Annabel Croft Tennis Academy NTC Player Pathway

This model is a guideline for all parents and players looking to join the Annabel Croft Tennis programme at the NTC. Players are able to move through the programme at different speeds based on their ability but each level is aimed at 6-12 months of play before a player moves up.



Entry level requirements – 3.5 years old with ability to take instruction and interact independently from parent.

Equipment Used: Red Ball & 1/2 court



Players reach Little Hitters stage 5&6 by the age of 6 are identified to join the elite programme

Pathway B (Intermediate):

Players complete Little Hitters stage 6 by the age of 7 and move to a Junior Level 2 class

Pathway C (Improver):

Players do not complete Little Hitters by the age of 8 and move to a Junior Level 1 class

ACE Squad Elite Tennis

(ages 6-11yrs)

High Level Performance programme focused on teaching high level tennis fundamentals and match play. Heavy focus on competition in mini tennis age groups (7-10yrs)

JUNIOR TENNIS PROGRAMME (ages 8-10yrs)

Equipment Used: Orange Low Compression Ball & 3/4 court

Junior Advanced

Players with high level of movement, technique and tactical skills

Junior Level 2

Players with basic movement but a clear understanding of technique

DEVELOPMENT TENNIS PROGRAMME (ages 10-13yrs)

Equipment Used: Green & Yellow Ball & Full Court

Junior Level 1

Players learning introductory movement and technical skills

ACE Squad Match Play

Interactive match play classes each Saturday to help players achieve improvement in ratings (ages 7-10yrs)

Development Adv

Players with high level of movement, technique and tactical skills

Development Level 2

Players with more basic movements. understanding of technique and match play skills

Development Level 1

Players working on basic introductory elements to tennis such as footwork, technique and rally play

ACE Squad Elite Tennis

(ages 11-17yrs)

Performance programme for higher level players with LTA ratings of 9.2 and higher. Focus on intensive training and links to competitive play.

TRANSITION TENNIS PROGRAMME (ages 14-17yrs)

Equipment Used: Yellow Ball & Full Court

Transition Level 2

Players with clear tennis identity on court, athletic ability and understanding of singles and doubles

Transition Level 1

Players working on more basic footwork, technique and control in rally and point play