

# **Onkaparinga Tennis Club Incorporated**

## ***Policy: Team Selection – Juniors***

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**For Review: November, 2012**

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### **Our Commitment**

We believe that junior teams should be safe, enjoyable, inclusive and maximize individual participation. Our Club acknowledges that positive experiences in junior competition will contribute to children developing a lifelong love of tennis.

### **What We Will Do**

- Emphasise to coaches and parents that junior tennis is about participation, not competition.
- Modify rules and equipment where possible to include children and encourage participation and rules.
- Try to match children with others of their own ability (e.g. if there are enough players, have two teams in an age division).
- Provide children with a broad range of experiences (e.g. positions).
- Provide equal playing time for all children, regardless of their ability.
- Consider boys and girls under 9 years of age playing on the same team, particularly if a team could not otherwise be fielded and rules have been modified.
- Ensure all children play in the finals.

### **What We Ask You To Do**

#### ***Coaches***

- Focus on children getting the chance to play and rotate through positions, and ensure equal time for everyone.
- Focus on the participation, not winning and losing.
- If you do coach your own children, treat them like everyone else in the team (e.g. rotations, playing time and participation).

#### ***Parents***

- Help out the coach where possible at training and games.
- Encourage your child and their team.
- Respect the coach's selection decisions.