



ATF AND STRUCTURED LADDER TO SUCCESS

Asian Tennis Federation has a comprehensive and focused pathway for all age groups of tennis players which provides adequate platform to excel.

ATF has undertaken various activities to enhance the performance of the deserving and talented players across all age groups with focus being on the following segments:

1. Young Tennis Star Program (*ATF Kids program - 10&under*)
2. 12& Under
3. 14& Under
4. 16& under
5. 18& Under

Young Tennis Star Program (*ATF Kids program - 10&under*)

Key is to start early. Early start puts you ahead of the crowd and makes you lead the crowd and with this aim in mind ATF is set to start “Young Tennis Star Program” for the Asian Players.

The program starts with the kids’ tennis for age group of below 5 years, by generating interest in tennis and motivating them to aim for professional career in the lovely sport of tennis. A series of promotional activities through videos, on court sessions and educating the coaches equipped to train this age group of players are being planned along with the players. The primary focus is to prepare kids for the ITF JTI, educate the coaches and more importantly the parents for efficient grooming of the young stars. ATF YTS program is structured for complete eco system around the kid’s tennis. Smaller nations in particular will be beneficiary at large with a proper and focused approach of ATF YTS.

A relatively different module under performance tennis targeting the age group of 10 & under, which will focus on more serious and already focused tennis players. This will include interesting on court sessions and the off line mode class room videos.

ATF has tied up with “Comoon” and “Evolve 9” and will be using their programme as tools in the YTS. A comprehensive structure in collaboration with the National Federations and local coaches will be developed to run the show and help the kids.

Starting with under 5 kids will help in potential growth in number of kids taking up to tennis, which will ultimately feed in more players at performance stage enhancing the retention rate of tennis players.

The YTS programme has been already launched. The program kick started with kids’ program in Uzbekistan with more than 35 local coaches included in the structure. It will spread the ATF YTS program rapidly in Uzbekistan. Performance program was also launched in Philippines, Nepal and Uzbekistan in 2025, with more than 60 coaches involved. This will fast track the development of young players in these nations. Soon the program will spread to Mongolia & Bahrain and some other nations.

12& Under Age Group

Moving up from grass root and kinder stage will be the focus in the 12U age group. It is crucial age group, where in appropriate focus and hard work is required to set the tone for the tough professional progression in a player's pathway.

ATF comes in handy here with an established 12U team competition. The 12U team competition supported by KTF & ITF has been running successfully in Asia for many years now. The nations are keen in participation and take pride to be part of it. We had 37 Asian nations participating at the 12U team competitions in 2024.

Giving a platform to represent their nations at a tender age of less than 12 years is an unmatched pride and motivation for the top 12U players from nations to excel at higher age groups and ultimately in their careers as a tennis player.

The team competition is an extensive project covering all Asian Nations with 5 regional events leading up to finals where the top 12 teams compete.

Wild card opportunities have been created for the top performing players at 12U finals, where the top players from each region get a WC into the Grade A event and the second-best players from each regions get a WC into any other event than the Grade A event.

A development grant is now also offered to top 3 boys and girls from the 12U finals.

ATF in 2024 created a 12U Intercontinental tournament with 8 teams, where 5 Asian team competed along with teams from Australia, New Zealand and Oceania, there by extending the tournament beyond the Asian borders. With the unparalleled success of the tournament in 2024, the scope was extensively extended in 2025. For the year 2025 we included 12 teams in competition with 7 Asian teams competing with teams from Australia, New Zealand, Oceania, CAT and COSAT. The Asian teams for 2025 included teams from China, Korea, Kazakhstan, Hong Kong, Pakistan, Thailand, Chinese Taipei and Iran.

ATF also send an Asian team for boys and girls to COPA COSAT tournament to compete. Teams from Chinese Taipei in Boys and Thailand in girls represented the Asian Continent. Chinese Taipei boys team won the tournament.

ATF is further committed to give an ideal participation platform to the players at 12U age bracket. ATF is soon going to launch 12U tournament circuit to enhance the experience not only at local levels but at international levels.

- 12U regionals- Team competition
- 12U finals – Team competition
- 12U intercontinental – Team Competition
- 12U COPA COSAT – Team tournament
- 12U Circuit

14& Under Age Group

In the past we have seen many winners at professional tournaments who are around the age of 14. This becomes a very important age group for the players, which is a make or break in a player's pathway. We need to have a solid platform for our players so that they are well nurtured and groomed to become better and stronger professional players.

ATF has built up a right platform and created opportunities for the players in this age group to help and support our Asian players.

- **ATF 14U Circuit**

We have a well-established ATF 14U circuit of tournaments, consisting of various grades of tournaments to suite the levels and capabilities of different players. With more than 120 tournaments in 2025, 10000 active players and more than 3000 players on ATF 14U rankings, the ATF 14U circuit is pride of ATF.

ATF 14U circuit not only gives an ideal platform for the players to compete but it has many other frills attached to benefit the top and deserving players.

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- **Development Grants**

Development grants to year end top 3 boys and girls by the ATF, helps provide financial support to 6 players and motivate the players to have a podium finish.

- **Wild card support**

Year End top players are eligible for the wild cards into the ITF Junior WTT events.

- **The circuit**

- Grade A
- Category 1+
- Category 1
- Category 2
- Category 3

- **ATF Camps**

ATF started regional camps for the 14U players. 2 camps were held in 2024 – one for players from West / Central Asia and other for the players from East/ South East / Sout Asia. The camps were held before Asian Junior Championship to encourage active participation and minimise the travel costs. The camps will be back in ATF projects in 2026.

- **ATF Teams to Grade A**

A new ATF initiative launched in 2024. ATF sent a team of 2 boys and 2 girls with a coach to each of the 5 Grade A tournaments of Asia. The players are selected out of the entered players in the Grade A tournaments, who are outside the top 5 ATF rank. This initiative carries forward the benefits to the deserving players who are outside the top ranks and support them to move in top ranks.

- **GSPDP/ ITF/ ATF Team to Europe**

This is a GSPDP funded project administered by ATF. A team of 6 boys and 6 girls are sent to Europe to participate in rigorous Tennis Europe tournaments. The team is accompanied by 3 coaches.

The team extensively travel in Europe and participate at 4 tournament and a camp before the tournaments to prepare the players for the tour.

The selection criteria are well established and extensive to include the best of players from Asia, providing opportunity to many players to get selected.

Players are selected based on performance at World Junior Tennis Competition final qualifying and Development Championships Finals. 2 Boys and 2 girls are further selected based on ATF

rankings. With maximum cap of 2 boys and 2 girls from a nation, it gets players from many different nations in the loop.

This is most sought team for top players, as it does provide opportunity for the players to excel, face different conditions and opponents under the watchful eyes of travelling coaches. Most of the top players are now very excited and keen to be part of this team.

In 2024 Dongjae Kim (KOR) was winner in singles and doubles at 2 tournaments, while Yeseo Park (KOR) and Yeri Hong (KOR) won 1 singles title and 1 doubles title each on the tour. In 2025 Yuting Wu (CHN) won 1 singles title and 1 doubles title, while Tsai Bing-Huan (TPE) won 1 doubles title. In girls section Shivali Gurung (NPL) reached singles Semi Finals in 1 tournament, and lifting 1 doubles title and while finishing runner up in doubles in 2 other tournaments.

As is evident from above synopsis Asian players have been performing exceedingly well at the tournaments covered by the team and we hope the trend will continue in coming years.

- **ITF Asia 14U Development Championships**

The event has been running for many years, with a new format being introduced few years back. The new format now constitutes of 2 regional qualifying events – one for West and Central Asia and the other for East, South East and East Asia. Finals constitute of 16 nations and 2 ITF teams.

All Asian nations are grouped into regional qualifying and finals based on performance. From the qualifying events each year 2 nations get promoted to the finals of next year. Likewise 4 nations from finals are relegated to regional qualifying events of next year.

The structure is very unique, being individual in nature but giving enhanced motivation to the players to be playing for the nations, as each performance and result count to the nations ultimate standing effecting the status for next year.

Each year we also select, best performing, 2 boys and 2 girls from each of the qualifying events to be part of ITF team to the finals in the same year.

Each nation is able to send a team of 2 boys and 2 girls with a captain to take part in this 2 week long mega event. This is one of the most important tournaments in the ATF development calendar and is taken up seriously by the nations as it is an ideal platform for the best players from the nations.

The final of the Development Championship is also one of the selection criteria for Team to Europe and Road to Wimbledon.

- **GSPDP Asian 14&U Junior Championships**

This is most important tournament for the top 14U boys and girls. It is like end of year championships where 24 boys and 24 girls compete in the tournament.

The selection is extensive and carefully designed to get best of the players into the tournament. Winners/ runner ups from each of 5 Grade A tournaments determine 10 boys and girls, while next 11 boys and girls are selected on the basis of their ATF 14U ranking, while the remaining spots are filled by the Wild cards.

All players are provided free hospitality and a travel grant for participating at the tournament.

Players are selected for Elite trophy in Australia and ITF Team to Florida based on performance in this tournament.

- **Road to Championships – Wimbledon**

ATF in collaboration with the Wimbledon has this another performance platform for the top performing juniors.

We have created an opportunity for 2 boys and 2 girls to be part of elite group of players and go to play at the “Championships 14&U” during the Wimbledon. Another Grand slam experience at such young age and to compete with best players from across globe is certainly an unique experience for the young stars.

We select the top 2 boys and 2 girls from the Development Championships to be part of this Asian team.

- **Elite Trophy for 14U**

A joint initiative of ATF and Tennis Australia started few years back is already famous amongst the young tennis guns in Asia. An excellent platform for the top boys and girls from Asia to perform at top level and have the grand slam experience as well at young age, setting the early launch to their tennis career.

5 boys and 5 girls are selected from Asia to go and play at Australian Open venue and feel the buzz of AO. They compete with 3 other players from Australia, New Zealand and Oceania Region.

Playing at AO venue, under different conditions and against different opponents is a life time opportunity which any player will relish in 14U age group.

In 2024 Womin Kim (KOR) won the boys title, while Yeva Korysheva (KAZ) was runner up in girls’ event respectively. For 2025 edition Siyoen Sim (KOR) lifted the girl’s trophy, while FU Wang Choi (HKG) ended being the runner up in boy’s event. Asian Players have shown great results in the past at the events and hopefully the trend will continue and the Asian players will keep impressing the world.

- **ITF Team to Florida**

This is a very important team as well as one boy and one girl from Asia gets chance to be part of Orange Bowl tournament, which is considered as one the top level of tournament in the age group. It is any players dream to participate at this tournament, which also one of the oldest running tournaments at the age group.

Each year we have the winner of Asian Championships in boys and girls selected to be part of the GSPDP / ITF team to Florida.

The all-expense paid format of the team provides the platform at no cost to the players, where in for Asian players to be going to USA for the tournament is an expensive proposal.

In 2025 Siyun Kim (KOR) and Yerin Lim (KOR) were Asian players in the team. Siyun KIM reached Semi Finals of singles in Orange Bowl tournament , while Yerin Lim managed to reach Quarter Final. Siyun Kim also reached Quarter finals of singles in IMG Academy International Championships (formerly known as Eddieher tournament)

- **Other Projects**

- World Junior Tennis Competition for Boys and Girls
- Wild card and Monetary support for deserving players to participate at 14U Junior Orange Bowl tournament.

16& Under Age Group

ATF, in last 2 years have managed to plug in the gap, which was obvious from 14&U to 18U. There was not much in plate for the players at this age, where the players tend to take the ultimate leap into the professional tennis of to the higher 18& U age group.

ATF started the 16& U circuit 2 years back and it is slowly and steadily gaining popularity, with more than 4000 active players in this age, who have participated in various tournaments in our circuit at ATF. There are more than 40 tournaments on the ATF junior circuit for this age group in 2025, with over 1100 players on the ranking list.

- **The circuit**
 - Grade A
 - Category 1
 - Category 2

The first Grade A for the age group will be held in India in December 2025.

- **Roland Garros Junior Series**

ATF in collaboration with RG has launched the RG Junior Series of tournament in Asia, where the winning boy and girl is given a direct entry into the RG Juniors. This is an excellent opportunity for the top players to compete and try to gain access into the Junior GS on clay-French Open.

ATF on its behest also added two regional qualifying events which gives chance many more players to be part of this excellent competition and stand chance to play at finals to gain direct entry to RG.

The entire series of tournaments can be summed up as below: -

- Qualifying for West and Central Asia
- Qualifying for East/ South East and South Asia
- Finals

An ideal platform for the top player to lock horns and earn a direct entry into the Grand Slam.

- **Other Projects**
 - Junior Davis and Junior Billie Jean King Cup
 - Development grants to top 3 boys and girls at ATF 16U year-end rankings.

18& Under Age Group

This age group is more for competition and the players tend to play many tournaments to move higher up in the rankings. There is an extensive and well-established ITF WTT Junior circuit of various grades for the benefit of the players. Many players at this age already move on the professional man and women circuit.

ATF from 2025 started helping conduct of the ITF WTT circuit with financial and organisational support to few selected nations. 2 J30 ITF WTT were supported in Cambodia and 21 ITF J30 ITF

WTT were supported in Maldives to bring these 2 nations in the map of hosting the ITF Junior tournaments.

ATF as the regional body is deciding the hosting of the 2 J300- formerly termed Asin B1 tournament, which is one for Asia Oceania region and other for only the Asian players. These 2

events serve as ideal platform for the top Asian Junior 18& under player to excel and gain valuable points to go up higher in ranking in their quests to get entry into the Grand slams.

To Summarise the Pathway

Age Group	Activities				
3-5 Years	ATF YTS -Kids Tennis				
7-10 Years	ATF YTS-Performance Tennis				
Under 12	ATF Circuit (from 2026)	12U Team competition	12U Intercontinental	12U Team to COPA COSAT	Development grant to players
Under 14	ATF Circuit	Team Competition	Development Tournaments- ITF/ATF/GSPDP	Teams and camps	WC and Development grants
Under 16	ATF Circuit	Team Competition	Development Tournaments- ITF/ATF/GSPDP	RG Junior Series	WC and Development grants
Under 18	ITF WTT circuit		Wild cards Opportunities		
Professional	ITF WTT Circuit for Men and Women		ATP/WTA Tournaments		