

ESSA reports 53 suspicious betting alerts during Q2 2017

Brussels, 19 July: International betting integrity body ESSA reported 53 cases of suspicious betting to the relevant authorities during the second quarter (Q2) of 2017; this was made up of 31 suspicious betting cases in tennis, followed by football with 15 cases, basketball five and one case each for handball and volleyball.

ESSA Secretary General Khalid Ali stated that: “Betting integrity issues continue to be a key feature of stakeholder discussions at national and international levels. To that end, ESSA has been asked by the Council of Europe (CoE) to deliver a report on behalf of the private sports betting industry highlighting the challenges facing regulated operators to feed into the CoE’s ongoing efforts to ratify the match-fixing Convention and implement international standards. This important process will also feed into ESSA’s own integrity conference in London on 12 October.”

ESSA’s Q2 integrity report includes articles by Professor Nolte, from the Institute of Sports Law at the University of Cologne, commenting on his detailed report on the failings of the gambling regulation currently in place in Germany, and from Ian Smith, Integrity Commissioner for the eSports Integrity Coalition (ESIC), who explains how the ESIC is dealing with betting-related threats to the sector.

ESSA holds positions on match-fixing policy forums at the European Commission, Council of Europe and the IOC. It is driving a number of activities aimed at addressing match-fixing, including a player education programme with EU Athletes (see [here](#)) and an international anti match-fixing project with Transparency International, having recently finished an 18-month project with the Council of Europe.

A copy of ESSA’s Q2 2017 integrity report can be accessed [here](#) and previous reports [here](#).

Information on ESSA’s Integrity Conference at Lords Cricket Ground on 12 October is available [here](#).

END

About ESSA:

ESSA represents many of the world’s biggest regulated sports betting operators, serving over 40 million consumers in the EU alone. Concerned regulated bookmakers created ESSA in 2005 to monitor betting markets and alert sporting bodies and national regulators to suspicious betting patterns. The goal was, and is, to protect consumers from potential fraud caused by manipulating sporting events. ESSA helps to combat this with evidence-based intelligence it provides to sporting bodies and regulators.

Every year, our members invest over €50m in compliance and internal security systems in order to help combat fraud. They also give back to sport and society by spending €400m on sponsorship around the world - €250m of that in Europe alone. This increases substantially when advertising and photo and

CONTACT INFORMATION

Khalid Ali,
Secretary General
Sports Betting Integrity
ka@eu-ssa.org
www.eu-ssa.org



video-streaming rights are taken into consideration. ESSA and its members also co-fund an education programme on gambling with EU Athletes that reaches out to 15,000 athletes/players across at least ten different sports in 13 EU countries.

ESSA continues to play a key role as the regulated betting sector's representative body at national and international match-fixing policy forums and holds positions on working groups at the European Commission, Council of Europe and the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The organisation is continually reassessing and improving its alert and reporting systems and has established information sharing arrangements with a range of sports bodies and regulatory authorities.

ESSA members include: 888sport, ABB, Bet-at-Home, Betcltic, Betdaq, Betsson, BetStars, BetVictor, Betway, bet365, bwin, Digibet, Expekt, Fonbet, Interwetten, Ladbrokes Coral, Paddy Power Betfair, Sky Bet, Sportingbet, Sporting Index, Sportium, Stanleybet, Stoiximan, Unibet and William Hill.

For more information see ESSA's website at <http://www.eu-ssa.org/> or visit us on twitter: [@ESSA Betting](https://twitter.com/ESSA_Betting)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Khalid Ali,
Secretary General
Sports Betting Integrity
ka@eu-ssa.org
www.eu-ssa.org