



President

ANIL K. KHANNA

20 June 2008

PRESIDENTS / SECRETARY GENERALS
NATIONAL TENNIS ASSOCIATIONS / FEDERATION

Dear All,

As you are aware, ATF has been holding the Asian Closed Junior Grade B1 Championship for a number of years. After concerted efforts we were able to convince ITF to sanction another Asia / Oceania Grade B1 event in 2004. These are the two most important junior events in the ITF Junior Calendar for our players as they can earn higher ranking points than in Group1 without subjecting themselves to stiff competition from other players of the world.

At the start of the Asian/Oceania event in 2004, there was a tacit understanding between 'Asian Tennis Federation' and 'Oceania Tennis Federation' that in every three years Asia would host the event for 2 years and Oceania would host it for 1 year. However, till now it has only been Asia which has been hosting the event (THA in 2004 & 5; KOR in 2006, IND in 2007). This year despite our best efforts we have still not found the host for this prestigious event which should have been finalized in February 2008. In case there are no takers, it will be a retrograde step and we would lose a big event, which would not be in the best interests of Asian juniors.

At the professional level our main concern with the ATP is to provide exclusive opportunities for Asian players to enable them earn the very precious ranking points. However, at the junior level, where we do have the opportunity of having a closed event, we are not giving it due importance. Unlike team events such as Junior Davis Cup and Junior Fed Cup, here, in addition to using the entry fees, we can offer the 'Title Sponsorship' and unlimited Secondary local sponsorship to our prospective local sponsors to generate necessary revenues for providing hospitality to 64 boys and girls of the main draw and also pay the other operational expenses.

I consider it a duty of All Asian countries especially the developed tennis nations to share responsibility and come forward to host this closed Asia Oceania event, which provides a great opportunity to our players earn maximum ranking points.

Once again I would like to request you to intimate your desire to host the event in 2008. Otherwise we may have to lose this very important junior event. The Asia/Oceania Closed Junior Championship is scheduled to be held in the week of October 27 or November 3. I will await your comments /suggestions.

Best regards,

Anil Khanna

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