

DISABILITY PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME TRAVEL TO UNSTABLE COUNTRIES

This policy sets out the Tennis Foundation's (TF) action plan for players intending to compete in countries which have been deemed unsafe for travel by the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and certain coaches travelling to such countries. The FCO website (www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice) is the main way of finding out up to date information on travel to all countries and should be taken as the central authority on travel safety advice. The TF may on occasion also take advice from local security advisors in unstable regions who provide up to date security information on changing risk assessments.

In the event of a tournament or trip taking place in a country where the advice from the FCO is to **avoid travel to the whole country or to the parts of the country where the event will take place**, then the TF will likely cancel any official trip that they have organised and/or adjust tournament schedules for programme players where applicable.

In the event of a tournament or trip taking place in a country where the advice from the FCO is to **avoid all but essential travel to the whole country or to the parts of the country where the event will take place**, then the TF will come to a reasoned decision on whether players and coaches should travel to the country taking into account the exact circumstances of the trip in accordance with the procedure below.

In both events above, any players generally covered by the LTA's travel insurance will not be covered for travel to that country should they go (regardless of decisions taken by the TF).

In the event that players have travelled to a country that **was not deemed a high risk at the time of travel**, but that then experiences a security risk incident or situation which affects the risk rating from the FCO, the following will occur. If the risk rating from the FCO is advising against all travel to the country following the incident, then the TF will repatriate players who travelled as part of their tournament schedule set by the TF or as part of an official trip as soon as possible. If the risk rating changes to advise against all but essential travel then a decision will be made on whether or not to repatriate players in accordance with the procedure below.

In all circumstances detailed above, decisions will be made by the Head of Disability Player Performance (or their nominee) and at least 2 out of the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director and members of the TF Senior Management Team. Other TF staff or relevant stakeholders may also be consulted including the Performance Support Manager, Head of Coaching and Talent, Operations Manager, LTA Legal Team and certain colleagues, parents, players and relevant security advisors. The TF is not responsible for making this decision for or informing players on the entry list who are not travelling as part of an official British team or who are not TF performance programme funded players who have a tournament schedule set by the TF. Instead, these players should seek advice or follow the direction provided by the FCO online (www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice). Where a decision is made by the TF in accordance with this policy to not travel to a country or to return from a country, any funding which was due to be paid to the player for that tournament shall be removed. Where payment has already been made, the player shall return the funding to the TF (save where the funding has been spent in accordance with that player's agreement with the TF) or use it towards another agreed tournament.

If, once a decision has been made not to travel to an unstable region, a TF member of staff proceeds with any travel plans and visits this country in an official capacity, they should be aware that this may be a disciplinary offence.

The Operations Manager will keep a detailed risk assessment log of all incidents related to this policy. Players, parents and coaches with any questions or queries relating to official trips run by the TF and whether they are affected by matters related to this policy can contact Chantal Cunningham.

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