



# **CODE OF CONDUCT ON BETTING FOR PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS**

## Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to set out the guiding principles for all Tennis players and officials (technical, team and administrative) on the issues surrounding the integrity of sport and betting.

## Tennis Integrity Unit

The Tennis Integrity Unit (TIU) is the anti-corruption body covering all professional tennis around the world. It is responsible for enforcing the sport's zero-tolerance policy on betting-related corruption.

In doing so it has three main strategic priorities – preventing corruption from taking place; investigation and prosecution of offenders; delivering anti-corruption education for players and stakeholders to recognise and report corrupt activity.

## Guiding Principles

1. Be Smart: Know the rules
2. Be Safe: Never bet on Tennis
3. Be Careful: Never share sensitive information
4. Be Clean: Never fix an event
5. Be Open: Tell someone if you are approached

### 1. Be Smart: Know the rules

Find out the sports betting integrity rules of the International Tennis Federation (ITF) and Tennis Ireland so that you are aware of the ITF's most recent position regarding betting. Many sports and countries either have or are developing regulations on sports betting and you need to be aware of these – even if you do not bet. If you break the rules, you will be caught and risk severe punishment including a potential lifetime ban from Tennis and even being subject to a criminal investigation.

### 2. Be Safe: never bet on Tennis

Never bet on yourself, your opponent or Tennis. If you, or anyone in your entourage (coach, family members, etc), bet on you, your opponent or Tennis, you risk being severely sanctioned. It is best to play safe and never bet on any events within Tennis including:

- never betting or gambling on your own matches or any competitions (including betting on yourself or your team to win, lose or draw as well as any of the different side-bets);
- never instructing, encouraging or facilitating any other party to bet on Tennis;
- never ensuring the occurrence of a particular incident, which is the subject of a bet and for which you expect to receive or have received any reward;
- never giving or receiving any gift, payment or other benefit in circumstances that might reasonably be expected to bring you or Tennis into disrepute.

### **3. Be Careful: never share sensitive information**

As a player or official you will have access to information that is not available to the general public, such as knowing that a star player is injured or that the coach is putting out a weakened side. This is considered sensitive, privileged or inside information. This Code of Conduct on Sports Betting for Players and Officials information could be sought by people who would then use that knowledge to secure an unfair advantage and make a financial gain.

There is nothing wrong with you having sensitive information; it is what you do with it that matters.

Most players know that they should not discuss important information with anyone outside of their club or coaching staff (with or without reward) where the player might reasonably be expected to know that its disclosure could be used in relation to betting. The same applies to officials.

### **4. Be Clean: never fix an event**

Play and officiate fairly, honestly and never fix an event or part of an event. Whatever the reason, do not make any attempt to influence adversely the natural course of a Tennis event or part of an event. Sporting competitions must always be an honest test of skill and ability and the results must remain uncertain. Fixing an event, or part of an event goes against the rules and ethics of sport and when caught, you may receive a criminal prosecution and a lifetime ban from Tennis.

Do not put yourself at risk by following these simple principles:

- Always perform to the best of your abilities (play to your potential and umpire fairly).
- Never accept to fix a match. Say no immediately if approached. Do not let yourself be manipulated - unscrupulous individuals might try to develop a relationship with you built on favours or fears that they will then try to exploit for their benefit in possibly fixing an event. This can include the offer of gifts, money or other support.
- Avoid addictions or running up debts as this may be a trigger for unscrupulous individuals to target you to fix competitions. Get help before things get out of control.

### **5. Be Open: tell someone if you are approached**

If you hear something suspicious or if anyone approaches you to ask about fixing any part of a match then you should report it to the Tournament (competition director or referee). If you are an official report it to your supervisor or someone you trust straight away.

If someone offers you money or favours for sensitive information then you should also tell Tennis Ireland or the ITF's Integrity Unit. Any threats or suspicions of corrupt behaviour must always be reported. The police and national laws are there to protect you. Your club, your Federation or your Athletes' Commission will help.

If in doubt as to who to contact, email: [info@tennisireland.com](mailto:info@tennisireland.com) or [info@tennisintegrityunit.com](mailto:info@tennisintegrityunit.com)

Further information on this topic can be accessed at <http://www.tennisintegrityunit.com/>