

MONITORING & ANTI-CORRUPTION



The IPA is working closely with its partners to combat the risk of corruption in the sport, including monitoring betting patterns worldwide. We will also work closely with the Gambling Commission, other regulators and betting operators worldwide.

The IPA will assess and analyse information received on a confidential basis, and the IPA Disciplinary Committee will chair any matters that it considers may require further investigation and regulatory action.

Through the network of contacts and working with partners the IPA will usually be made aware of suspicious betting patterns in relation to a match before it is played. The message is that if a player seeks to provide inside information to persons in order for them to make money through betting, or manipulate any aspect of a match, they will be caught and will be dealt with under the IPA Members Betting Rules, where the maximum penalty is a life ban from any involvement with the sport.

The IPA welcomes any information relating to corruption in pool, including information on match fixing, gambling in pool by participating players, or any other information relating to attempts by potential corruptors to compromise the players or match officials in any manner. Such information can be passed to the IPA in any of the following options:

- : IPA Secretary: secretary@ipapool.com**
- : Confidential Telephone Hotline: 07921 265 329**

The identity of any person sharing information will be kept strictly confidential and will not be revealed to anyone without the specific permission of the person providing the information.

The IPA are developing education for players, coaches and officials on integrity and corruption issues. New players on the tour complete an induction process including an input on integrity and corruption.

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES



These guidelines are designed to provide helpful, practical advice on using social media effectively. To set the parameters for these social media guidelines, we should keep in mind three things:

- 1.** We live in a society that promotes free speech and freedom of expression; it is generally expected that persons playing sport at a professional level should reflect the values of the society it represents.
- 2.** Anything that you post is public and visible so you must be responsible in what you post.
- 3.** Social networking is monitored and you may fall foul of the Members Rules if you act outside these guidelines.

Do's

DO... show your personality.

Being yourself and letting your personality shine is what your fans are looking for. Personality creates stars in our sport. However, try to avoid any humour that might be considered in bad taste.

DO... remember everyone can see you.

Before you write anything, remember that it's public and anyone can take your words and put them in a newspaper, on a website or the TV. Media will be monitoring social media and will use your words as quotes. Pause and think carefully before you mention anything about you or other sports persons.

Arsenal's Jack Wilshire was given a stern warning by UEFA after joking about betting on one of his teammates.

DO... be responsible.

You are personally responsible for the content you provide and how you behave online.

Be careful and if you're in doubt, don't post it.

DO... report anything that concerns you.

If you see any comments or photos that concern you or you feel in the course of a conversation that somebody may need help or be in danger, report it to the relevant authority.

It only takes a few seconds and 140 characters, but an inappropriate tweet has the potential to ruin a professional sportspersons career. With the world's eyes glued to social media, the psychological, social and financial dangers are real.

NFL star Rashard Mendenhall lost his sponsorship deal with Champion after tweeting a controversial theory about the 9/11 attacks. Snooker player Mark Allen was fined £1000 after ranting about the conditions in China on his Twitter feed. Welsh rugby star Jonathan Thomas was forced to apologise after making a homophobic comment. Mark Cuban, owner of the NBA's Dallas Mavericks, was fined \$25000 by the league for using Twitter to criticise referees' performances.

Don'ts

DON'T... talk negatively about other competitors, countries, organisations or brands.

Any gossip or slanderous comments can be easily highlighted and taken the wrong way. Remember that you are an ambassador for your sport.

Current and potential sponsors can see what we can see. Think twice about any derogatory comments regarding brands - they will be undertaking "due diligence" on the IPA and its members and may opt out of any sponsorship negotiations if they see their brand under attack.

DON'T... swear.

Even suggestions of foul or abusive language by replacing letters with symbols e.g. s@£t should be avoided. Similarly, don't get into disputes with your audience – instead, show that you have listened and be responsive in a positive manner.

Football star Ashley Cole was fined £90,000 for a Twitter outburst directed at the Football Association.

DON'T... assume anything you delete will completely disappear.

It's almost impossible to completely remove information on social networking sites even if you "remove/delete" it from the original source. There is no way of knowing where it may have been reposted. So think before you post.

DON'T... be provoked into responding.

There are accounts set up to provoke you into controversial discussions or to respond to abuse. These accounts are often anonymous or created using false details and the only person who is identifiable is you. If someone provokes you in this manner, just ignore or block them.