

Central Queensland (CQ) Junior Development Series Circuit

Philosophy

The Central Queensland (CQ) Junior Development Series Circuit (previously known as the Central Queensland (CQ) Junior Masters Circuit) has been a vital and significant program in the development pathway of junior tennis players in the Central Region for over 30 years, since it was founded by a group of local tennis coaches within the region to create opportunities for juniors to experience competitive tennis through tournaments against other players of the same age from around the region.

The philosophy of the circuit, is that it is a development tournament circuit that is a very important and an integral program in the player development pathway that encourages beginner and intermediate players to hone their skills in a competitive and friendly environment against players of the same age throughout twelve towns in the Central Region.

In recognition of the vast distance our region encompasses, the regions tournaments are strategically and intelligently crossed-over between the three sub-zones of our Central Region; including the Wide Bay, Capricornia and Central Highlands areas. This cross-over of tournaments throughout each sub-zone contributes to the philosophy to create opportunities for players from every town within the three sub-zones of our region to interact with their peers and gain quality and valuable match play to remain competitive and improve their tennis skills and give players the drive and motivation to be the very best they can be as a player. The cross-over requirement between zones to attend tournaments is a maximum of two, except for Emerald and Clermont whom is required to cross-over three zones to participate in tournaments outside of their sub-zone.

Each of the CQ Junior Development Series Circuit tournaments are categorised with four different classifications; A+, A, B (ITN) or C category. The reasoning behind having each tournament classified as either an A+, A, B (ITN), or C category is so to encourage players to participate in tournaments outside of their own sub-zone and to expose players to different towns and other players and create more tennis exposure to smaller communities.

The three "A+" tournaments are strategically played in each of the three sub-zones (Wide Bay, Capricornia and Central Highlands) to allow for travel and for number of courts, as these towns have a larger number of courts. The three "A" tournaments and two "C" tournaments are in two different sub-zones to expose the sport to the outer regions sub-zones. As for the four "B (ITN)" tournaments they are strategically held in smaller town communities to draw players away from their own zone that they live in to experience competing against different players and also to attract more players to these areas, which is part of our philosophy. The circuit has been successful for more than 30 years with the current structure and rules and regulations in place.

Outcomes of success from the CQ Junior Development Series Circuit is through players of these tournaments having gone on to become State and National Champions, National Academy players & employees, players into the American College System, high ranked Queensland & National players, Professional tennis players on the ITF, ATP & WTA Circuits with players playing in the Australian Open Main Draw & in Davis Cup Squads. The CQ Junior Development Series Circuit's players have also represented the Central Region on Victorian Tour Tournament trips with players winning Inter-State Tournaments & Victorian prestigious Cups/Shields, the QLD Junior Teams Carnival Champion Region, and winning multiple QLD JDS State Finals Championships. Some players from the circuit have gone on to become tennis coaches with some whom are coaching in our region still today and other players have careers in other forms of the tennis industry and remain in our region or beyond. These successes substantiates the philosophy of the CQ Junior Development Series Circuit that the circuit provides tennis for not only grassroots tennis and first tournament experiences, but also a stepping stone or pathway to move onto more opportunities at tennis at higher levels.