

SPORTS BETTING GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Sports Betting Group (SBG) was formed in 2010 following the publication of the Report of the Sports Betting Integrity Panel commissioned by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.¹ The Sports Betting Integrity Panel was chaired by Rick Parry and its findings contained a number of recommendations for Government, sport, the betting industry and the Gambling Commission to take forward in order to better protect sport against threats to integrity in connection with betting.

One specific recommendation in the report called for the sports sector itself to provide leadership through the establishment of a Sports Betting Group made up of people drawn from sport.

Terms of Reference

A) Purpose

- The SBG will bring together sports bodies to discuss sports betting integrity issues and, where appropriate, promote co-ordinated action and measures always having regard to the autonomy of sports governing bodies in relation to integrity matters.
- The SBG will provide help, guidance and support to sports bodies in relation to sports betting integrity.
- The SBG will communicate to sports bodies the importance of protecting themselves from the threats posed to integrity by betting.
- The SBG will make regular assessments of the extent to which governing bodies have taken steps to effectively protect themselves from these threats.
- The SBG will communicate and engage with Government and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and other relevant parties as appropriate (including but not limited to the Gambling Commission, the Sports Betting Integrity Forum and the betting industry) in order to recommend improvements to the legislative and regulatory regimes that protect sport from the impact of match fixing, corruption and all related issues.

B) Organisation

- The SBG will serve as an advisory resource for work undertaken by the affected sports bodies on betting integrity.
- The SBG will hold regular meetings to co-ordinate its work.
- Members of the SBG will represent the Group on other working groups related to betting integrity (e.g. the Sports Betting Integrity Forum) and will in turn share relevant outputs with SBG members and wider sports bodies as appropriate
- The SBG will be co-ordinated by a secretariat with responsibility for arranging meetings and disseminating communications as appropriate.

¹http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/publications/reports_sports_betting_integrity_panel.pdf

C) Membership

- The SBG will consist of:
 - I. Representatives from an appropriate range of sports governing bodies (including the Sport and Recreation Alliance)
 - II. Representatives of participants (including the Professional Players Federation)
 - III. Any additional individuals or organisations (such as competition organisers) with appropriate expertise as identified and agreed by existing members of the SBG.
- The membership of SBG will be open to all recognised sports governing bodies although meetings may be subject to practical constraints.
- Where a new governing body member wishes to join, a nominated representative will be invited to the next scheduled meeting and be given access by the secretariat to relevant documentation regarding the work of the group.
- Unless otherwise agreed, the SBG chair and secretariat will be provided by the Sport and Recreation Alliance.

D) Communications

- Minutes of SBG meetings will be distributed promptly to all members.
- All communications, written and oral, will be co-ordinated by the secretariat.

E) Further information

- Further information about the work of the SBG will be available on its website: <http://www.sportsbettinggroup.org>