

NSW INSTITUTE OF SPORT – HEAD TENNIS COACH CHARGED WITH A CRIMINAL OFFENCE

48.1

ISSUE: The NSW Institute of Sport's (NSWIS) Head Tennis Coach Noel Callaghan has been charged with a criminal offence.

SUGGESTED RESPONSE:

- * I am advised that on 21 August 2000, the NSWIS received fax notification from Tennis NSW that its head tennis coach had been charged with a criminal offence.
- * I understand the coach has denied the charges, and has stood down to defend them.
- * I am advised that the alleged incident took place prior to the coaches employment at Tennis NSW and his involvement with the NSWIS tennis program.
- * The coach has been replaced by Assistant State Coach who will coordinate the NSWIS Tennis Program in the interim. This will ensure that no NSWIS tennis scholarship holder is disadvantaged.

***** ENDS *****

BACKGROUND:

- * On 21 August 2000, NSWIS received fax notification that Head Tennis Coach Noel Callaghan had been charged with a criminal offence.
- * NSWIS immediately advised the Director-General of the Department of Sport and Recreation and all NSWIS Board Members.
- * The notification, sent by Tennis NSW's Chief Executive Craig Watson, stressed that the alleged events took place many years ago, before Mr Callaghan's association with Tennis NSW and NSWIS.

48.2

- * The notification also advised that Callaghan had denied all of the charges, and that he was "standing down for the time being to concentrate on defending these charges."
- * Tennis NSW advised NSWIS that in the interim, John Ireland (Assistant State Coach) would take responsibility for NSWIS and State Squad program. Mr Ireland is a former touring professional and a qualified Level 2 tennis coach.
- * NSWIS Director Michael Scott telephoned Tennis NSW to determine the nature of the charges. Mr Scott was advised by Manager of Tennis Services, Greg Doyle, (who was standing in for Chief Executive Craig Watson in his absence) that he was not in a position to make any further comment on the matter.

KNOWN OPPOSITION VIEWS:**AFFECTED ELECTORATE/S:****FEDERAL IMPLICATIONS:****FIRST ISSUED:** 23 AUGUST 2000**LAST REVIEWED:**

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