

ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

2025

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The athlete development criteria describes objective standards for players considering professional careers that are interested in being part of the Tennis NZ National Programme. Tennis NZ believes that a combination of a clear understanding as to the standards evidenced by the criteria, in addition to individual athletes representing strong personal qualities (respect, commitment, grit) will increase the chances of New Zealand being successful on the world stage (ATP/WTa top 100).

Through undertaking a rigorous investigation of the ranking histories of current successful male and female professionals (top 100 ATP and WTP players), Tennis NZ has compiled an extensive amount of information that has helped to comprise the Athlete Development criteria. In other words, the rankings of the top 100 players in the men's and women's games have been tracked from the date of

first appearance on the ITF, ATP, WTA ranking lists; and then every subsequent year.

The respective tenets of the criteria (ranking, result and participation) are designed to act as a beacon of aspiration for New Zealand's future ATP/WTA top-100 ranked athletes and, by extension, our future Davis/ Billie Jean King Cup representatives.

It is important to note that eligibility for entry into the Tennis NZ National Program (TNZNP) is contingent upon athletes meeting the requisite levels of commitment and upholding consistently high standards in terms of attitude and behaviour.

These levels (Gold, Silver) will be governed by independent criteria and assessed accordingly based on athlete performance.



GOLD CRITERIA

Athletes must meet one of **all three** of the ranking, result and participation components of the criteria and hold those three facets simultaneously to be eligible to apply for consideration for the benefits described below.

MALE 13TH BIRTH YEAR (2012)

Ranking: ITF Junior Ranking achieved through singles result only

Ranking: Top two WTN 2012 birth year and younger

Result: Singles 12U NZ National Champion (held in Dec 2024)

Result: Singles finalist 14U NZ Nationals (December 2024/25)

Result: Singles semifinalist 16U NZ Nationals

Result: Singles quarterfinalist Tennis Europe G1 or Orange Bowl R16

Participation: 14U Nationals

Participation: Minimum 2 ITF events (Birth month eligibility allowing)

Participation: 6 x MD TE 14U Cat 2 +

FEMALE 13TH BIRTH YEAR (2012)

Ranking: ITF Junior Ranking achieved through singles result only

Ranking: Top Two WTN Ranking 2012 birth year and younger

Result: Singles 12U NZ National Champion (held in Dec 2024)

Result: Singles finalist 14U NZ Nationals (December 2024/2025)

Result: Singles semifinalist 16U NZ Nationals

Result: Singles quarterfinalist 14U Tennis Europe G1 OR Orange Bowl R16

Participation: 14U Nationals

Participation: Minimum 3-4 ITF events (Birth month eligibility allowing)

Participation: 6 x MD TE 14U Cat 2 +

MALE 14TH BIRTH YEAR (2011)

Ranking: ITF Junior 900

Ranking: #1 WTN Rankings 2011 birth year and younger

Result: Singles 14U NZ National champion

Result: Singles Semi Final Tennis Europe G1 or Quarter final of Orange Bowl 14U

Result: 10 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)

Participation: Minimum 6 ITF events

Participation: 14U and 16U NZ Nationals

FEMALE 14TH BIRTH YEAR (2011)

Ranking: ITF Junior 400

Result: Singles 14U NZ National champion

Result: Singles quarterfinalist Tennis Europe G1 or Semi Final Orange Bowl 14U

Result: 10 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)

Participation: Minimum 6 ITF events

Participation: 14U and 16U NZ Nationals

MALE 15TH BIRTH YEAR (2010)

Ranking: ITF Junior 400

Result: 18 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)

Result: Singles 16U NZ National Champion

Result: Singles semifinalist 18U NZ Nationals

Result: Qualify twice in Pro Circuit events

Participation: Compete in both 16U and 18U Nationals

Participation: Compete in 2 Pro Circuit events

FEMALE 15TH BIRTH YEAR (2010)

Ranking: ITF Junior 200

Ranking: WTA Ranked

Result: 30 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)

Result: Singles 16U NZ National Champion

Result: Singles finalist 18U Nationals

Result: Qualify twice in Pro Circuit events

Participation: Compete in both 16U and 18U Nationals

Participation: Compete in 3 Pro Circuit events

MALE 16TH BIRTH YEAR (2009)

Ranking: ITF Junior 150

Ranking: ATP Ranked (singles)

Result: ATP Points gained in (minimum) two separate events

Result: ITF 100 points in a singles event (J200 or higher, excluding closed event)

Participation: Compete in 2 pro circuit events

FEMALE 16TH BIRTH YEAR (2009)

Ranking: ITF Junior 60

Ranking: Top 1000 WTA singles ranking

MALE 17TH BIRTH YEAR (2008)

Ranking: ITF Junior 50

Ranking: Top 1200 ATP

FEMALE 17TH BIRTH YEAR (2008)

Ranking: ITF Junior 25

Ranking: WTA 750

MALE 18TH BIRTH YEAR: (2007)

Ranking: ITF Junior 20

Ranking: Top 850 ATP

FEMALE 18TH BIRTH YEAR (2007)

Ranking: ITF Junior 10

Ranking: WTA 400

MALE 19TH BIRTH YEAR: (2005)

Ranking: Top 500 ATP

FEMALE 19TH BIRTH YEAR (2005)

Ranking: WTA 250

MALE 20TH BIRTH YEAR: (2004)

Ranking: Top 350 ATP

FEMALE 20TH BIRTH YEAR (2004)

Ranking: WTA 150

MALE 21ST BIRTH YEAR: (2003)

Ranking: Top 250 ATP

FEMALE 21ST BIRTH YEAR (2003)

Ranking: WTA 150

MALE AND FEMALE 22ND BIRTH YEAR (2002) ONWARDS...

Ranking: ATP/WTA 150

NATIONAL PROGRAMME APPLICATION PROCESS - GOLD

Please note, eligibility for invitation into the Tennis New Zealand National Programme (TNZNP) is contingent upon athletes meeting the requisite levels of commitment and upholding consistently high standards in terms of attitude and behaviour.

Athletes/families that believe they have met the criteria in 2025 for 2026 and would like to be a part of the TNZNP, are asked to e-mail the high performance manager at Tennis NZ (emily@tennis.kiwi). It is requested that a copy of the athlete's current weekly training schedule, annual plan, athlete priorities, strength and conditioning

programme and most recent physiotherapy screening report be included in the e-mail. Please also note that a programme that does not fulfil minimum standards in terms of the detail described above will not activate the list of benefits until such time as the identified shortcomings have been addressed and the documentation re-submitted. This will be outlined as a part of the process upon receipt of the application and will be actioned via an in-person meeting with the stakeholders or alternatively a conference call.

NATIONAL PROGRAMME ATHLETE BENEFITS - GOLD

- Assigned national coach
- Individualised strength and conditioning programming and supervision
- Financial contribution towards international travel, aligned with individual athlete annual plan*
- Optional 24-month training scholarship
- Daily training environment that aspires to be world-class at every level of operation
- Performance analysis
- Athlete Development Plan
- Athlete priorities
- Domestic and International Tours – On the road support from a coaching perspective
- Physiotherapy screening
- Physical testing
- Access to sport psychology – as required
- Wellbeing support

Tennis NZ cannot guarantee the extent of the individual financial contribution that will be provided as these decisions are heavily influenced by the fiscal state of the organisation.

SILVER CRITERIA

Athletes must meet one of **all three** of the ranking, result and participation components of the criteria and hold those three facets simultaneously to be eligible to apply for consideration for the benefits described below.

MALE: 11TH BIRTH YEAR (2014)

Ranking: Top two WTN Ranking 2014 birth year and younger

Result: Singles semifinalist TNZ Junior Masters 12U Finals 2024 OR 2025

Result: Singles semifinalist 12U NZ Nationals (December)

Result: Singles quarterfinalist 14U NZ Nationals (December)

Participation: 12U Nationals

Participation: National Junior Teams Event

FEMALE: 11TH BIRTH YEAR (2014)

Ranking: Top two WTN Ranking 2014 birth year and younger

Result: Singles semifinalist TNZ Junior Masters 12U Finals 2024 or 2025

Result: Singles semifinalist 12U NZ Nationals (December)

Result: Singles quarterfinalist 14U NZ Nationals (December)

Participation: 12U Nationals

Participation: National Junior Teams Event

MALE 12TH BIRTH YEAR (2013)

Ranking: Top two WTN Ranking 2013 birth year and younger

Result: Singles finalist TNZ 12U Junior Masters Finals 2024 or 2025

Result: Singles semifinalist 12U NZ Nationals

Result: Singles quarterfinalist 14U NZ Nationals

Participation: 12U and 14U Nationals

Participation: National Junior Teams Event

FEMALE 12TH BIRTH YEAR (2013)

Ranking: Top two WTN Ranking 2013 birth year and younger

Result: Singles finalist TNZ 12U Junior Masters Finals 2024 or 2025

Result: Singles semifinalist 12U NZ Nationals

Result: Singles quarterfinalist 14U NZ Nationals

Participation: 12U and 14U Nationals

Participation: National Junior Teams Event

MALE 13TH BIRTH YEAR (2012)

Ranking: ITF Ranked

Ranking: Top two WTN Ranking 2012 birth year and younger

Result: Singles finalist 12U Nationals (held in December 2024)

Result: Singles finalist TNZ 14U Junior Masters Finals

Result: Singles semifinalist 14U NZ Nationals

Participation: 12U and/or 14U Nationals

Participation: National Junior Teams Event

FEMALE 13TH BIRTH YEAR (2012)

Ranking: ITF Ranked

Ranking: Top two WTN Ranking 2012 birth year and younger

Result: Singles finalist 12U Nationals (held in December 2024)

Result: Singles finalist TNZ 14U Junior Masters Finals

Result: Singles semifinalist 14U NZ Nationals

Participation: 12U and/or 14U Nationals

Participation: National Junior Teams Event

MALE 14TH BIRTH YEAR (2011)

Ranking: ITF Junior 2000

Ranking: Top Two WTN Ranking 2011 birth year and younger

Result: Singles finalist 14U NZ Nationals

Result: Singles winner TNZ 14U Junior Masters Finals 2024 or 2025

Result: Singles quarterfinalist 16U NZ Nationals

Participation: Minimum 2 ITF events

Participation: 14U and 16U NZ Nationals

Participation: National Junior Teams Event

FEMALE 14TH BIRTH YEAR (2011)

Ranking: ITF Junior 1500

Ranking: Top Two WTN Ranking 2011 birth year and younger

Result: Singles finalist 14U NZ Nationals

Result: Singles winner TNZ 14U Junior Masters Finals 2024 or 2025

Result: Singles quarterfinalist 16U NZ Nationals

Participation: Minimum 2 ITF events

Participation: 14U and 16U NZ Nationals

Participation: National Junior Teams Event

MALE 15TH BIRTH YEAR (2010)**Ranking:** ITF Junior 1200**Result:** Singles semifinalist 16U NZ Nationals**Result:** Singles winner 14U Nationals (held in December 2024)**Result:** 9 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)**Participation:** Minimum 4 ITF events**Participation:** 16U & 18U NZ Nationals**FEMALE 15TH BIRTH YEAR (2010)****Ranking:** ITF Junior 1000**Result:** Singles semifinalist 16U NZ Nationals**Result:** Singles winner 14U Nationals (held in December 2024)**Result:** 10 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)**Participation:** Minimum 4 ITF events**Participation:** 16U & 18U NZ Nationals**MALE 16TH BIRTH YEAR (2009)****Ranking:** ITF Junior 600**Result:** Singles finalist 16U NZ Nationals**Result:** 18 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)**Participation:** Minimum 4 ITF events**Participation:** 16U & 18U NZ Nationals**FEMALE 16TH BIRTH YEAR (2009)****Ranking:** ITF Junior 400**Ranking:** WTA ranked**Result:** Singles winner 16U NZ Nationals**Result:** 18 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)**Participation:** Minimum 4 ITF events**Participation:** 16U & 18U NZ Nationals**MALE 17TH BIRTH YEAR (2008)****Ranking:** ITF Junior 300**Ranking:** ATP ranked**Result:** Singles finalist 18U NZ Nationals**Result:** 20 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)**Participation:** Minimum 4 ITF events**Participation:** 18U NZ Nationals**Participation:** Minimum 2 Pro Circuit Events

FEMALE 17TH BIRTH YEAR (2008)**Ranking:** ITF Junior 200**Ranking:** WTA Top 1000**Result:** Singles finalist 18U NZ Nationals**Result:** 20 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)**Participation:** Minimum 4 ITF events**Participation:** 18U NZ Nationals**Participation:** Minimum 2 Pro Circuit Events**FEMALE 18TH BIRTH YEAR (2007)****Ranking:** ITF Junior 100**Ranking:** Top 750 WTA**Result:** Singles winner 18U NZ Nationals**Result:** 36 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)**Participation:** Minimum 2 Pro Circuit Events**Participation:** 18U NZ Nationals**MALE 18TH BIRTH YEAR: (2007)****Ranking:** ITF Junior 150**Ranking:** Top 1200 ATP**Result:** Singles winner 18U NZ Nationals**Result:** 36 ITF points in an event (singles only, excluding closed events)**Result:** Qualify and win one main draw match in a Pro Circuit event x 2 separate events**Participation:** Minimum 2 Pro Circuit Events**Participation:** 18U NZ Nationals

NATIONAL PROGRAMME APPLICATION PROCESS - SILVER

National Programme "Silver" Criteria Application Process: Please note, eligibility for invitation into the Tennis New Zealand National Programme (TNZNP) is contingent upon athletes meeting the requisite levels of commitment and upholding consistently high standards in terms of attitude and behaviour.

Athletes/families that believe they have met the criteria in 2025 for 2026 and would like to be a part of the TNZNP, are asked to e-mail the high performance manager at Tennis NZ (emily@tennis.kiwi). It is requested that a copy of the athlete's current weekly training schedule, annual plan, athlete priorities,

strength and conditioning programme and most recent physiotherapy screening report be included in the e-mail. Please also note that a programme that does not fulfil minimum standards in terms of the detail described above will not activate the list of benefits until such time as the identified shortcomings have been addressed and the documentation re-submitted. This will be outlined as a part of the process upon receipt of the application and will be actioned via an in-person meeting with the stakeholders or alternatively a conference call.

NATIONAL PROGRAMME ATHLETE BENEFITS - SILVER

- At mutually agreed-upon times, athletes will be invited into the National Programme and fully immersed in the on and off-court opportunities that this provides.
- Strength and conditioning individualised attention/programming
- Daily training environment that aspires to be world-class at every level of operation
- Weekly training schedule - review
- Athlete Development Plan - review
- Athlete priorities - review
- International Tours – On the road support from a coaching perspective (capped at 2 x overseas experiences per annum and at TNZ's sole discretion)
- DTE (daily training environment) support: Minimum 1 x visit per term to athlete's home environment (if outside of Auckland)
- Physiotherapy screening
- Physical testing
- Access to sport psychology – as required
- Wellbeing support

Please note: NCAA/professional pathway athletes (19th birth year and above), the DTE support will not be extended to this cohort of athletes due to budgetary considerations. Additionally, the DTE support will also not be extended to athletes based abroad that fulfill, apply and are successful in reaching silver criteria status.



HIGH PERFORMANCE

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