



# Pickleball Australia Association

## **Competition Manipulation and Sports Wagering Policy**

Related policies:	National Member Protection Policy, Child Safeguarding Policy, Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine Policy, Privacy Policy, Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy
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## SUMMARY

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The manipulation of sporting competitions and related activities undermines the integrity of sport.

Manipulating sporting competitions can be a crime and punishable by law.

This Policy prescribes prohibited conduct which constitutes a breach, as well as offences which must be reported to Pickleball Association Australia Limited (Pickleball Australia).

Through this Policy, Pickleball Australia aims to ensure that its core values, good reputation and positive behaviours and attitudes are maintained.

### 1. Definitions

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In this Policy the following words have the corresponding meaning:

**Activity** means a pickleball contest, match, competition, event, or activity (including training), whether on a one-off basis or as part of a series, league, or competition, sanctioned or organised by Pickleball Australia or a Relevant Organisation.

**Benefit** means any advantage and is not limited to property.

**Contractor** means any person or organisation engaged to provide services for or on behalf of Pickleball Australia or a Relevant organisation, and includes agents, advisers, and subcontractors of Pickleball Australia or a Relevant Organisation and employees, officers, volunteers, and agents of a contractor or subcontractor.

**Inside Information** means any information connected to the conduct, management or organisation of a sporting event that is not generally available and if it were generally available, the information, would, or would be likely to, influence a person's decision to bet on the sporting event or in making any other betting decision.

**Member** means a member of Pickleball Australia or a Relevant Organisation, including:

- a) Member Organisations, which means each company or incorporated association that is a member of Pickleball Australia including each:
  - I. State, territory, and club Member; and
  - II. affiliate that is a member of a State and Territory Member.
- b) Individual Members, which means individuals who are individuals registered with a Member Organisation

**Participant** means:

- a) Athletes who are registered with or entitled to participate in a Relevant Organisation or a Pickleball Australia Activity
- b) Coaches appointed to train an Athlete or Team in a Relevant Organisation or a Pickleball Australia Activity
- c) Administrators who have a role in the administration or operation of a Relevant Organisation or Pickleball Australia, including owners, directors, committee members or other persons
- d) Officials including referees, umpires, technical officials, or other officials appointed by a Relevant Organisation, Pickleball Australia or any league, competition, series, Club or Team sanctioned by Pickleball Australia
- e) Support Personnel who are appointed in a professional or voluntary capacity by a Relevant Organisation, Pickleball Australia or any league, competition, series, Club or Team sanctioned by Pickleball Australia including sports science sports medicine personnel, team managers, agents, selectors, and team staff members.

**Policy** means this Competition Manipulation and Sport Wagering Policy.

**Prohibited Conduct** means conduct proscribed by clause 3 of this Policy.

**Relevant Organisation** means any of the following organisations:

- a) Pickleball Australia
- b) Member Organisation – see 'Member'.
- c) Sport Organisation, which means and includes:
  - I. Member Organisations - see 'Member';
  - II. Clubs, which means any club that enters a Team to participate in an Activity; and
  - III. Authorised Providers, which means any non-Member organisations authorised to conduct Activities sanctioned by Pickleball Australia or a Member Organisation;

- d) Team, which means a collection or squad of athletes who compete and/or train in pickleball and/or the Activity; and
- e) Any other organisation who has agreed to be bound by this Policy.

**Relevant Person** means any of the following persons:

- a) Individual Member – see ‘Member’;
- b) Participant;
- c) Employee;
- d) Contractor;
- e) Volunteer, which means any person engaged by Pickleball Australia or a Relevant Organisation in any capacity who is not otherwise an Employee or Contractor, including directors and office holders, coaches, officials, administrators and team and support personnel; and
- f) Any other individual who has agreed to be bound by this Policy.

**Wagering Service Provider** means any company or other undertaking that promotes, brokers, arranges or conducts any form of wagering activity in relation to Pickleball in Australia.

## 2. Jurisdiction

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This Policy applies to:

- (a) Relevant Persons; and
- (b) Relevant Organisations.

## 3. Prohibited Conduct

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### 3.1 Prohibited Conduct

A Relevant Person commits a breach of this Policy when they, either alone or in conjunction with another or others, engage in any of the following conduct:

- (a) participate (whether by act or omission) in improperly altering the result or the course of an Activity in order to remove all or part of the unpredictable nature of the Activity to obtain a Benefit for themselves or others by:
  - (i) the direct, pre-meditated or planned interference with the natural course of an Activity or element of an Activity<sup>1</sup>;
  - (ii) providing modified or false information related to an athlete’s identity or personal information;
  - (iii) intentionally modifying playing surfaces, equipment or athlete’s physiology to improperly influence the natural course of the event;<sup>2</sup> or
  - (iv) providing or receiving any Benefit that might reasonably be expected to bring the Relevant Person, Pickleball Australia, or pickleball into disrepute;
- (b) bet, or enter into any other form of financial speculation on any Activity, or on any incident or occurrence in an Activity, connected with Pickleball Australia, whether or not they are participating in the Activity. For the avoidance of doubt:
  - (i) any bets placed by a betting syndicate or group, such as a ‘punter’s club’, of which the Relevant Person is a member;

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<sup>1</sup> Examples may include, but not limited to, intentionally conceding points, pre-arranging the outcome of a competition, deliberate underperformance (also known as ‘tanking’) in any manner (through selections or not playing to a person’s merits), influencing athlete selections and strategy, or intentional unfair or incorrect officiating

<sup>2</sup> For the avoidance of doubt, this does not include any matters dealt with under other relevant policies relating to anti-doping, eligibility, gender identity or selection criteria.

- (ii) an interest in any bet, including having someone else place a bet on their behalf; or
  - (iii) allowing another person to place a bet using a Relevant Person's account,
- shall be treated as if the bet was placed by the Relevant Person as an individual;
- (c) facilitate or assist with the making of a bet on any Activity or part of any Activity including communicating in any way, such as by using a mobile phone, computer or other electronic or other device, information that might give another person an unfair advantage if they were to engage in betting related to that information, other than as required as part of their official duties;
  - (d) disclose Inside Information, other than as required as part of their official duties;
  - (e) accept a Benefit to incite, cause or contribute to any breach of this Policy;
  - (f) facilitate, assist, aid, abet, encourage, induce, cover-up or be complicit in any Prohibited Conduct;
  - (g) attempt to engage in any conduct which would be Prohibited Conduct if successful; or
  - (h) fail to promptly report to Pickleball Australia's Board Chair any of the matters listed in clause 4.1(a) and (b).

## 4. Obligations

### 4.1 Reporting

- (a) A Relevant Person must, where permitted by law, promptly notify Pickleball Australia's Board Chair if he or she:
  - (i) is interviewed as a suspect, charged, or arrested by a law enforcement body in respect of conduct that falls with the definition of Prohibited Conduct;
  - (ii) has been approached by another person to engage in Prohibited Conduct;
  - (iii) knows or reasonably suspects that another person has engaged in Prohibited Conduct, or has been approached to engage in Prohibited Conduct; or
  - (iv) has received or is aware or reasonably suspects that another person has received, actual or implied threats of any nature in relation to any past or proposed Prohibited Conduct.
- (b) A Relevant Person has a continuing obligation to report any new knowledge or suspicion regarding any Prohibited Conduct under this Policy, even if the Relevant Person's prior knowledge or suspicion has already been reported.
- (c) Notification by a Relevant Person under this clause 4.1 may be made verbally or in writing by the Relevant Person and may be made anonymously if there is a genuine concern of reprisal. A Relevant Person who makes a report anonymously is responsible for keeping a record that will allow them to confirm that they have met their obligations under clause 4.1(a).
- (d) Pickleball Australia and Relevant Persons should be aware of relevant Commonwealth, State and Territory legal requirements to report criminal activity in relation to the manipulation of sporting competitions (match-fixing) and Inside Information.

### 4.2 Information sharing

- (a) Pickleball Australia and Sport Integrity Australia may share information (including Personal Information as defined in the *Privacy Act 1998* (Cth)) at any time relating to Relevant Persons or Relevant Organisations with Wagering Service Providers, law enforcement agencies, government agencies or other sporting organisations to prevent, identify and investigate alleged Prohibited Conduct.
- (b) Pickleball Australia may share the following information with Sport Integrity Australia:
  - (i) Any notification received from a Relevant Person under clause 4.1; and

- (ii) Any information received from Wagering Service Providers under clause 4.3.
- (c) In sharing information, Pickleball Australia will remain bound by the legal obligations contained in the *Privacy Act 1998* (Cth) and Pickleball Australia's Privacy Policy.

#### 4.3 Monitoring by Wagering Service Providers

- (a) Relevant Persons must disclose information to Pickleball Australia regarding all of their commercial agreements, interests, and connections with Wagering Service Providers. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not include the disclosure of accounts that Relevant Persons may hold with Wagering Service Providers.
- (b) All requests for information or provision of information by Pickleball Australia or a Wagering Service Provider shall be kept strictly confidential and shall not be divulged to any third party or otherwise made use of, except where required by law or by this Policy, is permitted by Pickleball Australia or Wagering Service Provider, or where information is already in the public domain other than because of a breach of this Policy.

#### 4.4 Sponsorship within pickleball

- (a) Pickleball Australia may enter into a commercial arrangement with a Wagering Service Provider from time to time, subject to any applicable legislative requirements.
- (b) A Relevant Organisation may enter into a commercial arrangement with a Wagering Service Provider with the written consent of Pickleball Australia. Such consent may be withheld at the discretion of Pickleball Australia where the proposed commercial arrangement:
  - (i) conflicts with an existing commercial arrangement made between Pickleball Australia and a Wagering Service Provider(s); and/or
  - (ii) is with a Wagering Service Provider with whom Pickleball Australia has not entered into an integrity agreement as required under any applicable state/territory Wagering legislation.
- (c) Subject to clause 4.4(b), a Relevant Person or Relevant Organisation must not:
  - (i) enter into any form of commercial arrangement with a Wagering Service Provider;
  - (ii) induce, advertise or promote betting on an Activity, without the prior permission of Pickleball Australia; or
  - (iii) promote or endorse a Wagering Service Provider.

### 5. Complaints, Disputes & Discipline Policy

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The Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy applies to any alleged Prohibited Conduct, including reports of breaches of this Policy.

### 6. National Integrity Framework

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This policy has been endorsed by the Pickleball Australia Board and has been drafted for easy transition to Sport Integrity Australia's National Integrity Framework in the event Pickleball Australia receives National Sporting Organisation recognition.