

Instructions for coaches: Using Lanyard Cards

What are Lanyard Cards?

Lanyard cards are a tool that can be used to share messages. **Lanyard cards** can help someone to understand information and to express themselves.

The Tennis Victoria **lanyard cards** have phrases and questions accompanied by pictures specific to tennis lessons.

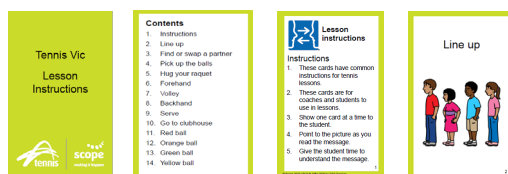
Lanyard cards include quick, regularly used messages, and can be used flexibly across locations as they are small and easily portable.

These **lanyard cards** are for all students but particularly helpful for students who:

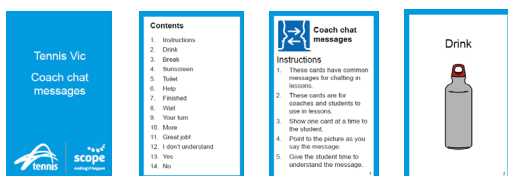
- Do not use speech
- Have speech that is hard to understand
- Speak another language
- Need help with understanding

Contents of the coach lanyard cards set

- 1 set of lesson *instruction cards*



- 1 set of *chat cards*



- Instructions for using the *lanyard cards*

These **lanyard cards** are designed to be used quickly. Hook them to your basket for easy access. **Lanyard cards** can be used by both students and coaches so it is important that everyone can reach them.

When to use coach lanyard cards

Instruction Cards

The *instruction cards* can be used to help give instructions in a lesson. For example, point to the card that says 'line up' when you are asking the students to line up.



Chat cards

The *chat cards* can be used throughout the lesson.

You might use them when asking someone to 'wait' (pointing to the 'wait' card as you say "wait") or to tell them they are doing a "great job".

Students might use these cards to express themselves. For example, you might hold up two cards and ask the student to point to the one that they want.



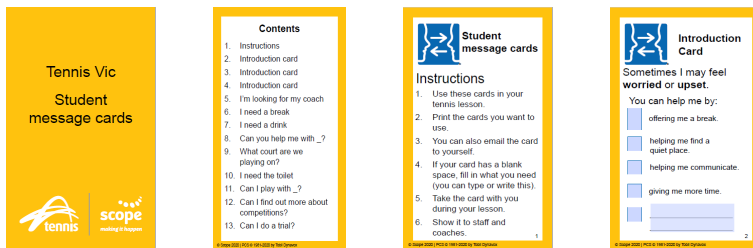
How to use lanyard cards

1. Familiarise yourself with the messages in the **coach lanyard cards** set.
2. Turn to the card with the message you want to communicate.
3. Hold the card up so that the student can see.
4. Point to the picture as you say the message.
5. Give the student time to understand the message.
6. Observe to see whether you have been understood. You may need to repeat your message, use gestures, give an example or a demonstration.

Student message cards:

A set of message cards have been developed and are available for download by students. These include messages for:

- Introducing themselves
- Explaining how they would like coaches to help during lessons
- Asking common questions, e.g., “Can you help me with_____?”, “Can I find out more about competitions?”
- Sharing important messages, e.g., “It’s too loud”, or “I need to go to the toilet”



Some students may wear the messages around their neck on a lanyard or have them nearby during a lesson. Other students may bring 2-3 specific cards with them to a lesson.

If you think a student might benefit from student message cards, direct them to the Tennis Victoria website to download.

Remember

Using pictures may be new for some students. It can take time and practice for students to understand how **lanyard cards** work.

It might seem like the student is not interested when you first show them the lanyard card. Over time, they may start to learn what the pictures mean. After seeing you use **lanyard cards** in every lesson, students might use them to share messages with you.



Scope. (2021). InterAACtion: Strategies for intentional and unintentional communicators. Melbourne: Scope.

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