

Wednesday, 19 June 2024
Sydney/Gadigal, Australia

FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA DATA BREACH – UPDATE

Since becoming aware of a potential data breach, Football Australia initiated an external investigation. We have also now established that certain Football Australia data repositories were inadvertently made publicly accessible due to a system misconfiguration. The misconfiguration has been rectified.

Specifically:

- A file listing (that is, the names of files but not the contents of those files) for a data repository was accessed by an unauthorised third party, and certain data from this and an additional repository was publicly accessible for a period of time. These two repositories contained the contact details, identity documents, financial information and health information of approximately 1,600 A-League Women, A-League Men and A-League Youth players, team personnel and, in a few cases, some of their family members. Not all of this information was present for all of those individuals. While Football Australia is not able to conclude with certainty that the data in those repositories relating to those 1,600 individuals was actually accessed by an unauthorised third party, we cannot rule this out.
- A single file in a data repository relating to Football Australia match ticketing information was accessed by an unauthorised third-party. The file contained names and contact details, as well as seating, ticket quantity and price information relating to 234 individuals. It did not include their payment details (other than method of payments such as Visa or Mastercard) or dates of birth.

Otherwise, our external findings indicate that the 'Play Football' participation registration portal was not impacted by the issue.

Football Australia has started notifying relevant individuals as required. These notifications include information about how to protect their personal information, and how to access various resources that Football Australia is offering at no cost. This includes Equifax credit and identity monitoring services, specialist support from IDCare. Football Australia is also offering reimbursement for replacement of government-issued identification documents where recommended by the relevant issuing agency.

In addition, Football Australia has advised the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) and the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) of the matter, and we have been working with the Cyber Security Response Coordination Unit (CSRCU).

Football Australia apologises to those affected by the incident and we thank the football family for its patience as we've continued to investigate the matter. Since becoming aware of the issue, Football Australia has implemented a number of measures to enhance the security of our data repositories and we continue to prioritise the privacy and confidentiality of our stakeholders' and customers' information.

Further information on this data incident can be found [HERE](#).

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