

Gambling addiction: the LFP, UNFP and ARPEJ join forces

Translated in English from original version

Source: lfp.fr

Date: 23.01.2026

The LFP, UNFP and ARPEJ are joining forces to strengthen the prevention of gambling addiction in professional football.

Since 2013, the Ligue de Football Professionnel (LFP), the National Union of Professional Footballers (UNFP) and the National Union of Coaches and Technical Staff in French Football (UNECATEF) have been working within professional clubs to raise awareness among players and coaches of the risks linked to sports manipulation and match-fixing. In coordination with the National Gambling Authority (ANJ), the LFP monitors compliance with the ban on betting on football and refers any breaches to the disciplinary commission.

At the beginning of 2026, the LFP, the UNFP and the ARPEJ association (Association for Research and Prevention of Excessive Gambling) announced the launch of a new and unprecedented partnership aimed at strengthening the prevention of gambling addiction within professional football.

This joint initiative has a clear objective: to protect players and safeguard the integrity of competitions.

In light of the growth in gambling practices and the specific risks they may pose to stakeholders in professional sport, the LFP and its institutional and associative partners wish to structure an ambitious, sustainable and coordinated prevention strategy.

Founded in 2022, ARPEJ focuses specifically on tackling excessive gambling. It conducts research on the harms associated with gambling, delivers evaluated, interactive and educational prevention programmes that go well beyond basic information, and also offers support services for individuals affected by addiction (SOS joueur). With its strong expertise in the sporting environment, ARPEJ is a recognised reference partner for supporting clubs and players on these sensitive issues.

As part of this partnership, ARPEJ will work directly within professional clubs through dedicated prevention workshops addressing gambling-related risks. These actions will be recognised within the Club Licensing framework, underlining their importance in the overall assessment of clubs' social commitments.

The UNFP, as the representative organisation of professional players, is fully involved in the initiative. It will play a key role in disseminating information, raising player awareness and directing them towards appropriate support mechanisms when needed.

This partnership reflects the LFP's clear determination to make prevention a structural pillar of professional football, in support of a more responsible, protective and integrity-driven model that prioritises both player wellbeing and the credibility of competitions.