

To the members of FIFA

Circular no. 1424

Zurich, 30 May 2014  
SG/mut

### **Specific Recommendations to Combat Match Manipulation**

Dear Sir or Madam,

Match-fixing is a known problem in international sport. Where football is concerned, legal proceedings around the world have provided evidence that it is a global concern that can no longer be ignored. The football community must be united in response. There must be a holistic approach, collectively employed with the will and commitment to fight against corruption and to safeguard the integrity of football.

At the 63<sup>rd</sup> FIFA Congress in May 2013, FIFA member association delegates were presented with a thorough report on FIFA's ongoing fight against the scourge of match manipulation and were called upon to implement their own national integrity initiatives with FIFA's guidance and support. The Congress fully backed the FIFA President with overwhelming approval for renewed calls for member associations to take steps towards establishing a national integrity initiative, to seek more help from governments and law enforcement authorities, and to seek guidance and support to combat match manipulation through the five pillars of FIFA's integrity initiative: prevention, risk management, information gathering, investigations and sanctions.

Match manipulation has no place in football. For prevention to be effective, the football community must collaborate in a concerted and cohesive manner by enhancing the exchange of information and best practices, overcoming loopholes in existing legislation, improving legal and judicial cooperation, ensuring that administrative systems with appropriate and effective legal means are established and creating preventive measures and relevant training programmes.

We are pleased to enclose the FIFA **Specific Recommendations to Combat Match Manipulation**, which aim to form structures with corresponding procedural guidelines to effectively handle incidents of match manipulation. The document outlines specific recommendations for the sustainable development of a tailored national integrity initiative and it should form the basis of a concrete and effective structure within member associations, as well as further define the scope of the responsible persons empowered by these recommendations. In order to coordinate further activities in relation to the fight against match manipulation, we invite all FIFA member associations to **inform the FIFA Security Division of the appointed responsible person within your association who will act in all matters related to match manipulation (see 1.3 of the recommendations) via e-mail to [integrity@fifa.org](mailto:integrity@fifa.org).**

Football's strength comes from within, thus only with the participation of our 209 member associations and the six confederations can the beauty of the game be protected.

We thank you for your commitment to safeguarding the integrity of football and contributing to the success of this initiative.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE  
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Jérôme Valcke  
Secretary General

cc: - FIFA Executive Committee  
- Confederations