



australian open

The Grand Slam of Asia/Pacific



Casey Dellacqua



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DECEMBER SHOWDOWN

MELBOURNE PARK 23 NOV-16 DEC 2011

AO 2012 Playoff Fact Sheet





Australian Open 2012 Playoff Melbourne Park, Victoria Fact Sheet

Enter online for the event under "Australian Open 2012 Playoff" at www.tennis.com.au/tournaments

Tournament Dates

Tuesday 6th December to Sunday 11th December 2011

Tournament	Tournament Director	Referee	Entry Closing Date
Australian Open Playoff	Francis Soyer	Wayne McKewen	Tuesday 22 nd November 2011 @ 11:59pm AEDST

Pre-Event Enquiries

Francis Soyer
Ph: (03) 9914-4198 or 0412 582 352
E-mail: fsoyer@tennis.com.au

Acceptance Criteria

Australian Open Playoff – Men’s Event (24 positions available)

1. All athletes ranked ATP 250 or better will be accepted*
* Based on Monday 21st November 2011 rankings release
2. 18s Optus Australian Championships – Winners
3. Remaining positions default to wildcards

Australian Open Playoff – Women’s Event (16 positions available)

1. All athletes ranked WTA 250 or better will be accepted*
* Based on Monday 21st November 2011 rankings release
2. 18s Optus Australian Championships – Winners
3. Remaining positions default to wildcards

Initial acceptance lists will be available from 2.00pm Wednesday 23rd November 2011 and e-mailed to all entrants as well as being published on www.tennis.com.au

Behaviour

The Tournament will be played under the ITF Code of Conduct (match conditions) and in accordance with Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour. Tennis Australia may penalise or suspend players for breach of the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour or Tennis Australia Member Protection By-Law. Please note that inappropriate behaviour at sites including, but not limited to,



the tennis venues (on and off court), hotels and transport vehicles, will be dealt with in accordance with these policies. These policies can be viewed at www.tennis.com.au. Tennis Australia may also issue financial penalties to players competing in the Australian Open Playoff, if warranted.

Draw Format

Tournament Name	Draw Format	Consolation	Entry Fee
Australian Open Playoff Men's Event	Singles (24) –Knockout draw	N/A	N/A
Australian Open Playoff Women's Event	Main Draw (16) – Round-Robin (Stage 1) with knockout draw for players that finish top of their Round-Robin group (Stage 2)	N/A	N/A

Specific Information relating to the Women's Event of the Australian Open Playoff

- 16-player Round Robin Draw
- Each player to play the three athletes within their pool
- Best athletes from each pool (4 total) to move into the semi finals. Note: All athletes are guaranteed three singles matches, played over the first three days of the competition.

The following procedure will be followed to place the sixteen (16) athletes into the four round-robin groups.

1. The field shall be divided into four (4) groups of four (4) players each. The top-seeded player shall be placed in Group "A", the second-seeded player shall be placed in Group "B", the third-seeded player shall be placed in Group "C" and the fourth-seeded player shall be placed in Group "D".
2. Athletes seeded 5 & 6 shall be drawn into either Group "C" or "D". Athletes seeded 7 & 8 shall be drawn into either Group "A" or "B".
3. The remaining eight (8) athletes shall be drawn by lot – the first and second athletes drawn to go to Group "A", the third and fourth athletes drawn to go to Group "B" and so on.

The final standings of each group shall be determined by the first of the following methods that apply:

- (a) Greatest number of wins;
- (b) Greatest number of matches played;
- (c) Head-to-head results if only two (2) players are tied, or if three (3) athletes are tied, then:
 - i) If three (3) athletes each have one win, an athlete that has played less than all three (3) matches is automatically eliminated and the athlete advancing to the Single Elimination competition is the winner of the match-up of the two (2) players tied with 1-2 records; then
 - ii) Highest percentage of sets won (sets won against sets played); then
 - iii) Highest percentage of games won (games won against games played).
 - iv) If (i), (ii) or (iii) produce one superior athlete (first place), or one inferior athlete (third place), and the two remaining athletes are tied, the tie between those two athletes shall be broken by head-to-head record.



- (d) If ties still exist after the above procedures, the Tournament Committee shall make the final determination.
- (e) In applying the tie-breaking procedures, a conduct default or retirement shall count as a win or loss. However, games won or lost in matches with the defaulting or retiring athlete shall not be counted in the application of subsection c. (iii) above.

After the round-robin group phase has been completed, the following procedure will be followed to place the four (4) eligible athletes into the knockout draw.

- (a) The winner of Group "A" will be placed on Line 1
- (b) The winner of Group "B" will be placed on Line 4
- (c) The winners of Group "C" and "Group "D" will be randomly placed on either Line 2 or Line 3.
 - There shall be no playoff for 5th – 16th place.

Alternate Sign-In

Men's Event

Alternates will be chosen by the Wildcard Selectors. Alternates must sign-in at least 30 minutes prior to the relevant first scheduled match on Tuesday 6th December 2011. Alternates must sign-in to be eligible for the daily per diem.

Women's Event

Alternates will be chosen by the Wildcard Selectors. Alternates must sign-in at least 30 minutes prior to the first scheduled match each day of the Round Robin competition. Alternates must sign-in to be eligible for the daily per diem.

Match Formats

All matches will be the Best of three (3) tie-break sets, with the following exceptions –

Men's Final: Best of five (5) sets, first four tie-break sets, fifth set advantage

Women's Final: Best of three (3) sets, first two tie-break sets, third set advantage

Schedule (provisional)

The provisional schedule for each tournament will be as follows (subject to change):

Australian Open Playoff

Men's Event

Tues 6 Dec	Wed 7 Dec	Thurs 8 Dec	Fri 9 Dec	Sat 10 Dec	Sun 11 Dec
Round 32	Round 16	QF	QF	SF	Finals

Women's Event

Tues 6 Dec	Wed 7 Dec	Thurs 8 Dec	Fri 9 Dec	Sat 10 Dec	Sun 11 Dec
RR	RR	RR	Rest Day	SF	Finals



Seedings

Athletes will be seeded based on the latest ATP/WTA Tour rankings available at the time of the draw ceremony.

Wildcards Selectors

Patrick Rafter, David Taylor, Todd Woodbridge, Brent Larkham, Nicole Pratt and Nicole Bradtke

Withdrawal Deadlines

Athletes withdrawing after the listed dates below must produce a valid medical certificate to avoid being penalised under the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour.

- Australian Open Playoff – Tuesday 29th November 2011 at 2pm AEDST

Event Operations

Accommodation

Special rates have been negotiated at “Mantra on Jolimont” and “Bayview on the Park” for participants of the December Showdown and Australian Open Playoff. Bookings can be made direct with the properties and must quote the December Showdown event to qualify for the rates listed below.

The allocations listed will be held until **Monday 28th November 2011** following this date rooms will be available subject to availability. To avoid disappointment it is suggested that bookings are made before Monday 28th November, note charges will apply for ‘no shows’ and for bookings cancelled with less than 24 hours notice.

BAYVIEW ON THE PARK HOTEL

52 Queens Road, St. Kilda, VIC

Distance from Melbourne Park: 4.66km, 5-min drive to Melbourne Park

Rating: ★★★★★

Tel: (03) 9243-9999 **Fax:** (03) 9243-9993

E-mail: bayviewonthepark@bayviewhotels.com

Website: <http://www.bayviewhotels.com/bayviewonthepark>

Rates:

- **Standard Room** - \$110 per night
- **Twin Room** - \$110 per night
- **Triple room** - \$140 per night

MANTRA ON JOLIMONT

133 Jolimont Road, Melbourne East, VIC 3002

Distance to Melbourne Park: 800m walk

Tel: (03) 9940-2100, **Freecall (Australia):** 1300 734 782 **Fax:** (03) 9650-1833

Rating: ★★★★★

E-mail: jolimont.res@mantra.com.au

Website:

<http://www.mantra.com.au/victoria/melbourne-and-surrounds/east-melbourne/accommodation/hotels/mantra-on-jolimont/>



Rates:

- **Studio** - \$152 per night
- **One Bedroom** - \$196 per night
- **Two Bedroom (dual key)** - \$369 per night
- **Extra Person** - \$40.00 per person

Car Parking / Public Transport

Melbourne Park will be a public transport venue only during the December Showdown. Limited parking will be available for AO Playoff competing athletes. Please inform tournament staff if you will be driving to Melbourne Park during the tournament. Melbourne Park will be extremely busy during November and December due to numerous events and the bump-in operations for the Australian Open 2012. The number of car parking spots has reduced in 2011 due to the ongoing redevelopment works.

The best drop-off and pick-up point is outside Hisense Arena on Olympic Boulevard. We are encouraging all players, coaches and parents to utilise the public transport services available. Public transport details are listed below:

Tram

The No. 70 tram (Waterfront City Docklands – Wattle Park) stops outside the City Entrance of Melbourne Park. Go to <http://www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au> to view the timetable.

Train

Richmond Train Station & Jolimont Train Stations are the closest train stations to Melbourne Park. Each station is a short 5-10 minute walk to Melbourne Park. Go to <http://www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au> to view the timetable.

Education Sessions

To complement the on-court match-play, the December Showdown will be offering off-court tennis specific information sessions aimed at players, parents and coaches.

The presentations will be scattered from November 28 – 16. Areas that will be covered include:

1. Anti-Doping
2. Social Networking
3. Nutrition
4. Racial Vilification
5. Having Respect for Others (i.e. Staff / Officials / Parents)
6. The dangers of Illicit Drugs
7. The dangers of Alcohol
8. Topic of choice from selected NA Managers or NA Coaches

Minor presentations will include:

1. International Tours Information
2. Explaining the NA Criteria
3. Explaining the AIS Pro Tour Program
4. Sport Science & Performance Analysis (AMS) information session
5. Parent Education Session
6. Q & A sessions lead by past players & high-profile coaches or staff
7. Career Opportunities outside of playing
8. Practical session focusing on core stability



Exact dates and details of presenters will be e-mailed to all entrants closer to December. Some of these sessions will be made compulsory for all competing athletes to attend.

Entering Online (<http://tournaments.tennis.com.au>)

The online entry system will require the full main draw entry fee upfront. Tennis Australia will forward any refunds required after the completion of all tournaments.

Entry fees are payable by VISA or MasterCard only at the time of entering. Athletes who do not make the final draw will receive a refund after the completion of the tournament (minus an admin fee of \$6.00). Players who withdraw from the event before the withdrawal deadline will also be entitled to a refund (minus an admin fee of \$6.00). Athletes withdrawing after the deadline will also receive a refund providing a valid medical certificate is received at Tennis Aust within 7 days of the event's completion.

Step 1 – Go to <http://www.tennis.com.au/tournaments> Once you are at this page, look in the online calendar for the Australian Open 2012 Playoff and click the link to be taken to the tournament page.

Step 2 – Once you are at the tournament home page, click the “click here to enter online”.

Step 3 – There will now be six steps in the entry process. The first step is to register for an account.

Step 4 – If you have an existing account, type in your login name and password (move to Step 7 if you have already registered for an account previously). If you don't have an account, click the “sign up” button. This will make online entry quicker in the future with all fields pre-populated when you login next time.

Step 5 – Choose your own login name and password (use the check availability button to see if your login name is available). Enter all your details carefully and when completed, click the “I accept” button to continue.

Step 6 – You should receive an instantaneous e-mail from Tournament Planner asking you to activate your account. If you do not click this link within 24 hours of receiving the e-mail, your account will be removed.

Step 7 – Now that you are registered for an account, type in your login name and password and click the “login” button.

Step 8 – Click the link to enter with your current account.

Step 9 – Read the regulations for the tournament and click the “tick box” at the bottom of the screen to agree to the entry conditions and continue to the next step.

Step 10 – Complete further entry details for the event. To have these fields automated for next time, click the tick box to update your profile with this information. Once you have completed all fields, click the “continue” button.

Step 11 – Upon successful completion of the entry form, click the “submit” button.

Step 12 – Once this has been completed, you should receive a confirmation e-mail from Tournament Planner that the entry has been processed successfully.

Food & Beverages

Athletes will be able to purchase food and beverages from the Melbourne Park player café throughout the duration of the tournament.



Hospitality

Australian Open Playoff

\$55 per day per whilst still in the tournament (includes day preceding tournament). Reimbursement will only be issued upon presentation of hotel receipt. Lunch vouchers will be provided on a daily basis whilst competing. Hospitality will begin from Saturday night 3rd December.

Live Streaming

At least one match court of the Australian Open Playoff from December 6 – 11 will be broadcasted by live stream, with commentary. There will be additional expectations of Australian Open Playoff athletes if scheduled for a broadcast court.

Media & Community Engagement Commitments

As a condition of entry into the December Showdown 2010, players agree to cooperate with the media and to participate upon request by Tennis Australia, in tournament promotional activities including, but not limited to:

- pre-match and post-match interviews
- pre-event functions or events including pre-event press conferences
- press conferences and interviews at the presentation ceremonies as well as the champions photo shoot immediately following each final
- participating in the commentary box for the Australian Open Playoff live streaming broadcast
- assisting with the Hot Shots tennis clinics and other activities associated with the hosting of school groups during the event.

Player Meeting (Compulsory)

In addition to the compulsory draw and player meeting for the Australian Open Playoff, additional workshops will be conducted as outlined below. All athletes accepted are required to attend these workshops on Sunday 4th December.

Australian Open Playoff

Workshop Day – Sunday 4th December

10:30am – Media Training Workshop & Practice (Boys); Portrait photos to be taken (Girls)

11:15am – Media Training Workshop & Practice (Girls); Portrait photos to be taken (boys)

12pm – Official Draw Ceremony & Lunch (provided by TA)

2pm – Anti-Doping / Drug & Alcohol Education Workshop

3pm – Social Media Workshop

4pm – Finish

Practice Courts

All athletes entered into the tournament will have limited access to practice courts at Melbourne Park on the day prior to the event start date for practice at no cost. However, some players may have to practice at secondary venues (Albert Reserve or Scotch College) if demand is high. Bookings can be made through Tournament Control on the day prior to the tournament start date, not before.

The process for morning warm-up and practice courts during the tournament will be outlined at each tournament player meeting.

Tourist Information



If parents and families are interested in visiting tourist attractions whilst in Melbourne, please visit <http://www.visitmelbourne.com.au>

Travel Information

Qantas, Virgin Blue and Jetstar have regular flights to Melbourne. It is approximately 25km (or 30min drive) from Melbourne Airport to Melbourne Park.

To view prices and flight schedules, go to www.webjet.com.au

For directions to Melbourne Park from your hotel or from Melbourne Airport, please go to www.whereis.com.au

Venue Safety

Please be aware that Melbourne Park will be in heavy construction mode in preparation for the Australian Open 2012. There are also construction works being done in relation to the Melbourne Park redevelopment. We ask that all people coming on-site during the December Showdown adhere to all signage that will identify restricted areas.