

# Tennis World Coaching & Competition Parent Guidelines



It is important when enrolling children into the Tennis World Coaching Program, parents read through the Coaching Parent Guidelines. Tennis World expects all parents to be aware of and follow the below;

- Parents are to be encouraging and **show interest**, but not get overly involved in the coaching process/lesson.
- Competition can be stressful, parents should try not to add to the pressure.
- Parents are to encourage good **sportsmanship** and **fair play** in their child, as opposed to a “win at all costs” attitude.
- Parents are to keep all comments and body language **positive**, the exception being for poor or unsporting behaviour.
- **Communication** with the coach on goals and general improvement is welcome, but parents are not to coach the coach.
- Keep a balance between tennis and **family life** - ‘Don’t let the sport dominate’.
- Parents should understand that sport is a **great lesson** for life (self discipline, problem solving and hard) and not just about winning.
- Parents should encourage their child to talk about their sport, but **understand** there are times when they won’t want to do this.
- It is important parents do not impose their own thoughts on sport and competition on the child, they should be allowed to **develop** their own thoughts.
- Parents should remember that there are many qualified people who can coach tennis, but only they can be a loving **supportive parent**.
- Parents should **Offer congratulations** to other competitors and foster friendly relations with other parents, club officials, volunteers, umpires and tournament officials.

The parent is the greatest influence on the child’s tennis outside of the coach.

“It’s fair to say that what I wanted was for my father to be my father, not a tennis coach or mentor.” **Andre Agassi**