

FAQ: USEF Prevention of the Manipulation of Competition Policy

Why is USEF implementing a manipulation of competition policy?

Fantasy games and sports betting continue to grow in popularity and are becoming legal in more and more states. Sports betting poses a serious risk to fair competition and has the potential to unduly influence the performance of participants. USEF has implemented a policy that is tailored toward mitigating the risks of activity that could compromise the integrity and essence of sport.

Who is restricted from betting under this policy?

Any participant in USEF licensed or endorsed competition. A participant includes athletes (riders, drivers, vaulters, handlers), athlete support personnel (coach, trainer, groom, manager, team staff, farrier, medical or veterinary personnel working with or treating athlete(s) or horses), owners (shareholder or interest party in a horse, legal owners, lessees, and anyone recorded as an owner with USEF), officials, and staff (volunteer or paid for USEF or a Recognized Affiliate).

If I am not a participant at a competition but know some of the participants, am I able to bet on an event under the policy?

Under the USEF policy, only those defined as “participants” are prevented from betting on an event. If you know participants, they would not be able to place any bets or exchange inside information. However, if you are not a participant, then the USEF policy does not prevent you from betting. Be sure to abide by any other laws or regulations that may impact your ability to participate.

How does this policy compare to the FEI policy?

The FEI policy is more restrictive than this policy. USEF urges participants to educate themselves on the FEI policy by reviewing the various resources available at www.fei.org. While the differing policies may cover similar or overlapping conduct, covered individuals are responsible for ensuring they comply with the rules that apply to them. For example, a non-FEI participant may only be required to abide by the USEF policy whereas a participant in an FEI program within a USEF sanctioned event would be required to abide by USEF and FEI policies.

How do I report a violation of this policy?

Reports of potential violations of this policy may be made to the Federation Regulation Department at disputes@usef.org. Any questions should be directed to the Director, Regulation Department at epratt@usef.org.