

**IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES BROUGHT BY THE PROFESSIONAL TENNIS INTEGRITY OFFICERS**  
**("PTIOs")**

**UNDER THE TENNIS ANTI-CORRUPTION PROGRAM 2019 ("the TACP")**

**BEFORE ANTI-CORRUPTION HEARING OFFICER ("the AHO"), IAN MILL QC**

**CORRUPTION NOTICE TO: Anthony Pravettoni ("the Covered Person")**

The PTIOs being constituted by appointments from each of the following Governing Bodies:

WTA Tour, Inc

Grand Slam Board

International Tennis Federation ("ITF")

ATP Tour, Inc

The PTIOs are represented by Jamie Ptaszynski of Onside Law, Solicitors, England

The Covered Person is unrepresented

**DECISION AND ORDER OF THE AHO**

Unless otherwise clear from the context, capitalised terms in this Decision and Order bear the respective meanings given to them in the TACP.

**DECISION**

1. I am appointed as the AHO in this case.
2. On 17 February 2020, the PTIOs issued a Notice against the Covered Person pursuant to Section G.1.a of the TACP. It contained allegations of breaches by the Covered Person of Section D.1.a of the TACP, which provides that: *"No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly,*

*wager or attempt to wager on the outcome or any other aspect of any Event or any other tennis competition”.*

3. The specifics of the Charge are that the Covered Person had, between 24 February 2019 and 27 August 2019, placed a total of 42 combination/accumulator bets on the outcomes of professional tennis matches on the ATP tour and at Grand Slam Events. The total amount wagered was €110.
4. The Covered Person is a French tennis official, who was a Covered Person at the material times as a result of having officiated at ATP tour events and at the French Open during 2019. One of the matches on which the Covered Person placed a bet was that between [REDACTED]. Although the Covered Person was officiating at that tournament, he was not an official of that match.
5. The Covered Person, in response to the Charge, admitted it in an email sent to me on 21 February 2020. I am informed by the PTIOs that, having cooperated with the TIU’s enquiries, he had admitted the placing of all the relevant bets prior to being charged.
6. The purpose of this Decision, therefore, is to determine and communicate the sanction that I impose upon the Covered Person for those admitted breaches of the TACP.
7. I am grateful to the PTIOs and to the Covered Person for their helpful submissions.
8. It seems to me that the following factual matters are material:
  - a. By way of aggravation of the circumstances of the Charge:
    - i. That the Covered Person was an experienced tennis official, having commenced in that role in 2007.
    - ii. That it is not suggested by him that he was unaware of the prohibition on placing bets on professional tennis matches. Indeed, he had completed the TIPP training on 13 May 2019 and attended the TACP Educational presentation at the French Open on 27 May 2019.
    - iii. That one bet placed by him (see paragraph 4 above) was at a Grand Slam tournament at which he was an official.

iv. That he did not come forward to volunteer his misconduct, which was discovered through TIU activities.

b. By way of mitigating factors:

i. The number of bets and sums involved are very much at the low end of the scale in relation to such offences. It is not suggested that the bets placed yielded any overall profit.

ii. The Covered Person cooperated with the TIU investigation and admitted the bets placed by him, both to the TIU and in response to the Charge.

iii. He has, I understand, shown genuine contrition in his communications with the TIU.

9. The Covered Person accepts that he should be subject to a period of ineligibility as a result of his misconduct. He also accepts that it would be open to me to impose a financial sanction on him, although in this regard he asks me to take into account his *"financial difficulties due to my low salary, my credits and charges"*. It would, he said, be difficult for him to pay the amount suggested by the PTIOs (US\$1,000).

10. I have given careful consideration to the above facts, and also had regard to a number of previous relevant AHO decisions, which the PTIOs helpfully drew to my attention. As a result, and in line with those previous decisions, I have concluded that the following sanctions should be imposed on the Covered Person:

a. That he should serve a period of ineligibility from any event organised or sanctioned by any Governing Body for a period of eight months, three months of which is to be suspended on the condition that he commits no further violations of the TACP during that eight month period;

b. That he should be liable to pay a fine of US\$5,000, US\$4,500 of is to be suspended on the condition that he commits no further violations of the TACP during that same eight month period.

**Order**

I accordingly order that:

- (1) The Covered Person is and will remain ineligible for participation in any event organised or sanctioned by any Governing Body ("Event") for a period of eight months commencing on the date of this Order, with three months of that period suspended on the condition that he commits no further violations of the TACP within that 8 month period. Accordingly, he may not at any time during the period of ineligibility participate in any capacity in any Event (other than authorised anti-gambling or anti-corruption education or rehabilitation programs);
- (2) The Covered Person is to pay a fine of US\$5,000, with payment of US\$4,500 of that amount suspended on the condition that he commits no further violations of the TACP within the same 8 month period.

The Covered Person has a right of appeal from this Decision and Order to CAS. The time for any appeal runs from today's date.

**DATED THE 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2020**



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**IAN MILL QC**

**Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer**

**Signed at London, England**