



# **Tennis NSW Youth Advisory Group**

Terms of Reference



## INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The Tennis NSW Youth Advisory Group (YAG) is an initiative designed to provide valuable insights and feedback on the current state of play for tennis in NSW from a youth perspective. This program provides a platform for youth leaders within local tennis communities to discuss, assess and make recommendations for tennis that go straight to the Tennis NSW Board and Management Team about issues that relate directly to them.

The YAG will also give young people the opportunity for growth and personal development, whilst gaining an insight into a state based sporting organisation. This year will feature a session on professional development and give participants insights into how the state tennis system is structured, what it's like to work in the sports industry and career pathways.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE YAG

The YAG's role is to:

- Identify areas of importance for children and young people
- Assess what currently happens in the sport of tennis in these areas
- Make recommendations to Tennis NSW in relation to improving these areas

The YAG may provide feedback to Tennis NSW on issues of importance to young tennis players, including but not limited to:

- Safeguarding children
- Inclusion and Diversity
- Tennis participation
- Competitive Tennis
- Player Development
- Youth Health and Wellbeing
- Tennis Integrity

## YAG STRUCTURE AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Comprised of up to 16 Members who are actively participating in tennis (players, coaches, volunteers)
- Members must be registered players of a Tennis NSW affiliated club and 14-21 years of age at time of application
- The YAG will be chaired by a Tennis NSW staff member who will arrange and preside over meetings, as well as report findings and make recommendations to the Tennis NSW Board and Management team
- A second Tennis NSW staff member will act as secretary and prepare the agenda and the minutes of the meetings and record any recommendations. The secretary may act as alternate chair in the chair's absence or unavailability.

## BENEFITS OF BECOMING A YAG MEMBER

Becoming a YAG Member will allow individuals to:

- Have the opportunity to have their voice heard on matters that affect their playing experience.
- Become part of a group of individuals that network with professionals at Tennis NSW
- Contribute to decision making at Tennis NSW
- Develop better understanding of Tennis NSW processes and systems.
- Undertake professional development and enhance skills, especially in terms of communication, leadership, teamwork, being a committee member and influencing the decision-making process.
- Serve as a liaison, bringing any issues/suggestions/feedback to Tennis NSW administration at meetings.
- Gain a better understanding of the Tennis landscape in Australia and internationally.
- Suggest, develop and implement solutions related to creating a more vibrant tennis community.

## QUALITIES OF A YAG MEMBER

- Communicates well with others
- Is well organised and punctual
- Has strong passion for tennis
- Shows Commitment
- Display vision and creativity
- Enjoys a team environment
- Is an advocate for others
- Is open minded

## MEETING LOGISTICS

Meetings will take place on a quarterly basis and will be held digitally using virtual meeting software. Meetings will be scheduled for approximately 90 minutes in duration and will be set at a suitable time for junior participants to avoid impacting their school or competition schedules.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Members must comply with the following rules in order to maintain their position on the YAG:

- Treat all other Members with respect
- Listen to the views of other Members
- Be courteous and polite at all times
- Act as a positive role model with respect to good sporting behaviour whilst participating in tennis
- Only use mobile phones at appropriate times
- Adhere to all Tennis Australia national policies and by-laws



## **BENEFITS OF BECOMING A YAG MEMBER**

Each year, players will be invited to apply for a position on the YAG via the Tennis NSW website.

At the end of the application period, Tennis NSW management will review all applications received and advise successful applicants of their selection. Applicants are encouraged to review the eligibility criteria outlined in this document, as well as the “Qualities of a YAG Member”, prior to submitting their application.

At tennis, we embrace differences in gender, age, ethnicity, race, cultural background, disability, religion and sexual orientation. We value diversity and understand how it assists in attracting, recruiting and retaining our talented tennis family. Tennis encourages all people to apply for this role.

## **WWCC REQUIRMENTS (18+)**

All successful applicants aged 18 years and over will be required to provide Tennis NSW with a valid Working With Children Check prior to the first YAG meeting.



Tennis acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, rest and play, and pay our respect to Elders past and present.