



Name: John Playle
Qualifications: Tennis Australia Club Professional coach (2009), Tennis Australia Junior Development coach (2005)
Coaches at: University of Tasmania tennis courts

EDUCATION IS KEY

At the tender age of seven John Playle picked up his first racquet to play tennis and he's taken his passion of the sport to a prospering coaching career.

"My most memorable moment was playing in tournaments overseas. It was a real eye opener but the experience is something that will last with me forever," he says.

Growing up in New Zealand and moving to Australia at the age of 12 Playle began coaching at 17 years of age while attending the Hutchins School. He settled in the picturesque Sandy Bay in Tasmania having recently attained more than 12 years of coaching experience and a Bachelor of Commerce at the University of Tasmania.

Over this time he has coached players of all levels and ages, with coaching roles in the US, United Kingdom and Australia, completing a Tennis Australia Junior Development coaching qualification in 2005 and a Tennis Australia Club Professional coaching qualification in 2009.

"To have a career in the sport I love, whilst also passing on the knowledge and experience I have gained as a player was the reason I decided to become a coach," he says.

"Coaching overseas opened my eyes to the

increased expectations placed upon both athlete and coach.

It enhanced my passion to develop better athletes here in Australia. The main differences I found were the increased competition and diversity in playing styles and coaching techniques."

Playle is at the forefront of Tasmanian tennis, coaching members of the Tasmanian State team and Optus Junior tournament players.

Some of the players under his wing include Charlotte Ingram, Kate Bohmer, James Giannis, Sanyukta Singh, Jamie Baker-Jensz, Fraser McDade, Olivia Hazell, Joshua Haselgrove and Indi Watchorn.

"I hope that through my athletes I can achieve growth in the sport and in turn help them all to grow in life," he says. "It's developing and enhancing individual life skills through the game of tennis."

There are three synthetic grass and two hard courts available for use at the University of Tasmania and Playle has been coaching

Playle sees the coach/player interaction as the cornerstone of an effective working relationship, with its effectiveness having the potential to alter a player's engagement.

"Constant communication between the players and myself helps me to have effective relationships, with positive reinforcement and feedback helping to maintain the relationships."

Having been a player himself Playle understands the pressures of unrealistic demands and tries to provide a positive environment for his athletes.

"I set realistic short-term and long-term goals and use role models in the game of tennis to demonstrate work ethic," he says.

Playle is also quick to acknowledge the valuable knowledge he has learnt from National Coach for Tennis Tasmania Simon Youl and the support he's received from Tennis Tasmania.

Growing as a coach is one of his goals and he hopes to achieve this through further coaching education.

"But my main aim is to develop each player to their full potential and develop more state and national players."

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here for two years where he established his own tennis coaching business in 2010, 'John Playle Tennis Coaching'.

"Coaching at the University of Tasmania has helped develop my business in a relaxed and friendly environment. As a coach it has allowed me to focus on the athletes' needs first."

