



WORLD LACROSSE COMPETITION INTEGRITY POLICY

Objective

This document serves to provide a framework to protect the integrity of all World Lacrosse events and competitions, by preventing and penalizing to keep them free of any and all forms of manipulation and to ensure every effort is made to uphold the highest levels of competition integrity.

Rationale

All athletes, coaches, officials, administrators, and fans have a fundamental right to a sporting experience that is fair and of the highest quality. As lacrosse continues to grow in international popularity and professionalization of the sport, manipulation of competition becomes a legitimate concern. Competition manipulation occurs for any number of reasons including; legal and illegal sports betting, preferential placement in tournaments, individual gain, and more. As such, World Lacrosse needs to define, prevent, and enforce policies to keep competitions legitimate, fair, and safe from inside and outside manipulation.

Scope of Responsibilities

The World Lacrosse Competition Integrity Policy is intended for any activities directly hosted, conducted, endorsed, or sanctioned by or on behalf of World Lacrosse. This would include, but not be limited to, the following: World Championships (for all disciplines and age segments) and Continental Qualifiers. World Lacrosse also reserves the right to request policy compliance for other sanctioned or endorsed events as it deems fit.

Each member National Governing Body is responsible for ensuring opportunity, validating completion, confirming compliance to World Lacrosse requirements and enforcing compliance of this policy with its applicable participants within the context of the previously mentioned World Lacrosse activities.

Prevention Methodologies

- **Education:** As with many topics in keeping sport fair and safe, education is the first step in preventing competition manipulation. For education to be effective, all relevant parties (Athletes, Coaches, NGBs and Officials) need to know and understand the signs, risks, and penalties of competition manipulation. Additionally, educational opportunities need to be provided, if not compulsory for these groups. World Lacrosse currently has a free, on-line [Preventing Competition Manipulation Course](#) within the Virtual Training Center to assist in education efforts. The course was originally developed by the International Olympic Committee, and World Lacrosse received their permission to utilize the content within its system.
- **Code(s) of Conduct:** World Lacrosse should review the current Codes of Conduct for athletes, coaches, and officials and ensure that there are provisions within them that address competition manipulation

This policy was developed from the OLYMPIC MOVEMENT CODE ON THE PREVENTION OF THE MANIPULATION OF COMPETITIONS



being unacceptable in any form. A signed code of conduct should be kept on file for each participant, as evidence of their understanding and agreement to not take actions detrimental to the integrity of competition.

Article 1: Definitions

- 1.1 “Benefit” means the direct or indirect receipt or provision of money or the equivalent such as, but not limited to, bribes, gains, gifts and other advantages including, without limitation, winnings and/or potential winnings as a result of a wager; the foregoing shall not include official prize money, appearance fees or payments to be made under sponsorship or other contracts;
- 1.2 “Competition” means any sports competition, tournament, match or event, organized in accordance with the rules of World Lacrosse or its affiliated organizations, or, where appropriate, in accordance with the rules of any other competent sports organization;
- 1.3 “Competition Manipulation” is intentionally engaging in actions that may have a direct or indirect result on the outcome of a competition. Examples include: point shaving, falsifying information, accepting or offering money in return for prescribed actions, trading inside information.
- 1.4 “Inside Information” means information relating to any competition that a person possesses by virtue of his or her position in relation to a sport or competition, excluding any information already published or common knowledge, easily accessible to interested members of the public or disclosed in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the relevant Competition;
- 1.5 “Participant” means any natural or legal person belonging to one of the following categories:
 - a. “athlete” means any person or group of persons, participating in sports competitions;
 - b. “athlete support personnel” means any coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff, team official, medical or paramedical personnel working with or treating athletes participating in or preparing for sports competitions, and all other persons working with the athletes;
 - c. “official” means any person who is the owner of, a shareholder in, an executive or a staff member of the entities which organize and/or promote sports competitions, as well as referees, jury members and any other accredited persons. The term also covers the executives and staff of the sports organization, or where appropriate, other competent sports organization or club that recognizes the competition.
- 1.6 “Sports Betting, Bet or Betting” means any wager of a stake of monetary value in the expectation of a prize of monetary value, subject to a future and uncertain occurrence related to a sports competition.



Article 2: Violations

The following conduct as defined in this section constitutes a violation of this Policy:

2.1 Betting

Betting in relation either:

- a. to a Competition in which the Participant is directly participating; or
- b. to the Participant's sport; or
- c. to any event of a multisport Competition in which they are a participant.

2.2 Manipulation of sports competitions

An intentional arrangement, act or omission aimed at an improper alteration of the result or the course of a sports competition in order to remove all or part of the unpredictable nature of the sports competition with a view to obtaining an undue Benefit for oneself or for others.

2.3 Corrupt conduct

Providing, requesting, receiving, seeking, or accepting a Benefit related to the manipulation of a competition or any other form of corruption.

2.4 Inside information

- 2.4.1 Using Inside Information for the purposes of Betting, any form of manipulation of sports competitions or any other corrupt purposes whether by the Participant or via another person and/or entity.
- 2.4.2 Disclosing Inside Information to any person and/or entity, with or without Benefit, where the Participant knew or should have known that such disclosure might lead to the information being used for the purposes of Betting, any form of manipulation of competitions or any other corrupt purposes.
- 2.4.3 Giving and/or receiving a Benefit for the provision of Inside Information regardless of whether any Inside Information is actually provided.

2.5 Failure to report

- 2.5.1 Failing to report suspected violations to World Lacrosse or a relevant disclosure/reporting mechanism or authority, at the first available opportunity, full details of any approaches or invitations received by the Participant to engage in conduct or incidents that could amount to a violation of this Policy.
- 2.5.2 Failing to report to World Lacrosse or a relevant disclosure/reporting mechanism or authority, at the first available opportunity, full details of any incident, fact or matter that comes to the attention of the Participant (or of which they ought to have been reasonably aware) including approaches or

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invitations that have been received by another Participant to engage in conduct that could amount to a violation of this Policy.

2.6 Failure to cooperate

- 2.6.1 Failing to cooperate with any investigation carried out in relation to a possible breach of this Policy, including, without limitation, failing to provide accurately, completely and without undue delay any information and/or documentation and/or access or assistance requested by World Lacrosse as part of such investigation.
- 2.6.2 Obstructing or delaying any investigation that may be carried out by or on behalf of World Lacrosse in relation to a possible violation of this Policy, including without limitation concealing, tampering with or destroying any documentation or other information that may be relevant to the investigation.

2.7 Application of Violations

- 2.7.1 For the determination of whether a violation has been committed, the following are not relevant:
 - a. Whether or not the Participant is participating in the Competition concerned;
 - b. The outcome of the Competition on which the Bet was made or intended to be made;
 - c. Whether or not any Benefit or other consideration was actually given or received;
 - d. The nature or outcome of the Bet;
 - e. Whether or not the Participant's effort or performance in the Competition concerned were (or could be expected to be) affected by the acts or omission in question;
 - f. Whether or not the result of the Competition concerned was (or could be expected to be) affected by the acts or omission in question;
 - g. Whether or not the manipulation included a violation of a technical rule of World Lacrosse;
 - h. Whether or not the competition was attended by the competent national or international representative of World Lacrosse.
- 2.7.2 Any form of aid, abetment or attempt by a Participant that could culminate in a violation of this Policy shall be treated as if a violation had been committed, whether or not such an act in fact resulted in a violation and/ or whether that violation was committed deliberately or negligently.

Article 3: Investigations

- 3.1 The contents of this section are minimum standards which must be respected by all relevant NGBs.



3.1.1. The Participant who is alleged to have committed a violation of this Policy must be informed of the alleged violations that have been committed, details of the alleged acts and/or omissions, and the range of possible sanctions.

3.1.2. Upon request by World Lacrosse, the concerned Participant must provide any information which the Organization considers may be relevant to investigate the alleged violation, including records relating to the alleged violation (such as betting account numbers and information, itemized telephone bills, bank statements, internet service records, computers, hard drives and other electronic information storage devices), and/or a statement setting out the relevant facts and circumstances around the alleged violation.

3.2 Rights of the concerned person - In all procedures linked to violations of the present Policy, the following rights must be respected:

3.2.1 The right to be informed of the charges; and

3.2.2 The right to a fair, timely and impartial hearing either by appearing personally in front of World Lacrosse and/or submitting a defense in writing; and

3.2.3 The right to be accompanied and/or represented.

3.3 Burden and standard of proof

World Lacrosse shall have the burden of establishing that a violation has been committed. The standard of proof in all matters under this Policy shall be the balance of probabilities, a standard that implies that on the preponderance of the evidence it is more likely than not that a breach of this Policy has occurred.

3.4 Confidentiality

The principle of confidentiality must be strictly respected by World Lacrosse during all the procedure; information should only be exchanged with entities on a need to know basis. Confidentiality must also be strictly respected by any person concerned by the procedure until there is public disclosure of the case.

3.5 Anonymity of the person making a report

Anonymous reporting must be facilitated.

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3.6 Appeal

3.6.1 World Lacrosse shall have an appropriate appeal framework within their organization or recourse to an external arbitration mechanism (such as a court of arbitration).

3.6.2 The general procedure of the appeal framework shall include provisions such as, but not limited to, the time limit for filing an appeal and the notification procedure for the appeal.

Article 4: Provisional Measures

4.1 World Lacrosse may impose provisional measures, including a provisional suspension, on the participant where there is a particular risk to the reputation of the sport, while ensuring respect for Articles 3.1 to 3.4 of this Code.

4.2 Where a provisional measure is imposed, this shall be taken into consideration in the determination of any sanction which may ultimately be imposed.

Article 5: Sanctions

5.1 Where it is determined that a violation has been committed, World Lacrosse shall impose an appropriate sanction upon the Participant from the range of permissible sanctions, which may range from a minimum of a warning to a maximum of life ban.

5.2 When determining the appropriate sanctions applicable, World Lacrosse shall take into consideration all aggravating and mitigating circumstances and shall detail the effect of such circumstances on the final sanction in the written decision.

5.3 Substantial assistance provided by a Participant that results in the discovery or establishment of an offence by another Participant may reduce any sanction applied under this Policy.

Article 6: Mutual recognition

6.1 Subject to the right of appeal, any decision in compliance with this Policy by World Lacrosse must be recognized and respected by all other Sporting Organizations.



6.2 All Sporting Organizations must recognize and respect the decision(s) made by any other sporting body or court of competent jurisdiction which is not a Sporting Organization as defined under this Policy.

Article 7: Implementation

7.1 Pursuant to Rule 1.4 of the Olympic Charter, all Sports Organizations bound by the Olympic Charter agree to respect this Policy.

7.2 These Sports Organizations are responsible for the implementation of the present Policy within their own jurisdiction, including educational measures.