



MEDIA INFORMATION

TIU policy on tackling social media abuse

Online abuse of players through social media channels is an area of growing concern. Frequently, this unacceptable practice is linked to disgruntled gamblers. While this is not generally a corruption issue, the TIU plays an active role by working closely with the WTA, ATP and ITF and individual players to provide support and practical advice.

The TIU works closely with social media companies on behalf of concerned players and seeks to have offending accounts removed. This has been successfully achieved in a number of cases.

To fully understand the scope of the problem and to assist the sport in developing effective responses, players should report abuse to the TIU, providing screen shots and messages. This can be done via a confidential info@tennisintegrityunit.com address, which is monitored on a 24-7 basis.

The TIU also provides information to allow players to block abusers and advises them not to engage in online conversation, to check privacy settings to reduce unwelcome contact and use careful judgement in accepting Friend requests. These points are also covered in both online and face-to-face training delivered by the TIU.

In more serious situations involving threats of violence and intimidation, players are advised to contact local law enforcement agencies, to report the abuse for risk assessment and investigation of any crime that may have been committed. The TIU can assist players in making such reports.

Ends

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