



THE  
EUROPEAN  
LOTTERIES

FOR THE BENEFIT OF SOCIETY

## THE EUROPEAN LOTTERIES SPORT CHARTER 2012

TO THE BENEFIT AND THE FURTHER  
DEVELOPMENT OF SPORT IN EUROPE

Having regard to the important role of sport for society as recognized by the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Having regard to the European sport model structured as an open and pyramidal system based upon solidarity between professional and amateur sport and focusing upon sporting results.

Having regard to the initiatives already taken by EL Members towards international federations and sport bodies regarding the monitoring of sport betting and the setting up of educational programmes.

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Considering that the EL Members do since decades contribute in a highly substantial way to the sustainable development of grass root and amateur sport and participated thereby in developing the European sport model.

Considering that many EL Members do have a long tradition in supporting the development of sport also by organizing sport betting activities in the form of pari mutual games and later also fixed odds betting games.

That such games were organized in a way as to create attractive, low risk entertainment and to promote a more active involvement in the sport activities for reasonable punters.

That legal sport betting, including new forms of it, as operated by the EL Members, in accordance with the applicable regulatory policy does indeed on its own not create any problem and does largely contribute to the promotion of safe and healthy sport by adequate means of funding.

That this is the result of the fact that EL Members operating sport betting are united by the respect of the law and regulations ,responsible gaming, high level ethical principles, sport values and integrity.

That the contribution EL members make to the sustainable development of sport is therefore strongly conditioned by the respect of these principles and values.

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Considering that today one cannot deny that these principles and values are at threat.

That indeed, mainly through illegal Internet business, sport betting has developed into a global gambling service and sometimes even a high-risk financial product, sometimes partially controlled by organized crime, undermining the fundamental values and objectives of sport, and society as a whole.

That the future of sport, due amongst others to the growth of a complex match fixing problem at global scale, is uncertain.

That EL and its members believe that, with due respect for the principle of active subsidiarity and the applicable regulatory framework, and with due respect for the independency of sport, urgent action is required to re-establish and strengthen the role and values of sport and to protect society.

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EL and its members call upon all stakeholders, public authorities, sport bodies and (international) federations, sport participants and first of all athletes to strengthen their cooperation in order to uphold the values of sport and especially the integrity of sport.

EL and its members commit themselves to actively support sport by contributing to the adoption and implementation of measures able to protect the integrity of sport and, by this, to enhance the development of the European sport model.

EL and its Members believe that organizing sport betting according to strict, responsible and consumer friendly regulation and aiming at supporting sport while avoiding excessive commercialization is equally essential.

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Thereby EL and its Members, with due respect for the Member States and the national regulators' competence according to the principle of subsidiarity, will advocate for the implementation of well defined and properly regulated sports betting services, including pari mutual games and fixed odd betting on Elite sports and other top level competitions, the implementation of a procedure enabling the determination of conditions for authorizing live betting, and eventually the prohibition of some forms of betting such as betting exchange and spread betting.

EL and its Members commit themselves to advocate for the establishment of a European agency/observatory, founded from sport betting resources, to monitor the pattern and potential problems.



EL and its Members call upon the Member States to introduce in their legislation a legal obligation for all the sport betting operators to report suspicious bets under the circumstances to be defined by law in order to contribute to the fight against match fixing.

EL and its Members call upon the Member States to take all necessary steps and use all necessary means to guarantee the proper enforcement of laws, to inform and protect consumers.

EL and its Members are committed to follow clear rules for sport sponsoring thereby assessing the various levels of risk that sponsoring can create depending upon the specific relationship with the sport club, sportsperson or sport federation in order to avoid conflicts of interest, inside information.

EL and its Members are reiterating their commitment to enhance the structural partnership they have with the sports movement in accordance with the European sport model and to maintain the sustainable financial contribution made to the sports movement through grass root and amateur sport.

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Thereby in accordance with the principles adopted hereby, various annexes outlining in detail those commitments are attached hereto which do form an integral part of this charter.

These annexes will be updated and reviewed on a regular basis by an expert group composed of Lottery operators and representatives of the sports movement whereby a report on its implementation by the signing members will be presented to the EL executive committee and communicated to the general assembly.

EL and the Members signing up to this Charter commit themselves to take all necessary steps to implement the principles of this Charter in their various jurisdiction and, where necessary, at EU level EL and the Members signing up to this Charter call upon the EU sport bodies to endorse the principles of this Sport Charter to the benefit and the further development of sport in Europe.

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