

17 September 2015

COMPPS consists of the following organisations:

- Australian Football League (**AFL**);
- Australian Rugby Union (**ARU**);
- Cricket Australia (**CA**);
- Football Federation Australia (**FFA**);
- National Rugby League (**NRL**);
- Netball Australia (**NA**); and
- Tennis Australia (**TA**).

One of COMPPS' roles is to provide a collective response on behalf of its member sports where their interests are aligned.

Each of these organisations is the governing body and custodian of a major professional sport in Australia. They are responsible for the long-term development and sustainability of their sport in Australia. Each of them administers their sport from the grass roots to the international arena.

One matter of common interest to all COMPPS members is the preservation of the integrity of sport in Australia. Most relevantly this includes, inter alia, addressing the serious threat that match fixing poses, particularly the threat from global organised crime.

In late 2010 in recognition of:

- the growing volume of sports betting (regulated and unregulated, onshore and offshore),
- the growing incidence of match-fixing globally and
- the potential for the threat of match fixing to strike at the core of sport's integrity and the perception of sports integrity in Australia,

COMPPS seized the initiative and formed an anti-corruption working party. This comprised representatives of each of the COMPPS sports, the major betting operators, players' associations and the Australian Sports Commission.

In mid-2011 the Working Party reported to the CEOs of the COMPPS sports with a report containing 30 recommendations, each of which was adopted by the COMPPS CEOs as a collective and then referred to the Federal Government.



Around the same time as the COMPPS Working Party commenced its review, there was intense focus on the issue of corruption in sport. In Australia alone, the State Governments of Victoria and New South Wales initiated reviews of sports gambling related corruption. Led by the then Commonwealth Minister for Sport, Senator Arbib, the State and Territory Sports Ministers in June 2011 signed off on a National Policy on Match-Fixing in Sport. The press release announcing this is **attached** at Annexure A.

Since that time, there has been a serious and concerted effort on the part of relevant stakeholders in implementing measures and strategies to combat the threat of match-fixing. This includes measures adopted by sports, government, the legislature and law enforcement agencies - individually and collectively. The extent of time and resources invested in this area and the level of formal and informal cooperation between these stakeholders is indicative of the seriousness with which the threat is perceived and the significant damage that could ensue to all sport if the scourge of match-fixing were to increasingly infiltrate Australian sport.

Examples of the measures and initiatives include:

- establishment and recruitment of dedicated integrity personnel within the sports;
- establishment by the federal Government of the National Integrity of Sport Unit;
- enactment of integrity related legislation by state governments including the amendments to the Victorian Crimes Act (1958) which saw the introduction of specific match-fixing offences punishable by up to ten years' imprisonment;
- establishment by NISU of the Australian Sport Integrity Network which meets regularly and on which all the COMPPS sports, as well as other Australian sport governing bodies, are represented;
- entry into integrity agreements by the sports with the betting operators;
- establishment within law enforcement agencies of dedicated sports integrity units or personnel, such as the Sporting Intelligence Integrity Unit within Victoria Police;
- contracting by the sports of expert agencies such as Sportradar to monitor betting activity on their leagues and matches and detect potential incidents of fraud;
- attendance at various industry workshops and symposiums incorporating sports, government, state and territory and federal police, betting operators to collectively address the threat of match fixing;
- measures to share relevant policies, practices and integrity related measures to ensure consistency of treatment across Australia and across sports.

In particular, COMPPS has formed the COMPPS Integrity Committee (**CIC**) comprising one member from each of the sports to co-ordinate joint activities between the COMPPS members and to maximise opportunities to use the collective power of the seven sports to combat corruption. A key element of the work that is undertaken by CIC is with the objective of ensuring to the greatest extent possible, consistency amongst the sports in combatting match-fixing. This includes recognition by all sports that match-fixing (as is organised crime) is “sport neutral” and that the risk to one sport can translate to a subsequent risk to other sports. This has particular relevance in the context of enforcement and sanctions. It is recognised by all COMPPS members that it is in the interests of all sport in Australia that enforcement and sanctioning processes, regardless of which sport, operate as effective deterrents to match fixers generally seeking to infiltrate the Australian sporting landscape.

In this respect it is important to recognise that it is often difficult to establish the involvement of participants in match fixing, as it is necessarily engaged in secretly. The consequence of this is that where it is uncovered there needs to be significant penalties for participants who are caught. It is only through this that will there be an effective deterrent to the temptation of participant involvement in conduct that strikes at the heart of integrity of sport.

Signed on behalf of the member sports:



Australian Football League



Football Federation Australia



Australian Rugby Union




National Rugby League



Cricket Australia



Netball Australia



Tennis Australia

Annexure A

Sport and Recreation Ministers Meeting Communique - Friday 10 June 2011

Ministers sign off on National Policy on match fixing in sport

📅 Page last updated: 30 October 2013

Today at the Gold Coast, Sports Ministers signed on behalf of their governments a National Policy on Match-Fixing in Sport which aims to preserve the integrity of one of Australia's greatest assets - our national sporting heritage.

[📄 National Policy on Match-Fixing in Sport as agreed 10 June 2011 - DOC 68 KB](#)

[📄 National Policy on Match-Fixing in Sport as agreed 10 June 2011 - PDF 268 KB](#)

Match-fixing and corruption in sport has emerged as the critical issue facing Australian and international sport.

Australia's National Policy on Match-Fixing in Sport represents a commitment by the Commonwealth and state and territory governments to work together to address the issue of inappropriate and fraudulent sports betting and match-fixing activities with the aim of protecting the integrity of sport.

The Policy is underpinned by the following agreed principles:

- A nationally consistent approach to deterring and dealing with match-fixing in Australia;
- Information sharing and highly efficient networks between governments, major sports, betting operators and law enforcers;
- Consistent national code of conduct principles for sport; and
- Active participation in international efforts to combat corruption in sport including an international code of conduct and in international body.

The Policy will also provide the basis for Australia to actively participate in international reforms to achieve similar international outcomes.

Ministers acknowledged the strong support the major sporting organisations including the Australian Olympic Committee and those represented by the Confederation of Major Professional and Participation Sports and the sports betting industry have shown throughout the development of this policy.

A cross jurisdictional working group will provide an implementation work plan to Sports Ministers within three months, which will include an assessment of readiness of the sporting organisations and the betting industry to pursue the requirements under this Policy.

All partners will now work together in the implementation of this Policy which will deter match-fixing, and deal with it should it arise, and in doing so safeguard Australian sport.

At today's meeting, Ministers also made some other key decisions.

Ministers, except NSW, today also endorsed the National Institute System Intergovernmental Agreement. The Agreement has been established to implement the new national partnership between State and Territory institutes and academies of sport and the Australian Institute of Sport. Through the Agreement, the institutes and academies will work together with identified national sporting organisations to improve support for their athletes through national agreed high performance plans.

Ministers endorsed the National Sport and Active Recreation Policy Framework, which was developed in consultation with national sport and active recreation organisations. The framework provides a guide for the development and alignment of policies and initiatives by governments in pursuit of a high performing sport and active recreation system. The system will deliver increased participation, success in international competition and strong national sporting competition.

Ministers again recognised the importance of sport and physical activity in school education and will continue to engage with Education Ministers and the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority.

Ministers also received a briefing on the Gold Coast's bid for the 2018 Commonwealth Games from Mark Peters, CEO of the Gold Coast bid.