

# ESIC

ESPORT INTEGRITY COALITION

# Integrity in esports for NGCB Esports TAC

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# WHO AM I?

- Esports Integrity Commission – Commissioner
- PGA European Tour – Head of Integrity
- BA LLB University of Natal – South Africa
- Emigrated to UK 1989 – qualified solicitor 1994
- Partner and Head of Sports Law at Clarke Willmott
- Legal Director of PCA 2004 to 2013
- COO of FICA 2013 to 2015
- Member of Athletes Committee of UKAD 2010 to 2015
- Advisor on esports and integrity issues for clients in and outside sport.
- Member of security directorate of ICC T20 World Championship 2009 and the ICC Champions Trophy 2013

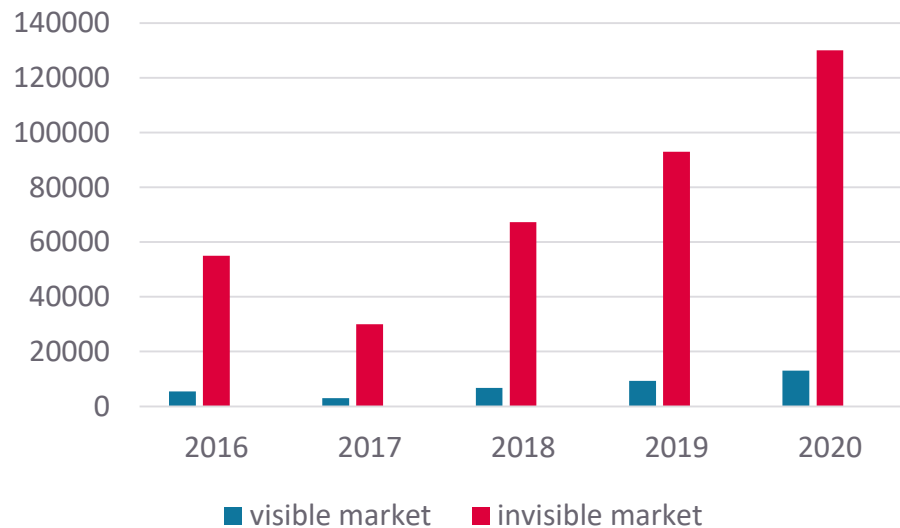
# ESIC ESPORTS THREAT ASSESSMENT 2015

- The four most significant threats to esports integrity have been identified as...
  - Cheating to win using software cheats
  - Online attacks to slow or disable an opponent
  - Match-fixing
  - Doping
- The easy ability to cheat used frequently can destroy a game – the solution is in the publishers' hands and, on the whole, is implemented swiftly, ruthlessly and effectively.
- The willingness to deliberately underperform – match or spot fixing to commit betting fraud – was poorly understood and only dealt with when exposed by third parties.

# BETTING FRAUD

- Where there is a market there are people trying to manipulate it – the only question is whether they are succeeding or not...
  
- 92% of match-fixing is driven by betting fraud.

## Total esports gambling handle through 2020 In US\$ millions (000,000)



Source: Narus Advisors / Eilers & Krejcik Gaming

# BETTING FRAUD CONTINUED

- Our participant demographic is perfect for gambling and corruption.
- A very high interest base in South East Asia, China & USA – the 3 biggest illegal gambling epicentres.
  
- As an industry, esports is highly vulnerable.
  - Games can survive match-fixing, but esports cannot...



# HOW TO COMBAT MATCH-FIXING

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# THE FIGHT AGAINST MATCH-FIXING

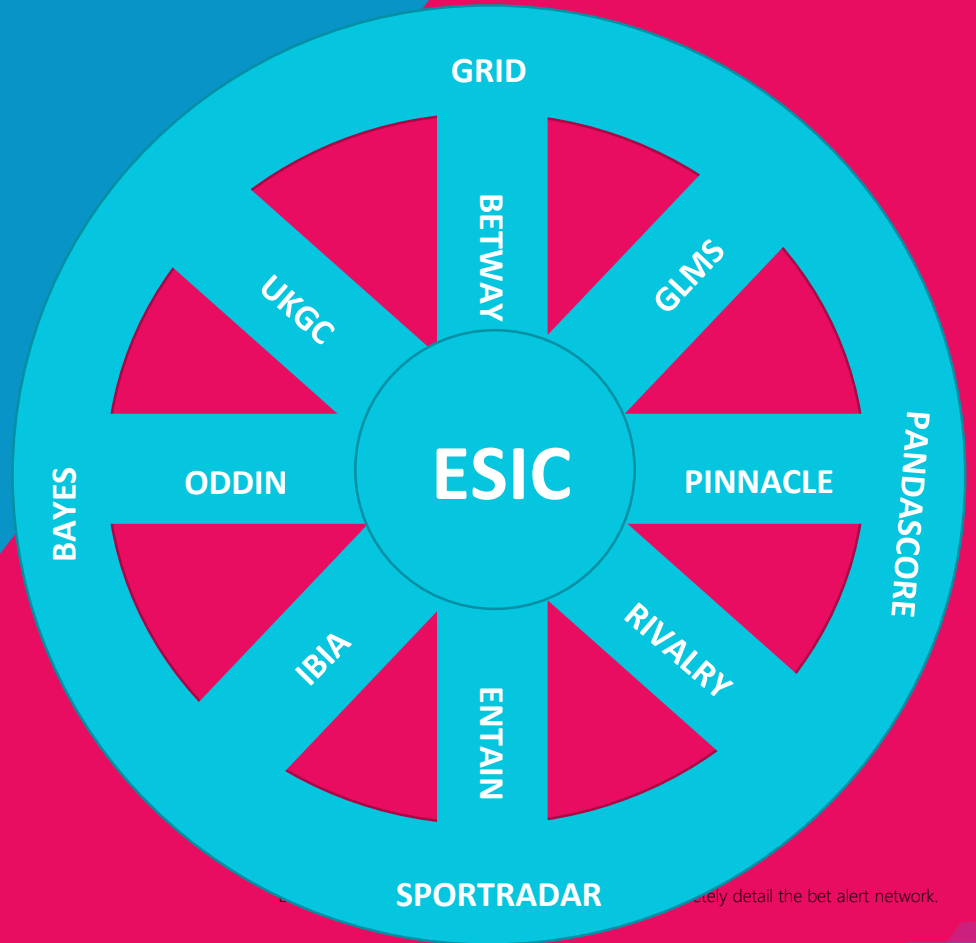
- How do you detect match-fixing and what do you do when you find it?
  - Historically 3<sup>rd</sup> party exposure (law-enforcement/media/whistle-blowing)
  - Now through unusual and suspicious betting monitoring - over 300 bookmakers offering esports
- Proper regulations and procedures.
- Investigation
- Prosecution
- Deterrence – Commissioners Confidence
- Engagement with the sports betting industry



# ESIC'S BET ALERT NETWORK

ESIC's Bet Alert Network is a continuously evolving mechanism that allows us to be ahead of the curve in fraud and corruption detection and prosecution.

Our significant information sharing partnerships give us access to a wealth of data not accessible by any other independent organization in the world.



...sely detail the bet alert network.

# BET ALERT NETWORK statistics

- Suspicious Betting Alerts 2020: 126 (46 in 2019)
- DOTA2: 53 (16 in 2019)
- CS:GO: 49 (15 in 2019)
- Starcraft2: 8 (2 in 2019)
- The rest 16

# EDUCATION OF PARTICIPANTS

- The most effective deterrent to match-fixing is Participant education
- The education programme is multi-faceted and kicked off at IEM Katowice March 2016
- Online interactive tutorial – linked to registration for tournaments
- Confidential reporting hotline/email

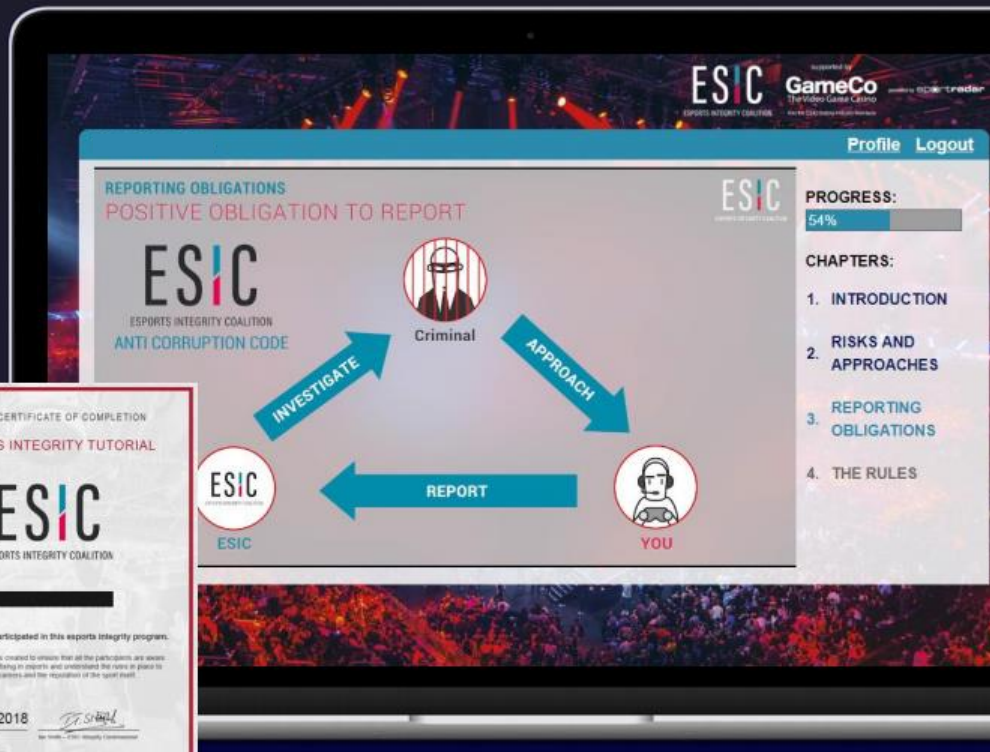


# ONLINE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

In 2017, ESIC launched its esports specific online anti-corruption education tutorial together with Sportradar and other partners.

The online tutorial gave players and stakeholders a foundational awareness on several esports integrity topics.

Participants who completed the tutorial were awarded a certificate of completion.



# OTHER MEASURES

- Security – Player and Match Officials Area
- Physical presence of anti-corruption officials at venues and hotels
- Intelligence database and analysis - Clue
- Liaison & cooperation with other anti-corruption units and law-enforcement
- Alerts to Participants
- Warnings off of known corruptors
- Agents/Managers registration system
- Lobby for legislative regulation of gambling
- Acting as “Governing Body” for wagering purposes in the US – White list potential

A black and white photograph of a person standing on a stage in a large arena. The ceiling is filled with numerous small, bright lights, creating a starry effect. A bright spotlight shines down on the person, and their reflection is visible on the glossy floor. The arena seating is visible in the background, also filled with lights. Two diagonal lines, one blue and one red, cross the bottom left of the image.

# ESPORTS INTEGRITY COMMISSION

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# WHAT IS ESIC?

- Not for profit members association
- Primarily aimed at combatting match-fixing and betting fraud in esports
- Coalition of concerned industry stakeholders most affected by match-fixing and most able to do something about it.
- Overseen by the Commissioner
- Provides the Programme on behalf of the members.
  - Principles and Code of Ethics for members
  - Code of Conduct for players (optional – with a view to standardisation)
  - Anti-Corruption Code for participants
  - Anti-Doping Code



# THE ESIC PROGRAMME

Anti-Corruption Code

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# Anti-Corruption Code - Offences

- **Covers all “Participants”**
- Match or spot fixing – including attempting to do so or trying to get others to do so
- Betting on your own game or offering bets or encouraging betting
- Misuse of Inside Information
- Bribery of other Participants
- Failure to disclose large gifts
- Failure to disclose corrupt approaches
- Failure to disclose suspicions or knowledge of corrupt acts
- Failure to cooperate with or obstructing investigations or prosecutions

# Anti-Corruption Code - Obligations

- Positive duty to report corrupt approaches or acts
  - [report@esic.gg](mailto:report@esic.gg) and +44 (0)7798 698201
- Positive obligation to cooperate with investigations and prosecutions

# Anti-Corruption Code - Consequences

- Provisional Suspension
- Corruption: Ban for a minimum of 2 Events up to a lifetime
- Betting: 2 Event minimum up to 2 years maximum
- Misuse of Inside Information: no minimum up to 3 years maximum
- General Offences: no minimum up to 5 years maximum
- Loss of reputation
- Loss of job
- Loss of record/s
- Likely publisher ban

**THANK YOU**



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