



GoodSport NEWS

S R I L A N K A O L Y M P I C W E E K L Y N E W S B U L L E T I N

STITCH IN TIME SAVES NINE

**INTEGRITY IN SPORT:
TACKLING MANIPULATION OF COMPETITION**

Global sport is an ever growing and changing entity. For the past almost 125 years, it has grown from an ordinary contest of wits, skills and power, to a multimillion industry where the mere human being had been evolved to almost a mechanical thing; where the impossible had been transformed into possible.

Just for instance think, a hundred years ago, would anyone had dreamed that the world would create a human being in the calibre of Usain Bolt or for that matter, Serena Williams?

“We have developed NOC Sri Lanka’s Code of prevention of manipulations of competitions and it took effect from January 1, 2022.”

The only way that we could have convinced ourselves that they belonged to our category of people is because they too aged with time and their threshold of gold grew old.

When the intensity of competition becomes more and more incomprehensible, there is also a category of wannabes who would try the backdoor method.

This is where avenues other than skill are used as tools to achieve excellence.

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Yet, when their cover is blown and when the authorities uncovered that it was only a callous artificial achievement, they are brought to light and dealt in appropriate manners.

This is where Integrity of sport: Tackling the Manipulation of Competition also become a necessary tool in this masquerade.

The International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) are currently implementing a Global Capacity Building and Training Programme to assist countries and sports organisations to address the challenge posed by competition manipulation.

In order to prevent the manipulation of sports competitions, INTERPOL and the IOC organised an online

Under the Integrity in Sport Capacity Building and Training Programme are the;

- INTERPOL
- IOC backed National Olympic Committees,
- International and National Sports Federations,
- Law-enforcement agencies,



In yesteryear time and again, even in Sri Lanka, a people have resorted to devious methods of making the grade but, the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka has embarked on a mission with the International Olympic Committee and the Interpol, to curb such manipulation and the task baton has been passed on to NOC SL's probing mind Gobinath Sivarajah, to run the extra mile and make an impact.

Integrity in Sport Virtual Workshop for participants from Sri Lanka.

The workshop provided the forum to exchange knowledge on how to tackle the problem of the manipulation of sports competitions, in particular through fostering cooperation between key stakeholders including sports organizations, law enforcement agencies, criminal justice and anti-corruption authorities, governmental authorities and other stakeholders.

- Criminal justice authorities,
- Government entities
- Betting regulators and operators in preventing and addressing competition manipulation and related corruption.

This tailored workshop is organized as a follow-up to the regional INTERPOL – IOC Integrity in Sports Webinar for countries in the Indian Sub-continent, organized in 2021.

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The subjects at this webinar included:

- Understand Competition Manipulation, its typologies and criminal involvement
- The importance of specific legislation and regulation, and present model provisions
- Understand the importance of national cooperation in a national platform and discuss existing models and examples

Participants in the workshop include national officials representing:

- Law enforcement and criminal justice authorities in charge of competition manipulation, organised crime, financial crime, financial intelligence unit;
- National Olympic Committee and national sports federation representatives;
- National Anti-Corruption Units;
- Law enforcement representatives in charge of sports matters;

“Twenty-three National Sports Federations which directly come within the purview of NOC SL have already adopted the policy. Also, as per the IOC’s guidelines we have appointed ‘Believe in Sports ambassadors’ to create an awareness. Further to this workshop we are hoping to conduct another two workshops within this month in collaboration with the above partners.

“We are very happy to hear from the IOC that so far only a few countries have implemented this scheme as we are proud that we are a pioneering country in this effort.



(L-R): Gobinath Sivarajah - Single point of contact for the program, Mr Dieter Braekeveld - Integrity in Sports Training Officer, INTERPOL, Mr Evangelos Alexandrakis- NOC Contact Manager- IOC

- Work in an international context with INTERPOL, IOC and Regional Stakeholders.

“ Our next step is to move with strength and guidance provided by the INTERPOL and the IOC to make this country a place to be proud of ”

- Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior and relevant Government Department(s);
- Gambling and Gaming Regulatory Authority.

Elaborating further on the Lankan aspect of this challenge Mr. Sivarajah said “As a single point of contact for Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions in Sri Lanka we have developed NOC Sri Lanka’s Code of prevention of manipulations of competitions and it took effect from January 1, 2022.

“Our next step is to move with strength and guidance provided by the INTERPOL and the IOC to make this country a place to be proud of.”

Along with Mr. Gobinath Sivarajah, Mr. Suresh Subramaniam – President, NOC SL, Mr. Maxwell De Silva – Secretary General, NOC SL, Mr Dieter Braekeveld - Integrity in Sports Training Officer, INTERPOL, Mr Evangelos Alexandrakis- NOC Contact Manager, IOC, SSP Jagath Fonseka - Sports Investigation Unit, Sri Lanka, Mr. Abdul Gaffar - Sports Investigation Unit, Sri Lanka, participated in the webinar.

UPSTOX MOST VALUABLE TEAM OF THE ICC MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP 2022 ANNOUNCED

Players from six different teams have been named in the Upstox Most Valuable Team of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022.

Stars from champions England, runners-up Pakistan, semi-finalists India and New Zealand as well as Zimbabwe and South Africa all feature in the glittering line up.

Captain, wicketkeeper and opening batter Jos Buttler, fellow opener Alex Hales and seamer Sam Curran all make the cut for England after helping steer their side to a second ICC Men's T20 World Cup title.

There are also spots for New Zealand star Glenn Phillips, India talisman Virat Kohli – the tournament's leading run-scorer – Pakistan left-armer Shaheen Shah Afridi and Zimbabwe's Sikandar Raza in the line-up.

The side was pulled together by a selection panel featuring commentators, former international players and journalists;

- Ian Bishop (Convener),
- Mel Jones (both commentators), Shivnarine Chanderpaul (ICC Hall of Fame),
- Partha Bhaduri (Journalist, The Times of India),
- Wasim Khan (ICC General Manager of Cricket).

Hales was featuring in his first ICC Men's T20 World Cup since 2016 but rediscovered his fluency on the big stage with an impressive set of performances.

And further innings of 52 and 47 against New Zealand and Sri Lanka in crucial Super 12s matches proved equally significant to help England on their way to becoming the first country to hold both the ICC Men's World Cup and ICC Men's T20 World Cup titles at the same time.

England skipper Buttler was in similarly blistering form throughout the competition, scoring 13 runs more than his opening partner at an average of 45.00. He led from the front with that fine innings against India in the last four, while a further knock of 73 off 47 balls against New Zealand helped cap a potent opening partnership that consistently laid the foundations for the eventual champions. Batting at No.3 is Indian superstar Kohli, who ended as the tournament's highest run-scorer after scoring 296 runs at a stunning average of 98.66.

Kohli kickstarted his campaign with a pivotal 82 not out against rivals Pakistan to anchor his side to a heart-thumping final-ball four-wicket victory. And further knocks of 64 not out against Bangladesh, 62 not out against the Netherlands and 50 against England in the semi-finals helped round off an individual competition to savour for one of the greatest white-ball batters of the modern era.

The graphic features the Upstox logo at the top left and the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022 logo at the top right. The central text reads 'MOST VALUABLE TEAM OF THE TOURNAMENT'. Below this, 12 players are listed in two columns, each with their number, national flag, name, and country. A photograph of Jos Buttler in a red England jersey is positioned on the right side of the list.

Rank	Player	Country
1.	Alex Hales	ENGLAND
2.	Jos Buttler	ENGLAND
3.	Virat Kohli	INDIA
4.	Suryakumar Yadav	INDIA
5.	Glenn Phillips	NEW ZEALAND
6.	Sikandar Raza	ZIMBABWE
7.	Shadab Khan	PAKISTAN
8.	Sam Curran	ENGLAND
9.	Anrich Nortje	SOUTH AFRICA
10.	Mark Wood	ENGLAND
11.	Shaheen Shah Afridi	PAKISTAN
12.	Hardik Pandya	INDIA

The Upstox Most Valuable Team of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022
(in batting order)

The power-packed opener racked up a haul of 212 runs at a healthy average of 42.40 to help propel his team to victory in Sunday's final in Melbourne. Hales struck a brilliant 86 not out to fire England to a memorable 10-wicket victory against India in the semi-finals, with Buttler also hitting a similarly eye-catching 80 not out as his side chased down an imposing target of 169 with ease.

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Fellow Indian Yadav slots in at No.4 after finishing as the tournament's third-most prolific batter with 239 runs overall. Three half centuries against the Netherlands – 51 not out in Sydney – South Africa – 68 in Perth – and Zimbabwe – 61 not out off just 25 balls in Melbourne – helped haul his side into the semi-finals as he scored at a staggering strike rate of 189.68 throughout his six innings.

New Zealand star Phillips and Zimbabwe ace Raza occupy the No.5 and 6 positions, with Phillips' stunning century – one of just two in the tournament alongside South Africa's Rilee Rossouw – against Sri Lanka catapulting his team to a comfortable 65-run victory in Sydney. Another innings of 62 against England helped him reach a total of 201 runs at an average of 40.20, while for Raza, 219 runs and 10 wickets proved pivotal assets for Zimbabwe with both bat and ball. He scored a polished 82 off his 48 balls in his country's opening game against Ireland in Hobart, before further batting contributions against Scotland, Netherlands and India – bolstered by a brilliant three for 25 as Zimbabwe stunned Pakistan in Perth – rounded off a tournament to remember.

Completing the middle order is Pakistan all-rounder Shadab, who grabbed an impressive 11 wickets at an average of just 15.00.

The skilful leg-spinner bagged three-wicket hauls against Zimbabwe and the Netherlands, while a further four combined wickets against South Africa and Bangladesh saw him emerge as one of the tournament's most influential slow bowlers. And he was similarly impressive with the bat, striking a solid 92 runs at an average of 24.50 to help fire his side to the final in Melbourne.

Curran and Nortje line up at No.8 and 9, with England ace Curran being crowned Player of the Tournament after a series of spellbinding bowling displays.

The left-arm seamer claimed remarkable figures of 3 for 12 off his four overs in the final after getting his tournament underway with a similarly scintillating five for 10 against Afghanistan. And further two-wicket displays against Ireland and New Zealand helped him grab a haul of 13 wickets at an average of 11.38 as England claimed the title in style.

Another bowler who starred was pace ace Nortje, who functioned as a vital weapon in South Africa's armoury after finishing with a tournament-best average of just 8.54.

Nortje conceded just 94 runs while in the process of taking his 11 wickets as four scalps against both Bangladesh and Pakistan helped him become one of the competition's most fearsome bowlers.

Rounding off the side at No.10 and 11 are fellow pace bowlers Wood and Afridi, who took nine and 11 wickets respectively for England and Pakistan.

Despite being ruled out of the semi-finals and final through injury, Wood's consistency throughout the Super 12s – spearheaded by three wickets against Afghanistan and Ireland – saw him finish the tournament with an average of just 12.00. And for Afridi, who also suffered an unfortunate injury in Sunday's Final, his figures of four for 22 against Bangladesh and three for 14 against South Africa helped him emulate his new-ball heroics in last year's tournament as Pakistan were narrowly denied in Melbourne.

Taking his place as 12th man is Indian all-rounder Pandya, who starred with both bat and ball by racking up 128 runs and eight wickets.

The dangerous middle-order ace blasted 63 against England in the semi-finals after also taking key wickets against Pakistan, Bangladesh and Zimbabwe throughout the Super 12s.

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MEET OLYMPIC PHRYGE AND PARALYMPIC PHRYGE: THE STORY OF THE PARIS 2024 MASCOTS



With just over 600 days to go until the opening of the next Olympic and Paralympic Games, the official mascots of Paris 2024 have been revealed. Olympics.com brings you inside the world of the Olympic and Paralympic Phryges.

Ever since Shuss, a red, white and blue mascot on skis, appeared at the Olympic Winter Games Grenoble 1968, mascots have been fun and festive ambassadors of the Olympic Movement.

Now it's time to meet the Phryges, the mascots for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, who have been tasked with an important mission: to show the world that sport can change everything and that it deserves to play a major role in society.

The mascots were unveiled in a press conference in Paris at 11.30 am CET by Paris 2024 president Tony Estanguet, Beijing 2008 wheelchair tennis men's doubles champion Michael Jeremiasz and Gwladys Epangue, a bronze medallist in taekwondo from Beijing 2008.

"We chose an ideal rather than an animal," Estanguet said when the mascots were revealed. "We chose the Phrygian cap because it's a very strong symbol for the French Republic. For French people, it's a very well-known object that is a symbol of freedom, an object that will represent mascots all across the world. The fact that the Paralympics mascot has a visible disability also sends a strong message: to promote inclusion."

Who are the Phryges?

Phryges (pronounced fri-jee-uhs) are small Phrygian caps, which represent a strong symbol of liberty, inclusivity and the ability of people to support great and meaningful causes. They are kitted out in a red, white and blue colourway, with the golden Paris 2024 logo emblazoned across their chests. They also have a mischievous and expressive eye made of a 'cockade of France', a knot of ribbons that is the French national ornament.

While Phryges are part of a large family, the main heroes of Paris 2024 will be Olympic Phryge and Paralympic Phryge. Over the next two years, both of them will play a key role in promoting the upcoming Games, before welcoming the athletes to Paris 2024.

"They are the two main characters in a large tribe, they're part of the family of Phryges," explained Paris 2024 Brand Director Julie Matikhine. "According to our narrative, they have existed for thousands of years and were present during several key events in French history.

"Now they have returned for this big event in France to lead a mission of revolution through sport. The aim is to show that sport can change everything in society. The objective is to show that sport and its values can do great things. It's about fraternity, solidarity and it helps society grow."

ELITE ATHLETE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH MONITORING MECHANISM INTRODUCED

An Awareness program was organised by the Medical Committee of the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka for the benefit of the National Sports Federations, under the directive of Dr. Eshan Jayaweera, Chairperson - Medical Committee NOC SL. The core objective was to bring science into sports which will help to reduce injuries and win medals.

“This program gave us a good opportunity to introduce the current doctors who are serving in the medical committee and to bring to light the future plans of this committee”, Dr. Jayaweera commented to GoodSport.

“Currently, we have Prof. Aranjan Karunanayake, Dr. Chathuranga Ranasinghe, Dr. Asela Ratnayake, Dr. Fariz Ahmed, Dr. Kithsiri Perera, Dr. Upul Madahapola, Dr. Ranga Hettige, Dr. Susantha Paris and Dr Himan De Silva providing their valuable services to NOC SL Medical committee, alongside myself.”

“There have been many occasions where athletes that have been selected to represent the country for an international event, were unable to perform due to sudden injury. They were fit and good to go before departure but could not perform on the day. This resulted in depriving another athlete’s opportunity to participate and more importantly a loss of a medal for the country.

“There are 33 sports federations under the NOC SL and the NOC is directly responsible for the athletes who go on to represent the country for a particular international event. Up to date, there has not been a direct mechanism whereby the NOC is able to monitor the physical and mental state of the athletes representing the country at international events. Therefore, as requested by President of the NOC SL, Mr Suresh Subramaniam and Secretary General, Mr. Maxwell De Silva, a mechanism was introduced which requires athletes to have mandatory medical clearance prior to participating in important international sporting events.

Accordingly, the following is set to be adopted:

1. Sports federations will have to inform the potential athletes targeting International events to register with any sports medicine unit most conveniently located to them.



Dr. Eshan Jayaweera - Chairperson, Medical Committee of NOC SL

Currently the Sports and Exercise medicine units are at the National Hospital of Sri Lanka, South Colombo Teaching Hospital, Lady Ridgeway Hospital, National Hospital Kandy, Teaching Hospital Karapitiya and at Teaching Hospital Kurunegala.

2. At the respective Sports medicine unit, a comprehensive athlete profiling and periodic evaluation will be done. The NOC medical board has designed a comprehensive athlete profiling and periodic assessment form to meet international standards.

3. Six weeks prior to the event the athlete should be certified medically fit by the NOC SL medical board in order to take part in the event.

“This medical clearance is only for a pre-scheduled particular event and is not a blanket cover for any event. This mechanism will be introduced starting with the upcoming Asian Games 2023.”, said Mr. Jayaweera.

