



**TENNIS INTEGRITY UNIT**  
ANNUAL REVIEW

2018

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## “With publication of the Independent Review Panel’s Interim and Final reports during 2018, tennis now has a comprehensive blueprint to follow in taking the fight against betting-related corruption to a new level.”

With publication of the Independent Review Panel’s (IRP) Interim and Final reports during 2018, tennis now has a comprehensive blueprint to follow in taking the fight against betting-related corruption to a new level.

We asked the IRP to look into every aspect of this troubling issue and to give the sport a package of measures that would build on the excellent work already done by the Tennis Integrity Unit (TIU). December’s Final Report, available at [www.tennisirp.com](http://www.tennisirp.com), contains 12 main areas of recommendations that are designed to reduce the exposure of the most vulnerable players to the dangers posed by corrupt betting and deliberate under-performance. In parallel with the IRP’s work, the sport has also introduced improvements to the structure and organisation of tennis and the rules and regulations that govern it. These are consistent with the guidance provided by the IRP and will contribute to an enhanced integrity structure. We are grateful to the IRP for carrying out this important review and will work co-operatively across the sport to apply their new model.

That process has already begun in a number of important areas, as demonstrated by the continued growth, development and increased funding of the TIU. In terms of governance, we commissioned a global search to recruit a Chair to lead a new, independent Supervisory Board that will provide the highest quality strategic oversight, direction and guidance for the TIU. That appointment will be made in early 2019, to be closely followed by selection of the remaining Board members. During 2018 the TIU has continued to work tirelessly to protect the integrity of the sport. While it is concerning that the numbers of players and officials prosecuted continues to rise year-on-year, it is also a reflection of the zero-tolerance policy that the governing bodies remain fully committed to upholding.

**STEVE SIMON**

**Tennis Integrity Board Chairman 2018**

September 2018 marked 10 years since the establishment of the TIU. With that far-sighted decision, tennis became only the third sport to invest in a dedicated anti-corruption body. Over time the unit has grown organically from its origins as a three-person operation into one that by early 2019 will employ 17 staff with an annual budget approaching \$5 million.

The continued development of the TIU will be guided by the findings and recommendations of the Independent Review Panel’s Final Report, published in December 2018 (page 5). Work has already begun to implement the panel’s recommendations and that process will continue apace throughout 2019 and beyond.

Our dedicated Education team has now been in place for 12 months and has made important contributions to the vital work of preparing players, coaches and officials to recognise, manage and report corruption. New education modules have been developed over the past year and the scope of the program has been, and will continue to be, substantially expanded (pages 6-7).

In many ways it is disappointing that more individuals (21) were subject to disciplinary sanctions in 2018 than in any previous year (page 8). Eight players and officials were handed lifetime bans from the sport. It is always regrettable when the wrong choices are made, both for the individuals concerned and for the reputation of tennis. But those that choose financial gain over sporting integrity will always be subject to rigorous investigation and prosecution by the TIU.

The global sports integrity landscape has changed out of all recognition over the past decade, with many codes acting to protect the integrity of their sports. While our primary focus never wavers from tennis, the unit is also playing an important role in the developing political, legal and law enforcement structures designed to tackle match manipulation on an international scale. Our involvement in the Council of Europe’s Macolin Convention, the International Olympic Committee’s anti-corruption initiatives and many other integrity and law enforcement forums is featured on page 11.

**NIGEL WILLERTON**

**Director, Tennis Integrity Unit**

# THE TIU IN 2018

## JANUARY

The Tennis Integrity Board held its first meeting of the year at the Australian Open in Melbourne, under the chairmanship of Steve Simon of the WTA.

Karen Risby (Investigator) and Richard Sackey-Addo (Education Co-ordinator) joined the TIU.

## FEBRUARY

Three chair umpires from Thailand received provisional suspensions pending completion of TIU investigations into alleged corruption offences.

TIU Education Manager Matt Perry represented the TIU on the International Olympic Committee education working group on the Prevention of Competition Manipulations.

## MARCH

Steve Downes joined the TIU's Information Unit as an Intelligence Analyst.

The TIU received 38 match alerts during the first quarter of 2018 (January to March), broadly in line with the same period over the previous three years.

## APRIL

The Independent Review Panel published its Interim Report, putting forward recommendations for an enhanced anti-corruption regime. The Report and associated Evidence of Record & Analysis are available at [www.tennisirp.com](http://www.tennisirp.com).

## MAY

Barlaham Zuluaga Gaviria, Colombia, was banned for three years and fined \$5,000 for failing to co-operate with a TIU investigation.

Dmytro Badanov, Ukraine, was banned for life and fined \$100,000 for match-fixing offences.

## JUNE

The Tennis Integrity Board held its second meeting of the year at Roland Garros, Paris.

Argentinian players Nicolas Kicker and Federico Coria were found guilty of corruption offences. Mr Kicker was banned for six years (3 years suspended) and fined \$25,000 for match-fixing and non-co-operation. Mr Coria was banned for eight months (6 months suspended) and fined \$10,000 (\$5,000 suspended) for not reporting a corrupt approach and not fully co-operating with the TIU.

The TIU received 86 match alerts during the second quarter of 2018 (April to June).

## JULY

Karim Hossam, Egypt, was banned for life and fined \$15,000 for match-fixing, facilitating betting and other offences.

Robert Farah, Colombia, received a three month suspended suspension and \$5,000 fine for facilitating betting.

## AUGUST

Peng Shuai, China, received a 6 month suspension (3 months suspended) and \$10,000 fine (\$5,000 suspended) for attempting to contrive the outcome of a ladies doubles main draw. Her then coach, Bertrand Perret, was denied credentials for 3 months for the same offence.

Luca Gelhardt, Germany, received an 8 month suspension (4 months suspended) and \$7,000 fine (\$3,500 suspended) for betting on tennis.

## SEPTEMBER

The Tennis Integrity Board held its third meeting of 2018 at the US Open in New York.

Patricio Heras, Argentina, received a 5 year ban (2 years suspended) and \$25,000 fine for match-fixing and failing to report corrupt approaches.

Oliver Anderson, Australia, completed a 19 month period of suspension for match-fixing and failing to report a corrupt approach.

The TIU received 63 match alerts during the third quarter of 2018 (July to September).

## OCTOBER

Ukrainian brothers Gleb and Vadim Alekseenko were banned for life and each fined \$250,000 for multiple match-fixing and gambling offences.

Thai chair umpires Anucha Tongplew, Apisit Promchai and Chitchai Srililai received lifetime bans from officiating for match fixing, betting on tennis and facilitating betting offences.

Loveth Donataus, Nigeria, was suspended for two years (1 year suspended) and fined \$5,000 (suspended) for match-fixing and associated offences.

## NOVEMBER

The Tennis Integrity Board held its fourth meeting of 2018 at the ATP Finals in London.

Christopher Diaz-Figueroa, Guatemala, was suspended for three years (1 year suspended) and fined \$5,000 (suspended) for match-fixing offences.

Italian players Daniele Bracciali and Potito Starace received a lifetime ban, \$250,000 fine, a 10 year suspension and \$100,000 fine respectively, after being convicted of match-fixing charges.

## DECEMBER

The Independent Review Panel published its Final Report [www.tennisirp.com](http://www.tennisirp.com).

Members of the TIU Education team presented at the Council of Europe Keep Crime Out Of Sport seminar promoting the Macolin Convention, in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

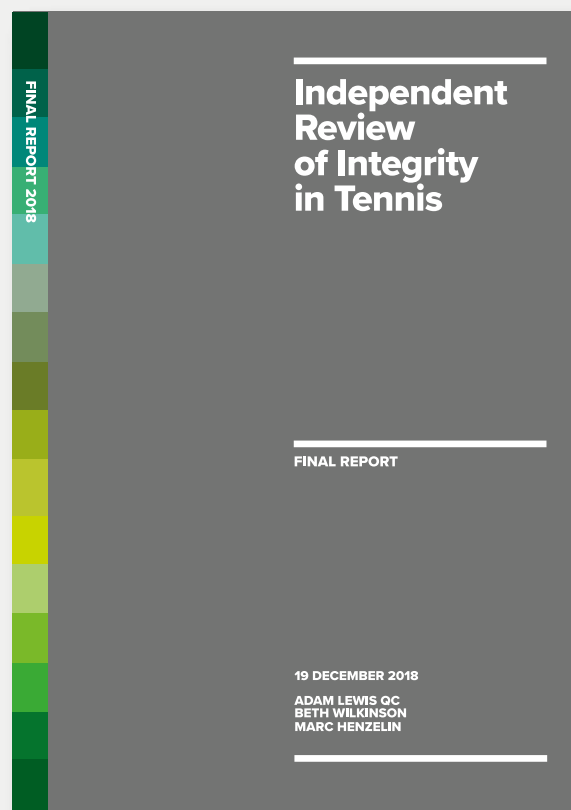
Diego Matos, Brazil, was provisionally suspended pending completion of a TIU investigation.

# INDEPENDENT REVIEW PANEL FINAL REPORT

In December 2018 the Independent Review Panel (IRP), set up by the governing bodies of tennis in early 2016 to look into all aspects of betting-related integrity, published its Final Report. After carrying out an exhaustive global review that included analysis of millions of pages of documents, hundreds of face-to-face interviews, an Interim Report and a six-month consultation period, the Panel put forward a series of detailed recommendations covering 12 main areas of integrity and governance. These will now be taken forward by an independent Supervisory Board that will work with the governing bodies and the TIU to create the best possible anti-corruption regime for professional tennis. The report confirmed that the Panel had seen no evidence of any institutional corruption or cover-up by the tennis authorities or the TIU.

The Final Report and its detailed recommendations can be viewed on the IRP website at [www.tennisirp.com](http://www.tennisirp.com). Publication of the Final Report marks the completion of the IRP process.

**“The report confirmed that the Panel had seen no evidence of any institutional corruption or cover-up by the tennis authorities or the TIU.”**



## MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

A three-person panel of leading legal experts was appointed by the governing bodies of tennis to carry out the review, chaired by Adam Lewis QC, of Blackstone Chambers in London. Mr Lewis is leading counsel specialising in Public Law, EU Law and Sports Law. Marc Henzelin of Lalive SA, Geneva, Switzerland, is lead counsel in transnational and domestic litigation and also leads private investigations. Beth Wilkinson, Wilkinson, Walsh + Eskovitz, Washington DC, United States, is lead trial counsel in numerous federal and state cases. She is a former Assistant US Attorney and Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General.



Adam Lewis QC presents the Interim Report in April 2018.

# TIU EDUCATION

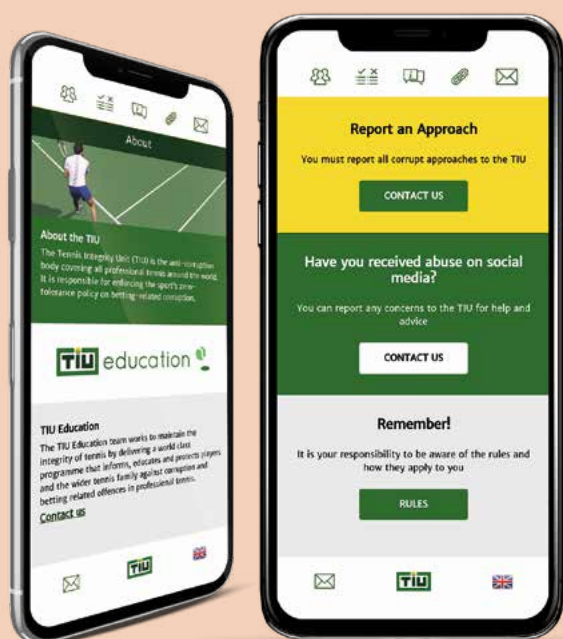
In its first full year of operation the TIU Education team successfully delivered a number of key strategic priorities to expand the scope and quality of anti-corruption education and training for the sport. New and improved modules were developed for the Tennis Integrity Protection Programme (TIPP), new education resources were introduced and thousands of players and officials received in-person education briefings, presentations and tutorials.

A new Strategic Plan for Education was approved by the Tennis Integrity Board for implementation in 2019.

inform. educate. protect. 



## DIGITAL LEARNING RESOURCES



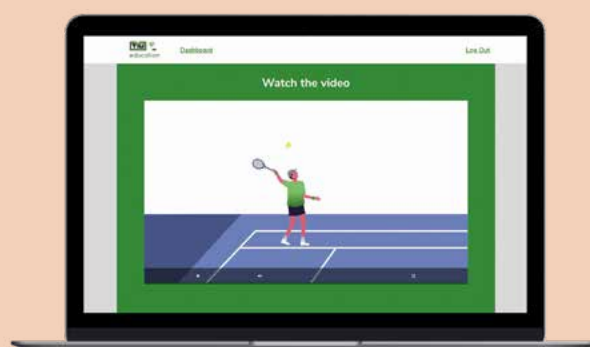
### IMPROVED TIU APP FOR ANDROID AND APPLE DEVICES

The TIU App benefitted from further development with updated design and layout. Designed for players, coaches, officials, agents, tournament staff and others connected to professional tennis, the TIU App provides easy access to the TACP rules, advice, links to further resources and a designated contact page for reporting corrupt activity and other enquiries. Available on Android and Apple devices, over 900 downloads were recorded in 2018.



### DEDICATED EDUCATION PAGE ON TIU WEBSITE

Education now has its own dedicated page at [www.tennisintegrityunit.com/education](http://www.tennisintegrityunit.com/education), featuring a new design and resources area with access to download the TACP and explanatory notes in 6 different languages, links to TIPP and ITF Knowledge education programmes. More resources will be launched in 2019.



### NEW MODULES FOR TENNIS INTEGRITY PROTECTION PROGRAMME (TIPP) IN 2019

In 2018 more than 7,500 new users completed TIPP, bringing the overall number to more than 37,500 players, officials and tournament staff. Development work carried out during the year has delivered two new modules to be launched in 2019, one aimed at players and the other at officials. Alongside the new modules, improvements were made to enhance the user experience and journey, reporting functionality and account creation.



## NEW EDUCATION RESOURCES

- A summary of changes to the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program (TACP) was produced, highlighting all rule and procedural changes
- The TACP Explained document was launched in six languages to summarise the rules for individual roles (Players, Officials, Coaches, Tournament Staff and Agents)
- A case study video featuring Australian player Oliver Anderson was produced to support in-person presentations
- A branding exercise was commissioned and completed to identify TIU Education resources and give consistency across all platforms



## EDUCATION ACTIVITY IN 2018



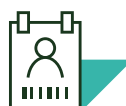
### PLAYERS

- 450 players were educated face-to-face, including WTA one-to-one sessions, ATP Universities, ITF GSDF teams, Junior Grand Slam workshops
- The TACP Explained document was distributed to all players through ATP and WTA PlayerZones and IPIN
- TIU Education worked with the ATP, WTA and Theseus LLP to provide an enhanced service for players subject to social media abuse



### OFFICIALS

- Delivered pre-tournament briefings for all Grand Slam officials
- Face-to-face education was provided for all attending Level 3 Officiating schools
- The TACP Explained document was distributed to officials through the ITF Officiating Portal
- The completion of TIPP was made mandatory for all ITF Certified officials
- TIU Education hosted a Q&A meeting with ITF International Referees



### TOURNAMENTS

- 1,600 staff from over 20 tournaments completed TIPP in 2018
- The TACP Explained document was distributed to 1,350 Tournament Directors of ATP, WTA and ITF tournaments
- All Hawk-Eye tournament staff completed TIPP in 2018 and received the TACP Explained document



### COACHES

- Face-to-face education with coaches was delivered through the WTA Coach Program, ITF High Performance Coaching courses, and Junior Grand Slam workshops
- The TACP Explained document was distributed via ITF and other coaching bodies

# DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS 2018

## ANUCHA TONGPLEW, APISIT PROMCHAI, CHITCHAI SRILILAI

Thailand

Chair umpires

7 February 2018: provisionally suspended pending completion of a TIU investigation.

## BARLAHAM ZULUAGA GAVIRIA

22, Colombia

Career-high: 1491 singles

2 May 2018: 3 year suspension, \$5,000 fine

Failing to co-operate with a TIU investigation.

## DMYTRO BADANOV

30, Ukraine

Career-high: 463 singles

29 May 2018: lifetime ban, \$100,000 fine

Match-fixing and facilitating betting.

## FEDERICO CORIA

26, Argentina

Career-high: 223 singles

14 June 2018: 8 month suspension (6 months suspended), \$10,000 fine (\$5,000 suspended)

Failing to report a corrupt approach, failing to co-operate with a TIU investigation.

## NICOLAS KICKER

25, Argentina

Career-high: 78 singles

19 June 2018: 6 year suspension, 3 years suspended, \$25,000 fine

Match-fixing and failing to co-operate with a TIU investigation.

## KARIM HOSSAM

24, Egypt

Career-high: 337 singles

3 July 2018: lifetime ban, \$15,000 fine

Match-fixing, facilitating betting, providing inside information, failing to report a corrupt approach.

## ROBERT FARAH

31, Colombia

Career-high: 7 doubles, 163 singles

13 July 2018: 3 month suspended suspension, \$5,000 fine

Facilitating betting.

## PENG SHUAI

32, China

Career high: 1 doubles, 14 singles

8 August 2018: 6 month suspension (3 months suspended), \$10,000 fine (\$5,000 suspended)

Attempting to contrive the outcome of a ladies doubles main draw.

## BERTRAND PERRET

France

Former coach to Peng Shuai

8 August 2018: suspension of credentials for 3 months

Attempting to contrive the outcome of a ladies doubles main draw.

## LUCA GELHARDT

23, Germany

Career-high: 848 singles

17 August 2018: 8 month suspension (4 months suspended), \$7,000 fine (\$3,500 suspended)

Betting on tennis.

## PATRICIO HERAS

29, Argentina

Career-high: 269 singles

3 September 2018: 5 year suspension (2 years suspended), \$25,000 fine

Match-fixing and failing to report corrupt approaches.

## OLIVER ANDERSON

20, Australia

Career-high: 639 singles

21 September 2018: conclusion of 19 month provisional suspension

Match-fixing and failing to report a corrupt approach.

## ANUCHA TONGPLEW, APISIT PROMCHAI, CHITCHAI SRILILAI

Thailand

Chair umpires

8 October 2018: lifetime bans from officiating

Match-fixing, betting on tennis, facilitating betting.

## LOVETH DONATAUS

26, Nigeria

Unranked

10 October 2018: 2 year suspension (1 year suspended), \$5,000 fine (suspended)

Match-fixing, failing to report a corrupt approach, soliciting a player not to use best efforts.

## GLEB ALEKSEENKO

35, Ukraine

Career-high: 609 singles

15 October 2018; lifetime ban and \$250,000 fine

Match-fixing and soliciting corrupt gambling.

## VADIM ALEKSEENKO

35, Ukraine

Career-high: 497 singles

15 October 2018; lifetime ban and \$250,000 fine

Match-fixing and soliciting corrupt gambling.

## CHRISTOPHER DIAZ- FIGUEROA

28, Guatemala

Career-high: 326 singles

14 November 2018; 3 year suspension (1 year suspended) and \$5,000 fine (suspended)

Match-fixing and failing to report a corrupt approach.

## DANIELE BRACCIALI

40, Italy

Career-high: 49 singles

21 November 2018: lifetime ban and \$250,000 fine

Match-fixing and facilitating betting.

## POTITO STARACE

37, Italy

Career-high: 27 singles

21 November 2018: 10 year suspension and \$100,000 fine

Match-fixing and facilitating betting.

## DIEGO MATOS

30, Brazil

Career-high: 247 doubles

9 December 2018: provisionally suspended pending completion of a TIU investigation.



# 2018 MATCH ALERTS

During 2018 the TIU continued to strengthen its working relationships with the regulated betting industry. As a result new Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed which extended the global scope and reach of tennis monitoring and reporting. In many cases the quality of reporting and analysis also improved, which assisted investigations into suspect matches and corrupt players. A number of successful prosecutions, resulting in lifetime bans, benefitted from evidential material supplied by operators.

In total, 264 match alerts were reported to the TIU in 2018. This compares to 241 in 2017, 292 in 2016 and 246 in 2015. The increase in 2018 can largely be attributed to the additional information supplied through new MoUs, reflecting wider detailed coverage and oversight of the tennis betting markets.

The pattern of reporting was consistent with the experience of previous years, with most alerts received from the lower levels of men's tennis. The ITF Men's Futures tour was responsible for 163 alerts, while 39 alerts were recorded on the ATP Challenger Tour. In contrast, the four Grand Slams produced a combined

3 alerts and the main ATP and WTA Tours were responsible for 5 and 3 alerts respectively.

The TIU operates a rigorous match alert policy based on:

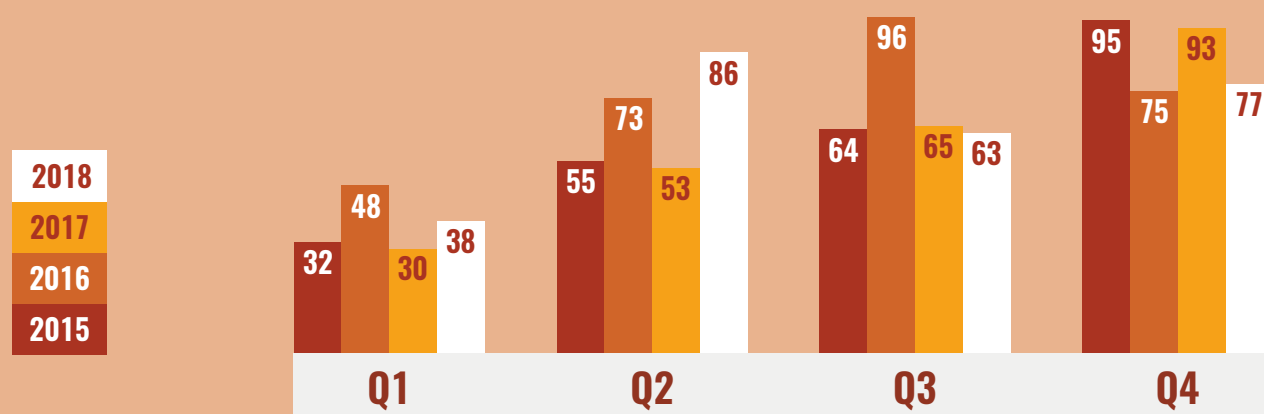
- Every match alert reported to the TIU is recorded, assessed and followed up as an indicator that something inappropriate may have happened. It is important to appreciate that an alert on its own is not evidence of match-fixing.
- There are numerous factors other than corrupt activity that can explain unusual betting patterns, such as incorrect odds-setting; well-informed betting; player fitness, fatigue and form; playing conditions and personal circumstances.
- Where analysis of a match alert does suggest corrupt activity, the TIU will conduct a full, confidential investigation which may result in charges being laid and prosecuted.

## TIU MATCH ALERT DATA 2018

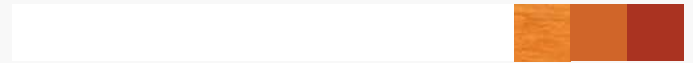
	TOTAL	Grand Slam	ATP Tour	WTA Tour	ATP Challenger	ITF Men's Futures	ITF Women's	Hopman, Davis, Fed Cups
Match Alerts Q1	38	0	1	1	6	23	5	2
Match Alerts Q2	86	1	4	2	14	56	8	1
Match Alerts Q3	63	2	0	0	13	37	11	0
Match Alerts Q4	77	0	0	0	6	47	24	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>3</b>

Match alerts reported to the TIU by regulated betting operators in 2018, identified by tours and tournaments.

## MATCH ALERTS 2015 - 2018

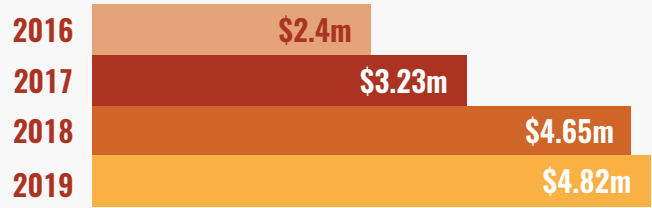


# TIU BUDGET 2018

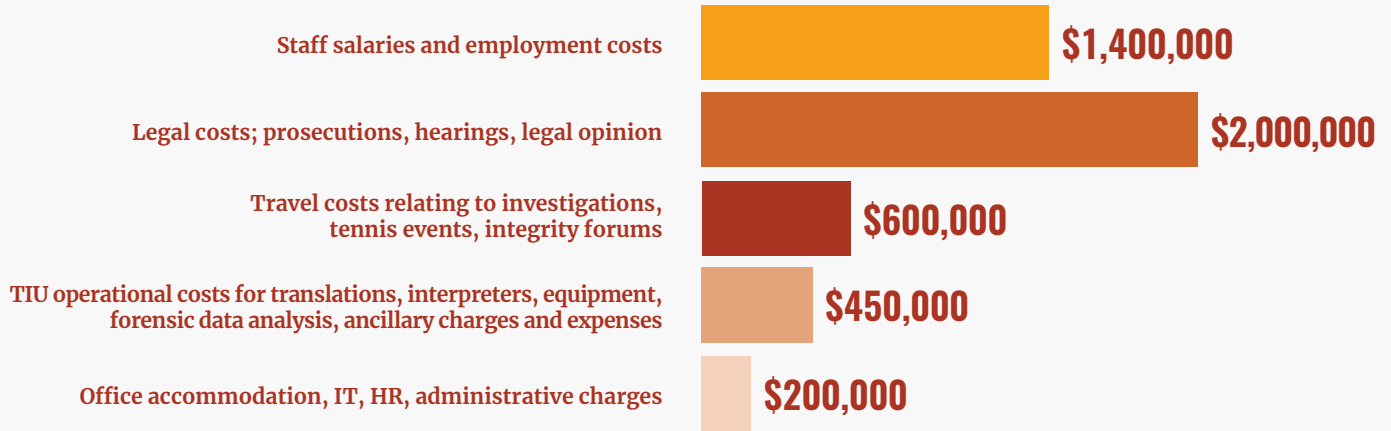


The operational budget of \$3.71 million set for the TIU in 2018 was subject to further review during the year as a result of the exceptional number of disciplinary cases prosecuted. Legal costs associated with this activity resulted in an additional \$940,000 of expenditure during the year, contributing to a final budget figure of \$4.65 million. Anticipating a similar level of investigative and disciplinary activity, the budget for 2019 stands at \$4.82 million. The cost of implementing recommendations from the Independent Review Panel will be separately funded and additional to the TIU operating budget.

## TIU BUDGET 2016 TO 2019



## THE MAJOR AREAS OF TIU EXPENDITURE DURING 2018



# TENNIS ANTI-CORRUPTION PROGRAM UPDATE



The TACP is reviewed and updated on a regular basis to ensure that it reflects changes in the nature and structure of the sport. This also allows the TIU to carry out its work most effectively in terms of investigations and prosecutions. Major changes for the TACP in 2019 include:

- Covered Persons will now remain covered for a period of two years following the last Event they entered, participated in, provided services for or received accreditation at, unless they have informed the relevant Governing Body in writing of their retirement or that they will no longer provide services or receive accreditation at Events
- Provisional Suspensions can be applied for at any time prior to the issuing of an Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer's written Decision. If a Covered Person is found guilty of an offence, a provisional suspension must be imposed by the Hearing Officer in the event of a delay between Decision and sanctioning
- Players in ITF World Tennis Tour events (excluding Junior Tournaments), Wheelchair Tennis Events and Paralympic Tennis Events are now subject to the TACP



The Tennis Anti-Corruption Program covers all professional tennis events sanctioned and authorised by the governing bodies of the sport (excluding Exhibitions and Junior tennis).

# TIU SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO TACKLE SPORTING CORRUPTION

While the absolute priority of the TIU is to tackle all forms of betting-related corruption in professional tennis, the unit also makes an important contribution to the global effort to counter match manipulation across the wider sporting landscape. In 2018 experts from the TIU's investigations, intelligence and education teams were actively involved in delivering presentations, chairing seminars and contributing to working groups with numerous organisations:

## COUNCIL OF EUROPE MACOLIN CONVENTION

The Council of Europe's Macolin Convention is the only internationally binding legal framework set up to combat the manipulation of sports by preventing, detecting and sanctioning malpractice and by encouraging dialogue among the many parties involved in sports and sports betting. To date the Convention has been signed by 32 States and ratified by four - Norway, Portugal, Ukraine and in December 2018, the UK.

During 2018 the unit was actively involved in a number of Macolin Convention events held in France, Austria, Bolivia and the UK. [www.coe.int/macolin](http://www.coe.int/macolin)

## INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

The TIU is responsible for the delivery of anti-corruption protocols for the tennis event at Olympic Games. Over a number of years the unit has also assisted the IOC to draft its Code of Ethics and has worked with Interpol and the IOC to deliver targeted training courses. In February Education Manager Matt Perry represented the TIU on the IOC education working group. The unit was again involved in presenting at the IOC INTERPOL Integrity in Sport Fact-Finders' Training session held in London.

## SPORTS BETTING INTEGRITY FORUM

The Sports Betting Integrity Forum was established in 2012 to develop Britain's approach to protecting sport and sports betting from corruption. It brings together representatives from sports governing bodies, betting operators, sport and betting trade associations, law enforcement and gambling regulation. The Forum is part of Britain's Action Plan to address the risks of match-fixing and the threats to sports betting integrity.

Phil Suddick, the TIU's Information Manager, will be the co-chair of the SBIF in 2019. Phil will also sit on the Sports Betting Group, which is comprised of representatives from across sport to share good practice in addressing the risks from sports betting corruption.

**“As a long-established and respected sports integrity unit the TIU is frequently consulted by other sports codes seeking guidance and advice on tackling common challenges.”**

## INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

In September, TIU officers presented at INTERPOL's 10th Match-Fixing Task Force held in Lyon, France. The meeting was attended by 80 officials from global law enforcement, international organisations, government departments and worldwide sporting associations to identify new ways to investigate and co-operate in cases related to sports corruption and match-fixing.

During the year the TIU also worked closely with national law enforcement agencies in several countries to support criminal investigations involving allegedly corrupt tennis players linked to gambling syndicates. While police investigations and prosecutions take primacy, a number of these cases are likely to result in charges being laid under the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program in due course.

## OTHER SPORTS INTEGRITY ORGANISATIONS

As a long-established and respected sports integrity unit the TIU is frequently consulted by other sports codes seeking guidance and advice on tackling common challenges. During 2018, meetings were held with representatives of US sports preparing for the liberalisation of sports betting in many US States.

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