



Graham Annesley MP

Minister for Sport and Recreation

MEDIA RELEASE

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JAIL SENTENCES FOR MATCH FIXING

NSW Minister for Sport and Recreation, Graham Annesley, said legislation to be introduced into Parliament will send a clear message that anyone found guilty of match fixing or corrupting the betting outcome of a sporting event could face up to 10 years jail.

“There is no bigger threat to the integrity of sport than match-fixing and this legislation will ensure anyone involved in the industry is sent a very strong message about the risks and consequences,” Mr Annesley said.

“NSW is the first jurisdiction in Australia to introduce these tough new penalties.

“Sport is big business these days and it would be naive of any government to think sport is immune to corrupt conduct.

“NSW is setting the benchmark and will ensure anyone convicted will face severe penalties,” Mr Annesley warned.

The proposed Crimes Amendment (Cheating at Gambling) Bill 2012 will see a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment for anyone found to have engaged in or facilitated conduct that corrupts the outcome of an event.

NSW Minister for Hospitality and Racing, George Souris said: “These reforms are essential for a safe, transparent and legitimate market in sports and racing betting.

“Quite simply, cheating at any level undermines public confidence and the NSW Government and the Racing Industry is absolutely committed to making certain the reputation of sport and racing in this state remains intact,” Mr Souris said.

NSW Attorney General, Greg Smith SC, said: “The proposed reforms follow a Law Reform Commission Report, agreement with all states and territories on a nationally consistent approach, and an extensive consultation process involving a wide range of legal and industry based interests.”

Mr Annesley added: “The new legislation will be the linchpin of a national approach to ensuring the integrity of sport is protected.”