



Tennis ACT

Youth Advisory Group

FRAMEWORK & GUIDELINES

INTRODUCTION

The Tennis ACT Youth Advisory Group (YAG) has been established by Tennis ACT to give young people a voice to influence change within our sport. The Youth Advisory Group will lead the way in defining what they want from tennis by providing insights and recommendations on current programs as well as future initiatives for tennis within the ACT. Members will also have the opportunity to gain leadership skills, learn about sport governance and contribute to the growth of tennis in their community.

Responsibilities of the YAG

- Participate in consultation with Tennis ACT to provide importance insights and perspectives on youth-related tennis initiatives
- Assess the current state of play for youth-related tennis activities within the ACT and region
- Make recommendations to Tennis ACT on areas of improvement within existing and new programs
- Advocate for youth-friendly policies and programs

The YAG may provide feedback to Tennis ACT on issues of importance for young tennis players, including but not limited to

- Tennis programs & initiatives
- Competitive Play
- Player Development
- Health & Wellbeing
- Inclusion & Diversity
- Safeguarding Children
- Tennis Promotion & Marketing
- Tennis Integrity

YAG Structure and Eligibility Criteria

- Minimum of 8 members who are passionate and have previous experience about tennis
- Members must be 14 – 21 years of age at the time of application
- The YAG will be chaired by a Tennis ACT staff member who will arrange and preside over meetings, as well as report findings and make recommendations to the Tennis ACT Board & Leadership Team
- A second Tennis ACT staff member will act as secretary and prepare the minutes of meetings and record any recommendations. The secretary may act as alternate chair in the chair's absence or unavailability

Benefits of becoming a YAG Member

- Develop and implement solutions to create a more sustainable tennis community
- Undertake professional development and enhance skills including, communication, leadership, teamwork and influencing the decision-making process
- Gain a better understanding of the tennis landscape
- Have the opportunity to have their voice heard on matters that affect their playing experience
- Develop a better understanding of the Tennis ACT processes and systems
- Serve as a liaison, bringing any issues/suggestions/feedback to Tennis ACT administration at meetings

Qualities of a YAG Member

- Communicates well with others
- Well organised and punctual
- Has a strong passion for tennis
- Shows commitment & is open minded
- Advocates for others
- Displays vision and creativity
- Enjoys a team environment

Meeting Logistics

Meetings will take place on a quarterly basis and will be held digitally using virtual meeting software. Meetings will be scheduled for approximately 60 mins in duration and will be set at a suitable time for junior participants to avoid impacting their school or competition schedules

Code of Conduct

Members must comply with the following rules in order to maintain their position on the YAG:

- Treat all other Members with respect
- Listen to the views of other Members and be courteous and polite at all times
- Act as a positive role model with respect to good sporting behaviour whilst participating in tennis
- Only use mobile phones at appropriate times
- Adhere to all Tennis Australia national policies and by-laws

How to get involved

Each year the youth community will be invited to apply for a position on the YAG via the Tennis ACT website. At the end of the application period, Tennis ACT will review all applications received and advise successful applicants of their selection. Applicants are encouraged to review the eligibility criteria outline in the document as well as the 'Qualities of a YAG member,' prior to submitting their application.

At tennis, we embrace differences in gender, age, ethnicity, race, cultural background, disability, religion and sexual orientation. We value diversity and understand how it assists in attracting, recruiting and retaining our talented tennis family. Tennis encourages all people to apply for this role.

All successful applicants aged 18 years and over will be required to provide Tennis ACT with a valid Working With Vulnerable People Check prior to the first YAG meeting. The selection of Members for the YAG is at the discretion of Tennis ACT and any decisions made will be final.

Review of these Terms of Reference

Tennis ACT will conduct an annual review of these Terms of Reference and make any changes from time to time as required

Questions

For any questions regarding the YAG, please contact:

Brittany Hughes

Youth Advisory Group Manager

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Tennis acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, rest and play, and pay our respect to Elders past and present.