

ESSA DETECTS 18 CASES OF SUSPICIOUS BETTING IN Q3

12 October, Brussels – Eighteen cases of suspicious betting patterns were detected in the third quarter of 2015 by the sports betting integrity association, ESSA, which represents many of the world’s largest regulated betting operators. Whilst these figures represents a slight fall from those detected by ESSA in Q1 (24 cases) and Q2 (23 cases), it highlights the continuing threat to sport, consumers and betting operators from fraud linked to the manipulation of sporting events.

ESSA’s members raised a total of 73 alerts between 1 July through to 30 September 2015. After detailed examination, 18 were found to be suspicious and reported to the relevant regulatory body for further investigation. Tennis again constituted the highest number of alerts (72%) reflecting a trend identified in Q1 and Q2.

“The figures show an on-going need to continue to monitor integrity issues within the sports sector. Whilst we work closely with a number of committed and effective sports and regulatory bodies, there remains the need to see sports governance move up the political agenda. The recently agreed UK Action Plan shows how all stakeholders can work together with a common aim.” stated ESSA Chairman, Mike O’Kane.

Such issues will be the focus of the discussion around match-fixing and sporting integrity that will take place at ESSA’s betting integrity event in the European Parliament on 14 October. ESSA will use that event to spell out the association’s vision of how best to protect sport and betting markets from match-fixing, and to strengthen working in partnership with other stakeholders.

The event will be hosted by UK MEP Dan Dalton, with speakers including Professor Ben Van Rompuy of the ASSER Institute, along with representatives from the British Gambling Commission, player associations and sports governing bodies. Szabolcs Horvath, a Member of EU Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport Tibor Navracsics’ Cabinet, will close the event.

Commissioner Navracsics has provided an article on the European Commission’s efforts to address match-fixing in ESSA’s Q3 report, along with a piece from Jean-François Reymond, General Secretary of EU Athletes, on player education. The Q3 report and articles can be accessed [here](#), as can the Q1 and Q2 integrity reports. ESSA’s betting integrity event programme can be accessed [here](#).

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About ESSA:

ESSA is a key player in the fight against betting related match-fixing and represents the regulated betting sector at national and international match-fixing policy forums, holding positions on working groups at the European Commission, Council of Europe and the International Olympic Committee

CONTACT INFORMATION

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(IOC). 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 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 members include: the ABB, Betclix, Bet-at-Home, Betsson, Bet365, BetVictor, Betway, bwinparty, Digibet, Expekt, the Hong Kong Jockey Club, Interwetten, Ladbrokes, Paddy Power, PMU, Sky Bet, Stanleybet, 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)

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