

THE AUSTRALIAN DAVIS CUP TENNIS FOUNDATION

IMPORTANT NOTICE

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

FOR ALL PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS

Thank you for your interest in applying for membership of our Foundation. The following important information is provided so that that you should be under no misapprehension as to the nature of our purposes or of our objectives or, indeed, of what the Foundation has to offer you in return for your membership.

This notice has been issued in an endeavour to ensure that your decision to apply for membership is based on a clear and factual understanding of the Foundation. It is also intended to avoid applications for membership being made on the basis of any ambiguous, incomplete or misleading information espoused by others.

The Australian Davis Cup Tennis Foundation was formed in Melbourne as a Company limited by guarantee in 1971 by a small group of prominent tennis enthusiasts following a meeting with the then President of Tennis Australia. During that meeting, the President expressed his concern for the parlous financial position of Tennis Australia, saying that he could foresee it soon experiencing grave difficulty in meeting the financial needs of our Davis Cup teams playing overseas.

He emphasised his conviction that there was a desperate need for an independent and self-funding support group, comprised of members of tennis clubs throughout Australia, to establish a vehicle through which to raise funds to assist Tennis Australia meet the spiralling costs of team travel, accommodation and the introduction of player development programmes to improve our team's on-court performances throughout the following decades.

The challenge was accepted and these needs immediately became the fundamental purposes of the new Foundation. Tennis enthusiasts from around Australia responded magnificently to the call for support by annually subscribing for "membership". In return, each new member received a distinctive tie (males) or scarf (females) and an occasional Newsletter but otherwise, there was very little in the way of tangible benefits that could be provided.

The advent of the Foundation helped to turn the tide and as the financial fortunes of Tennis Australia slowly improved, it became the Foundation's policy to also commit funds to Tennis Australia for the identification and development of young Australians who displayed early potential for development as our future Davis Cup representatives.

Initially, we had only the income generated by membership subscriptions from which to assist Tennis Australia. With membership growth, we have been able to gradually increase our own cash reserves to the extent that we are today able to supplement this income with interest earned on our investments as well as with profits generated from occasional members' functions. During the year ended 30th June 2009, the Foundation contributed

\$150,000 (incl GST) to Tennis Australia; thereby increasing the sum of our financial contributions to that date, to \$1,415.233.

Since the early days of the Foundation, Tennis Australia has generously made available to us each year, a modest quantity of tickets for all Davis Cup matches played in Australia and a number of tickets for the Australian Open. In both instances, these tickets are sold to our members, at face value, by application on a "first-in-best-dressed" basis.

A similar arrangement also applies for our members who reside in New South Wales and Queensland, for whom Tennis Australia has granted "Priority Access" to 400 tickets to the Sydney International and 300 tickets to the Brisbane International respectively. The term "Priority Access" means nothing more than having the opportunity to purchase tickets before the commencement of ticket sales to the general public.

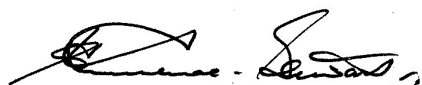
In addition to "Priority Access" tickets, our members in NSW are also entitled to enter a ballot to receive two complimentary early day tickets to the Sydney International. The ballot is conducted in a manner designed to minimize if not eliminate the possibility of any member missing out in successive years.

It is important for prospective members to understand that we gratefully accept whatever is allocated to us. The Foundation has no influence whatsoever over either the number of tickets that are made available to us or over their location within whichever stadium the event is being played. Neither do we guarantee that every application for tickets will be successful, because we already know this to be an impossible expectation. However, we will always do our best to ensure that the unsuccessful applicants are notified before tickets are released for sale to the general public. Usually, there is a much greater prospect of more members obtaining seats for Davis Cup matches than there is for the Australian Open.

Today, the Foundation has just over 2500 members drawn from all corners of the world and interestingly, a healthy number of those residing overseas are not expatriate Australians! All are happy to support Australian Tennis through their membership of the Foundation and, in noticeably growing numbers, also with their presence at Davis Cup matches in Australia and elsewhere. Many enduring friendship have been made in recent years through these occasions.

Before you complete your Application for Membership, please make time to read it thoroughly. You will then be assured of joining the Foundation for reasons that you accept and not solely from the expectation of gaining access to tickets for the Davis Cup and/or the Australian Open (that we may not be able to fulfil) or on erroneous (even if well meant) advice provided by others.

On this basis, we will welcome your application.



Graeme Cumbrae-Stewart, OAM
Secretary.