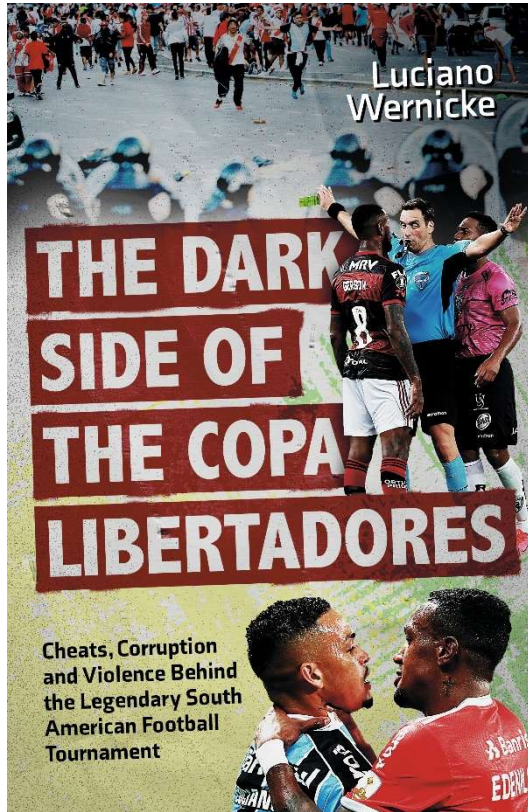## The Dark Side of the Copa Libertadores

Cheats, Corruption and Violence Behind the Legendary South American Football Tournament

By Luciano Wernicke

Key features

- Delves into the dark side of the most important football club tournament in South America

- Nefarious goings on away from the pitch, including coercion or 'hiring' of referees, threats to rivals and other measures used to gain an unfair advantage

- Reveals the ingenious tricks, traps and ferocious threats used by sports leaders, drug traffickers and political entities to obtain a sporting result

- Brimming with colourful stories and amusing anecdotes: the footballer sent off twice in the same match wearing two different shirts, the priest who scored a winning goal and the brave midfielder who had a mishap in his shorts

- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites, podcasts and magazines

Description

The Dark Side of the Copa Libertadores uncovers the sinister, violent and corrupt goings on that bubble beneath the surface of this famous South American football tournament. More than just a sporting event, the Copa Libertadores is a hiding place for vices such as xenophobia, hatred and jingoism. George Orwell, who died a decade before the tournament began, described international football as 'the continuation of war by other means', and this idea aptly sums up the culture of the Copa Libertadores, with games played out like gladiatorial duels both on and off the pitch. This captivating book charts the successes and miseries, heroes and villains, laughter and tears, screams and silence that have punctuated the tournament since its inception in 1960.

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