

2025/26 TENNIS SA BALLKID METRO PROGRAM

PROGRAM OUTLINE 2025/26





WELCOME

Welcome and thank you for expressing your interest in the Tennis SA Ballkid Program. In this booklet, you will find all of the relevant information for the upcoming events on the tournament calendar, as well as the expectations of Ballkids, as they move forward within the program.

EVENTS

City of Playford Tennis International

Tennis SA and Tennis Australia, in conjunction with the City of Playford, Tennis Gear and Playford Tennis Club, will host the City of Playford Tennis International which runs from 22/11/2025 to 30/11/2025.

The international-standard Playford Tennis Centre will once again host the combined Men's ATP Challenger and ITF Women's World Tour event following the extremely successful event in January 2018 – 2025.

In the past, the likes of 2022 Wimbledon champion **Elena Rybakina**, 2019 US Open champion **Bianca Andreescu**, 2022 Roland Garros finalist **Casper Ruud** and home-grown hero, former champion **Jason Kubler** have competed at this event. Last year some of the crowed favourites were **Jordan Thompson**, **Rinky Hijikata**, **Alex Bolt** and **Luke Saville**.

Adelaide International

The inaugural Adelaide International was held in 2020, replacing the Sydney International in the second week of the season. The event received high praise from players and fans alike, with the night sessions of the last three days of the event all selling out. Spectators came out in scores from the very first day of qualifying and were rewarded with some incredible matches. Ashleigh Barty (AUS) & Andrey Rublev (RUS) were crowned the inaugural champions.

SELECTION AND TRAINING PROCESS

Selection Criteria

Over 175 Ballkids will be required for the Adelaide International in 2026. Selection for the Adelaide International Ballkid Squad will be based on your performance at training throughout the second half of the year in addition to your performance and commitment at the City of Playford Tennis International.

Ballkids are assessed on the following criteria:

- Speed & Coordination
- Rolls
- Servicing
- Concentration

- Cooperation
- Attitude
- Teamwork
- Behaviour

The final team of Ballkids for the Adelaide International will be selected based on performance at all training sessions, with a heavy weighting on cooperation, attitude, teamwork and behaviour.

Tennis SA has the right to add or remove Ballkids to and from the squad at any time that do not meet all criteria.

Expressions of Interest – City of Playford Tennis International

Children are required to register their interest for the City of Playford Tennis International, please register here.

Registrations close on Monday 27th October at 9:00am. For Ballkids that have missed the entry deadline, please email us your interest via email at <u>adelaideballkids@tennis.com.au</u>

City of Playford Tennis International - Top Gun Ballkid

Two Ballkids from the City of Playford Tennis International will be given direct acceptance into the Adelaide International Ballkid program as our Top Gun Ballkids.



Adelaide International - Top Gun Ballkid

Two top gun ballkids selected at the Adelaide International who will be given direct acceptance into the Australian Open Ballkid Program.

BALLKID OPPORTUNITIES

WHAT	DATE	TIME	EOI
ITF J30 – Adelaide #1	07/09/2025	TBC	TBC
ITF J30 – Adelaide #2	13/09/2025	TBC	TBC
City of Playford Tennis International 2025	22 – 30 November 2025	TBC	TBC
2025 Peter Smith PWII/DHOH & Wheelchair Open	30/10/2025	TBC	TBC
2025 Blind Low Vision Open	TBC	TBC	TBC
Adelaide International 2025	10/01/2026 - 18/01/2026	TBC	TBC
State League Grand Final	TBC	TBC	TBC

TRAININGS

Ballkids that wish to be a part of the 2026 Adelaide International must Ballkid for the City of Playford Tennis International. When selecting squads for the event, preference will be given to those Ballkids who attend the City of Playford Tennis international, attend trainings and meet the criteria as listed above.

Metro training sessions

WHAT	DATE	TIME	WHERE
Training #1	10/08/2025	9:00am – 11:00am	Seaside Tennis Club
Training #2	15/08/2025	9:00am – 11:00am	Broadview Tennis Club
Training #3	19/10/2025	9:00am – 11:00am	Seacliff Tennis Club
Training #4	02/11/2025	10:00am – 12:00pm	Playford Tennis Club
Training #5	14/12/2025	9:00am – 11:00am	Henley South Tennis Club
Training #6	04/01/2026	9:00am – 11:00am	TW Millswood

What to bring to training:

- Non-marking shoes (running/street shoes are not acceptable)
- Comfortable leisure/sports clothing is to be worn.
- Hat
- Water bottle
- Tennis racquet (if available)



EVENT SCHEDULE

City of Playford Tennis International

The City of Playford Tennis International will be held over 9 days, with 100+ Ballkids required for the entirety of the tournament.

There will be opportunities to express your availability for training and the event. It would be greatly appreciated if Ballkids could make themselves available for the entirety of the event, however, we understand that is not possible for most people.

Usually, Ballkids are required on-site from 9:00am for a 10:00am start, however, this may differ. We try to ensure that there is a day shift and afternoon/night shift so the kids do not have to be there for the entirety of the day.

A Ballkid's day usually looks something like this:

9:00am Sign in with Ballkid Managers

9:45am Ballkid briefing

10:00am Matches start (45 or 60 minute shifts depending on weather conditions)

2:00pm Day shift Ballkids swap with afternoon shift Ballkids (if possible)

6:00pm (approximately.) Matches Finish (Ballkids go home)

COMMUNICATION

Prior to the tournament, communication to Ballkids will be via the adelaideballkids@tennis.com.au email address.

UNIFORMS

All selected Ballkids will receive an event-specific uniform. Communications will be sent out closer to the event date regarding uniform requirements and collection dates.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of Inclement Weather, please keep an eye on your emails for updates regarding cancellations, changes to sign in times, etc.

CONTACT PERSONS

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