Sport Integrity: Past, Present, Future

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Sport Integrity: Past

- Focus on the individual and the organization
- Response mode - what crisis?
- Response mode - keep it in the family
- Media focused; image is everything
- “Skin deep”; limited governance reform
- From “Blind” Ethnocentrism to critical independence (functions not finance)
Integrity in Sport: what’s in a name?

- No consensus
- Philosophical literature converges on a tripartite model:
  - Personal Integrity
  - Organisational Integrity
  - Competition Integrity

These are only analytically distinct (and that allows us to focus on what is important in any given case); in reality we find one, two, or all three operative in any case. Responsibilities for them differ.
Sports Organizations recognize the importance of integrity: still largely as reputational damage threats.

There is a lack of conceptual clarity still: precisely what counts as sport integrity, or an integrity threat.

- Narrow v broad (conceptual inflation)
- Sport Integrity (McNamee 2017): compare UEFA and Australian Government
- Why mapping the landscape is a problematic metaphor...
Integrity in Sport: core v periphery

Core elements

- Anti doping
- Match fixing (event manipulation)
- Safeguarding (freedom from abuse, bullying, exploitation, harassment etc)
- Forms of wrongdoing on the basis of protected characteristics (eg racism, sexism, transphobia, etc)
- Exclusionary practices
Sport Integrity: Present in flux

National Responses?
Sport Specific Responses
Sport Integrity: Present in flux

- Strategic uncertainty
- World Sport Integrity Agency?
- Who “owns” the agenda?
- Who will fund it?
- Different sports have (some) different issues (“integrity threats”)
- Data sharing presents problems
- Ethics “label” becoming lost
Sport Integrity: Future Agenda

• A national coordinating Sport Integrity organizations is necessary.
• A national Sport Integrity plan is necessary?
• Partnerships will be critical. NFs/IFs/Governmental facilitation or funding
• Networks will be critical
• How will sport organizations cooperate with law enforcement?
• Who can afford integrity officers?
• Will large NFs/IFs respect National Frameworks or is an international agency needed: World Integrity Agency)
Sport Integrity: Future Agenda

- New laws required for event manipulation – cf Australia
- Why lawyers for integrity positions?
- When are alternative dispute resolution strategies more proportionate?
- Finding the balance between regulation and education – Anti doping; safeguarding; anti racist campaigns...
- NFs/Ifs/Govt agencies will realise expertise is critical; need to develop capacity
- Internships are critical (but problematic) it’s a slow process?
Finally...

• MAiSI [www.maisi-project.eu](http://www.maisi-project.eu)

• (2017-20 2.9M€; 2020-25 3M€)