your national federation immediately. Any threats or suspicions of corrupt behaviour should always be reported. The police and the law are there to protect you. The IFA and your national federation will help. If in doubt as to who to contact, email: [integrity@ifa-fistball.com](mailto:integrity@ifa-fistball.com).

Approved by IFA Board of Directors at the meeting dated 15 January 2016.