

SELECTION CRITERIA: AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVE

2026 JUNIOR TEAM – WORLD TEAM CUP

The philosophy of the Tennis Australia Performance Team is to ‘strive to be the best version of yourself everyday’. Through development of the person, player and team, the overall goal is to develop a sustainable pipeline of champions which aligns to the Tennis Australia overall 2030 strategy. To support the goals, the Players with Disability (PWD) team have developed their own goals including:

- Medalling at the 2032 Brisbane Paralympics
- Winning a singles and doubles Grand Slam title by 2032
- Representing Australia in the WTC across all divisions by 2030

The PWD team are committed to ensuring athletes are consistently aligned to the qualities expected within all aspects of our pathway, allowing players to develop into high performing athletes capable of achieving this mission. To support this, we acknowledge the need for a transparent process when selecting players to represent Australia at the BNP Paribas World Team Cup. As well as providing benchmarks for aspiring players to work towards.

The BNP Paribas World Team Cup is the pinnacle team event on the ITF UNIQLO Wheelchair Tennis Tour. The following selection guidelines are intended to be reflective of international standards and expectations held by Tennis Australia.

2026 JUNIOR TEAM SELECTION PERIOD

The 2026 WTC selection period will be:

September 19th 2025 – January 31st 2026

Team will be selected by the completion of the Australian ITF series in January

Selection Criteria

The selection criteria are designed to:

- Provide benchmarks that drive positive development and performance behaviour.
- Promote internal and external transparency
- Establish and manage expectations of stakeholders
- Provide alignment to Tennis Australia's PWD Performance department philosophy to “strive to be the best version of yourself everyday”

1. Character

To be considered for selection, players are expected to display an ongoing commitment to the Tennis Australia Performance Philosophy: “Striving to be the best version of yourself everyday”. Additionally, demonstrating positive behaviours of our five Performance Character Traits will be integral to selection in the team for 2026 and beyond. These traits will assist in guiding both your personal development and playing progress:

- Act with courage
- Effort over outcome
- Honesty and ownership
- Humility and respect
- Self-regulation and perspective

Please note that this will be determined utilising a Character rubric developed by Tennis Australia as assessed by the World Team Cup Selection Panel.

Tennis Australia also maintains the expectation that junior players abide by the following:

- Displays the TA Junior Wheelchair Program ‘Champion-Minded’ values (see Appendix A) at all times.
- Athletes must demonstrate that they are able to manage independently across most situations, in particular air travel, while playing tennis, and at the venue.

2. Commitment

Athletes must demonstrate a commitment to their development and be positive role models for the wider wheelchair tennis community.

Player Development	Character
- Submission of an annual periodised competition plan - Completion of a bi-annual Athlete Development Plan (ADP) with Private and TA National coach	- Parents and player to have stakeholder meetings twice per year with assigned Tennis Australia National Coach - Complete Goal Setting session
- Demonstrate key technical improvements recognised in the ADP - Maintain a positive monthly Character score - Maintain a dedicated training load agreed upon by Private and Tennis Australia coaching team	- Must be on an “Athlete Agreement” for 2025/26 - Maintain 80% attendance at all squads
- Commit to a regular domestic tour and maintain a ranking with an upwards trajectory - Attend the National Junior Wheelchair Camp, Canberra, ACT, Dec 1-5 - Compete in the 2025/26 Nationals and x3 Australian ITF events *Extenuating circumstances such as injury or school commitments will be considered at the discretion of the selection panel	- Attend National camps or programs where invited and demonstrate positive behaviours within a team environment

3. Performance

Singles	Doubles
Ranking - Ranking with an upwards trajectory	Character - Strong character score will be considered for doubles pairings - Players who function well in a team environment will be highly considered
Results - ITF Australian Tournaments, Australian National Championships - Win/Loss Ratio during selection period - Consideration of results at select events	Results - ITF Australian Tournaments, National Championships - Win/Loss Ratio during selection period - Consideration of results at select events

4. Other Criteria

Tennis Australia will regularly create reports on player performance to track results, character and development. These will consist of:

- Athlete Development Plans
- Tour Reports
- Monthly Character Reports
- Training and Tournament Assessment
- Match Analysis Data (where filming is possible)

5. Eligibility

- Must be an Australian citizen.
- Must have an ITF classification that is either: New, Fixed Review, or Confirmed.
- Must abide by all Tennis Australia [policies](#)
- Must meet the ITF Junior age requirements, players must be born on or after 1/1/2008
- Must meet all school and academic requirements.

6. Team Composition

Tennis Australia will financially support an Australian team of up to a maximum of **four** athletes for the 2026 Junior World Team Cup Team.

7. Selection Panel

The selection panel will comprise of the Tennis Australia Wheelchair Team with final team selection at the discretion of the Tennis Australia Head of Players with Disability.

APPENDIX A

TA JUNIOR WHEELCHAIR PROGRAM VALUES

'CHAMPION-MINDED'

1. Arrive Early
2. Come prepared.
3. Bring a good attitude.
4. Listen and be coach able.
5. Get enough sleep.
6. Take care of your nutrition
7. Always bring 100% effort
8. Don't make excuses or complain.
9. Do the extra work.
10. Always be respectful and thankful.