

Annual Report 2024

The National Platform for Coordination of the Fight
against Manipulation of Sports Competitions

Foreword

In the National Platform for Coordination of the Fight against Manipulation of Sports Competitions (hereinafter the platform), we have been busy during the year revisiting and updating our analysis of the platform's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, and then using the analysis as a catalyst to select and initiate strategic projects. It has been decided that one of the areas we will continue working on in 2025 is increased efforts and coordination in preventing match-fixing and increasing awareness of it. It is important for the platform that athletes are informed about how harmful match-fixing is to sports. It is essential that athletes understand the consequences of participating in match-fixing for their careers, and they are aware that the risk of being discovered has increased significantly. The latter is the result of strengthened cooperation between the platform and other stakeholders, which has been brought about by the political willingness to strengthen monitoring of match-fixing in recent years.

Another focus area in 2024 has been on developing the business procedures in the platform. This was supported by the Minister of Culture updating the terms of reference for the platform in the autumn of 2024, so that the platform is now to a greater extent required to assess the risk of match-fixing in Denmark. The terms of reference also oblige the platform to keep the public informed about the work of the platform by publishing an annual report.

The platform's members are pleased with the political support that has been received in 2024, when Act No. 467 of 8 May 2024, amending the Gambling Act came into force. The Act allows platform members to share information, regardless of confidentiality, if the information is necessary to prevent or combat match-fixing. Furthermore, the Act provides the Danish Gambling Authority with increased powers to obtain information from licence holders for use in investigations into match-fixing, and the Danish Gambling Authority has also been given increased access to compare data across licence holders. The change to the Danish Gambling Authority's data access is expected to be fully implemented in July 2025. The Danish Gambling Authority is also expected to initiate an analysis of whether there are extraordinary challenges with match-fixing in lower leagues teams or spot elements of the match in 2025. This analysis is a political request, as well as several members of the platform has expressed interest in the subject. I look forward to presenting the analysis.

It is our hope that these initiatives will significantly strengthen the platform's ability to quickly investigate cases, conduct analyses and contribute internationally with feedback from the Danish gambling market on events being investigated in other jurisdictions.

I hope you enjoy the report!

Anders Dorph

Director of the Danish Gambling Authority and chairman of the National Platform for Coordination of the Fight against Manipulation of Sports Competitions.

New terms of reference for the platform

After the transfer of the platform's secretariat to the Danish Gambling Authority, an updated terms of reference were prepared in 2024.

The terms of reference were updated by the Minister of Culture with the involvement of the platform's members, and the process gave rise to discussions on the framework for organising the platform's work.

The updated terms of reference continue to divide the platform's work into a Strategic Forum and an Operational Forum. An addition to the terms of reference means that it designates a presidency whose task, among other things, is to ensure progress in the platform's work. The Danish Gambling Authority holds the chairmanship of both forums.

It is also new, that the terms of reference now oblige members to have incorporated appropriate procedures in order to be able to report a suspicion of match-fixing as quickly as possible.

Read the terms of reference here:

[Terms of Reference for the National Match-Fixing Platform of September 12, 2024.pdf](#)

Members of the National Platform for Coordination of the Fight against Manipulation of Sports Competitions

- Anti Doping Danmark (Anti-Doping Denmark)
- Danmarks Idrætsforbund (National Olympic Committee and Sports Confederation of Denmark)
- Dansk Boldspil-Union (Danish Football Association)
- Danske Licens Spil A/S (Danish gambling operator)
- Hvidvasksekretariatet, NSK (The Danish Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU))
- Kulturministeriet (Ministry of Culture)
- Rigsadvokaturen (The Attorney General's Office)
- Spillebranchen (Danish industry organization for gambling operators)
- Spillemyndigheden (The Danish Gambling Authority)

New legislation has strengthened collaboration

For a number of years, members of the platform have been seeking clarity on the extent to which information could be shared within the platform, taking into account data protection regulations.

With the amendment to the Gambling Act, which entered into force on July 1st, 2024, there is now express authority for members of the platform to share information necessary to prevent and combat match-fixing, regardless of confidentiality obligations. The information may be passed on to other members of both the Danish and other national platforms. The provision has promoted the ability of members to coordinate directly, which will facilitate the members' collaboration.

Internal guidelines on the disclosure of information in the platform have been prepared for the use of the platform's members.

The legislative amendment has also made it possible for the Danish Gambling Authority to share information about suspicious events with licensed gambling operators, which should strengthen their basis for assessing the continued provision of betting on a sporting event.

Revision of SWOT analysis

In early 2024, the Secretariat presented a revision of the analysis of the platform's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT analysis) from 2018. The revision was prepared by the secretariat in collaboration with a working group formed by members of the Operational Forum. The revised analysis was approved in the Strategic Forum in February 2024.

The work consisted of an evaluation of risks of match-fixing in sports organised in Denmark where betting is offered. The SWOT analysis did not uncover issues such as unethical behaviour or Danish athletes competing abroad.

The revision reviewed whether all matters are still relevant and whether it is necessary to update the description and assessment of matters. The review showed that since 2018, the platform has succeeded in mitigating several of the threats originally identified. An example of this was the ability to place bets anonymously at land-based gambling operators, which was considered a significant threat in 2018. This threat has since been limited in the regulated market with the requirement to present a "Player ID" as a means of identification of players at land-based retailers from October 1st, 2023. However, the possibilities for gambling anonymously are still present with gambling operators in the unregulated or illegal gambling markets, which are gambling operators without a licence from the Danish Gambling Authority. Gambling operators without a licence from the Danish Gambling Authority were not mentioned as a threat to match-fixing in the 2018 analysis but are mentioned in the revision as a threat that the platform must try to manage and reduce.

The working group behind the revised SWOT analysis listed a number of recommendations for how the platform can address the conditions highlighted by the analysis.

Based on the recommendations, the Strategic Forum has prioritised two focus points for the work in the platform towards the end of 2025: 1) Strengthening collaborative relationships, and 2) preventive efforts.

The year in numbers

Inquiries

In 2024, the platform received 134 inquiries with information about suspected match-fixing. The inquiries have been received from partners¹, licence holders and via the reporting channel StopMatchfixing.

The inquiries concern a wide range of both international and national events, and the quality of the information in the inquiries varies greatly. The vast majority of inquiries concern events abroad, where it is the Danish Gambling Authority's task to cooperate internationally and

¹ Group of Copenhagen, Sportradar Integrity Service, The International Betting Integrity Association and United Lotteries for Integrity in Sports.

share knowledge about whether there has been unusual gambling turnover from Denmark at the event.

All inquiries are reviewed by the secretariat with a view to assessing whether the information gives rise to further investigations. In addition, the secretariat ensures that information is shared with the relevant members of the platform as well as any relevant partners.

Information has been shared with sports organisations to the extent that it has been relevant, as well as in the international network of national platforms, Group of Copenhagen.

The information has not led to sanctions in 2024.

Meetings in the Platform

In 2024, the Strategic Forum held two meetings, and the Operational Forum held three meetings. In addition, meetings have been held in the working group to revise the SWOT analysis, as well as in the two working groups to implement the strategic focus points prioritised by the Strategic Forum.

The international perspective

Match-fixing is a cross-border problem, and the platform therefore also has an international outlook. This means that the platform prioritises participation in the network of national platforms, Group of Copenhagen. The network is coordinated by the Council of Europe.

Chief adviser Simon Hørkjær Pedersen (The Danish Gambling Authority) was elected to the Group of Copenhagen's board of directors in 2024. The board sets the direction for the network's work. In addition, Simon is chairman of the working group for alarms under the Group of Copenhagen.

In 2024, the secretariat has also assisted the Group of Copenhagen with monitoring of specially selected sporting events that have been subject to enhanced monitoring. This includes, among other things, this summer's Olympics in Paris.

The international outlook was also one of the reasons why the Danish Gambling Authority, with support from the platform, entered into collaboration agreements with Sportradar Integrity Service, The International Betting Integrity Association (IBIA) and United Lotteries for Integrity in Sports (ULIS) in the summer of 2023.

The collaboration agreements have resulted in knowledge sharing and information from the collaboration partners being included in the secretariat's work.

In 2024, the platform actively participated in international meetings and conferences held by partners. Among other things, the platform represented by the Danish Gambling Authority and Danske Spil participated as panellists at the United Lotteries for Integrity in Sports integrity seminar in November 2024. Likewise, the secretariat and The Danish Football Association were represented at a regional seminar by UEFA on combating match-fixing in Belgium in November 2024.