SPORT INTEGRITY THREAT OVERVIEW

Billiards

October 2020

ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

The Sports Integrity Threat Assessment Methodology incorporates advice from the National Sporting Organisation on integrity issues in relation to their sport, combined with input from a range of stakeholders, to produce ratings for key individual integrity threats and an overall **Integrity Threat Assessment Rating.** The threat ratings are combined with the current status of Oversight and Financial management mechanisms within the sport to provide **Vulnerability Assessment Ratings**. The vulnerability assessment is designed to assist NSOs with treatment and mitigation strategies to reduce vulnerability in the contemporary integrity threat environment. Each vulnerability and threat criteria is rated on a scale from Negligible to Very High.

Overview

The overall threat to the integrity of billiards in Finland is assessed as LOW.

The largely domestic focus of billiards competitions and limited movement of international billiards players into Finland to compete, combined with the lack of wagering markets on events in Finland are key factors contributing to the low threat of competition manipulation, particularly manipulation linked to wagering markets.

Despite the low threat of competition manipulation in Finland, internationally billiards has had numerous instances of match-fixing linked to wagering markets, suggesting that corruption is present within the sport more broadly. This high threat environment necessitates vigilance during events where international players compete in Finland, and when wagering markets are offered on billiards events in Finland.

While the integrity framework around billiards is, at present, relatively basic, it is sufficient to manage the threats to the integrity of the sport. Ongoing monitoring of the international environment and wagering markets would be beneficial to identify any changes in the external environment that are likely to increase the threats to the integrity of billiards in Finland.

Threat Ratings

Match Fixing	✔													

The threat of match-fixing in billiards in Finland is assessed as **LOW**.

While billiards internationally has had many instances of competition manipulation linked to the corruption of betting markets, the likelihood of the manipulation of billiards in Finland is low. The kay factor limiting the threat of competition manipulation is the limited betting, particularly betting with offshore bookmakers on Finnish billiards events.

The weak links between events in Finland and international events in countries where the levels of corruption in billiards are higher, is an additional factor limiting the threat of competition manipulation, particularly corruption linked to external groups such as organised crime.

Should betting on billiards in Finland emerge, or be identified, or billiards in Finland strengthen links to other international events, the threat of competition manipulation would increase significantly given the levels of corruption across the sport more broadly.

Organised Criminal Infiltration	✔													

The threat to billiards from organised criminal infiltration is assessed as **LOW**.

Billiards is unlikely to be targeted by organised criminal groups or individuals given the lack of wagering markets on events in Finland, and therefore the limited benefits to organised crime to be gained from infiltrating the sport, or corrupting athletes. Any organised criminal links, or associations are likely to be incidental and unrelated to sports corruption.

Vulnerability Assessment

Oversight									✔					

The oversight vulnerabilities within billiards in Finland are assessed as **MEDIUM**.

A formal integrity framework around billiards in Finland is yet to be developed, resulting in a limited integrity capability and oversight of athletes, referees and other individuals connected to the sport. At present, an integrity framework is not essential given the lack of wagering on events and therefore limited incentive for individuals to engage in corruption to profit through corrupting wagering markets. However, the development of a basic integrity framework would provide future protection for the sport, should betting markets emerge, and therefore corruption threats increase.

Financial	✔													

The financial vulnerabilities within billiards in Finland are assessed as **NEGLIGIBLE**.

The capacity to exploit financial avenues to exploit the sport of billiards is extremely limited. The infiltration of club structures through sponsorship or other financial agreements provides little opportunity to corrupt billiards outcomes or events. The exploitation of financial vulnerabilities is unlikely to occur.

Urheilun kilpailumanipulaation uhka-arvio

Tutkimuksen toteutti SUEK yhteistyössä OKM ja Euroopan neuvosto, toteutetaan lopulta kaikissa Euroopan maissa.

Esitietokysely nettilinkki ja haastattelu. Suomesta mukana n. 20 lajiliittoa, SUEK:n valitsemana.

Tulokset:

Biljardin uhka-arvio on matala. Johtuu pääasiassa siitä, että vedonlyöntimarkkinat ovat Suomessa vähäiset ja myös ulkomaisten pelaajien vähäisyydestä Suomessa.

Ottelumanipulaatiota on kuitenkin tapahtunut kansainvälisissä kilpailuissa. Manipulaation uhka on olemassa ja Suomessakin on oltava varuillaan mikäli kilpailutapahtumiin tarjotaan vedonlyöntimahdollisuuksia.

Väärinkäytöksiin tai mihin tahansa havaittuun laittomaan tai epäilyttävään toimintaan on heti puututtava.