

REPORTING ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE



IF YOU BELIEVE A CHILD IS IN IMMEDIATE DANGER OR A LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION, CONTACT THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY ON 000

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LISTEN

If a child raises an allegation of child abuse it is important that you:

- Listen
- Stay calm
- Be supportive
- ▶ Make sure you are clear about what the child has told you
- ▶ Reassure the child what has occurred is not their fault
- ▶ Explain other people may need to be told in order to stop what is happening
- ▶ Promptly and accurately record the discussion in writing.

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REPORT

- ▶ Immediately contact the police and/or relevant child protection agency to report the allegation or seek advice
- ▶ If the allegation involves someone to whom the Tennis Australia Member Protection Policy (TA MPP) applies, you must also report the allegation to your Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) or another member of your club with whom you feel comfortable
- ▶ Contact the Tennis Australia Integrity and Compliance Unit via email: integrity@tennis.com.au
- ▶ [Raise a complaint online](#)
- ▶ Or call STOPLINE on 1800 11 SAFE (1800 117 233).

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PROTECT

- ▶ The MPIO will assess the immediate risks to the child and take interim steps to ensure the child's safety and the safety of any other children
- ▶ The MPIO will consider what services might be most appropriate to support the child, their family and the alleged offender
- ▶ The MPIO will put in place measures to protect the child and the alleged offender from possible victimisation and gossip.

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INVESTIGATE

- ▶ Three different investigations could take place including: criminal investigation, child protection investigation, or Australian Tennis Organisation (ATO) investigation
- ▶ Regardless of any other investigation outcome, the MPIO will assess if the alleged offender should face disciplinary action including dismissal or sanction
- ▶ If disciplinary action is recommended, the ATO must follow the process outlined in the TA MPP
- ▶ The ATO will provide all relevant agencies with a report of any action taken where required.