

14th April, 2025

Dear Players, Parents and the Wider Tennis Family,

Player Development Pathway and Restructure (Phase 3)



The Hong Kong, China Tennis Association (HKCTA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Steven Andrew Host as Director of Player Development (DPD), effective 1 May 2025.

Steven joins us at a pivotal moment as HKCTA, in collaboration with the Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI), undertakes a comprehensive review of the national tennis activation strategy. This initiative aims to benchmark Hong Kong tennis against leading tennis nations and to lay the foundation for long-term elite performance and broad-based participation.

In particular, HKCTA will be working more closely than ever with HKSI to build a high-performance framework to sustain tennis as an elite sport. In parallel, HKCTA will be leading the development of a national participation and education strategy to support pre-elite development and broader community engagement—a dual-track approach proven successful in other countries.

The role of DPD is essential in driving this vision forward. In this role, Steven will have a dual reporting line into HKCTA Council and to HKSI management. From an overall coordination and people management perspective Steven will have a dotted reporting line into Chris Lai, CEO of HKCTA.

Organisationally, Steven will oversee the HKSI Coaching Team, the HKCTA Coaching Team, the HKCTA Coaching Administration Team, and the HKCTA Tournament Team. An updated organisation chart is attached for reference.

Steven will be supported by Shane Dunn, Operations Manager, Coaching Administration, who will serve as his deputy, and by a Cabinet of Senior Managers:

- Ahmed El Menshawy and Alvin Yip, Leaders of the NTS A and NTS B Teams
- Mark Eade and Allen Xu, Co-Leaders of the NTS C Team and Development Teams
- Romain Deffet and Denis de Mingo, Co-Leaders of HKCTA's Physical Training Programme
- Leo Liu, Leader in Greater China Strategic Development
- Allison Leung, Leader in Tournament Operations

Steven brings with him over 25 years of global experience in coaching and player development, having worked across five continents. He currently serves as the Director of Racquet Sports at the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Florida, and was previously the National Coach at the Finnish Tennis Association. Steven's career has spanned seven countries and included roles in commercial coaching, player development, and coach education. His work has directly contributed to the success of numerous top ITF, WTA, and ATP players. He is also a tennis parent, bringing a well-rounded perspective to his role.

With his wealth of experience and passion for the game, Steven is uniquely positioned to lead the transformation of tennis in Hong Kong and guide the strategic direction of both our elite and development programmes.

HKCTA remains firmly committed to elevating tennis to a premier sport in Hong Kong. We will continue to nurture young talent and provide world-class training and development opportunities. We are confident in Steven's leadership in advancing this mission.

Please join us in welcoming Steven Host to the HKCTA senior management team. We look forward to introducing him to you in the coming days.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Shane Dunn at shane.dunn@tennishk.org or at +852 2794 1791.

Warm regards



Michael Cheng
President
Hong Kong, China Tennis
Association



Oscar Chow
Hon. Secretary
Hong Kong, China Tennis
Association



Dr. Derek Ling
Chairman, Development
Committee
Hong Kong, China Tennis
Association

P.S. Note this notice should be read in conjunction with the Phase 1 notice and Phase 2 notice dated 18 March 2025 and 31 March 2025 respectively.

APPENDIX

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME - ORGANISATION CHART MAY 2025

