

Tuesday 31 January 2023

A record-breaking tournament – Australian Open 2023 by the numbers

The world's best tennis players thrilled and delighted fans at Melbourne Park, who flocked to the Australian Open in never-before-seen numbers for world-class tennis, food, entertainment and family fun.

Novak Djokovic and **Aryna Sabalenka** were crowned the Australian Open singles champions, with Djokovic winning a record-extending 10th Australian Open title.

Australian Open 2023 broke the two-week attendance record with **839,192** fans through the gates, compared with the previous record of 812,174 set in 2020. A further **63,120** fans attended events during Qualifying Week bringing the three-week total to **902,312** fans.

Here is Australian Open 2023 by the numbers.

AO 2023 champions

- [5] **Aryna Sabalenka** defeated [22] **Elena Rybakina (KAZ)** 4-6 6-3 6-4 to win her first Grand Slam singles title. **Billie Jean King**, 12-time Grand Slam singles champion, presented Sabalenka with the **Daphne Akhurst Memorial Cup**.
- [4] **Novak Djokovic (SRB)** defeated [3] **Stefanos Tsitsipas (GRE)** 6-3 7-6(4) 7-6(5) to win a record-breaking tenth Australian Open title. 12-time Grand Slam champion and four-time Australian Open singles champion **Ken Rosewall** presented Djokovic with the **Norman Brookes Challenge Cup**. The win sees Djokovic return to **world No.1** and equal Rafael Nadal's 22 Grand Slam singles crowns.
- Australian wildcards **Rinky Hijikata** and **Jason Kubler** claimed the men's doubles title, their maiden Grand Slam victory, defeating **Hugo Nys (MON)** and **Jan Zielinski (POL)** 6-4 7-6(4). They became only the second wildcard entry to win the title, following in the footsteps of last year's champions Nick Kyrgios and Thanasi Kokkinakis
- Top seeds **Barbora Krejčíková (CZE)** and **Katerina Siniakova (CZE)** defeated [10] **Shuko Aoyama** and **Ena Shibahara (JPN)** 6-4 6-3 to win back-to-back Australian Open women's doubles titles, their seventh Grand Slam doubles title as a pair.
- **Luisa Stefani (BRA)** and **Rafael Matos (BRA)** defeated **Sania Mirza (IND)** and **Rohan Bopanna (IND)** 7-6(2) 6-2 in the mixed doubles.
- [2] **Sam Schroder (NED)** defeated [1] **Neils Vink (NED)** 6-2 7-5 to claim back-to-back Australian Open quad wheelchair singles titles.
- [1] **Alfie Hewett (GBR)** defeated [3] **Tokito Oda (JPN)** 6-3 6-1 to claim the Australian Open men's wheelchair singles title.
- [1] **Diede de Groot (NED)** defeated [2] **Yui Kamiji (JPN)** 0-6 6-2 6-2 to win the women's wheelchair singles title, her fifth Australian Open trophy and her 17th Grand Slam singles title.
- [1] **Diede de Groot (NED)** and **Aniek van Koot (NED)**, [2] **Alfie Hewett (GBR)** and **Gordon Reid (GBR)**, [1] **Sam Schroder (NED)** and **Niels Vink (NED)** won their respective wheelchair doubles titles in the women's, men's and quad divisions.
- 15-year-old [9] **Alina Korneeva** defeated [7] **Mirra Andreeva** 6-7(2) 6-4 7-5 to win the Australian Open Junior Championship girls' singles title.
- 17-year-old [3] **Alexander Blockx (GER)** defeated **Learner Tien (USA)** 6-1 2-6 7-6(9) to claim the Australian Open Junior Championships boys' singles title.
- **Renata Jamrichova (SVK)** and **Federica Urgesi (ITA)**, and [7] **Learner Tien (USA)** and **Cooper Williams (USA)** won the junior girls' and boys' doubles titles.

AO 2023 competitors

- A total of **817 players** from **68 nations** competed at the Australian Open, including qualifying, singles, doubles, junior and wheelchair events.
- **USA** had the highest representation, with **87** players, followed by **Australia with 85** and **France with 44**.

Aussies at AO 2023

- **Eighty-five** Aussies competed at Australian Open 2023 across all divisions.
- There were **two** Aussie champions – **Rinky Hijikata** and **Jason Kubler** claiming their first Grand Slam title in the men's doubles
- **Five** more Aussies made semifinals including **Olivia Gadecki** and **Marc Polmans** in mixed doubles, **Heath Davidson** in quad doubles and **Cooper Errey** and **Marcus Schoeman** in boys' doubles.

AO Legends tournament

- The **Australian Open Legends** event featured **Bob and Mike Bryan, Marcos Baghdatis, Agnieszka Radwanska, Daniela Hantuchova, Mark Philippoussis, Tommy Haas, Iva Majoli, Barbara Schett-Eagle, Rennae Stubbs** and **Cara Black**.
- Six-time Australian Open doubles champions **Bob and Mike Bryan** took out the men's title while **Agnieszka Radwanska** and **Daniela Hantuchova** teamed up to claim the women's title.

Game Insight Group (men's statistics given prior to men's final)

- To coincide with the introduction of in-match coaching across all draws of Australian Open 2023, the **Game Insight Group** introduced **GIG PlayerBox Analytics** for the tournament
- The series of intuitive dashboards were provided **free to all singles players** to help support and inform coaches influence their players performance live
- A whopping **640,492 metres** were covered by players in the men's singles draw equivalent to **26,945 lengths of a tennis court** and **6460 sprints** where a player covers at least half the length of the baseline in a high-speed effort
- The women's draw covered **344,306 metres** or **14,485 court-lengths** and had **4184 sprints**
- The boys covered a distance of **186,868 metres** or **7861 tennis courts** with **1289 sprints** during the Junior Singles competition
- The girls covered **183,119 metres** or **7703 tennis courts** with **1449 sprints**.
- During the **208 hours and 13 minutes** of women's singles match play, **17,066 points** were won from the **81,838 shots** played
- On the men's side there were **28,935 points** won from the **145,396 shots** played during the **360 hours and 51 minutes** of match play.

Player statistics**Aces**

- **85** – Ben Shelton (USA)
- **54** – Elena Rybakina (KAZ)

Fastest serve

- **228 km/h** – Ben Shelton (USA)
- **195 km/h** – Elena Rybakina (KAZ) and Coco Gauff (USA)

Double faults

- **32** – Denis Shapovalov (CAN)
- **30** – Linda Fruhvirtova (CZE)

First serve percentage in

- **76%** – Sebastian Baez (ARG), Constant Lestienne (FRA) and Dalibor Svrčina (CZE)
- **83%** – Marie Bouzkova (CZE)

First serve percentage won

- **83%** – Matteo Berrettini (ITA)
- **80%** – Qinwen Zheng (CHN)

Second serve percentage won

- **77%** – Nuno Borges (POR)
- **67%** – Leylah Fernandez (CAN)

A three-week extravaganza of tennis, entertainment and family fun ...

Attendance

- Australian Open 2023 smashed the two-week attendance record with **839,192** fans through the gates, compared with the previous record of 812,174 set in 2020
- Across the three weeks from Monday 9–Sunday 29 January, **902,312** people flocked to Melbourne Park
- Records were broken for 11 **individual sessions** and seven **day/night totals**.
- Middle Saturday was the highest attended day/night in the history of the Australian Open with **94,854** fans – the previous record was 93,709 set in 2020
- **299,740** people attended events held in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Hobart, Perth and Sydney in the lead-in to Australian Open 2023, and a further **63,120** attended Australian Open qualifying
- More than **1.2 million** people attended events across the entire Australian Summer of Tennis.
- During Qualifying Week, **63,120** fans enjoyed world-class tennis and entertainment each day, including qualifying matches, **Perfect Practice** matches, **Tennis Plays for Peace** charity match, **Novak Djokovic v Nick Kyrgios Arena Showdown** and **Kids Tennis Day**
- **Kids Tennis Day** returned to Melbourne Park on the Saturday before main draw with **15,649** people – the majority of which were children getting the chance to see their heroes and try out Tennis Hot Shots.

Australian tennis legends, sporting figures and celebrities

- Australian tennis legends including **Rod Laver AC MBE, Evonne Goolagong Cawley AC MBE, Neale Fraser AO MBE, Frank Sedgman AO, Judy Dalton AM, Kerry Meville Reid MBE, John Newcombe AO MBE** and **Ken Rosewall AM MBE** all attended the AO.
- Seven members of the Original Nine were in attendance, alongside Dalton and Melville Reid, **Billie Jean King, Rosie Casals, Peaches Bartkowicz, Kristy Pigeon** and **Valerie Ziegenfuss** were also celebrated at AO 2023
- **Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, Premier Daniel Andrews, Opposition Leader Peter Dutton, Ambassador Caroline Kennedy, Bill Gates, Dirk Nowitzki, Russell Crowe, Celeste Barber, Dannii Minogue, Cate Campbell, Oliva DeJonge, Sophie Monk, Kelly Gale, Dacre Montgomery, Bella Heathcote, Rachel Griffiths, Asher Keddie, Georgia Fowler, Olympia Valance, Rachel Griffiths, Julia Morris, Chris Judd, Bruna Papandrea, Mary Coustas, Shaynna Blaze, Montana Cox, Cat McNeil, Isaac Humphries, Jacqui Felgate, Jo Hall, Lisa Miller, Livinia Nixon, Jacinta Stapleton, Jo Stanley, Maria Thattil, Nash Edgerton, Joseph Deng, Stewart McSweyn, Hugh Sheridan, John Steffensen, Shane Delia, Steve Smith, Nick Giannopoulos, Nick Russian, Rozalia Russian, Joey Scandizzo, Archie Thompson, Carrie Bickmore, Karl Stefanovic, Sarah Abo, Brooke Boney, Christian Wilkins, Brooke Blurton, Anna McEvoy, Harry Garside, Mia Fevola, Sharon Johal, Tom Hawkins, Darren McMullen, Hamish McLachlan, Austen Stowell, Max Gawn, Christian Petracca, Mason Cox, Lily Sullivan, Sophie Cachia, Moana Hope, Nathan Broad, Nathan Buckley, Jack Silvagni, Andy Lee, Rebecca Harding, Joel Creasey, Danielle Laidley, Michael Zerafa, Tom and Sarah-Jane Calleja, Will McMahon, Woody Whitelaw, Lauren Phillips, Pip Edwards Dave Hughes, Anthony Callea, Tim Campbell, Kate Ceberano, Marta Dusseldorp, Maria Venuti, Brihony Dawson, Omar Slaymankhel, Osman Said, Brooke Hogan, Jon Landau, Lachy Hulme and Darren McMullen** were some of the well-known faces in the crowd.

Music and entertainment

- More than **13,500** people attended the inaugural **Finals Festival** at **Kia Arena**, selling out each session
- Live performances from **10 artists** featured across **Finals Festival** including **Flight Facilities, Benee, Thelma Plum, Vanessa Amorosi, Maitland, CC:DISCO!, Bertie, Winston Surfshirt, Forest Caludette** and **Willo**
- Australian Rock Legend **Ross Wilson** of “Eagle Rock” fame sang **Summer of ’81 (’23)** for Opening Night at Rod Laver Arena

- The Australian cast of the Broadway Musical **&Juliet** featuring **Lorinda May Merrypor** performed before the women's singles semifinal
- On First Nations Day, **Mitch Tambo, Lee Kernaghan and Isaiah Firebrace** performed their co-written single 'Come Together' on Rod Laver Arena
- **Darren Hayes** (Savage Garden) performed 'Insatiable' as part of AO Pride Day
- The National Anthem was performed by 12-year-old **Sienna Katelyn** prior to the women's semifinal, **Stefanie Jones** (star of Mary Poppins) at the women's final and **Harrison Craig** at the men's final
- **Batchelor Girl** performed their hit "Buses and Trains" on women's final night
- **Rob Mills** sang 'Can't Stop This Feeling' prior to the men's final night
- **140 hours** of tunes were played by **42 local DJs** at the Beach Bar rooftop DJ Booth.
- **448 hours** of on-site and roaming music and entertainment.
- **19 performances** from First Nations artists across the tournament
- There were **three days of Family Fun** at the beginning of the second week including appearances and performances by **Peppa Pig, Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman**, and the **Looney Tunes**.

Watched and engaged with around the world ...

Domestic broadcast highlights

- Novak Djokovic's defeat of Stefanos Tsitsipas in the AO 2023 men's final drew a peak national audience of **2.311 million** viewers with an average audience of **1.747 million**
- The women's final between Aryna Sabalenka and Elena Rybakina peaked at **1.437 million** viewers, with an average audience of **1.036 million**
- The fourth-round match between Alex de Minaur and Novak Djokovic on the second Monday of the tournament peaked at **1.315 million viewers**
- National cumulative reach for AO 2023 was **10.064 million** viewers
- The Australian Open Men's Final recorded the highest ever **Live BVOD Audience** for an Australian Open match of **245,000** up **8 per cent** on 2022
- The Australian Open on Channel 9 was the highest rating sport for 14 consecutive days
- Nine also dominated the free-to-air viewing shares with key demographics each day of the tournament.

International broadcast (As of Day 11 Friday 27 January 2023 unless indicated)

- Audiences in key global markets were up on 2022
- **24.5 million hours** were viewed across days 1-10 in the USA, **up 6.6 per cent** on 2022. This is expected to rise for the final four days with the expansion of content available on linear TV
- Chinese viewership was also strong, **up 44 per cent** on 2022 with **69 million hours** watched over the first 13 days. Day 11 was the biggest day of the tournament with **6.98 million hours** watched in China, up **501 per cent** on 2022
- Streaming audiences rose **by a third** on discovery+ and the Eurosport App in the first week, with **double digit growth** in key markets like France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain and the UK
- Linear television viewership across Europe on Eurosport is consistent with the record engagement levels of last year, but with **massive jumps** in Poland **up 84 per cent** and the Netherlands up **39 per cent**
- Preliminary numbers from **Netflix** for the first 10 days, show that **Break Point** has made the **top 10 list** in **28 countries** including the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, Norway, Denmark and Estonia.

Host broadcast

- AO 2023 is the **85th event** produced and delivered by the Tennis Australia in-house broadcast team
- Up to **21 courts** were covered live, including **16 match courts** and **five practice courts**, along with extensive coverage behind the scenes

- More than **165 cameras** were used throughout the Melbourne Park precinct and surrounds including, **Spidercam** on RLA, **NetCams** on Rod Laver Arena, Margaret Court Arena and John Cain Arena and a host of other specialty cameras including **FlyCam**, **Drone** and **Dream Chip**
- The team produced live coverage of every court, every match, every day – including additional coverage of the **Tennis Plays for Peace** charity event, **AO Draw Show** and **Novak Djokovic v Nick Kyrgios Arena Showdown** - making this year's AO the most covered tournament ever
- There was expert commentary available across **six match courts** with talent including **Mark Philippoussis**, **Daniela Hantuchova**, **Mark Petchey**, **Laura Robson**, **Chanda Rubin**, **John Fitzgerald**, **Colin Fleming**, **Brad Stine**, **Jill Craybas** and **Wally Masur**
- An expanded suite of graphics were integrated into the coverage including **scoring**, **augmented reality** and **GCam graphics** on the court surface, plus improved **GIG** (Game Insight Group) statistics
- The dedicated **Remote Interview Studio** completed more than **155 interviews** across two weeks
- An expanded and improved Broadcast Compound covering more than **3,034m square metres** of temporary infrastructure helped support the technical delivery of the event
- More than **900 square metres** of permanent production facilities were constructed including **six vision and audio control rooms** and the **Genius Production** area mixing signals for **16 TV courts**
- Tennis Australia Host Broadcast engaged a total of **332 freelance broadcast crew**.

AO Media Hub

- The **AO Media Hub** was a one stop shop for accredited media and broadcasters to cover the event from anywhere in the world
- The online platform provided access to media conferences as well as match statistics, colour vision and photos
- A total of **1363 media conferences** were held during the tournament in the main interview room, one-on-one interview rooms and remote broadcast interviews
- **806 journalists** and **photographers** from **52 nations** reported on AO 2023
- **440 journalists** covered the event on-site, including **203 international media**, with a further **175 media** accessing coverage and information through our digital and online services
- **460 broadcast personnel** were onsite and approximately **1050** in total accredited, including those working on the event remotely.

AO YouTube (9-27 January 2023)

- The highest amount of content ever was published on AO YouTube during Australian Open 2023 with **1433 videos** uploaded to the platform
- For the first time, **AO YouTube** created exclusive extended highlights of every match for the North and South America regions
- So far there have been **75 million views**, **430 million impressions**, **9,840,536 new viewers** and **72,743 new subscribers**
- More than **3 million hours** of content has been watched – equating to **344 years**.

AO social media (9-29 January 2023)

- More than **450,000** new followers were acquired across AO social platforms including TikTok, YouTube, Instagram, Facebook and Twitter during the tournament
- The **5418** posts across social platforms generated over **780 million** impressions, **29 million** interactions and **470 million** video views
- The **32** videos posted on TikTok and **24** reels on Instagram generated over **1 million** views each. Overall, videos on TikTok and Instagram generated **160 million** views
- Partner related content generated more than **67 million** impressions across AO socials, **15 per cent** higher than last year
- During week one, AO TikTok generated **three times** the number of views compared to week one in 2022

- Total followers across AO social platforms in China reached **3.25 million** – almost half a million new followers over the past three weeks
- On Weibo, Kia partner content reached **1 billion impressions**, an increase of 900 million impressions from 2022.

AO app and website (16-28 January 2023)

- The **AO app** saw increased engagement time of more than **3 minutes** per session and an **8 per cent** growth in audience size
- The AO's digital platforms were most popular in **Australia, USA, UK, Canada and India**
- The **AO app** was rated **4.8** out of 5 stars in the Apple Store and **4.7** out of 5 stars in the Google Play Store.
- Fans watched more than **10 million minutes** of video content across the app and website.
- More than **1 million articles** and **5 million player pages** were viewed on ausopen.com
- There have been **1.55 million** page views with an average time of **2 minutes and 45 seconds** spent on editorial pages page since 1 January.

AO Player Content Concierge service

- The **AO Player Content Concierge** team provided more than **12,000 pieces** of content including images and video directly to **350 players** during the tournament
- Content provided to players via the Content Concierge service engaged **9 million** people, reached **18.7 million** people, was shared **38,500 times** – generating **110 million impressions** and achieving an exposure value of **\$5.17 million**.

In-stadium production

- The **AO Sonic Light and Sound show** staged on Rod Laver Arena prior to every night session featured more than **200 moving lights** installed around the arena and 360-degree video elements across the digital walls. The soundtrack was the AO Sonic soundscape
- In-stadium production was showcased on **4928 LED Panels** across the precinct, totalling **1826 square metres** and **118,538,944 pixels**
- The LEDs featured **1236** bespoke digital wall content pieces.

AO Drone Light Show

- Over two Sundays, Melbourne Park was illuminated by the first-ever **AO Drone Light Show**
- The show consisted of **500 choreographed drones** - a first for Melbourne - conceptualising the **Australian Open** theme of 'The Story Starts Here' in a fun mix of retro depictions of the sport, as well as futuristic 3D designs and the iconic AO trophies.

AO Fortnite Summer Smash

- **Loserfruit** and **Vortex** took out the 2023 **AO Summer Smash** featuring **Fortnite**, which offered **\$100,000 (USD)** in charitable donations and prizemoney
- YouTube Gaming Content Creator **Loserfruit** won the \$50,000 (USD) Charity Icon Series, streamed live from Margaret Court Arena on Men's Final Day, winning \$25,000 for Givit. Fellow creator **Lazarbeam** placed second, earning \$15,000 for Ronald McDonald House, with **Lachlan** placing third, choosing Logan's Children Hospital to receive \$10,000
- The event also saw **90** of Oceania's best Fortnite players battle it out for **\$50,000 (USD)** in a Competitive Battle Royale Solo's event, with Australian **Vortex** claiming the top spot after six games, earning **\$10,000** in prizemoney.

AO Adventure launches in Roblox

- The **Australian Open** entered a new digital arena with the launch of **AO Adventure** on the hugely popular online gaming platform **Roblox**
- There were **4,239,266** total users during the tournament with **2,271,440** unique users
- **1,786,714** users played tennis in AO Adventure and **863,776** users collected the Emirates Plane.

Seven AO Startups unveiled

AO StartUps is the latest step in Tennis Australia's innovation program which helps early-stage companies pilot their cutting-edge technology at the Australian Open and other areas of Australian tennis. The companies are:

- Data analytics platform **Amperfii**
- Cleantech startup **Calyx**
- Compression garment manufacturer **CAPE Bionics**
- Gender equity platform **equidi**
- **MATCHi** – The world's fastest growing booking system for racquet sports including Padel
- Generative AI-based text-to-video technology **Recut**
- Live immersive video experiences in VR/360 creator **YBVR** and **Xtadium**.

Delivered by a 12,000-strong workforce ...**Tournament Operations**

- **320 drivers** transported players and officials in **130 Kia cars** during the tournament, including **ten EV6 all-electric cars**
- More than **26,200** transport trips booked through the **new AO Transport app** with more than **346,300 km** covered on the road by AO drivers in the Kia fleet
- **Chief Umpire Cheryl Jenkins** led the AO Officials team of **222 officials**, which included **150 Australians** and **72 internationals** from **33 nations**
- It was the largest AO Ballkid Squad in the history of the tournament with **393 ballkids** aged between 12 and 15 years of age taking part, including 13 First Nations ballkids
- Victorians **Macy Peterson** and **Charlie Meadows** were named **top ballkids of AO 2023**. Both helped present the women's and men's champion trophies
- **6938** racquets were restrung by **Yonex stringers** using more than **83,300m of string**
- **71,352 AO 2023 Dunlop balls** were in play, with used tennis balls sold on-site as souvenirs for fans with proceeds going to the Australia Tennis Foundation to support programs for disadvantaged kids. The plastic tubes were sent to recycling programs
- **4800 bags** of player and coach laundry were cleaned during the tournament and more than **60,000 player towels** laundered.
- The **AO tote bag** was the highest selling item at the AO Shop with **12,500 units** sold.

Workforce

- More than **12,000** team members from Tennis Australia, Melbourne & Olympic Parks and Delaware North helped deliver AO 2023
- Among this group there were **44** different languages spoken
- **130** people have clocked up an impressive **2000** combined years of service at the Australian Open
- Those celebrating milestones of 15+ years were also invited to take part in a Lap of Honour on Rod Laver Arena before the night session on the first Tuesday
- More than **80 per cent** of the workforce were retained from the 2022 tournament
- More than **10,000 workers** onboarded, trained and enabled to do their best work with the **SafetyCulture Platform**
- **Eight people** with Down syndrome were employed in roles as part of a Tennis Australia partnership with charity **Impact 21**, including four returning for their second year

Thanks to a dedicated Partner Family ...

AO 2023 Partners

- **Kia** extended its partnership with the Australian Open for a further **five years until 2028**, marking the extension of one of the longest-standing sports sponsorships in Australia. Kia ambassador **Rafael Nadal** took part in the official Kia fleet handover ceremony at Federation Square
- **Emirates**, the **AO Official Airline** for the **ninth** consecutive year, celebrated **Kids Tennis Day presented by Emirates** and **Emirates Day**
- The **AO Ballpark presented by Emirates** returned to Birrarung Marr and included the Emirates Fly Better Adventure with an adrenaline tower and cloud jump, 8m high waterslide, aerial adventure with 12 unique obstacles, entertainment stage, Tennis Hot Shots and a First Nations immersive digital art experience
- As it celebrated 100 years in tennis, **Dunlop** signed on as the Official Ball Partner of the **Australian Open, Australian Summer of Tennis** and **Tennis Australia** for a further five years. Dunlop ambassador and tennis legend **Rod Laver** joined in the celebrations at Melbourne Park
- **Chubb**, the Official Insurance Partner of the Australian Open, extended its multi-year partnership with the Australian Open for a further three years
- **Cyber CX**, Australia's leading cyber security services organisation, became the Official Cyber Security Partner of AO 2023
- **Life-Space** signed a multi-year agreement to become the Official Health Supplement Partner of the Australian Open
- **Squealing Pig** became the Official Wine of the Australian Open and celebrated its Summer of Love campaign at the **GLAM Slam on AO Pride Day**
- **Chemist Warehouse**, leading pharmacy retailer, signed a renewal agreement, extending the partnership for a further three years
- More than **4200 Ralph Lauren uniforms** were distributed in the new AO Uniform Hub.

Showcasing world-class Aussie dining ...

Food and Hospitality

- Many of the country's most in-demand restaurants and bars were on-site to offer fans mouth-watering options at AO 2023, showcasing the diversity and creativity of Australia's world-class dining
- **Andrew McConnell** (Supernormal), **Jacqui Challinor** (NOMAD), **Jason Staudt** (Stokehouse) and **Josh Niland** (Charcoal Fish) were some of the new names that brought their mouth-watering menus to the AO this year. While fan favourites **Shane Delia** (Maha Superbox), **Rockpool Bar & Grill** and **Penfolds' Restaurant** returned for another year
- Also new this year was the Bar Superbox by **Nick & Nora's**, **Karkalla** by Mindy Woods all the way from Byron Bay, and Willow Urban Retreat and Oakberry in the new **AO Tennis Club**
- More than **22,000 guests** dined at premium experience restaurants across the tournament
- **Supernormal** was located at the heart of the precinct overlooking **Garden Square** giving fans the chance to sample its signature flavours and serving up **more than 3000** of its famous Lobster Rolls
- **Penfolds Restaurant** offered a four-course menu paired with specially curated Penfolds wines, including an indulgent glass of Grange
- **Rockpool Bar & Grill**, a firm favourite at the AO, transported its world-renowned dining experience to the second level of Centrepiece this summer. Diners selected three courses from a signature menu delivered with distinction by Rockpool's award winning team
- Sweeping city views were on offer at the greenhouse-inspired **Atrium by NOMAD**, located on the River Terrace featuring a two-course menu and an a la carte bar
- Iconic Melbourne seaside restaurant **Stokehouse** activated an epic finals dining experience – **AO Stokehouse at Glasshouse**

- **Grand Slam Oval** was a global playground where cuisine and culture collide. Vendors included some of Melbourne's best including **Rocco's Bologna Discoteca**, **Elsie's**, **Oasis Bakery**, **Fishbowl**, **Ca Com**, **BEAST**, **Tacos y Liquor** (Geelong) and **Wonder Pies**
- The **Peach Melbourne** made its Australian Open debut. A vanilla soft serve drizzled with peach and raspberry syrup that is made with peach puree from fruit grown in Shepparton supporting local farmers.

Food fast facts

- More than **40,000** Peach Melbourne desserts were served
- More than **25,000** Fishbowl Healthy Bowls were sold
- More than **17,000** Ca Com Bahn Mis were consumed
- More than **7000** Rocco's Bologna Discoteca Meatball Subs served
- More **3500** Oasis Falafel plates sold
- More than **22,000** BEAST burgers ordered
- More than **8000** Butter Chickens made at Elsie's
- More than **15,000** tacos bought from Tacos y Liquor
- More than **9000** Wonder Pies eaten
- More than **4000** Nourish Bowls made by Willow Urban Retreat at AO Tennis Club
- More than **17,000** Hella Good Souvlakis consumed
- More than **5000** Karkalla Kangaroo Skewers served
- More than **15,000** Kids combo packs sold across the site.

AO Beach Bar

- After the huge success of the Australian Open's first-ever Beach House in 2022, a stunning new and equally ambitious coastal precinct – **AO Beach Bar** – became the landmark destination at the AO this summer
- Sydney-based chef **Josh Niland**, who became globally known through his innovative fish butchery, brought his famed **Charcoal Fish** to Melbourne for the first time, setting up in the Beach Bar
- The Beach Bar was home to the first **AO Spritz Bar** with more than **15,000** AO Ten Point Spritzes, French 75's and non-alcoholic Guava Margaritas served.

Providing a platform for growing Australian tennis ...

Community tennis at AO

- The Australian Open provides unrivalled opportunities to connect **grassroots tennis** with all the excitement of a **Grand Slam**. Grassroots tennis was embedded across the three weeks of AO 2023 with **Kids Tennis Day**; the **AO Tennis Club** including **AO Orange Court** and purpose-built **Padel court**; **AO Coin Crew** and **Kids on Court** opportunities; **Cardio Tennis** come-and-try and showcases; **Tennis Hot Shots Day**; amplified **Family Fun Days**; the inaugural **Australian Padel Open** and **AO Holiday Programs** which ran across the country throughout January
- The **AO Tennis Club**, a brand-new precinct dedicated to tennis in all its forms, debuted at AO 2023. Featuring **Padel**, **POP Tennis**, **Cardio Tennis**, **Tennis Hot Shots**, table tennis and totem tennis it gave fans the opportunity to pick up a racquet and try alternative forms of tennis while at the AO
- **60,413 kids** across Australia participated in AO Holiday Programs delivered by **293 coaches** across **527 venues** during January
- **17** Community Play venues delivered the AO Holiday Program to **352 participants**
- More than **90,000** interactions were experienced by fans in the **AO Ballpark presented by Emirates**, including the **Tennis Hot Shots** Activation Zone
- More than **1300 Tennis Hot Shots kids** hit the courts for pre-match Kids on Court opportunities
- More than **180 Tennis Hot Shots kids** tossed the AO 2023 coin featuring tennis legend Ken Rosewall

- More than **1500 Tennis Hot Shots players**, coaches and parents flocked to the Australian Open on Tennis Hot Shots Day, including more than **500** who were bused in from regional Victoria
- **Cardio Tennis** was on display at the AO Tennis Club with ‘Come and Try’ sessions delivered daily. More than **90 participants** showcased Cardio Tennis at pre match sessions
- The AO Tennis Club saw more than **35,000 fans** try their hand at Padel, POP Tennis, Table Tennis and Totem Tennis
- The inaugural **Australian Padel Open**, the largest professional Padel event and first of its kind in Australia, featured **132** men and women representing **20** nationalities in competition for international ranking points and a share of the \$20,000 prize pool. Finals of the men’s and women’s main draw were played at the AO Tennis Club
- **486 coaches** from **23 countries** participated in the virtual Grand Slam Coaches Conference, which featured **25 world-class presenters** and **112 coaches** attended the inaugural AO Coach Member breakfast.

Tennis digital

- The national **Play Tennis website** saw searches for Tennis Hot Shots, Cardio Tennis, court hire and coaching increase by **140 per cent**, with a **171 per cent** increase in transactions during January
- A total of **21,952** of web sessions were referred from AusOpen channels during the tournament – **19,239** from the mobile app and **2213** from the website to **play.tennis.com.au**
- Traffic to the **Tennis Hot Shots** website increased by **70 per cent** with a **108 per cent increase** in form submissions
- **Cardio Tennis** website traffic went up **428 per cent** with an increase of **498 per cent** in form submissions
- Online court bookings grew by **43 per cent** nationwide between October 2021 and September 2022 and casual court bookings increased by **40 per cent**
- Clubs using **ClubSpark** for membership sign up increased by **36 per cent** and clubs using **ClubSpark** for online court hire bookings increased by **31 per cent**
- More than **75 per cent** of the Australian population now has access to online court bookings through play.tennis.com.au.

Tennis participation

- More than **1.48 million** Aussies play tennis according to the latest Ausplay data
- Tennis continues to be one of the top requested and delivered Sporting Schools Programs in Australia with **7889 programs** delivered since 2016
- There are more than **695,150** program participants across **Tennis Hot Shots, Cardio Tennis, Coaching programs**, and **Sporting Schools Programs**
- More than **5000** talent development players are involved in pathway programs including Super 10s, National Development Squads, the National Tennis Academy, and international tours.

Celebrating Tennis Plays for Good ...

AO Inspirational Series and Women and Girls

- **Billie Jean King** and members of the **Original Nine** headlined the eighth annual **AO Inspirational Series**. King and Australian members of the Original Nine **Judy Dalton** and **Kerry Melville Reid** were interviewed by journalist **Tara Brown**
- **Manal al Sharif**, Saudi women’s right activist, cyber security expert and author of “Daring to Drive” was a guest speaker at the AO Inspirational Series
- Australian tennis legend **Evonne Goolagong Cawley** carried in the Daphne Ackhust Memorial Cup and also spoke at the event
- The world’s best female athletes once again shone in **prime time** with both women’s semifinal matches featuring on **Rod Laver Arena** on Thursday night, and the women’s final on Saturday night

- **44 women** from across Victoria attended the **Women Leaders in Tennis** networking event at the AO, featuring guest speaker **Judy Murray**
- **70 Tennis Hot Shots girls** came to participate in **Kids on Court** on women's semifinal day with **eight women coaches** and **four Cardio Tennis women**, as part of activations held on that day
- An **all-girl ballkid squad** was rostered on for the women's semifinals
- **45 coaches** attended the **Coach Connect** networking session at the AO with Tennis Australia's Women Coach Lead, **Nicole Pratt**, and high-performance coach and keynote speaker **Emma Doyle**.
- **Six ballgirls** had the opportunity to meet **world No.7 Coco Gauff** and ask her questions about her career
- **32 Super 10s girls**, who were selected for the AO National Camp, participated in a workshop with **Nicole Pratt** and **Daria Saville**, before having a hit with Grand Slam champion **Sam Stosur** at the National Tennis Centre
- **Seven women** from the Asia-Pacific visited the AO as part of their graduation from their Pacific Women Leaders in Tennis program.

AO First Nations Day

- The second **AO First Nations Day** was held on Wednesday 18 January and was launched by a meet and greet with AO22 Champion **Ash Barty** (Ngarigo) and **Evonne Goolagong Cawley** (Wiradjuri) and First Nations Ballkids
- Senior Wurundjeri Elder **Aunty Joy Murphy** joined Wiradjuri woman and former world No.1 **Evonne Goolagong Cawley**, and Ken **Rosewall** to officially welcome fans to the Australian Open on day one.
- A **Welcome to Country** and **Smoking Ceremony** took place at the new **cultural marker**, conducted by **Chenile Chandler** and **Elder Aunty Joy Murphy**. The cultural marker is a permanent addition to the precinct, designed by renowned artist and performer **Stan Yarramanua**.

AO All Abilities Day

- **Australian Open 2023** hosted the first ever **AO All Abilities Day** on Tuesday 24 January
- Coinciding with the start of the **AO 2023 Wheelchair Championships**, All Abilities Day recognised the many inclusive formats of tennis, and invite people who have vision, hearing, mobility, sensory and/or intellectual disabilities to enjoy all that the AO has to offer in a safe and inclusive environment
- The AO hosted its first international **Inclusion Championships** featuring **PWII** (Players with an Intellectual Impairment) and **DHOH** (Deaf and Hard of Hearing) tournaments. Forty players from 14 countries competed
- **Anna McBride (GBR)** was the **AO PWII Women's Singles Champion** and **Archie Graham (AUS)** was the **PWII Men's Singles Champion**
- **Ashlee Narker (AUS)** was the **AO DHOH Women's Singles Champion** and **Gabor Mathe (HUN)** was the **AO DHOH Men's Singles Champion**.

AO Pride Day and GLAM Slam presented by Ralph Lauren

- The second **AO Pride Day** took over the second Friday of the tournament and was combined with the **AO GLAM Slam presented by Ralph Lauren**.
- The **GLAM Slam** attracted over **200 players** from around the world from more than **15 countries** who competed for the chance to play in the finals on Kia Arena
- The final sold out with more than **3500 fans** in attendance
- The **GLAM Slam celebrity match** featured **Danielle Laidley, Josh Cavallo, Moana Hope, Ben Brown, Rennae Stubbs, Marcos Baghdatis** and **Maria Thattil** as umpire
- **Montaigne, Vanessa Amorosi** and **Bertie** performed as part of the day
- Glam Stations, roaming tattoo stations, roving drag queens and rainbow roller skaters featured across the precinct
- AO Pride Day kicked off with the **Glam Slam Breakfast presented by Ralph Lauren** and ended with Rod Laver Arena lit up in rainbow colours.

Australian Tennis Foundation

- More than **\$640,000** was raised to provide humanitarian aid for Ukraine, flood relief and support for the **Australian Tennis Foundation** through events such as **Tennis Plays for Peace** and **Novak Djokovic v Nick Kyrgios Arena Showdown**
- More than **240** children and families were given a respite from challenging life circumstances through the ATF's **Brighter Days** program, including groups from Ronald McDonald House, My Room, Children's Cancer Foundation, Sony Foundation (You Can program), Little Dreamers and natural disaster affected communities
- **4,057 tickets sold** in the **Australian Tennis Foundation Lottery**, with the winners enjoying a premium Men's Finals experience
- **Three wishes** granted for sick kids from the Make-a-Wish Foundation and Starlight Children's Foundation, facilitated with AO experiences
- **71 AO prize packages** valued at over **\$65,000** were donated through 2022 to support charity fundraising efforts
- **More than 100 items** of apparel were donated by players for distribution to disadvantaged families through our partnership with **Sport for All**.

Sustainability

- More than **38 tonnes** of mixed recycling, **24 tonnes** of kitchen organics, **37 tonnes** of cardboard and over **33 tonnes** of crushed glass were accepted for recycling
- More than **10,000 AO ball tubes** were collected and recycled
- Reusable crockery and cupware reduced single use items by approximately **30,000 items**
- **Green My Plate** returned to the AO to hygienically collect and wash reusable plates and bowls in the AO Tennis Club and Beach Bar
- **Five** new Recycling Hubs were installed across the site, with **21 Trash Talkers** specially recruited to help fans separate their waste
- More than **5000** PET bottles were recovered and recycled
- Tennis Australia installed more than **280** chilled, filtered, water taps to help reduce single use consumption.

The culmination of a massive Australian Summer of Tennis ...

Lead in to AO 2023

- **Nine tournaments** were held during the **2023 Australian Summer of Tennis** with **299,740** people attending lead-in events to the Australian Open
- **122 Aussies** took part in AO lead-in events: **United Cup, Adelaide International 1 & 2, Hobart International, Canberra International, Victorian Wheelchair Open, Melbourne Wheelchair Open** and **ITF Juniors Traralgon**
- 2023 marked the **30th anniversary** of the **ITF Juniors** event being held in **Traralgon**
- **Heath Davidson (VIC)** claimed the Victorian Wheelchair Open quad singles crown, **Benjamin Wenzel (Qld)** won the junior title, and **Hamish Baker (Vic)** and **Jin Woodman (Vic)** won the junior boy's doubles title
- **Benjamin Wenzel (Qld)** claimed the junior crown at the **Melbourne Wheelchair Open** and **Jin Woodman (Vic)** and **Isla Gillespie (NSW)** won the junior boys doubles title.

AO on the Road

- The **Norman Brookes Challenge Cup** and **Daphne Akhurst Memorial Cup** visited tennis clubs and iconic locations across **five** Victorian regions including **Goldfields, Gippsland, High Country, Surf Coast** and the **Murray** before returning to **Melbourne** ahead of AO22.

Media Release

16–29 January

THE
STORY
STARTS *HERE*

- Current and former tennis players including **Heath Davidson, Wally Masur, Arina Rodionova** and **John Fitzgerald** took part in the tour.
- Locations visited included **Bendigo, Genoa, Mallaoota, Orbost, Corryong, Castlemaine, Melbourne CBD, Twelve Apostles, Port Fairy** and **Yarrowonga**.

Relive some of the best moments from AO 2023



-ends-

Australian Open 2023, supported by major partner Kia in association with Emirates, Luzhou Laojiao and Rolex, took place at Melbourne Park from 16-29 January 2023. Visit ausopen.com for more information.

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