

TENNIS SA BALLKID PROGRAM

PROGRAM OUTLINE



Welcome

Welcome and thank you for your interest in the Tennis SA Ballkid Program. In this booklet, you will find all of the relevant information for the upcoming trials, as well as the expectations of ballkids as they move forward in the process.

Please note that for the purpose of this document:

- Tennis SA Ballkid Squad = 40 children
- 'WTC Team' = World Tennis Challenge Ballkid Team made up of 16 children

World Tennis Challenge (WTC)

The World Tennis Challenge is an exhibition tournament held in Adelaide. Players compete in the World Tennis Challenge in preparation for the Australian Open, the first Grand Slam of the year.

Featuring both current stars and legends of the game, past players have included John McEnroe, Martina Navratilova, Goran Ivanisevic, Pat Rafter, Martina Hingis, Henri Leconte, Lleyton Hewitt, Stan Wawrinka and South Australia's rising young gun Thanasi Kokkinakis.

The World Tennis Challenge is one of Australia's most innovative exhibition tennis events and attracts over 15,000 spectators each year.

Selection and training process

1. Expressions of interest

Children are required to register by visiting <https://ballkids.tennis.com.au/Register.aspx>. Registrations close on **Friday 21 September**.

2. Trials

Children will be required to attend a selection trial on Sunday 30 September. From here, children may be invited to attend the second selection trial.

Date: Sunday 30 September (Trial 1) and Sunday 7 October (Trial 2)

Time: 9.30 am-11.30 am

Venue: Tennis SA Centre Courts, War Memorial Drive, North Adelaide

What to bring:

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

What skills will I be assessed on?

During these initial trials, the following skills will be observed:

- Speed and coordination of movement
- General hand-eye coordination - Ability to catch, throw, roll and stop a ball, reaction time
- Display of correct technique as demonstrated

3. Squad selection

Following the trials, 40 ballkids will be selected to be a part of the Tennis SA Ballkid Squad. This squad will serve as ballkids at a variety of events in the state during 2018/19.

4. Training days

The squad will be required to attend two or three training days:

Date: Sunday 21 October and Sunday 25 November - Tennis SA Ballkid Squad
Sunday 9 December - WTC Team

Time: 9.30 am-12.00 noon

Venue: Tennis SA Centre Courts, War Memorial Drive, North Adelaide

What to bring:

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

It is recommended that ballkids access additional training materials prior to these training days, available at:

- www.worldtennischallenge.com
- <http://ballkids.tennis.com.au/>

5. Ballkid Leadership Team selection

The squad will be given the opportunity to apply to be a part of the Ballkid Leadership Team. This is a fantastic opportunity for our ballkids and will be a great experience to include on resumes in the future.

Applications should answer the following questions in 300 words or less:

- Why would you like to be a part of the Ballkid Leadership Team?
- What would you like to learn from being a part of the Ballkid Leadership Team?

Applications will open on Sunday 21 October and will close on Friday 2 November, with applications to be emailed to sballkids@tennis.com.au.

Successful applicants will then be required to attend a training session:

Date and Time:

Date and time of the Ballkid Leadership Program at our discretion to successful applicants

Venue: Tennis SA Board Room, War Memorial Drive, North Adelaide

What to bring:

- Comfortable leisure/sports clothing is to be worn
- Water bottle
- Snacks

What skills will I learn?

- Ballkid specific leadership training
- Team building
- Leadership exercises

6. WTC Team selection

The final team of 16 ballkids for the World Tennis Challenge will be selected based on performance at the above events, with a heavy weighting on cooperation, teamwork, attitude and behaviour.

Events

Squad

The Tennis SA Ballkid Squad will be involved in the following events, with details to be confirmed closer to the date:

- TennisFest - Sunday 18 November (afternoon with publicity event in the morning)
- Tennis SA State League Grand Final Rematch – Sunday 18 November (afternoon)
- City of Playford Tennis International - Monday 31 December-Sunday 6 January (all day)
- Tennis SA State League Grand Finals - Sunday 24 March (all day)

It is expected that all Ballkids will make themselves available as reasonably possible for these events as decisions regarding the WTC Team will be based on performance at the events held during 2018.

WTC Team

The WTC Team must be available for the following events:

- Venue familiarisation and uniform collection – Sunday 9 December, 2.00 pm-2.30 pm
- WTC – January (dates TBC), 6.00 pm onwards (sign in at 5.45 pm)

Uniforms

Squad

White polo shirts are to be worn at all training sessions and events. Ballkids should wear black shorts or skirt, predominately white tennis shoes and a predominately white hat (small logos are fine).

WTC Team

Those selected in the WTC Team will receive a WTC specific uniform, with details to be revealed closer to the event.

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 person

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