



Dear Coaches,

This is the first in a series of communications to coaches across the country to reiterate the importance of **Safeguarding Certification**. High-profile cases of sexual abuse in other sports in recent years have ensured the subject is of the utmost concern to parents, athletes and employers. And rightly so.

In fact, many facilities simply will not hire coaches who do not have the necessary **Safeguarding Certification**.

Many of you will be familiar with the appalling abuse suffered by athletes of the [USA Gymnastics](#) and [Alpine Canada](#) federations, to name just two. Sentences anywhere between decades to life in prison have been handed out to the guilty parties.

We want to make sure no one in the tennis community has their mental, physical, emotional or sexual health and well-being compromised. No one. Fostering a sport environment that is safe for all participants, at all levels of competition, is everyone's responsibility.

It is imperative that those certified with TPA memberships complete the safeguarding requirements which are mandatory (and accessible at no additional cost). If your name is listed [here](#) it verifies you are in good standing and have completed all requirements. If you have any additional questions about your TPA status, please contact us at [tpa@tenniscanada.com](mailto:tpa@tenniscanada.com).

Additionally, for those who are NOT certified, we have created two options:

1. [Safeguarding Only](#) membership (all done online)
  - Ideal for volunteers
  - Allows individuals to complete the four safe sport requirements
2. [Community Tennis Facilitator](#) membership (in-person and online)
  - Ideal for those teaching at clubs in a limited capacity
  - Allows individuals to complete the four safe sport requirements AND complete online education/training

For more information and any other safeguarding questions, please contact Ilan Yampolsky at [iyampolsky@tenniscanada.com](mailto:iyampolsky@tenniscanada.com).

Yours sincerely,

Michael Downey  
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