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Sports Betting Alert - April 24, 2023



NFL Suspends Five Players for Sports Gambling

The suspensions, including four Detroit Lions, are the biggest crackdown since betting on sports became widely legal across the U.S.

The NFL has suspended five players, including four on the Detroit Lions, for violating the league's gambling policy in the league's biggest crackdown since the widespread proliferation of legal sports betting across the U.S.

The unprecedented bans coming down at once from the NFL reflect the growing challenge the entire sports world faces as betting becomes increasingly prevalent. Like anyone else these days, professional athletes can now place legal wagers with a few taps on a smartphone. Leagues such as the NFL face the thorny task of preventing their personnel from engaging in the practice and embracing the new revenue streams it offers.

Three players—the Lions' Quintez Cephus and C.J. Moore, along with Shaka Toney of the Washington Commanders—were suspended indefinitely, through at least 2023, for betting on NFL games this past season. Detroit released Cephus and Moore when their suspensions were announced.

Two others, Lions wide receivers Jameson Williams and Stanley Berryhill, received six-game bans. Although the league didn't

specify their violations, the team said their suspensions were due to “other gambling policy violations, including betting from an NFL facility on non-NFL games.”

NFL players are prohibited from betting on anything related to the NFL, and while they are allowed to bet on non-NFL games, they cannot do so while in any club facility.

“These players exhibited decision-making that is not consistent with our organizational values and violates league rules,” Lions general manager Brad Holmes said in a statement. [Read](#)

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