



AFF **ANTI-MATCH FIXING** **POLICY**

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1. INTRODUCTION

The ASEAN Football Federation (the “AFF”) recognises that fair play, and the uncertainty of the outcome is the most integral part of sport. If the outcome of a football Match is pre-determined, it will remove the most important part of the sport and that is exactly what Match-fixing does.

Keeping in mind the adoption of the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions by the International Olympic Committee in order to strengthen the credibility and integrity of sports and for the protection of clean athletes, the AFF through this Anti-Match Fixing Policy (this “Policy”) aims to ensure that all possible actions are taken to ensure that the integrity of the football matches are not compromised.

2. PURPOSE

2.1. The purposes of this Policy are:

- 2.1.1. To protect and maintain the integrity of all football matches and competitions conducted by and/or under the aegis of the AFF.
- 2.1.2. To establish a codified rule for enforcement and penalties; and
- 2.1.3. To provide the necessary authority to the AFF to involve any local law enforcement authorities to enforce the national laws and/or policies and regulations relating to betting and match-fixing in the jurisdiction where the football matches and competitions are held.

2.2. The AFF, in accordance with the AFF Integrity Action Plan shall take assistance from INTERPOL, AFC and FIFA not only for training and educating the AFF and its MAs’ Integrity Officers but also to effectively combat match-fixing in the ASEAN region.

2.3. As provided for in the AFF Integrity Action Plan, the AFF recognises the importance of national legislation in preserving sport integrity. This Policy is intended to supplement the national / local laws in the AFF MAs’ jurisdictions where AFF matches and competitions are held. It is not intended to and should not be interpreted, construed or applied to prejudice or undermine in any way the application of the national /local laws.

3. STAKEHOLDERS

3.1. This policy shall govern the following:

- 3.1.1. AFF Member Associations,

- 3.1.2. Players competing in football matches and competitions organised by and/or under the aegis of the AFF,
- 3.1.3. Team members participating in football matches and competitions organised by and/or under the aegis of the AFF including team managers, physiotherapists, medical officers, media officers, coaches etc.,
- 3.1.4. Match Officials,
- 3.1.5. Members of the local organising committees,
- 3.1.6. AFF staff and/or employees,
- 3.1.7. AFF Executive Council members,
- 3.1.8. AFF contractors/ Vendors/ Suppliers,
- 3.1.9. AFF Independent and Standing Committee members.

The above list is not exhaustive.

- 3.2. This Policy is binding on all the Stakeholders mentioned hereinabove in Clause 3.1. The version of the Policy (changes owing to any amendments) in force at the time of any breach of this Policy shall govern the resolution of the issue.

4. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

- 4.1. The Stakeholders shall not, either alone or in conjunction with other(s), in relation to football matches and competitions organised by and/or under the aegis of the AFF, engage in:
 - 4.1.1. Betting, gambling or any other form of financial supposition.
 - 4.1.2. Match fixing (whether by act or by omission) by:
 - a. Deliberately underperforming,
 - b. Deliberately exerting any undue influence on any occurrence within the match and/or competition,
 - c. Encouraging or influencing another individual to deliberately underperform,
 - d. Providing confidential and/or inside information to anybody other than those who are supposed to be in possession of such information, including without limitation, the team's composition, tactics, the form of any player etc.),
 - e. Providing or receiving any gift(s) whether or not monetary, which might reasonably be expected to bring the person and the sport of football into disrepute,
 - f. Engaging in any conduct that relates directly or indirectly to any of the conduct mentioned hereinabove and is prejudicial to the interests of the AFF or which brings disrepute to the individual, the AFF/AFC/FIFA and/or the sport of football.

- 4.2. The conduct mentioned hereinabove in Clause 4.1. shall be deemed to be Prohibited Conduct.
For the avoidance of doubt, the list is not exhaustive.
- 4.3. The act of covering up a Prohibited Conduct shall also be treated as Prohibited Conduct for the purposes of this Policy.
- 4.4. An act, its attempt or any agreement to act or omit, in a manner that culminates and/or would culminate in a Prohibited Conduct shall also be treated as a Prohibited Conduct, whether or not the Prohibited Conduct actually occurred as a result of the act, its attempt or any agreement to act or omit.

5. REPORTING

- 5.1. It is the duty and responsibility of every Stakeholder to report any information that they possess pertaining to match-fixing and the integrity of the matches and competitions organised by and/or under the aegis of the AFF.
- 5.2. If any individual, including Stakeholder(s) has reason(s) to believe or suspect that someone is acting in an inappropriate manner or a manner in contradiction to this Policy, it becomes their duty to report the same to the AFF. Such individuals must, as provided in the AFF Integrity Action Plan report to integrity@aseanfootball.org which is available 24 hours/ 7 days a week.
- 5.3. If any Stakeholder(s) are subject to the following, they must immediately report as per Clause 5.2 hereinabove:
 - 5.3.1. Is approached by any person(s) / entities/ organisation(s) to engage in a conduct that is and/or may be deemed to be Prohibited Conduct.
 - 5.3.2. Is questioned/ interviewed by anyone, including any Stakeholder(s) or Police regarding any Prohibited Conduct.
- 5.4. All reports received by the AFF Integrity Officer under the integrity@aseanfootball.org shall be treated as confidential. However, for the speedy resolution of the matter, the AFF Integrity Officer shall be authorised to use the information so provided, for investigation and reporting to the national authorities. Should there be a genuine concern of reprisal, the same shall be handled appropriately.

- 5.5. The disclosure mentioned in Clause 5.4 hereinabove, shall only be done when required or permitted under this Policy, by law or if the allegation of the Prohibited Conduct is already in public domain.
- 5.6. The reporting individual(s) have a continuing obligation to report any new knowledge or suspicion regarding any conduct that may amount to Prohibited Conduct under this Policy.

6. RESPONDING

- 6.1. Upon receiving the allegation report at integrity@aseanfootball.org, in accordance with Article 5 hereinabove, the AFF Integrity Officer shall conduct a preliminary investigation to ascertain whether the report merits full investigation and whether or not the report is true/ accurate.
- 6.2. Depending upon the result of the preliminary investigation, the AFF Integrity Officer shall follow two separate and concurrent procedures, as follows:
 - 6.2.1. Inform the respective AFF Member Association (“MA”) regarding the allegation received, the possibility of the occurrence of Prohibited Conduct and seek information on the subsequent actions to be taken by such MA.
 - 6.2.2. conduct a full investigation including but not limited to recording witness statements and collecting evidence. If need be, the AFF Integrity Officer shall cooperate and coordinate with the local law enforcement agencies to ensure that the AFF disciplinary process and any criminal investigation can be conducted simultaneously and effectively.
- 6.3. Upon conclusion of the investigation, the AFF Integrity Officer shall reduce to writing the conclusions of their investigation in the form of a report with all evidentiary support. If the report concludes that there are reasonable grounds to believe an offence under this Policy has been committed, place such report before the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, with the help of the Secretary to the same, for their adjudication along with the report provided by the respective MA on the actions taken by them for the same (if available). The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall proceed with the matter in accordance with AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 6.4. Nothing in this Article 6 shall prevent the AFF from enforcing any other rules and regulations or referring any violation of this Policy to a relevant law enforcement agency. However, all proceedings as provided for in this Policy and/or any other rules and regulations of the AFF shall cease forthwith if the local law enforcement agency is of the opinion that further action by AFF may prejudice any actual or potential criminal prosecution against the alleged violator.
- 6.5. In accordance with Article 42.3 of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, the prosecution for match manipulation (match fixing) is not subject to a limitation period. Therefore, anyone with

knowledge of a prior act or omission which constitutes a violation under this Policy, must also report the same without any worry regarding the lapsed time.

7. CONFIDENTIALITY

- 7.1. In order to ensure that neither the investigative procedure of the AFF Integrity Officer and nor the adjudicatory procedure of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee is prejudiced in any manner, the AFF, the AFF Integrity Officer, and all Stakeholders including the individual reporting an offence under this Policy shall not publicly announce the existence of, comment on or share the results of any of their activities concerning the investigations and/or hearing at least until the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee has provided their decision in writing.
- 7.2. All parties must maintain all information received in the course of any report, notice, hearing in relation to an allegation as strictly confidential, unless the disclosure is required by law, governmental authorities or deemed necessary for the safety of any individual(s) by the AFF.

8. SANCTIONS AND APPEALS

- 8.1. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code provides for sanctions for match fixing. Should the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee deem that the report of the AFF Integrity Officer warrants sanctions to be laid out, the provisions of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code shall be followed.
- 8.2. All decisions of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee are appealable to the AFF Appeal Committee, unless barred in accordance with Article 81 of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 8.3. The right to appeal before the Court of Arbitration for Sport as set out in Article 130 of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code is reserved.

9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM

- 9.1. The AFF and its Members will closely cooperate in implementing the AFF Integrity Action Plan, i.e.,
 - 9.1.1. Partnership Development Meetings (PDMs), bringing all Stakeholders together with the aim of strategically enhancing integrity measures.
 - 9.1.2. Pre-Competition briefings relating to integrity and raising awareness relating to match fixing.
 - 9.1.3. Media Utilisation aiming at widespread reach of the new programs, policies and activities.
 - 9.1.4. E-Learning tools for imparting education to all the Members of the AFF.

10. ENFORCEMENT

- 10.1. This updated Policy was ratified by the AFF Council on 22 July 2025 and entered into force with immediate effect. They supersede and replace all prior versions of this Policy.
- 10.2. To the extent that this Policy is inconsistent with the AFF Statutes, the AFF Statutes shall prevail.

TRANSITORY PROVISION

1. Till such time as the AFF Integrity Officer is appointed, the AFF General Secretary shall act as the integrity officer.