

The background of the page features a series of curved, parallel lines in shades of blue, purple, and grey, creating a sense of motion and depth. The WBSC logo is centered in the upper half of the page.

**WBSC**

WORLD  
**BASEBALL SOFTBALL**  
CONFEDERATION

*Game Time!*

# **ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICY**

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This Policy came into force on 21 January 2026

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# CHAPTER 1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

## Article 1 Preamble

- 1.1 This document sets out the WBSC's approach to the prevention of corruption in Baseball/Softball.
- 1.2 This Anti-Corruption Policy has been established to define and illustrate the various types of prohibited behaviours constituting corruption in sport, as drawn up in accordance with the Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance within the Olympic Movement. It also aims to encourage and provide guidance for the reporting of any suspected violations.

## Article 2 Scope of Application

- 2.1 This Policy applies and is binding on the following ("WBSC Parties"):
  - 2.1.1 The WBSC, and its officers, employees, directors, Commissions and Executive Board members;
  - 2.1.2 All Continental Associations, WBSC Members (Affiliated and Associated) and their officials;
  - 2.1.3 All participants in any WBSC or WBSC-sanctioned competition or event for which they are accredited;
  - 2.1.4 The organisations and their officials taking part in any type of candidature procedures of the WBSC or a WBSC or WBSC-sanctioned competition or event;
  - 2.1.5 The Local Organising Committees for WBSC and WBSC-sanctioned competition or event; and
  - 2.1.6 The promoters, partners, suppliers, intermediaries and contracting parties with the WBSC and media dealing with WBSC and/or having an involvement in WBSC competitions or events ("Third Parties").

## CHAPTER 2 CORRUPTION

### Article 3 Definition of Corruption

3.1 “Corruption” encompasses a variety of illegal or unethical acts and corresponds to the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. Under this Policy, this term is given a broad interpretation. Such acts, include, but are not limited to, the following.

3.1.1 “Bribery” refers to the act of conferring a benefit of value in order to improperly influence an action or a decision (irrespective of whether the benefit is actually given or received).

Bribery can be paying or offering to pay anything of value directly or indirectly to any person to corruptly influence any official act or decision in connection with the sport of Baseball/Softball, whether or not it induces a violation of a duty or secures any improper advantage in order to obtain or retain business for any person or influence a competition in the Sport.

Bribery may occur where a person offers, promises or gives a financial or non-financial benefit or advantage to another person, and intends this to induce a person to perform improperly a relevant function or activity or reward a person for the improper performance of such a function or activity, where that person intends, knows or reasonably believes that the acceptance of the advantage constitutes or results in the improper performance of a relevant function or activity.

The benefit may be direct, passing directly to the person bribed, or indirect, passing through another party such as a friend, relative or associate.

A benefit may take various forms, including cash, items (whether or not luxury), scholarships, inside information, votes, political or sexual favours, employment, the avoidance of expenses (i.e., paying for an item or service for a person who does not have to make such a purchase), role allocation within the organisation or the promise of a benefit in the future.

3.1.1.1 “Active Bribery” refers to offering, promising, giving, making possible or paying to a person, directly or indirectly, an undue advantage in

order that a person act or refrain from acting in the exercise of their official duties.

3.1.1.2 “Passive Bribery” refers to soliciting or accepting directly or indirectly, an undue advantage in order that a person act or refrain from acting in the exercise of their official duties.

3.1.2 “Collusion” also known as conspiracy or bid-rigging, refers to a secret agreement between two or more parties to deceive a third-party of their rights or solicit, encourage, cause or accomplish an unethical purpose with the intent to gain an unfair advantage.

3.1.3 “Embezzlement” refers to the misappropriation, wrongful taking or diversion by a person of any property, public or private funds, securities or any other thing of value entrusted to that person by virtue of their position. An example of embezzlement would be an executive board member of a WBSC Member using public funds allocated by the ministry of sports for the development of a federation programme to finance a personal vacation with family members.

3.1.4 “Extortion”, also known as blackmail, refers to obtaining property from another through coercion, including the wrongful use of actual or threatened force, violence or fear.

3.1.5 “Fraud” refers to obtaining money or other benefit or evading a liability through manipulation, deceit or dishonest or wrongful conduct.

3.1.6 “Money laundering” refers to the taking, conversion, theft or transfer of property involving an illegal act for the purpose of concealing or disguising its illicit origin or helping any person who is involved in the commission of the predicate offence to evade the legal consequences of their actions, as well as the concealment or disguise of the true nature, source, location, disposition, movement or ownership of rights with respect to the property. This involves the taking or appropriation, disguising and combining into another source any such property.



- 3.1.7 “Sextortion”, derived from the contraction of the words sex and extortion, refers to a form of blackmail exerted against a person using photographs or videos showing them nude or engaging in sexual acts.

## Article 4 Types of Corruption

4.1 Corruption in sport can take many forms. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime distinguishes three main types of corruption in sport.

- 4.1.1 Sport-specific corruption, which involves corrupt acts that are unique to sports, such as competition manipulation, match-fixing and betting. The [WBSC Prevention of Manipulation of Competition Rules](#) states WBSC’s approach towards sport-specific corruption in Baseball/Softball. WBSC Parties must comply with those Rules.
- 4.1.2 Sport-related corruption, which refers to corrupt acts that are not directly linked to the competition itself but to aspects of its planning, implementation and administration, such as the governance of sports organisations and the management of major sports events.  
Examples of decisions that can be targeted by people engaged in this type of corruption are the awards of hosting rights of major sport events, the awards of commercial contracts related to media, sponsorship or broadcasting rights and the nomination of officials to key position.
- 4.1.3 Linked to other crimes as corruption in sport may be interlinked to organised criminal groups or illegal activity using manipulation of competition for money-laundering or extortion or be interlinked to human trafficking or gender-based violence.

## Article 5 Statement Against Corruption

5.1 WBSC Parties shall conduct their actions and activities in compliance with the highest ethical and integrity standards and foster a culture of integrity, transparency and accountability.

5.2 The WBSC prohibits all forms and types of corruption, whether committed by, for or against WBSC Parties in connection with WBSC or WBSC events or competitions. Any form of corruption is completely incompatible with the intrinsic values of sports.

5.3 Prohibited behaviour under this Policy may also constitute a civil or criminal offence and/or a violation of other applicable laws, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations or contracts. This Policy does not amend, rescind or replace such laws, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations or contracts as it is intended to supplement them with additional rules of professional conduct for persons involve with WBSC activities. It operates without prejudice to such laws, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and vice versa.

## Article 6 Risks Prevention Against Corruption

6.1 A single gift, meal or present of a de minimis amount (set by the WBSC) does not, itself, constitute bribery when offered as a gesture of appreciation, in accordance with recognised values and traditions, without any expectation of advantage, or when offered for legitimate promotional or courtesy purpose. However, under certain circumstances, gifts and hospitality may be offered intentionally as a form of bribery in order to create an obligation, leading WBSC Parties to act contrary to the interests for which they are responsible.

To identify, manage, prevent and mitigate these risks, the WBSC has established rules governing the offering and acceptance of gifts and hospitality through the adoption of the [WBSC Gifts and Hospitality Policy](#). WBSC Parties must respect it.

6.2 A conflict of interest is not in itself an offense. However, a conflict of interest must be declared and addressed to protect the organisation and ensure that decisions are made in the best interests of the WBSC rather than for personal gain. The WBSC has established rules governing the procedure for identifying, preventing and managing conflict of interests or duties through the [WBSC Conflict of Interest Policy](#). WBSC Parties must comply with it.

6.3 Third Party involvement, while beneficial and necessary for the development of the WBSC, carries potential conflicts of interest and corruption-related risks. To reduce the risks, due diligence and contractual requirements including anti-corruption representations and warranties consistent with this Policy should apply to Third Parties engaging with the WBSC. Third Parties must comply with all applicable anti-corruption laws and international standards.

6.4 Non-compliance with good governance principles in a sport organisation increase the risk of corruption. The WBSC promotes and implements a culture of good governance within the Baseball/Softball Community by committing to transparency and



accountability, democracy, checks and balances, social responsibility and promotion of equity and diversity through notably the Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement. WBSC Parties must respect those principles.

## **Article 7     Managing Corruption**

7.1     The WBSC aims to support its Members, and Continental Associations in honouring their responsibility for respecting and strengthening good governance and anti-corruption.

7.2     The WBSC provides guidance (e.g. education) to its staff, Executive Board members and Commissions to enable them to recognise and avoid corruption for themselves and others.

7.3     The WBSC requires the reporting of any suspicion of corruption of and by WBSC Parties. The WBSC provides a confidential reporting mechanism including integrity hotlines and protection of whistleblower in accordance with [WBSC Whistleblower Policy](#).

7.4     Failure to comply with this Policy is a serious violation and will result in action under the WBSC Disciplinary By-Laws and applicable rules, cancellation of contracts and blacklisting of Third Parties, as well as civil and a referral for criminal prosecution.

7.5     The WBSC Parties commit to cooperate with law enforcement, criminal justice authorities and other relevant stakeholders to fight against corruption.