

MEDIA RELEASE



The Summer of Tennis has arrived in Queensland but it's not just the Brisbane International that will be in the limelight.

More than 1,000 tennis players aged from 30+ to 90+ are converging on the Gold Coast and Northern NSW from 4th to 16th January, including World Champions and Australian representative players. They'll be competing in the Australian Seniors Championships, which will be played at the Gold Coast Seniors and Miami Tennis Clubs at Pizzey Park, Tweed Heads, Banora Point and Kingscliff.

The first week comprises the Australian Teams Carnival, which has attracted 651 players from 106 teams representing seven Australian states as well as a team from Malaysia.

The competition will be fierce, with NSW winning the Teams Championships 15 times since the first trophy was awarded in 1985, followed by Queensland with 13 wins. However, Queensland has won it six times in the past ten years and with the tournament being held on home turf, the Queenslanders are determined to close the gap.

Following the Teams Carnival, the Australian Seniors Individual Championships – a MT1000 event run under the auspices of the International Tennis Federation - will get underway. This prestigious tournament is expected to attract more than 400 players, with entries already received from top players throughout Australia and overseas, including the USA, Canada, Great Britain, France, Japan, Switzerland, South Africa, New Zealand and Hong Kong.

Organised by Tennis Seniors Queensland, both events have received cash and in-kind support from 18 sponsors, including a grant from the City of Gold Coast's Community Projects Program. Cr Nick Marshall OAM, who facilitated the grant, says the Council is committed to backing initiatives that promote participation, celebrate achievements, and bring people together.

Tournament Director, Gail Bates, winner of the Volunteer Achievement Award at the recent Tennis Queensland Awards Night, says spectators can expect a high standard of tennis with many Australian representative players attending. "We are looking forward to fantastic tennis, sportsmanship and camaraderie. The enthusiasm of the players, officials, volunteers and supporters make both events particularly special."

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