

Annual Report

2020



PLAY FAIR CODE
INTEGRITY WINS

INTRODUCTION



We have achieved many goals since our founding days. Now it's time to look ahead to new challenges.

Constant progress and progress as a constant

„2020 has been an unusual year in every respect! It has been significantly influenced by the pandemic, but this has not held back our progress. Many things have changed and some things have even improved. The Play Fair Code continued to grow in 2020. Through our prevention concept, we were able to complete a record number of 110 awareness training courses in spite of the coronavirus crisis. Special workshop formats have been developed for the new tasks. When it became unavoidable, we moved events and meetings to the virtual space or held training courses outdoors. We acquired the Austrian Association for Betting and Gambling (OVWG) as well as the betting providers bet-at-home and Interwetten as new members. In addition, the Austrian Volleyball Association became the eighth association/league and the seventh sporting discipline to join the Play Fair Code. 2020 also became more female-dominated than ever, not only in terms of our training audiences, but also in terms of our Advisory Board. For the first time ever, we trained the teams from the Women's Football League and the Austrian Handball Women's National Team. And looking towards the future, our Advisory Board will not only be enhanced by former Austrian Football Federation General Secretary Alfred Ludwig, who will become the new chairman, but also by three top female experts from the world of sport.

I hope you find the following pages an enjoyable read!”

Günther **KALTENBRUNNER**
President Play Fair Code

Interactivity has been a key focus this year:

Wherever you find a QR code on the following pages, it will lead you to further interesting content

Why not give it a try and follow us on Instagram?



WERNER KOGLER
Vice Chancellor and Minister of Sport

During challenging times especially, it is important to send positive signals and to champion the ideals of integrity and credibility. Not only in a general sense, but also in sports! Thanks to responsible action and a sustainable strategy in the area of prevention, the Play Fair Code has provided the Sports Minister with strong and reliable support on the issues of match-fixing and betting fraud for almost ten years. We are therefore working together to create an even more effective framework for the future, to further develop the Play Fair Code structurally, and to establish it formally as a National Platform as defined by the Council of Europe Convention. This will not only strengthen public trust in Austrian sports, but continue to position us as a role model on the international stage.



HANS NIESSL
President Sport Austria

Sport is constantly evolving. As a special interest group for Austrian sports, Sport Austria constantly deals with important issues that affect the future, in which ethics and good governance are of central importance. Communicating common values and protecting our athletes are an essential part of our day-to-day business in sports. Prevention is therefore critical for achieving a successful future. In my role as the new President of Sport Austria, I am pleased to work in close partnership with the Play Fair Code, which also shared its expertise at this year's Sport Austria Summit.



GERNOT LEITNER
President Austrian Volleyball Federation

The Play Fair Code serves as a role model in the prevention of match-fixing and betting fraud, both in Europe and worldwide. Due to the growing interest in Austrian volleyball and the steady growth in betting offerings, the Austrian Volleyball Association has decided to broaden its range of preventive measures. Through professional advice and relevant workshops, we want to make our athletes, coaches, referees, and officials aware of the dangers of match-fixing. We therefore look forward to a successful and long-term cooperation with the Play Fair Code.

PROGRESS AS A CONSTANT.
THE MORE STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED, THE MORE EFFECTIVELY
AND EFFICIENTLY WE CAN DEFINE OUR WORK.

Our network is growing steadily, and our training activities too.



OUR MESSAGE

#NoManipulation – especially in times of crisis

As an integrity platform in sport, the Play Fair Code is particularly committed to promoting transparent, exemplary, and responsible behavior and action. It is especially important in times of crisis that we adhere to this maxim and try to make a difference.

This is why we created a modified training format, which takes into account the special circumstances and essential social distancing measures. This means that training sessions can be carried out almost anywhere – including outdoors on a pitch if necessary – and without any technical effort.

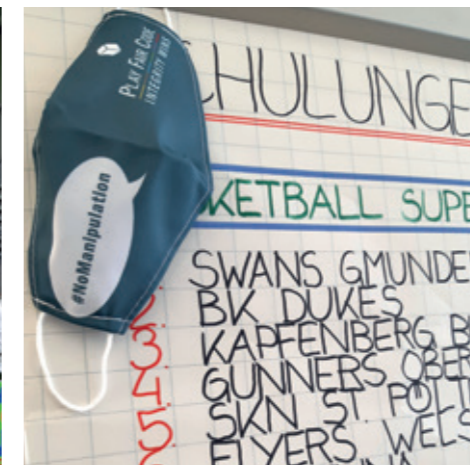
The many positive responses to the new concept first released in Austria's Second Football League in early summer have demonstrated that necessity is the mother of invention. It is already clear that this new training format will not only continue on way past the crisis, but that it will become a much more integral part of the Play Fair Code awareness raising portfolio.

In addition, our prevention strategy currently applies to our core areas of engagement – match-fixing and betting fraud – as well as our efforts to prevent Covid-19 infections among our lecturers and target audiences. The internal

Play Fair Code Covid-19 prevention concept therefore ensures that all lecturers receive regular PCR testing immediately before training sessions.

Indoor workshops only take place in sufficiently large and well-ventilated rooms with adequate seating distances. If these requirements cannot be met, activities are moved outdoors. In addition, platform-independent online versions have been developed, particularly for university courses and international lectures.

All preventive measures are constantly evaluated and optimized in order to guarantee the most unrestricted training possible. It is a fact that the risk of match-fixing and betting fraud increases in times of crisis. It is important that we are well prepared to resist the possibility in a responsible way.



MEMBERSHIP

The Austrian Volleyball Federation becomes a new member of the Play Fair Code



AVF – Women's National Team



Alexander Horst, Severin Moritzer and Clemens Doppler



Using prevention to deal with suspected cases

Football, basketball, tennis, ice hockey, skiing, handball – and now volleyball: the range of Austrian sports associations and leagues working closely with the Play Fair Code is steadily growing. “Volleyball Austria sees itself as a progressive, modern institution that is a pioneer on many levels – especially when it comes to good governance,” Gernot Leitner, President of the Austrian Volleyball Association (ÖVV), explains. “We have already consulted with the Play Fair Code in recent years, and now there is an official partnership, which I am very excited about.”

And this partnership makes a great deal of sense. Over the last two years, there have been irregularities in the betting odds for volleyball games a few times. President Gernot Leitner explains that this has also applied to beach volleyball. “A range of prevention workshops are therefore long overdue in order to sensitize our athletes, coaches, and officials towards what needs to be done if someone approaches you with these kinds of intentions.”

“We are very pleased to be working with a seventh sporting discipline now,” says Günter Kaltenbrunner. Naturally, it is a mandate and obligation to train clubs and players and to bring them closer to the DOs and DONTs of betting fraud and match-fixing. “Anyone who knows the sport and its players has a competitive advantage when it comes to betting.” This is something that Gernot Leitner and Günter Kaltenbrunner are unanimous about.

However, many people are so far unaware of issues such as the ban on betting on competitions you are involved in yourself and the obligation to immediately report anyone who approaches you with a request to manipulate competitions. Preventive measures and rules of conduct aim to keep Austrian volleyball clean.

The introduction to the athlete training sessions is supported by beach volleyballers Clemens Doppler and Alexander Horst. The two sports legends and multiple Olympians act as role models and present video messages which explain the situation from their perspective.

TEAM NEWS

Personnel changes at the Play Fair Code

Women – real power rather than a token gesture

The Play Fair Code welcomes new experts to its Advisory Board:

Barbara Spindler-Oswald, MBA.

Head of International Department at the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport

Raffaela Zillner, LL.M.

General Secretary of the Austrian Association for Betting and Gambling (OVWG)

Christina Toth, MSc.

Lawyer, expert in Austrian sports law and former president of the Austrian Tennis Federation

Günter Kaltenbrunner: “By welcoming such high-quality experts, we are gaining valuable expertise for the Play Fair Code!”



Sönke Niklas

A warm welcome to a new colleague

The Play Fair Code team has been enhanced by the appointment of Sönke Niklas in November 2019.

Sönke Niklas is a graduate of the Sports Management Academy of the Austrian Bundesliga. Before joining the Play Fair Code, he worked as the General Manager of Second Division football club SV Horn for several years. He also gained further professional experience as General Secretary of the PGA of Austria (Professional Golfers Association of Austria). We wish you a warm welcome to the team.

New Experts



PLAY FAIR CODE
INTEGRITY WINS

MEMBERS



SPORTS ORGANISATIONS & INSTITUTIONS



SPONSORS & PARTNERS



BETTING INDUSTRY



ÖVWG

As a member of the Play Fair Code, we will strive to achieve manipulation-free competitions even more consistently and sustainably in the future.

Raffaella Zillner
Secretary General of the ÖVWG

bet-at-home

As one of the most visible partners in the world of sports in Austria, sport plays an essential role in our private and professional lives. It is therefore in our own interests to work with the Play Fair Code to protect sport from manipulation and betting fraud in a sustainable and consistent way.

Claus Retschitzegger
Legal Counsel & Group Spokesman
bet-at-home



For 30 years, player protection, integrity, and trustworthiness have been top priorities for Interwetten. Supporting the Play Fair Code is an important element to help protect sports. We are proud to be part of it and look forward to being involved in joint projects.

Stefan Sulzbacher
Speaker of the Board at Interwetten

ÖVWG

We are very pleased that the ÖVWG has joined the Play Fair Code. This means we now have another important interest group for sports betting providers on board.

Severin Moritzer
CEO Play Fair Code



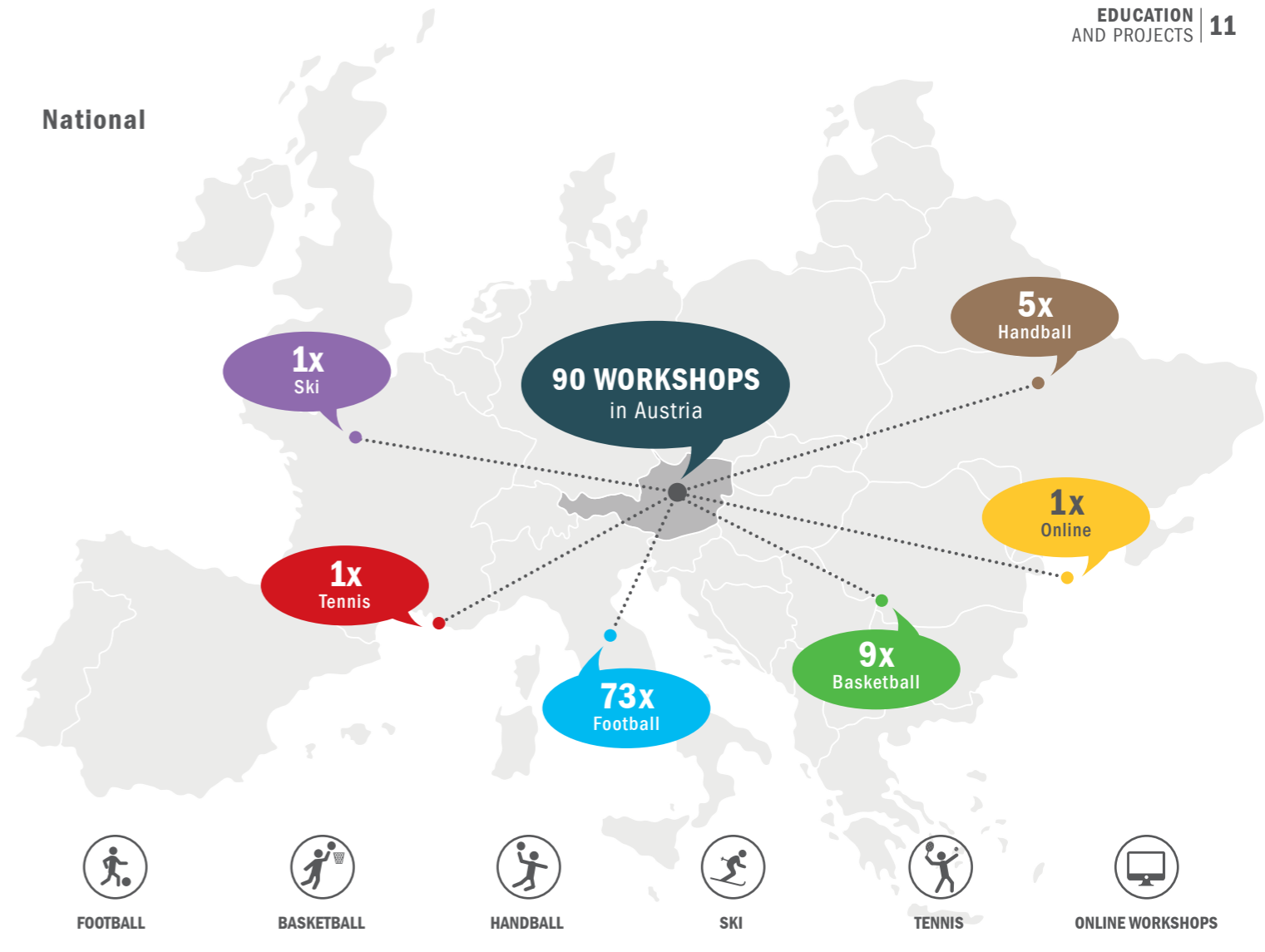
We are very pleased to welcome bet-at-home and Interwetten as new members of the Play Fair Code. The fact that another two of the big betting providers are supporting us once again shows how highly valued our work is inside the industry.

Günter Kaltenbrunner
President Play Fair Code

RECORD YEAR DESPITE UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCES. EVEN THE LOCKDOWNS COULD NOT HAMPER A RECORD YEAR OF TRAINING.

New workshops formats safeguard training operations.

Face-to-face workshops with personal contact and facilitating direct exchange between participants remain decisive factors. However, we quickly developed creative new formats that can ensure our training operations continue in times of crisis.



- Vorarlberg Football Association
- Third League - Eastern Division
- Third League - Central Division
- Third League - Western Division
- Planet Pure Women's National League
- Austrian Football Academies
- Second League
- Federal Sports Academy Austria (BSPA) / coach education (AFA)
- bet-at-home Basketball Super League
- spusu Challenge
- Women's Handball Austria
- Women's National Team
- National Youth Team Under 20
- National Youth Team Under 18
- ASF registered athletes
- Admiral Austrian Tennis Championships ATF
- Sport Austria Summit

8 YEARS OF TRAINING



650+ workshops



18.000+ participants



7 disciplines

JOIN A WORKSHOP?

STEPS INTO MANIPULATION...



RULES

- 1 DO NOT FIX.
- 2 DO NOT BET.
- 3 DO REPORT.
- 4 BE SMART WITH INSIDE INFORMATION.

CONSEQUENCES

- CRIMINAL LAW (FRAUD)
- LABOUR LAW (DISMISSAL)
- SPORT FEDERATION LAW (SUSPENSION & PENALTIES)
- FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES (LITIGATION COSTS, INCOME)
- SOCIAL REPUTATION

THE 3 R's

ERKENNEN / RECOGNIZE WIDERSTEHEN / RESIST BERICHTEN / REPORT

PLAY FAIR CODE ON TOUR

Football Academies



The youngsters from the national youth teams represent the highest ranks of their sport, having moved away from their original grassroots level. That is why Play Fair Code training sessions for the Austrian Football Academies are of special importance. Five years ago, talented players from the Under 16 and Under 18 age groups were educated about match-fixing for the first time. Now in 2020, a second round of training sessions was scheduled for a new generation of stars. “When trying to achieve a holistic approach to education, aspects such as ethical behavior, integrity, and proper knowledge of the potential dangers during a young career are essential,” explains Günter Kaltenbrunner. “The academies are fundamental in terms of developing both the athlete’s performance and their character. These youngsters will be the next generation to play in the topflight leagues in the near future. The very best of them will make it abroad and into the national team. It is therefore clear that the Play Fair Code must focus on them especially,” adds Severin Moritzer.



Red Bull Academy



Third leagues 

“It is an inherent part of prevention measures that they must never be stopped,” explains Severin Moritzer, referring to the integrity workshops which were run for the (three-pronged) Austrian third football league.

Following visits and training sessions at Third League – Eastern Division clubs in the previous year, efforts in 2020 focused on the Central Division and the Western Division. This was the second round of training sessions. By mid-October, all 16 clubs in the Central Division have been educated about the risks and challenges relating to betting issues and match-fixing. All the teams from Salzburg and Tyrol in the Western Division are up to date with their training. The schedule in Vorarlberg was tight due to the pandemic, so the last remaining sessions with the “Ländle” clubs will be postponed until early 2021.

“The content was extremely interesting and informative,” commented Juan Bohensky, Chairman of FC Wels. “And we will continue to focus on the issue of integrity in sport.” Georg “Gogo” Saringer, coach at SC Schwaz, agrees and adds, “Thanks for a lively workshop! Markus Sukdolak from the Play Fair Code gave a clear and simple presentation, which explained this complex subject in a

plausible way.” The Play Fair Code gladly reciprocated the thanks and praise: “We are pleased that all participants worked with so much dedication on our issues. This creates real added value,” commented Markus Sukdolak. This is of special importance in a league that serves as an interface between grassroots and professional sport.



SC Schwaz

PLAY FAIR CODE ON TOUR

Football – Covid Tour 2019



Young Violets Austria Vienna



Along with the long-awaited return of the Second Austrian Football League, the Play Fair Code training department was also back in action. The special situation in the domestic second division provided a good reason for a quick refresher module with the 16 clubs of the Second League.

Teams, players, league rankings, and points remained the same as before the break, except the overall situation changed significantly because the season in the third and lower leagues had been canceled. As it was unlikely that any teams would be promoted from the third leagues, the Second League season ended without any relegations. The fight for promotion to the First League (Bundesliga) ended up being a competition between two clubs only. For the rest of the league, sporting battles were rather thin on the ground. To protect and educate both players and clubs, the Play Fair Code and the Austrian Football League agreed to launch an awareness raising update for the Second League teams at very short notice. All of the 16 teams between Lafnitz and Lustenau and between Klagenfurt and Ried were visited at record speed and within a period of 11 days, they received training using a newly developed workshop format. The workshop was naturally carried out in accordance with coronavirus safety measures.

Special thanks go to the Austrian League for their support and to the coaches, club managers and team managers for making it so quick and easy to schedule the sessions.

PLAY FAIR CODE ON TOUR/ONLINE



Focus on integrity at the Federal Sports Academy Austria (BSPA) – coach training

As a longstanding partner of the Austrian Football Association (AFA) and UEFA, the Play Fair Code has already trained thousands of football players and their entourages in club and national team workshops to give them an understanding of the risks and dangers of match-fixing and betting fraud. It is therefore understandable that the next logical step should be to work together with the AFA and the Federal Sports Academy Austria (BSPA) to integrate the issue of competition integrity into coach education in the future.

For the first time, the Play Fair Code was integrated into this year’s two “A-Diploma” coaches’ courses with one lecture in each unit. The commitment, attention, and interest of the future A-Diploma coaches, among them many well-known names from Austrian football, were high in the classroom situation and during the online webinar. The lively exchange between the participants also opened up exciting new insights for the Play Fair Code.

Many thanks go to the heads of departments for implementing the coaches’ advanced training courses within the association and special thanks also go to Franz Ponweiser and Oliver Lederer for organizing the training so seamlessly.



UEFA A-Diploma Course



Isabel Hochstätger,
Head of Girls' and Women's Football
at the AFA

FIRST ROUND

PLAY FAIR CODE ON TOUR



Risks are everywhere, including the world of women's football

At the FIFA Women's World Cup in France last year, the New York Times published a noteworthy article about the subject of match-fixing and concluded that women's football is not immune to criminal schemes either. During the World Cup itself, millions and millions of dollars were wagered. In Spain, criminals were arrested who had planned to manipulate games. And in Belgium, three female players from the Under 16 national team were actually approached and asked to "fix" a match for 50,000 euro. And this was 50,000 each player!

The Play Fair Code has been active in raising awareness in women's football among national teams and at UEFA level for many years. For the first time this year, a newly developed module was launched and rolled out in the Planet Pure Women's Bundesliga, which then became an integral part of the training agenda going forward.

According to Severin Moritzer, "We managed to conduct the training sessions with most of the teams during the summer, taking into account the appropriate safety measures. It was important for us that as many teams as possible knew about how match-fixing takes place before the start of the new season, and above all that all players have an emergency plan: What to do if I receive an offer, who to inform and how?"

„What makes us really happy is the active, constructive, and uncomplicated partnership we have had with the clubs. Despite these challenging times, coordinating the training sessions was not a problem at all, which is a crystal-clear sign of how serious the Austrian Football Association is about integrity in sport.“



FC Bergheim

Team
FC Bergheim

"Thank you for providing us with the integrity training. I think the lecture was a new but very educational experience for most of us. You showed us how quickly you can get involved in match-fixing and how serious the consequences can be. It was very important to find out that this can happen in our league as well (even if it is difficult for everyone to imagine). Thanks to Markus for joining us."

Jasmin Eder
National team player and
captain of SKN St. Pölten



SKN St. Pölten

"The prevention workshops provided by the Play Fair Code are very important for players and clubs when viewed within the context of continuing to develop and professionalize the Planet Pure Women's Bundesliga. The workshops showed how seriously the issue should be taken in women's football. As a national team player and team captain of SKN St. Pölten, I feel it is my duty to protect the league and women's football together with my colleagues on and off the pitch."



SK Sturm Graz



FC Wacker Innsbruck

PLAY FAIR CODE ON TOUR



Basketball pros receive more training



SECOND ROUND

D.C. Timberwolves

Prevention is the key to combatting match-fixing, but it is not a magic wand. “As much as there is awareness raising and warnings, there is no guarantee at all that things can and are still happening,” states Günter Kaltenbrunner. “That is why we have to keep on working and spreading our messages and our knowledge.”

Due to other sporting and non-sporting events in the course of the year, it is hard to believe that the betting fraud scheme involving players from the Super League basketball club UBSC Graz was actually uncovered less than a year ago. In late January, five athletes were temporarily arrested and awaited charges of serious commercial fraud.

The Play Fair Code responded immediately. Even though all the basketball



Traiskirchen Lions

clubs in the top league were visited in 2018, a second round was organized this year in close partnership with the league. The kick-off workshop in Graz was held just before the lockdown in March, and all other clubs followed in September and October. Another training module in the Second League will follow in early 2021

“Regardless of what the investigations in the Graz case will reveal, it was extremely important to respond immediately and decisively before the start of the new season. We fundamentally believe in the good in sport. But we are not naive either. As I said earlier, prevention is key but not a magic wand,” says Severin Moritzer.



TRAINING CAMP



Elite handball

Training national teams is always a highlight. During this autumn, we met the women’s national team and various junior national teams and provided these elite players with an integrity update.



Women’s National Team



National Youth Team Under 20



BENCHMARK FOR SKI YOUNGSTERS



Online workshop for ASF registered athletes

For the ski stars of tomorrow, part of being inducted into the world of the FIS World Cup involves taking part in an annual Play Fair Code workshop on integrity, competition manipulation, and betting fraud. The training was held this year as a virtual course.

Severin Moritzer was keen to extend, “A big thank you to our faithful partner ASF, which views our workshops as an important standard for top athletes.”

SPORT AUSTRIA – SUMMIT



The Play Fair Code and good governance: a lived reality

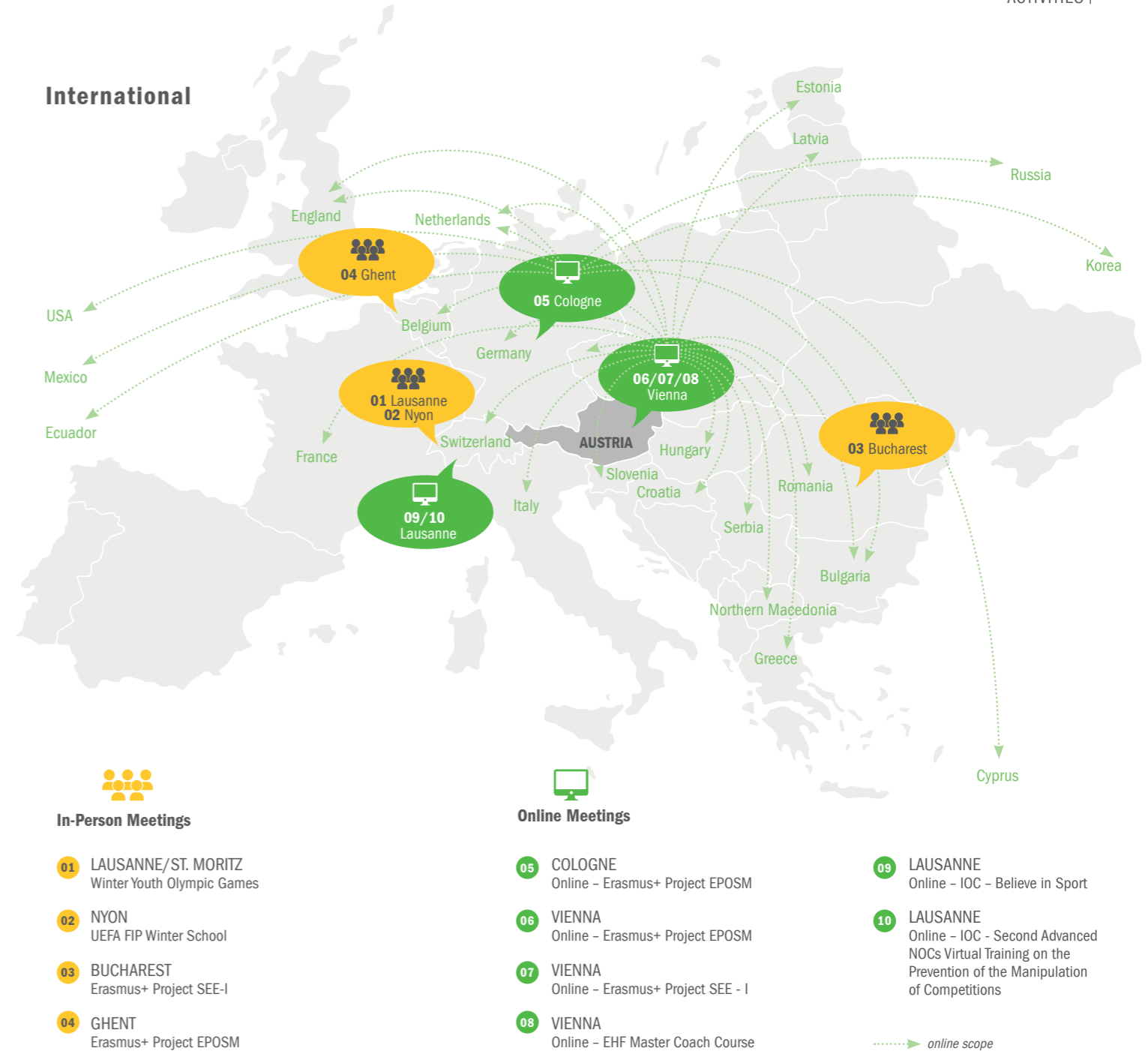
“Risks and opportunities – association management of the future” was the headline at this year’s “Sport Austria Summit” experts’ conference, which was streamed live from the House of Sports in Vienna due to the coronavirus pandemic. As part of the expert conference, the focus this year was on ethics and good governance in sport. Four specific fields of activity were examined in more detail, namely anti-doping, prevention of sexual violence, green events, as well as match-fixing and betting fraud.

This last topic was presented by Severin Moritzer from the Play Fair Code and Andreas Baumgartner, acting Integrity Officer of the Austrian Football Association.

“In the field of match-fixing and betting fraud, good governance is a living reality in our work with our partner associations,” explains Severin Moritzer. And most importantly, the feedback from this event will then be fed back and incorporated into the Sport Austria Good Governance Code from which specific conduct guidelines will be derived.

EXPERTISE IN DEMAND WORLDWIDE.
YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING SETS
A STANDARD AROUND THE WORLD.

The Play Fair Code's wealth of experience gained through many years of training provision has also been used abroad for many years.



PLAY FAIR CODE ON TOUR

Partnership with the IOC

Three joint projects were implemented this year as part of the longstanding partnership between the Play Fair Code and the IOC.

From January 9 to 22, 2020, the Third Youth Olympic Games took place in St. Moritz and Lausanne, where 1,880 young athletes between the ages of 15 and 18 competed for medals.

Severin Moritzer and Julia Klaming, former athlete from the Austria Skiing Federation and now a trainee lawyer at a law firm specializing in sports law, were invited to take part as expert volunteers at the Olympic Village in St. Moritz. They worked side by side with the IOC representatives in order to help educate the young athletes on the importance of clean and manipulation-free sport.

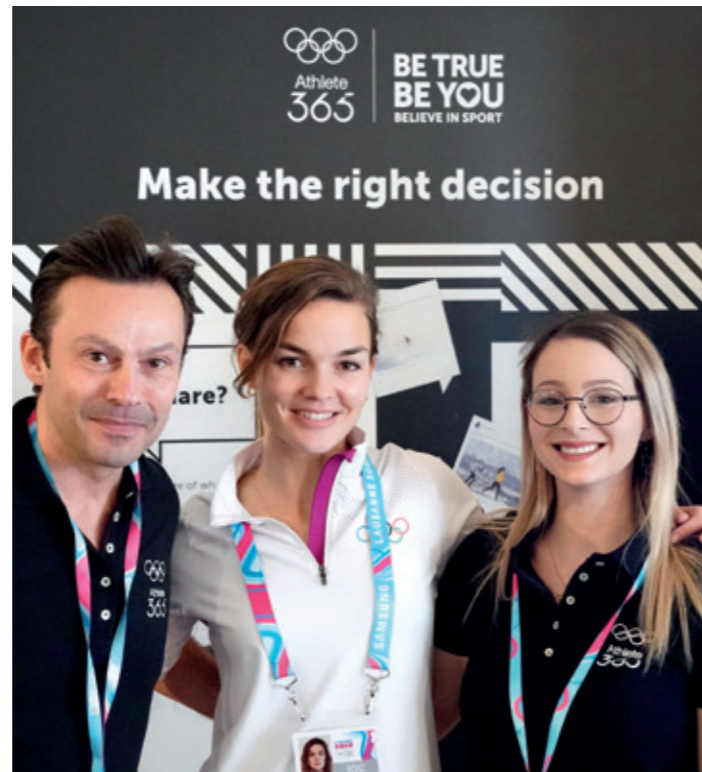
This initiative was part of the “Believe in Sport” campaign launched by the IOC during the Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires in 2018. “Believe in Sport” was developed with the support of experts from the Play Fair Code and aims to use interactive tools to raise awareness of the dangers of competition manipulation and betting fraud among young athletes at an early stage.

The Play Fair Code’s involvement in a „Believe in Sport“ Ambassadors Meeting this August therefore absolutely makes sense. The Meeting, which was held online due to the coronavirus, was attended by 22 new IOC ambassadors from all over the world. Strategies and daily work in prevention were the focus of discussions.

Thirdly – as things usually seem to go in threes – the Play Fair Code was represented by Severin Moritzer, who was invited to be an expert speaker at the Second Advanced NOCs Virtual Training. 70 attendees from around 30 National Olympic Committees, and National Platforms from five continents, were present at the meeting.

„We are now at the stage of a very established partnership with our friends at the IOC. It is a sign of high esteem that we can work directly with the young

athletes at the Youth Olympic Games 2020 in St. Moritz and, on the other hand, to contribute to two international top-class events as speakers.” Severin Moritzer adds with a smile, “Even though ‘Taking part is everything!’ corresponds to the Olympic idea, the Play Fair Code has been much more at the center of the international stage for many years. This means we are now doing much more than just taking part.”



Severin Moritzer, Laura Schoch (Project Coordinator - Olympic Movement Unit on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions) and Julia Klaming



NEW FORMAT – ONLINE TRAINING

Integrity workshop 2.0 – virtual seminar for the German Sport University

At the invitation of the German Sport University, Play Fair Code CEO Severin Moritzer was expected to host a “Sports Integrity” class as part of the University’s Sports Management Master’s program in Cologne this April. However, because the coronavirus crisis made regular face-to-face lectures impossible, both the Sport University and the Play Fair Code entered new territory and decided to hold the event in a “digital classroom”.

Severin Moritzer finally welcomed 30 international students from Germany, the USA, Bulgaria, Korea, England, Russia, Mexico, Cyprus, and Ecuador to attend his online course.

Integrity workshop 2.0 – virtual seminar for the EHF

At the invitation of the European Handball Federation (EHF), the Play Fair Code made an expert contribution during an online workshop as part of the second module of the current EHF Master Coach course.

The EHF Master Coach/Pro license is the highest educational level that handball coaches can achieve in Europe. It entitles the holder to train clubs and national teams on an EHF competitions level.

Almost 40 participants from 15 different countries, including several former professionals from top leagues and acting national coaches, were provided with training on the relevant EHF Legal Regulations and the EHF Code of Conduct. The content of these regulations was explained carefully in order to highlight the different types of disciplinary consequences that can result from match-fixing and betting fraud.

Many thanks to Beata Kozłowska and Lars Erichsen from the EHF for organizing the event and providing technical support.



UEFA FIP Winter School

PLAY FAIR CODE ON THE PODIUM

UEFA Winter School

Once again, the Play Fair Code was invited to partner with UEFA for educational reasons. This time to bring its expertise to the UEFA Academy Football Integrity Program. The convention involved a number of prominent members of staff and was held between January 27 and 31 at the UEFA headquarters in Nyon.

Severin Moritzer was a panelist at the Education & Prevention Roundtable. He was involved in discussions on the significance of preventive training measures in the international anti-match-fixing efforts, together with Roy Vermeer (FIFPro), Daan de Jong (ECA), Miguel Maduro (European University Institute), and Samir Arab (football player, Malta).

Legal experts from FIFPro (the worldwide representative organization for professional football players) as well as the ECA (the body which represents the interests of professional European football clubs), the former Advocate General at the European Court of Justice, and the Maltese football pro Samir Arab, who recently completed a long-time ban for breaches against the Code of Ethics (failure to report), agreed with the Play Fair Code that face-to-face contact with players combined with an interactive and highly practice-based training approach is the most valuable way to raise awareness and to communicate the importance of recommended behavioral approaches.



NEW ERASMUS+ PROJECT

SEE-I

At the end of February 2020, another Erasmus+ project kicked off in Bucharest and was supported by the Play Fair Code. Launched under the banner “SEE Countries for the Integrity of Football Clubs (SEE-I)”, the project points the spotlight at the issue of sports integrity, with a special focus on professional and semi-professional football in countries in the south-east of Europe.

Shortly before the coronavirus pandemic put the brakes on everybody’s usual work routines, Play Fair Code CEO Severin Moritzer participated in the SEE-I project’s kick-off-meeting in Bucharest, together with representatives from the project’s coordinating organization, the National University of Physical Education and Sports Bucharest (Romania) as well as officials from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece), the National Sports Academy Vasil Levski (Sofia, Bulgaria), Fair Play Code Hellas (Athens, Greece), the Institute of International

Strategic Relations (Paris, France), and the Romanian Football Federation. The objectives of this very first project meeting included: discussing the working methodology to be used; reviewing a detailed work plan and schedule for all project activities; assigning tasks and setting performance deadlines; setting guidelines and preparing the communications plan in detail.

The SEE-I project intends to take a fresh look at sports integrity and governance and focuses on professional and semi-professional football clubs. Considering the exploratory, multidisciplinary and complex nature of the subject, the project will generate specialized knowledge and create more coherent and adapted exchanges between participants, and awareness raising programs. As the issues under consideration might concern all European countries, the results of the project will be communicated widely.



ERASMUS+ PROJECT CROSSING THE FINISHLINE

AMFIX

The Erasmus+ project “Against Match Fixing”, or AMFIX for short, is entering the home straight. Based on the results produced by the research and legal teams, the education team developed an online prevention training tool that is available in numerous languages. The communication and implementation of these virtual workshops in winter 2020 and spring 2021 form the final project phase of AMFIX.



Campaign theme Erasmus+ Project AMFIX



Kick-Off Meeting Erasmus+ Project EPSOM



NEW ERASMUS+ PROJECT

EPOSOM

This is the fifth Erasmus+ project in which the Play Fair Code is involved as an expert partner. The “Evidence-based Prevention of Sporting-related Match-Fixing” project, EPOSOM for short, officially started with a kick-off meeting in Ghent early 2020.

The data collection project phase has already been completed successfully. Over a period of six months, an online questionnaire focusing on „Sports Related Manipulation“ was carried out in seven European countries. More than 5,000 people from the sports industry completed the survey and thus provided a profound data basis for further project work, which in this form was collected for the very first time.

In an upcoming step, tailor-made national action plans for the fight against corruption in sport will be developed for all participating countries at the beginning of 2021.

The EPOSOM project is an Erasmus+ Collaborative partnership in the field of sport, co-funded by the European Union, between academic and on-the-field organizations. The project team consists of: Ghent University (coordinating

organisation), Utrecht University, The French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS), Play Fair Code, Croatian Olympic Committee, Lausanne University, Loughborough University, Panathlon International, International Centre Ethics in Sport (ICES), Counter Sport Corruption Foundation for Sport Integrity (CSCF) and the Council of Europe (associated partner organisation).

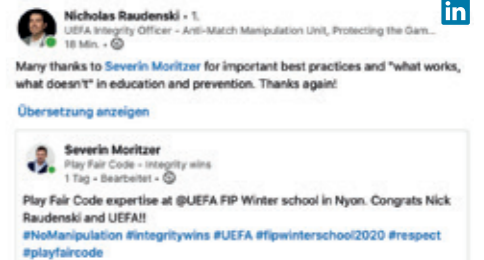
The project will last two years and aims to particularly raise knowledge and awareness about (sometimes neglected) sporting-related match-fixing with a focus on various sports disciplines including football, tennis, basketball, and handball.

Throughout the project, the results will be disseminated through various channels, and at the end of the project, there will be an international multiplier event.

SOCIAL MEDIA

MEDIA PRESENCE IN AN ANNUAL RETROSPECTIVE. HEADLINES APART FROM PANDEMIC AND LOCKDOWNS.

A potpourri of what could be read about match-fixing and betting fraud online and printed in 2020.



MEDIA REVIEW

Kampf gegen Spielmanipulation: Österreich macht es vor!



In Deutschland kommt der Aufbau einer Nationalen Plattform zur Bekämpfung der Manipulation von Sportwettbewerben, in der auch Transparency vertreten ist, nur schleppe voran. Österreich ist weiter: Der Verein „Play Fair Code“ setzt seit 2012 auf Prävention – ein ganzheitlicher Beitrag von Integritätsreferent Sörke Niklas.



Schulung beim Fußball-Zweitligisten Kapfenberger SV im Oktober 2018

Ende 2003 fiel das sportbegeisterte Österreich fast aus allen Wollen, als ein Wettspielhandl rund um die Fußballprofs Dominique Taboga und Sanel Kuljić publik wurde. Zu diesem Zeitpunkt war der Play Fair Code nicht einmal zwei Jahre alt – und stand plötzlich als Kompetenz gegen Manipulationen und für Integrität im Sport im Fokus. „Die Affäre hat uns sicher geholfen“, meint der ehemalige österreichische Fußball-Nationalspieler und aktuelle Play Fair Code-Präsident Günter Kaltenbrunner, „man hat gesehen, dass Österreich nicht eine Insel der Seligen ist.“

der Manipulation eingegangen – von der Anbahnung über den Ablauf bis hin zu den Folgen. Fazit: Wer auch nur ein einziges Mal ja gesagt hat, ist erpressbar. Mit konkreten Fällen aus der Realität und Verweisen auf aktuelle Geschehnisse lernen die Athleten und Beteiligten im Sport, wie sehr die Integrität im Sport ein schätzbares Gut ist.

Der Play Fair Code hat sich so zu einer international beachteten Institution entwickelt, die nicht nur bei EU-Exzellenz-Projekten, Fachtagungen und Symposien gefragt ist. Auch globale Akteure wie das Internationale Olympische Komitee oder der Europäische Fußballverband UEFA vertrauen auf die Expertise aus Österreich. So blüht der Verein nach acht Jahren Tätigkeit bereits auf Aktivitäten in mehr als 25 Ländern zurück. Für den Einsatz im Kampf gegen „Match-Fixing“ wurde der Play Fair Code 2014 mit dem European Fair Play Diploma ausgezeichnet.

Nächstes großes Ziel ist die formale Etablierung der Nationalen Plattform im Sinne der Europaratskonvention gegen Spielmanipulation. Informell sind diese Aufgabenstellungen bereits seit Jahren in der eng abgestimmten Kooperation des Play Fair Code mit dem österreichischen Bundeskriminalamt abgebildet und funktionierend reibungslos.

Doch der Teufel schläft nicht und der Kampf gegen die Wettspiel-Manipulation kann de facto nur vorübergehend gewonnen werden. Unlängste Machenschaften im Sport sind wie ein Virus, der unerwartet überall ausbrechen kann. Erst Anfang des Jahres 2020 wurden fünf Profifußballer in Gaz Festgenommen. Die Anklage lautet Wettbetrug.

Klar ist also: Die Arbeit hört nie auf.

Angst vor Betrug dämpft Vorfreude

- Vor heutigen Wiederanpfiff warnen die Zweitligisten
• Gefahr der Wettmanipulation durch Krise größer denn je

S owas darf man ja eigentlich gar nicht in den Mund nehmen“, sagt Blau-Weiß-Sportchef Timo Wieser – aber auch heute vor heute endlich wieder die 2. Liga angepfiffen wird, blühen die wasserhellen Wä- se aufrecht. Die Angst vor Wettbetrug ist groß. Die ÖFBFA teilte bereits im April vorläufige Manipulationsrisiken gewarnt. In Deutschland hat erst zuletzt die Antikorruptionsorganisation „Transparency“ betont, dass man mit mehr Vorsicht der Wettmanipulation rechnen. Und in Österreich scheint besonders die 2. Liga für die Betrüger ein geländes Freiland zu sein.

Table with 2 columns: Team, Goals. Title: ZWEITE LIGA

Die Spieler von Linz (im Bild) und Blau-Weiß Linz erhalten bereits Besuch von einem Verein, der sich Wettmanipulationen wagt.

Wöll will etwa nicht, dass deshalb die Spieler gänzlich auf Präzision verzichten. • Kader-Fixe: Die Aufregung über den Tabulohler im Kapfenberg war groß gewesen, als der vor dem Rest gleich mit dem Staatspräsidenten kam. Nicht wenige sehen darin Wettbetrug vorzuziehen – und auch die Gefahr des Betrugs ist dadurch größer.

Um dem entgegenzuwirken, hatte erst am Dienstag der Verein „Play Fair Code“ in Zusammenarbeit mit Liga-Sportler Hybel die Zweitligisten besucht, um die Spieler nochmals zu sensibilisieren. Hybel-CEO Andreas Kölbl betont zu-

PANORAMA

SPORTPOLITIK Zugang für PlayFairCode Mit Prävention gegen Wettbetrug im Sport, dafür kämpft die Organisation PlayFairCode seit der Causa Taboga mit Erfolg. Nun hat sich ein weiterer Verband angeschlossen: Nach Fußball, Basketball, Tennis, Eishockey, Skisport und Handball ist jetzt auch Volleyball mit an Bord. „Der Volleyball-Verband sieht sich als progressive, moderne Institution, die auf vielerlei Ebenen

Vorreiter ist – insbesondere wenn es um Good Governance geht“, erklärt ÖVV-Präsident Gernot Leitner.

#NOMANIPULATION

In Österreich ist im Handball bis heute kein Fall von Spielmanipulation bekannt. Seit April 2019 sind der Österreichische Handballbund und die spusu LIGEN Mitglied im Play Fair Code.

Man kann darauf wetten, mit welchem Resultat ein Spiel endet, wie viele Treffer zwischen den beiden Mannschaften liegen, wie viele Tore insgesamt fallen und auch darauf, ob der Gesamtscore gerade oder ungerade ist: nur vier von unzähligen Möglichkeiten, die ein Handballspiel bietet. Sportwetten können manipuliert werden, auch im Handball. Immer wieder präsent ist der Fall der beiden französischen Stars Nikola und Luka Karabacic, die in einem Wettstreit zu jeweils zwei Monaten Haft auf Bewährung verurteilt worden waren. „Hierzulande hat es in unserem Sport bisher keinen Fall von Manipulation oder Wettspielbetrug gegeben. Dieser Umstand gibt uns Anlass zur Freude, soll aber nicht dazu führen, nachlässig zu werden“, erklärt Gerhard Hofbauer, ÖHB-Präsident. Seit Beginn der Kooperation wurden Schulungen bei allen Vereinen der spusu LIGA und spusu CHALLENGE sowie den Schiedsrichtern und Delegierten des ÖHB zu den Themen Spielmanipulation und Wettbetrug abgehalten, um Gefahren, Konsequenzen und Schutzmechanismen aufzuzeigen. Die Expertise des Play Fair Code ist national wie international gefragt. In Österreich arbeitet die Initiative für sauberen Sport mit dem Sportministerium und diversen Sportfachverbänden zusammen. Alexander Kathrein, ALPA HC Hard: „Die Arbeit des Play Fair Code ist nicht nur für den Handballsport immens wichtig. Die Sportwelt wird leider viel zu oft von Skandalen überschattet. Umso wichtiger ist es, mit präventiver Arbeit vorzubeugen. Wir sind daher sehr stolz, dass wir mit unserem Verband, unserer Liga und somit mit unserem Verein ein Teil davon sind.“



ÖHB-Präsident Gerhard Hofbauer präsentiert den „Play Fair Code“



APAJO TopicTalk: Today with the Association for Protecting the Integrity in Sport, in short 'PlayFairCode'. We speak with its president, Günter Kaltenbrunner, former Austrian football player in the national team and president of SK Rapid Wien, as well as with the CEO and managing director since its foundation in 2012, Severin Moritzer, DLL



Severin Moritzer (left), Günter Kaltenbrunner (right)

Today, the partner-network also includes the federations and professional leagues for handball, ice hockey, basketball, tennis and skiing as well as the Austrian NOC, the Federal Sports Organization "Sport Austria", several licensed betting providers, as well as some sponsors and other supporters.

APAJO: Severin, why this association? Can you tell us a little bit more about the reasoning to found this particular partnership and to not tackle the topic via

At that time, the decision was taken quite deliberately as it basically allows the new organization - and this is crucial for our work - to remain independent, and yet enables as many stakeholders as possible to be connected in the form of memberships. Today, the partner-network also includes the federations and professional leagues for handball, ice hockey, basketball, tennis and skiing as well as the Austrian NOC, the Federal Sports Organization "Sport Austria", several licensed betting providers, as well as some sponsors and other supporters.

DERSTANDARD Sport article: FUSSBALL Play Fair Code über Finish der zweiten Liga: "Gibt kein gutes Bild ab" Alle Spieler wurden vor dem Restart auf die Konsequenzen von Wettmanipulation aufmerksam gemacht. Die Ergebnisse der letzten Runde seien "seltsam" Lukas Zahrer 3. August 2020, 17:23 106 Postings Wien – Unmittelbar nach der Corona-Pause erhielten alle Klubs der zweiten österreichischen Fußballliga Besuch. Um einer möglichen Manipulation in den verbleibenden Spieltagen vorzubeugen, fingen Vertreter des Vereins Play Fair Code die Spieler nach einer Trainingseinheit ab. Den Profis sollte vermittelt werden, welche fatalen Folgen eine Spielmanipulation für die Karriere haben kann. Verlockendes Setting Das Setting in Österreichs zweithöchster Spielklasse war nämlich durchaus verlockend: Durch einen Beschluss des ÖFB-Präsidiums war ein Abstieg ausgeschlossen. Lediglich die Frage nach dem Aufsteiger musste geklärt werden, alle anderen Ergebnisse hatten keine weitbewegenden Konsequenzen. Seit neun Jahren arbeitet die Bundesliga mit Play Fair Code – Verein zur Wahrung der Integrität im Sport (VVIS) zusammen. Ziel der Kooperation ist die "Schaffung von breitem gesellschaftlichem Bewusstsein für integren und fairen Sport", so steht es in der Vereinssatzung. Antizipiertes Risiko "Wir haben das Risiko in der zweiten Liga antizipiert", sagt Severin Moritzer dem STANDARD. "Wir standen daher im engen Austausch mit der Liga." Der VVIS, dessen Geschäfte Moritzer leitet, habe unter Einhaltung der Abstandsregeln "alles Menschenmögliche getan", um einen wirksamen Auffrischkurs in Sachen Integrität abzuhalten. Kantersiege "seltsam" Der letzte Spieltag sorgte unter Fußballfans jedenfalls für Stirnrunzeln. Austria Klagenfurt gewann gegen Wacker Innsbruck mit 6:1. Meister wurde jedoch die SV Ried, die den FAC 9:0 abfertigte. Das bessere Torverhältnis sprach letztlich für die Invidier. "Aus unserer Perspektive waren diese Ergebnisse seltsam und nicht erwartbar", sagt Moritzer. "Zuständig ist aber die Bundesliga. Ob sie etwas unternimmt und ein Verfahren einleitet, ist ihre Entscheidung."

„Mir braucht niemand erzählen, dass diese Spiele nicht sehr fragwürdig ausgefallen sind“ [Exklusiv]

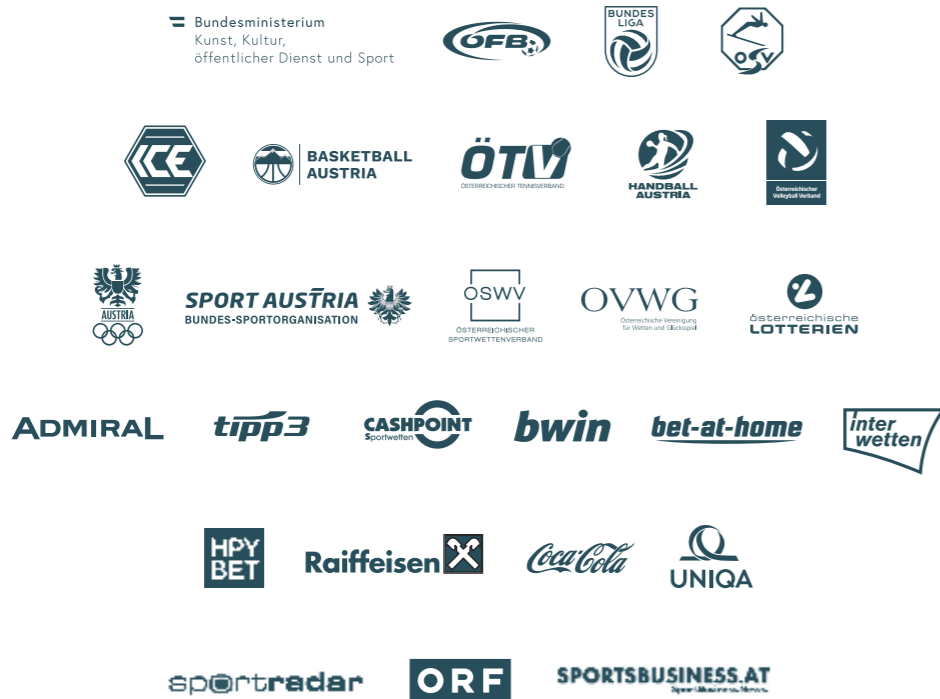
Michael Fiola POSTED ON 9. NOVEMBER 2020



Play Fair Code-Präsident Günter Kaltenbrunner, Geschäftsführer Severin Moritzer sowie Philipp Trattner, Leiter der Sektion Sport im Sportministerium, im sportsbusiness.at-Interview über die bisherigen Meilensteine des Play Fair Code, die Herausforderungen rund um die Covid19-Pandemie und die Zukunftsvisionen.

sportsbusiness.at-Exklusiv - das Gespräch führte Michael Fiola Wettspielkriminalität im Allgemeinen und Spielmanipulation im Besonderen drohen die fundamentalen Charakterzüge des Sports – die Glaubwürdigkeit, Fairness und Integrität des Sports – zu unterwandern. Diese negative Entwicklung stellt für den Sport eine ernsthafte Bedrohung dar. Genau hier setzt der Play Fair Code an, der im Jahr 2012 ins Leben gerufen wurde. Unter der Führung von Präsident Günter Kaltenbrunner kümmert sich die Geschäftsstelle mit Geschäftsführer Severin Moritzer und seinem Team darum, das europaweit anerkannte Vorzeigemodell kontinuierlich, strategisch und strukturell weiterzuentwickeln. Im Interview mit sportsbusiness.at sprechen Günter Kaltenbrunner, Severin Moritzer sowie Philipp Trattner, Leiter der Sektion Sport im Sportministerium, über die bisherigen Meilensteine des Play Fair Code, die Herausforderungen rund um die Covid19-Pandemie und die Zukunftsvisionen.

MEMBERS AND PARTNERS



Integrity Coordinator Markus Sukdolak, MSc. BSc., Integrity Coordinator Sönke Niklas, CEO Mag. Severin Moritzer, President Günter Kaltenbrunner, Integrity Coordinator Ing. Mag Marc Orlainsky (f.l.t.r.)

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PLAY FAIR CODE
INTEGRITY WINS

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#NoManipulation



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