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Ashleigh Barty



December Showdown

November 28 to December 21 2012

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National Junior Championship



Optus Australian Teams Championships Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Victoria Fact Sheet & Event Regulations

Tournament Dates

Optus 14s Australian Teams Championships

Wednesday 28th November to Sunday 2nd December 2012

Optus 12s Australian Teams Championships

Monday 10th December to Friday 14th December 2012

Main Venue

Melbourne Park
Car Park Entrance D
Olympic Boulevard
Melbourne, VIC 3000

Secondary Venue (if required)

Tennis World
Albert Reserve
Corner of St. Kilda Road & Hanna Street
Melbourne, VIC 3004

Tournament Director

David Hearne
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Event Contact Details

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To Note:

In these Regulations, unless inconsistent with the context, the word "Association" shall mean the "Tennis Australia Limited" (Referred to as Tennis Australia); the word "State" shall mean States and Territories who are member associations affiliated with Tennis Australia, and New Zealand or Oceania; the masculine shall include the feminine; and the singular shall include the plural.

1) Competitions

a) 12s

Competition Name: Optus 12s Australian Teams Championships.
Trophy Name - Boys: Rod Laver Cup
Trophy Name - Girls: Margaret Court Cup

b) 14s

Competition Name: Optus 14s Australian Teams Championships.
Trophy Name - Boys: Sproule Stevens Trophy
Trophy Name - Girls: Mary Hawton Trophy



2) Competition Requirements

- a) Each Competition shall, subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned, be open to a team representing each State and Territory and by invitation New Zealand, Asia/Oceania and/or another nation or a composite team of players, or a second team from the State/Territory with the strongest depth in the relevant age group (based on the Australian Rankings), in each case as approved from time to time by Tennis Australia in its absolute discretion.
- b) The competitions shall be held annually, unless otherwise determined by Tennis Australia, and in accordance with the following regulations and with those adopted from time to time by Tennis Australia.
- c) The Management of each competition shall be delegated to an Organising Committee appointed by Tennis Australia.
- d) The competition shall take place on dates and at a venue determined by Tennis Australia. Tennis Australia shall in each case determine the venue for each competition.
- e) The minimum requirement shall be to provide 4 courts per competition of the same surface and at the same venue. Two practice courts (of same surface and preferably at same venue) shall also be provided per competition. A total of 12 courts for boys and girls competitions.
- f) The Venue hosting a competition shall provide:
 - i) Sufficient courts of an approved surface and standard.
 - ii) Singles sticks (2) and one measuring stick (unless appropriate markings appear on one of the singles sticks) per match court.
 - iii) Adjustable centre net strap per match court.

3) Age Eligibility

To be eligible to compete in the 2012 Optus 14s Australian Teams Championships, athletes must be 14 year of age or younger as of 31st December 2012.

To be eligible to compete in the 2012 Optus 12s Australian Teams Championships, athletes must be 12 year of age or younger as of 31st December 2012.

4) Representation Eligibility

In relation to a player, the following terms shall have the meaning given to them:

State of Residency means the State where a player has permanently resided for at least 12 calendar months prior to the particular event (competition start date);

State of Birth means the State where a player was born;

State of NA means the State where a player has undergone at least six (6) months of regular training in a National Academy (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Perth). Official alignment of athletes to NAs is determined by the NA who receives the funding for the athlete;

In the event of a dispute, Tennis Australia shall be responsible for determining all matters relating to which State a player is eligible or obliged to play for.



a) Residential - Players born within Australia

For players born within Australia, the eligibility order for selection is as follows:

- (i) State of Residency has first right to select the athlete;
- (ii) If State of Residency declines to select the athlete, the State of Birth can select the athlete;
- (iii) If State of Residency and State of Birth decline to select the athlete, the State of NA can select the athlete;

b) For Players Born Outside Australia

For players born outside of Australia to be eligible to compete, athletes must be prior approved in writing by Tennis Australia and satisfy one of the following criteria -

- (1) Be an Australian citizen
- (2) Have been granted Permanent Resident status in Australia
- (3) Have lodged an application for permanent residency at least six calendar months prior to the scheduled first day of the competition.

For players born outside Australia and who satisfy one of the above criteria, the eligibility order for selection is as follows:

- (i) State of Residency has first right to select the athlete;
- (ii) If State of Residency declines to select the athlete, the State of NA can select the athlete;

5) Team Selections

a) Selection Timeframes

To allow sufficient time for invitations to be extended to other possible entrants if necessary, advice of intention to enter a team in the Australian Junior Teams' Competitions must be received by Tennis Australia three months prior to the first day of competition; States entering teams shall forward the names and dates of birth of players, and the name of the manager representing the States by three weeks prior to the first day of competition;

b) Smaller State Selections

One of the objectives of the 12s and 14s Teams Events is to maximise the competitive matchplay opportunities for all players. In some instances this does not occur because the smaller states/territories do not always have sufficient depth to provide competitive teams meaning either the team is not entered, or an athlete is chosen who is clearly not up to an acceptable standard. Fielding a full complement of three (3) athletes is required for the five larger states (WA, SA, VIC, NSW, QLD), however in the smaller states/territories having to nominate a third athlete when clearly that athlete is not up to standard can be detrimental to the development of the athlete, and will certainly not provide quality matches for opposition teams.

Whereby a state is unable to field a team because the athletes are not up to standard and is perceived to be detrimental to the development of the athletes, and will certainly not provide quality matches for opposition teams, permission can be sought to merge with a larger state. Permission must be sought in writing to Tennis Australia with clear reasoning explained. Approval or denial of the request will be issued in writing by Tennis Australia.

Therefore, the following shall apply –

At all times, VIC, NSW, QLD, SA, WA, and where applicable, NZ, must nominate three athletes. NT, ACT and TAS will at all times aim to nominate three athletes, however if this is not possible



due to depth of talent, then NT, ACT and TAS can nominate only two athletes in their team. This decision (as to whether or not a third athlete is of acceptable standard) is to be made by the applicable State/Territory Coach in consultation with Tennis Australia.

- c) *Players shall be of age or under as at the end of the month of the event's completion (and the relevant State must provide Tennis Australia with any evidence required by Tennis Australia from time to time to verify the age of a particular player).*
- d) *If the teams' events are not played at the same time, a player can be nominated to represent their State in two of the Competitions each year.*
- e) *Every team shall appoint a Manager at least one day before the commencement of the competition. The Manager shall be permitted to occupy a seat at courtside and to instruct his team during the change of ends, but not during a tie-break.*
- f) *At least thirty minutes before the time fixed for play in each contest, the Manager shall give notice in writing to the Referee and opposing Manager of the composition of the singles players in his team.*
- g) *For the 12s Teams Championship, all listed team members must play a singles or doubles rubber during each tie. This rule is not compulsory in the 14s Teams Competition.*
- h) *Any two members of the team may play any of the doubles matches. The Manager must give their names to the Referee no later than 20 minutes before the doubles match begins.*
- i) *A substitute (whether previously nominated or not) approved by the Referee may replace a player who due to illness, accidental disablement or other sufficient reason is unable to take part in a match. A substitution, however, may not take place in a rubber which has commenced.*
- j) *Tennis Australia shall convene a meeting with the Managers prior to the commencement of the competition (Manager's Meeting).*

6) **Playing Conditions**

- a) *Seedings - For all competitions the national selectors shall seed the teams, using the latest Australian Rankings as a guide. International teams will be seeded at the discretion of the national selectors.*
- b) *All teams' events will be played as five-day events.*
- c) *Placing of teams after the round robin order will be based on the following in all competitions –*

The team which wins the most amount of ties.

If two teams win an equal amount of ties, the head-to-head result between the teams shall decide the winner.

If three or more teams win an equal amount of ties, the following procedure will be used.

1. *The number of matches won shall decide the winner.*
2. *If matches won are equal, the percentage of sets won of sets played against all teams in the pool shall decide the winner.*
3. *If percentage of sets won is equal, the percentage of games won of games played against all teams in the pool shall decide the winner.*



When three or more teams are tied, head-to-head results are never used to determine the positions in the group.

If any match is stopped and not completed for reasons of injury, etc, for the purpose of the team records the full score shall be recorded. Example: Team A leads over Team B by 6-1, 2-0 when a player in Team B is injured and unable to continue. The player's victory in Team A shall be recorded as 6-1, 6-0. If a match is a walk-over the score shall be recorded as 6-0, 6-0. For the purpose of any player records, this shall be recorded as the actual games that were played.

d) Order of Matches

(i) All matches within the round robin or pool stage of a tie must be played. The order of play for all ties is as follows -

1 v 1
2 v 2
Doubles

(ii) The order of play for a team's second tie of the day can be changed if in the interests of time. This decision will be made by the referee in consultation with the relevant team managers.

(iii) All singles matches will be played as the best of three tiebreak sets. Doubles matches will be played using the 'Best of Two' format, consisting of two tiebreak sets and if level a Match Tie-break (first to ten points).

e) Before commencement of the Draw each Manager shall nominate to the Referee or Tournament Director the team order of merit for the entire competition. The order is at the sole discretion of each team and does not need to be based on the Australian Rankings. The order of merit of International teams with no Australian Ranking may be based on their national rankings, at the discretion of the Team Manager.

f) The order of merit of the team shall be maintained throughout the event, replacements shall occupy the last position, with the other players moving up accordingly.

g) Any team giving a walkover without sufficient reason (of which the Referee shall be the sole judge) shall forfeit all possible points which it may score throughout the entire competition.

h) Except at the Referee's discretion, there shall be a thirty (30) minute maximum interval between the morning and afternoon ties. The referee will determine the exact length of the break. There will be a maximum interval of thirty (30) minutes between the singles and doubles rubbers within a given tie, unless all parties consent to a lesser time.

i) Play shall be continuous from the first serve until the match is concluded (Rule 30 - Rules of Tennis).

Players are allowed sixty (60) seconds in their chairs at change of ends.

The time allowed between points shall be twenty (20) seconds.

Play shall be continuous after the first game of each set. Players will change ends but not take a break.

Players shall receive a two-minute break at the end of each set.

j) A Referee shall be appointed by Tennis Australia for each competition. He/she shall be the final on-site authority for the interpretation and implementation of the Rules of Tennis and



the Code of Conduct. The referee has the authority to alter the conditions of play, the format of the competition and any other matter considered necessary by the referee.

His / Her duties include:

- i) *Deciding whether courts are fit for play*
 - ii) *Determination as to the awarding of a rubber shall a player be absent or unwilling to play when called*
 - iii) *Deciding whether a match shall be postponed if, in his opinion, the state of the courts, the state of the weather, or the light, or other sufficient reason renders it expedient for him to do so*
 - iv) *Determine a suspension of play for an accidental injury (An unlimited injury assessment period will be allowed. A suspension period of three minutes per injury will be allowed).*
 - v) *Determine the resumption of play after a postponement.*
 - vi) *If play cannot be continued on the same day, a program of matches shall continue as drawn. Any postponed rubber or match which may affect the result of the competition shall be played at the conclusion of the scheduled program. For this purpose, the competitions may be extended for one or more days.*
 - vii) *In extenuating circumstances, authorise two singles rubbers in a match be played at the same time.*
 - viii) *To determine the time of cessation of play.*
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- k) *Tennis Officials Australia (TOA) Umpires shall officiate where possible. There will be a minimum of one Court Supervisor for every four courts.*
 - l) *Only balls approved by Tennis Australia shall be used in the competitions. Each match will be played with three new tennis balls, with three new balls given for a third set.*
 - m) *The Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour and all other relevant Tennis Australia policies, guidelines and procedures shall apply to these competitions.*

A player defaulted during the course of a match shall be defaulted for the remainder of the tie against that State.

The Referee shall then determine whether the offence warrants suspension for the remainder of the competition or whether the player shall be allowed to play further matches against other States.
 - n) *Any player retiring or forfeiting a match due to injury can only be permitted to compete in subsequent matches within that same tie and subsequent ties (either on the same day or other competition days) by the on-site tournament physiotherapist.*
 - o) *Each team shall wear their designated state team uniforms (or national uniforms for any invited international teams) for all matches and official functions, including presentations. These uniforms must be produced in line with the Tennis Australia Dress Regulations and approved by the referee prior to the competition starting.*
 - p) *Any dispute arising from the competition except as herein before provided, shall be determined by Tennis Australia, whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.*



7) Format

a) Ten Team Competitions

- i) A ten-team round robin will be played, with teams being split into two pools of five. Teams will be seeded 1-10 and will be drawn into the two pools as follows –
 - Team 1 & Team 2 – Placed into separate pools
 - Team 3 & Team 4 – Placed into separate pools at random
 - Teams 5 through to Team 8 – Placed into the two pools at random
 - Team 9 & Team 10 – Placed into separate pools at random
- ii) Each team will play the other four teams in their pool once during the competition, with each team having to play two ties in one day at some stage during the first three days.
- iii) Teams will then play off in semi-finals based on their order after the completion of the round robin stage.

Semi-Final #1 – Winner of Pool A vs Runner-Up of Pool B

Semi-Final #2 – Winner of Pool B vs Runner-Up of Pool A

Playoff #1 – 3rd Placed Team in Pool A vs 4th Placed Team in Pool B

Playoff #2 – 4th Placed Team in Pool A vs 3rd Placed Team in Pool B

- iv) The final positions will then be determined by the following matches -
 - Playoff for 1st & 2nd – Winner of SF#1 vs Winner of SF#2
 - Playoff for 3rd & 4th – Loser of SF#1 vs Loser of SF#2
 - Playoff for 5th & 6th – Winner of Playoff # 1 vs Winner of Playoff #2
 - Playoff for 7th & 8th – Loser of Playoff #1 vs Loser of Playoff #2
 - Playoff for 9th & 10th – 5th Place Team in Pool A vs 5th Place Team in Pool B (these teams will only participate in one tie for these positions).

b) Eight Team Competitions

- i) An eight-team round robin will be played, with teams being split into two pools of four. Teams will be seeded 1-8 and will be drawn into the two pools as follows –

Team 1 & Team 2 – Placed into separate pools

Team 3 & Team 4 – Placed into separate pools at random

Teams 5 through to Team 8 – Placed into the two pools at random

Each team will play the other three teams in their pool once during the competition.

- ii) Teams will then play off in semi-finals based on their order after the completion of the round robin stage.

Semi-Final #1 – Winner of Pool A vs Runner-Up of Pool B

Semi-Final #2 – Winner of Pool B vs Runner-Up of Pool A

Playoff #1 – 3rd Placed Team in Pool A vs 4th Placed Team in Pool B

Playoff #2 – 4th Placed Team in Pool A vs 3rd Placed Team in Pool B

- iii) The final positions will then be determined by the following matches -
 - Playoff for 1st & 2nd – Winner of SF#1 vs Winner of SF#2
 - Playoff for 3rd & 4th – Loser of SF#1 vs Loser of SF#2
 - Playoff for 5th & 6th – Winner of Playoff # 1 vs Winner of Playoff #2
 - Playoff for 7th & 8th – Loser of Playoff #1 vs Loser of Playoff #2



c) Uneven numbered Team Competitions

- i) Every effort will be made to avoid seven and nine team competitions. This will include the option of inviting teams from overseas or forming a local composite team to secure an even number team draw.

Failing that, a Round Robin Draw format would be applied.

8) Administration

- a) The Entry Fee will be \$75.00 per team entered (inclusive of GST).
- b) Tennis Australia shall provide medallions to the members of the winning and runner-up teams.
- c) The Cups and Trophies may be held by the winning States at their risk until 7 days prior to the dates fixed for the next competition, at which point the trophies shall be returned to Tennis Australia. The winning team shall have the responsibility to engrave the perpetual trophy with the winning team name.
- d) Within seven (7) days of the completion of the competition, Tennis Australia shall forward to Member Associations a copy of all results.
- e) Within seven (7) days of the completion of the competition the referee shall forward to Tennis Australia:
- i) A report on the competition;
- ii) Completed code of behaviour violation forms.
- f) Except as expressly described above. Tennis Australia shall have the sole and absolute discretion to determine any matter relating to:
- i) the interpretation and/or implementation of these regulations and any matter or things arising from them; or
- ii) the conduct and administration of the competitions the subject of these regulations.
- g) Tennis Australia reserves the right to alter or amend these regulations at any time and in any way it thinks appropriate. Tennis Australia will notify each State of such changes.



9) Australian Ranking Points Allocation

The following points table and rules will apply for Australian athletes in this event. AR points accrued at the Optus 12s or 14s Australian Teams Championships will count as one singles result.

Optus 12s Australian Teams Championships	Round Robin #1	Round Robin #2	Round Robin #3	Round Robin #4	Playoff Matches*	Semi-Finals	Final	Bonus Points**
No. 1 Singles Rubber	2	2	2	2	2	4	8	10
No. 2 Singles Rubber	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	5
Doubles - Deciding Match	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	1	2	2.50
Doubles - Dead Rubber	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.50	1	

Optus 14s Australian Teams Championships	Round Robin #1	Round Robin #2	Round Robin #3	Round Robin #4	Playoff Matches*	Semi-Finals	Final	Bonus Points**
No. 1 Singles Rubber	5	5	5	5	5	10	20	20
No. 2 Singles Rubber	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	5	10	10
Doubles - Deciding Match	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	2.50	5	5
Doubles - Dead Rubber	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.25	2.50	

* **Playoff Matches** – Ties that determine if a team finishes in 3rd to 10th positions. These ties are played after the round-robin phase of the tournament.

** **Singles Bonus Points** – Athletes must win a minimum of five singles matches and be part of the winning team in order to earn the Bonus Points. If an athlete wins the required amount of singles matches to earn the bonus points, but has played at either No.1 or No.2, bonus points will be based by the greater number of matches played at the No.1 or No.2 position.

****Doubles Bonus Points** – Athletes must be a part of a minimum of five winning doubles matches (regardless if they are dead or deciding rubbers) and be part of the winning team in order to earn the Bonus Points.