



# **MATCH MANIPULATION CASE STUDIES**



**AFC REFEREE ACADEMY | BATCH 2019**

# Case Study 1 – Intentional Misapplication of Rules



**A match official, is capable of unlawfully influencing the result or course of a match by intentionally misapplying the rules of the game.**



**2018 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers Match between South Africa & Senegal.**

**The Referee awarded a penalty for South Africa's first goal.**

**Referee's Assessor criticized this decision.**

**FIFA received an official complaint and subsequently commenced investigation.**

**FIFA compiled evidence from 14 referee instructors and referees.**

**All opined that the penalty decision was incorrect and was a mistake.**

**The Referee has a history of involvement in 6 other suspicious matches.**

**The Referee awarded a significantly higher number of penalties per match.**

## Suspicious Betting Patterns Indicative of Match Manipulation

Analysis saw suspicious betting for at least two and three goals to be scored.

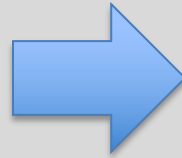
This suggest that bets were being placed by individuals who knew there will be 2 & 3 goals.

5 betting monitoring companies alerted FIFA as to the suspicious betting patterns.

Alerts based on qualitative analysis of the betting patterns and other factors. No legitimate reasons for price movements were identified.

Court of Arbitration for Sports Decision – Link between betting patterns and Referee’s mistakes.

CAS panel held that there was an obvious link between the referee’s decision and the betting activity.

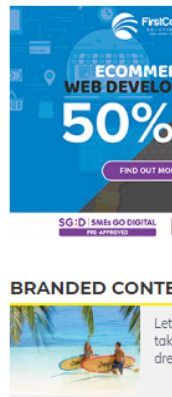


*“Each of them, inexplicable if taken alone, appears to find an ‘explanation’ only in the other”.*

**Wrong decisions made deliberately are identifiable.**

Match fixing is not only an infringement under the Disciplinary & Ethics Code but it may also be an offence under criminal law.

## Businessman Eric Ding jailed for 3 years in sex-for-fixing case



Three match officials were sentenced to a 6 month-imprisonment for corruptly receiving gratification as an inducement to fix a match, which is an offence under the Singapore Prevention of Corruption Act.

Pursuant to this, all three match officials were sanctioned by the AFC Disciplinary Committee with a life-ban from all football related activities.

**Always be aware of suspicious approaches.**

Referee X was introduced by a fellow referee to an unknown individual from a foreign country.

The unknown individual introduced himself as a match organizer and is prepared to pay referees for their services.

Contacts were exchanged and both communicated via email. Referee X then understood that the individual is in fact, a match fixer.

The match fixer offered Referee X to fix matches and is willing to pay an enormous amount of money to fix matches.

**Do not share confidential information.**

**The Referee continued to communicate with the Match Fixer and revealed information pertaining to his match schedule and the names of his assistant referees.**



### **AFC Disciplinary & Ethics Code**

**The provision to anyone of special knowledge or otherwise not publicly available information that may impact on the integrity of any football Match or competition, whether for one's own gain or for the gain of others, is an offence.**



Always remember the core principles for behavior and conduct for the AFC.

The Referee and his two assistants requested for free sexual favours from the match fixers in return of fixing the match that they were to officiate. This request was duly obliged by the Match Fixer.

**Remember! Match Fixers want something from you and are not your friends!**

### **Integrity and Ethical Behaviour**

*“We all behave ethically and act with integrity in all situations, keeping in mind that a reputation for integrity is of the utmost importance to the AFC and its objectives”*

### **Zero Tolerance of Bribery and Corruption**

*“We reject and condemn all forms of bribery and corruption”.*

Everyone bound by the Disciplinary & Ethics Code has a duty to report to the AFC without undue delay and unprompted, any conduct of a third-party incompatible with the Code or any other AFC regulation.

At an AFC Competition, Referee Y attended a meeting with Referee Z who introduced him to a third party.

The Third Party, who is a match fixer offered Referee Y to attend a “training camp” to train him how to manipulate matches.

Referee Y failed to report this to the AFC and only revealed this incident once prompted by the AFC.

The AFC Disciplinary Committee sanctioned Referee Y with a one-year ban from all football related activities.

## **AFC Independent Head of Integrity**

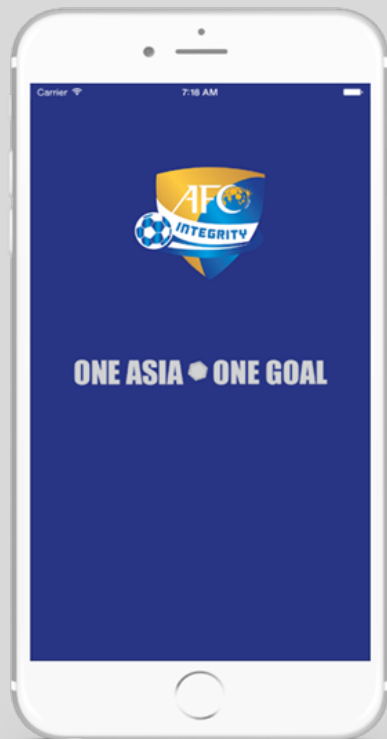
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## **AFC Integrity Unit**

**integrity@the-afc.com**

## **AFC Integrity Officers**

**Stationed at all AFC  
competition venues.**



**Part of AFC Integrity  
Reporting Mechanism**

**Highly Secure & Confidential**

**Advanced Features & Easily  
Accessible**

A wide-angle photograph of a large stadium filled with spectators during a football match. The pitch is green, and players in red and white kits are visible. The stands are packed with fans, many wearing yellow. A banner around the pitch lists sponsors: EPSON, TOYOTA, SAMSUNG, KIRIN, SAISON, TIBA, HONKA, MINODA, TOYOTA, SAMSUNG, KIRIN, and Fly Emirates. The text 'Q & A' is overlaid in large white letters in the center of the image.

**Q & A**

A large, faded watermark of the AFC logo is centered in the background of the slide. It is composed of a grid of small dots forming the outline of the AFC logo, including the letters 'AFC' and the globe with sunburst.

**THANK YOU**

**the-AFC.com**