

# How we keep your competition **FAIR AND HONEST**

This information is for young people **aged 13 to 17 years old**. It helps you understand your sport's **Competition Manipulation and Sport Wagering Policy**.

Sport should be an honest contest, which follows rules to determine a fair outcome – win, loss or tie. The Competition Manipulation and Sport Wagering Policy sets out the rules to stop people trying to dishonestly change the result of a sporting competition, or certain parts of it, for the wrong reasons. The Policy also sets out rules around betting in sport and reporting suspicious behaviour.

The rules of the Policy apply to everyone involved in your sport, including athletes, officials, coaches, managers, staff, volunteers, and parents. They explain how everyone in your sport should behave when it comes to gambling in their sport or dishonestly changing sporting outcomes.

The rules exist to keep your sport fair and honest for everyone.



## What is sports wagering?

Sports wagering is when people bet money, or other goods, on a sporting event in the hope of winning money.

## What does competition manipulation mean?

Sometimes people will try to "fix" a sporting competition (or part of it) to ensure they get the result they want, in the hope of making money on gambling, or for some other benefit such as getting a better draw in a tournament.

They might do this by not trying their best, losing points on purpose, or letting their opponent win. This is called competition manipulation, or match-fixing, and as well as breaking the rules of your sport, it can also be illegal.



## What are you not allowed to do?

Participants in your sport are not allowed to:

- **Lose an event or competition on purpose** to win money by gambling (for themselves or for someone else), or for any other benefit.
- **Cheat to change the natural course of a competition**, for money or other benefit (for example, giving away a penalty on purpose).
- **Bet on their own game** or their own sport.
- **Give away inside information** – this means you cannot tell people information about a future sporting event which is not already public (such as changes in positions, injuries, or line ups for future games). This is because this information might give an advantage to someone placing a bet on your competition if they have more information than the rest of the public.
- **Engage with people who are trying to fix a competition**. Knowingly talking to match fixers, and/or failing to report any suspicious activities that may be competition manipulation could break a rule in this policy.

## Why do these rules matter?

One of the best parts of sport is that there are no guarantees. Before a competition starts, you never really know who will win or lose, or what might happen during a game or race. Competition Manipulation is bad because it removes that uncertainty. This can affect fans, and the reputation of athletes, officials, and the sport. These rules aim to keep sport unpredictable and fun, by deterring people from manipulating competitions and banning those who do.

Many Australians also like to bet on sport. When there is a chance for people to make money, there is the possibility people will try to fix a competition to increase their chances of winning. This means that people who participate in sport, like you, are at risk of being approached to change the result or provide information that other people betting on a competition don't have. These rules protect you and your competition and keep sport safe and honest.

## What should you do if you think someone might be trying to fix a competition or might be betting on your sport?

The rules say that everyone in your sport must report any suspicious activity that might be breaking the competition manipulation or sports wagering rules.

If you see suspicious behaviour you should talk to an adult you trust. They, or you, can report it to your sport. Instructions on how to report to your sport are available on the 'Integrity' page of your sport's website.



## Want to know more about competition manipulation and sports wagering?

There is a short online course which explores competition manipulation and sports betting here: <https://elearning.sportintegrity.gov.au/>

## What can you do if you feel unsafe?

If you, or anyone under the age of 18, is feeling unsafe about anything to do with betting, gambling, competition manipulation, or any other issue in sport, you are protected by the Child Safeguarding Policy. This is a policy especially created for you.

The Child Safeguarding Policy says that adults who work or volunteer at your sport have a responsibility to support and help you. They must listen to you, hear what you say and do something to stop anything bad from happening to you.

If you feel really upset about something that has happened to you, or if you need help to make it stop, you should speak to someone you trust. This can be a family member, or an adult you trust in your sport.

## Other ways you can get help

Free and confidential\* online and phone counselling/advice services. You can call or chat anytime, for any reason.

### ■ Kids Helpline

Visit: [www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au)

Free call: 1800 55 1800 (available 24/7)

Email: [counsellor@kidshelpline.com.au](mailto:counsellor@kidshelpline.com.au)

### ■ eheadspace

Visit: [www.headspace.org.au/eheadspace](http://www.headspace.org.au/eheadspace)

Free call: 1800 650 890

(9am–1am AEST, seven days per week)

### ■ Youth Law Australia (legal information and help for young people under 25).

Visit: [www.yla.org.au](http://www.yla.org.au)

Free call: 1800 950 570

(9am–5pm AEST, Monday to Friday)

Email: [advice@lawmail.org.au](mailto:advice@lawmail.org.au)

\*Confidential means the person you speak to will not share what you tell them with anybody without your agreement, unless you or someone else is in danger.

