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BETTING SCANDAL ROCKS TOP PERTHSHIRE BOWLING CLUB

Report by: **Jocky McJockface**

A top Perthshire bowling club has been rocked today by sensational allegations that their members are involved in a massive betting scam.

Members of Glencarse Bowling Club's so-called "Football Sweep" were astonished to learn that their "little bit of weekly fun" is part of a much wider football betting scam, involving similar "irregularities" all over Scotland - and the rest of the UK.

The punter at the centre of the allegations who wishes to remain anonymous whilst police investigations are carried out (but goes under the name of "The Alfatron"), admitted that he had paid an extra 33% of his weekly entrance fee to the organiser of the event on the understanding that this money be used "to sway the results of this weekend's SPFL matches in my favour".

"I handed over the money voluntarily, on the understanding that he ["the organiser"] used the surplus cash to pay players at Scotland's top clubs. I mean, look at the results of The Sweep so far this season... Week 1 – won by the organiser himself when he pocketed a life-changing £27; Week 2 – won by previous organiser who pocketed £14. Why should I not get some of the action? I'm not a greedy man but that kinda dosh could see me get a new set of bowls for next season and that would be bowltaastic. I already work an 80-hour week for a ruthless, tyrannical boss for scant reward. I have dreams like everyone else".

A spokesperson for Polis Scotland confirmed that raids had taken place across the Carse and also at locations in Grampian and Cheshire. Chief Superintendent Turner-Blindeye said that these scams "may have implications reaching all the way to the highest echelons of world football", including SPFL, SFA, FA, UEFA and FIFA. He admitted that the sums of money were "quite small" but that it was the principle of the matter. Without over-dramatising the situation "the whole future of world soccer at stake here".

A club stalwart who only wanted to be known as Disco said "Yeah – Mr Potato. He's just breezed into the club. He acts like he owns the place. We don't even know his real name"

Another, known as Barney (but not his real name) was overheard to say "Hah. He turned up to my Saturday coaching classes for a while, but it was plain to see that he was no bowler. He obviously had an ulterior motive".

Club President, Marty McNaughty, was said "I am deeply disappointed with Mr Portatto. We welcomed him to our club and this is how he repays us. We've only just recovered from last year's scandal and now we have this to deal with too". Mr McNaughty refused to give further details about "last year's scandal".

Only one member refused to bad-mouth Mr Pattata. That member, known for his bowling **and** poker skills who asked that we call him "The Bairn" said "I thought he was a fairly decent bloke who always wanted to buy me drinks. I only ever drink Irn-Bru in moderation - two or three tins a night – maximum but I'm only a student".

Our reporter called on Mr Packafew at his 3-bedroom, semi-detached villa but Mr Patacake refused to comment, instead preferring to draw attention to some recently-received minor injuries – "Look what they've done to me" without revealing exactly who the "they" were to whom he was referring. Mr Potato them limped back indoors, no doubt planning his next scam.



Mr Portillo photographed at his front door with unexplained injuries