

NEW ZEALAND FOOTBALL

ANTI-MATCH FIXING AND SPORTS BETTING GUIDELINES

BACKGROUND

In August 2015, New Zealand Football adopted the Anti-Match Fixing and Sports Betting Regulations to protect the integrity of football in New Zealand.

This document provides general advice to players, coaches and other officials in New Zealand on what the Regulations mean for them and the wider issues surrounding the integrity of football and sports betting.

BE SMART: KNOW THE RULES

Be smart, know the rules. It's recommended that before the start of each season you familiarise yourself with the rules and regulations governing football in New Zealand – particularly the Anti-Match Fixing and Sports Betting Regulations.

These can be found here: <http://www.nzfootball.co.nz/rules-and-regulations/>

BE SAFE: KNOW THE RESTRICTIONS ON BETTING ON FOOTBALL

The general rule is, you are not permitted to bet, gamble or enter into any other form of financial speculation on any match or competition you or your team is involved in.

Beware, if you're involved in a winter season Premier League and/or a National League you are not permitted to bet on those matches or competitions – for example, if you play in the NRL Premier League you cannot bet on the Central League.

Additionally, you are not permitted to ask or instruct someone else to place any bets on your behalf.

The rules apply to bets made in person, on the telephone, online or even with friends and if you get caught you could face a 2-year suspension and a fine.

BE CAREFUL: DON'T SHARE INSIDE INFORMATION

Inside information is information considered to not be available to, or to not be known by, the general public – for example, this may be an injury to a player or team selection news.

You are not allowed to pass inside information on to someone else where it might reasonably be expected the information could be used for betting purposes.

Never seek or offer or agree to swap any benefit or reward for inside information about you, your team or football generally. You could be considered to have passed on inside information by word of mouth, email, in writing or on social media.

BE CLEAN: NEVER FIX A MATCH

Fixing is to fix, contrive, improperly influence or otherwise take action which could cause the occurrence of a particular result or any other aspect of a match or event.

Fixing is prohibited and treated very seriously by New Zealand Football and potentially the police.

In addition, seeking, offering or accepting (or even agreeing to offer or accept) any bribes, benefit or reward to fix, contrive or improperly influence the occurrence of a particular result or any other aspect of a match or event is similarly prohibited and serious.

If you attempt to fix, you are likely to get caught and receive a New Zealand Football charge which could result in a life ban and possibly criminal charges.

BE OPEN: TELL SOMEONE

If you are approached or suspect that someone you know has been approached or is involved in fixing or inappropriately betting on football, then you must report it to New Zealand Football immediately. Failure to report any such information may result in a New Zealand Football charge against you.

If you have any questions or want to send a report, you can do so confidentially by contacting New Zealand Football's Integrity Officer at integrity@nzfootball.co.nz.

GENERAL ADVICE

Want or need more information

You can find more information about match-fixing, its consequences and how to avoid the risks by visiting Sport New Zealand's Fight Match Fixing Online Education Tool here: <http://www.sportnz.org.nz/managing-sport/tools-and-resources/anti-match-fixing-course>

Family and Friends

Your family and friends' betting behaviours or relations with certain individuals could create problems for you. For example, if someone you know is betting on you or your team to win or lose this could be traced back to you and will raise suspicions.

Detection

Betting operators use sophisticated security measures to enable bets to be traced and reported to New Zealand Football or relevant authorities. Betting operators can also record and trace your bets for fraud detection purposes.

Seek help

Get treatment for drug, alcohol, gambling or other addictions to avoid running up debts. These problems may be a trigger for corrupt individuals to target you. Get help before things get out of control. (Good support organisations include Gambling Helpline Services on 0800 654 655; the Alcohol Drug Helpline on 0800 787 797).