King'sMUN English Premier League





Andrew Papaconstantinou February 22, 2025

Table of Contents

Message from Delegates	3
Representation in Committee	4
What is the Premier League?	
Purpose of the Committee	5
Issue 1: Ownership and Spending Limits	6
Issue 2: Impact of Gambling on the Game	7
Connection to Sustainable Development Goals	8
4 Further Questions.	
Graphics	
Ivan Toney Article	
References:	



Dear King'sMUN 2025 delegates,

As this year's Co-Secretary Generals of King'sMUN, we are truly honoured to welcome you to our 11th annual conference. The Secretariat has been working hard throughout this school year to deliver you an incredible, in-person conference with various unique committees, experienced chairs, and a successful day of debate.

Model United Nations, a re-enactment of the function of the United Nations, is designed for students to come together to debate, discuss, and develop creative resolutions to various pressing issues that plague our current world. In most committees, students take on the positions of multiple countries, characters, or political figures to create solutions for real and fictional issues and crises. We provide distinctive committees that delve into historical events, future scenarios, and fictional topics

In our personal experience with MUN, we have developed many valuable skills that we will take with us throughout our lives, such as confidence in public speaking, leadership, and creative problem-solving. Furthermore, MUN promotes lifelong connections, as we meet delegates who share similar passions in committee sessions. We genuinely believe that your participation in MUN will guide you throughout your high school journey and beyond.

At King'sMUN, we provide a variety of committees to ensure that we have something of interest for everyone. From very current pressing issues (i.e. UNSC and the ICJ) and issues in sports (i.e. English Premier League and International Olympic Committee) to fictional committees, yet applicable issues (i.e. Pokémon) and issues set in our very own communities (i.e. Government of Ontario). We strive to ensure that there is appeal for a variety of delegates. Whether you have no experience or have attended many conferences, there is a place at King'sMUN for you! Once again, we are thrilled to welcome all delegates, new or returning, back to King'sMUN. We hope you will engage in fruitful debate and have a fantastic time at King'sMUN 2025.

Sincerely, Aryan Suri and Luciana Ilic Co-Secretary Generals King'sMUN 2025 Representation in Committee



Premier League Teams:

Liverpool Chelsea Arsenal Manchester City Nottingham Forest Aston Villa **Brighton** Bournemouth Brentford Fulham Tottenham Newcastle Manchester United West Ham Everton Leicester City **Crystal Palace Ipswich** Town Wolverhampton Southampton

For the first issue, if you are a representative for a team, it is recommended for you to research the recent money spent by your team in the last few transfer windows, and the wealth of ownership of your team, in help for your debate. (Also helpful to research some of the other teams)

Relegated last season:

Luton Town Sheffield United Burnley

Other teams relevant to the Premier League: Watford Norwich City

West Bromwich United

Other Representatives Possible:

FA representative Professional Footballers Association (PFA) representative UEFA representative The Championship League representative FIFA Representative

What is the English Premier League



The English Premier League (EPL), founded in 1992, is the pinnacle of English football. Featuring 20 teams, the EPL's unique promotion-relegation system ensures fierce competition, with the bottom three teams relegated to the Championship League and the top three Championship teams promoted annually. This system preserves the league's unpredictable and thrilling nature, capturing the attention of fans worldwide.

The EPL's global reach spans over 190 countries, attracting a viewership of 3 billion annually. Revenue streams include broadcasting rights, sponsorships, and merchandising, which enable clubs to invest heavily in players and infrastructure. The league's reputation as the world's most competitive is further bolstered by its financial scale and cultural impact. Clubs like Manchester United, Liverpool, and Chelsea have built immense global followings, transforming the EPL into not just a sporting phenomenon but a global cultural force.

The league is governed by the Football Association (FA), which oversees its rules and operations. While the FA ensures the EPL's alignment with broader football regulations, each club operates with significant autonomy, particularly in financial and operational matters.

.EPL Committee

This committee is focused on resolving the issues of Ownership and Spending Limits in the Premier League and Limiting the Impact of Gambling on the Game. Your role is to represent your team or association and argue the concept if these points are good for the game and the negative impacts they pose on the game of football.



Issue 1: Ownership and Spending Limits



Ownership and spending in the Premier League often pit financial freedom against competitive fairness. Wealthy owners have transformed clubs, creating disparities between elite and smaller teams. Clubs with billionaire owners, such as Manchester City and Newcastle United, can outspend others significantly, attracting the world's best talent. On the other hand, recently promoted clubs often struggle to compete financially. Despite UEFA's Financial Fair Play (FFP) rules—intended to prevent clubs from spending beyond their means—criticism persists over the rules favoring wealthier teams that generate higher revenues. Additionally, sponsorship deals, merchandise sales, and broadcasting rights allow top clubs to reinforce their dominance. This creates an uneven playing field where smaller clubs face significant challenges in building competitive squads.

Key Challenges:

- Addressing financial disparities between clubs.
- Ensuring enforceable spending caps to promote competition.
- Balancing sustainability with continued investment.
- Addressing the role of state-backed ownership models in skewing competition.

Subtopics for Debate:

- Should the Premier League introduce a salary cap?
- Can revenue-sharing models between wealthy and smaller clubs level the playing field?
- How can enforcement of FFP rules be improved to ensure compliance?
- What are the implications of state-owned clubs on fair competition?
- Should there be limits on external sponsorships tied to club ownership?

Your Role

Delegates must craft solutions promoting fair play, sustainability, and economic stability. Ideas include salary caps, revenue-sharing models, or stricter FFP enforcement. Collaboration among governing bodies like the FA, UEFA, and FIFA is vital to ensure consistency and credibility. Delegates should also explore innovative financial structures that encourage investment in smaller clubs while maintaining fairness.





Gambling's influence in football is undeniable, with many clubs reliant on sponsorship deals with betting companies. However, this reliance has ethical implications, including exposing younger audiences to gambling and fostering addiction. Gambling advertisements are prominently displayed on team jerseys, during matches, and across broadcast platforms, further normalizing gambling for fans, including children.

High-profile cases like Ivan Toney's suspension highlight the risks to players. Toney's case, involving bets placed on matches including his own, underscores how gambling can undermine the integrity of the sport. Striking a balance between the financial benefits of gambling sponsorships and the potential harm to fans and players is a pressing challenge.

The Premier League's global reach amplifies the issue, as gambling sponsorships and advertisements influence audiences worldwide. This has led to debates on the league's responsibility in regulating such practices to uphold its reputation.

Key Challenges:

- Regulating gambling advertisements and sponsorships.
- Mitigating gambling's influence on young audiences.
- Addressing the integrity of the sport amid gambling scandals.
- Balancing financial reliance on gambling revenue with ethical responsibilities.

Subtopics for Debate:

- Should gambling sponsorships be banned in the Premier League?
- What limits should be placed on gambling advertisements during matches?
- How can the league address gambling addiction among fans and players?
- What alternative revenue streams can reduce reliance on gambling sponsorships?
- Could player education programs reduce incidents like Toney's case?

Your Role:

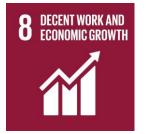
Delegates should explore solutions like ad restrictions during broadcasts, penalties for gambling-related misconduct, and alternative sponsorship models. Protecting vulnerable populations and the league's reputation should guide your resolutions. Consider proposing partnerships with mental health organizations to support gambling addiction treatment and prevention.





Connection to Sustainable Development Goals





The Premier League contributes to economic growth as it creates through various positions in the sport, such as stadium management, event organization, and community programs. The league's investment in infrastructure, including energy-efficient facilities and solar panels, like Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, also generates employment opportunities. The league holds community programs, such as Premier League Primary Stars, Premier League Kicks, and Premier League Inspires, provide skills for opportunities and employment for youth to enter the labor market. These programs increase employability for vulnerable groups, including women and people with disabilities.

The Premier League has a strong commitment to environmental sustainability. This includes the adoption of sustainable practices in stadiums and training grounds and contributing to making cities and human settlements more sustainable. For example, 15 clubs have building management systems to ensure resource efficiency, and 16 clubs have achieved 100% diversion of waste from landfill. These include Tottenham, Arsenal, and Liverpool.





The league's commitment to education and awareness towards climate change and sustainability encourages behavioural change and promotes inclusive institutions. By engaging fans and communities in environmental sustainability efforts, the league helps to build a more educated and more socially and environmentally aware society. The Premier League has community programs and initiatives help bring people together. For instance, the Protect the Planet Celebration Event at Anfield brought together children from various clubs to exhibit their environmental sustainability projects, creating a sense of community and social action.

Further Questions



- 1. Should there be limits on the visibility of gambling advertisements in stadiums and broadcasting?
- 2. Should UEFA or FIFA regulate spending limits across all leagues, or focus solely on the Premier League right now?
- 3. Could a revenue-sharing model between wealthy and small clubs benefit the leagues team and create a level based playing field? How could this be implemented?
- 4. How can the Premier League ensure that their younger audience is protected from the potential harm of gambling?
- How can the concept of gambling hinder the trust of the calls and plays? Refer to this link as insight: .youtube.com/watch?v=HaQbuVnbyck



Ivan Toney repeatedly bet on own club and tried to conceal gambling, FA finds

- Striker had 29 bets on games involving his parent or loan club
- Brentford player's ban was reduced owing to gambling addiction



D Ivan Toney pictured playing for Brentford this season. Photograph: Nigel French/PA

Ivan Toney repeatedly placed bets on matches his own team were involved in, including 13 occasions when he backed his club to lose, and gave "clearly false" answers to the investigation into his breaches of gambling rules, an independent regulatory commission has found.

The England striker has begun an <u>eight-month ban</u> after admitting 232 breaches of the Football Association's rule E8, which prohibits players from gambling on football. His sanction would have been three months longer, the commission's written reasons reveal, had Toney not been diagnosed during the investigation as having a gambling addiction.

Toney's case is one of the most serious breaches of gambling rules that the FA has prosecuted. The commission found that 29 bets related to the club Toney was registered with or on loan with at the time. These included 13 bets on his own club to lose, although Toney was not involved in those games. In 11 cases the bets were against Newcastle while he was on loan elsewhere and the other two relate to a Wigan v Aston Villa match while he was on loan at Wigan but not in the squad.

Betting on your own team to lose can carry a life ban, as can gambling on your own performance in a match, something Toney was also found to have done.

He placed 15 bets on himself to score and 16 on his team to win. He also shared inside information on a match, used third parties to gamble on his behalf and withheld information from the investigation. The commission concluded that Toney had tried to conceal his betting, "using third parties and their betting accounts ... in case there was ever an investigation". It rejected his claim that he had wanted to conceal his betting only from his parents.

Because Toney eventually accepted the 232 breaches, which took place between 2017 and 2021, an original punishment of 15 months was cut to 11. A further reduction in the tariff was agreed by the panel after taking into account Toney's age - he is now 27 - and the diagnosis of addiction.

The panel wrote that Toney had agreed to get help for his addiction and had shown genuine contrition for his rule-breaking.

"It is common ground between the parties that ... the sanction should be reduced in respect of the personal mitigation that is available to Mr Toney," the panel wrote. "This includes his relative youth at the time when the breaches began, his previous good record in respect of anything other than on-field breaches, and his genuine remorse which he expressed in fulsome terms before the commission.

"The lack of control the player has in respect of gambling is clearly a reflection of his diagnosed gambling addiction.

"The position appears to be that Mr Toney has ceased gambling on football although he still gambles on other sports and casino games. He is determined to address his gambling problem with therapy at the conclusion of this season." This week the England manager <u>Gareth Southgate revealed</u> he had spoken to Toney

and said football needed to "look after" the player.

"I don't like the idea we just leave somebody, that they're not allowed to be part of the football community," he said. "I don't think that's how we should work, how the best rehabilitation programmes work."

The <u>Brentford</u> manager, Thomas Frank, jumped to the defence of Toney, who cannot return to training until September under the terms of his ban. He said: "Yes, Ivan did something wrong but what I don't get at all is how can you not let him be involved in football at all for the first four months?

"What do you gain from that? If you want to rehabilitate people you give them education, you do something, and now he is left on his own.

"He should be forced to go into a hundred schools to tell them about his football and background, that's how it should work, but I'm a football coach, what do I know?

"If I can't speak to him, then they will have to ban me. If I am not allowed to speak to him on a support level there must be something wrong. I think you're allowed to contact people even when they're in prison aren't you? So I think I'm allowed."

On Friday Brentford said they would "do everything possible" to support Toney, who has scored 20 Premier League goals this season. Questions will now be asked about when the club learned of Toney's gambling addiction.

"The commission noted that none of the charges related to events where Ivan could negatively impact his own team," Brentford said. "The club will now be doing everything possible to provide support to Ivan and his family to deal with the issues raised in this case. We consider this matter closed and look forward to welcoming Ivan back to training in September and seeing him representing Brentford in the Premier League in January."

On Friday, Toney broke his silence, tweeting: "I'll speak soon with no filter."

Works Cited

"Committees | Kingsmun." Kingsmun, 2019, www.kingsmun.com/committees.

- Cormack, James. "Financial Fair Play Rules: Explained." *90min.com*, 6 Feb. 2023, www.90min.com/posts/financial-fair-play-rules-explained.
- "EA SPORTS 2023/24 Player of the Season Nominees." *Premierleague.com*, 2023, www.premierleague.com/news/3997090. Accessed 13 Dec. 2024.
- "Football and Premier League Inspiring the next Generation." *Premierleague.com*, 2024, www.premierleague.com/news/4177421. Accessed 12 Dec. 2024.
- "How Premier League Helps Inspire Young People to Protect the Planet." *Www.premierleague.com*, www.premierleague.com/news/3859937.
- MacInnes, Paul. "Ivan Toney Repeatedly Bet on Own Club and Tried to Conceal Gambling, FA Finds." *The Guardian*, 26 May 2023, www.theguardian.com/football/2023/may/26/ivantoney-bet-on-own-club-tried-to-conceal-gambling-fa-addiction-ban-brentford.
- "Premier League Inspires." *Www.premierleague.com*, www.premierleague.com/news/3123692.
- "Premier League Kicks." *Premierleague.com*, 2024,
 - www.premierleague.com/footballandcommunity/premier-league-charitable-fund/premier-league-programmes/premier-league-kicks.
- "Premier League: Frequency of Gambling Adverts 2024 | Statista." *Statista*, 2024, www.statista.com/statistics/1498807/premier-league-gambling-adverts-media/. Accessed 13 Dec. 2024.
- "Reddit Dive into Anything." *Reddit.com*, 2022,
 - www.reddit.com/r/soccer/comments/107y7wy/oc_202223_premier_league_net_spend_so _far/#lightbox. Accessed 13 Dec. 2024.

"Reddit - Dive into Anything." *Reddit.com*, 15 Aug. 2024, www.reddit.com/r/reddevils/comments/1et6vm0/classicfootballshirts_premier_league_20 2425_shirt/#lightbox. Accessed 13 Dec. 2024.

- "Sport's Role in Addressing the SDGs." *Sportanddev*, www.sportanddev.org/sport-anddevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/sports-role-addressing-sdgs.
- Staff, SportBusiness. "Sport Positive Launches Premier League Clubs." SportBusiness, 9 May 2024, www.sportbusiness.com/2024/05/sport-positive-launches-premier-league-clubs/. Accessed 12 Dec. 2024.
- "Statement from the Premier League, EFL, the FA and Women's Super League." *Premierleague.com*, 2024, www.premierleague.com/news/4065603?sf274023033.
- United Nations. "The 17 Sustainable Development Goals." *United Nations*, 2024, sdgs.un.org/goals.
- Wikipedia Contributors. "List of Owners of English Football Clubs." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 17 May 2019,

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_owners_of_English_football_clubs.