

NATIONAL TALENT HUBS

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the National Talent Hubs?

The National Talent Hubs aim to collaborate with leading private-sector performance coaches and businesses to nurture young tennis talent. These hubs focus on players aged 7-12, working to strengthen the pipeline of emerging talent across the country. Each Talent Hub is required to provide a comprehensive program tailored to meet the training and competition needs of aspiring players in this age group. Tennis Australia does not operate the National Talent Hubs, rather plays a supporting role.

What is the goal of the Talent Hubs?

The goal is to support player development at a critical stage of the performance pathway, helping to create a strong foundation for future Grand Slam champions. The hubs aim to grow the number of comprehensive performance programs while enhancing program quality, increase opportunities for young players, and align with Tennis Australia's long-term performance objectives.

How is the program funded?

Each National Talent Hub will receive a grant to improve and expand their player development programs. Additional funding is available through a Player Performance bonus scheme, which rewards coaching excellence and the achievements of young players in both domestic and international competitions.

Who can participate in the Talent Hubs?

The Talent Hubs are designed for emerging players aged 7-12. Ideally, players should be able to start and progress their tennis journey within the same program, without needing to move due to gaps in offerings. The goal is to provide a complete pathway that meets all the developmental needs required for players to reach their full potential.

How are the Talent Hubs selected?

Talent Hubs will be chosen based on their reputation for developing players aged between 7-12, commitment to player development, a strong relationship with Tennis Australia and an alignment to TA's performance goals. These hubs represent partnerships with some of the nation's top private-sector performance coaches and businesses. During the pilot phase, diversity was a key consideration in selecting the Talent Hubs. To ensure a broad representation, we partnered with a variety of providers, including private clubs, schools, and a TennisWorld facility. This approach ensured we gathered a broad range of feedback and insights, providing valuable assurance on the effectiveness and success of the program across different types of facilities.

What is the Player Performance bonus scheme?

This bonus scheme provides additional funding to Talent Hubs and private coaches based on players' achievements, rankings, and demonstrated character behaviours. It aims to incentivise coaching excellence and reward progress toward long-term player development outcomes.

What type of programs do the Talent Hubs offer?

Each Talent Hub has a clear player pathway that provides tailored programs to ensure each player meets their potential. Each Talent Hub vary by location and program, so it's best to contact the hubs directly for specific details.

Where are the pilot Talent Hub locations?

The 2025 pilot Talent Hubs are showcased on the Tennis Australia website. Currently, there are six hubs participating in the pilot program, located across Sydney, Melbourne, the Gold Coast, and the Sunshine Coast.

How will the success of the Talent Hubs be measured?

Success will be tracked through player development metrics, such as skill improvement, character, competition outcomes, and alignment with Tennis Australia's goals. Feedback from players, parents, and coaches will also contribute to ongoing program evaluation and refinement. Additionally, we will evaluate the development of the coaches within each hub, assessing their growth and suitability for nurturing young players effectively.

Is this a long-term program?

Yes, the National Talent Hubs are part of Tennis Australia's long-term vision to strengthen the tennis performance pathway. The success of the 2025 pilot will inform further investment and expansion in the coming years.

How can I contact a National Talent Hub?

Each Talent Hub has its own contact details, which are provided in the program information. Please reach out directly to your local hub to learn more about their programs, enrolment processes, and opportunities.

How do I become a National Talent Hub?

Applications for the 2025 National Talent Hubs will open in May 2025. The selection process will involve a thorough and detailed application, including the submission of a comprehensive proposal. Shortlisted applicants will also participate in an on-site venue visit and face-to-face assessment by Tennis Australia staff to ensure alignment with program goals and standards. Successful Talent Hubs will commence operations in July 2025, with contracts spanning a two-year period.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Tennis Australia Talent Development Manager in your state for more information about the National Talent Hubs initiative.