

EP SM

EVIDENCE-BASED PREVENTION OF SPORTING-RELATED MATCH-FIXING

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



RESULTS UNITED KINGDOM

Coordinator



**GHENT
UNIVERSITY**

Project partner



**Loughborough
University**



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1 INTRODUCTION

Did you know that match-fixing is not always about betting on results or events in or during the match? Also for other reasons matches are 'fixed' and results are affected. It may cross paths of every athlete, coaches, board member or referees in competitive sport, on both the amateur and elite level. This phenomenon is called non-betting-related match-fixing or 'sporting-related match-fixing' and does not have to be related to betting.

EPOSM

Sporting-related match-fixing is subject of study in the EPOSM project and collaborative partnership. EPOSM stands for Evidence-based Prevention Of Sporting-related Match-fixing, and is a partnership between academic and non-academic parties. The EPOSM project is co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union and studies sporting-related match-fixing in different sport disciplines across Europe.

EPOSM conducts applied academic research in collaboration with many national sport organizations and governmental bodies in the following seven countries: Austria, Belgium, Croatia, France, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. The project has started in 2020 and takes until 2022. EPOSM stands for "raising knowledge, awareness and moral judgment about sporting-related match-fixing among people involved in sport, by using an evidence-based approach that can inspire others." The project aims to:

- Raise awareness about the prevalence of sporting-related match-fixing;
- Stimulate moral judgment regarding the fact that sporting-related match-fixing is wrong, as it threatens the credibility and attractiveness of sport;
- Share and transfer knowledge on sporting-related match-fixing through the organization of a training procedure.

Partners

The project is coordinated by Ghent University, and Loughborough University is one of the academic partners. Loughborough University was responsible for the data collection and knowledge dissemination in the United Kingdom. Other project partners include Utrecht University, the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS), Play Fair Code, Croatian Olympic Committee, Lausanne University, Panathlon International, International Centre Ethics in Sport (ICES), and Counter Sport Corruption Foundation for Sport Integrity (CSCF). The Council of Europe is an associated partner organization of the EPOSM project.

EPOSM study in the United Kingdom

In the United Kingdom, the project focuses on football, tennis, and cricket. In 2020 an online survey was conducted among respondents in these three sport disciplines. Dr Argyro Elisavet Manoli who led the research in the United Kingdom is a renown expert on the area of sport corruption and match-fixing, with her work on the topic being published and presented in numerous academic publications and international conferences world-wide.

Survey results and next steps

This document shows the first results of the survey among actors involved in football, tennis, and cricket in the United Kingdom. On the basis of these results, Loughborough University will develop concrete action plans for these three sport disciplines. The action plans will serve as roadmaps toward raising knowledge, awareness and moral judgement on sporting-related match-fixing in the



United Kingdom and will be implemented during several workshops with relevant actors in British football, tennis, and cricket.

2 DATA COLLECTION METHOD

Data were collected within the United Kingdom in the period of March – August 2020. Local and national football, tennis and cricket clubs and governing bodies were contacted in order for the study to be presented to them and for their collaboration to be requested. Following their approval, the questionnaire was disseminated to their members (athletes, coaches, referees, etc) through each organisation's own channels (social media and newsletters).

The particular sports were selected based on the following rationale. First, because they represent three of the most popular sports within the country and second, since there have been incidents of alleged match-fixing in all three sports in the past years.

Local and national football, tennis and cricket clubs and governing bodies were contacted in order for the study to be presented to them and for their collaboration to be requested. These clubs and governing bodies acted as the gatekeepers for the participants of this study. Following their approval, the questionnaire was disseminated to their members (athletes, coaches, referees, etc) through each organisation's own channels (social media and newsletters).

A number of reminders were sent to the sport organisations which agreed to disseminate the questionnaire through their channels in order to promote the questionnaire. Once the questionnaire was promoted through their channels no additional reminders were sent.

In total, 1321 people started the survey and 1269 of them fully completed the questionnaire (response rate = 96,1%). We decided to retain the partially completed questionnaires that were completed for 37,5% or more, as questionnaires with less answers had no substantial value. Subsequently, we checked the main sport disciplines of the respondents. When there was a missing value for the question examining the main sport discipline, the respondent was removed from the sample, since the main sport discipline is vital information. Lastly, we checked the age of the respondents. All respondents under the age of 18 were removed from the sample, conform institutional ethics standards. A final sample of 1278 respondents was obtained.

3 DATA ANALYSIS

Data analysis was performed with SPSS 24 software. Descriptive statistics were used to describe the respondents' characteristics (section 4), the prevalence of match-fixing (section 6), the reporting of match-fixing suspicions and experiences (section 7), and the preventive measures against match-fixing in sport clubs (section 8). Additionally, one-way multivariate analyses of variance (MANOVAs, followed by univariate analyses) were used to examine the differences between the three sport disciplines (football, tennis, and cricket) regarding several statements about match-fixing (section 5). Moreover, the number of match-fixing cases per sport discipline in the total sample of the project (sample of all seven countries together) was added to section 6.2.1, to compare the British prevalence figures of the three sport disciplines with the figures of the total sample.



4 RESPONDENTS' CHARACTERISTICS

Table 1: Overview of the respondents' characteristics (n = 1278)

	Total (n = 1278)	Football (n = 1039)	Tennis (n = 113)	Cricket (n = 126)
Language				
English	100%	100%	100%	100%
Gender				
Man	94,2%	96,1%	73,5%	97,6%
Woman	5,7%	3,8%	26,5%	2,4%
Other	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%
I prefer not to say	0,1%	0,1%	0,0%	0,0%
Age: M (SD)*	47,1 (13,8)	46,3 (13,5)	46,2 (13,8)	54,5 (14,3)
How long have you been involved in this sport (in years)? M (SD)*	23,4 (16,8)	23,3 (16,6)	19,2 (15,4)	28,4 (18,3)
How are (were) you mainly related to this sport?				
Athlete	57,0%	56,1%	61,1%	61,1%
Coach / Trainer / Assistant coach	8,8%	9,6%	7,1%	4,0%
Medical staff	2,6%	2,6%	3,5%	1,6%
Referee / (Video) Assistant Referee / (Fourth) official / Jury member	4,1%	4,4%	3,5%	2,4%
Board member / Assembly member / Manager of a sport club	5,6%	5,7%	6,2%	4,8%
Other	17,9%	18,1%	14,2%	19,8%
At what level are (were) you mainly involved?				
Professional	7,5%	8,3%	6,2%	2,4%
Semi-professional	9,5%	8,9%	18,6%	7,1%
Amateur	82,9%	82,9%	75,2%	90,5%
At what playing level are (were) you mainly involved?				
International	4,4%	4,9%	2,7%	1,6%
National	6,2%	6,4%	8,8%	2,4%
County	13,8%	14,5%	13,3%	8,7%
Leisure activity / Recreational	75,6%	74,2%	75,2%	87,3%

*M = mean, SD = standard deviation



5 STATEMENTS

Respondents were asked to answer a number of statements about match-fixing on a seven-point Likert scale, whereby “1” means “strongly disagree,” and “7” means “strongly agree.”

Table 2: Match-fixing: its seriousness, and risks (n = 1278)

	“Match-fixing is a real problem in my sport discipline in the United Kingdom.”	“I could be approached myself to fix a match (regardless of whether or not you would agree to it).”
Sport discipline	(M ± SD)	(M ± SD)
Football (n = 1039)	3,5 ± 1,7	2,4 ± 1,7
Tennis (n = 113)	3,5 ± 1,7	2,7 ± 1,7
Cricket (n = 126)	3,4 ± 1,7	2,0 ± 1,6

M = mean, SD = standard deviation

A significant difference is noticed between the three sport disciplines regarding the statements (a) “Match-fixing is a real problem in my sport discipline in the United Kingdom,” and (b) “I could be approached myself to fix a match. (regardless of whether or not you would agree to it)” (one-way MANOVA: Wilks’ $\lambda = .989$, $F(4, 2548) = 3.371$, $p < .01$, $\eta_p^2 = .005$). As shown in the first column of Table 2, no significant difference is noticed between the sport disciplines regarding the belief that their sport is compromised by match-fixing (univariate effect: $F(2, 1275) = .098$, $p > .10$, $\eta_p^2 = .000$). As shown in the second column of Table 2, a significant difference is noticed between the sport disciplines regarding the estimation of whether they could be approached themselves for a match-fixing proposal (univariate effect: $F(2, 1275) = 6.468$, $p < .01$, $\eta_p^2 = .010$). The people involved in cricket assess the risk of match-fixing in their sport lower than do the actors in football (Tukey’s honestly significant difference test [Tukey’s HSD] $p < .05$) and tennis (Tukey’s HSD $p = .001$). Additionally, no significant difference was found between the people involved in football and tennis (Tukey’s HSD $p > .10$) when it comes to the estimation of whether or not they could be approached themselves for a match-fixing proposal.

Table 3: Uncomfortable feelings about others who have been involved in match-fixing (n = 1278)

	“I feel somewhat uncomfortable when I hear that someone in my sporting environment has been involved in sporting-related match-fixing . (e.g. to avoid relegation of his / her team)”	“I feel somewhat uncomfortable when I hear that someone in my sporting environment has been involved in betting-related match-fixing .”
Sport discipline	(M ± SD)	(M ± SD)
Football (n = 1039)	5,0 ± 1,8	5,2 ± 1,7
Tennis (n = 113)	5,0 ± 1,8	5,4 ± 1,6
Cricket (n = 126)	5,0 ± 1,9	5,3 ± 1,7

M = mean, SD = standard deviation

No significant difference is noticed between the three sport disciplines regarding the statements (a) “I feel somewhat uncomfortable when I hear that someone in my sporting environment has been involved in sporting-related match-fixing. (e.g. to avoid relegation of his / her team),” and (b) “I feel



somewhat uncomfortable when I hear that someone in my sporting environment has been involved in betting-related match-fixing” (one-way MANOVA: Wilks’ $\lambda = .998$, $F(4, 2548) = .784$, $p > .10$, $\eta_p^2 = .001$). As shown in the first column of Table 3, no significant difference is noticed between the sport disciplines regarding uncomfortable feelings when hearing about others that have been involved in sporting-related match-fixing (univariate effect: $F(2, 1275) = .043$, $p > .10$, $\eta_p^2 = .000$). As shown in the second column of Table 3, no significant difference is noticed between the sport disciplines regarding uncomfortable feelings when hearing about others that have been involved in betting-related match-fixing (univariate effect: $F(2, 1275) = .799$, $p > .10$, $\eta_p^2 = .001$).

Table 4: Uncomfortable feelings about others who have not been punished for match-fixing (n = 1278)

	“I feel somewhat uncomfortable when I hear that someone has not been punished for engaging in sporting-related match-fixing. ”	“I feel somewhat uncomfortable when I hear that someone has not been punished for engaging in betting-related match-fixing. ”
Sport discipline	(M \pm SD)	(M \pm SD)
Football (n = 1039)	4,9 \pm 1,8	5,0 \pm 1,8
Tennis (n = 113)	4,9 \pm 1,8	5,0 \pm 1,8
Cricket (n = 126)	4,7 \pm 2,0	5,0 \pm 1,9

M = mean, SD = standard deviation

No significant difference is noticed between the three sport disciplines regarding the statements (a) “I feel somewhat uncomfortable when I hear that someone has not been punished for engaging in sporting-related match-fixing,” and (b) “I feel somewhat uncomfortable when I hear that someone has not been punished for engaging in betting-related match-fixing” (one-way MANOVA: Wilks’ $\lambda = .997$, $F(4, 2548) = .884$, $p > .10$, $\eta_p^2 = .001$). As shown in the first column of Table 4, no significant difference is noticed between the sport disciplines regarding uncomfortable feelings when hearing about others who have not been punished for engaging in sporting-related match-fixing (univariate effect: $F(2, 1275) = 1.354$, $p > .10$, $\eta_p^2 = .002$). As shown in the second column of Table 4, no significant difference is noticed between the sport disciplines regarding uncomfortable feelings when hearing about others who have not been punished for engaging in betting-related match-fixing (univariate effect: $F(2, 1275) = .062$, $p > .10$, $\eta_p^2 = .000$).

Table 5: Acceptability of match-fixing (n = 1278)

	“Participating in match-fixing to avoid relegation of my team, is acceptable.”	“Participating in match-fixing to make money through betting , is acceptable.”
Sport discipline	(M \pm SD)	(M \pm SD)
Football (n = 1039)	2,4 \pm 1,8	2,3 \pm 1,8
Tennis (n = 113)	2,6 \pm 1,7	2,5 \pm 1,8
Cricket (n = 126)	2,0 \pm 1,6	2,0 \pm 1,6

M = mean, SD = standard deviation

A trend towards a significant difference is noticed between the three sport disciplines regarding the statements (a) “Participating in match-fixing to avoid relegation of my team, is acceptable,” and (b) “Participating in match-fixing to make money through betting, is acceptable” (one-way MANOVA: Wilks’ $\lambda = .993$, $F(4, 2548) = 2.350$, $.10 > p > .05$, $\eta_p^2 = .004$). As shown in the first column of Table 5, a significant difference is noticed between the sport disciplines regarding the acceptability of match-



fixing to avoid relegation of his / her team (univariate effect: $F(2, 1275) = 4.669, p = .01, \eta_p^2 = .007$).

The people involved in cricket perceive match-fixing to avoid relegation of his / her team as less acceptable than do the actors in football (Tukey's HSD $p < .05$) and tennis (Tukey's HSD $p < .01$). As shown in the second column of Table 5, a significant difference is noticed between the sport disciplines regarding the acceptability of match-fixing to make money through the betting market (univariate effect: $F(2, 1275) = 3.135, p < .05, \eta_p^2 = .005$). The people involved in cricket perceive match-fixing to make money through betting as less acceptable, compared to the people involved in tennis (Tukey's HSD $p < .05$). Furthermore, there is a trend towards a significant difference between the people involved in cricket and football (Tukey's HSD $.10 > p > .05$). More specifically, the people involved in cricket perceive match-fixing to make money through betting as less acceptable than those involved in football.

To end the statements section, respondents were asked to answer two statements about gambling and betting. **The statements in Table 6 give an indication about the respondents' gambling and betting experiences. BUT are not related to the prevalence of match-fixing!**

Table 6: Two statements about gambling and betting (n = 1278)

Sport discipline	"I gambled during the past year."		"I have already bet on a match in which I was personally involved."	
	True	False	True	False
Football (n = 1039)	61,1%	38,9%	15,8%	84,2%
Tennis (n = 113)	46,9%	53,1%	21,2%	78,8%
Cricket (n = 126)	35,7%	64,3%	5,6%	94,4%



6 PREVALENCE OF MATCH-FIXING

6.1 Do you personally know anyone who has been approached to fix a game/match?

Respondents were asked whether they personally knew anyone who has been approached to fix a game / match. As shown in Table 7, **150 respondents** indicated that they personally knew one or more persons who had been approached to fix a game / match.

Table 7: Respondents who personally knew someone who had been approached for match-fixing (n = 1278)

	“Do you personally know anyone who has been approached to fix a game / match?”
Yes, I know one person	98
Yes, I know two persons	37
Yes, I know three or more persons	15
No	1128

When they thought of the approached person they knew best, they indicated that:

Figure 1: Gender of the approached person they knew best (n = 150)

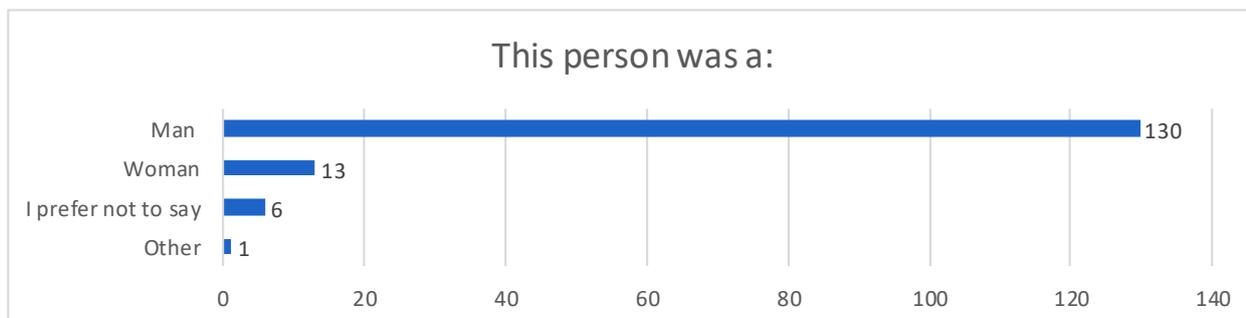


Figure 2: Sport discipline of the approached person they knew best (n = 150)

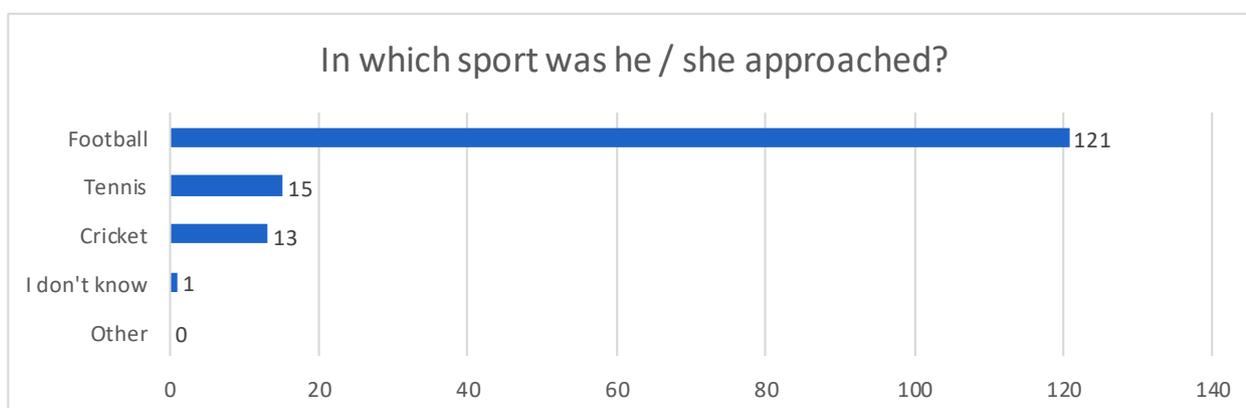




Figure 3: Way of involvement of the approached person they knew best (n = 149)

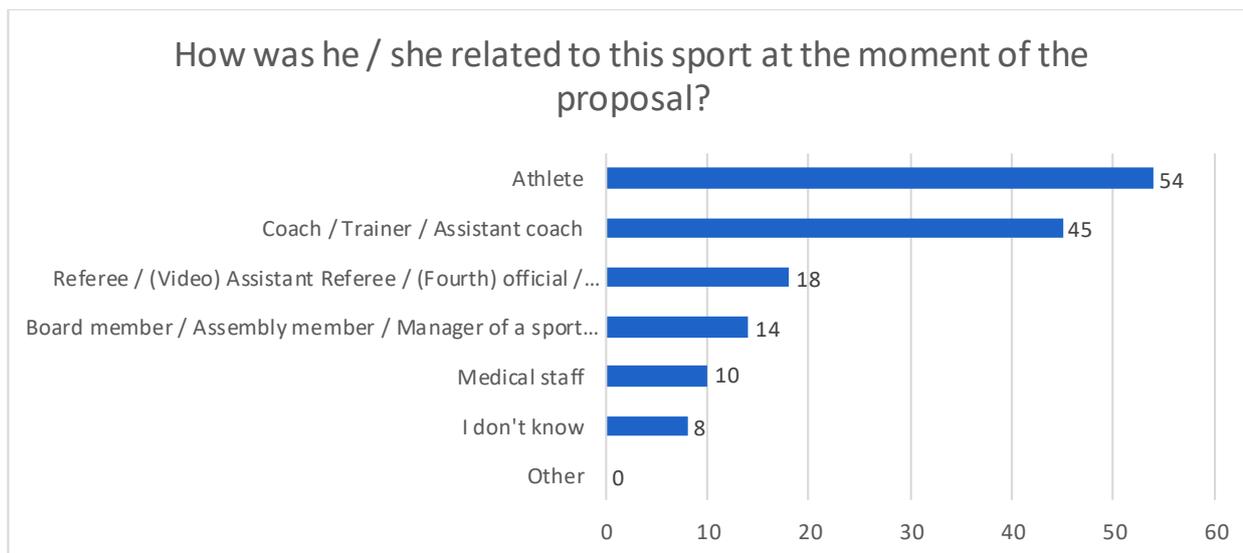
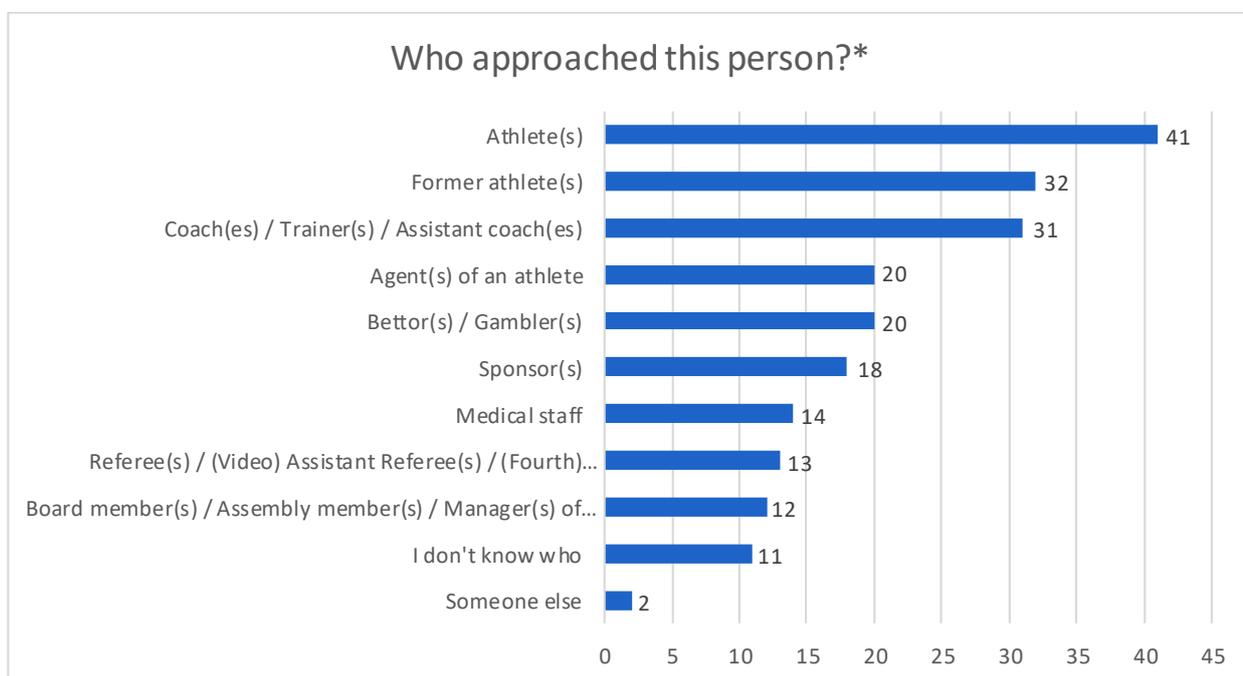


Figure 4: The people who approached the person they knew best (n = 150)



*The sum of the figures exceeds 150, because multiple answers were possible to the question.



6.2 Have you yourself ever been approached to fix a game/match?

6.2.1 Match-fixing cases in general

Respondents were asked whether they had already been approached personally for a match-fixing proposal. Table 8 depicts an overview of the number of match-fixing cases, reported by the respondents in the questionnaire.

Table 8: Cases of having been approached themselves in the British sample (n = 1278)

Sport discipline	“Have you yourself ever been approached to fix a game / match?”	
	No	Yes
Football (n = 1039)	964	75 (7,2%)
Tennis (n = 113)	105	8 (7,1%)
Cricket (n = 126)	123	3 (2,4%)

To get a better understanding of the abovementioned figures, we can compare the British figures with the number of match-fixing cases per sport discipline in the total sample (see Table 9).

Table 9: Match-fixing cases per sport discipline in the total sample (n = 3815)

Sport discipline	“Have you yourself ever been approached to fix a game / match?”	
	Yes	
Football (n = 2944)	278 (9,4%)	
Tennis (n = 745)	64 (8,6%)	
Cricket* (n = 126)		

*Cricket was only studied in the United Kingdom. Consequently, the British cricket sample is equal to the total cricket sample in the project.

Further details about the British match-fixing cases show that 27 respondents indicated that they had only been approached once. At the moment of their **only** approach (n = 26), they were 30,1 years old on average (standard deviation 8,9).

Additionally, 44 respondents indicated that they had been approached two to three times to fix a match, and 9 persons indicated that they had been approached more than 3 times to fix a match. The average age of the first time (n = 49) they were approached to fix a match was 25,6 years old (standard deviation 5,7). The average age of the **last time** (n = 46) they were approached to fix a match was 30,5 years old (standard deviation 6,1).



6.2.2 Betting- and non-betting-related match-fixing cases

Regarding the **last (or only) time** they were approached to fix a match, 22 respondents revealed that they were only approached for a betting-related proposal (see Table 10). On the other hand, 36 respondents indicated that they were only approached for a non-betting-related proposal. More specifically, in the case that only a non-betting-related proposal took place, the respondents indicated:

- 21 times that the proposal was made to prevent relegation of a specific club or player.
- 14 times that the proposal was made to enable a specific club or player to win the championship,
- 9 times that the proposal was made to determine who the next-round opponent would be, and
- 4 times that the proposal aimed to make the competition or tournament more exciting.

Table 10: Motive of the match-fixing cases (n = 79)

	Total (n = 79)	Football (n = 69)	Tennis (n = 7)	Cricket (n = 3)
What was the motive of the people who approached you?				
Only betting-related match-fixing	22	21	1	0
Both betting- and non-betting-related match-fixing	17	16	1	0
Only non-betting-related match-fixing	36	29	5	2
Both non-betting-related and “other motive”*	1	1	0	0
Other motive*	2	1	0	1
I don’t know	1	1	0	0

*The exact “other motive” could not be identified due to a software bug.

6.2.2.1 Only non-betting-related (or sporting-related) proposals

The group of 36 respondents who revealed that they were **only approached for a non-betting-related or “sporting-related” match-fixing proposal**, indicated the following:

Figure 5: Gender of the respondents who have been approached (n = 36)

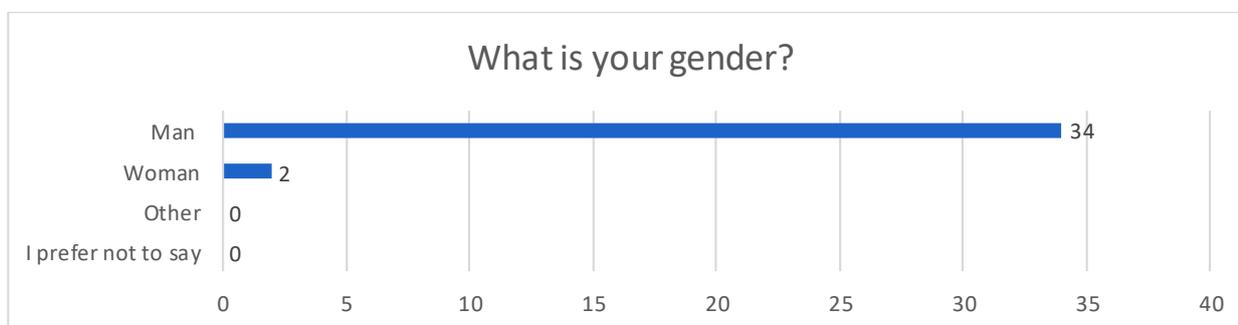




Figure 6: Main sport discipline of the respondents who have been approached (n = 36)

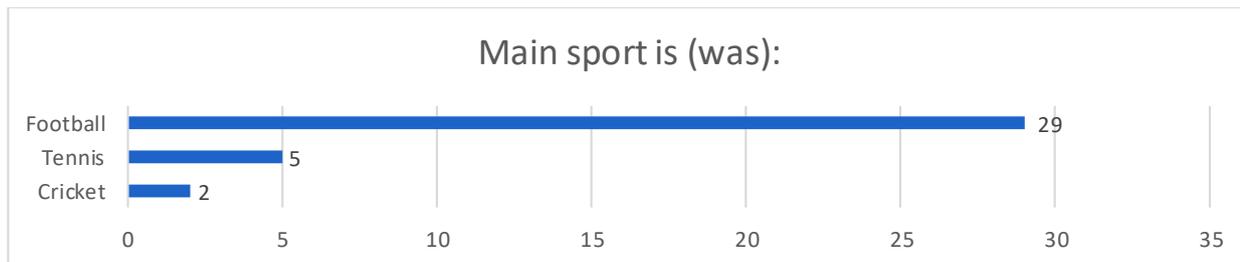


Figure 7: Way of involvement at the moment of the proposal (n = 36)

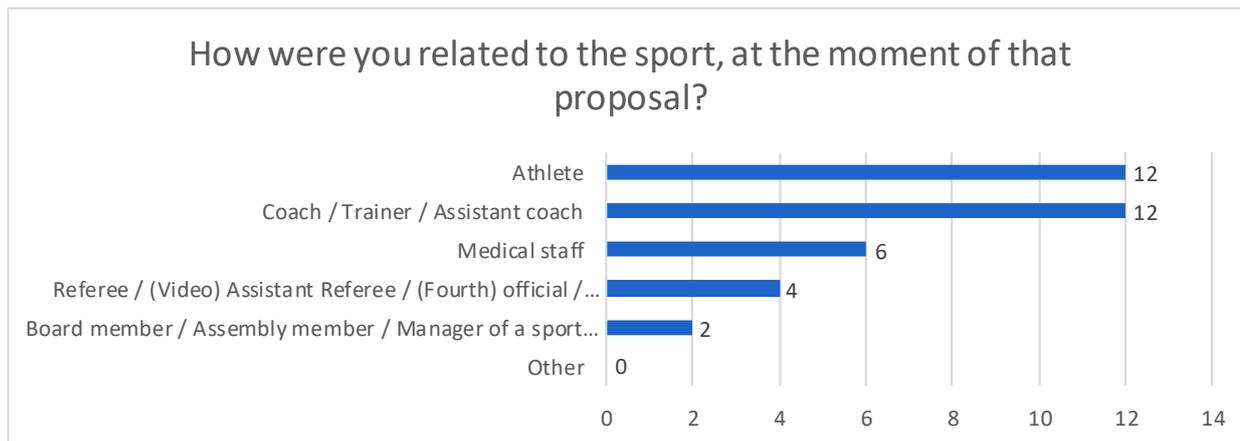


Figure 8: Level of the respondents at the moment of the proposal (n = 36)

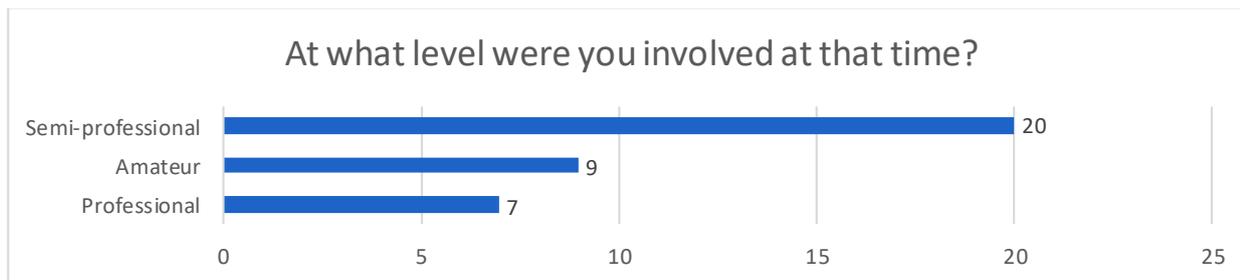


Figure 9: Playing level of the respondents at the moment of the proposal (n = 36)

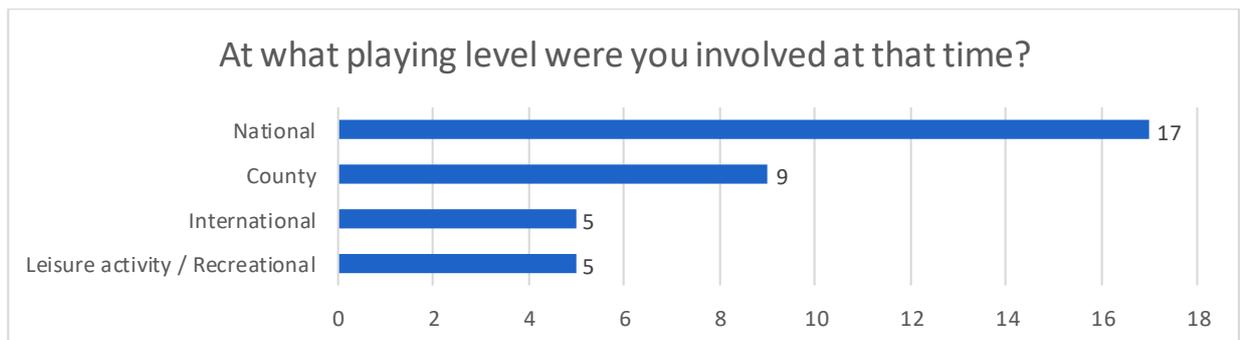




Figure 10: The people who approached the respondents at the moment of the proposal (n = 36)

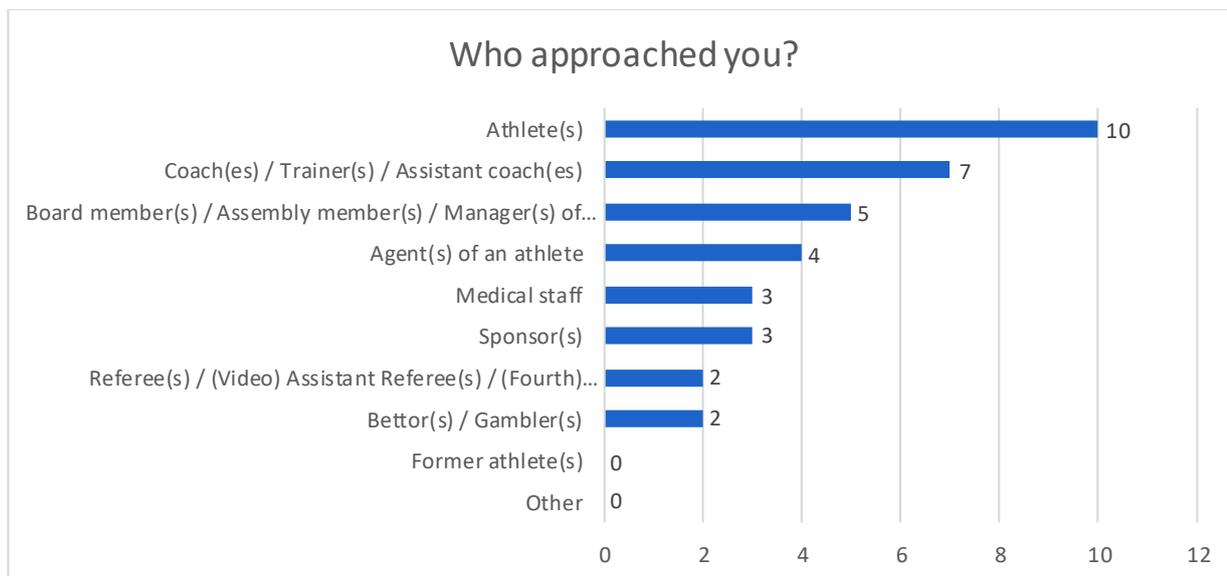
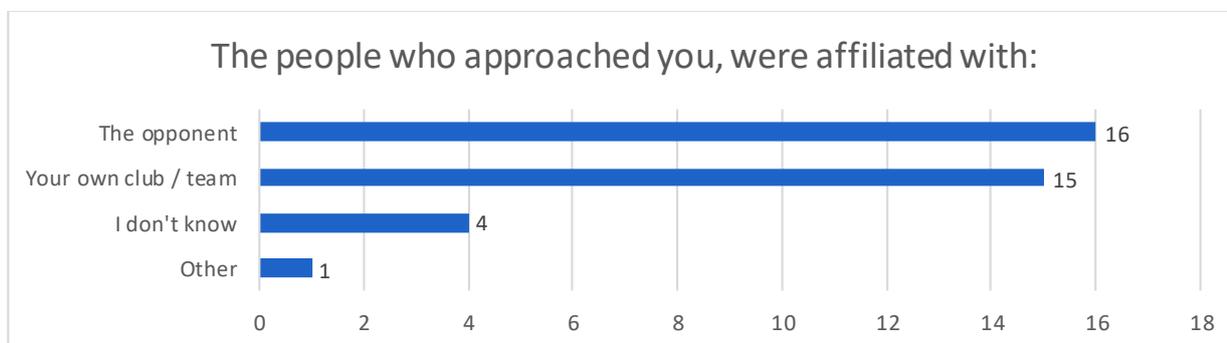
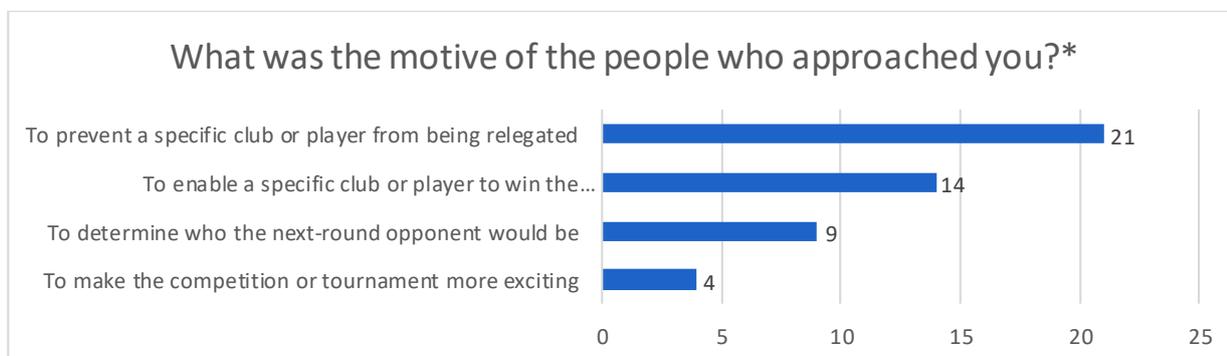


Figure 11: Details about the people who approached the respondents (n = 36)



The respondent who indicated “other,” specified that the people who approached him, were affiliated with “the home side.”

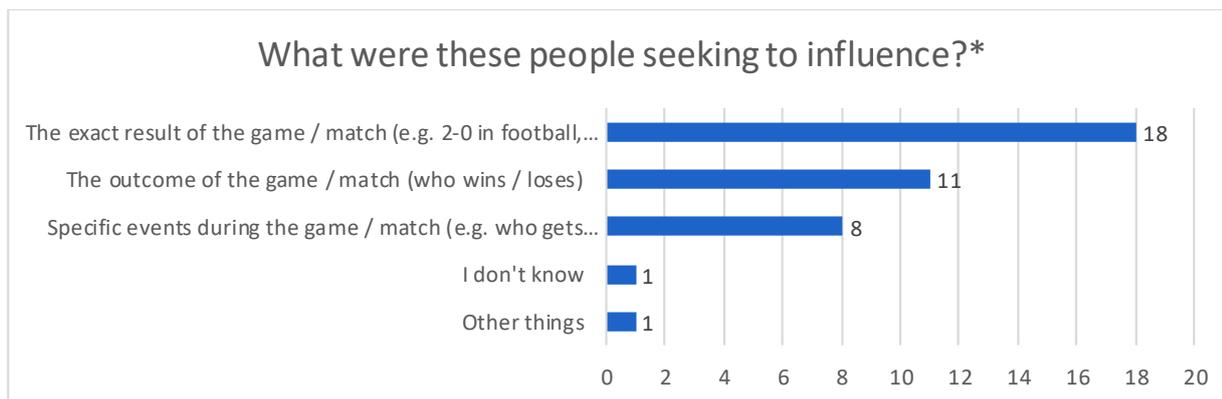
Figure 12: The motive of the people who approached the respondents (n = 36)



*The sum of the figures exceeds 36, because multiple answers were possible to the question.

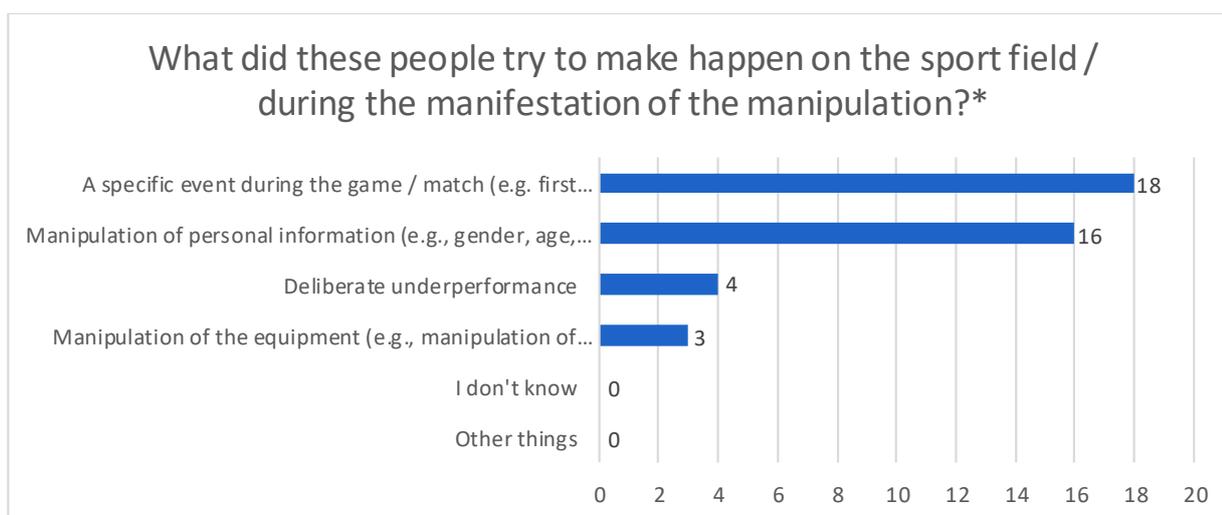


Figure 13: What they tried to influence (n = 36)



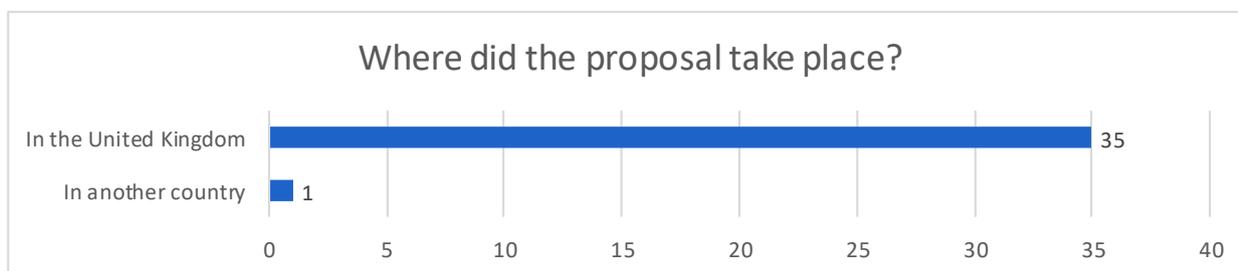
*The sum of the figures exceeds 36, because multiple answers were possible to the question.

Figure 14: What did they try to make happen during the manifestation of the manipulation (n = 36)



*The sum of the figures exceeds 36, because multiple answers were possible to the question.

Figure 15: Place of the proposal (n = 36)



The respondent who indicated that he was approached “in another country,” specified that the proposal took place in “Spain.”



Figure 16: Offered money at the moment of the proposal (n = 36)

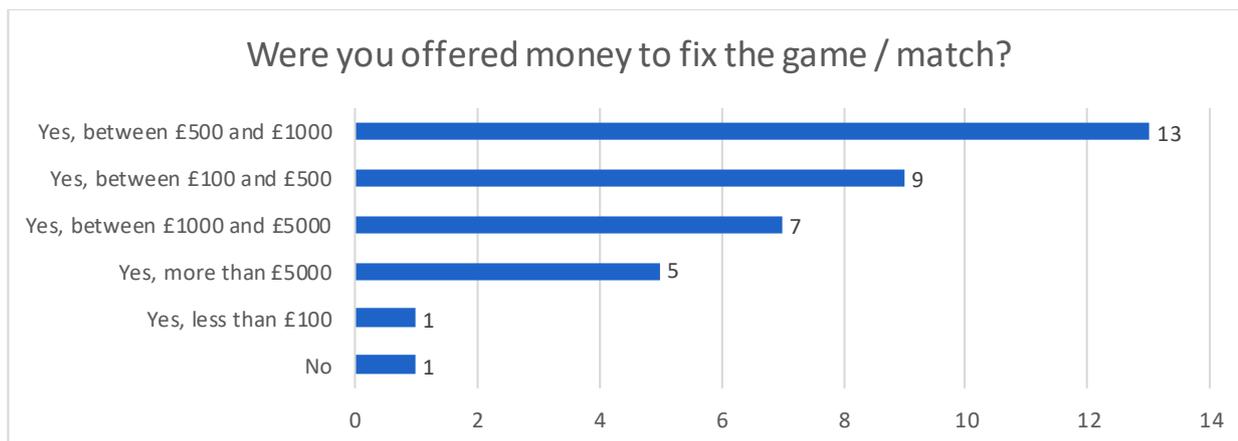


Figure 17: Promised other material inducements (n = 36)



Which inducements were you promised?

- 2000 pounds, 500 British pounds, 5000 pounds
- A trip around the world, vacation ticket
- Cash, money
- Gift(s) (mentioned multiple times)
- Good favour
- Guitar
- I was promised a special club membership
- Increase vote
- Just money and free football equipment
- Paypal payment
- Phone
- To be manager
- Tracking
- Trophy
- "We will definitely be back"
- ...



Figure 18: Threatened or pressured at the moment of the proposal (n = 36)

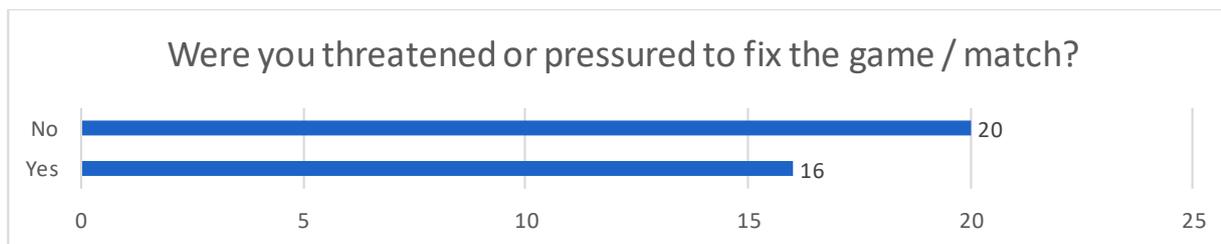
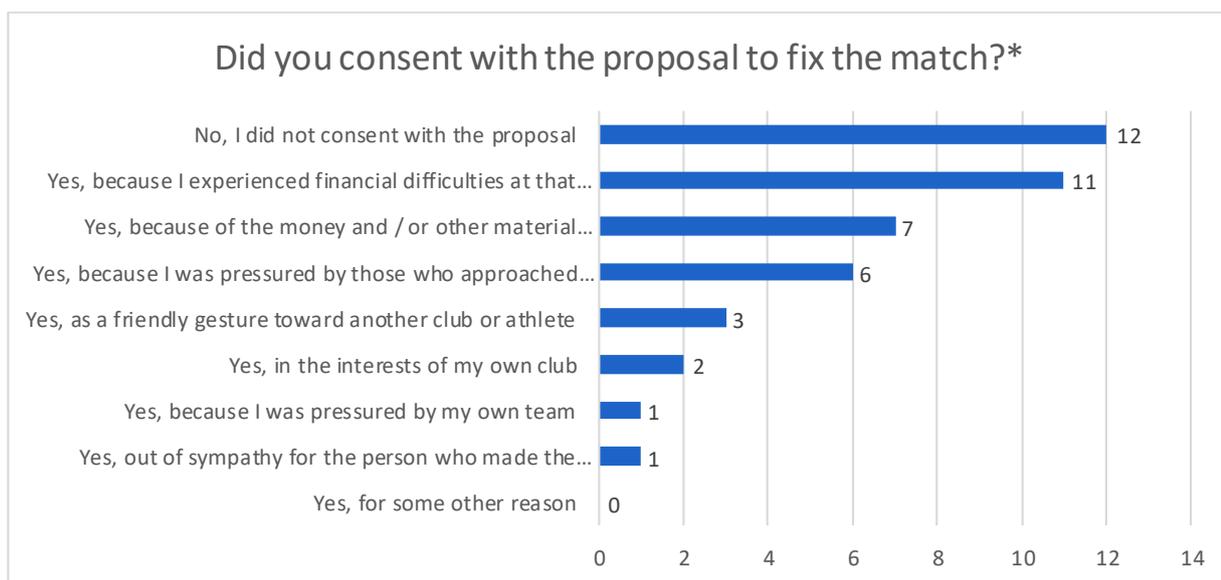


Figure 19: Consent with the proposal or not (n = 36)



*The sum of the figures exceeds 36, because multiple answers were possible to the question.

6.2.2.2 Only betting-related proposals

The group of 22 respondents who revealed that they were **only approached for a betting-related match-fixing proposal**, indicated the following:

Figure 20: Gender of the respondents who have been approached (n = 22)

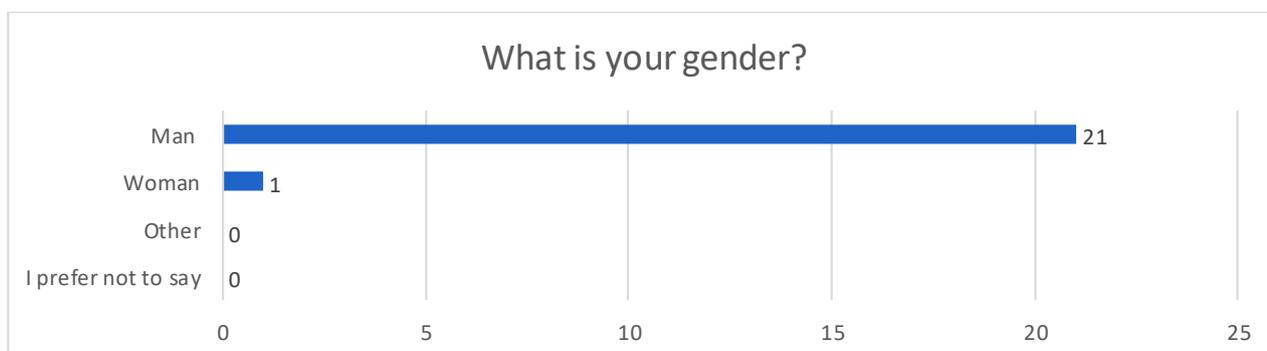




Figure 21: Main sport discipline of the respondents who have been approached (n = 22)

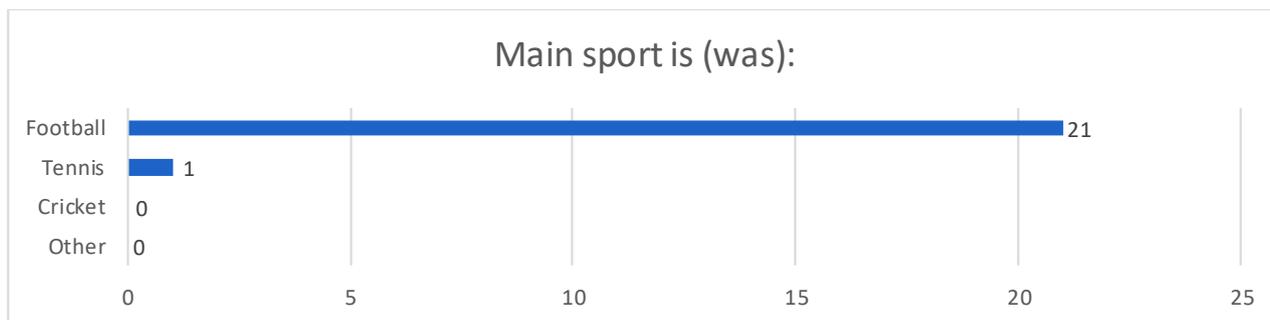


Figure 22: Way of involvement at the moment of the proposal (n = 22)

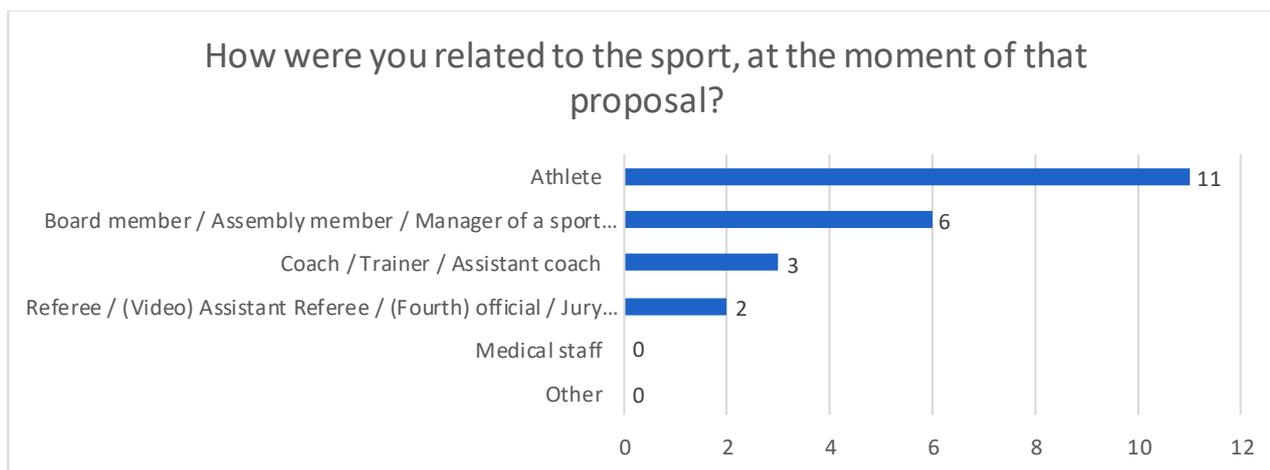


Figure 23: Level of the respondents at the moment of the proposal (n = 22)

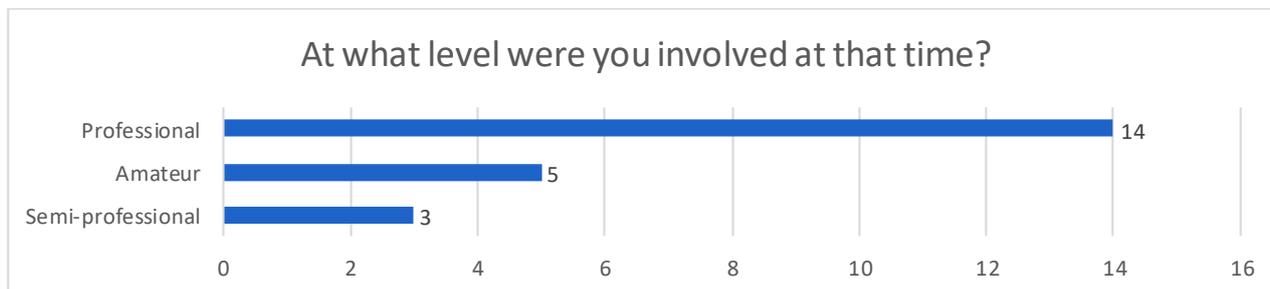


Figure 24: Playing level of the respondents at the moment of the proposal (n = 22)

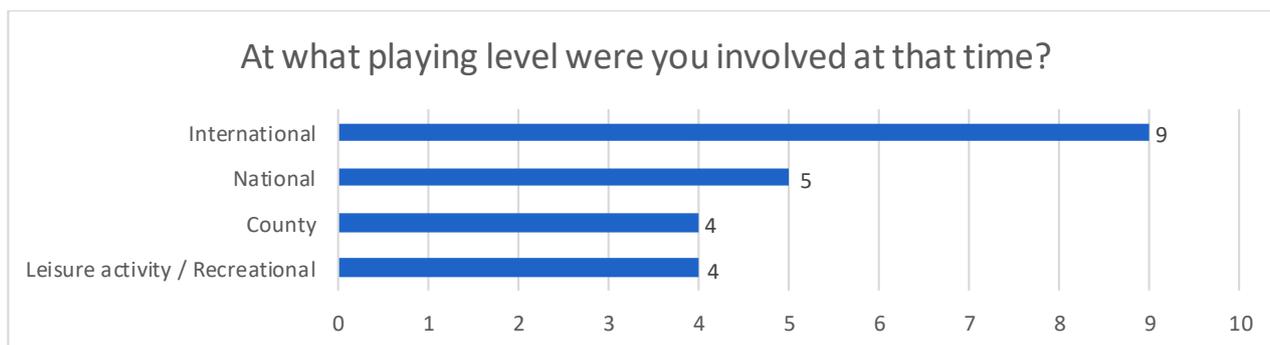




Figure 25: The people who approached the respondents at the moment of the proposal (n = 22)

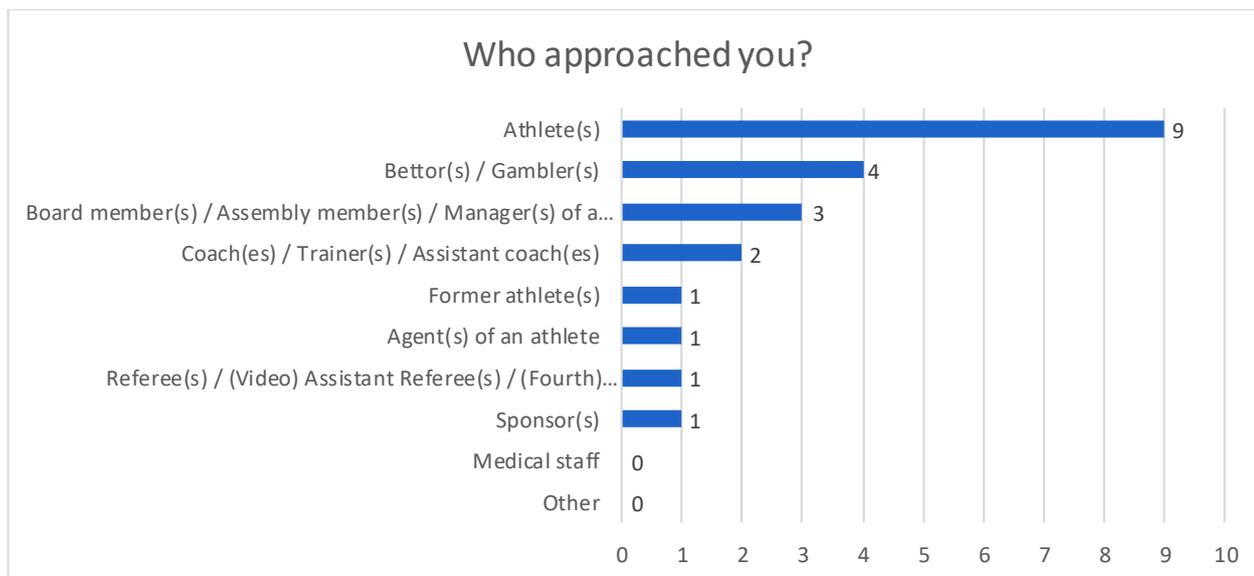


Figure 26: Details about the people who approached the respondents (n = 21)

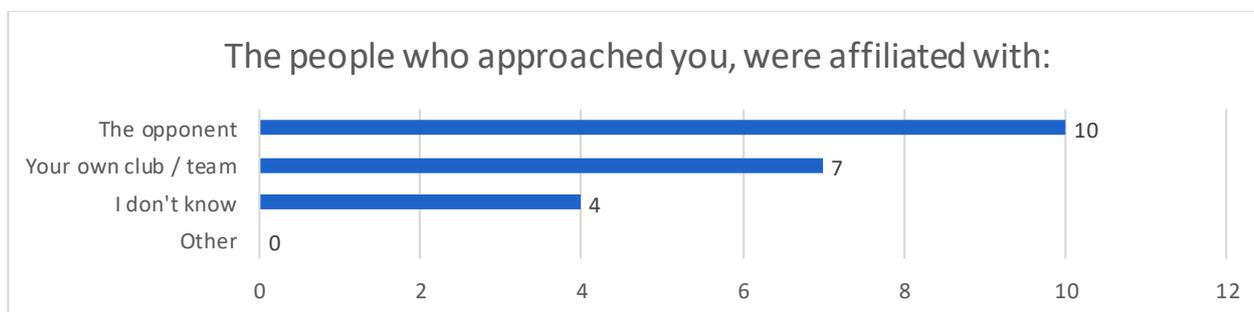
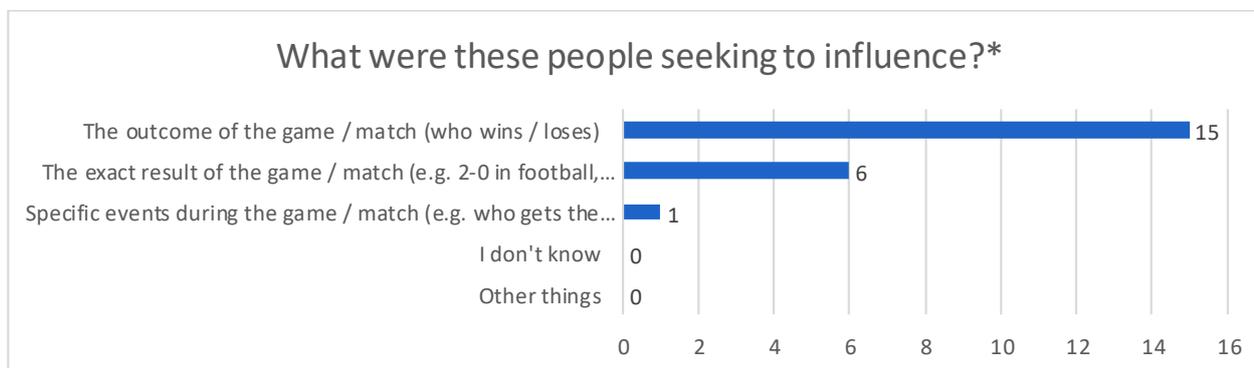


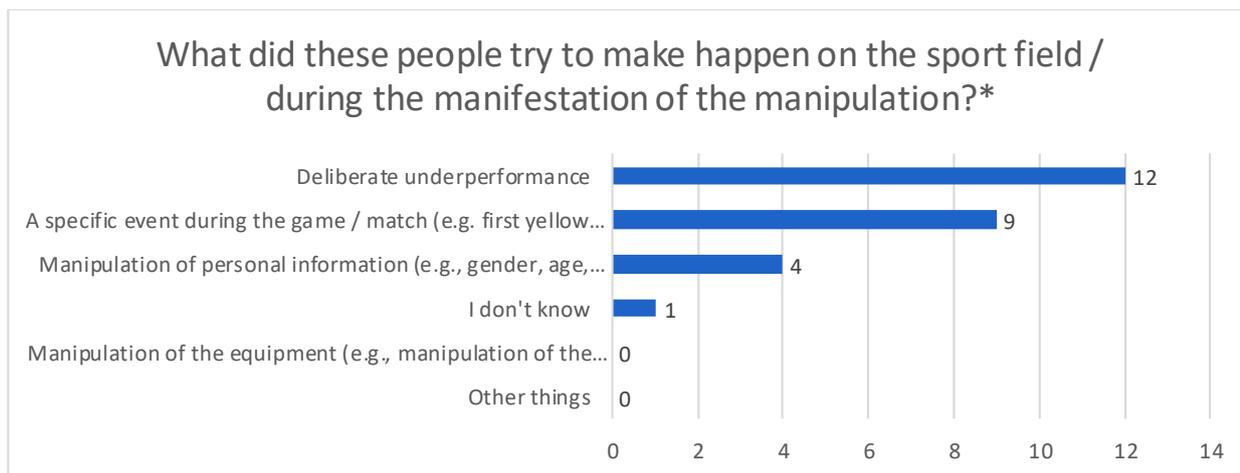
Figure 27: What they tried to influence (n = 22)



*The sum of the figures might exceed 22, because multiple answers were possible to the question.



Figure 28: What did they try to make happen during the manifestation of the manipulation (n = 22)



*The sum of the figures exceeds 22, because multiple answers were possible to the question.

Figure 29: Place of the proposal (n = 22)

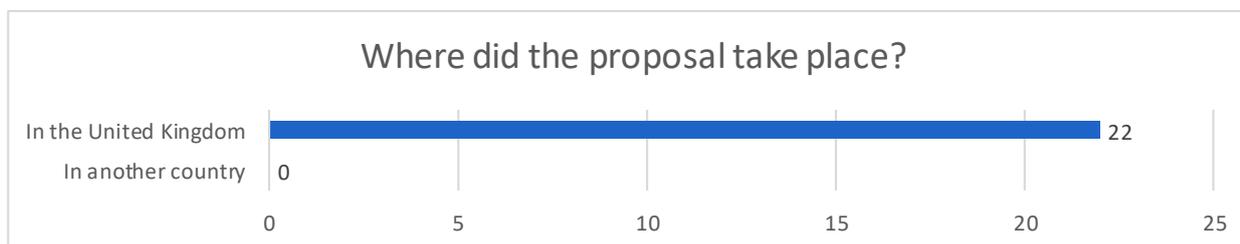


Figure 30: Offered money at the moment of the proposal (n = 22)



Figure 31: Promised other material inducements (n = 22)





Which inducements were you promised?

- £2500
- A case of beer
- A cheap car
- A fine of misconduct
- A vacation to any country of my choice
- “Do the bad thing at the right time”
- Excellent service
- Gift cards
- Good
- Holiday
- House and car
- Sports kit
- ...

Figure 32: Threatened or pressured at the moment of the proposal (n = 22)

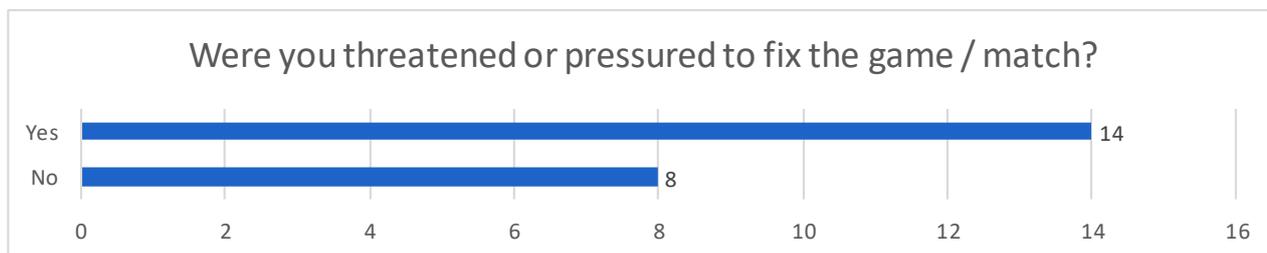
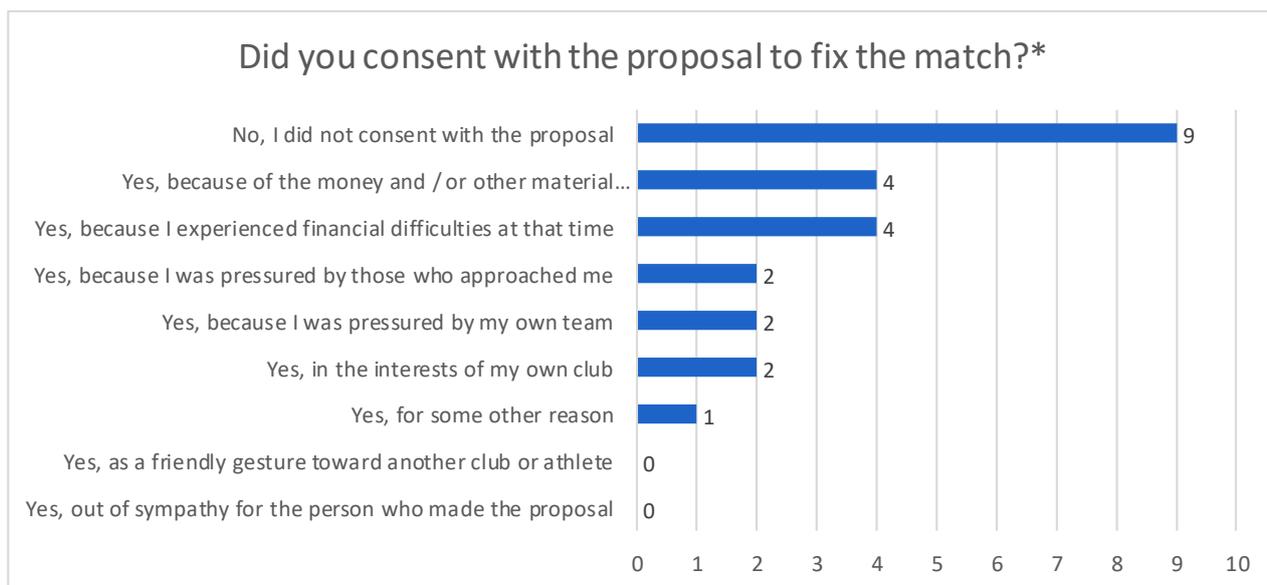


Figure 33: Consent with the proposal or not (n = 22)



*The sum of the figures exceeds 22, because multiple answers were possible to the question.



7 REPORTING SUSPICIONS OR EXPERIENCES OF MATCH-FIXING

Taking into account the figures of sections 6.1 and 6.2, Figure 34 depicts an overview of the (proposed) match-fixing incidents.

Figure 34: (Proposed) match-fixing incidents



Of the **156** respondents who indicated (proposed) match-fixing incidents, **30** respondents (19,2%) had never reported their suspicions or experiences of match-fixing to anyone. On the other hand, **126** respondents (80,8%) had reported their suspicions or experiences of match-fixing to someone (see Figure 35).

Figure 35: Reporting suspicions or experiences of match-fixing to anyone (n = 126)



*The sum of the figures exceeds 126, because multiple answers were possible to the question.

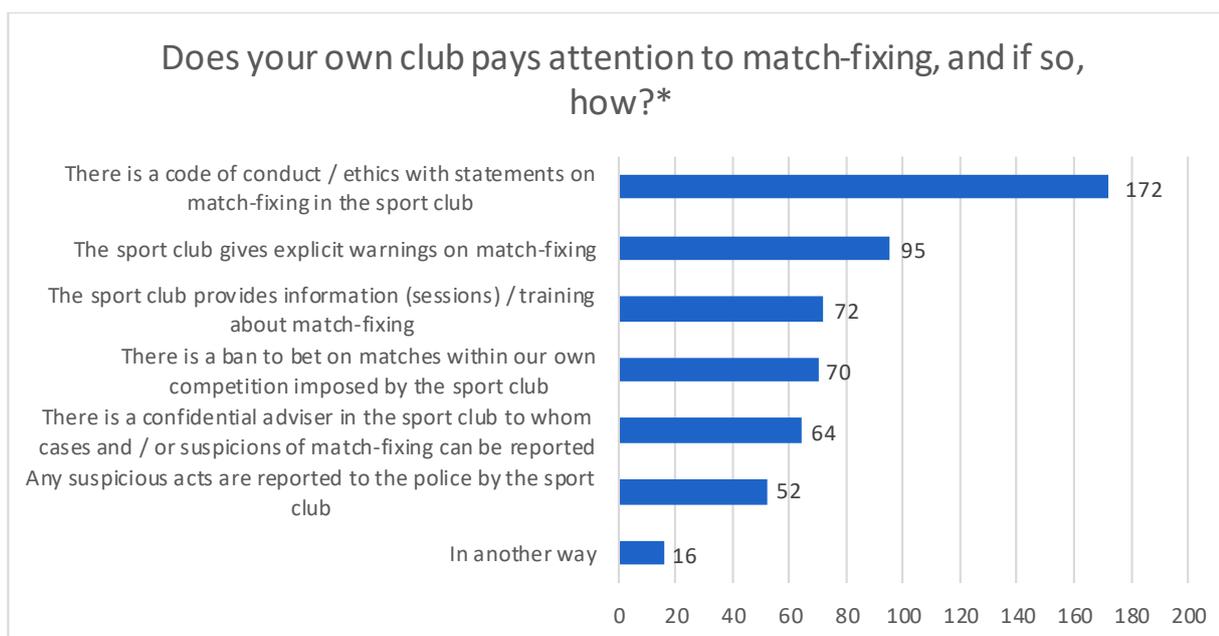


8 MATCH-FIXING PREVENTION IN SPORT CLUBS

At the end of the questionnaire, the respondents were asked whether their sport club pays attention to match-fixing or not. Of the **382** respondents who indicated that they were still involved in a sport club, **68** respondents (17,8%) indicated that their sport club does not pay attention to match-fixing and **43** respondents (11,3%) indicated that they don't know if their sport club pays attention to match-fixing.

On the other hand, **271** respondents (**70,9%**) indicated that their sport club pays attention to match-fixing. As shown in Figure 36, respondents mainly indicated that their sport club has a code of conduct / ethics with statements on match-fixing.

Figure 36: Match-fixing prevention in sport clubs (n = 271)



*The sum of the figures exceeds 271, because multiple answers were possible to the question.



9 CONCLUSION

To conclude, and based on the analysis of the data presented above, it appears that within the sample selected, more than 150 individuals are aware or have been personally approached in order to fix matches, something that is worth taking into consideration in future actions to tackle match-fixing. At the same time, the fact that the individuals who approached them come within the sport ecosystem is an interesting finding, allowing us to better plan for any future action to be taken, such as informing and training and the individuals within each sport to better deal with match fixing and providing them with the tools needed, like action plans, in order to keep improving their practices in the future.

It is worth noting that the approach selected for data collection (i.e., the use of sport clubs and governing bodies as gatekeepers) has allowed for rich data to be collected in the scheduled amount of time. Nevertheless, it is worth acknowledging the main limitation of this research, which arises from the wide sample of its participants, including amateur, semi-professional and professional athletes, coaches, referees, etc from all three sports studied, which needs to be taken into consideration in the analysis and interpretation of the data collected.