

62 suspicious betting alerts reported by ESSA in Q2 2018

Brussels, 25 July: International betting integrity body ESSA (Sports Betting Integrity) reported 62 cases of suspicious betting to the relevant authorities during the second quarter (Q2) of 2018. The Q2 cases involved 8 sports with: 44 cases in tennis, 12 cases in football, and one each in bowls, handball, boxing, basketball, beach volleyball and eSports.

ESSA Secretary General Khalid Ali said: “We have played a crucial role in bringing transparency to betting related match-fixing, which is why we have taken a keen interest in the recent publication of the Interim Report into tennis by the Independent Review Panel. We support many of the recommendations made by the Panel and we wish to work with the sport to address betting related issues. However, we have serious concerns about a blanket discontinuation of the sale of data for events at the lowest level of tennis and whether that approach is proportionate to the issue and will provide a practical and effective solution.”

He added “We are seeking to deliver a number of alternative evidence-based options that we hope the Panel and the various governing bodies within the sport will be willing to explore in more detail and to reaching a position that is mutually beneficial, places integrity to the fore and also serves to avoid any adverse commercial impacts”.

The Q2 report includes an article from the American Gaming Association (AGA), where they explain what the legalised sports betting landscape will look like, now that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act (PASPA) is unconstitutional.

ESSA holds positions on high-level betting policy forums at the European Commission, Council of Europe and the IOC. It is driving a number of important [initiatives](#) aimed at addressing match-fixing and hosted an international betting integrity conference at Lords Cricket Ground (see [here](#)) at the end of last year, attended by over 150 senior officials from sports bodies, regulators and other key stakeholders. A copy of ESSA’s Q2 integrity report can be accessed [here](#) along with previous reports.

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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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



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 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, Betclix, Betdaq, Betfred, Betsson, BetStars, BetVictor, Betway, bet365, bwin, Cashpoint, Expekt, Fonbet, Gamesys, 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