



MODEL UNITED NATIONS

# SOCOMUN XXVIII

**NOT FRESHMAN A**

**TOPIC: CORRUPTION IN SPORTING  
EVENTS**



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## NOT Freshman A Corruption in Sporting Events

Greetings, my name is David Feng and I'm a senior in the Santa Margarita Catholic High School MUN Program. This is my fourth year enrolled in the MUN program and the four years of MUN experience has enabled me to be a more articulate speaker, learn more about the pressing issues surrounding our world today as well as getting to know fellow MUN students from other countries as well as other local schools. My favorite committees are usually dual delegate Security Council, DISEC and IAEA. I've attended many conferences located at other Orange County High Schools as well as invitational conferences like BMUN at Berkeley. Outside of MUN, I play Singles on the Varsity Tennis team, president of several clubs including LaunchX club and TILE^Santa Margarita.

Hello, my name is Julia Scheithauer and I am a junior at SM. I will be your vice chair. I have been part of the MUN program all three years I have been in high school. When I am not doing MUN, I enjoy playing soccer, listening to loud music, going to the beach, and shopping. I am looking forward to seeing all of you in September!

Hello, my name is Will Cerniglia, I am a sophomore, and this will be my second year in MUN. I enjoyed the challenges of MUN as a freshman and improved my research and writing skills significantly throughout the year. At the various conferences I attended representing SMCHS, I interacted with students from many different schools. I look forward to facing more MUN challenges in the future, and I look forward to watching you guys debate.

SOCOMUN is teaching conference; which means that delegates are to come and learn about the procedures of MUN and improve refine their skills. If any delegates should have confusions or questions regarding any part of the MUN process, we encourage you to ask one of the members of the Bureau which includes myself. At the start of debate, delegates will be given placards with the name of their country printed. Delegates will initiate the debate by motioning to open debate. After this, the chair would smile upon, or suggest delegates to open the speaker's list. At this point, all delegates who would like to speak will be chosen by the chair and placed on the speaker's list. The pre-determined standard time for speaking is one minute and thirty seconds with two comments at thirty seconds each. There will be no questions since our committee is a novice committee. Apart from speeches, delegates are also free to motion for informal as well as formal consultations. During this procedure, delegates will mingle and discuss the topic with countries they would like to work with. During informal consultations, resolutions groups will be formed in which delegates would collaborate to craft a resolution to present to the committee. During formal debate, resolutions will be presented and eventually voted on in the voting bloc. The most important thing is to have a deep understanding of the topic at hand and understand how your country addresses the topic. I wish all delegates good luck



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and I hope to see you at SOCOMUN XXVIII. If you have any questions please email us at [socomunnota@gmail.com](mailto:socomunnota@gmail.com)

## **E4JMUN Resources from the UNODC**

The UNODC has provided some great resources for students involved with Model United Nations.

<https://www.unodc.org/e4j/mun/crime-prevention/corruption.html> - Information about corruption. Also information about corruption and the sustainable development goals.

<https://www.unodc.org/e4j/mun/resources/corruption.html> - Looks like the other link but scroll down and you will see some links to additional resources. There is a lot of useful information here. Take some time to look through these documents.

## **Background:**

Corruption in Sporting Events consists of organized crimes, fixing games, and bribery. For a formal definition, we define Match-fixing as “Manipulation of sport competitions of an intentional arrangement, act or omission aimed at an improper alteration of the result or the course of sport competition in order to remove all or part of the unpredictable nature of the aforementioned sport competition with a view to obtaining an undue advantage for oneself or for others”(UNODC). Many of these incidences take place at the biggest sporting stages in the world. Corruption in sporting events has also been a perpetual problem and the monetary value of the bribes and rewards are going up each year. The modern sporting events are gaining a larger fan base than ever, and this has inevitably caused the investment in sporting events to increase dramatically. With the higher investment, the stakes are also bigger than ever which also causes more motive for fixing games and committing crimes in sporting events. The United Nations office on Drugs and Crime has been fighting corruption in sports events for a long time. One of the ways in which UNODC tries to decrease the amount of corruption is recommending countries and leagues to follow its guidelines for fair-practice as well as publishing the Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Investigation of Match-Fixing in collaboration with International Center for Sport Security. Sports not only serve as entertainment, but they have also been pointed to as tools for peace. Examples of such can be seen every 4 years at the Olympics where countries come together and compete. Corruption at sports events has degraded and tarnished this tool of peace. The UNODC has created a legal framework for each country’s law department to combat corruption in sports. Many treaties have been signed as international instruments of resisting corruption in sports and the support for this initiative is almost universal. In terms of fixing matches, there are generally two scenarios or motive to fix matches. The first is match-fixing due to wagers and the second is competition motivated match fixing. The first form of match fixing is usually done by people outside of the competition itself. These people have usually got interest in fixing these matches because they have betted for or against the team.



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Additionally, the players themselves can also engage in this type of fixing by betting themselves or having someone put in the bet for them and sharing the profit. Not only is corruption in sporting events destroying the reputation of sports but it also serves to include other forms of serious crimes such as money-laundering, financial crimes, human trafficking, fraudulent crimes and bribery. Many organized crime groups use methods of bribery and intimidation to bet on sporting events and earn funds for other acts of terrorism and other serious crimes. The second motive to fixing matches is less serious in terms of the potential effects but still creating a problem in the sporting world. Teams who are close to the top or safe in their respective leagues are sometime paid to lost to teams at the bottom of the division who will most likely be relegated if they do not get enough wins. However, there are always indirect financial benefits. In order to better understand corruption in sporting events, a few example case studies are summarized below: Soccer is one of the most popular sports on the planet but also one that often has corruption in its leagues. In the UEFA Champion Leagues season from 2004 to 2005, such a case took place and was investigated. In the qualifying rounds, the football club FK Pobeda from Yugoslavia and Macedonia lost 1-3 in the first leg at home to FC Pyunik. In the second leg, the two teams tied at 1 all but FC Pyunik wins easily on aggregate. After this match between the two football clubs, many complaints and letters doubting the legitimacy of the results. Following this series of events, the UEFA officials launched an investigation and concluded four years later that the club president of FK Pobeda did indeed fix the match and he was banned from any football activities, jobs, and titles. The plea revealed that the club was in a terrible financial state and the president was threatened. He even talked to the team at halftime to remind the players that the club must lose in order to survive and for himself to not be harmed. The president who committed the game-fixing here is also a victim of threatening. Cases like this shows the multi-faceted issued involved in one case of corruption in sporting events. Apart from traditional corruption in sporting events, the recent development and growth of the Epsports industry has also created another avenue which must be considered for corruption. The same kind of corruption takes place with Esports; however, it is much harder to analyze data using forensics and determine if a match was fixed or not. The way in which officials analyze and determine whether a match was fixed is through betting statistics. When there is a irregular large sum of money betted on one side and the individual ends up winning, it is a good sign that there was game-fixing going on.

### **Possible Solutions:**

When a delegate looks to address the problem of corruption in sporting events, it is crucially important to keep in mind that merely implementing bodies which control and investigate different leagues is only on a basic level. It is also important to note the many victims involved in crimes like this because the person who commits the crime will also be a victim of intimidation or other forms of extortion and harassment. Delegates should also consider the effects of match-fixing and corruption in the following areas: Sporting, Societal, and Economical



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impacts. Lastly, corruption in sporting events is an international issue that requires close and efficient collaboration between nations.

One solution to consider is to implement an international organization of sports which will admit leagues all around the world. Through this organization, due diligence across nations will be done and a network of information collecting. Through the due diligence checks on each component of a sporting event, and collaboration between countries, tracks of sporting corruptions can be uncovered and investigated.

A second solution would address the identity of persons placing bets for sporting events. By increasing the background check and due diligence on people who place bets over 100,000 USD, People who register and place bets for a large sum of money will almost always have a route of information. By adding the amount of personal information required for bets over a certain amount like 100,000 USD, the forensics analysis would be conducted much easier and therefore trace to more real identities. On top of this, increase security and personal information will detour large sums of betting from one person therefore making the match-fixing process much more difficult than if this process is not employed.

Education is also an important part to a complete set of solutions to corruption in sporting events. In several cases, the players themselves have been the targets of organized crime group. These groups will use many of their methods to extort, threaten or intimidate the player. Because of the lack of experience of players in dealing with criminals, education is at the utmost importance for preventing more match-fixing. The same thing will apply to coaches of the clubs. Seminars talks and courses should be organized by the aforementioned organization on Corruption in Sporting Events as well as clubs themselves. In the status quo, no European Football club offers any instruction or educational courses on dealing with criminals approaching players or resisting extortion, intimidation and threats.

### **Questions to consider:**

1. What is your country's policy in the corruption of sporting events? Is it a topic of relevance and importance or rarely ever talked about?
2. What is some past example of match-fixing in the sporting leagues of your country?
3. What is the most popular sport and most easily fixed sport in your country's bloc (region)?
4. How will you address a situation where the criminal also happens to be a victim of organized crimes or extortion?
5. What are something procedures your country has taken to address this problem?
6. How do you go about addressing corruption in Esports?
7. What is something that is currently lacking in the due diligence process, if there is any?



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