MATCH FIXING & MATCH MANIPULATION: ATTACKING THE INTEGRITY OF THE SPORT

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PLAY THE GAME, COLORADO SPRINGS
Sports Betting in the USA

- Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act, 1992 (PASPA)
- New Jersey enacted New Jersey Sports Wagering Act, 2012
- Federal and state laws at odds
- May 2018: Murphy v National Collegiate Athletic Association
Betting after the Landmark Decision

- Initially, NFL, NBA, MLB and NHL opposed legalization of sports betting

- After landmark decision, all four major leagues are getting on board
Betting: significant source of revenue

US$150 billion *illegally wagered* on sports
Attacking the Core of Sport

- Fixing results of a sporting events removes important characteristic of sport: **unpredictability**

- Unpredictability ignites interest and passion in fans

- Catalyst for wagering
Incentives to Cheat: Poor Prize Money

- Example: in Tennis, the prize money is low, especially at lower levels

- Playing professional tennis costs: $38,000 - $40,000

- 3.78% of active male tennis players break even

- 5.2% of active female tennis players break even
Athlete as the Victim

- Athletes are competing in unfair circumstances
- Threats from criminal groups
Efforts against Match-Fixing
Governing Bodies

1. Create policies
2. Put the policies into place
3. Athletes observe the policies
4. Dispute resolution
Tennis Integrity Unit

- Davydenko Scandal

- Three main priorities:
  1. Preventing corruption
  2. Investigating and prosecuting
  3. Delivering anti-corruption education
Establishing an Offence

- Effective action depends on:

  1. Duty to Report/Cooperate: Self-Incrimination?
  2. Whistleblowers
     - Rewarding substantial assistance
31 May 2011: first to receive a **lifetime ban** for match-fixing

23 Mar 2012: CAS upheld the lifetime ban, but withdrew the fine
Solution?

- Those seeking to corrupt sport are organized and well funded

- Sophisticated systems in place to avoid detection

- Integrity Units need to match this level of funding and sophistication
THANK YOU

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