Understanding the Threat to the Integrity of Australian Sport
What is the THREAT to the integrity of sport?

- Match-fixing
- Criminal infiltration of clubs
- Trafficking of youths
- Elite or Lower Leagues
- Domestic criminal groups
- Internal Corruption
- Regulated betting markets
- Tanking
- Criminal associations
- International organised crime groups
- Illicit drug use
- Prescription Drug Misuse
- Coercion of athletes
- Exploitation of Inside information
- Performance enhancing drug use
- Money Laundering
- Illegal betting
“A lot of people in our industry haven’t had very diverse experiences. So they don’t have enough dots to connect, and they end up with very linear solutions without a broad perspective of the problem. The broader one’s understanding of the human experience, the better design we will have”
The Sports Integrity Threat Assessment Methodology (SITAM)

• Adapted from Australian law enforcement target prioritization methodology
• Part one: self administered questionnaire by sport (moderated by analyst)
• Part two - analysis of:
  – Domestic and international betting data (e.g. liquidity, number of bookmakers offering markets)
  – Law enforcement intelligence holdings
  – Anti-doping intelligence holdings
  – Other relevant holdings
SPORT INTEGRITY THREAT OVERVIEW

Example Sport

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ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

The Sports Integrity Threat Assessment Methodology incorporates advice from the National Sporting Organisation on integrity issues in relation to their sport, combined with input from law enforcement, regulators and the NSI, to produce ratings for key individual integrity threats and an overall integrity Threat Assessment Rating. The threat ratings are combined with the current status of governance, oversight and financial management mechanisms within the sport to provide Vulnerability Assessment Ratings. The vulnerability assessment is designed to assist NSOs with treatment and mitigation strategies to reduce vulnerability in the contemporary integrity threat environment. Each vulnerability and threat criterion is rated on a scale from Negligible to Very High.

Overview

The overall threat to the integrity of Example Sport in Australia is assessed as MEDIUM.

The primary factors contributing to the medium threat rating are:

- international and domestic bookmakers offering markets on numerous domestic Example Sport competitions
- low levels of remuneration for the majority of athletes and officials
- minimal oversight of athletes, officials and other individuals who have the capacity to corrupt athletes and officials
- a medium threat of athletes using illicit and performance enhancing drugs.

The Example Sport and Example Sport have been assessed as having an elevated integrity threat given:

- the offering of markets on these leagues by international and domestic bookmakers
- the low level of remuneration for athletes in these competitions
- international experiences where organised criminal groups specifically target lower profile competitions.

Although policies which aim to protect the integrity of Example Sport have been or are being implemented, a lack of capacity and processes to monitor compliance and enforce these policies impacts adversely on their potential to mitigate integrity threats.

Should wagering on Example Sport in Australia continue to increase and there is no commensurate enhancement of the integrity protection framework within the sport, the threat to the integrity of Example Sport has the potential to increase from medium to high in the short to medium term.

Threat Ratings

Match Fixing

The threat of match fixing in Example Sport in Australia is assessed as MEDIUM.

The scale of wagering on Example Sport competitions, both domestically and internationally, is a significant contributing factor to the medium threat rating. A principal identified risk in relation to wagering on Example Sport is the offering of markets on international Example Sport competitions by a number of international bookmakers, particularly South-East Asian based bookmakers. There is also a high likelihood that unregulated South-East Asian bookmakers are offering markets on Example Sport.

While it is recognised that Example Sport is the predominant competition on which wagering occurs, the offering of markets by international bookmakers, particularly unregulated bookmakers, carries a high integrity risk.

Other factors which contribute to the medium threat rating are:

- the low level of remuneration for officials, and for the majority of athletes playing Example Sport in Australia, particularly in Example Sport and Example Sport competitions where remuneration is very low.
- the presence of international athletes competing in the various competitions, in some cases for minimal remuneration.

Performance Enhancing Drug Use

The threat of performance enhancing drug use in Example Sport in Australia is assessed as MEDIUM.

Although there is a limited identified history of performance enhancing drug use in Example Sport, both internationally and nationally, the threat has been assessed as medium due to scheduling pressures, high levels of motor control and the rewards for reaching the elite level of the sport.

Organised Criminal Infiltration

The threat of organised criminal infiltration of Example Sport in Australia is assessed as LOW.

Given the corporate structure with Example Sport and the Example Sport as the controlling bodies of the Example Sport, there are limited opportunities for organised criminal individuals or groups to infiltrate Example Sport.

Any intentions by organised criminal individuals or groups to infiltrate Example Sport are likely to be attempted through the corruption of individual athletes or officials.

1 According to Sportradar data, global betting on Australian Example Sport accounts for 0.22 per cent of the total betting on Example Sport globally.
The threat of illicit drug use within an entity in Australia is assessed as MEDIUM.

Yes, a comprehensive illicit drugs policy is in place. However, this is not supported by a comprehensive testing program. The lack of an illicit drug testing program, and therefore limited ability to detect, sanction and consequently deter athletes from using illicit drugs contributes to this elevated threat.

Vulnerability Assessment

The governance vulnerabilities of an entity in Australia are assessed as LOW.

Significant work has been undertaken by an entity towards enhanced governance within an entity. The entity is working towards the implementation of the Australian Sports Commission’s Mandatory Sports Governance Principles and has implemented a range of policies including a policy on match fixing, integrity and a code of conduct, which provides a robust integrity governance framework for the sport.

The oversight vulnerabilities within an entity in Australia are assessed as HIGH.

Although an entity has implemented a comprehensive suite of policies to mitigate integrity threats, the oversight and enforcement of these policies appears limited.

Presently, an entity has a limited capacity to monitor or identify individuals such as contractors, consultants and other individuals who directly work with athletes. This lack of oversight reduces the likelihood of an entity identifying individuals who may be engaging in or promoting unethical behaviour. There is also a limited capacity within the sport to identify individuals, particularly athletes and officials, who may be at risk of, or engaging in behaviour which has the potential to undermine the integrity of the sport.

The likelihood of the vulnerabilities in oversight being exploited by criminal individual or groups is heightened given the existence of international and domestic wagering on an entity and therefore potential to profit from match fixing, exploitation of inside information or corruption of players or officials.

The financial vulnerabilities within an entity in Australia are assessed as LOW.

As with the threat of criminal infiltration, the high level of central control by an entity over the various leagues offers limited opportunities for criminal individuals or groups to infiltrate the sport through financial arrangements.
Threats to Australian Sport – Overall Ratings

LOW Threat

- Limited threats
- Sporadic confined integrity issues based on individuals

HIGH Threat

- Exploitation of associations between criminal individuals and athletes
- Less sophisticated match fixing attempts
- Manipulation/infiltration for personal benefit of linked criminal individual or group
- Potential target of off-shore sophisticated match-fixing syndicates
- High level organised criminal involvement
Threat versus Vulnerability of Australian Sports

- **LOW Threat/LOW Vulnerability**
- **LOW Threat/HIGH Vulnerability**
- **HIGH Threat/HIGH Vulnerability**
- **HIGH Threat/LOW Vulnerability**

- **Sport A**
- **Sport B**
- **Sport C**
Governance Vulnerabilities Versus Match Fixing Threat

- LOW Match-Fixing Threat
  - HIGH Governance Vulnerabilities

- HIGH Match-Fixing Threat
  - HIGH Governance Vulnerabilities

- LOW Match-Fixing Threat
  - LOW Governance Vulnerabilities

- HIGH Match-Fixing Threat
  - LOW Governance Vulnerabilities
Oversight Vulnerabilities versus Match-Fixing Threat

- LOW Match-Fixing Threat, HIGH Oversight Vulnerabilities
- HIGH Match-Fixing Threat, HIGH Oversight Vulnerabilities
- LOW Match-Fixing Threat, LOW Oversight Vulnerabilities
- HIGH Match-Fixing Threat, LOW Oversight Vulnerabilities

Sports: Sport A, Sport B, Sport C

Plot shows the relationship between Oversight Vulnerabilities and Match-Fixing Threat for different sports.
Fighting the Fixers

• provided a baseline understanding of threats and vulnerabilities
• Early identification of emerging threats
• Capacity to longitudinally track escalation or reduction of threat to individual sports
• Identified knowledge and intelligence gaps
• Enabling development of strategies to protect Australian sport based on an informed position
If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles.

If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat.

If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle.

_Sun Tzu – The Art of War_
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