



# **Rules and Regulations on Sports Integrity in Relation to Sports Betting**

**INTERNATIONAL CHEER UNION**

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### I. Introduction

It is the goal of the International Cheer Union to encourage worldwide participation and pursue excellence in the Sport of Cheer. At the same time, the ICU assumes the responsibility of promoting the highest values and ethical standards in all aspects of the sport. Therefore, this document shall establish the standards and guidelines by which the ICU will conduct all aspects of its business and sports activities.

Involvement, participation and membership in the ICU is a privilege, and not a granted right. The privilege of membership may, therefore, be withdrawn or taken away by the ICU at any time when and where the ICU so determines that a member's conduct is inconsistent with the mission of the organization or the best interest of the sport of Cheer and all who participate in it.

Therefore, the ICU so does establish this Rules and Regulations on Sports Integrity in Relation to Sports Betting. The purpose of this document is to establish basic guidelines of conduct and the right and ability to evaluate such conduct of all the ICU Members, participants, officials, judges, administrators and participants, and also employees, contracted agents and third party associates, anytime and every time there are ethical issues at stake, including to:

- Ensure that all participants are automatically bound by and are required to comply with all of the provisions of the IF Rules related to Sports Betting.
- Ensure that participants familiarise themselves with all IF Rules related to Sports Betting, including what constitutes an offence.

While these Rules and Regulations cannot make a person or group more honest or increase their personal ethics, it can set forth the guidelines and character requirements to make sure that the sport is doing all it possibly can to protect itself from any wrongdoing. This helping to ensure that the experiences associated with one's participation and association with all Cheer activities are positive, worthwhile and valuable.

### II. Definitions

- *Inside Information*: any non-public information relating to any competition or event that a participant possesses by virtue of his/her position within the sport. Such information includes, but is not limited to, factual information regarding the competitors, the conditions, tactical considerations, injuries, or any other aspect of the competition or event but does not include such information that is already published or a matter of public record, readily acquired by an interested member of the public, or disclosed according to the rules and regulations governing the relevant competition or event.

- *Manipulation of sports results/match fixing*: irregularly influencing the course or the result of a sports event in order to obtain advantage for oneself or for others and to remove all or part of the uncertainty normally associated with the results of a competition.
- *Match Corruption*: promising, offering, giving, requesting or receiving any bribe or other reward or accepting the promise or offer thereof to fix or otherwise to influence improperly the result, or any other aspect of a sports event.
- *Participants*: a definition of “participants” in any competition that is as inclusive as possible, concerning all accredited individuals including athletes, judges, IF and National Olympic Committee (NOC) employees, officials and families, the event organising committee and the entourage of all participants.
- *Sports betting*: all sports betting-based games that involve wagering a stake with a monetary value in games in which participants may win, in full or in part, a monetary prize based, totally or partially, on chance or uncertainty of an outcome. (i.e. fixed and running odds, totalisator/toto games, live betting, betting exchange, spread betting and other games offered by sports betting operators, etc.):
  - *Legal betting*: types of betting that are allowed on a specific territory or jurisdiction by a regulator or government (ie. explicit permission given to legal companies to operate).
  - *Illegal betting*: types of betting which are not legal in the country as well as betting activities proposed by unofficial companies or simply in “back-stores”.
  - *Irregular betting*: when irregularities and abnormalities in the bets placed or the event upon which the bets are placed can be identified.
- *Sports integrity*: to preserve the fundamental character of sporting competition as an honest test of skill and ability; to act on and off the field in ways consistent with preserving the social and economic value of sport.

### **III. Regulation of participants’ betting activities**

1. Cheer participants are obligated to safeguard the integrity of sport by refraining from any attempt to influence the elements of a competition in a manner contrary to sporting ethics;
2. Cheer participants are responsible for their own actions;
3. ICU commits to taking measures to increase awareness and knowledge of participants on the issue of manipulation of sports results and its consequences through education and training;
4. ICU agrees to nominate a representative of the organization to be the focal point on all matters related to betting and match-fixing;
5. ICU commits to ensuring confidentiality with regard to unproven allegations of match fixing;

6. ICU prohibits the following:

- a. Cheer participants in any sports event, and their entourage, from participating in all forms of, or support for, betting or gambling related to their own matches and competitions in their sport;
- b. Failing, for reward, to perform to one's abilities;
- c. Instructing, encouraging or facilitating any other party to bet;
- d. Inducing, instructing or encouraging any participant to breach any of the established offences;
- e. Ensuring the occurrence of a particular incident, which is the subject of a bet and for which he/she expects to receive or has received any reward;
- f. Providing or receiving any gift, payment or other benefit in circumstances that might reasonably have been expected to bring the athlete or the sport into disrepute;
- g. Using any "Inside Information" for betting purposes, including disclosing "Inside Information" to any person (with or without reward) where the athlete might reasonably be expected to know that its disclosure could be used in relation to betting;
- h. Failing to disclose information to the designated ICU authority or competition authority (without undue delay) full details of any approaches, invitations to engage in conduct, or incidents that would amount to a breach of the ICU or competition rules related to betting;
- i. Failing to cooperate with any reasonable investigation carried out by the ICU or competition authority, including failure to provide any information and/or requested documentation, including records relating to the alleged breach (such as itemized) telephone bills, bank statements, internet service records, computers, hard drives and other electronic information storage devices);
- j. To knowingly assist, cover up or otherwise be complicit in any acts previously described committed by a Cheer participant. The Cheer participant shall be treated as having committed such acts himself and shall be liable accordingly.

#### **IV. Regulation of competitions**

1. In accordance with the ICU Competition Rules and Regulations, Cheer participants will be limited laptop computers and telecommunication tools access - including cell phones and internet- in restricted areas (including locker rooms) during competitions;
2. ICU will assign sports officials, especially referees and judges, within as short a period before the match/competition begins as possible;
3. ICU will introduce random financial audits for referees and judges and regular scrutiny of their field decisions;
4. ICU will prohibit betting offers of competitions of sports organisations or athletes under investigation or subject to sanctions for manipulation of sports results;
5. ICU will prohibit of betting on particular sports competitions/events including prohibition of betting on minors (athletes under 18 years old) unless the minor competes in a competition for adults;
6. ICU prohibits sponsorship by betting operators of sports teams and clubs composed of minors (athletes under 18 years old);
7. ICU prohibits unauthorised betting types and formulas following identification by individual IFs of authorised betting types and formulas;

8. ICU will establish regulations to ensure national federations and clubs fulfill their financial obligations towards their athletes and sports officials (e.g. regular pay) and good conditions for their professional athletes and sports officials (including referees and judges);

9. ICU will establish regulations to avoid conflicts of interest, to ensure that no one is involved in the management of federations, clubs, associations, teams etc. who is under prosecution for action including forgery, corruption, etc. or who has been convicted of a criminal offence within a determined period;

10. ICU will establish regulations to ensure transparency in the financing of sports organisations through betting activities;

11. ICU will undertake efforts to promote recognition of a “betting right” dedicated to sports bodies and related to the use of sport by betting companies to ensure an economic fair return from the betting operators, not only for the organisers of sports events, but also for the development of all sports.

#### **V. Disciplinary procedures and sanctions**

1. ICU reserves the right to cancel the sports events where a risk of fraud has been established/ identified; as well as decline any sports results where fraud has been established; and may enforce temporary or permanent bans on further sports activities, including but not limited to demotion, points reduction, return of rewards, reimbursement of caused material damage, fines;

2. ICU reserves the right to prohibit from participation participants under prosecution for betting related offences;

3. ICU reserves the right to enforce all procedures in line with agreed international general principles of law while ensuring respect for the fundamental rights of suspected participants.

The fundamental rights of suspected participants, reserve the right of the following processes:

a. to report all charges to disciplinary bodies on one’s behalf;

b. to be heard and to be informed of the charge;

c. to be eligible to a fair hearing and to be assisted or represented clear and enforceable provisions for appealing against any judgment made;

4. ICU reserves the right to follow procedures of suspensions and sanctions imposed by other international and national level sports organisations and government authorities.

#### **VI. Through these Rules and Regulations, ICU is committed to the following:**

1. cooperate with governments and responsible betting operators to face sports betting risks. Objectives of that cooperation include support for an International Convention on Sports Integrity and the

development of a common Education Programme regarding the potential risks related to sports betting, match fixing and international crime;

2. establish and, where appropriate, make use of effective channels for the exchange of intelligence and information related to the investigation and/or prosecution of manipulation of sports results at national and international level, on the understanding that information and intelligence transmitted should be early and detailed enough to be of practical use;

3. collaborate in the establishment of a system of monitoring and recording matches/competitions where a risk of manipulation has been established/identified;

4. mutually assist and ensure spontaneous exchange of intelligence and information on manipulation of sports results between national, foreign and international authorities, where there are reasonable grounds to believe that any offence established in accordance with ICU's Rules and Regulations has been committed and provide, upon request, all necessary information to the national, foreign or international authority requesting them;

5. submit data in their possession or under their control when requested to by government authorities;

6. introduce mechanisms for whistle-blowing in the area of manipulation of sports results to ensure disclosure of information (e.g. hotline, email address);

7. ensure protection of privacy and personal data in the area of investigation of manipulation of sports results in the light of respect for human rights;

8. support the regulation of sports betting to ensure responsible betting behaviour and to combat illegal betting.

#### **VI. Effective date**

These Rules and Regulations are in immediate effect and subject to the controls and provisions set forth by the ICU Governing Council and the ICU President. These Rules and Regulations will be sent to all the Member Federations for their review and evaluation. A formal vote will take place at the next General Assembly in April 2014. At that time, the ICU Governing Council anticipates a basic approval of these Rules and Regulations. While this process will be ongoing, the ICU Rules and Regulations on Sports Integrity in Relation to Sports Betting will continue to be in effect and will remain in effect during the evaluation and modification process.

International Cheer Union  
September 2013