

YOUTH GAMBLING

IN EDUCATION-BASED
ATHLETICS

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

OCTOBER 2045

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Don

Karrahd

- **PLAYER ENTOURAGES**
- **POINT SPREADS & PREDICTIONS**
- **SITES PROGRAM “HANGER ONS”**
- Chatter (training room)
- Access (casinos 18+)
- Legalized online betting



[Watch video on YouTube](#)

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YOUTH SPORTS BETTING

LITTLE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL CONDEMNS BETTING ON YOUTH COMPETITION

Little League Baseball publicly denounced gambling on its World Series games involving 10- to 12-year-olds.

OFFSHORE GAMBLING ON THE LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES FEELS 'DIRTY,' TEAMS SAY

Some MLB-style youth teams and organizers have expressed moral concerns about offshore sportsbooks offering odds on youth games

CINCINNATI COUNCILMAN SAID BETTING ON HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS IS REASON FOR VIOLENCE UPTICK

YOUTH SPORTS BETTING SAFETY COALITION DEBUTS IN MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts launched a coalition (AG's office + sports teams) to create education and prevention programs about gambling risks for 12- to 20-year-olds.

ILLINOIS' NEW REALITY: YOUTH GAMBLING

An article describing how legalized mobile sports betting in Illinois is fueling concerns about underage gambling, especially in teens.

**What we have seen
in our own
communities/states**



DEFINITION

GAMBLING:

**RISKING SOMETHING OF VALUE, IN HOPES OF GAINING
SOMETHING OF GREATER VALUE, BUT THERE IS A CHANCE OF
LOSING WHAT THEY HAVE**

**GAMBLING ADDICTION IS NOW CONSIDERED AS A
BEHAVIORAL ADDICTION**



EXAMPLES (Phone Accessible)



Playing cards for money
Sports betting or pools
Casino Games
Lottery/Scratch Tickets
Poker
Fantasy Football



What the numbers say

Recent estimates say that US gambling revenue annually drives \$116 billion combining commercial and tribal gaming operations.

85% OF US ADULTS HAVE GAMBLED, MOST OF WHICH DON'T EXPERIENCE ANY PROBLEMS WITH GAMBLING

**ESTIMATED 2%-3% OF US ADULTS EXPERIENCE PROBLEMS WITH
GAMBLING**

THAT EQUATES TO 4-6 MILLION PEOPLE

**ABOUT 2 MILLION PEOPLE CAN BE CLASSIFIED AS HAVING A
GAMBLING DISORDER. THIS RATE IS HIGHER AMONGST YOUTH**

How Early???



43.5% Middle School Students

60%-80% High School Student

Source: DESE & MA DEPT. PUBLIC HEALTH

Recovery Matters

Suicide rates are 12X higher than any other addiction

80% of gambling addicts fall off the wagon.

What is problem gambling?

When gambling begins to harm someone's mental or physical health, relationships or finances, and/or interferes with work, school, or extracurricular activities

RISKS FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING

MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES

Substance use, personality disorders, depression, anxiety often accompany problem gambling

AGE 10-24 YEARS

Youth have higher rates of problem gambling than adults

GENDER

Men typically engage in problem gambling more than women

Behavioral Health Issue

Dopamine is a neurotransmitter that makes people feel excited



DOPAMINE HIT TO BRAIN WHETHER YOU WIN OR LOSE

SIGNS OF GAMBLING ADDICTION

**Easy to miss the signs because the physical effects are not seen
(unlike substance or alcohol dependency)**



SIGNS OF GAMBLING ADDICTION

Needs to gamble with increasing amounts of money

Restless or irritable attempting to stop gambling

Unsuccessful efforts to stop

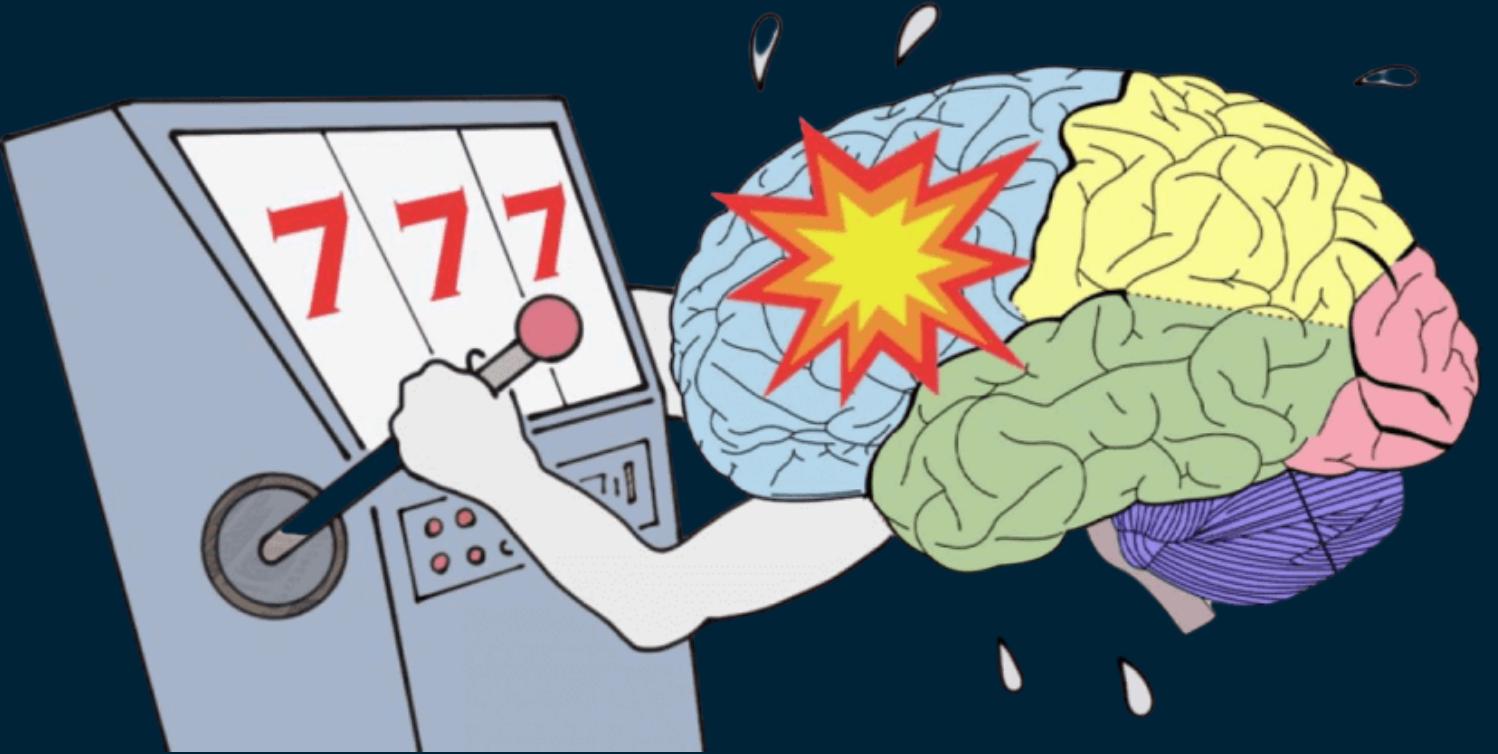
Gambles when feeling distressed

After losing money, often returns another day to get even

(Gambling is solution to the problem, not the cause)

3 C'S

INTENSE CRAVING LOSS OF CONTROL CONTINUED USE



A Perfect Storm

AGE
ACCESS TO CASH
AVAILABILITY
ADVERTISING/MEDIA
ACCEPTABILITY



“Unlike drug and alcohol education, there is no federal mandate requiring schools to educate students or parents about the dangers of excessive gambling.

Combined with the lack of a policy response by administrators, this situation leaves an open door for student related gambling disorders to emerge unchecked”

-Harvard Medical School

LONG TERM IMPACT OF GAMBLING ADDICTION

Depression

Severe Financial Ruin (debt, bankruptcy)

Broken Relationships Job Loss

Legal Issues

Significant Mental Health Problems ie. depression & anxiety

Physical Health Issues (Chronic Stress, Sleep Loss, and Neglect)

GAMBLING TO VIOLENCE



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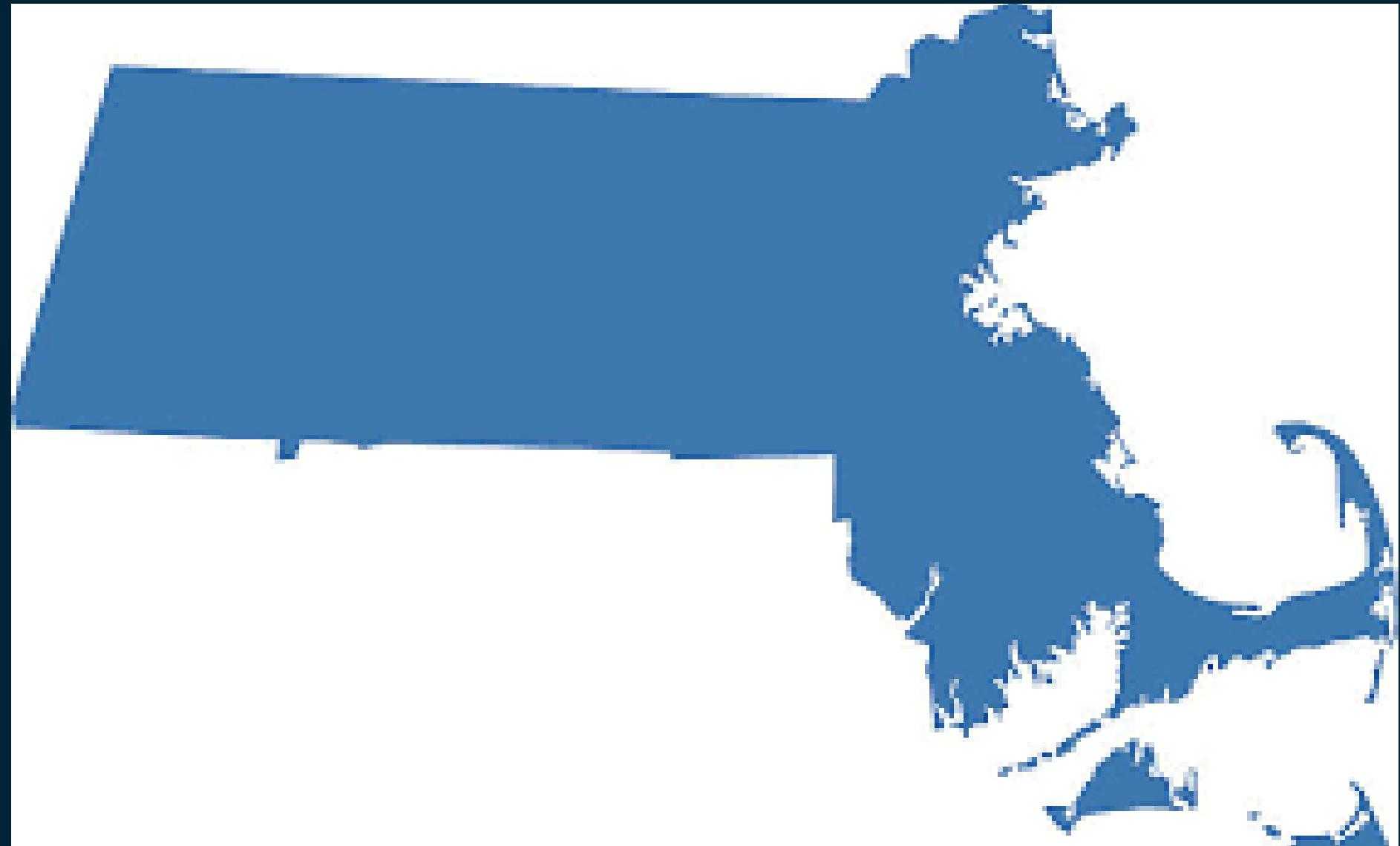


Navigating the Terrian

ROAD MAP

2025





- REACH OUT TO STATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
- PARTNER WITH COMPANY THAT WORKS WITH NCAA
- PRESENTATION TO STATE ASSOCIATION - WORKSHOP
- PRESENTATION TO DISTRICT ADS
- PSA WITH DISTRICT SAFE COALITION
- PRESENTATION BY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE AT STATE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S CONFERENCE



Ohio

- **DISCUSS SUBJECT WITH THE OHSAA**

**ENGAGE WITH CITY COUNCIL & YOUTH
SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS PERTAINING
TO THIS ISSUE**

**FINANCIAL EDUCATION WITH STUDENT
ATHLETES**

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?



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Resources

LOCAL
COMMUNITY
RESOURCES
(SAFE
COALITION)

STATE
ATTORNEY
GENERAL'S
OFFICE

STATE
ATHLETIC
ASSOCIATION



LAND THE PLANE..ACTION STEPS

Having the Conversation

- It is a Public Health issue
- It effects all aspects of health - physical, social, mental
- It effects all aspects of life - family, work, finances, reputation
- Gambling Disorder does not discriminate
- Problems can develop from any form - lottery, sports, casino, etc
- It is Preventable, Identifiable, Treatable
- There is Help!!!

THE WORLD OF ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATION

Can't always be handled punitively

Shame is never a solution

Address it in your District and/or Athletic Handbook

WHERE DO ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS GO NOW?

FINANCIAL EDUCATION

CAREFULLY CRAFTED POLICIES (INCLUDE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY
SPECIALIST)

EMPATHETIC COMMUNITY
(ADDICTION THRIVES IN ISOLATION)

CREATE A LOCAL VOICE



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